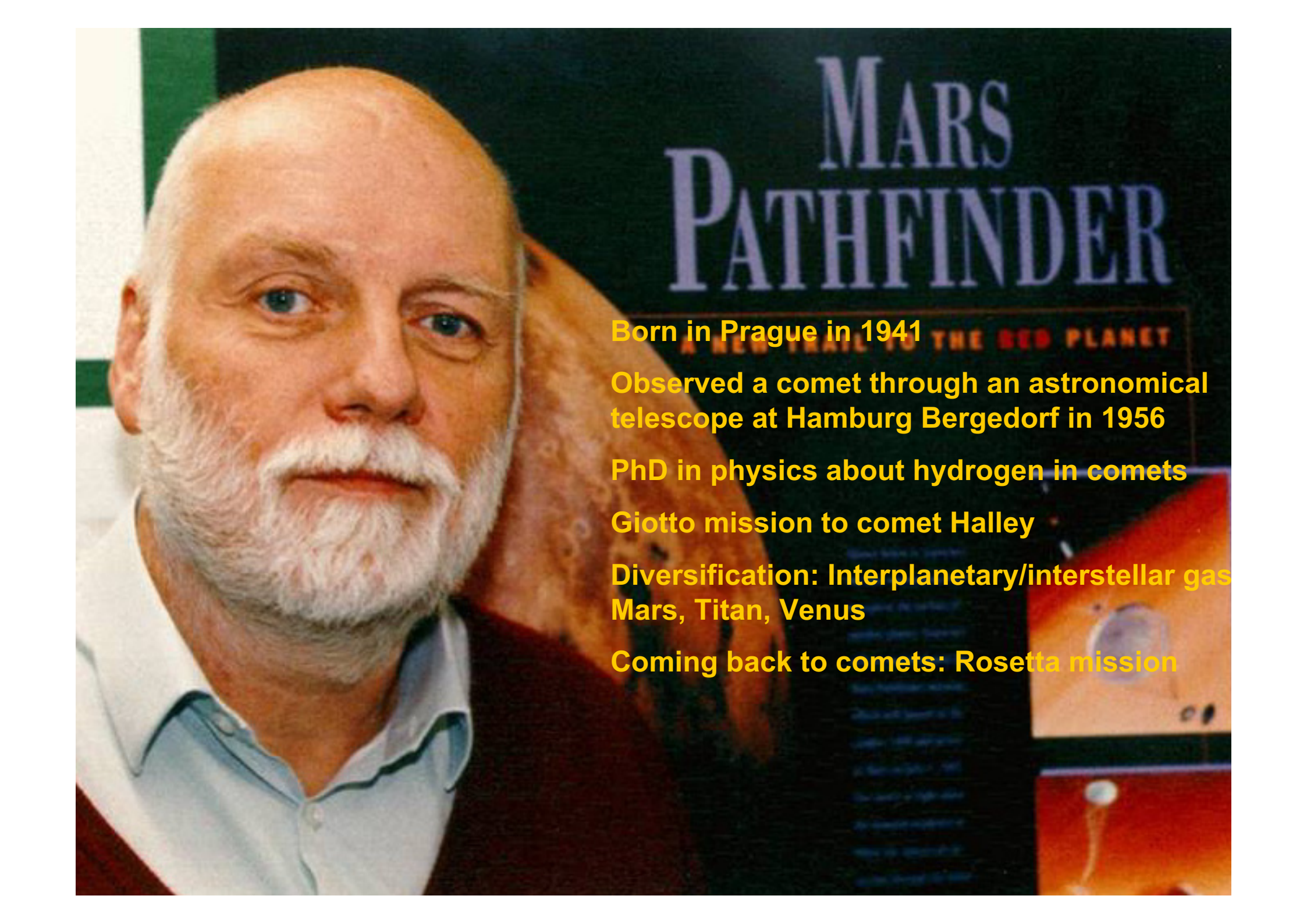


# Nature and Physics of Cometary Nuclei

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Sonnensystemforschung





# MARS PATHFINDER

**Born in Prague in 1941**

**Observed a comet through an astronomical telescope at Hamburg Bergedorf in 1956**

**PhD in physics about hydrogen in comets**

**Giotto mission to comet Halley**

**Diversification: Interplanetary/interstellar gas  
Mars, Titan, Venus**

**Coming back to comets: Rosetta mission**

# Overview

**Comets – a short introduction**

**Historical look back**

**Sublimation, gas, and dust production**

**The comet Halley encounter(s)**

**Giotto mission as example**

**Consolidation of the nucleus model**

**a new paradigm**

**Statistics of nucleus sizes and albedos**

**Formation of nuclei**

**Structure – low density, porous, and low cohesiveness**

**Activity**

**Layers**

**Amorphous ice (?)**

**Temperature distribution**

# Overview continued

**Thermal skin depth**

**Gas pressure, mantles, crusts**

**More space missions – comet Borrelly, Wild 2, and Tempel 1**

**Comet Borelly similar to comet Halley**

**The rough comet Wild 2 – craters and more craters**

**Interplanetary dust particles (IDP) bulding structures of nuclei (?)**

**Deep Impact – hitting comet Tempel 1**

**New results from the flyby**

**Results from the impact**

**Rosetta OSIRIS observations of DI and results**

**Areas of activity revealed for the first time**

**Evolutional sequence of nuclei?**

**The future: Rosetta and its capabilities when it will meet comet C-G**

With slides adapted from M. A'Hearn, N. Biver, D. Brownlee, W. Huebner,  
R. Speith, N. Thomas

# Comets seen from earth

Interaction with solar photons and particles

*Solar wind:*  
protons and electrons  
300-800 km/s

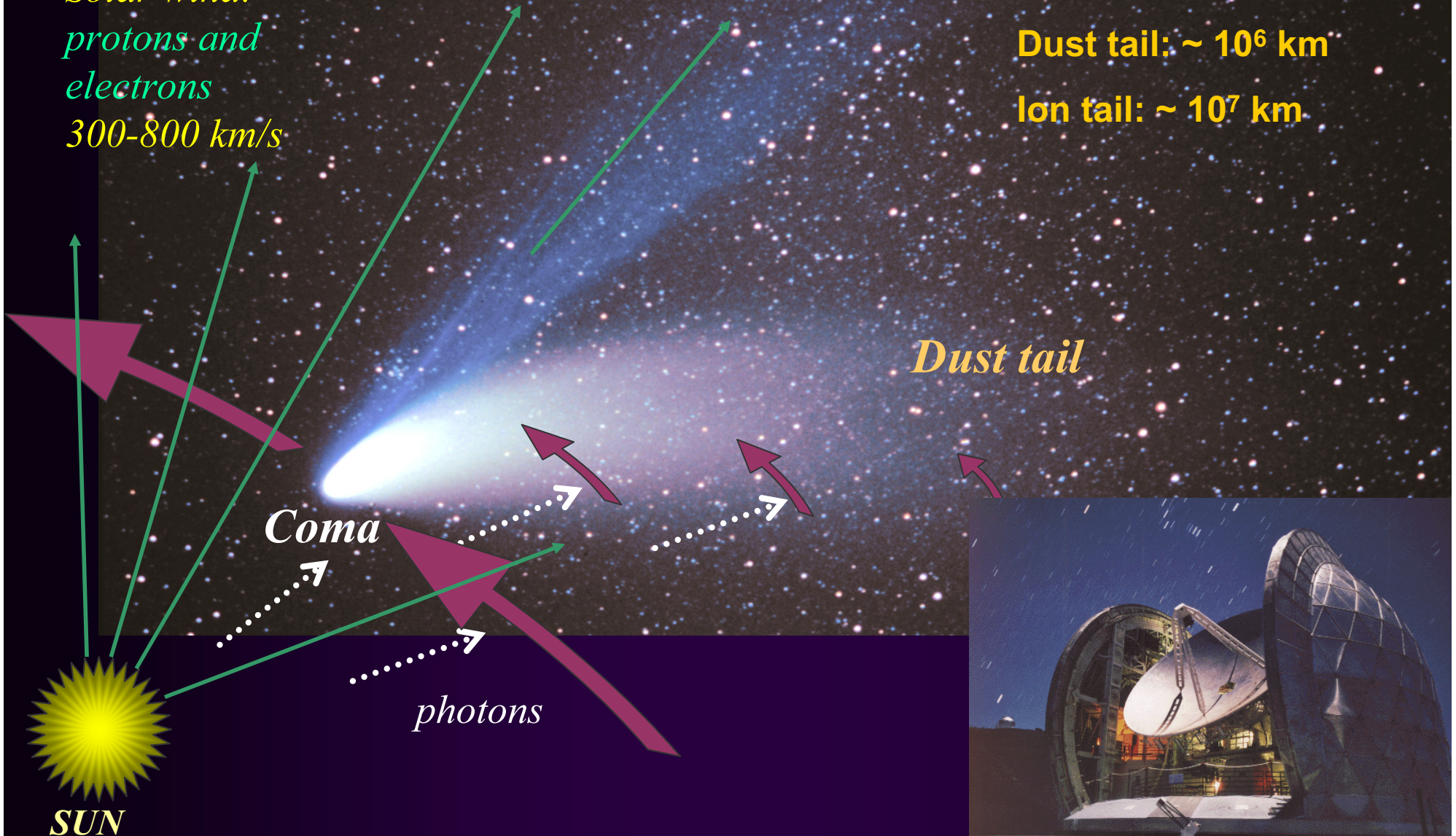
*Ion tail*

Nucleus: a few km

Coma: a few  $10^5$  km

Dust tail:  $\sim 10^6$  km

Ion tail:  $\sim 10^7$  km

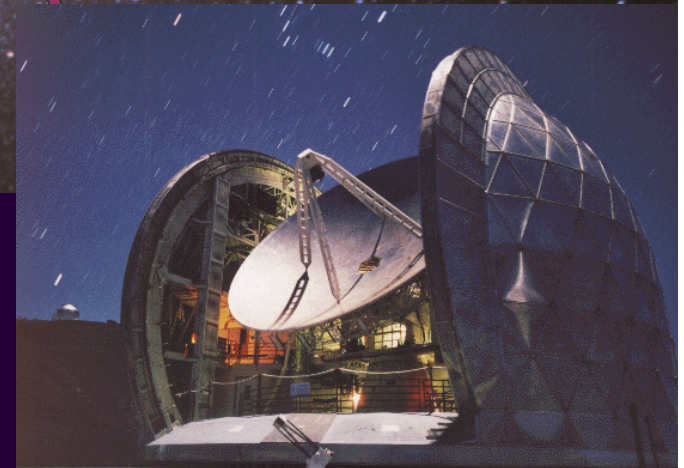


*Dust tail*

*Coma*

*photons*

**SUN**



# Comets



- The appearance near the sun (coma, dust and plasma tails) is grandious but the proper comet is its nucleus
  - Composed from material of the early solar system, mainly silicate dust, organic material, and water ice (refractories and volatiles)
  - Study of coma and dust to infer information about the nucleus properties and composition
  - Only recently cometary nuclei can be studied directly (with space missions)

# Meteors and Comets



**Giovanni Schiaparelli connected meteor showers with comets**

**Perseids with comet Swift Tuttle in 1862**

**As a consequence comets were thought to be clumps of dust (sand bank model)**

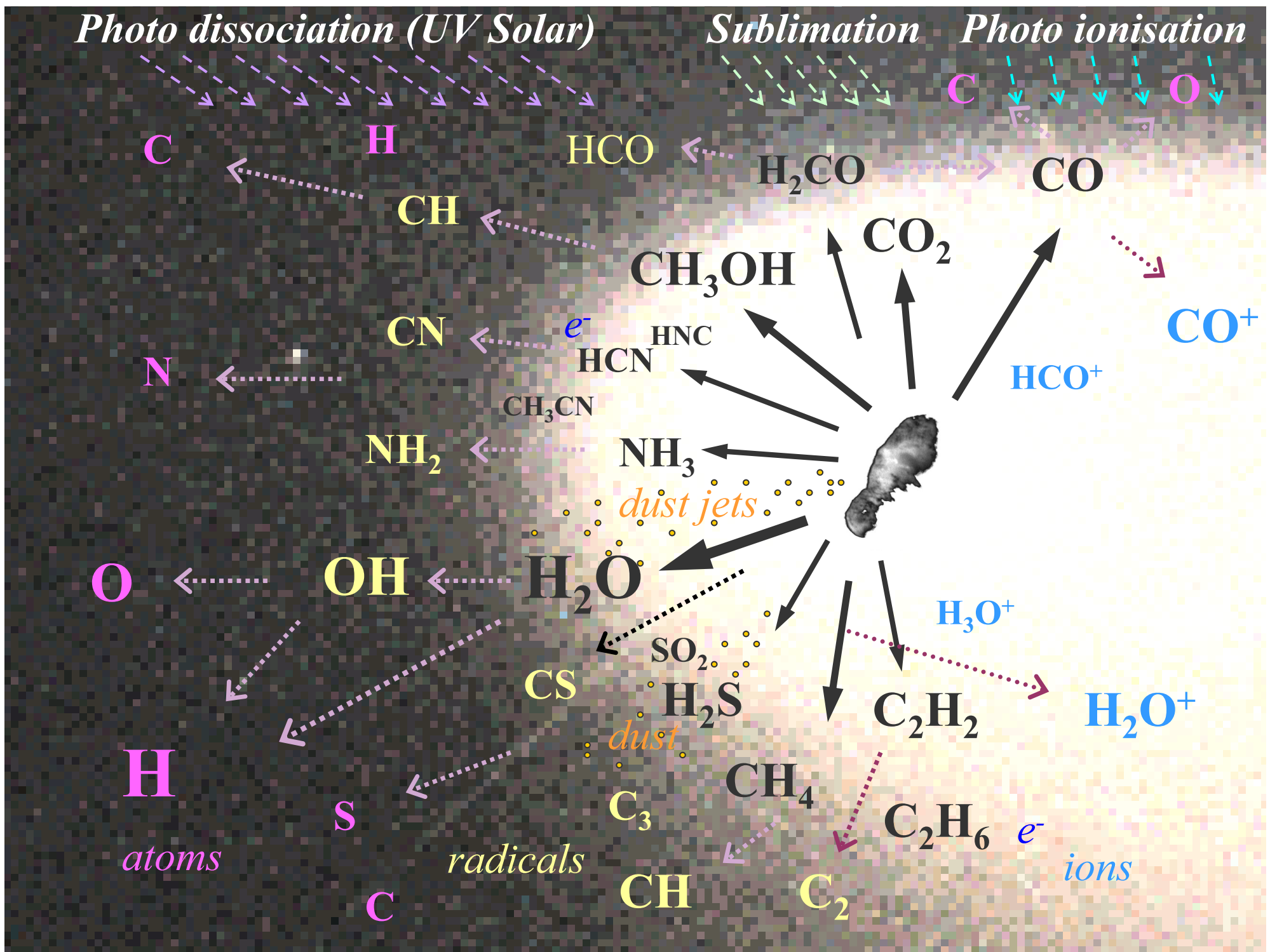
**Whipple (1950/51) postulated a solid nucleus: conglomerate icy nucleus**

**based on presence of non-gravitational forces changing the orbital period by rocket effect of subliming gas**

**Supported by large production rates of water (UV obs. of H) and dust**

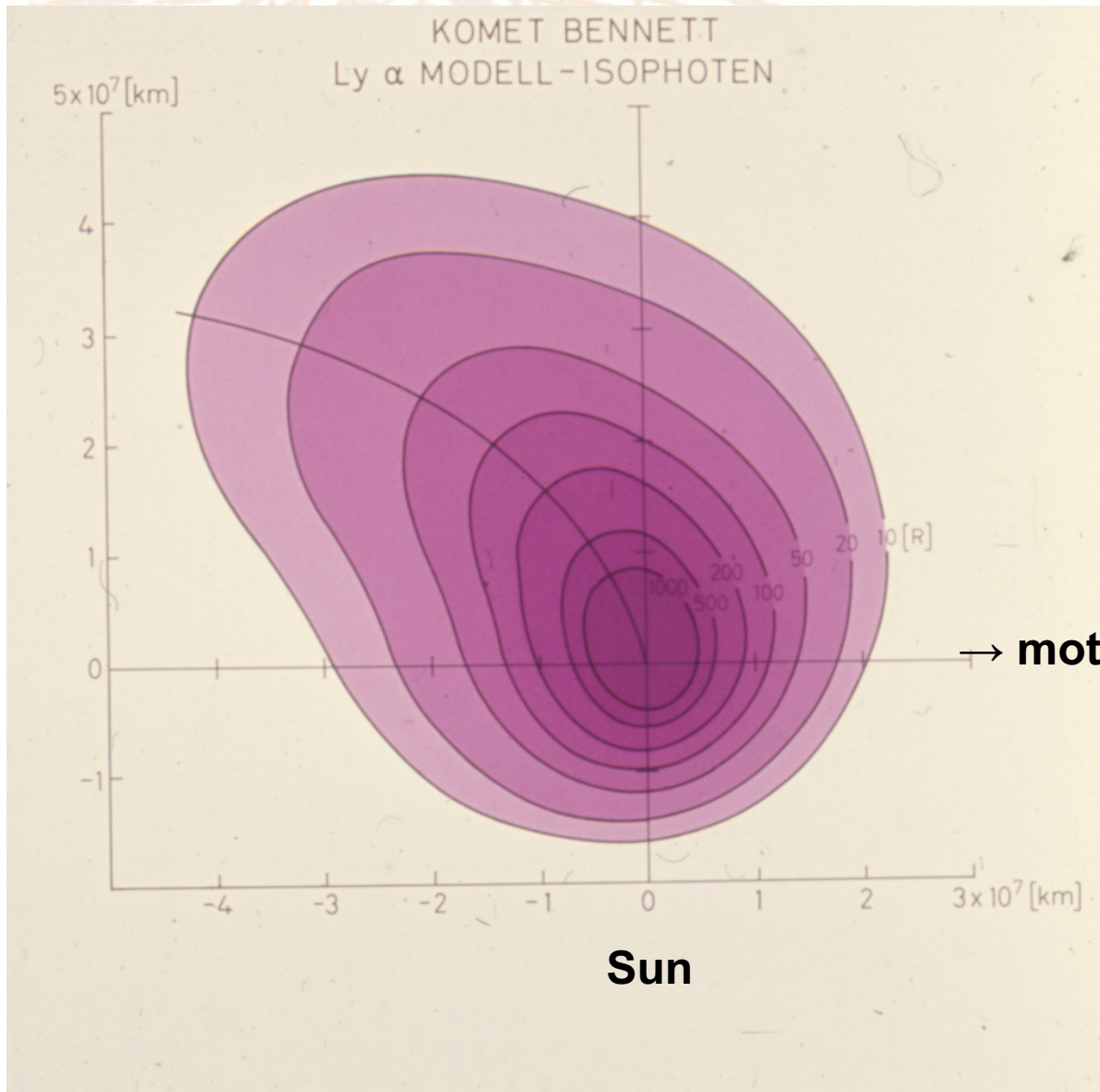
**Nucleus detected 1986 (comet Halley)**

Leonid shower early 19<sup>th</sup> century





# Ly $\alpha$ Isophotes - Model



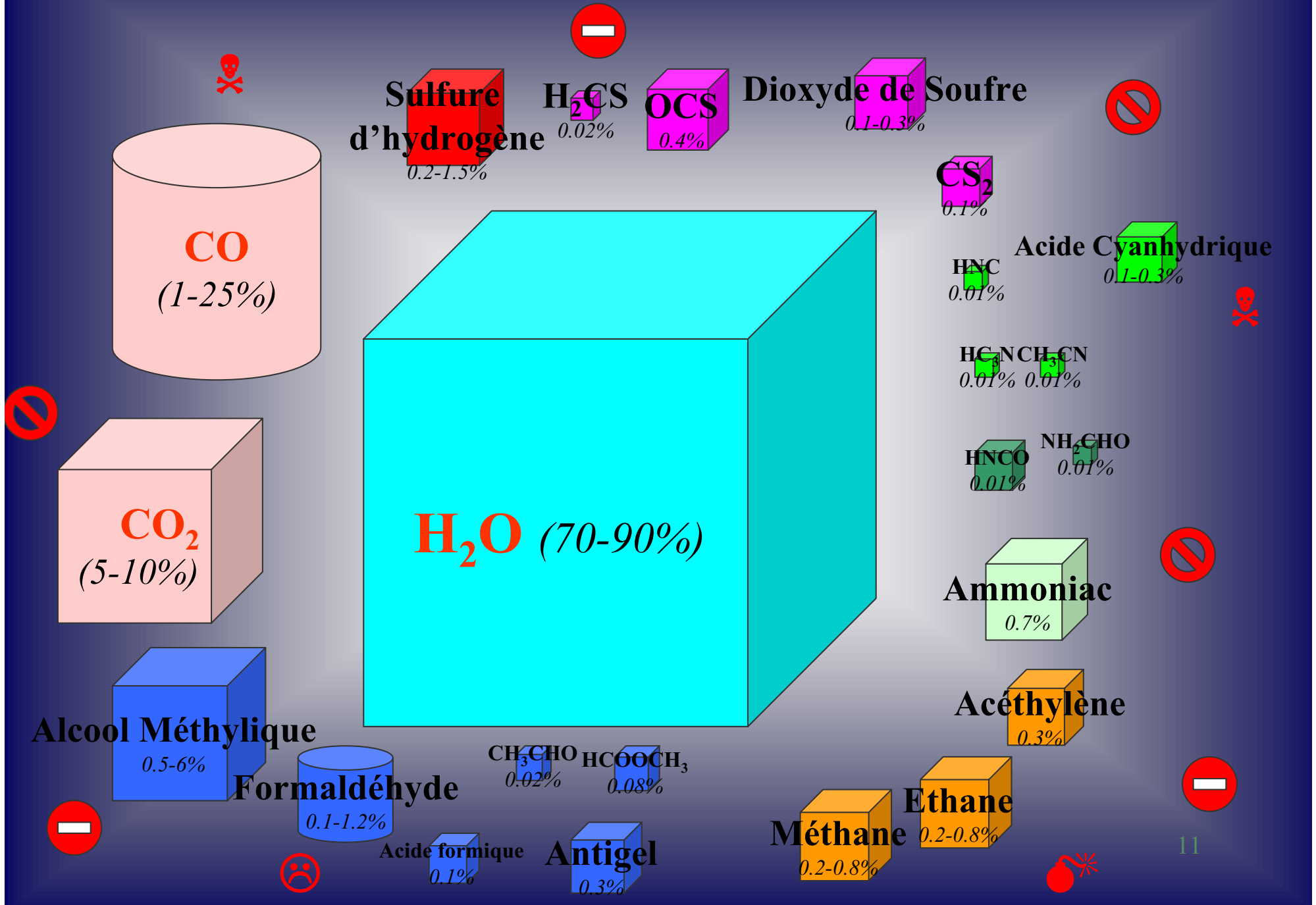
Hydrogen Coma of  
Comet Bennett

# Hydrogen Coma



- Hydrogen atoms are created by dissociation of water molecules and subsequently of OH
- Excess energy provides large velocities between 8 and 20 km s<sup>-1</sup>
- Very extended 10<sup>7</sup> km, to be observed in UV via Lyman alpha line, the resonance line of H at 121,6 nm
- The first strong evidence that water is the dominant volatile of the nucleus
- OH difficult to observe from ground (atmospheric absorption)

# Molecules identified in the gas comae of comets



# Sublimation Equilibrium

$$F_o(1 - A_o) r^2 \cos \theta = \sigma \varepsilon T^4 + Z(T) L(T)$$

$$Z = p (2 \pi m k T)^{-1/2}$$

$F_o$  = solar flux at 1 AU

$A_o$  = visible albedo of nucleus

$\varepsilon$  = emissivity  $\sim(1 - A_{IR})$

$\sigma$  = Stephan's law constant

$k$  = Boltzmann's constant

$L$  = latent heat of sublimation

$Z$  = production rate of gas by sublimation of its ice

$p$  = vapour pressure of subliming ice

# Gas Production Rate Variations

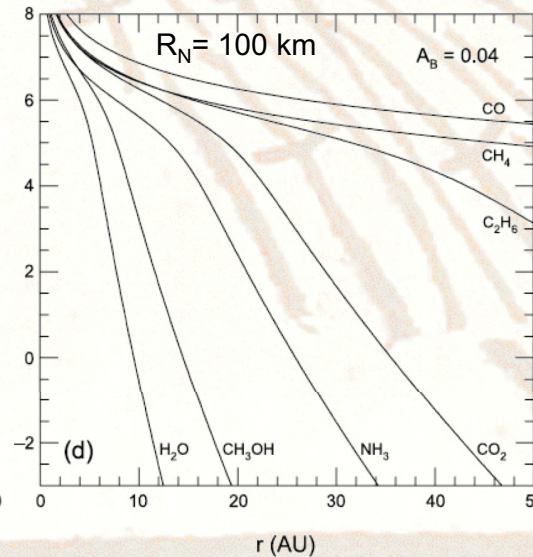
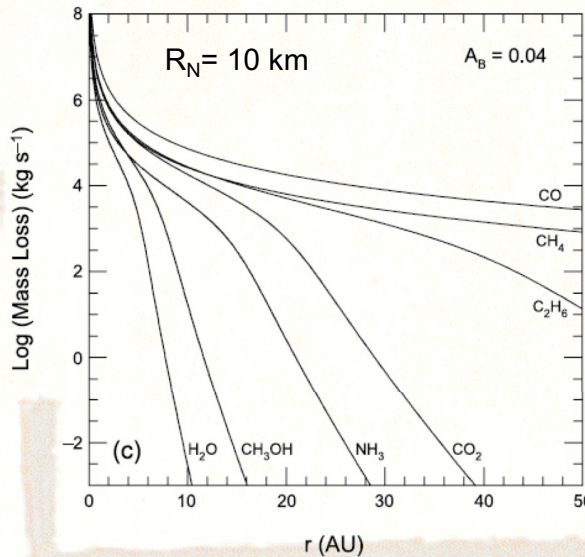
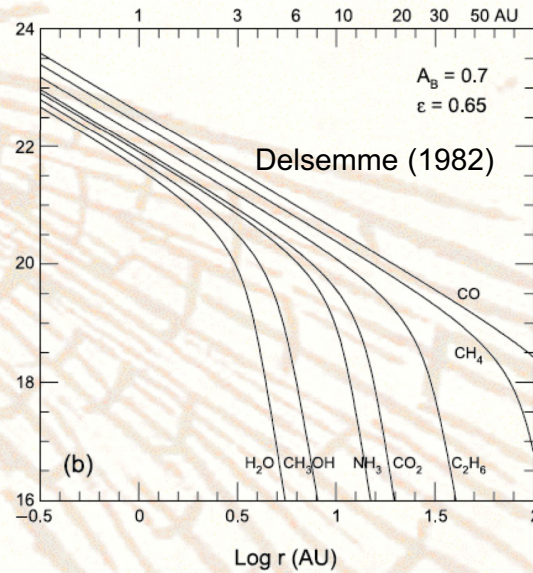
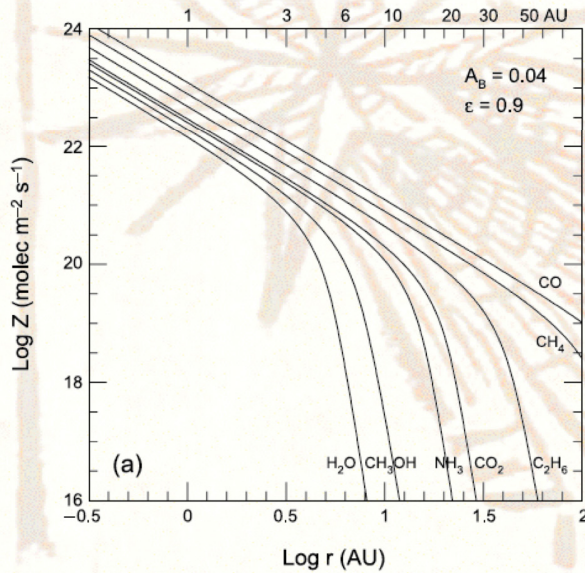
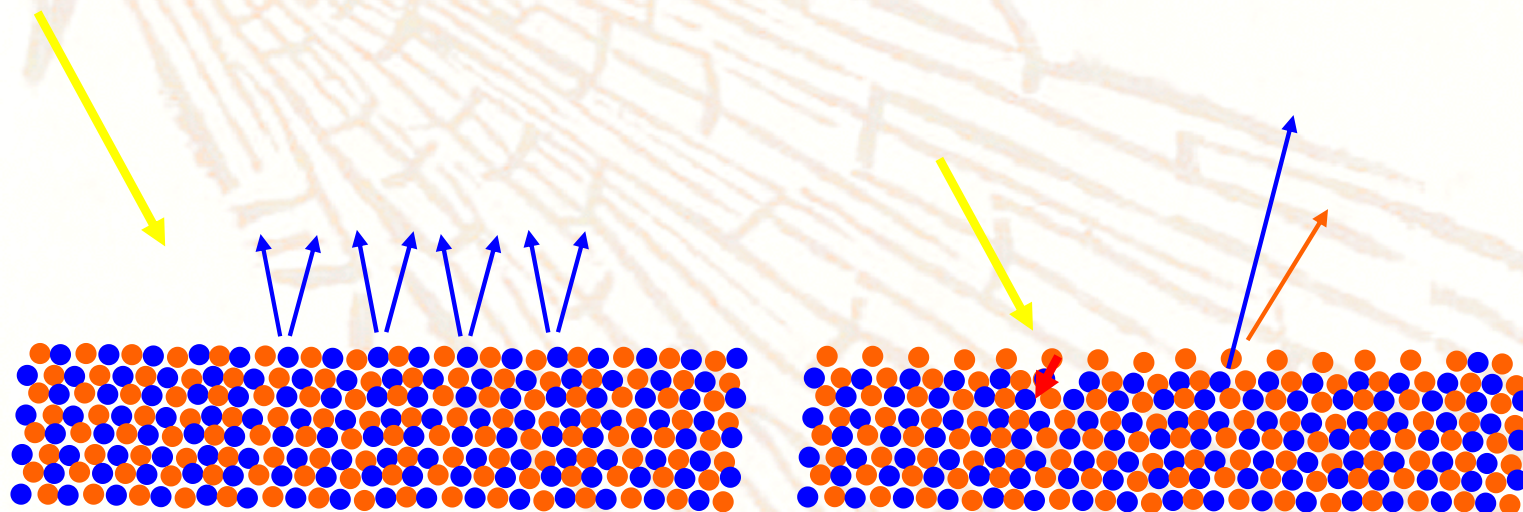


TABLE 1. Temperature regimes for onset of comet activity.

T (K)	Process	r (AU)
5	H <sub>2</sub> sublimation	>3000
22	N <sub>2</sub> sublimation	160
25	CO sublimation	120
31	CH <sub>4</sub> sublimation	80
35–80	Ice I <sub>a</sub> h anneals	60–10
38–68	I <sub>a</sub> h converts to I <sub>a</sub> l	55–15
44	C <sub>2</sub> H <sub>6</sub> sublimation	40
57	C <sub>2</sub> H <sub>2</sub> , H <sub>2</sub> S sublimation	24
64	H <sub>2</sub> CO sublimation	20
78	NH <sub>3</sub> sublimation	14
80	CO <sub>2</sub> sublimation, I <sub>a</sub> l anneals	13
91	CH <sub>3</sub> CN sublimation	9
95	HCN sublimation	8
99	CH <sub>3</sub> OH sublimation	8
70–120	Ice I <sub>a</sub> l anneals	18–
90–160	Ice I <sub>a</sub> l → I <sub>c</sub> phase change	11–
160	Ice I <sub>c</sub> → I <sub>h</sub> phase change	
180	Ice I <sub>h</sub> sublimation	

Meech and Svoren (2004)

# Lift-Off



# Particle Lift Off

$$m_g \frac{d^2r}{dt^2} = -\frac{GMm_g}{r^2} + F_{\text{drag}}$$

$$N(r) = \frac{Q}{4\pi R_N^2 v_{\text{th}}} \left[ \frac{R_N}{r} \right]^2$$

$$a_{\text{crit}} = \frac{9\mu m_H Q v_{\text{th}}}{64\pi^2 \rho_g \rho_N R_N^3 G}$$

$\mu$  is atomic weight of gas (H<sub>2</sub>O)

**Decimeter sized particles at high activity < 1 AU**

**Optically significant grains (0.01 to 1  $\mu\text{m}$ ) can be lifted off by**

**H<sub>2</sub>O at  $r_h > 5$  AU**

**CO<sub>2</sub> at  $r_h > 16$  AU**

# Early Days

**Brightness observations at large heliocentric distances (Roemer)**

**=>  $0.5 \text{ km} < R_N < 10 \text{ km}$  ( $B \propto AR_N^2$ )**

**Orbit determination – non-gravitational forces (Whipple)**

**Determination of gas production rates (UV) => Halley type object:**

**$R_N > 3 \text{ km}$**

**Determination of dust production rates and structures (Finson and Probst, Sekanina) => dust to gas ratio, isotropic dust production**

**The combination of brightness obs. and water (hydrogen) production rates led to erroneous results of albedos  $> 0.6$  (Delsemme and Rud)**

**Spectral photometry at large heliocentric distances (Cruikshank and co-workers)**

**=> dark and large**

**Radar observations => cloud of large boulders**

**Observations that do not resolve the nucleus cannot separate the size of the nucleus from its scattering properties**

**Second observational method is required to separate A from R:**

- **Production rate of gas.**
- **Infrared observations to determine the size.**

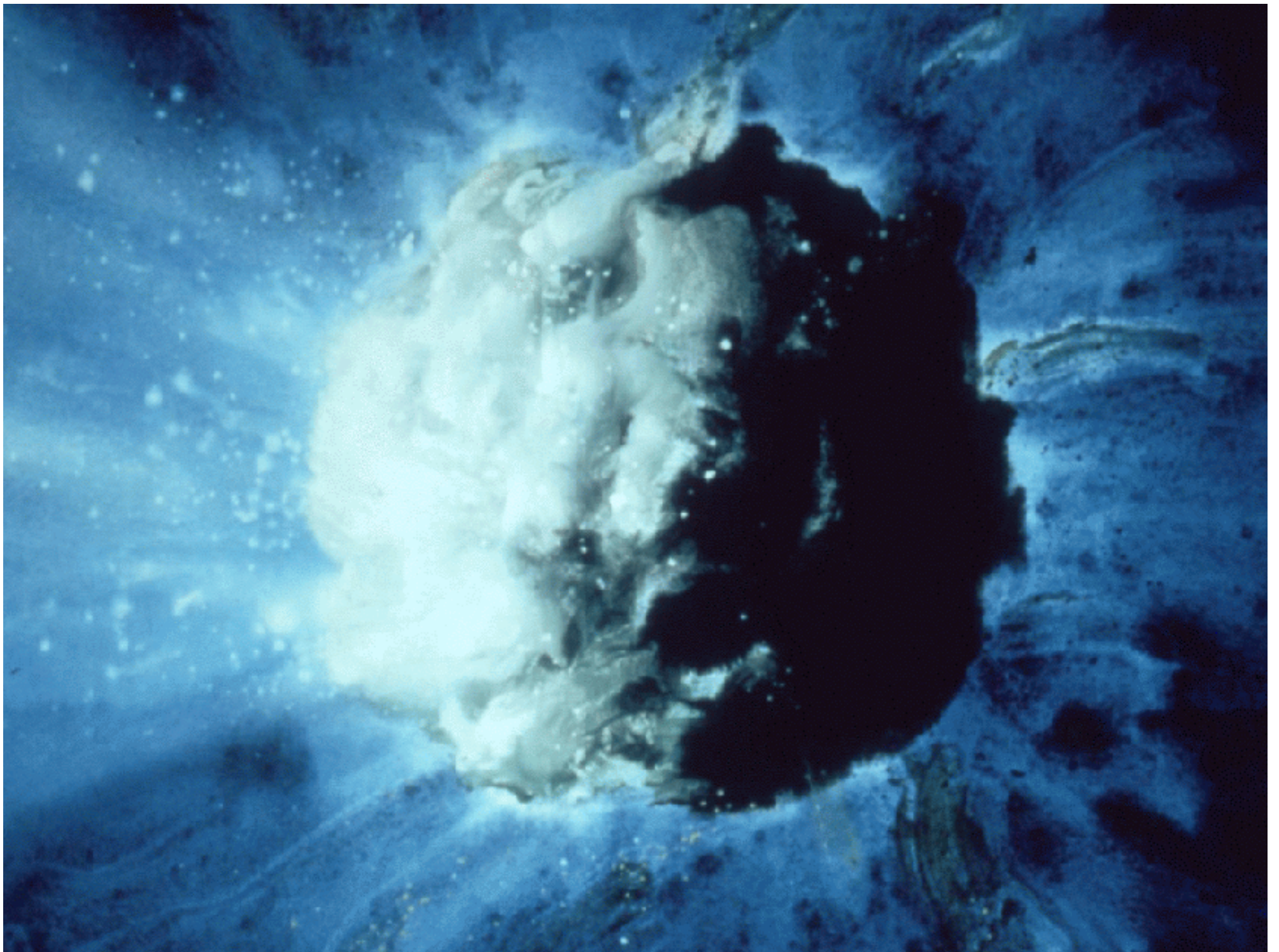




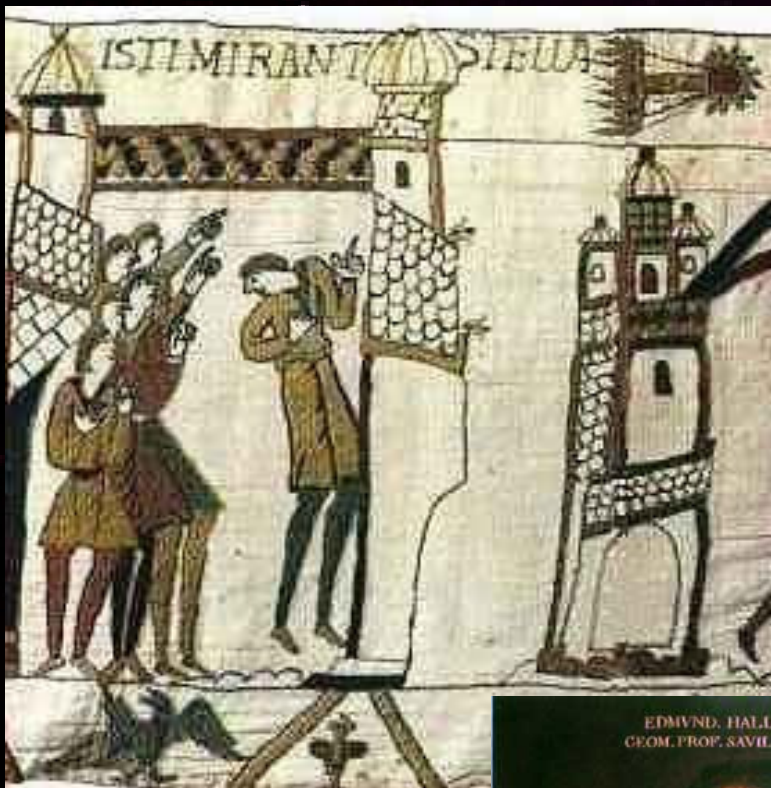
## Albedo and Nuclear Radius for Two Comets

Comet	Bond Albedo $A$	Nuclear Radius $R$
Tago Sato Kosaka	$0.63 \pm 0.13$	$2.20 \pm 0.27$ km
Bennett	$0.66 \pm 0.13$	$3.76 \pm 0.46$ km

Delsemme and Rudd (1973)



# Halley's Comet, First observed in China 240 BC



1066 Bayeux  
Tapestry



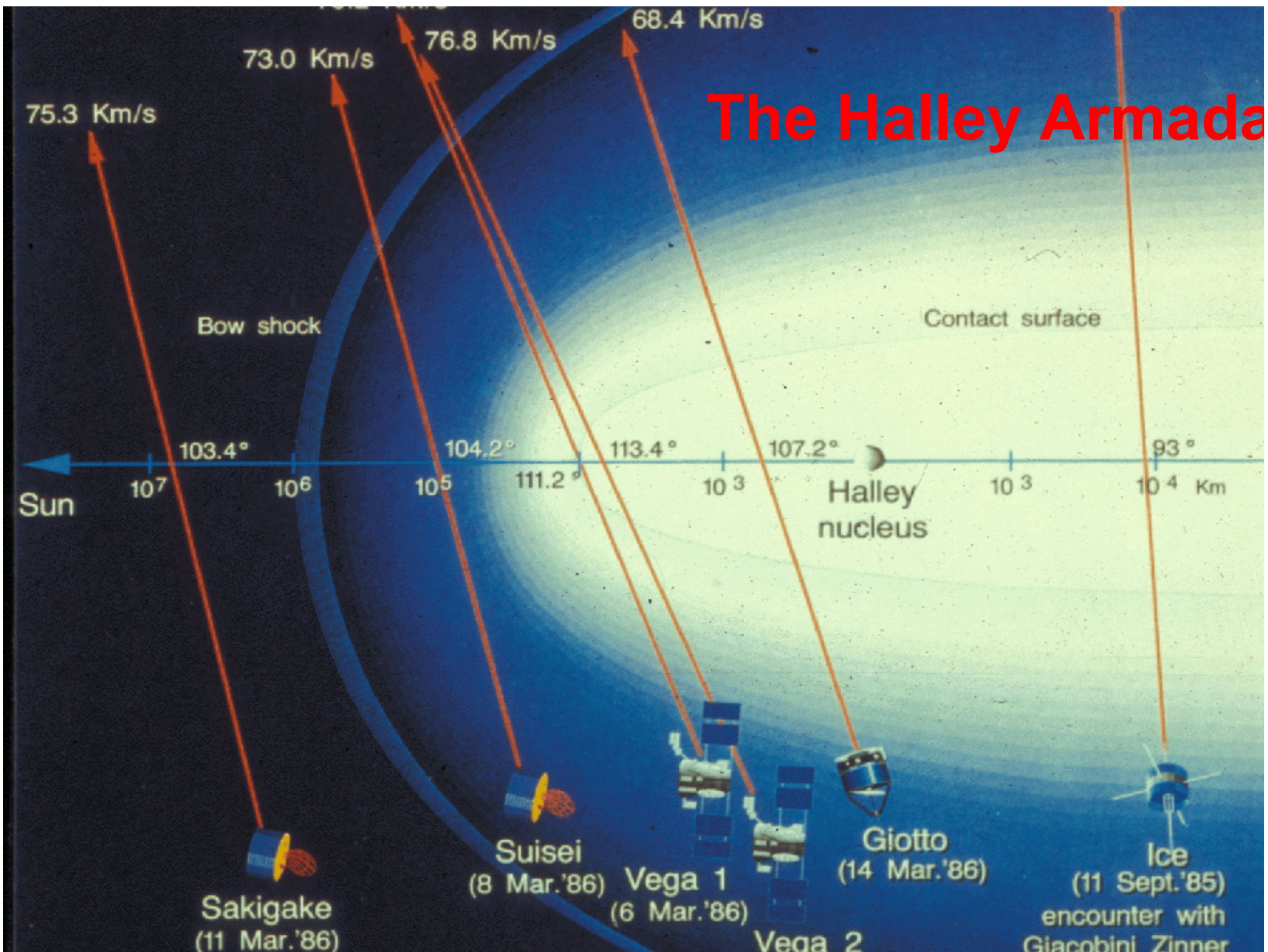
1305, Giotto di Bondone



1705, Edmond Halley

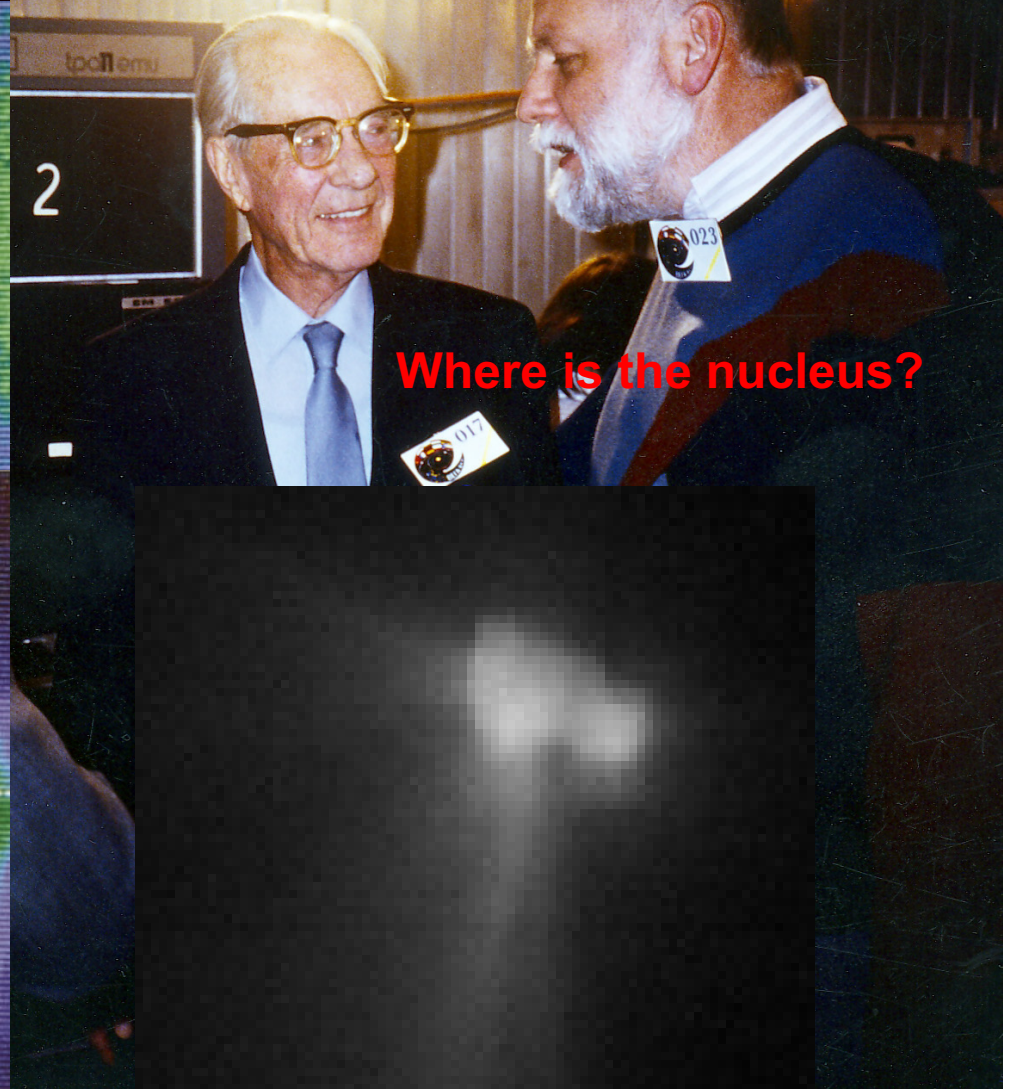
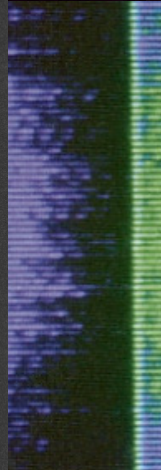


# The Halley Armada



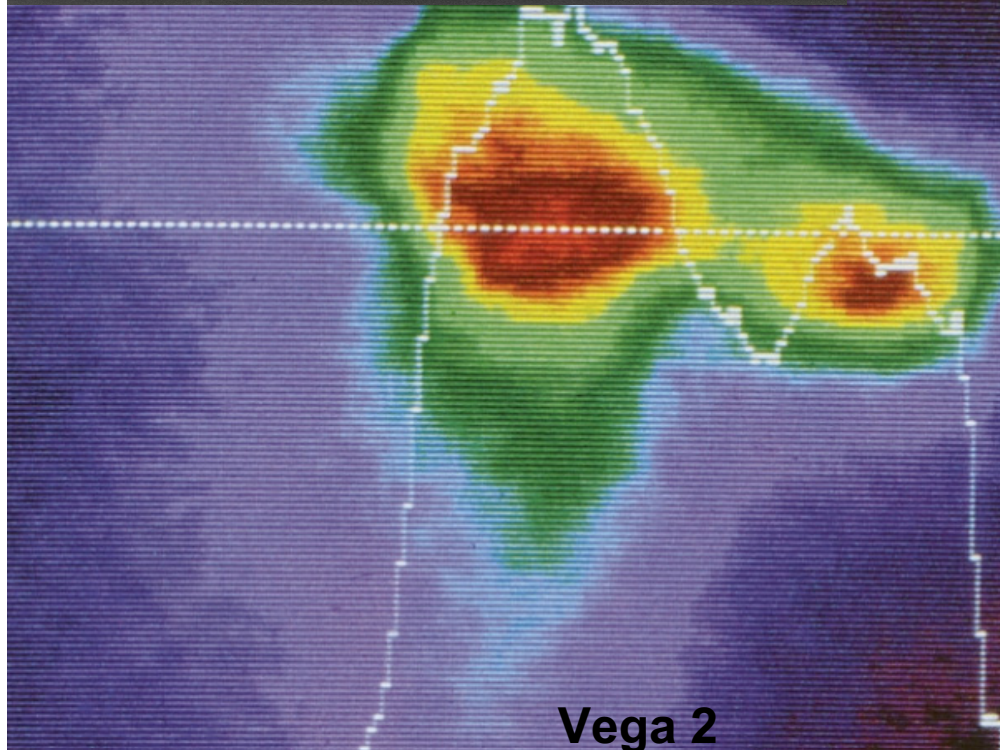
# The Vega Encounters

Vega 1



Where is the nucleus?

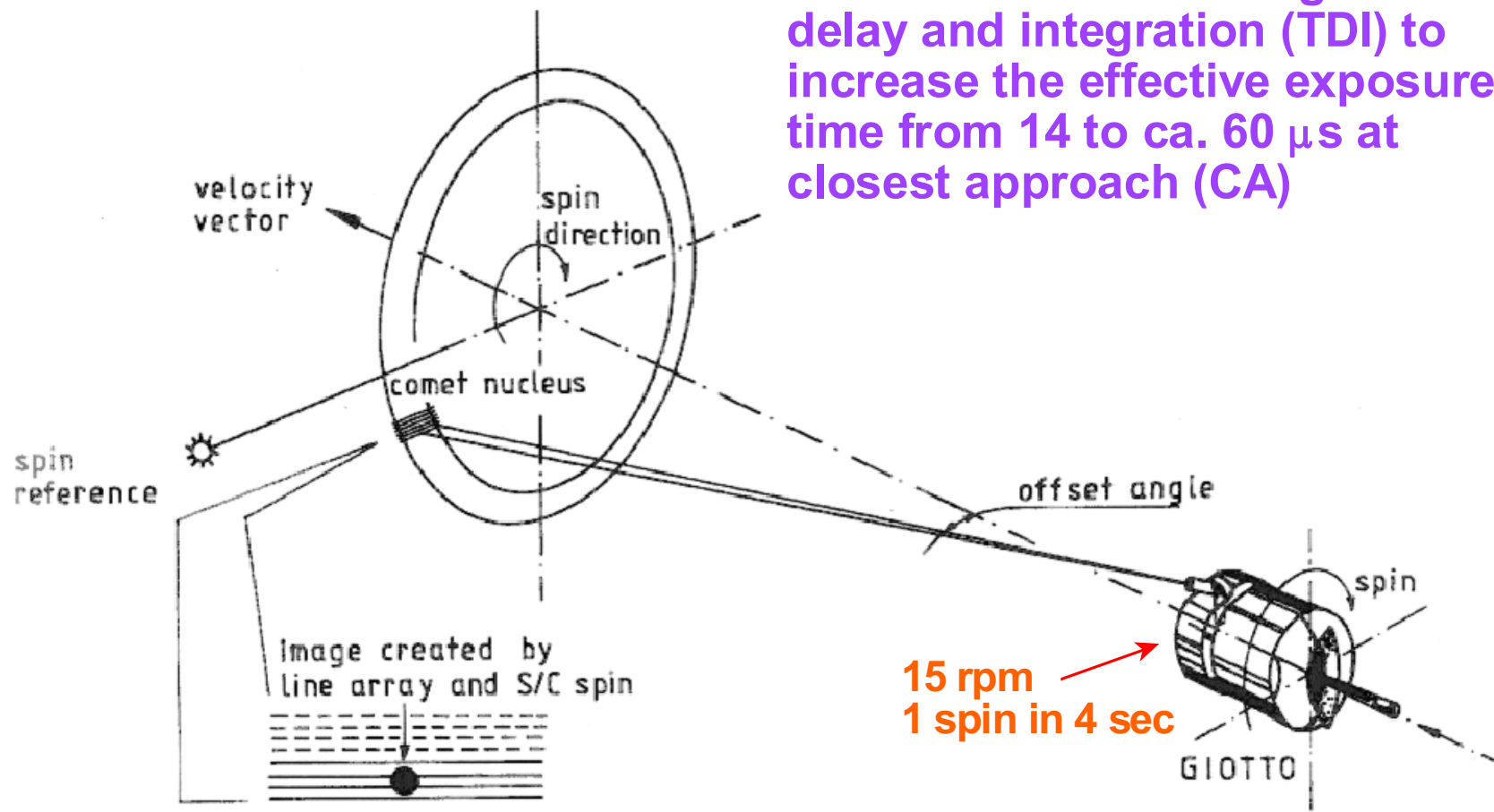
Vega 2



Vega 2



Line scan camera using time delay and integration (TDI) to increase the effective exposure time from 14 to ca. 60  $\mu$ s at closest approach (CA)



# HMC Capabilities

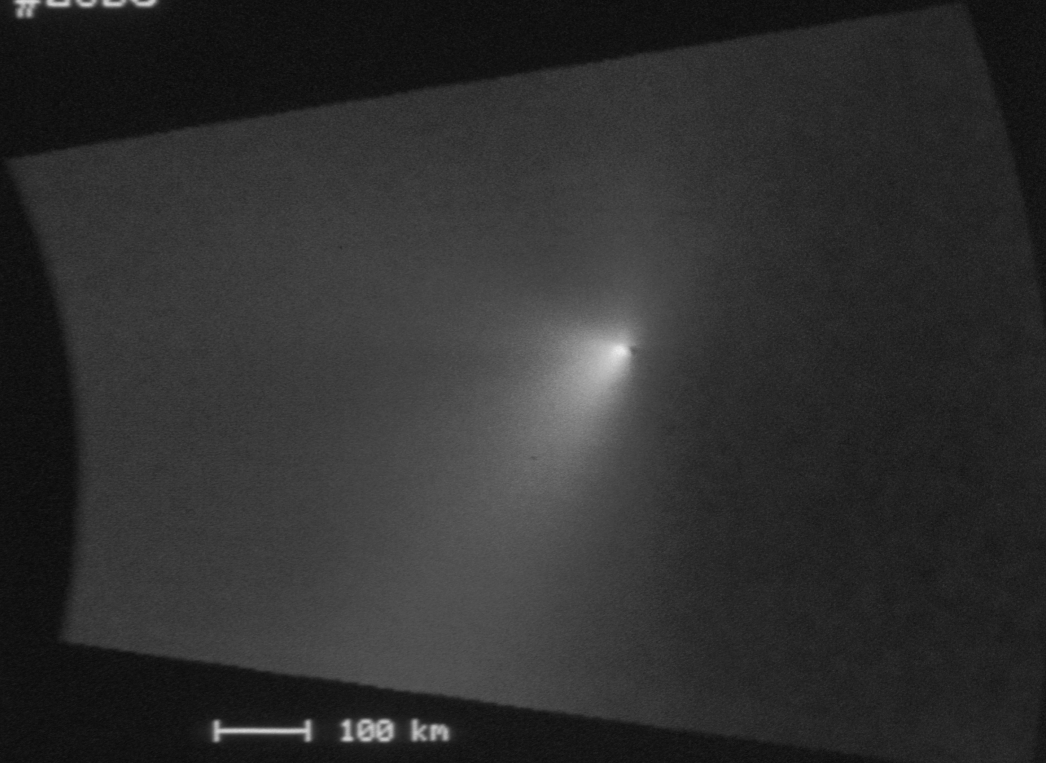
Sit on a merry-go-round, look through binoculars with a field of view as small as the moon and try to observe a star on every rotation!



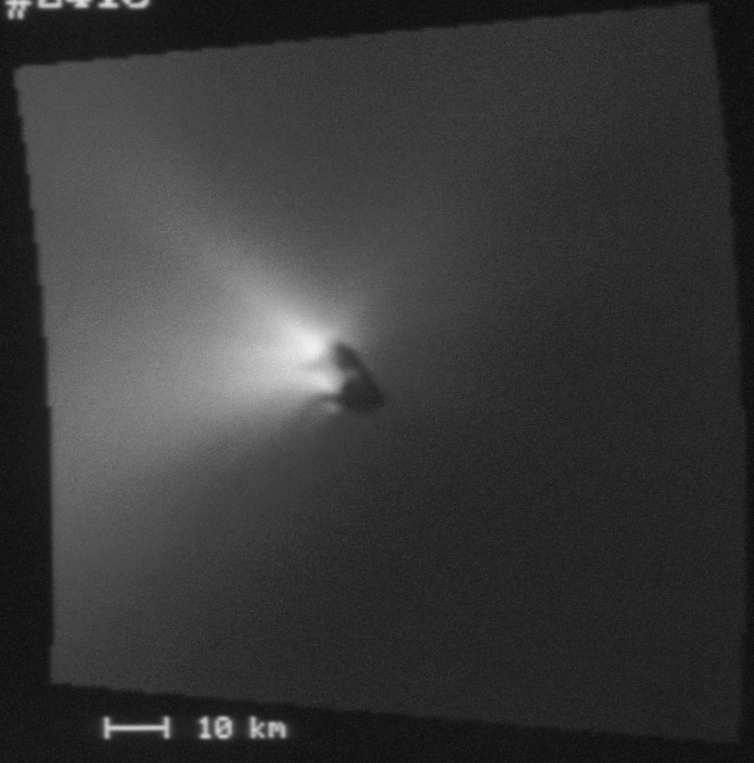
Taking an image of comet Halley's nucleus with HMC is like taking a portrait (75 x 75 m<sup>2</sup>) of the pilot of a Concorde passing by in 400 m distance with twice the speed of sound (2200 km h<sup>-1</sup>)!



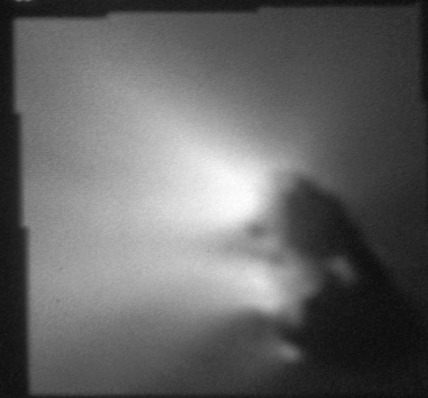
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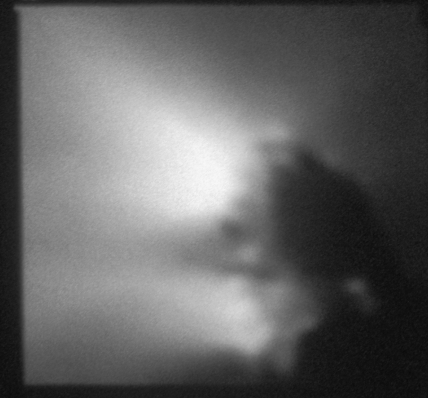
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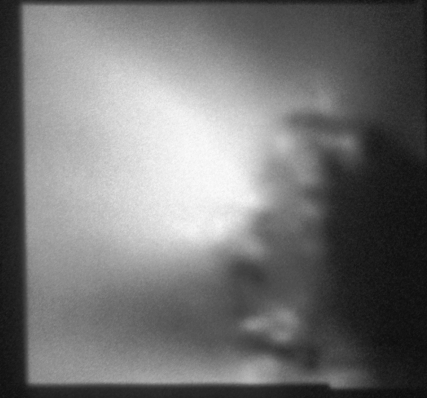
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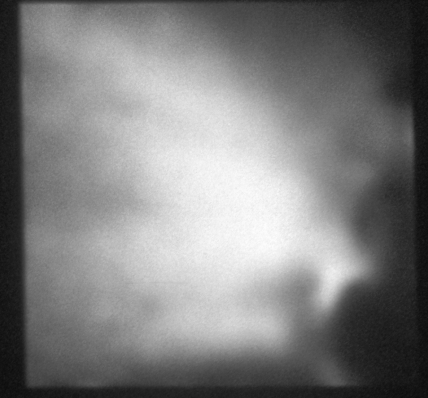
#3475



#3491



#3502



100 km

10 km

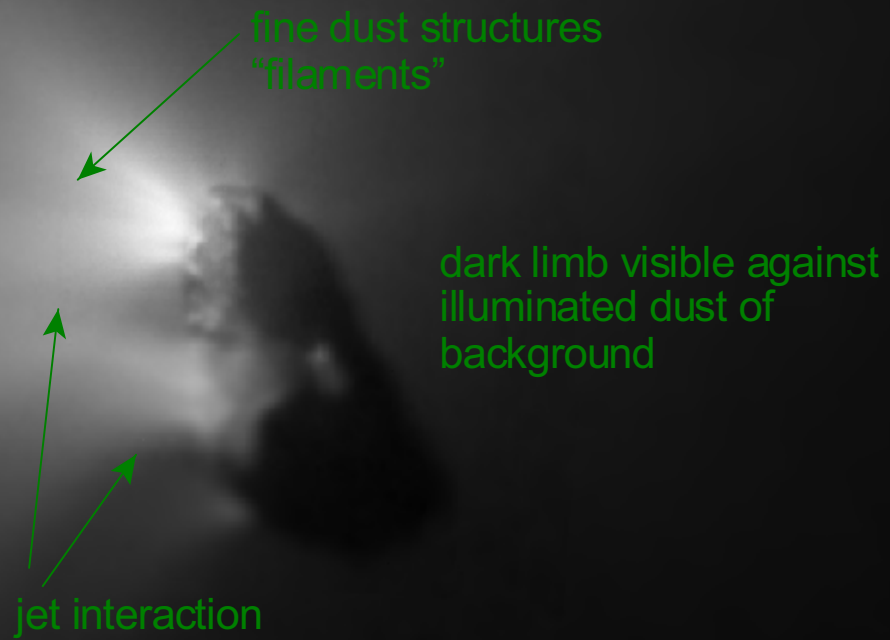
5 km

5 km

1 km

1 km





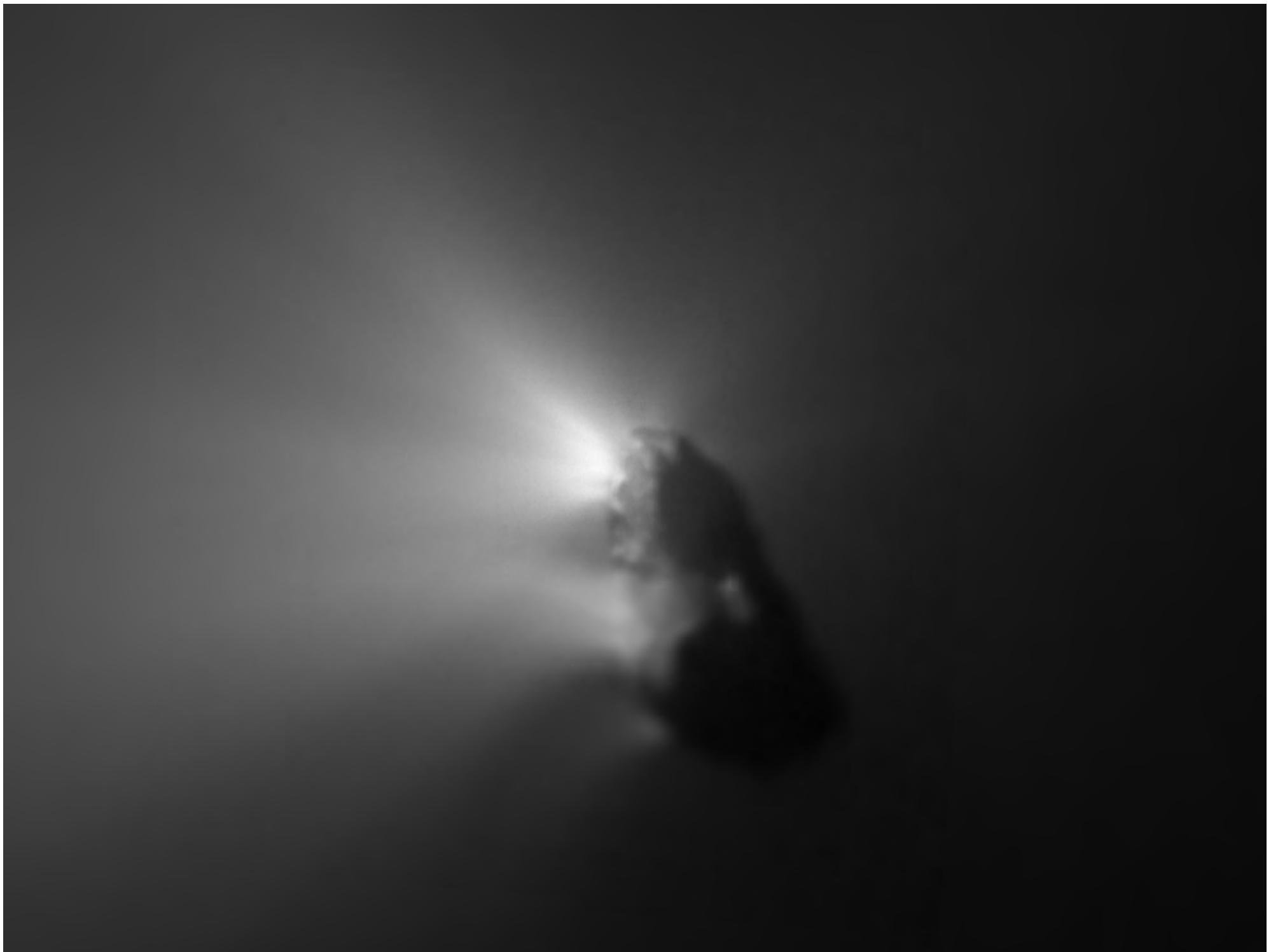
Composite image of  
comet Halley

68 images are  
combined

Scale changes from 500  
to 49 m px<sup>-1</sup>

Slight change of phase  
angle (< 13° for the last  
few images)

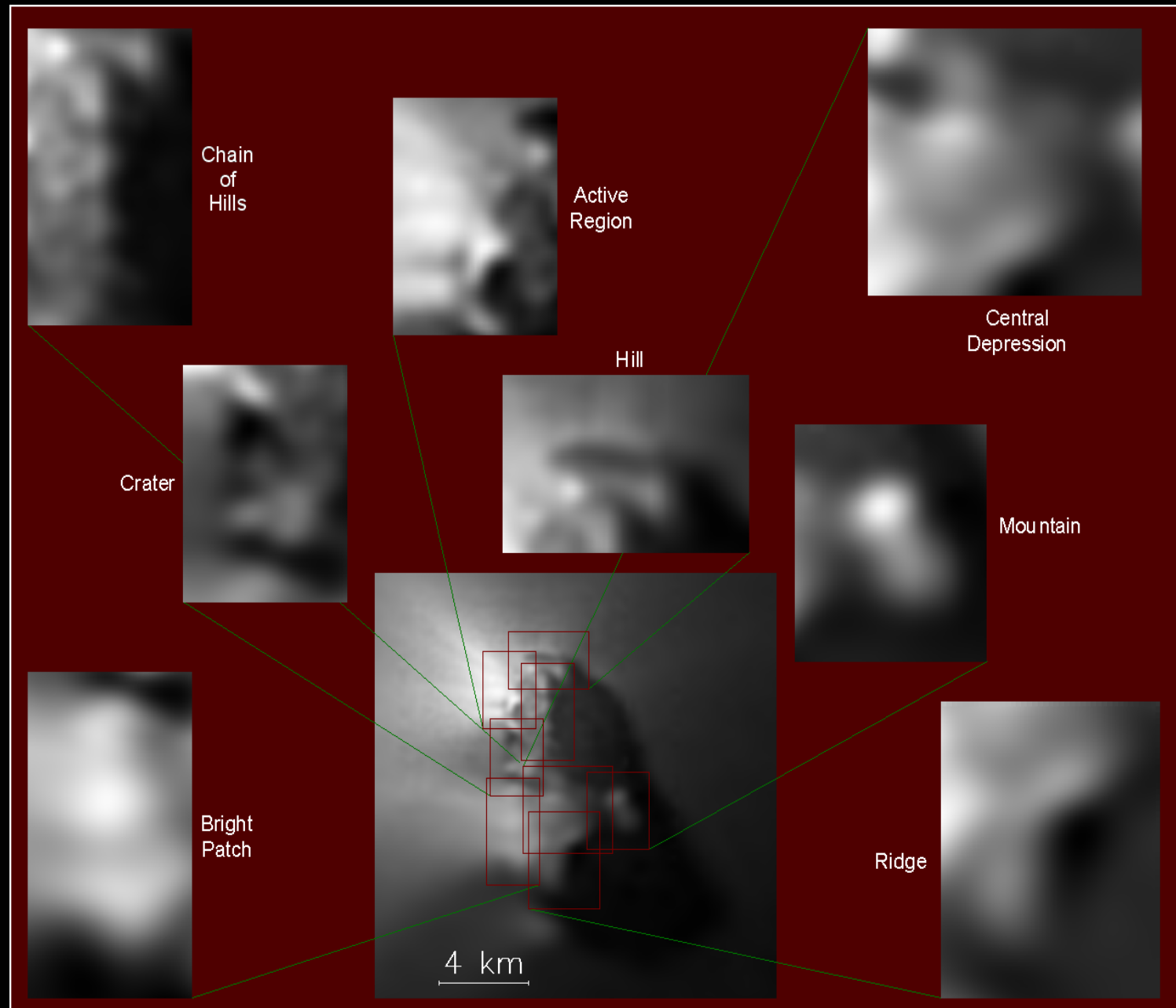




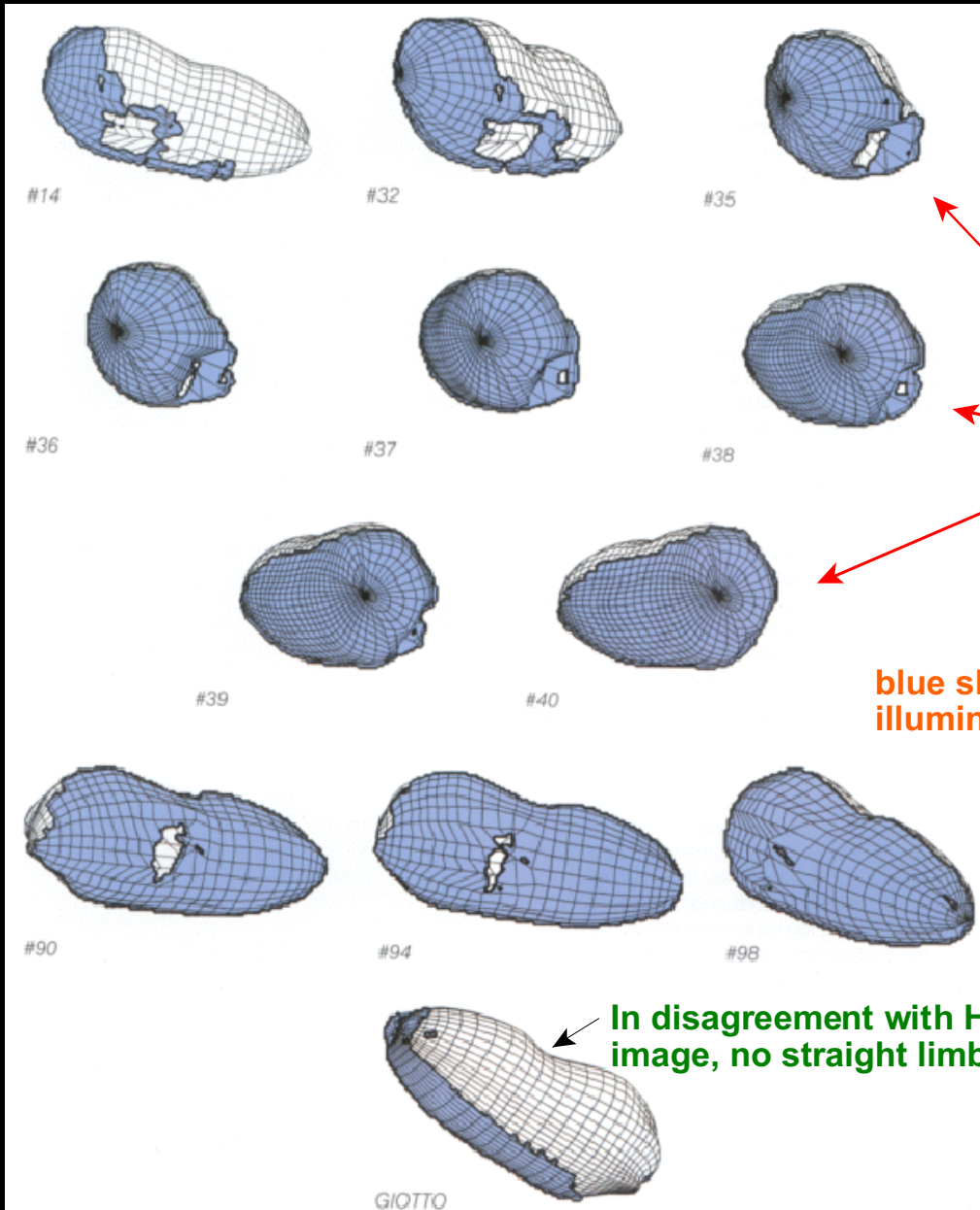
# Comet Halley

**Elongated**  
**15.3 x 7.2 x 7.2 km<sup>3</sup>**  
**Very dark albedo**  
**No impact craters**  
**Activity limited**

**Surface morphology:**  
**(limited information)**  
**- smooth terrains**  
**- hilly areas**  
**- bright areas**  
**- large outcroppings**  
**Topographic roughness:**  
**0.5 to 1 km**



# Nucleus Shape 3 D



Reconstruction of the shape of the nucleus of comet Halley (from Szegő et al. 1995)

Size  $15.3 \times 7.2 \times 7.2 \pm 0.5$  km

VEGA 1

blue shading indicates illuminated area

VEGA 2

GIOTTO

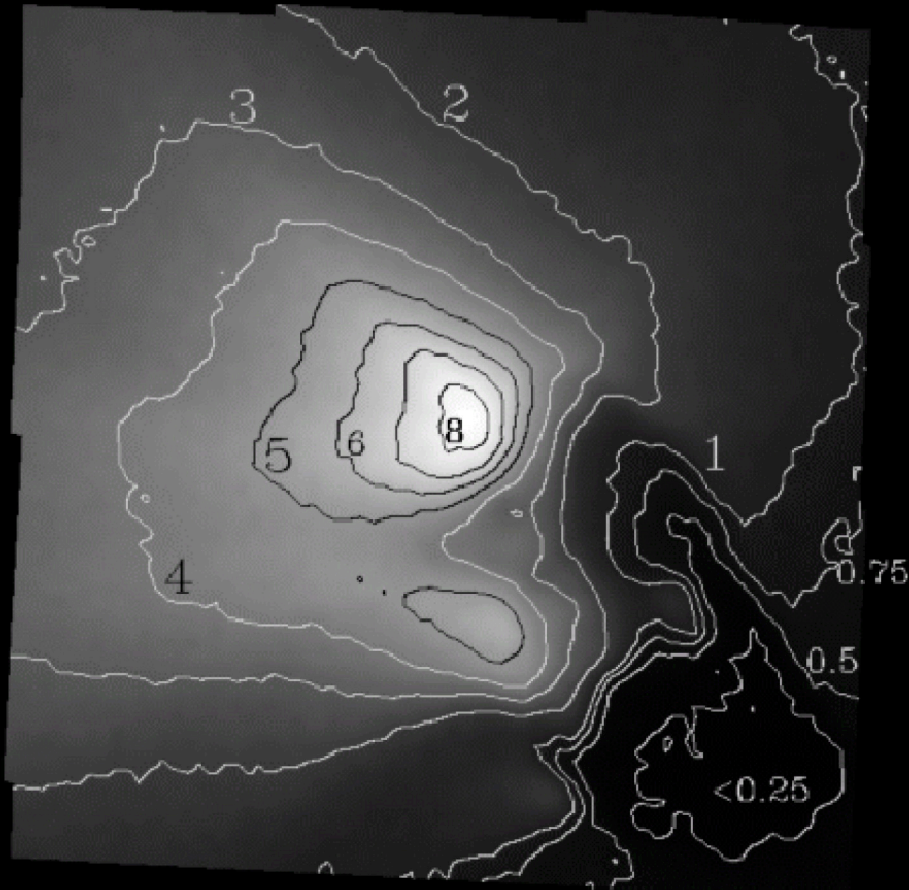
In disagreement with HMC image, no straight limb!

# Physical Parameters of Comet Halley's Nucleus

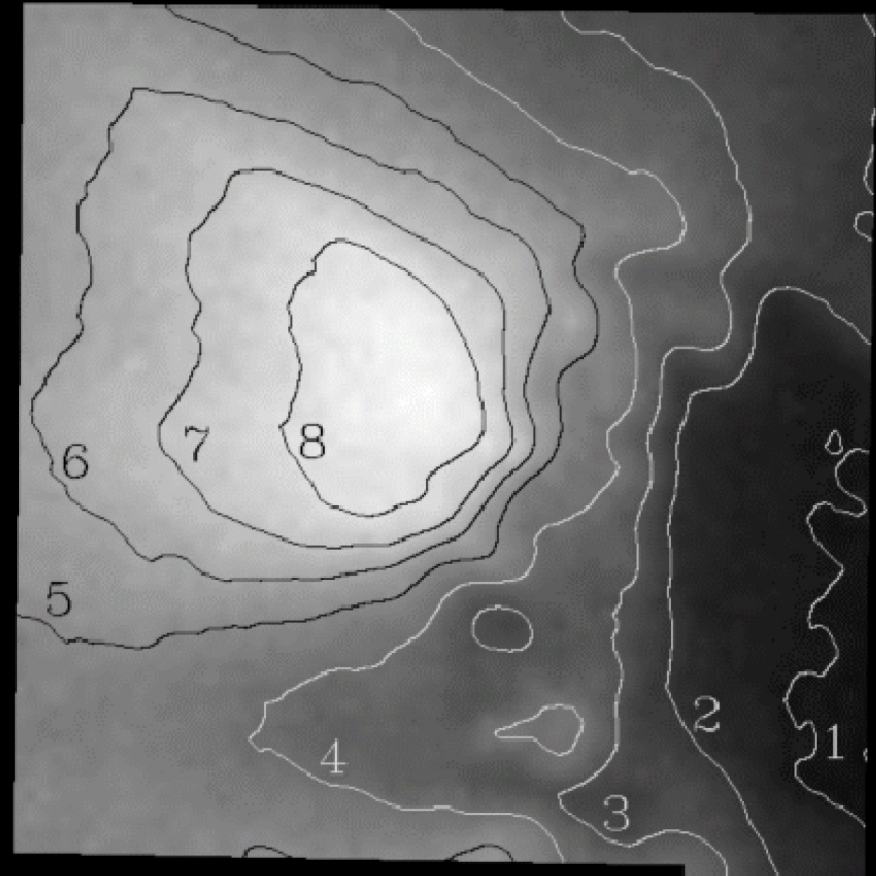
Comet Halley's Nucleus		
Projected shape (full outline)	max.. length $14.2 \pm 0.3$ km	HMC
	max.. width $7.4 \pm 0.2$ km	
Model body	$15.3 \times 7.2 \times 7.22$ km <sup>3</sup>	E. Merényi et al. (1990)
Volume	$420 \pm 80$ km <sup>3</sup> tri-axial ellipsoid $365$ km <sup>3</sup> model body	E. Merényi et al. (1990)
Surface	$294$ km <sup>2</sup>	
Topography	mountains, ridges, terraces	HMC
Activity	concentrated in 3 major areas, $\leq 10\%$ of surface	
Geometric albedo	$0.04 + 0.02 - 0.01$	R.Z. Sagdeev et al. (1986)
Colour (reddish)	reflectivity gradient: $6 \pm 3\%$ (100nm) <sup>-1</sup> from 440 to 810 nm	N. Thomas and H.U. Keller (1989)
Mass	$1 - 3 \cdot 10^{14}$ kg	from non-gravitational forces H. Rickman et al. (1987)
Density	$550 \pm 250$ km m <sup>3</sup>	H. Rickman et al. (1987)
Rotation (complex)	spin period 2.84 d 7.1 d around long axis 3.7 d nutation	M.J.S. Belton et al. (1991)

Clear filter images 3457 and 3491

Contour levels in units of  
reflectivity x 1000  
Phase angle  $107^\circ$



5 km

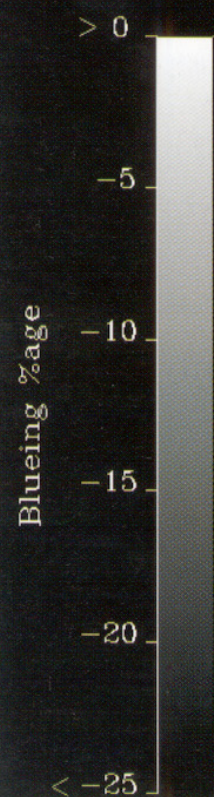
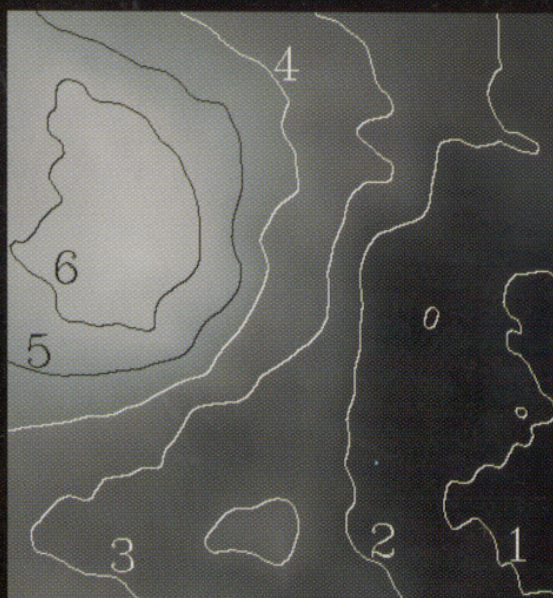
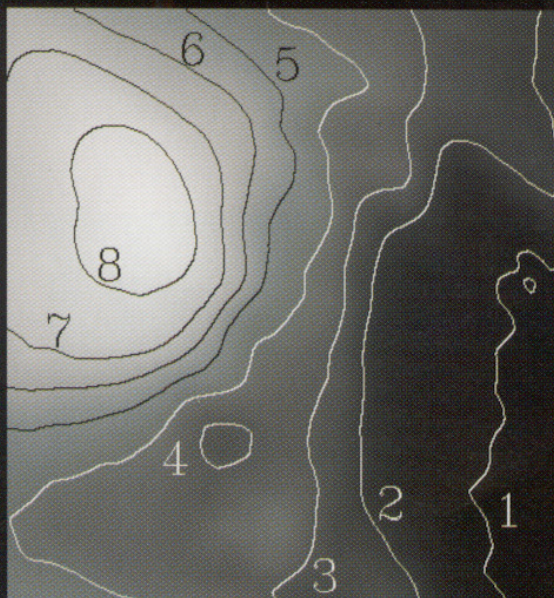


2 km

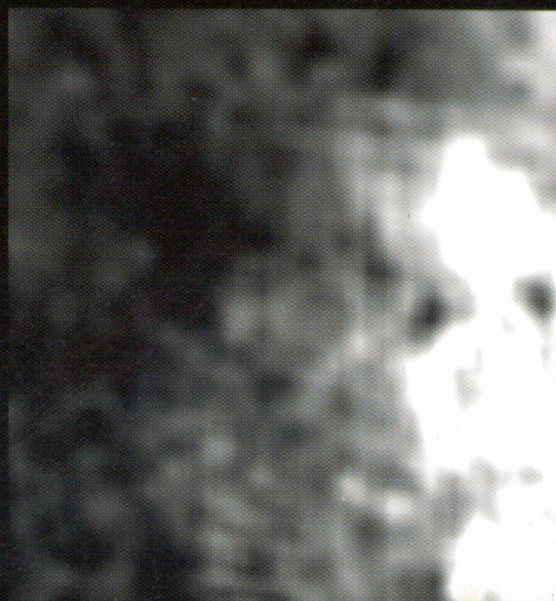
clear E (3 added)

blue D (4 added)

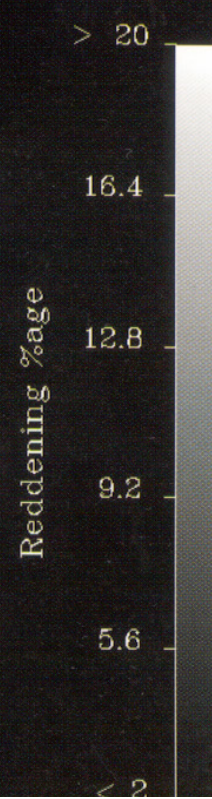
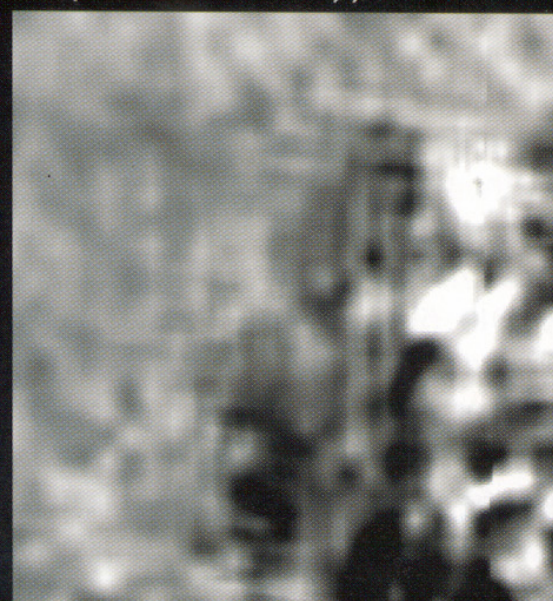
red B (3 added)



$(\text{blue} - \text{clear}) / \text{clear}$



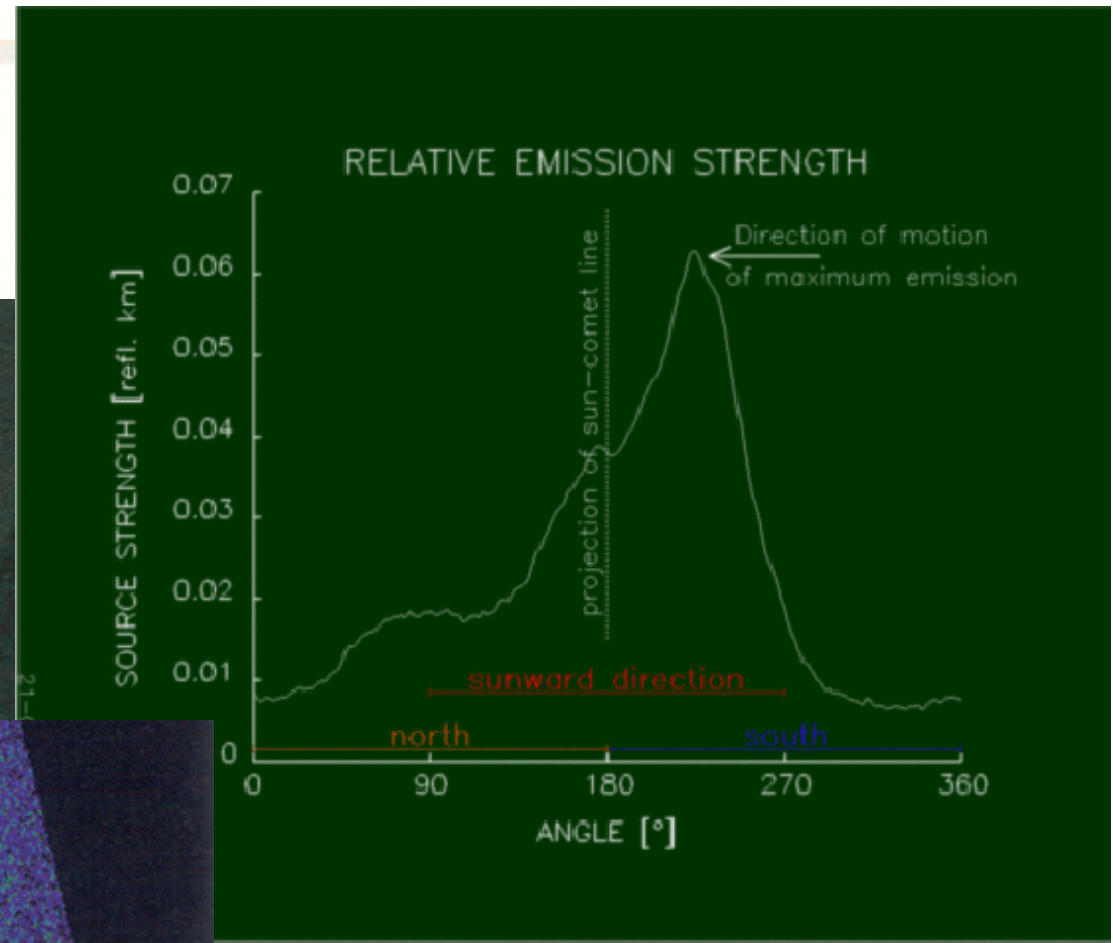
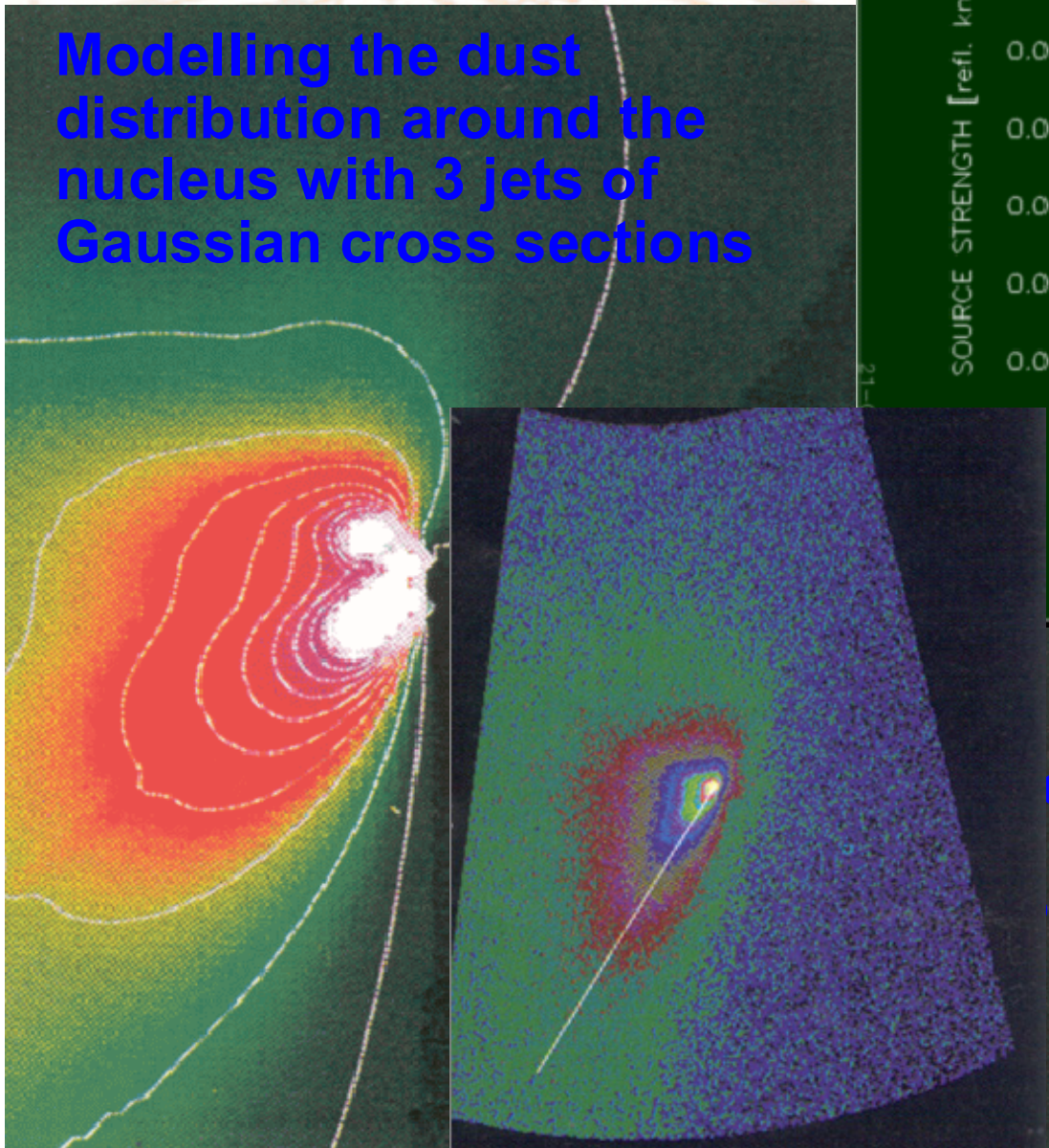
$(\text{red} - \text{clear}) / \text{clear}$



2 km

# Global dust distribution

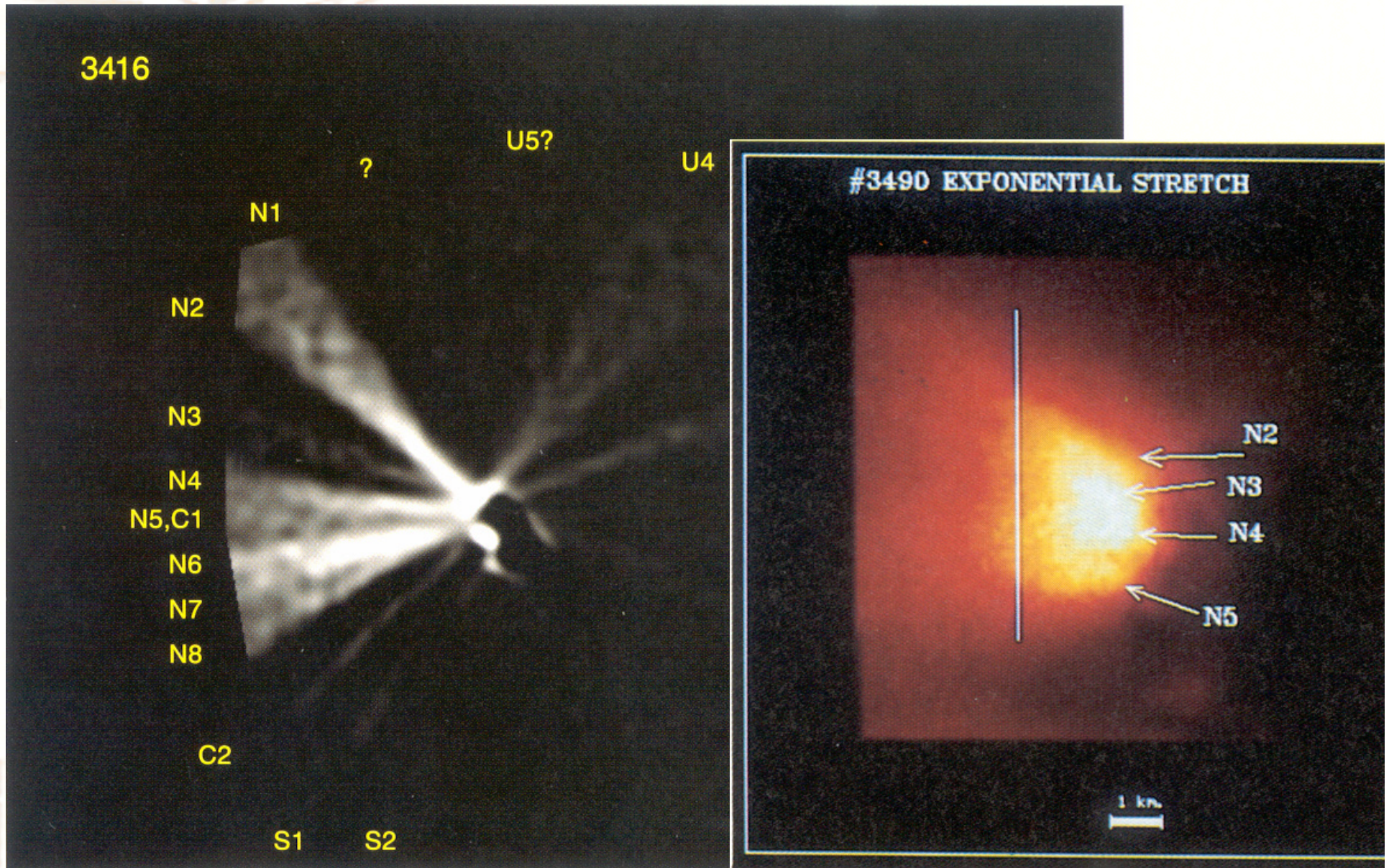
Modelling the dust distribution around the nucleus with 3 jets of Gaussian cross sections

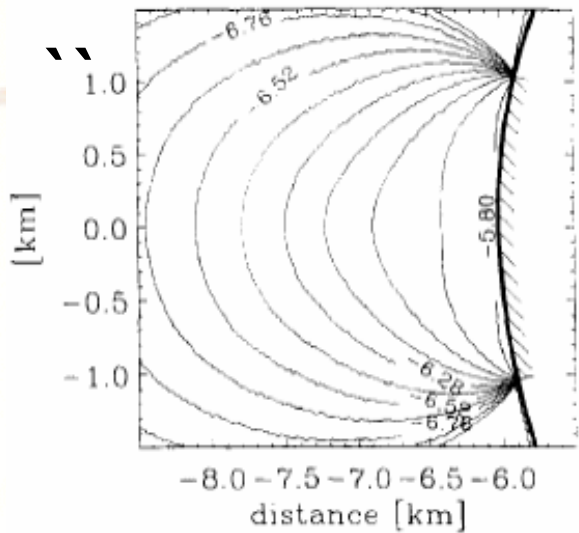


Direction (°)	Halfwidth (°)	Fraction (%)
137	37	47
198	31	17
273	44	11

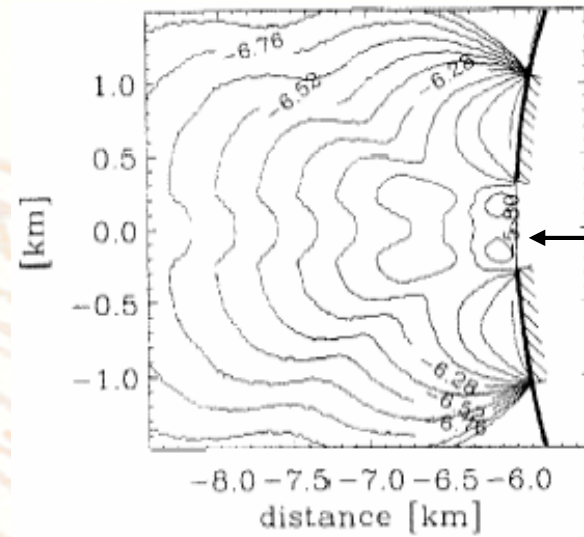


# Jets and Filaments

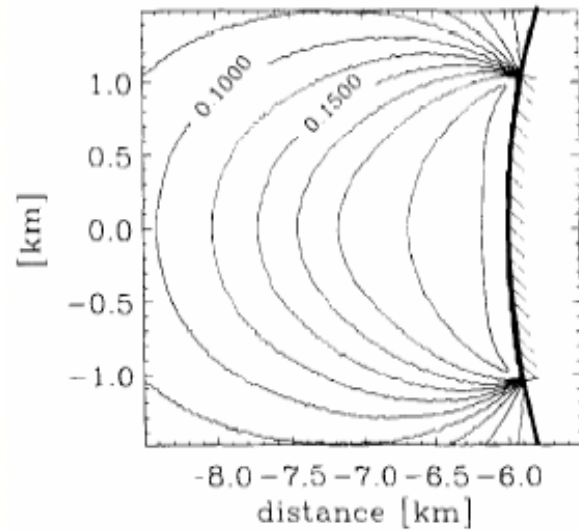




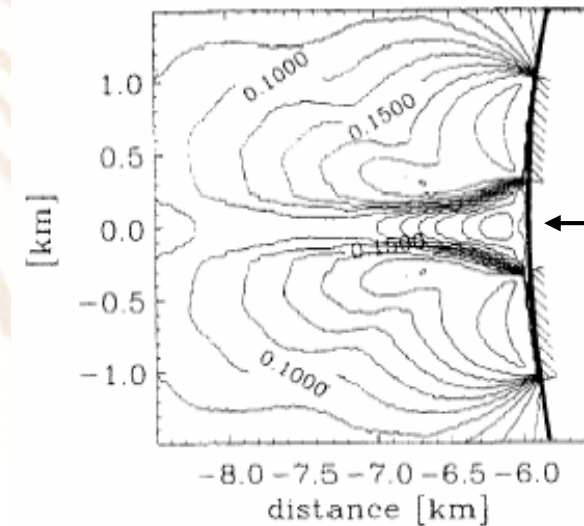
Gas density  
(log)



Non active  
patch

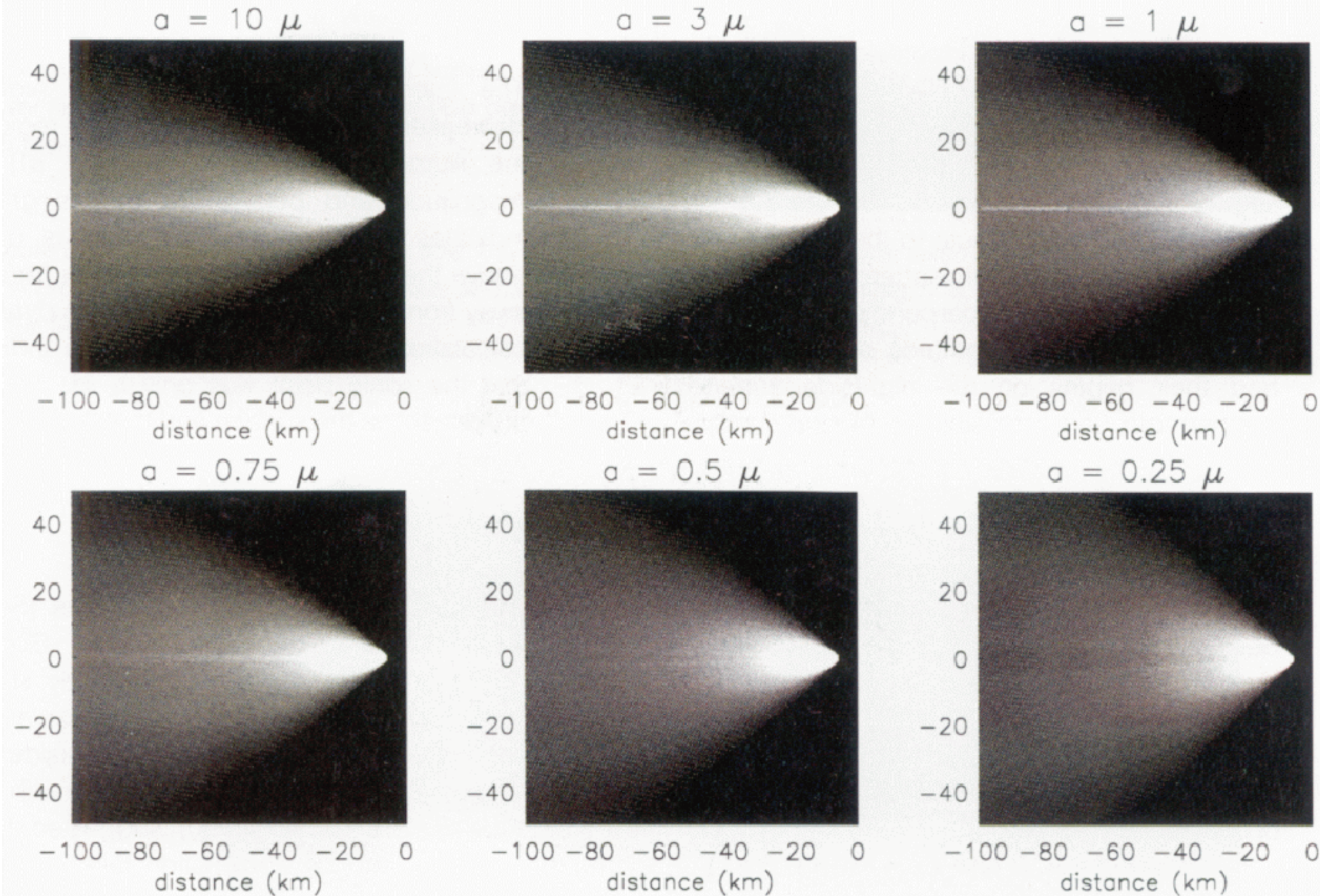


Gas  
momentum  
flux (log)



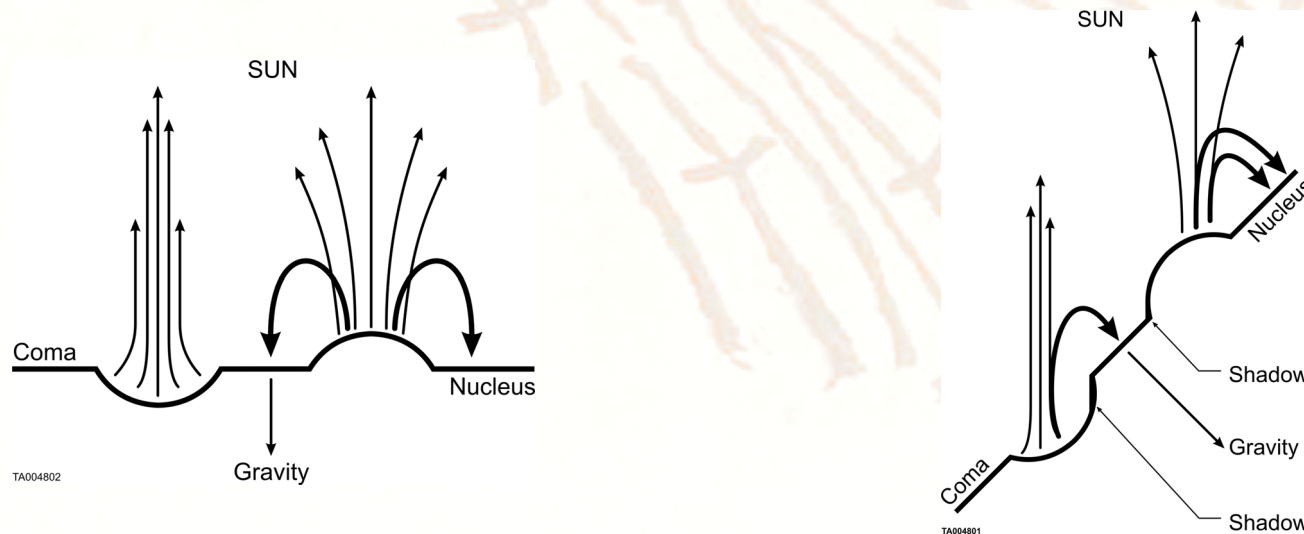
Non active  
patch

# Modeling the filaments by putting inactive spots within an active area



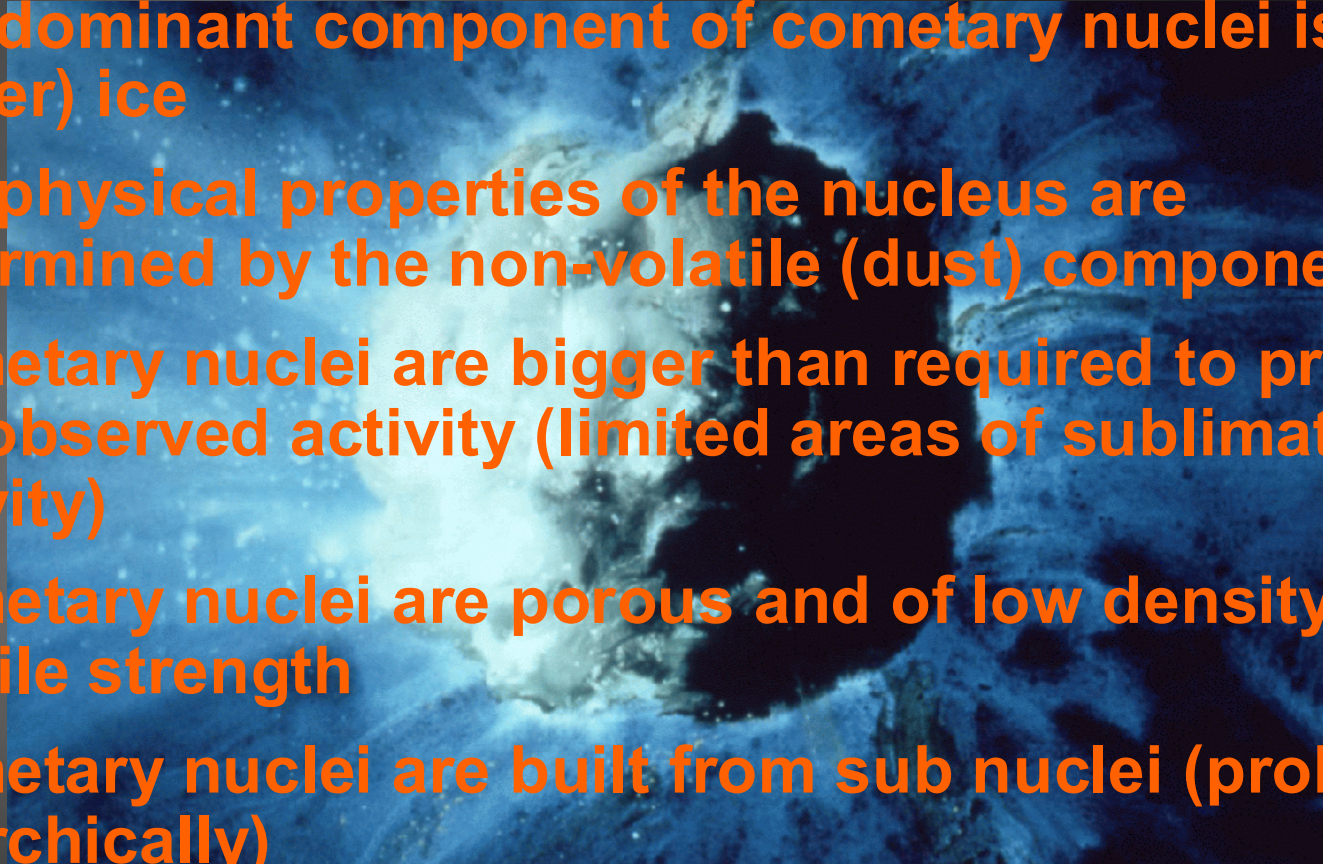
# “Jet” and Mantle Formation

- **Gas from valleys converges**
  - It forms “jets” and entrains larger particles
- **Gas from “hills” diverges**
  - Larger particles fall back to surface



# HMC images changed our perception of cometary nuclei to a new paradigm

- The dominant component of cometary nuclei is not (water) ice
- The physical properties of the nucleus are determined by the non-volatile (dust) component
- Cometary nuclei are bigger than required to produce the observed activity (limited areas of sublimation activity)
- Cometary nuclei are porous and of low density and tensile strength
- Cometary nuclei are built from sub nuclei (probably hierarchically)



**Comets resemble icy dirt balls rather than dirty snowballs**

**Physical properties from VIS+IR measurements (HST, ISO ground based)**  
**(Lamy, Groussin)**

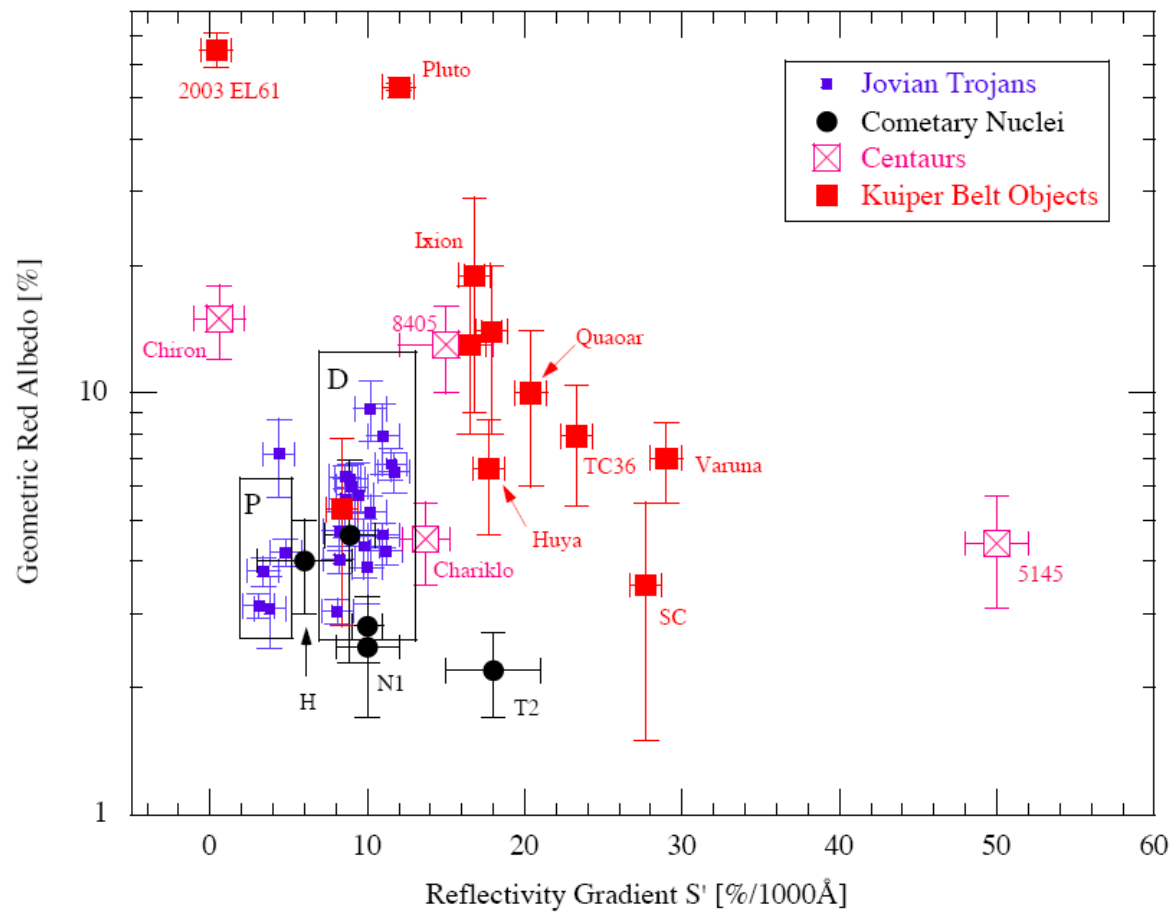
	<i>Object</i>	<i>Radius (<math>r_n</math>)</i>	<i>Albedo (<math>p_v</math>)</i>	<i>Active fraction (<math>x</math>)</i>
<b>Oort Comets</b>	Hale-Bopp (C/1995 O1)	$38 \pm 6$	$0.06 \pm 0.03$	$0.13 \pm 0.05$
	IRAS-Araki-Alcock	$3.0 \pm 0.5$	$0.03 \pm 0.01$	$0.06 \pm 0.03$
	55P/Tempel-Tuttle	$1.84 \pm 0.15$	$0.05 \pm 0.01$	-
	126P/IRAS	$1.57 \pm 0.14$	0.04	$0.11 \pm 0.03$
<b>SPC</b>	103P/Hartley 2	$0.8 \pm 0.1$	0.04	~1
	22P/Kopff	$2.29 \pm 0.18$	$0.03 \pm 0.01$	$0.53 \pm 0.15$
<b>Centaur</b>	Chiron (2060)	$71 \pm 5$	$0.11 \pm 0.02$	-
	Chariklo (1997 CU26)	$118 \pm 6$	$0.07 \pm 0.01$	-
<b>Sungrazing comets</b>	Kreutz comets	< 110 m	0.04	-
	Non-Kreutz comets	< 26 m	0.04	-

# More Nuclei

Comet	$r_n^\dagger$ (km)	Axis ratio <sup>‡</sup>	$A_p^\parallel$	Wavelength <sup>§</sup>	Technique(s) used <sup>‡</sup>
1P/Halley	5.5	2.0	0.04	VIS	SPC/DNM/SCM
2P/Encke	3.0-4.1	1.8		VIS/RAD	DNM/SRE
4P/Faye	2.7	1.2		VIS	SCM
10P/Tempel 2	4.5	1.5	0.02-0.04	VIS/TIR	DNM/MSD/SCC
19P/Borrelly	2.8	2.5		VIS	SCM
28P/Neujmin 1	9.7	1.2	0.02-0.04	VIS/NIR	MSD
29P/Schwassmann-Wachmann 1	8.6-15	2.6	0.13 <sup>a</sup>	VIS/TIR	SCM
31P/Schwassmann-Wachmann 2	3.4	1.6		VIS	MSD
45P/Honda-Mrkos-Pajdusakova	0.34	1.3		VIS	SCM
46P/Wirtanen	0.6	1.2		VIS	SCM
49P/Arend-Rigaux	4.7	1.6	0.02-0.06	NIR/TIR	DNM/MSD/SCC/SCM
55P/Tempel-Tuttle	1.8	1.5		VIS	DNM
95P/Chiron	90	1.1	0.13-0.14	VIS/TIR/RAD	DNM/OCC
107P/Wilson-Harrington	1.3-2.0 <sup>b</sup>		0.05-0.10	NIR/TIR	DNM
81P/Wild 2	2.2				
C/1983 H1 (IRAS-Aracki-Alcock)	5			TIR/RAD	MSD/SRE
C/1995 O1 (Hale-Bopp)	30-40 <sup>c</sup>			VIS <sup>d</sup>	SCM
C/1996 B2 (Hyakutake)	2-3			VIS <sup>d</sup> /TIR/RAD	SCM/SRE

Keller and Jorda (2001)

# Albedos and Colours of Primitive Bodies



Jewitt, 2006  
Saas Fee 35  
Proceedings

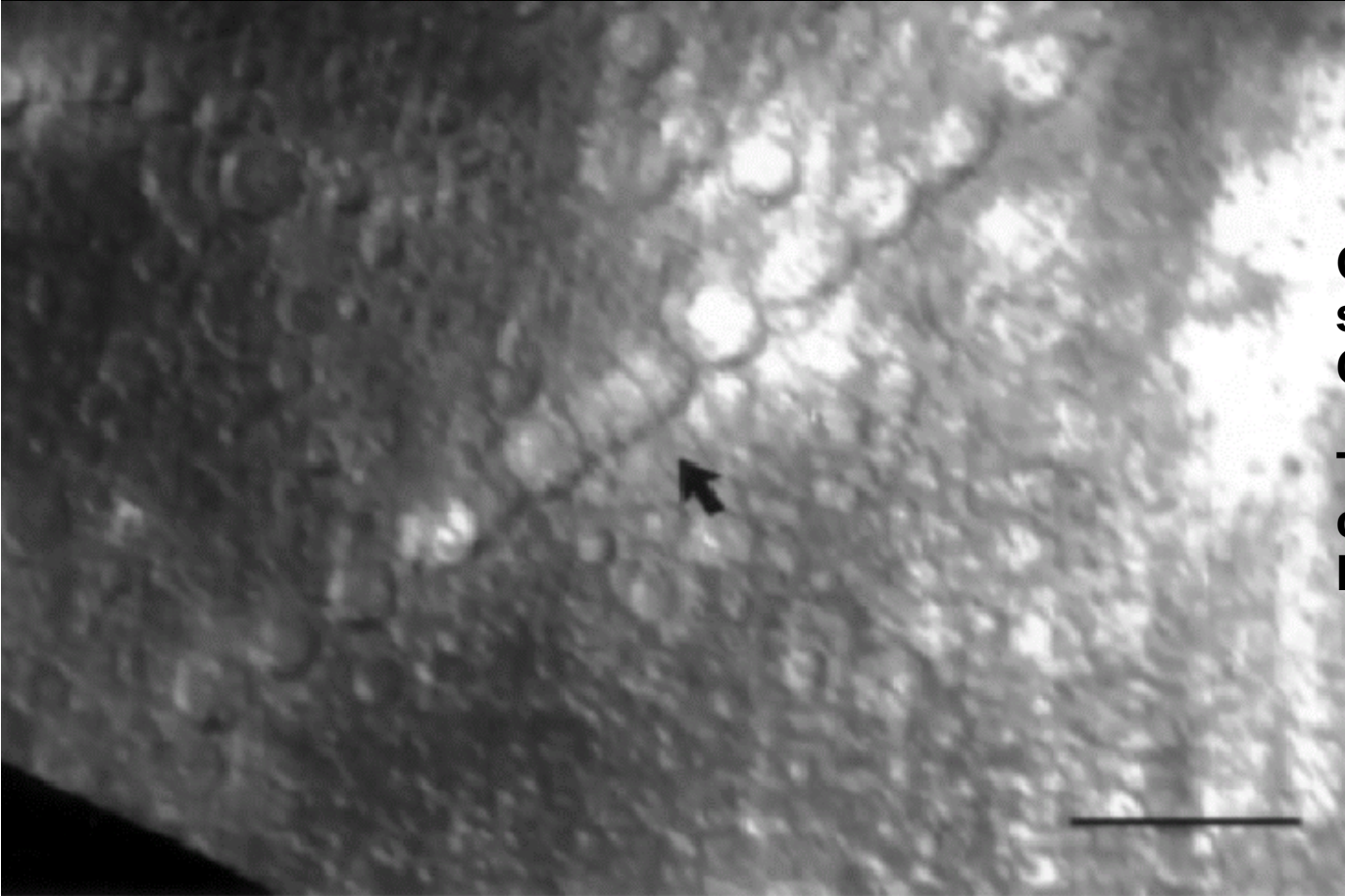


# Nucleus Fragmentation

- **Tensile strength of nuclei must be low**
- **Comets are often observed to split**
- **Comets shed small fragments**
  - limited lifetime
  - therefore predominantly observed when comets are close to earth (resolution)
- **Recent example of nucleus disruption is comet Shoemaker Levy**
- **Close encounter with Jupiter**
- **Other hints are crater chains (catenae)**



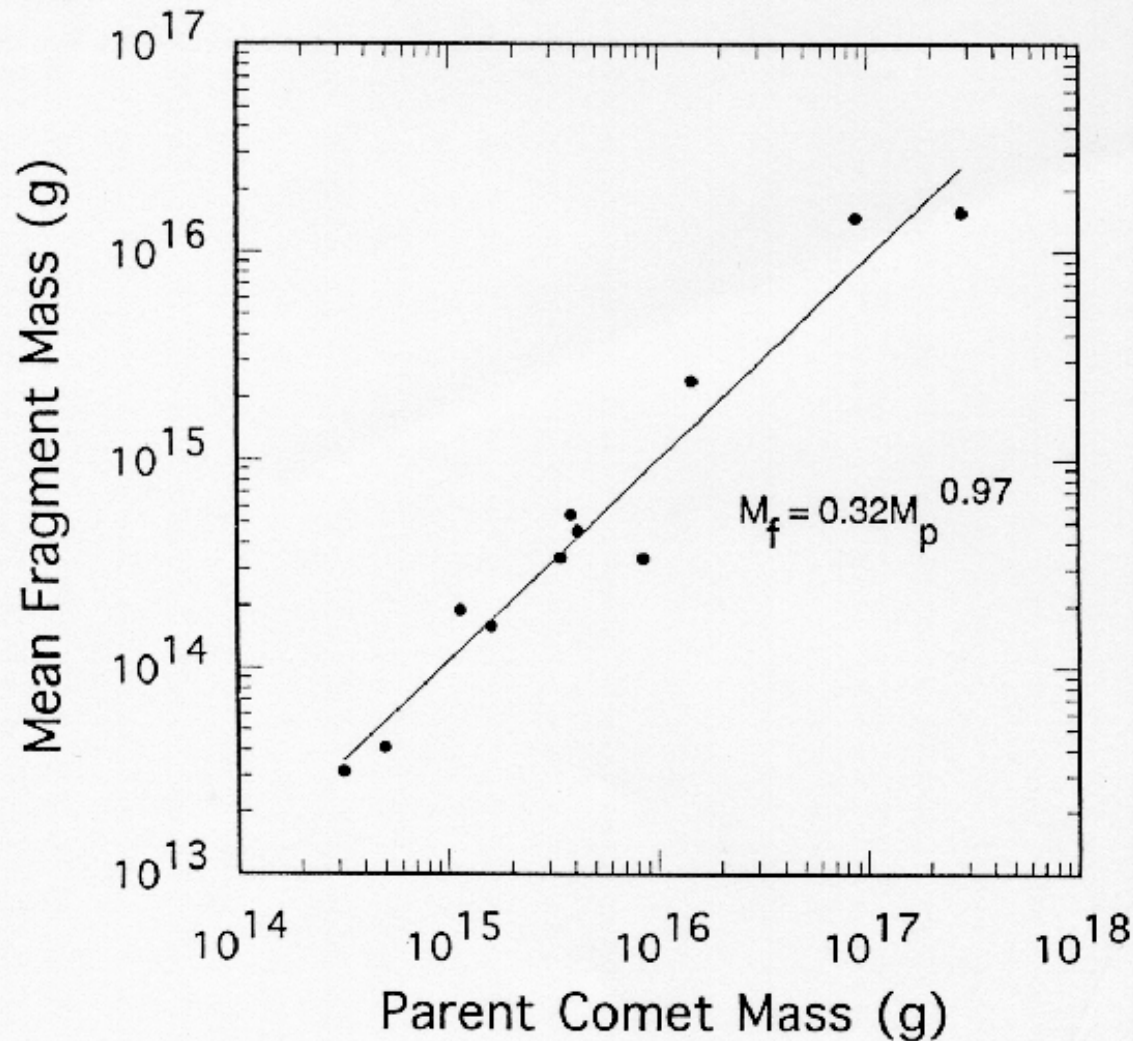
**Comet  
Shoemaker-Levy**



**Gipul Catena on the  
surface of Jupiter's moon  
Callisto.**

**This chain of 18 impact  
craters is about 625 km  
long.**

# Catenae on Ganymed and Callisto



**Correlation of mean fragment mass for individual crater chain comets and mass of the associated parent comet (Schenk et al 1996, data from McKinnon and Schenk 1995).**

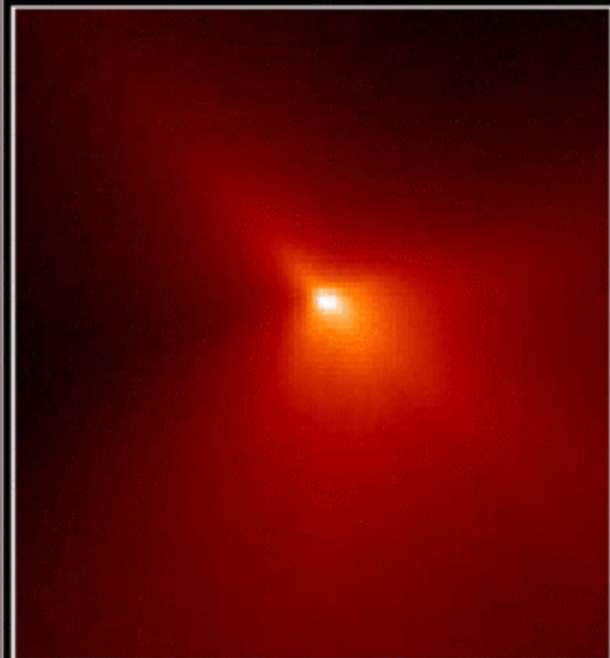
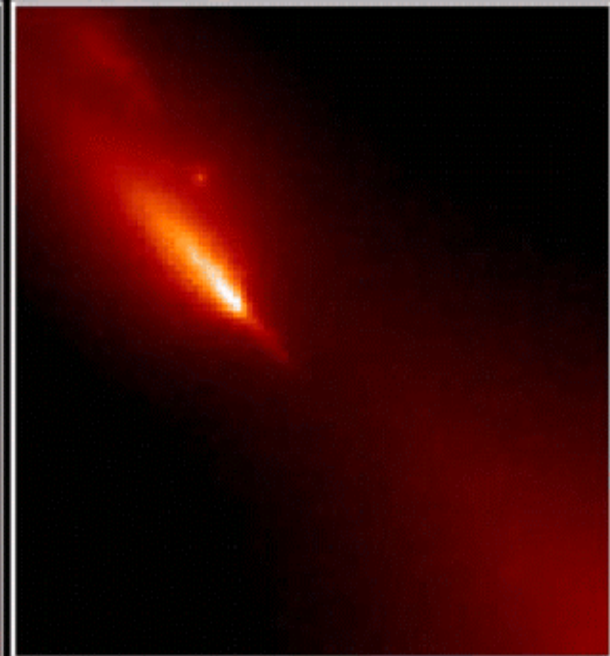
**Bigger comets break up in bigger subnuclei.**

**No preferred size!**  
(Weidenschilling 1997, 2000)

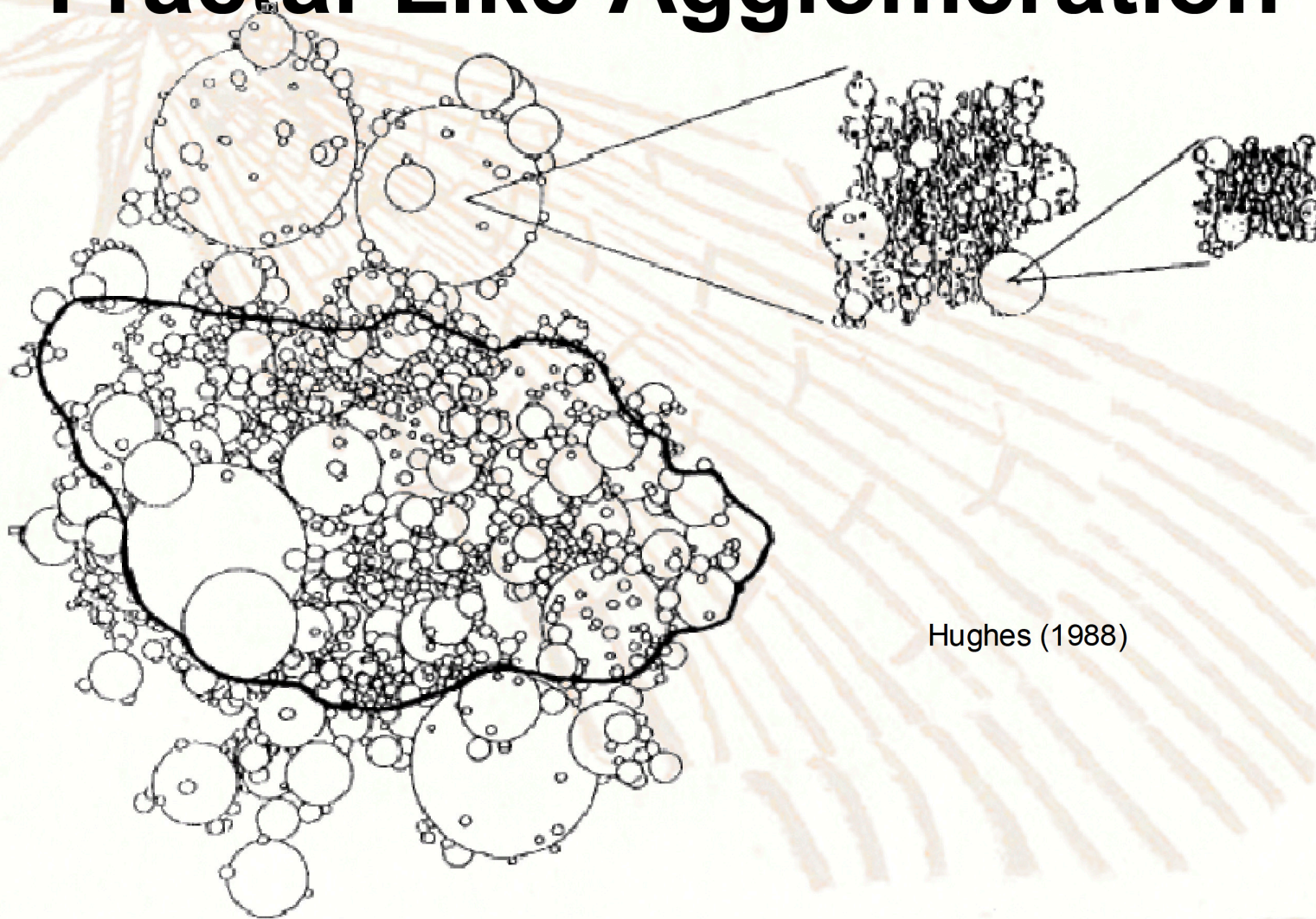
# Cometary Nuclei are of Low Tensile Strength

Comet Hyakutake

Cometary nuclei slowly fall apart



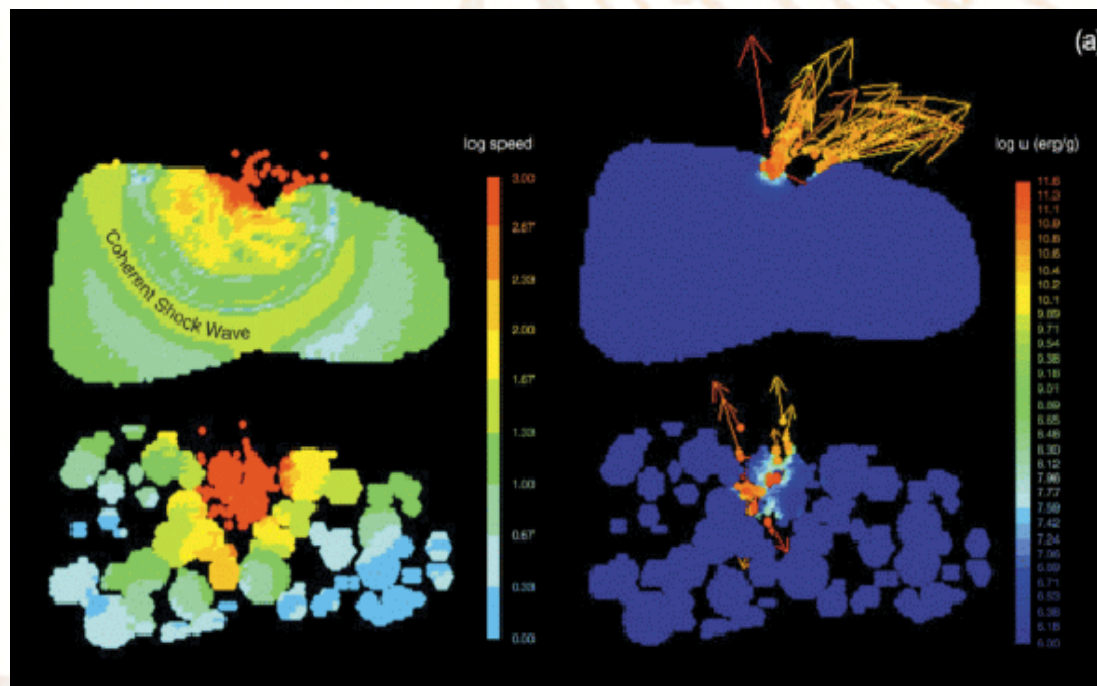
# Fractal-Like Agglomeration



Hughes (1988)

# Collisions

- Comets suffer collisions
- The Oort cloud comets formed inside the planetary system experience a rather hostile environment before they are thrown out while they are passed from planet to planet - many cometesimals end up as dust (Weissman)
- The KB comets suffer during their storage, however, less violent encounters

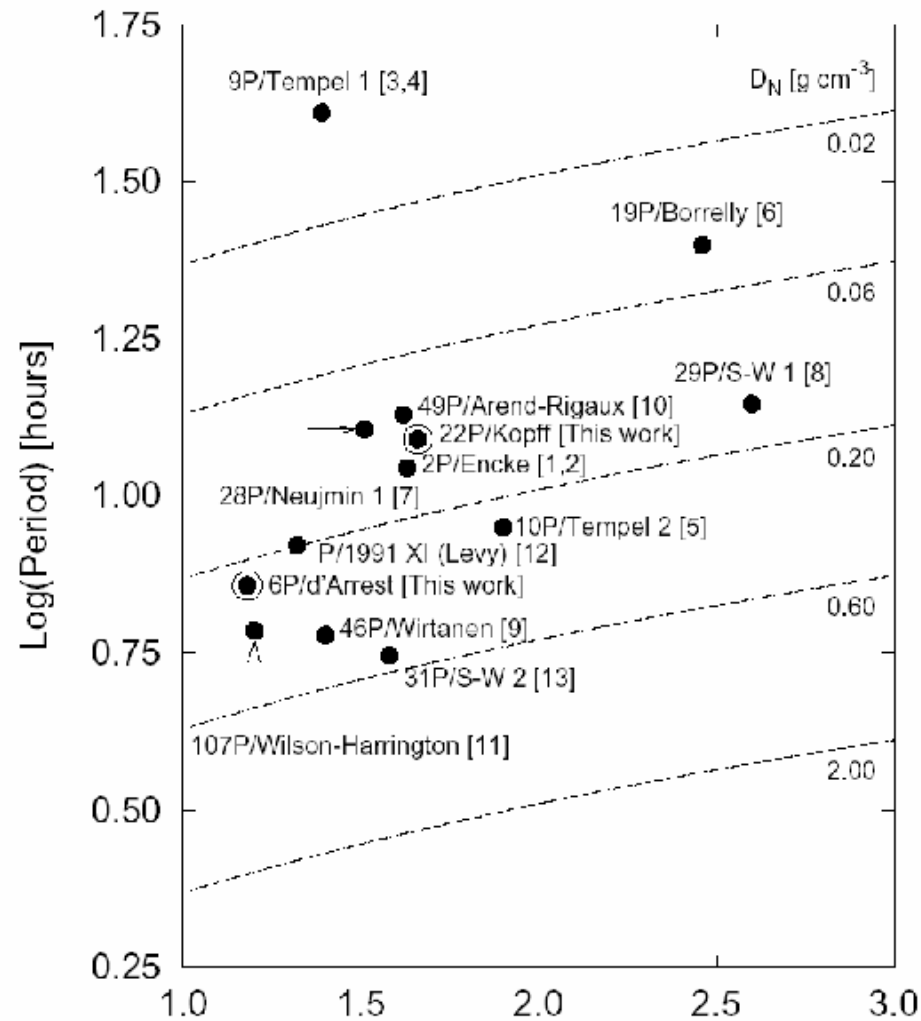


High impact energies can create shock fronts that penetrate and shatter the whole target body:

“rubble pile”

Asphaug et al. (2003)

# Rubble Piles?



Lowry and Weissman (2003) Projected Axial Ratio

**Cometary nucleus density lower limits derived from rotation periods**

**Faster rotators seem to have smaller axial ratios =>**

**loosely bound aggregates (?)**

**'under-dense' if compared to constituent material**

# Formation

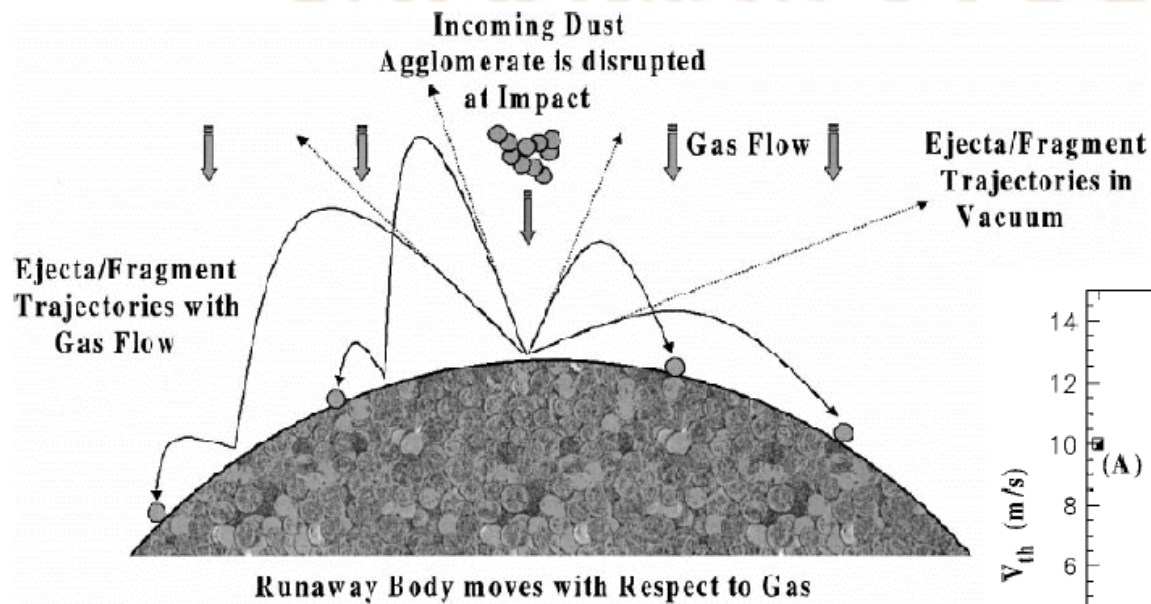
**Standard picture: formation in the protosolar rotating dust disk as planetesimals (cometesimals)**

**What are the steps?**

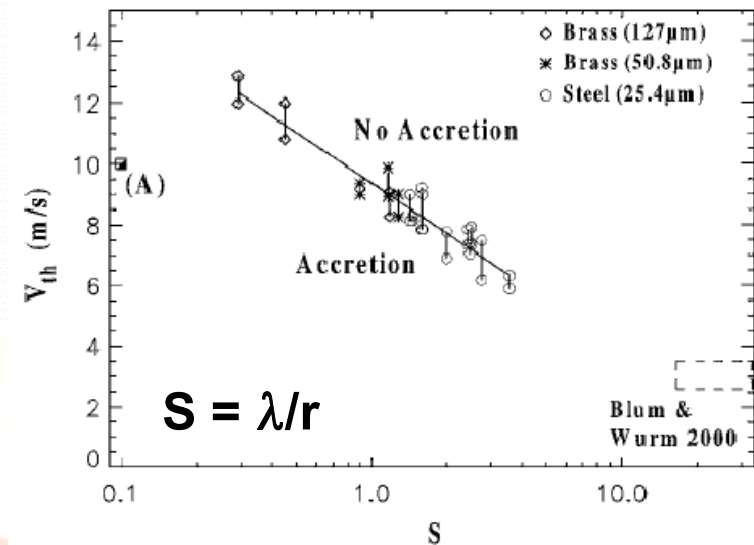
- **Coagulation and accretion from submicron sized grains supported by Brownian motion within the gas of the nebula**
- **Formation of extremely fluffy fractal-like particles (up to cm-size and speeds  $< 1 \text{ m s}^{-1}$ )**
- **Compaction at higher drift speeds, but still porous!**
- **Gas helps to grow meter-sized bodies (Wurm et al. 2001)**
- **Bodies of same or similar sizes collide with low velocities**
- **Radial mixing due to migration (typically 0.1 to 10 m bodies)**



# Effect of Gas Drag



Wurm et al. (2001)



**Critical body sizes from 1 cm to 1 km**  
**Gas density high enough around**  
**1 AU, but at 30 AU?**

# Collisions of porous (m-sized) bodies

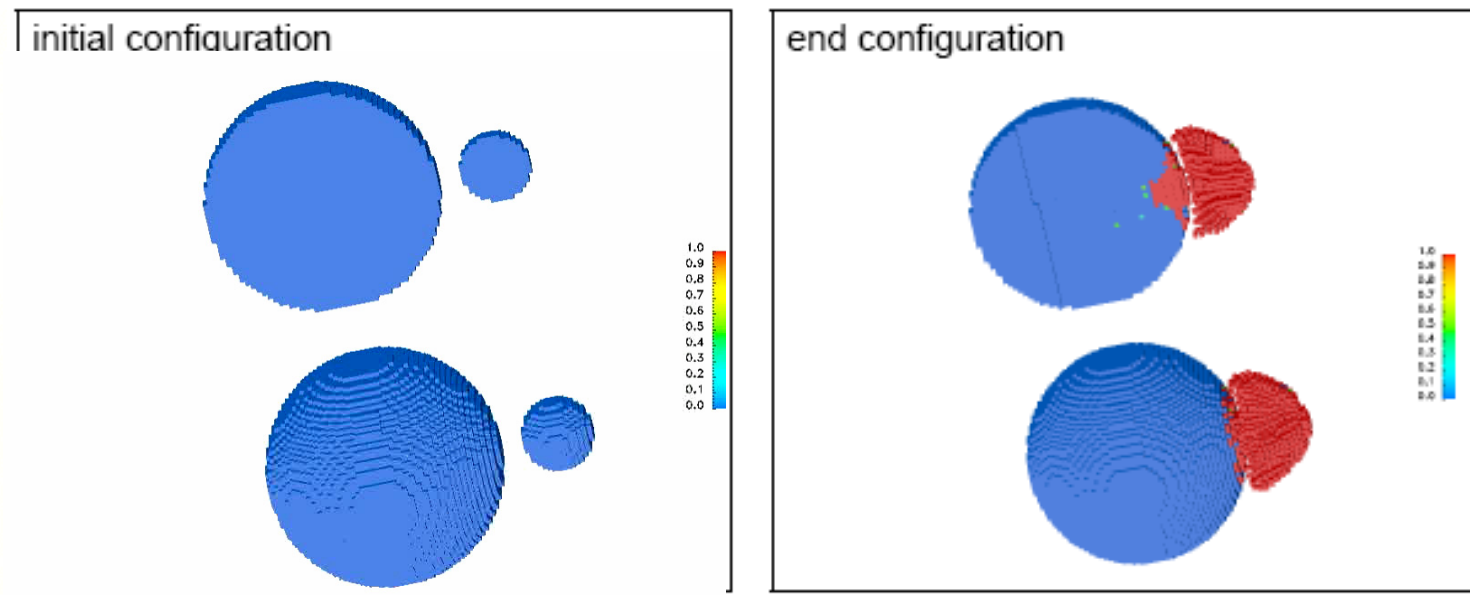
Roland Speith, Christoph Schäfer, Ralf Geretshauser, Willy Kley

Institute of Astronomy and Astrophysics University Tübingen

- So far: simulations of collisions of solid bodies
  - consisting of **rocky materials**,
  - consisting of rocky **rubble piles**.
- ⇒ Results: **Erosion** or **fragmentation**, **no net growth**.
- However, pre-planetesimals may consist of **porous agglomerates** with differing material properties  
(strongly indicated, e.g., by low density of asteroids and comets, by lab experiments of dust growth (Blum, Wurm), and theoretical simulations (Dominik, Tanaka)).
- ⇒ Next step: SPH simulations to study collisions of porous bodies. **SPH: Smooth Particle Hydrodynamics**
- ⇒ **Porosity model** in SPH: material parameters depend on filling factor of density (Sirono 2004)

# Smooth Particle Hydrodynamics (SPH)

## Collision with small impactor – solid rocky material



Colour-coded: damage

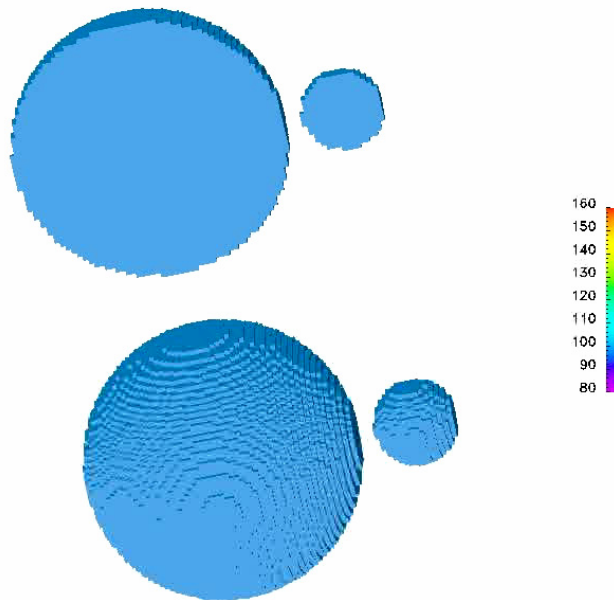
Target-radius: 1 m, Impactor-radius:  $1/3$  m, Initial density:  $3 \text{ g/cm}^3$ ,

Relative velocity: 20 m/s

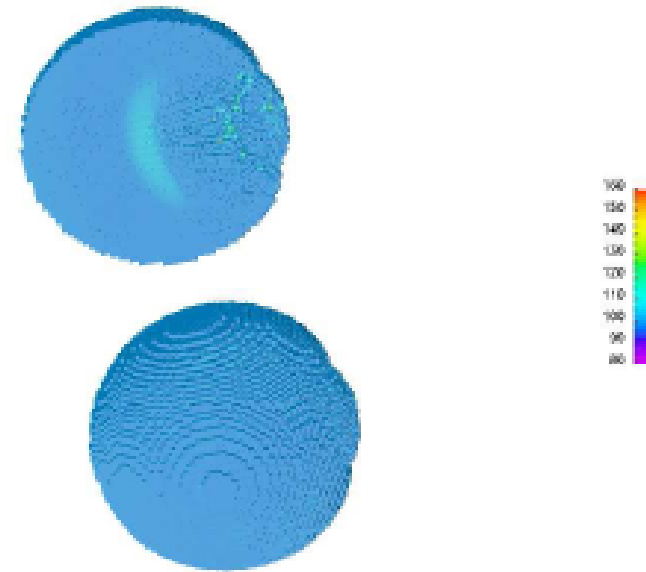
# Smooth Particle Hydrodynamics (SPH)

## Collision with small impactor – porous material

initial configuration



end configuration



Colour-coded: density

Target-radius: 1 m, Impactor-radius: 1/3 m, Initial density:  $0.1 \text{ g/cm}^3$ , Porous filling: 0.1,

Relative velocity: 20 m/s

# Nuclei - Subnuclei

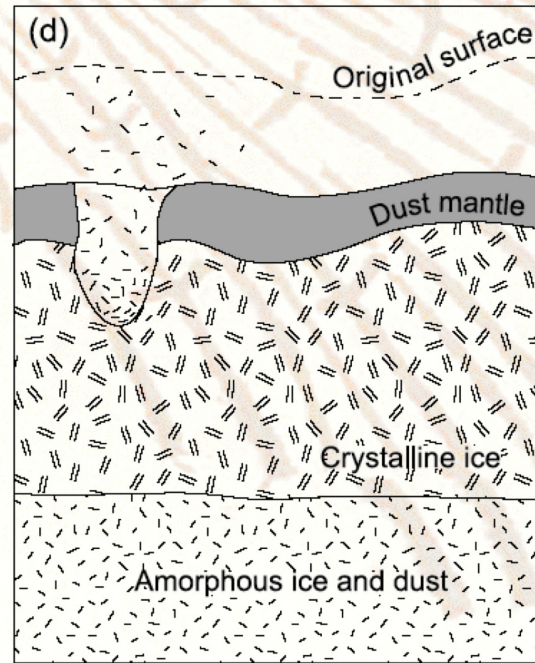
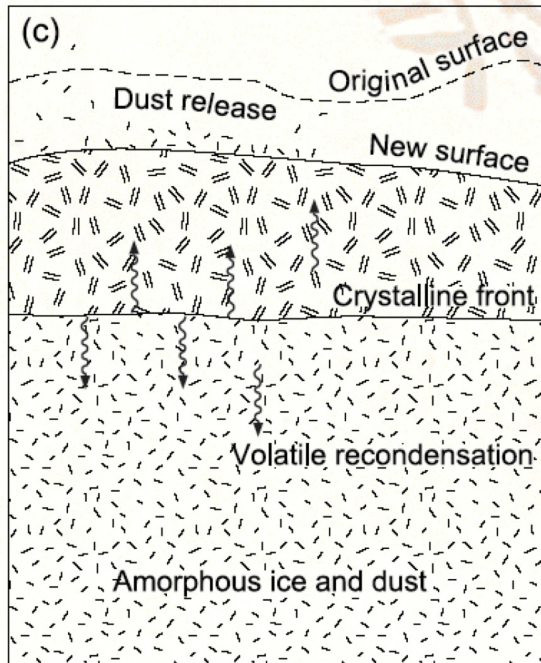
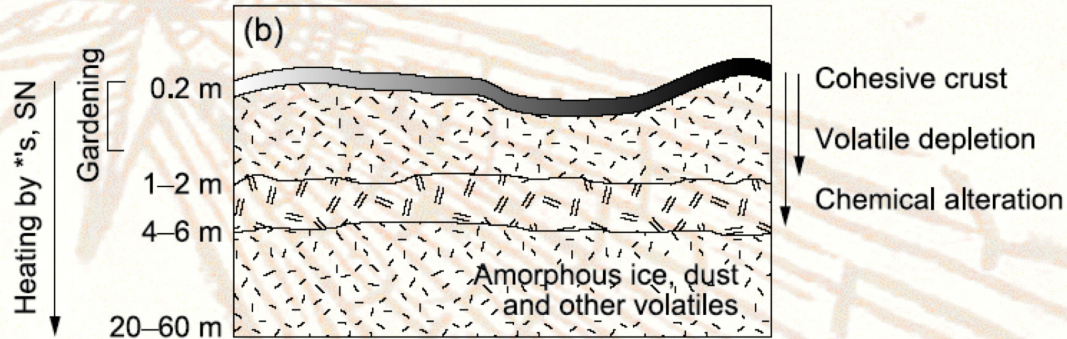
- **Both comets, Halley and Borrelly, suggest a hierarchical size distribution of their building blocks**
- **Interpretation of the catenae leads to the same conclusion**
- **Feeding the agglomeration by a monolithic size (100 m range) is not corroborated**
- **Shedding of pieces during activity (e. g. Hyakutake) and frequent splitting point to a very low tensile strength**
- **Collisions of porous bodies lead to partial compaction and hence to non- uniformity of physical properties (varying density and tensile strength)**
- **Collisions in KB anyhow not energetic enough to shatter whole nucleus into a rubble pile**

# Activity

## Key questions:

- **How does activity work?**
- **Why is most of the surface inactive?**
- **What localizes activity over several (many) orbits?**
- **Crust versus mantle**

# Near Surface Layers



Meech and Svoren (2004)

# Amorphous Water Ice

- **Has been produced in laboratory at:**
  - Low temperature
  - Fast rate of condensation (no time for orientation of molecules as they condense)
- **Has been suggested to exist in comet nuclei:**
  - Low temperature of formation
  - Comet outbursts at large  $r$  (exothermic phase transition)
  - Trapped gases (but not clathrate hydrates)

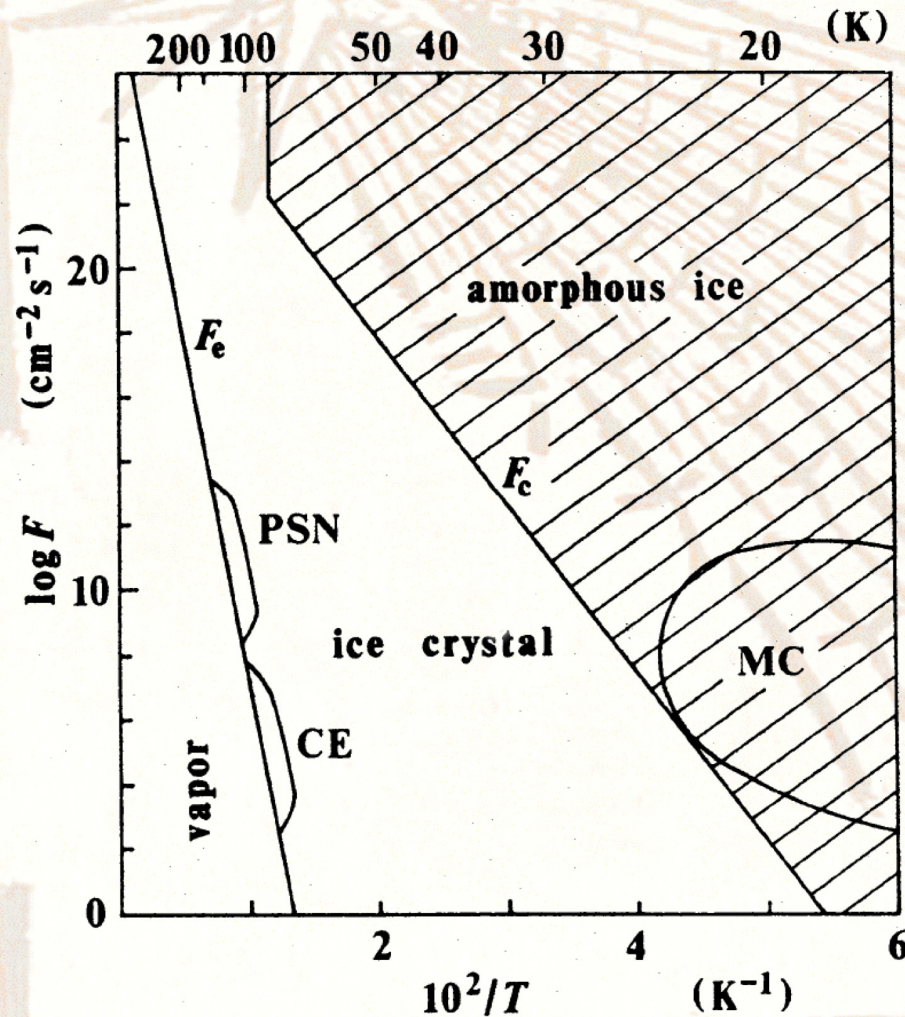


# Amorphous Water Ice

## Problems:

- Has not been identified directly in:
  - Interstellar clouds
  - Star-forming regions
  - Outer solar system objects
- $N_2$ , CO, and Ar should have solar abundances
- Condensation in Solar Nebula too slow
- Conductivity poorly known

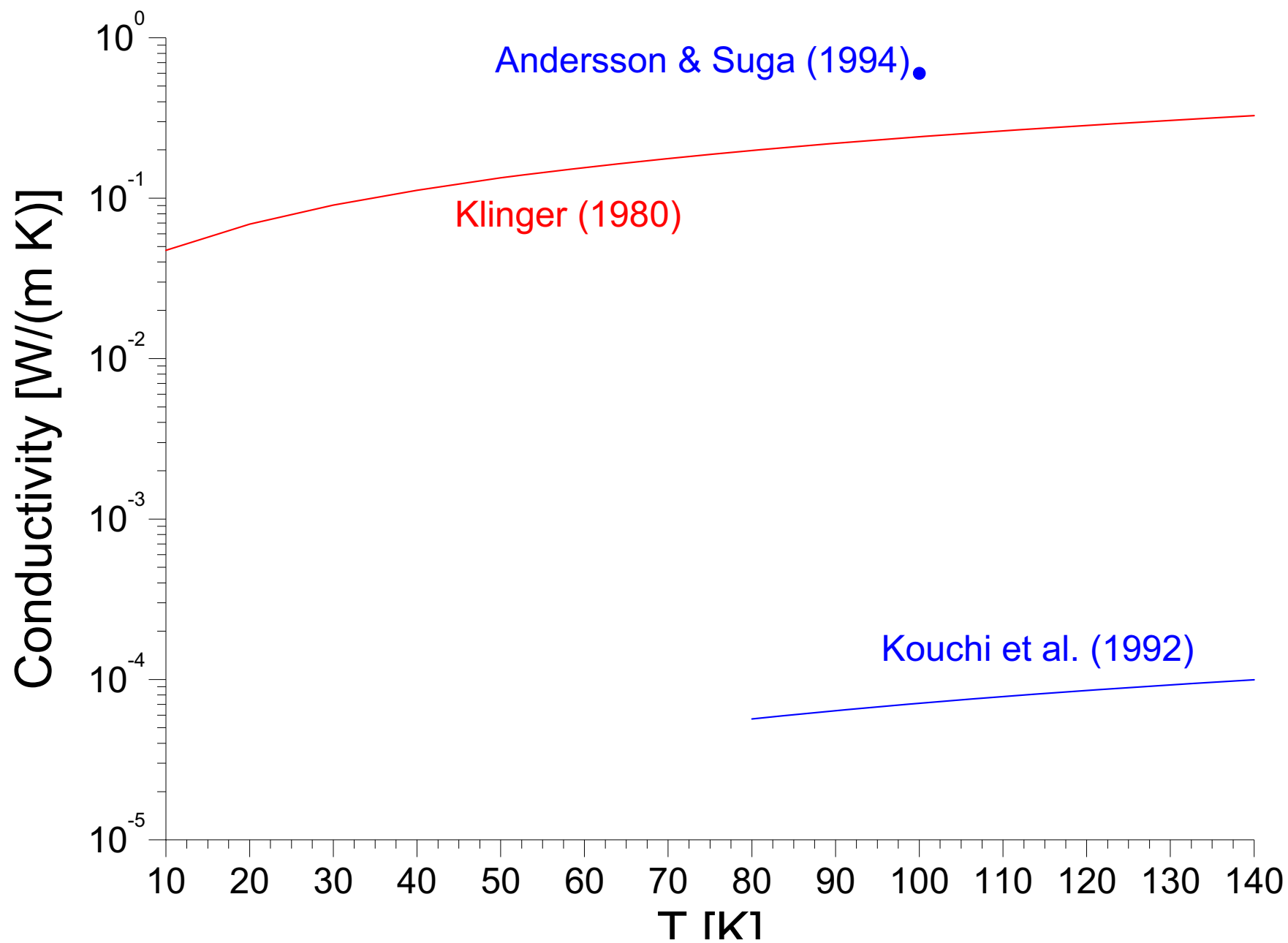
# Amorphous Ice



Crystallinity of ices in astrophysical sites.  $F_c^*$  is the critical flux, and  $t_c$  is assumed to be  $10^7$  years. PSN, CE and MC denote the primordial solar nebula, circumstellar envelope, and molecular cloud, respectively. Amorphous ice forms only if the condensing flux  $> F_c^*$  (Kouchi et al. 1994).

→ no amorphous ice

# Conductivity of Amorphous Water Ice



# Surface Heat Balance

$$\rho c \frac{dT}{dt} = \frac{F_o (1 - A_0)}{r_h^2} - \varepsilon \sigma T^4 + LZ(t) + \kappa \frac{dT}{dz}$$

$$\delta = \frac{\kappa}{\rho c} \quad \text{Thermal diffusivity}$$

$$\sqrt{\kappa \rho c} = \Gamma \quad \text{Thermal inertia (MKS)}$$

$$x = \sqrt{\frac{2\delta}{\omega}} = \sqrt{\frac{\tau\delta}{\pi}}$$

Scale length for wave to drop by 1/e,  $\tau$  is period of heating

For Moon typically 5 cm, for Mars 10 to 20 cm

# Thermal Scale Lengths

For Mars,  $x_1$  is typically 10-20 cm.

Compact ice?

$$\kappa = 1 \text{ W m}^{-1} \text{ K}^{-1}$$

$$\rho = 600 \text{ kg m}^{-3}$$

$$c = 800 \text{ J kg}^{-1} \text{ K}^{-1}$$

$$\tau = 6 \text{ hours}$$

$$d_t = 2 \cdot 10^{-6} \text{ m}^2 \text{ s}^{-1}$$

$$\Gamma = 700 \text{ W m}^{-2} \text{ s}^{-1/2} \text{ K}^{-1}$$

$$\delta = 12 \text{ cm}$$

Highly porous material

$$\kappa = 0.01 \text{ W m}^{-1} \text{ K}^{-1}$$

$$\rho = 600 \text{ kg m}^{-3}$$

$$c = 400 \text{ J kg}^{-1} \text{ K}^{-1}$$

$$\tau = 6 \text{ hours}$$

$$d_t = 4 \cdot 10^{-8} \text{ m}^2 \text{ s}^{-1}$$

$$\Gamma = 50 \text{ W m}^{-2} \text{ s}^{-1/2} \text{ K}^{-1}$$

$$\delta = 1.5 \text{ cm}$$



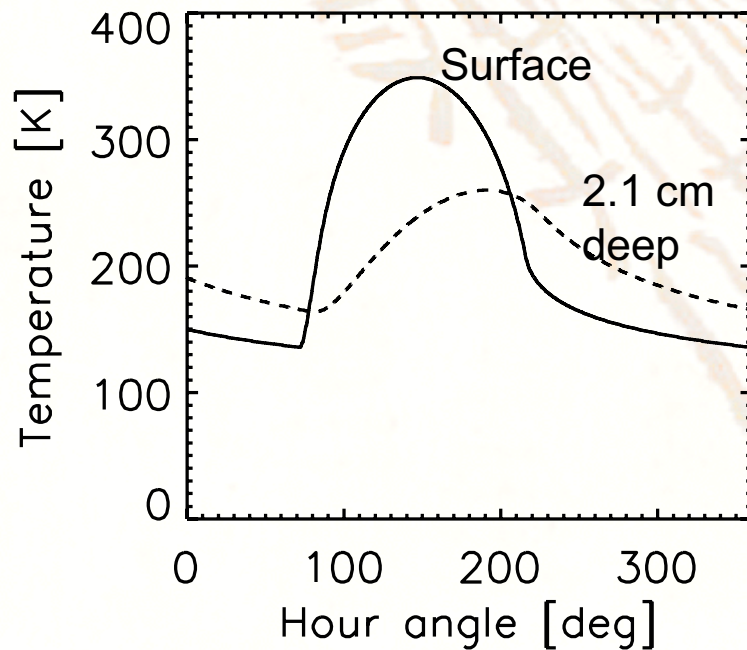
skin depth

DI gives

$$\Gamma < 50 \text{ W m}^{-2} \text{ s}^{-1/2} \text{ K}^{-1}$$

## Steady-State Calculation

- Simple calculation shows that the temperature gradient is enormous.



$$R_h = 1.3 \text{ AU}$$

$$A_H = 0.04$$

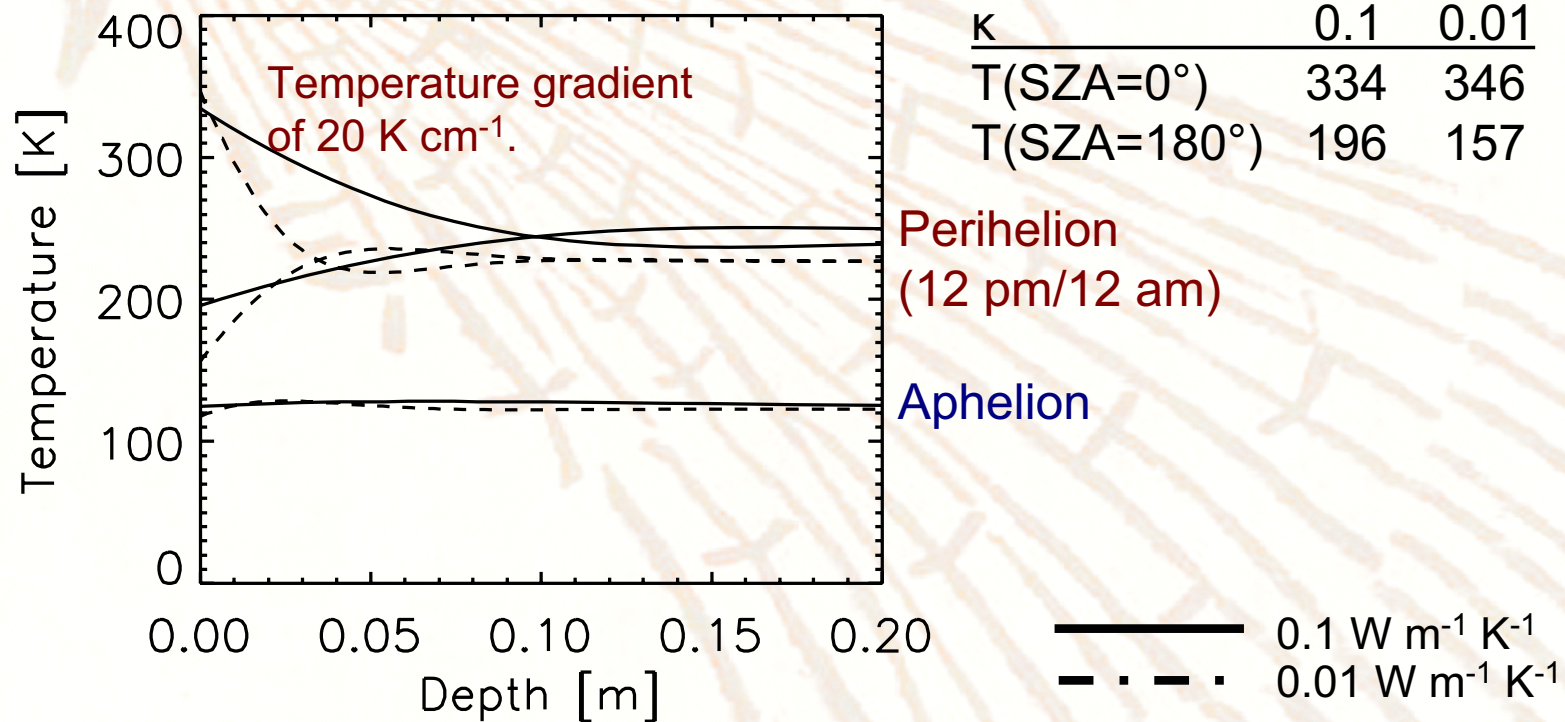
$$\varepsilon = 0.9$$

$$P = 12.3 \text{ h}$$

$$T_{\text{int}} = 100 \text{ K}$$

$$\Theta = \frac{\Gamma \sqrt{\omega}}{\varepsilon \sigma T^3}$$

# Calculation Over 1 Orbit of C-G



**Temperature contrast is largest on nightside for determining  $\Gamma$ . (cf. Prialnik et al., 2004). Temperature at depth is strongly dependent upon the lower boundary condition.**

# Nucleus Temperature

The interior of a cometary nucleus is only heated up after many revolutions around the sun. Amorphous ice prevents the nucleus from reaching its equilibrium temperature,  $T_e$ :

$$T_e = \frac{1}{\tau} \int_0^{\tau} T_s dt = \frac{1}{\varepsilon \sigma \tau} \int_0^{\tau} \left[ \frac{C_s (1 - A_s)}{4r_h(t)^2} - (1 - f_d) LZ(T_s) - K \left. \frac{dT}{dr} \right|_{r=R} \right]^{1/4} dt$$

$T_s$  surface temperature

$\sigma$  Stefan-Boltzmann constant

$\varepsilon$  emissivity

$C_s$  solar constant

$A_s$  surface albedo

$r_h$  heliocentric distance

$f_d$  fraction of inactive area

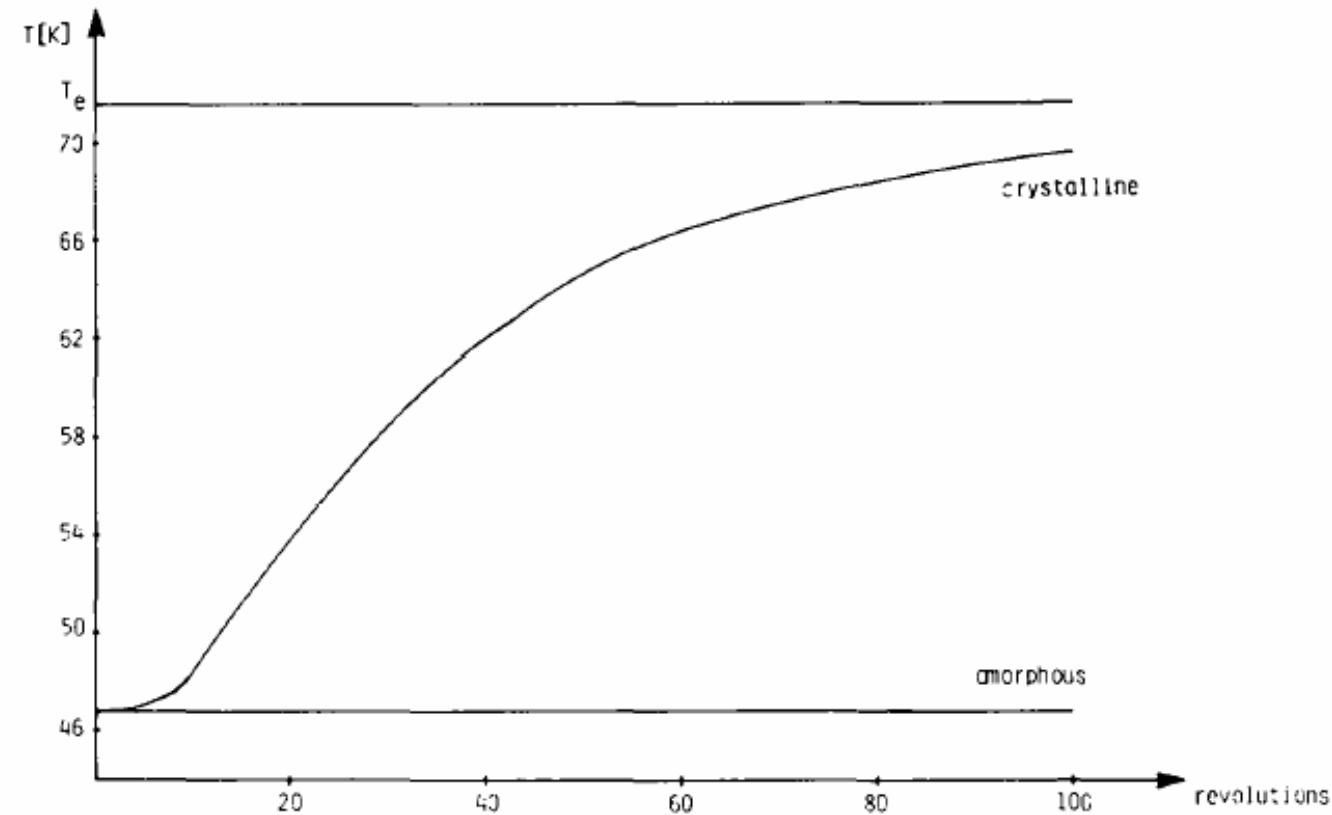
$L$  latent heat of water sublimation

$Z$  sublimation flux

$K$  thermal conductivity



# Temperature inside a nucleus



The temperature in the center of the nucleus of crystalline and amorphous ice, respectively, versus number of revolutions.  $T_e$  is the equilibrium temperature. (Kührt 1984)

How fast is ice lost from the uppermost layer? (Or what is  $dm/dt$ ?)

**Hertz-Knudsen equation**

$$Q(T) = P_s \sqrt{\frac{1}{2\pi mkT}}$$

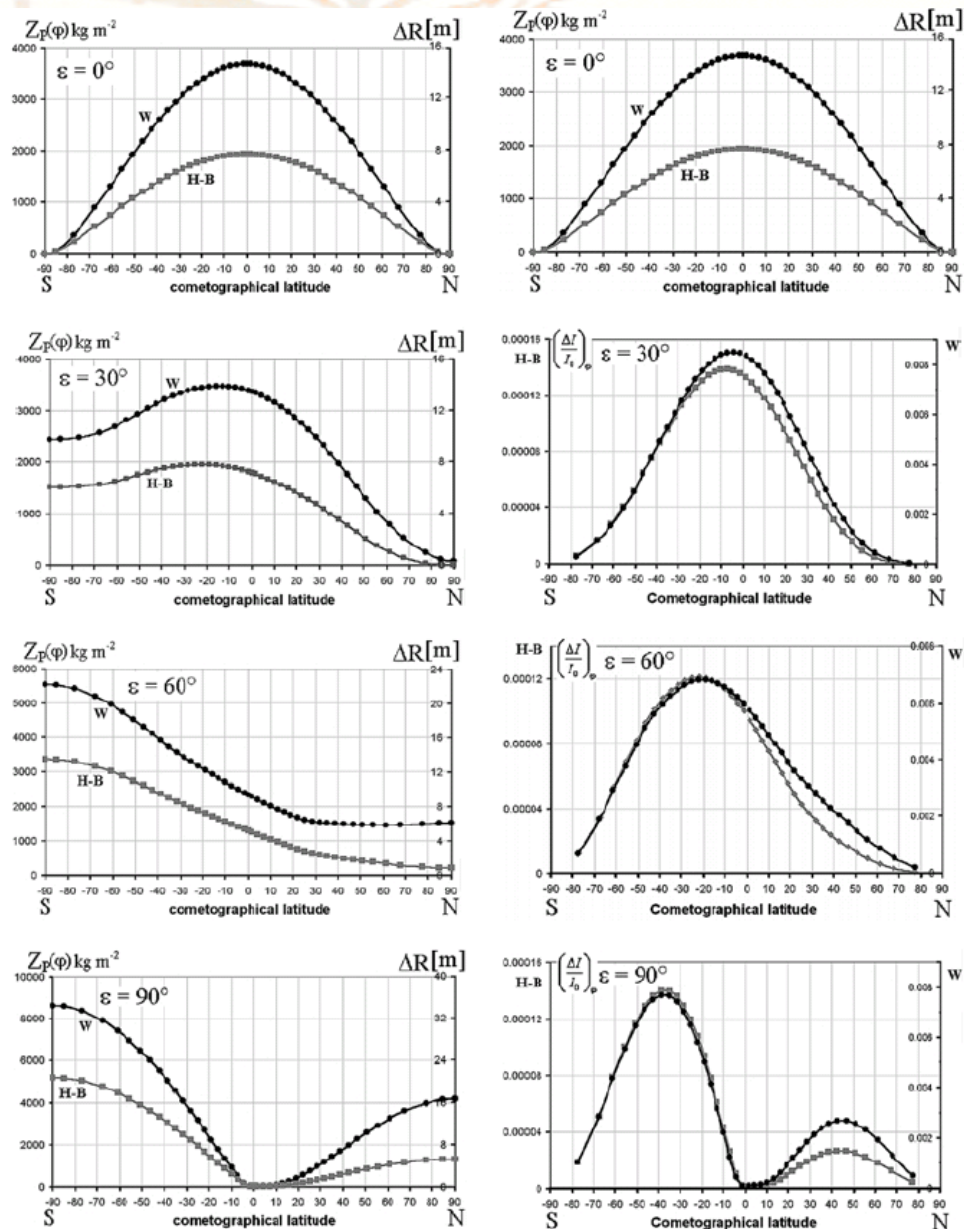
**If applied to an ice surface, sublimation is rapid. Balancing energy input and latent heat, rates of  $10^{22}$  molecule  $m^{-2} s^{-1}$  are typical leading to depth loss rates of 1 cm per few hours.**

**Consequence: Sublimation down to a skin depth occurs in, at most, a few rotations of the nucleus.**

**Consequence: Surface must be disrupted on a similar time scale to maintain observed constancy/repeatability of emission.**

**E.g. Halley observed by HMC to be constant to 1% over 3 hours.**

# Non-Uniform Sublimation



Dziak-Jankowska et al.,  
EM&P, 2002.

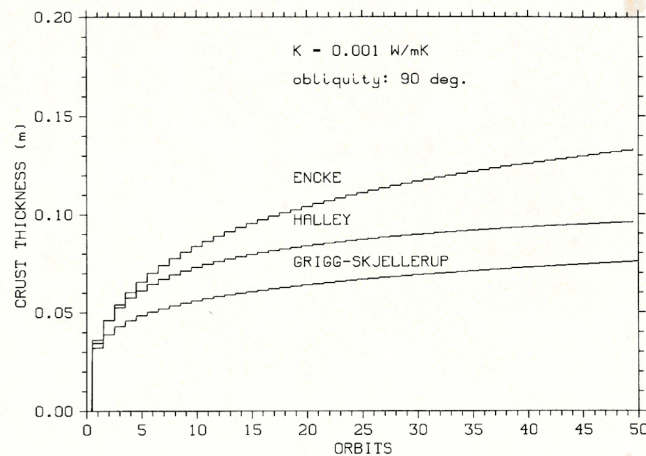
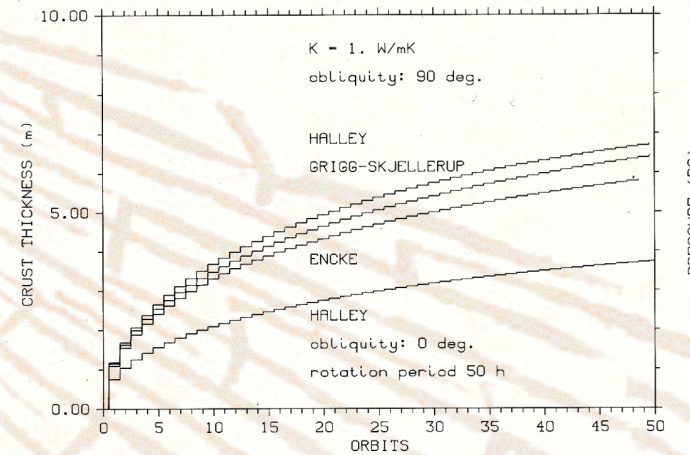
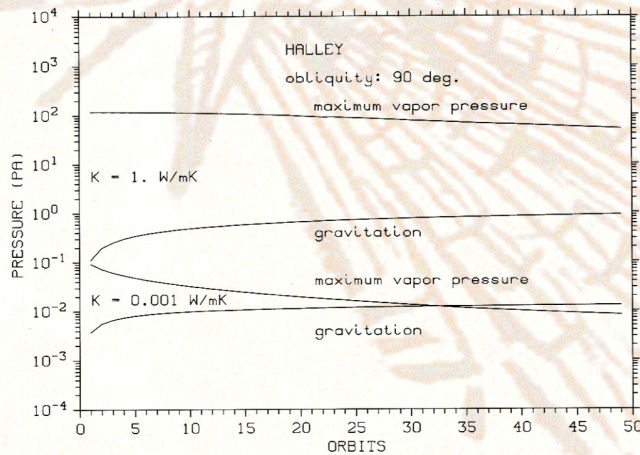
An initially spherical  
uniformly sublimating  
nucleus will become  
aspherical naturally  
because of the orbital  
eccentricity combined with  
the obliquity.



## Gas “Pressure”

- Gas transport as a heat transport mechanism is well established in models.
- But how significant is pressure in breaching the surface layer?
- Thermal conductivity dictates that the temperature must drop in the first cms so that sublimation sub-surface is lower.
- Furthermore, the surface layer is said to be porous
- Skin depth is small but still many pore sizes ( $\mu\text{ms}$ )

# No Mantle but a Thin Crust



Parameter	Symbol	Value
Albedo	$A$	0.05
Specific heat	$c$	$600 \text{ J kg}^{-1} \text{ K}^{-1}$
Emissivity	$\epsilon$	1
Latent heat	$H$	$2.66 \times 10^6 \text{ J kg}^{-1}$
Crust porosity	$p$	0.5
Crust density	$\rho$	$500 \text{ kg m}^{-3}$
Effective pore size	$l$	1 mm
Crust heat conductivity	$K$	$10^{-3}$ or $1 \text{ W m}^{-1} \text{ K}^{-1}$
Core heat conductivity	$K_{\text{core}}$	$1 \text{ W m}^{-1} \text{ K}^{-1}$
Dust-to-ice mass ratio	$X$	1

## Local pressures (forces) in a cometary nucleus

Gravitational pressure on a layer with thickness  $\Delta$  :

$$P_g \text{ [Pa]} = 1.33 G \pi \rho^2 R \Delta = 3 * 10^{-10} \rho \text{ [kg/m}^3\text{]}^2 R \text{ [m]} \Delta \text{ [m]}$$

G: grav. constant, R: radius of the nucleus,  $\rho$ : density

Vapor pressure

$$P_v \text{ [Pa]} = 3.56 10^{12} \exp(-6141/T_{ice} \text{ [K]})$$

Minimum cohesive strength by Van der Waals forces

$$P_c \text{ [Pa]} = 3 \pi \alpha / r \quad (\text{Chokshi et al. AJ 1993})$$

$\alpha$ : material constant 0.01...1 N/m, r: grain size

Example nucleus:

R= 1 km,  $\rho = 1 \text{ g/cm}^3$ ,  $\alpha = 0.1 \text{ N/m}$  (Graphite),  $T_{ice} = 220 \text{ K}$ , r = 1 mm

$$P_g \text{ [Pa]} = 0.3 \Delta \text{ [m]}$$

$$P_v = 3 \text{ Pa}$$

$P_c = 1000 \text{ Pa}$  if porous, reduced by factor  $(1-p^{2/3}) \approx 0.4$  (Klinger et al. 1989)

## Measured strengths:

Lunar regolith:	$10^2 \dots 10^3$ Pa (Mitchel et al. 1973 from Apollo experiments)
Filamentary sublimite residues:	$10^4$ Pa (Storrs et al. 1988 from lab experiments)
Fireballs: observations)	$10^3 \dots 10^6$ Pa (Wetherill et al. 1982 from
Snow:	ca. $10^3$ Pa

## Conclusions:

**Measured strength numbers support the modeled values**

**Cohesion of a dust matrix is the dominant force and controls the local structure of a nucleus !**

**Globally measured strength (e.g. SL9: 10 Pa) is lower than the local strength because of weaknesses between cometary building blocks**

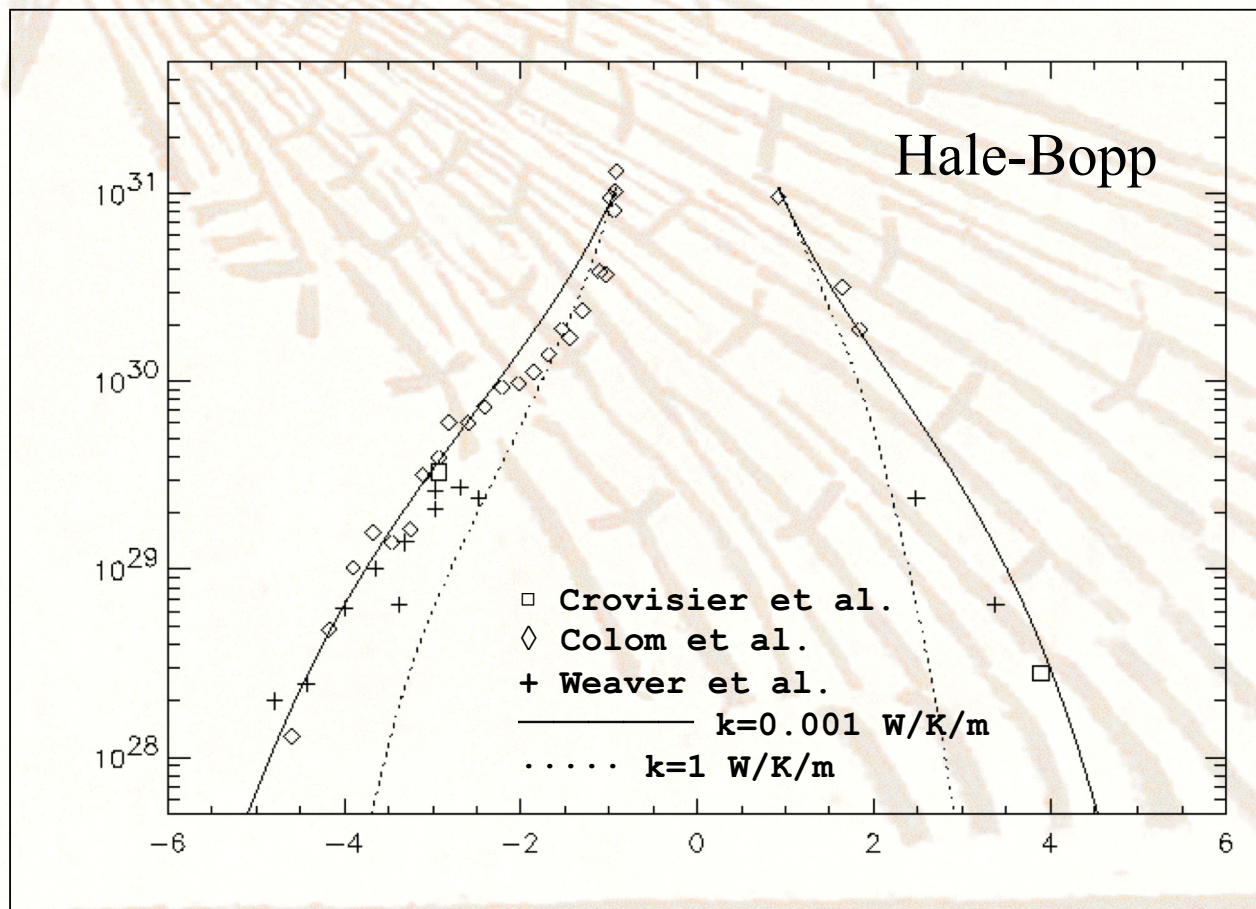
## Reduction in Sublimation by a Surface Layer

- If sublimation occurs at around 1 skin depth, the sublimation rate might be reduced by a factor of 8-10.
- For C-G, the emission can be explained by unrestricted activity from 2-4% of the surface.
- If sublimation occurs from 2-3 cm below the surface, 20-40% of the surface area is required to be active - almost an entire hemisphere and without taking into account the solar zenith angle.

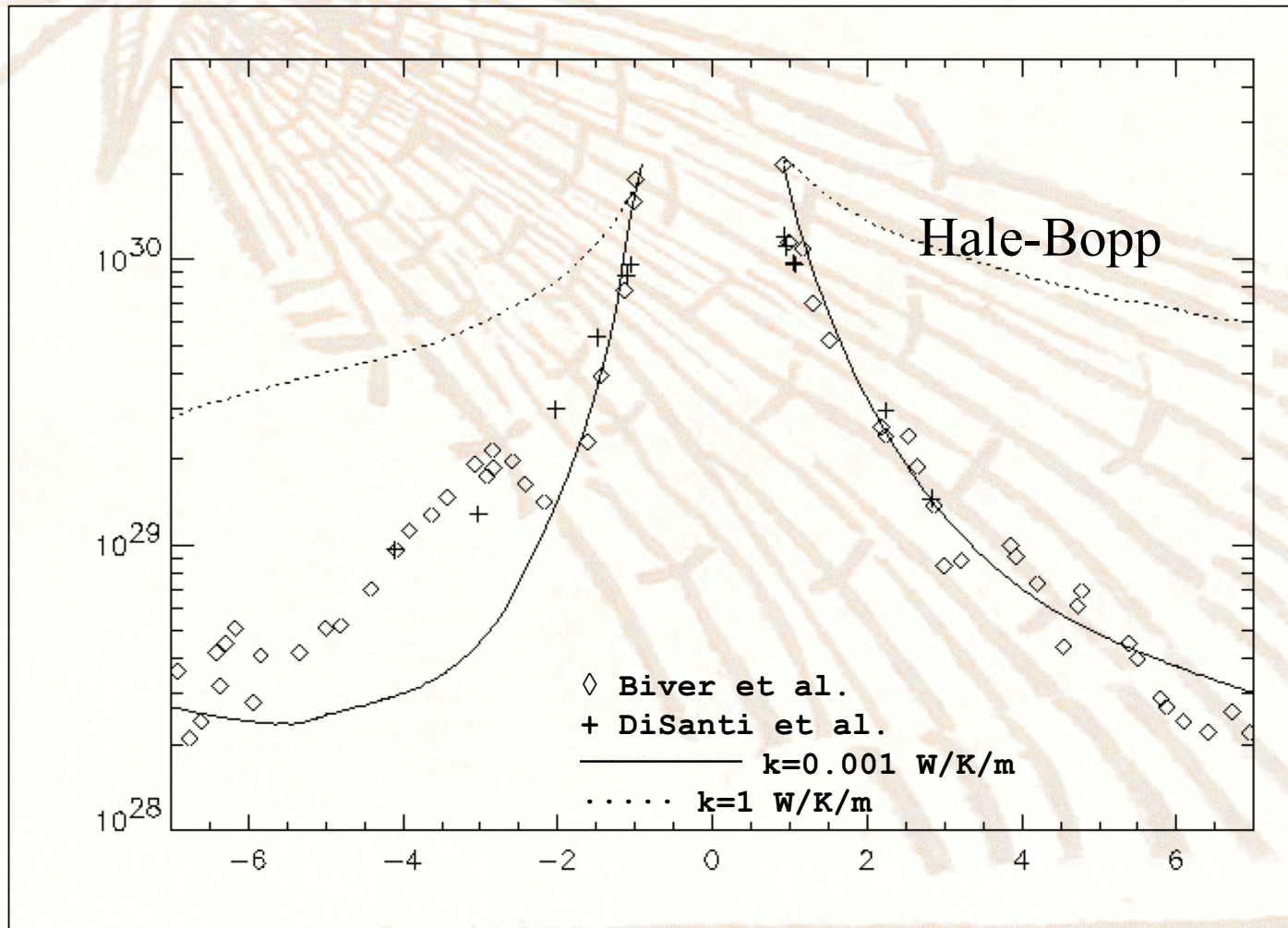
Sublimation from a sub-surface layer below 1 thermal skin depth cannot match cometary production rates.



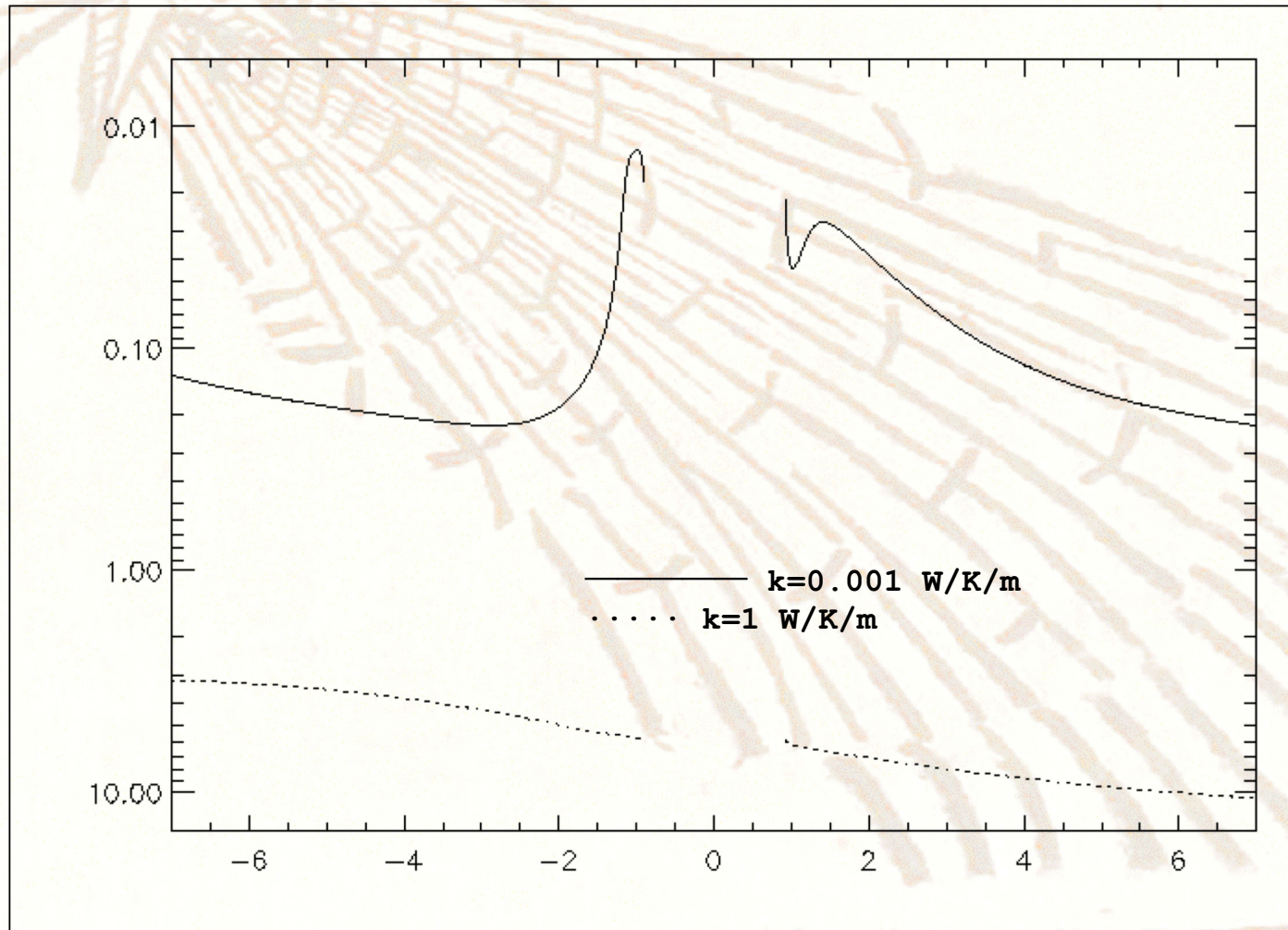
*Modeled and measured  
H<sub>2</sub>O production rates  
(Kührt, Knollenberg, Groussin)*



## Modeled and measured CO production rates



## Depth of the CO sublimation front



## Conclusions

- Surprisingly, the Hale-Bopp CO sublimation rates are nearly proportional to  $1/r_h^2$  or to the solar energy input

Hale-Bopp water and CO data strongly indicate a low thermal conductivity of the nucleus ( $k = 0.001$  W/Km) and, therefore, a high porosity

As a consequence the CO sublimation front in an active area is near the surface (some cm)

# Cometary Encounters

What have we learned from the flybys?

**Giotto**

**1P/Comet Halley**

retrograde orbit 76 y

perihelion 0.84 AU

Oort cloud

**Stardust**

**81P/Comet Wild 2**

Jupiter family orbit

perihelion 1.58 AU

**Deep Space 1**

**19P/Comet Borrelly**

Jupiter family orbit

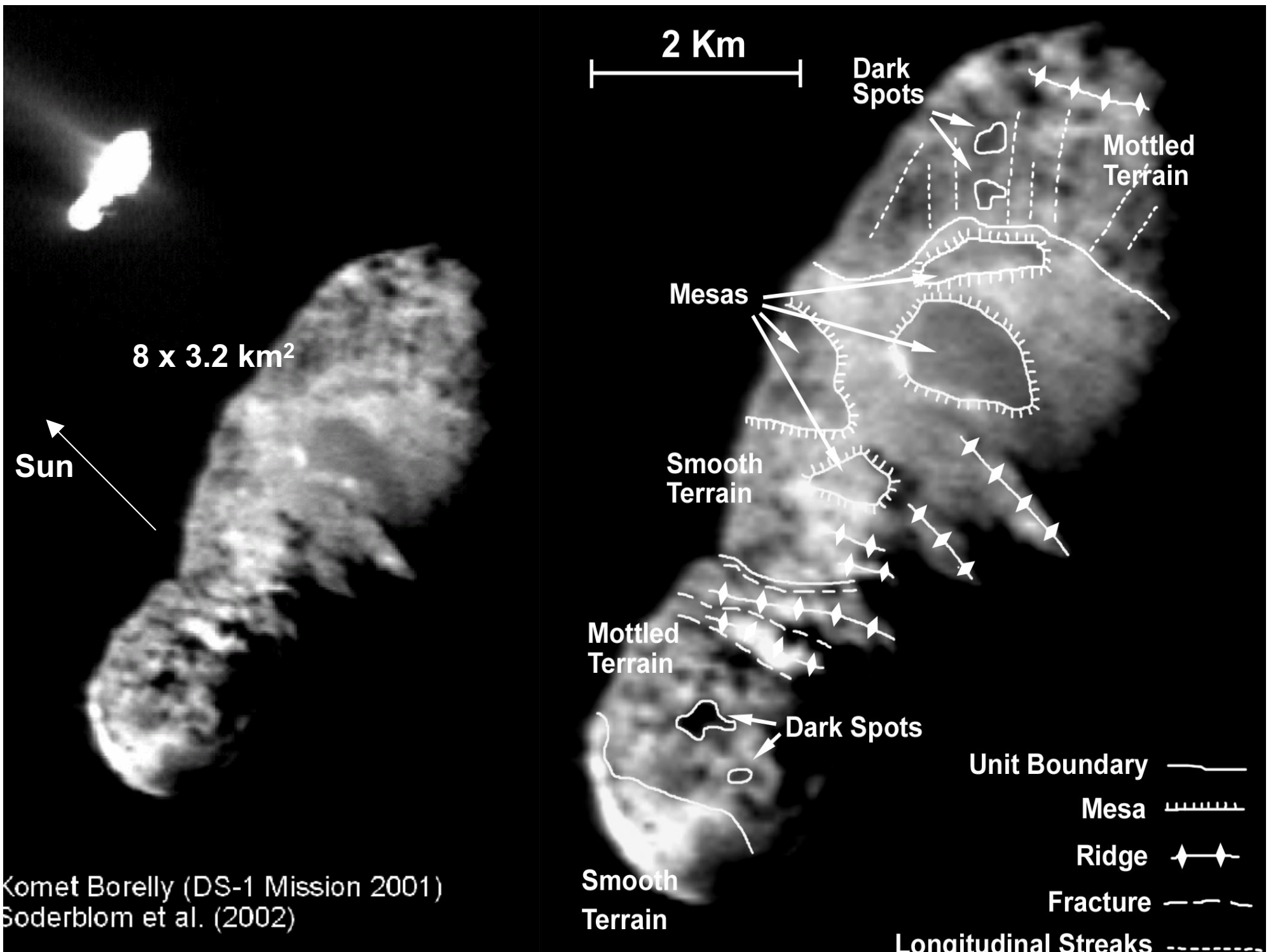
perihelion 1.36 AU

**Deep Impact**

**9P/Tempel 1**

Jupiter family orbit

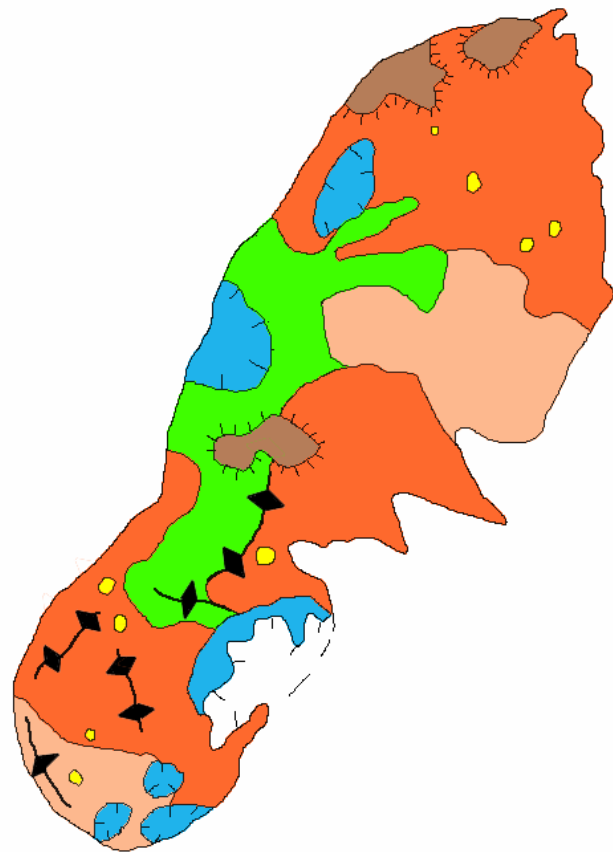
perihelion 1.32 AU



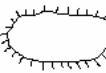


# Comet Borrelly Surface Units

BORRELLY \*\* DS-1  
Geomorphologic map

Map units



dm	dark mottled material
bm	bright mottled material
s	smooth material
m	mesa material
d	depression (crater?) material
p	circular pit material
	depression (circular or elliptical)
	ridge
	mesa

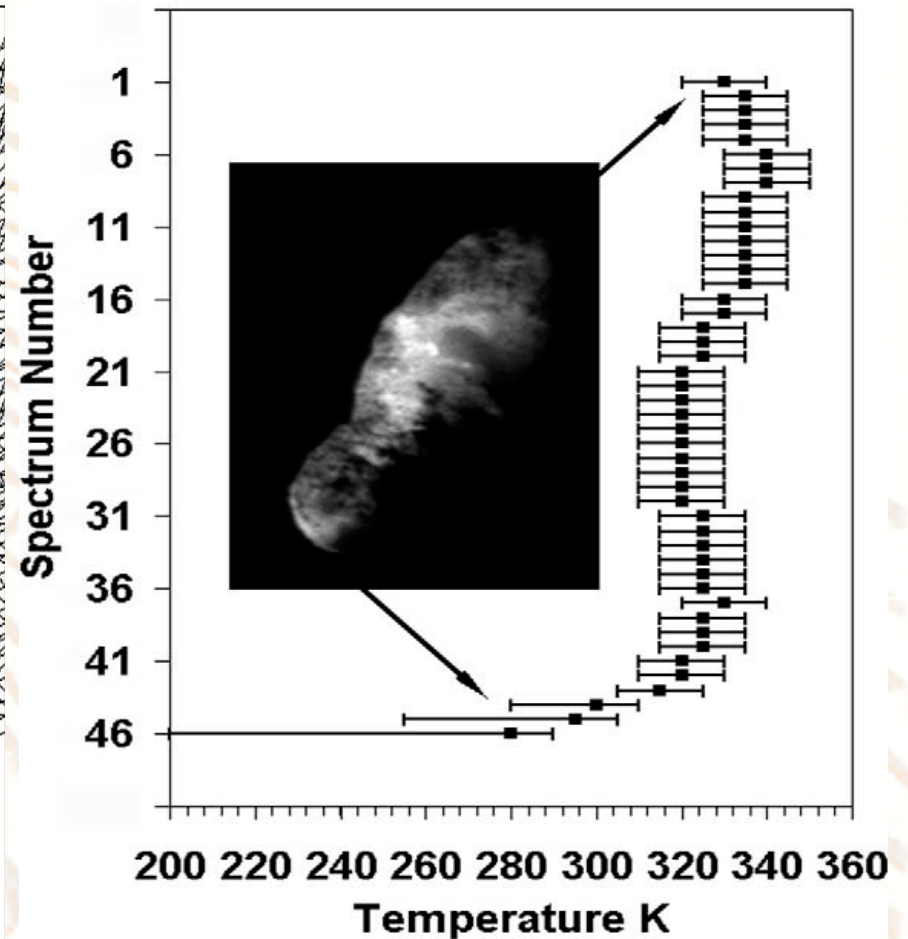
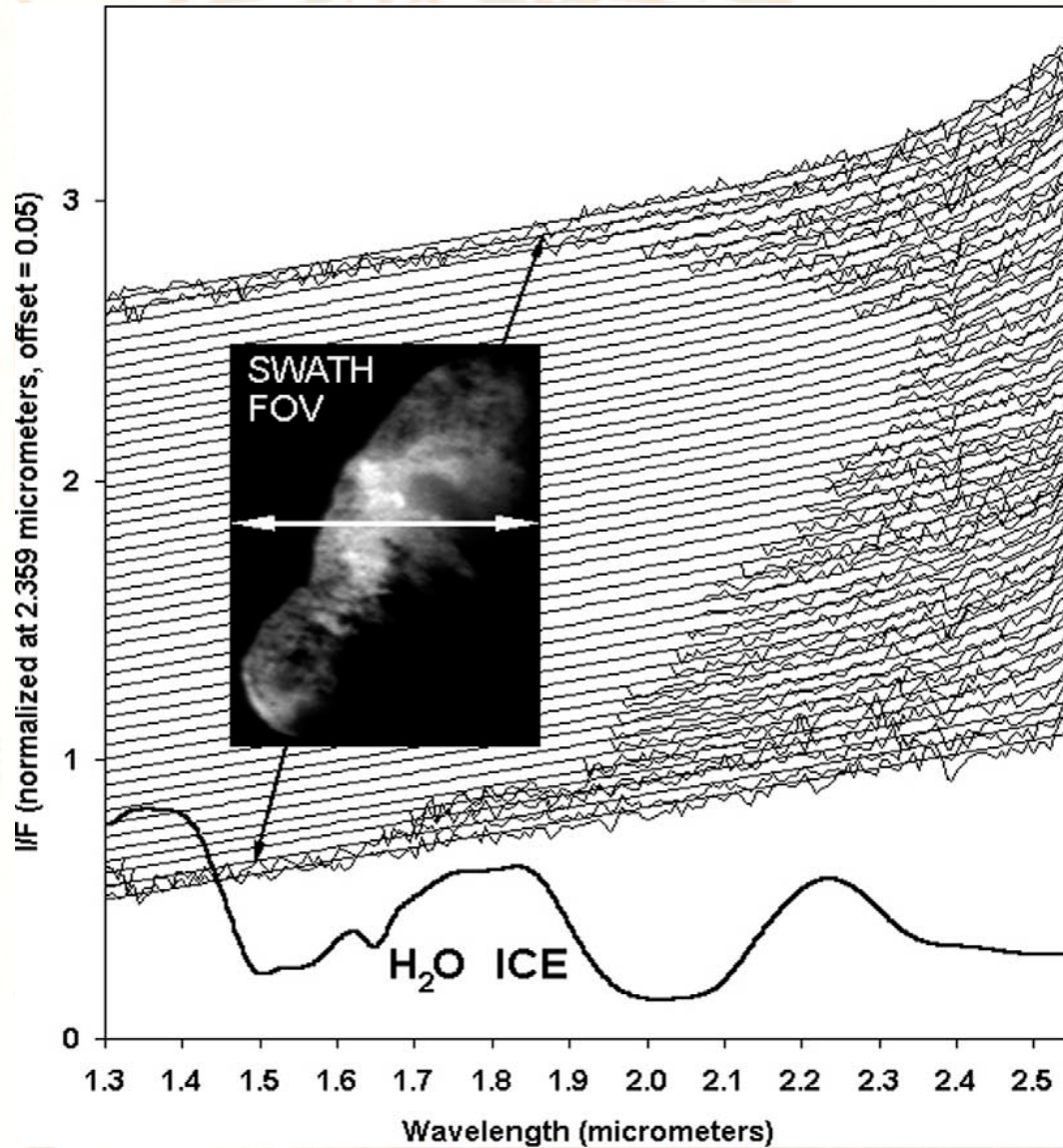
Surface albedo:

**0.02 and strong variations (Buratti et al. 2004)**

**0.056 and little variation (Kirk et al. 2004)**

Version 7-Nov-2001 (RJW)

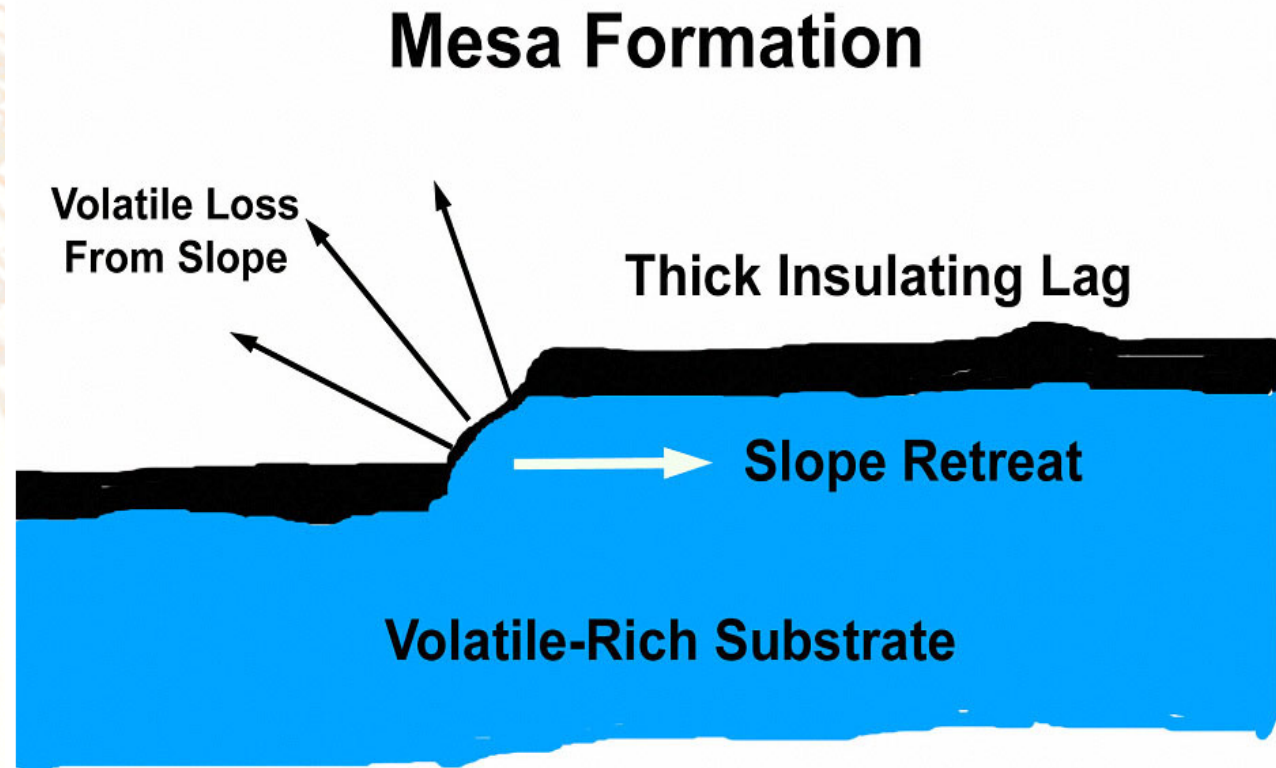
# IR Spectra of 19P/Borrelly



Soderblom et al. (2004)

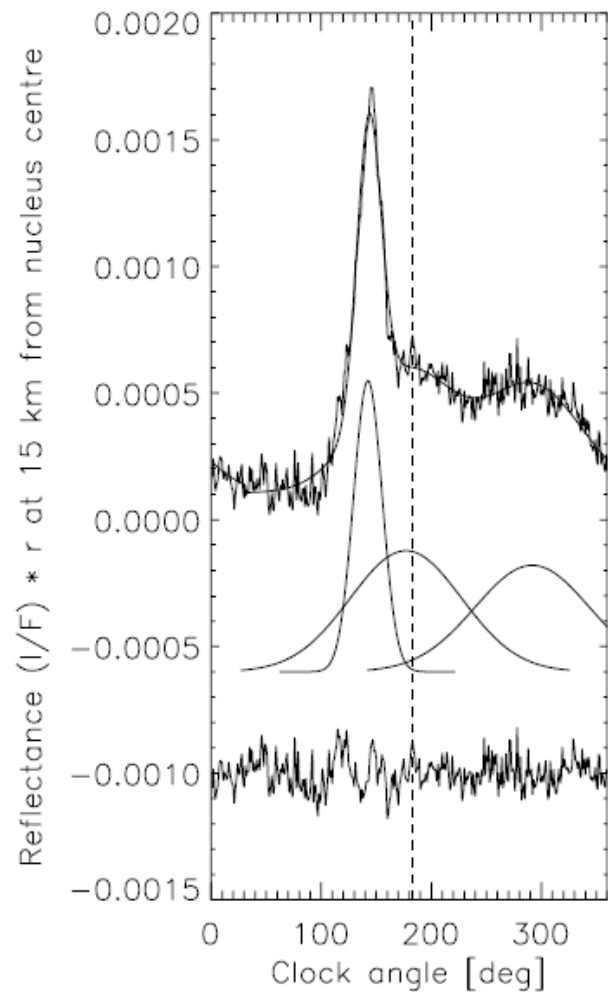


# Does this explain activity?

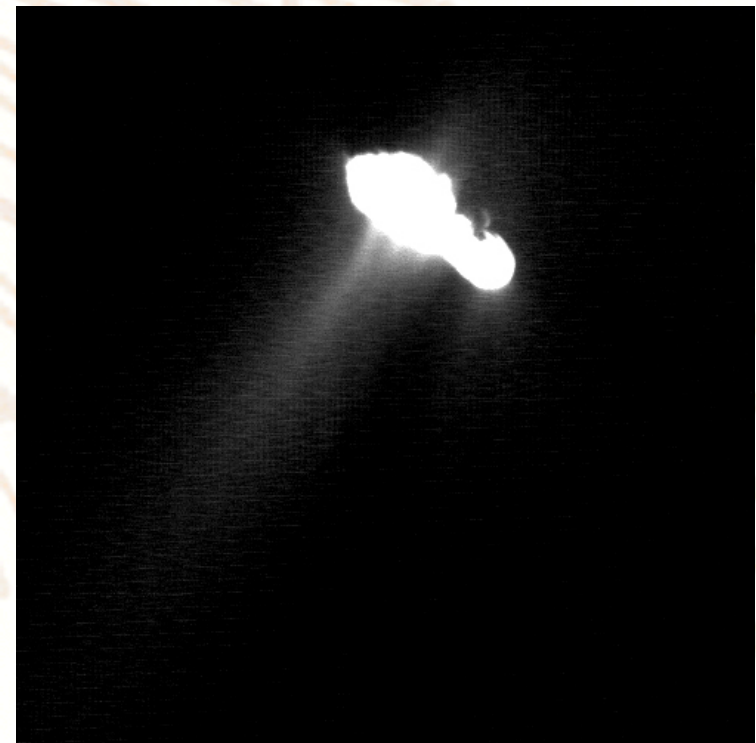


**Volatile loss undermines the mesa tops and collapses the lag material down to the “Smooth Terrain” valley floor.**

## Jet Distribution in Borrelly's Inner Coma



**Main jet contributes 19-24% to the inner dust coma. FWHM is only 18°.**

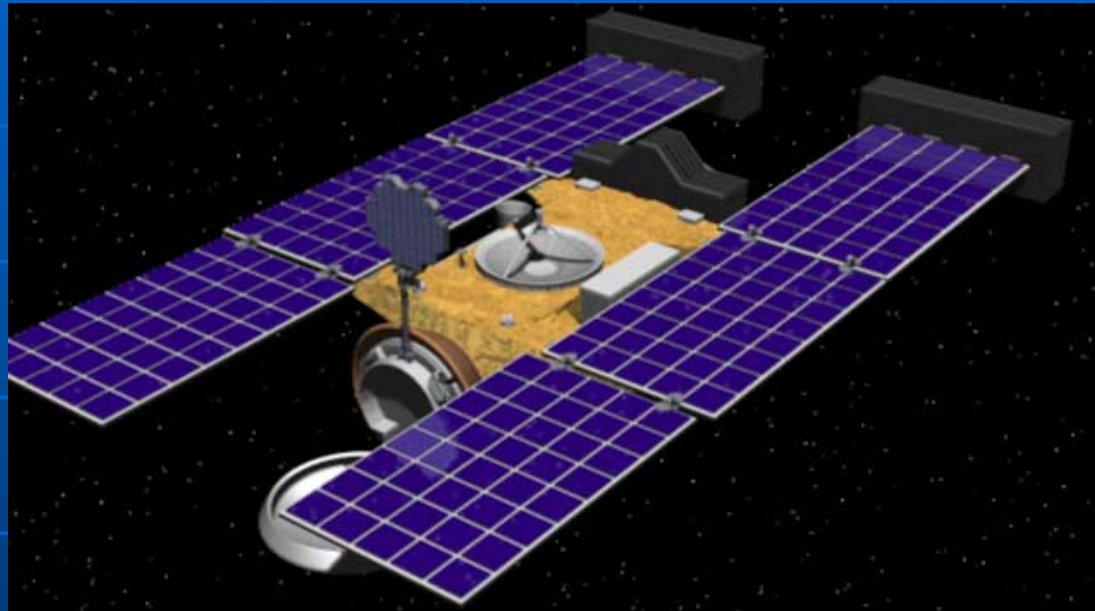


Ho et al., 2002

# 19P/Borrelly Summary

- **Bimodal surface slopes => 2 gravitational aggregates (?)**
- **Single scattering albedo:**
  - **Either extremely small and highly variable 0.008 to 0.024**
  - **Or “normal” 0.056 (Kirk et al. 2004)**
- **Localized activity in narrow jets ( $\alpha$  and  $\beta$ )**
- **High surface temperature (330 K)**
- **No sign of water**

# STARDUST



**81P/Wild 2**

Stardust flyby of 81P/Wild 2 at 236km on 2 Jan. 2004 (6.1km/s)

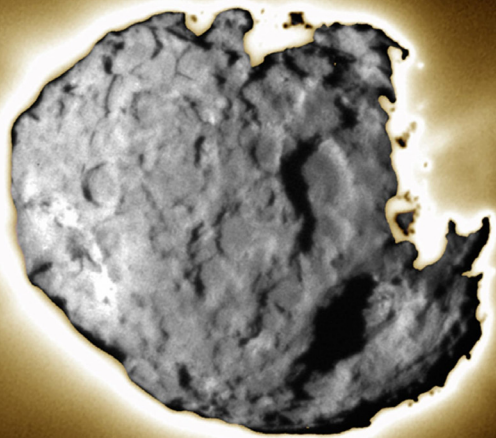
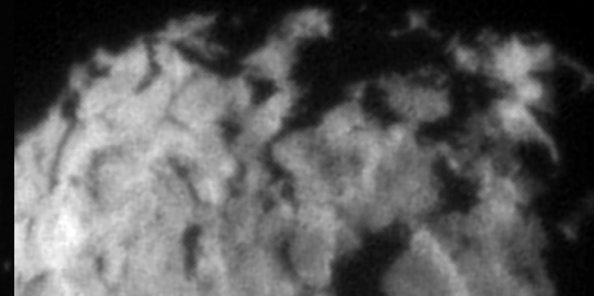
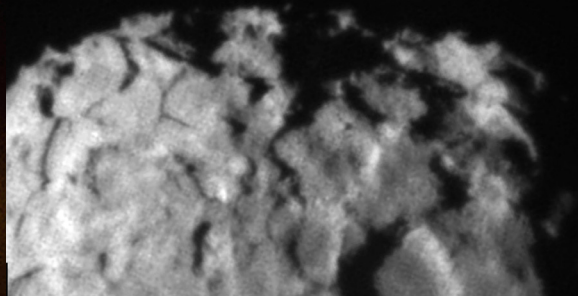
Click to edit

Nucleus

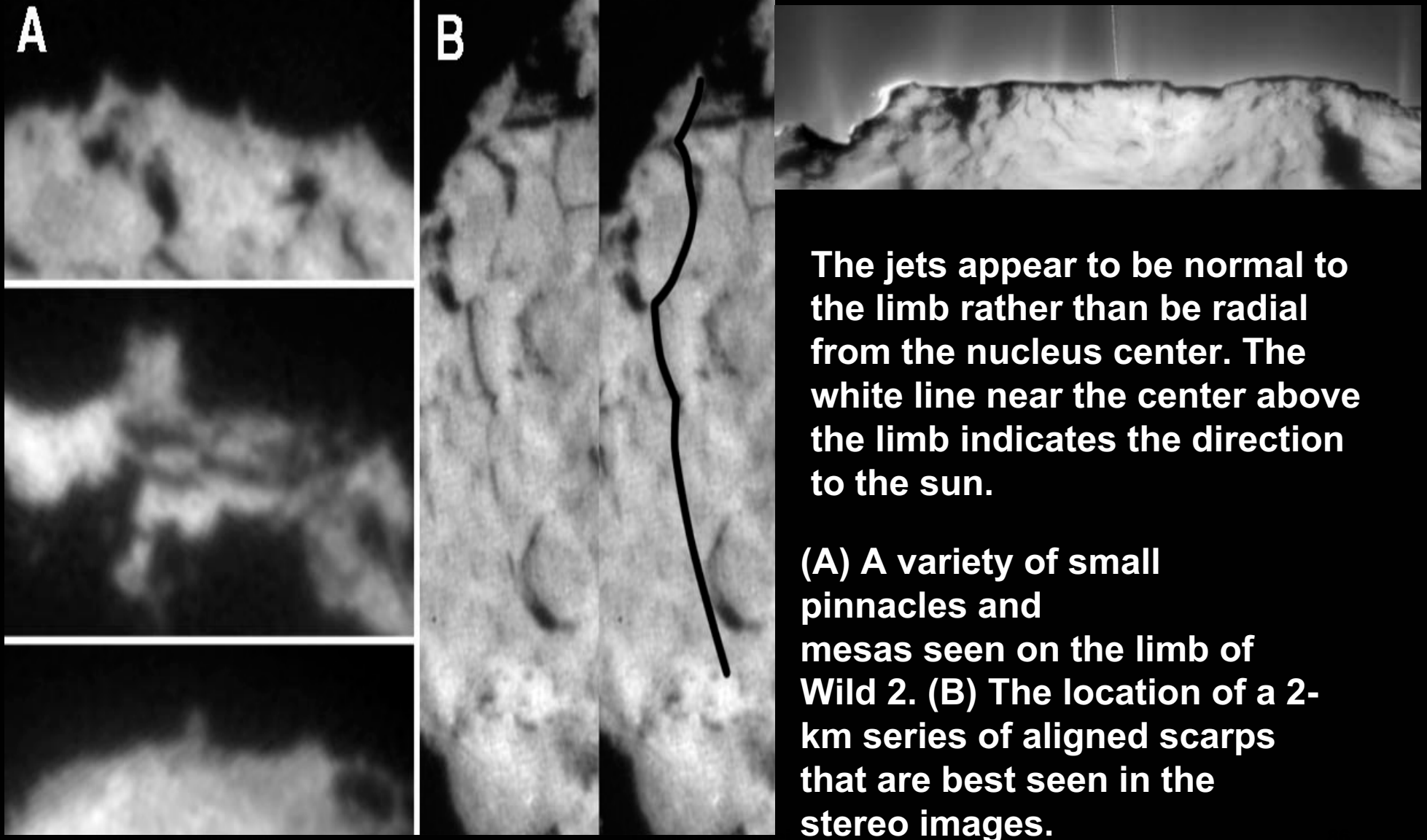
$5.5 \times 4.0 \times 3.3$  km

Albedo = 3%

$r_h = 1.86$  UA  $Q_{H_2O} = 0.2$  t/s



# 81P/Wild 2 (Stardust)



**Wild 2 surface is not similar to  
asteroid, satellite or other comet surfaces!**



Wild 2

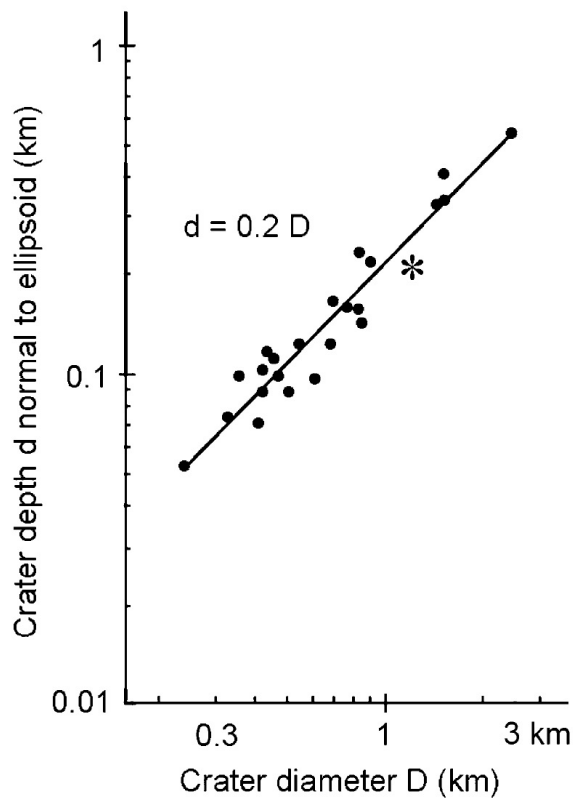


Ida

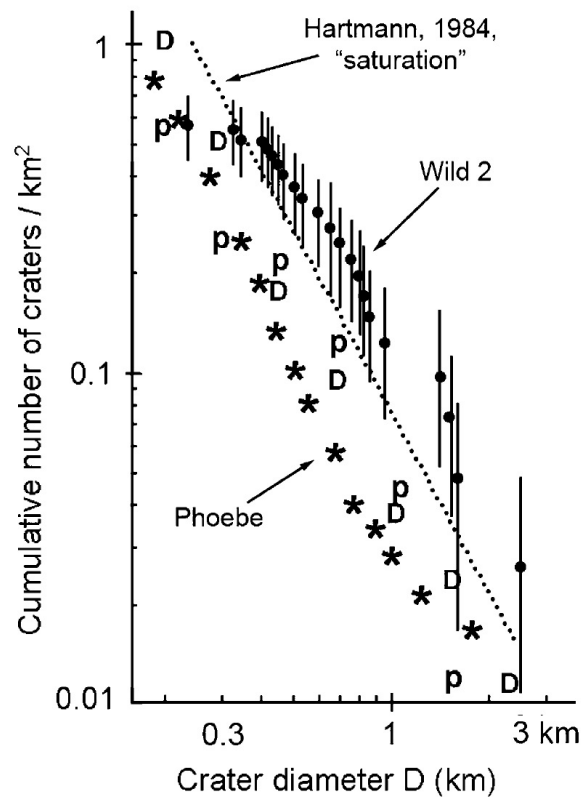


Dactyl

# Wild 2 Craters



Kirk et al. (2005)



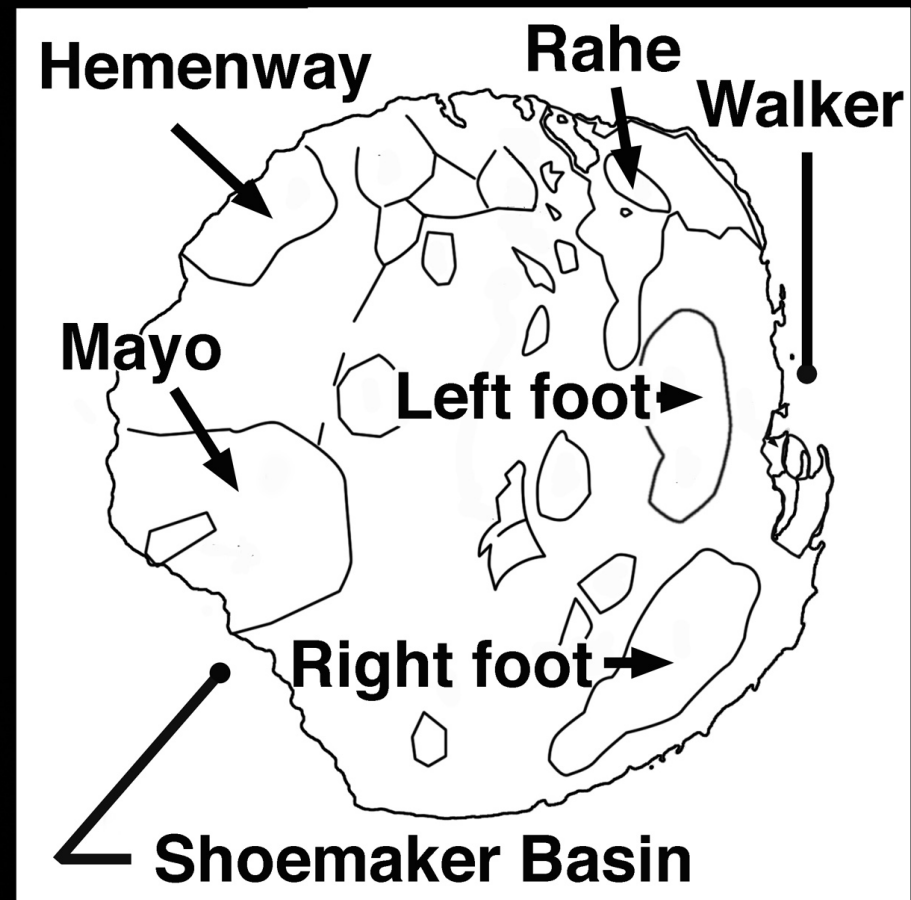
Basilevsky and Keller (2006)

**Surface densely cratered**  
**Beyond saturation line =>**  
**diameters increased by**  
**sublimation**

**Cratering occurred early**  
**in the life of the comet**

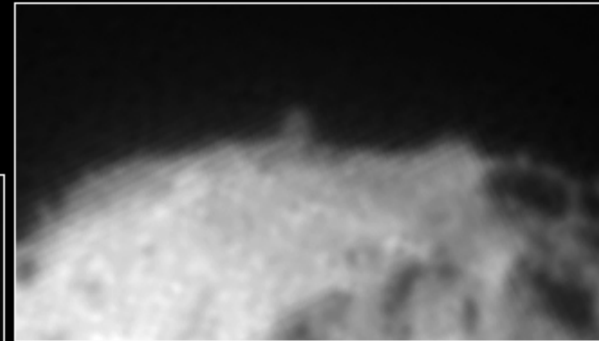
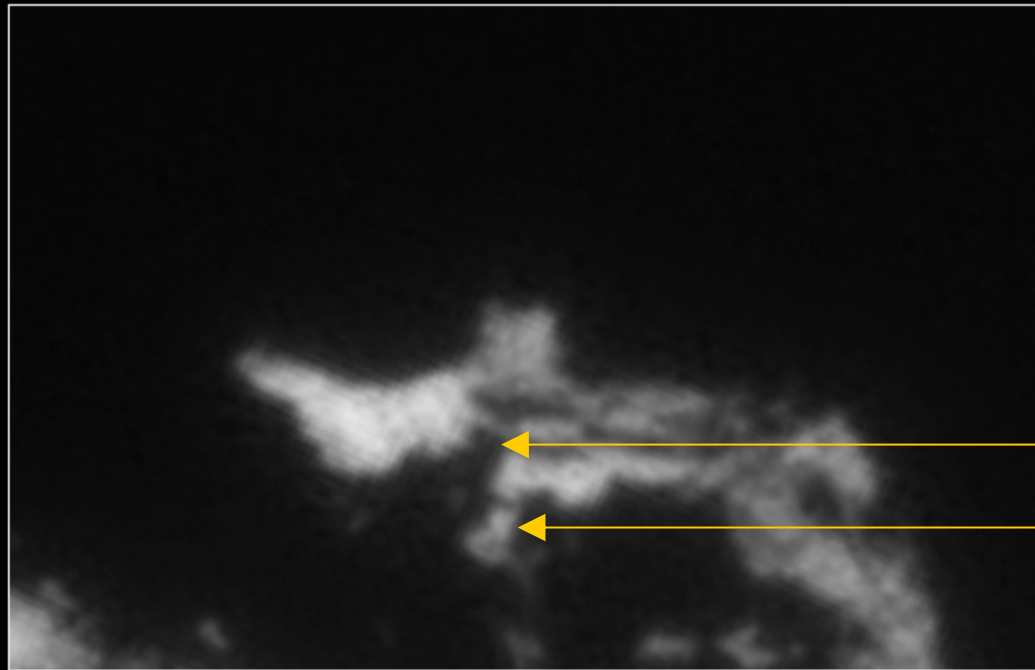


# Wild 2 Map



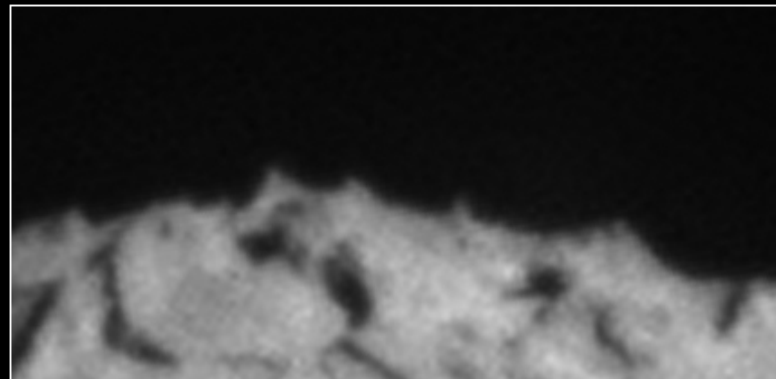
# Wild 2's pinnacles

(Monument Valley in dirty ice)



pinnacle shadow

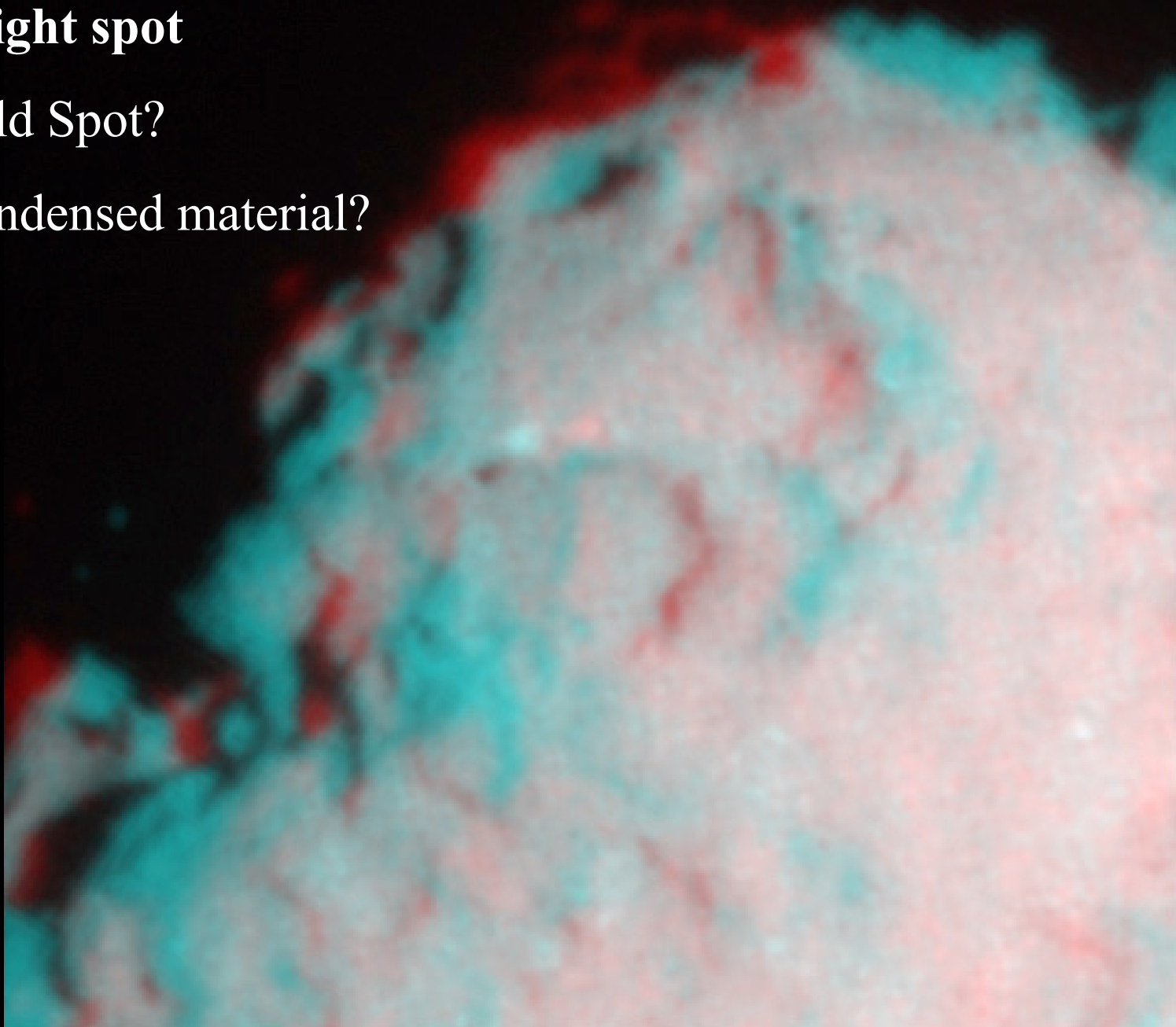
pinnacle



**Bright spot**

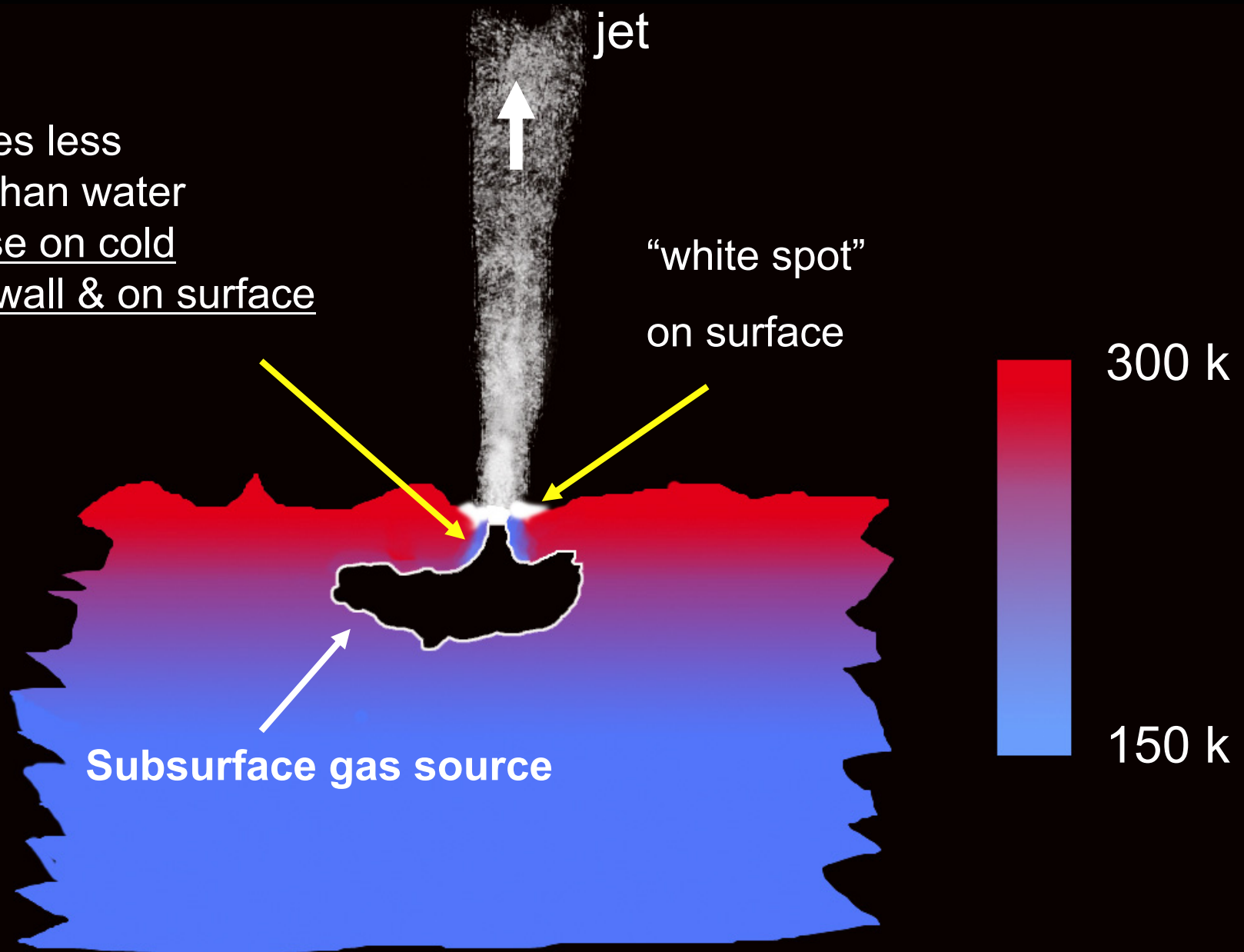
Cold Spot?

Condensed material?



## Possible origin of “white spots” & pinnacles

Molecules less  
volatile than water  
condense on cold  
conduit wall & on surface



# 81P/Wild 2

- Higher resolution reveals very rough surface on all scales
  - **Deep craters with steep walls (some depth to diameter ratio: > 0.3!)**
  - **Craters formed in strength regime (Brownlee et al. 2004)**
  - **Cliffs and overhangs**
  - **Pinnacles and spires (100 m high)**
- Localized activity in narrow jets, filaments (perpendicular to topographic relief)
- Uniform and “normal” albedo:  $0.03 \pm 0.015$
- Active areas cannot be discerned
- Elongated oblate nucleus ( $1.65 \times 2.00 \times 2.75 \text{ km}^3$ )
- Eroded surface features (craters)
- No surge in brightness near zero phase => no regolith of small grains (Duxbury et al. 2004)

# Some Conclusions

## **Not a rubble pile**

Cliffs, pinnacles & overhangs  $\Rightarrow$  some strength  
Long ( $> 2$  km) features (scarps)

## **Very rugged surface with many depressions**

## **No classic impact craters, surface is older than that of previous comets**

Crater density saturated (old!)

## **Mesas, pinnacles, and other erosional remnants**

Suggest  $>100$ m loss of original surface, earlier visit(s)  
into the inner solar system

## **Jet sources are small, numerous, and highly collimated**

Some active in the shade

Illuminated pole region appears to be inactive



Are the observations consistent with the  
properties of Chondritic Porous (CP) IDPs

?

## Comet dust?

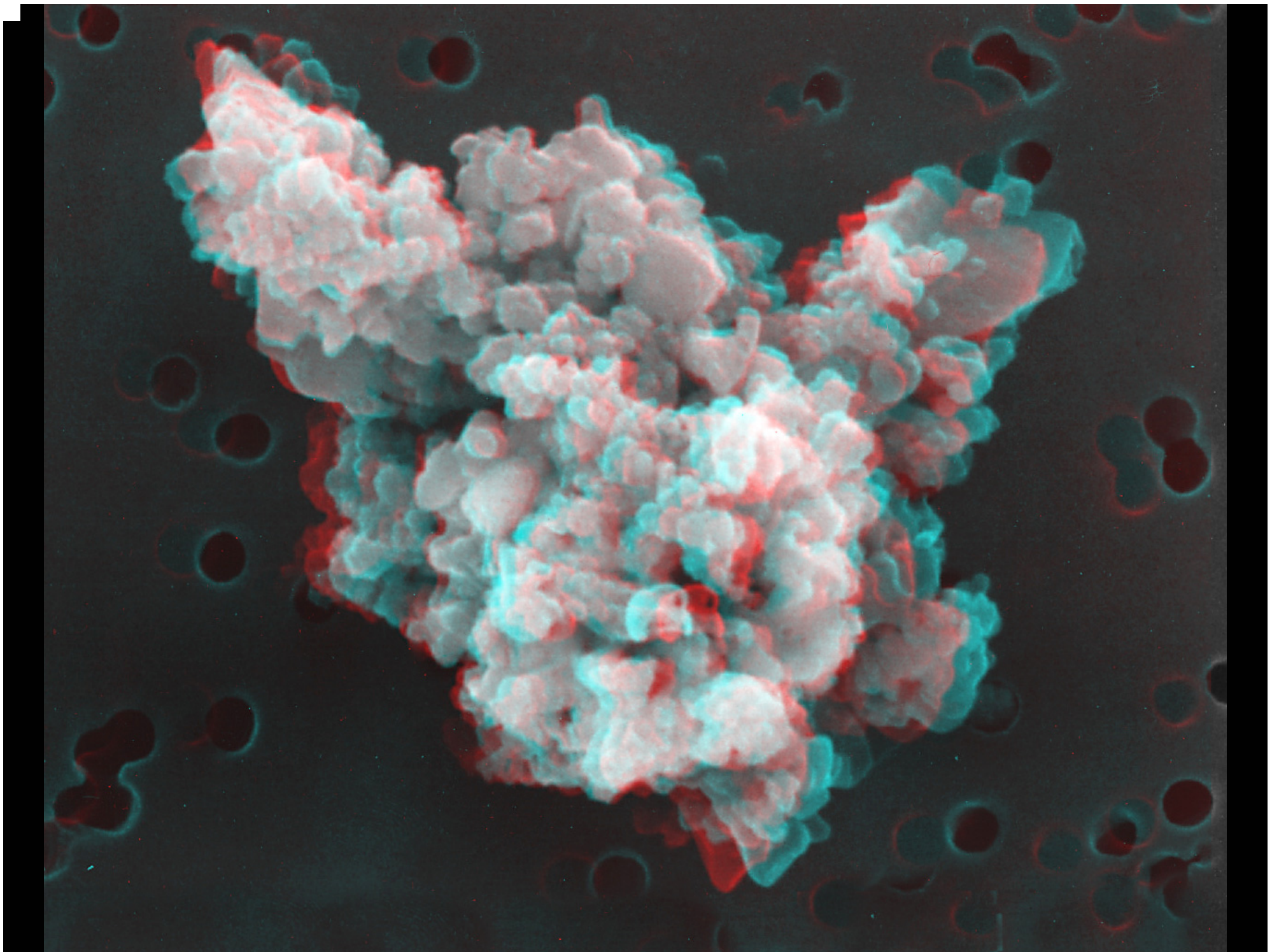
Contents: silicate mineral grains  
amorphous silicate (glass)  
Fe, Ni sulfides  
oxide  
Fe, Ni metal grains  
organic materials



1  $\mu\text{m}$







# Grain size

- **The 10 $\mu$ m silicate feature requires the presence of submicron silicates.**
- **Submicron silicates cannot be made during the ejection process...they must be original accreted grains**
- **CP IDPs are aggregates of submicron grains**

# Porosity



- **Wild 2 surface appears to be a rigid freeze-dried material with relatively uniform albedo**
- **CP IDPs are a weak, porous, uniform material that is weak but strong enough to produce pinnacles, mesas and overhangs**

# Structure

**The open porous structure of CP IDPs is (probably) a natural result of**

**A) gentle accretion of submicron silicates, organics and ice**

**B) gentle sublimation of the ice**

***CP IDPs are the most porous, fragile and primitive meteoritic materials***

# Fragmentation of Dust



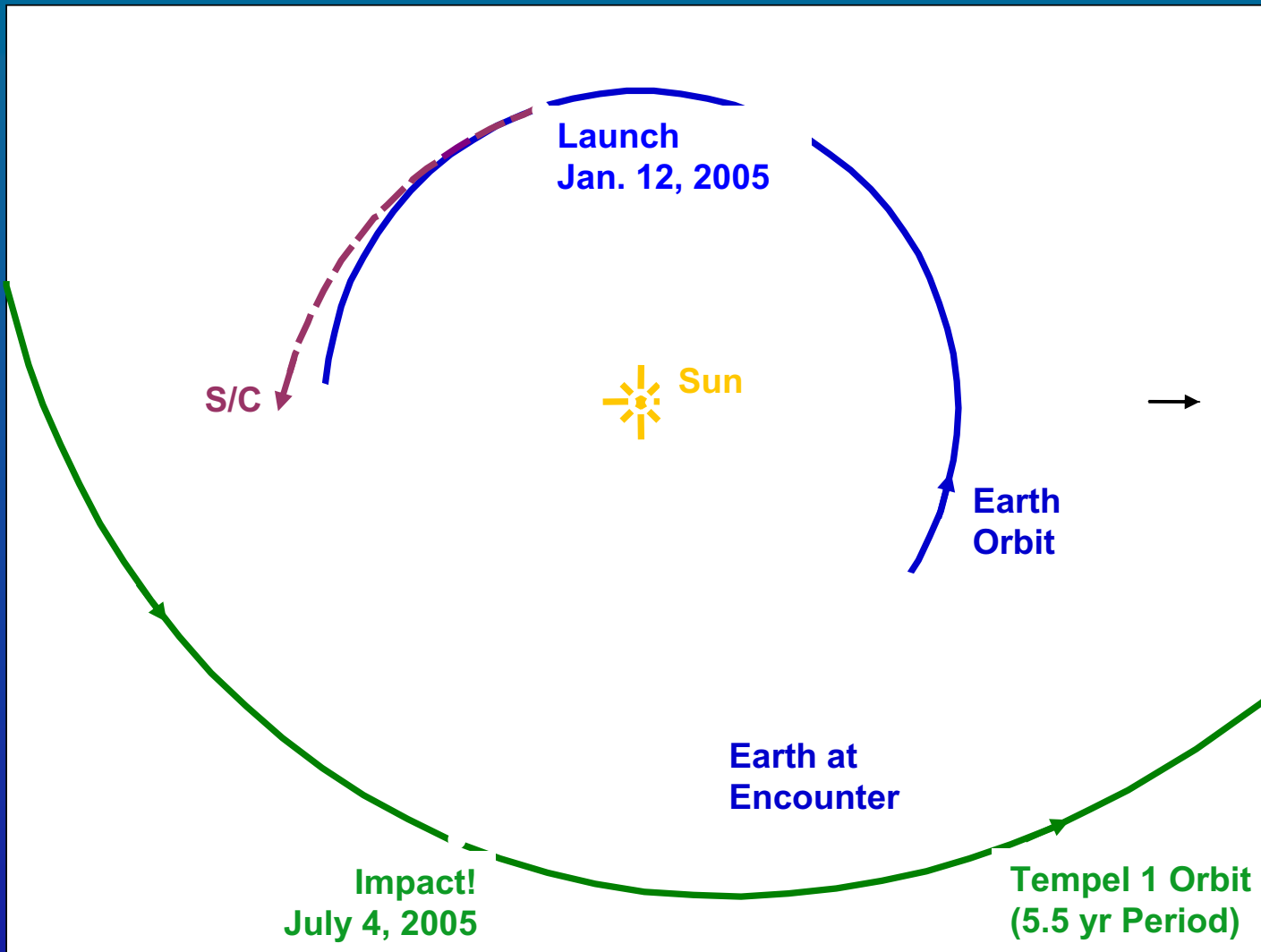
- **Stardust dust measurements and other observations indicate that comet dust fragments after ejection**
- **Highly porous aggregates fragment easily**

# Deep Impact

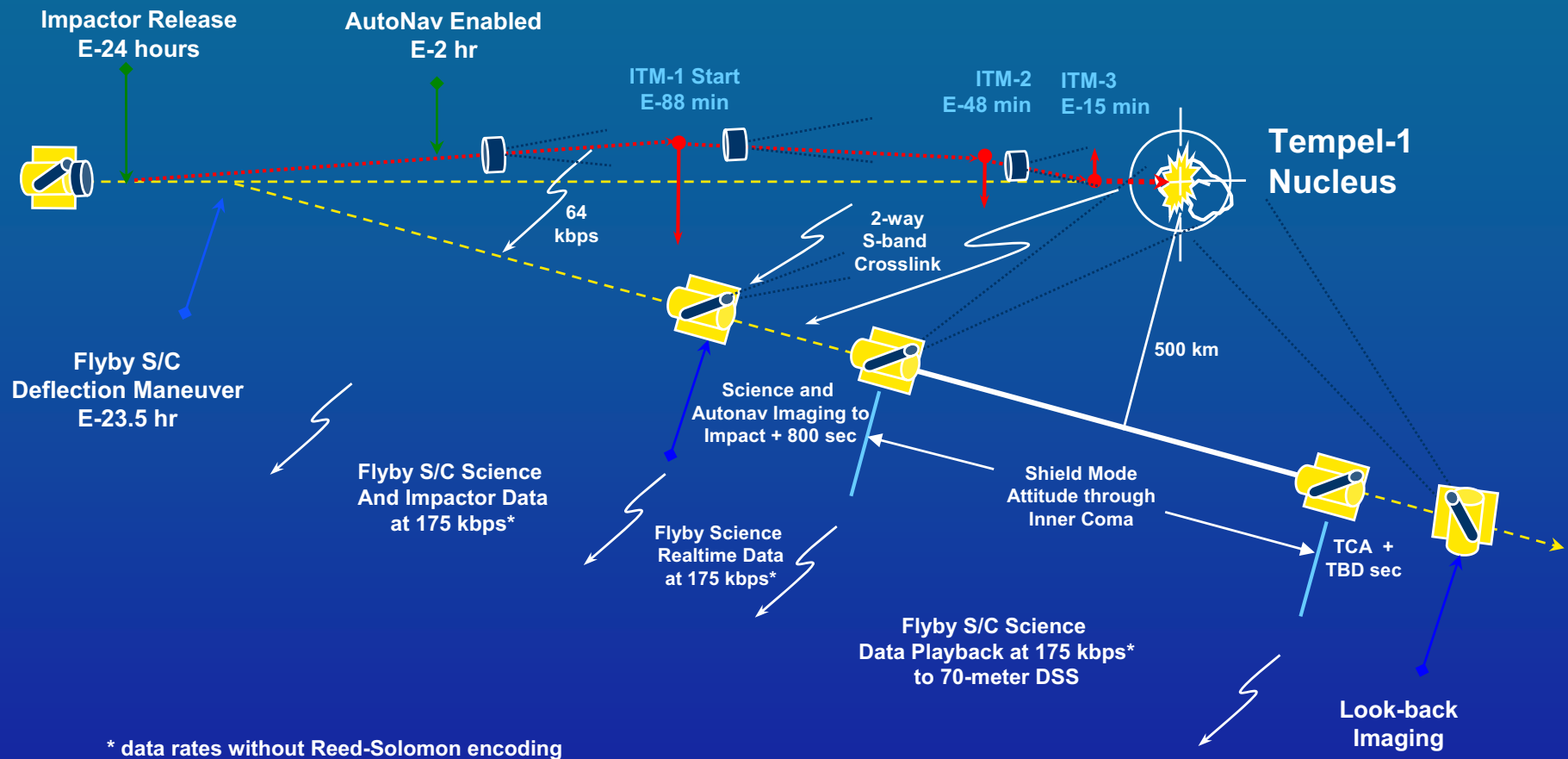
- **Mating of flyby with impactor, April 2004**
  - Last step prior to system environmental testing
- **Impactor**
  - 1/3 ton
  - 50% copper
  - **Impactor Camera**
    - 10  $\mu\text{rad}/\text{pixel}$
    - White light
- **Flyby**
  - 2/3 ton
  - **Medium Res camera**
    - 10  $\mu\text{rad}/\text{pixel}$
    - 8 filters
  - **High Res Camera**
    - 2  $\mu\text{rad}/\text{pixel}$
    - 8 filters
  - **Near-IR Spectrometer**
    - 10  $\mu\text{rad}/\text{pixels}$  & slit
    - $1.05 < \lambda < 4.8 \mu\text{m}$
    - $230 < \lambda/\delta\lambda < 700$



# Interplanetary Trajectory



# Encounter Schematic





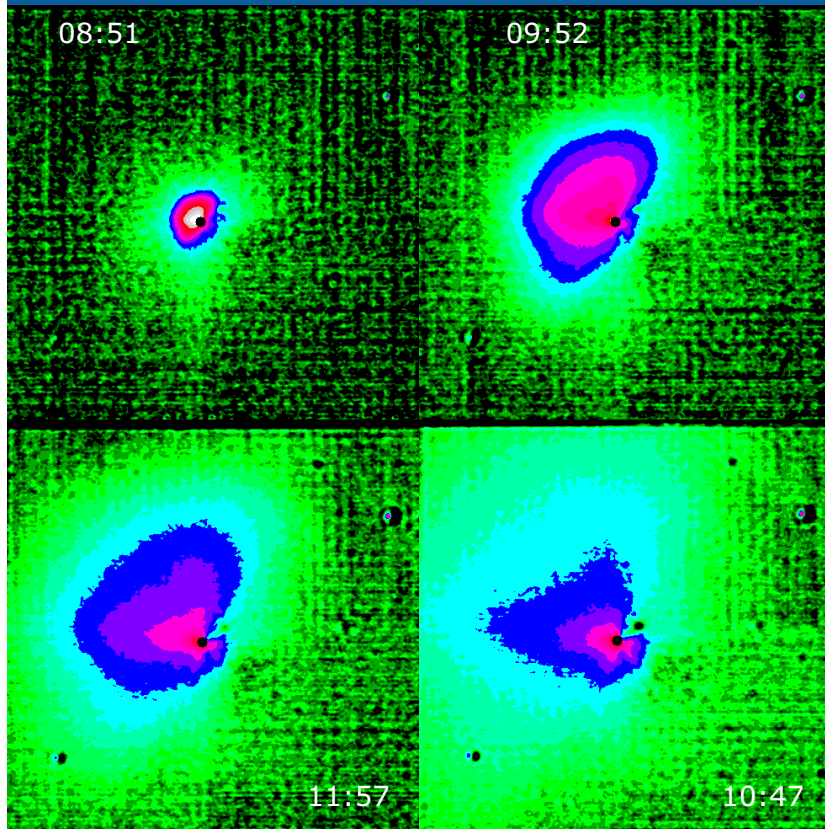
# Approach Photometry

**Outbursts common - typically 2 per week**

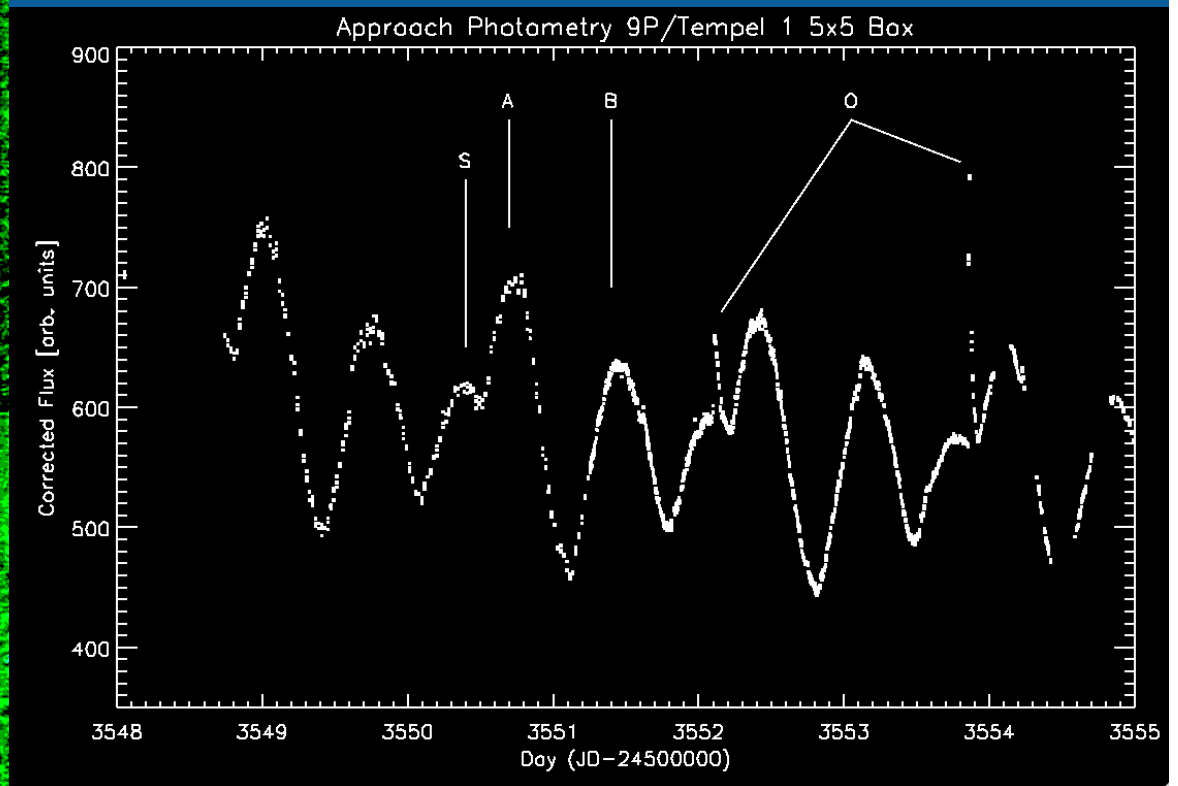
**Outbursts correlated with rotational phase (2 phases with at least 3 outbursts each)**

**Thus, outbursts are endogenic and related to surface insolation**

**Probably super-volatiles close below surface but stochastic nature of outbursts not understood**

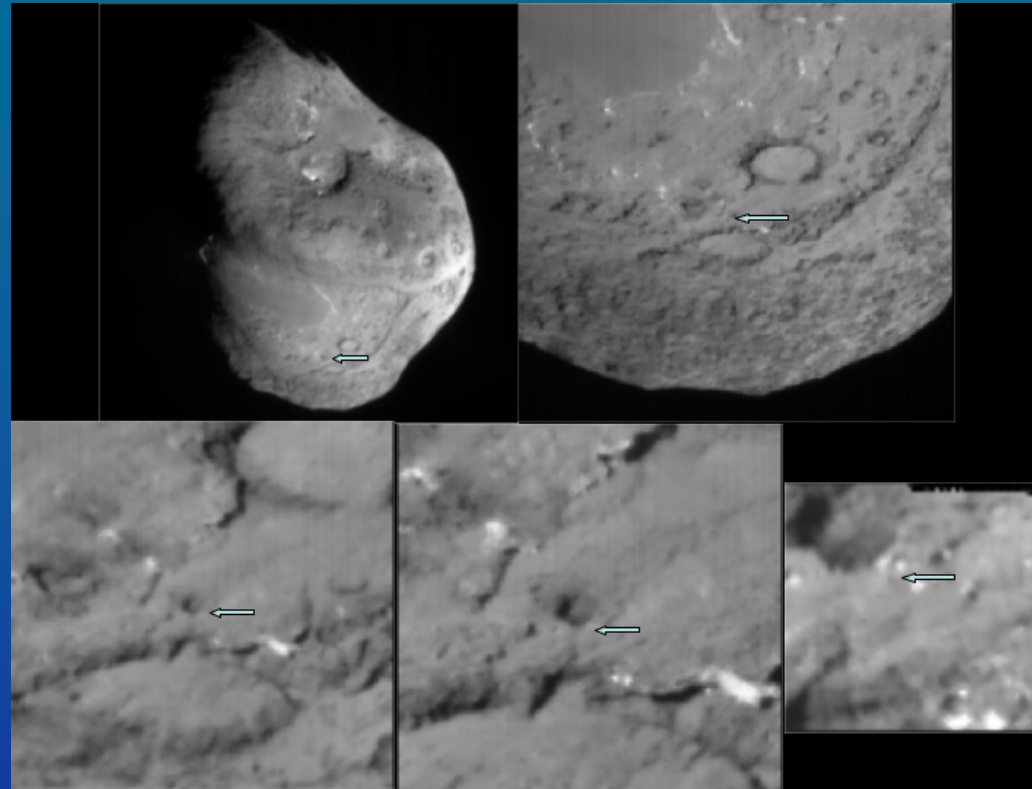
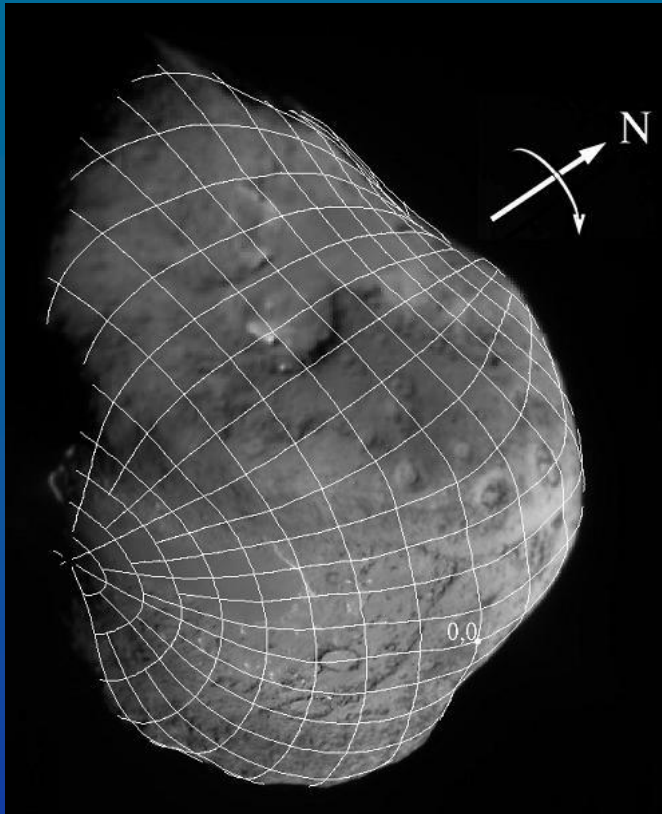


2 July Outburst by *D. Lindler*



*A'Hearn et al. 2005 Science* **310**, 258

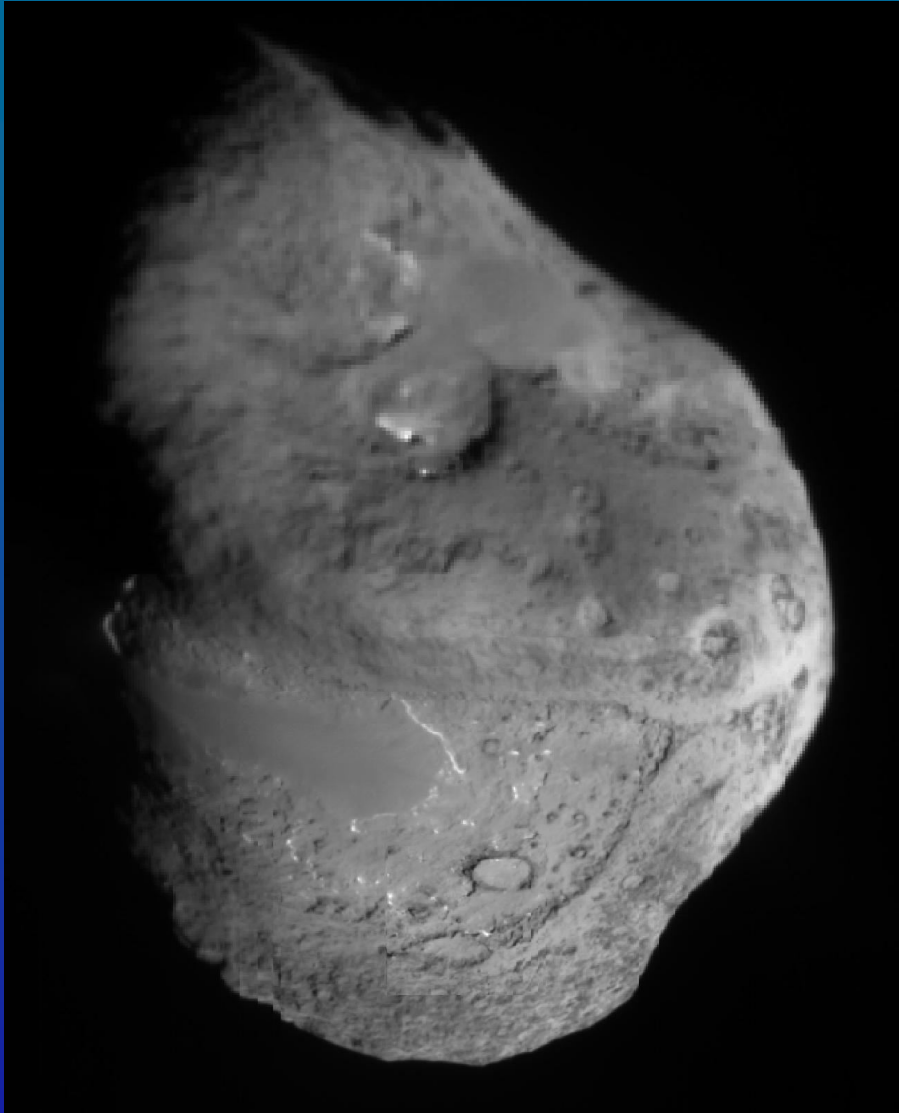
# ITS Sequence



- ITS images - impact site indicated by arrows (now right side up - ecliptic north in upper right quadrant, sun to right)
- Sense of rotation - top is approaching
- Oblique impact -  $36^\circ$  from horizontal by shape model but 20 to  $35^\circ$  from assuming circular craters

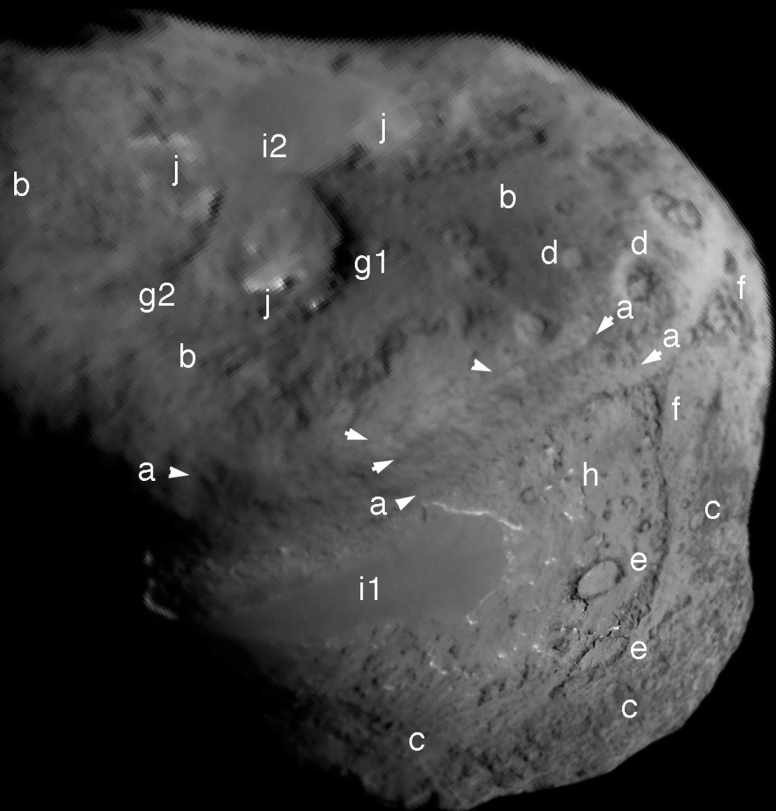
# ITS Composite Image

---

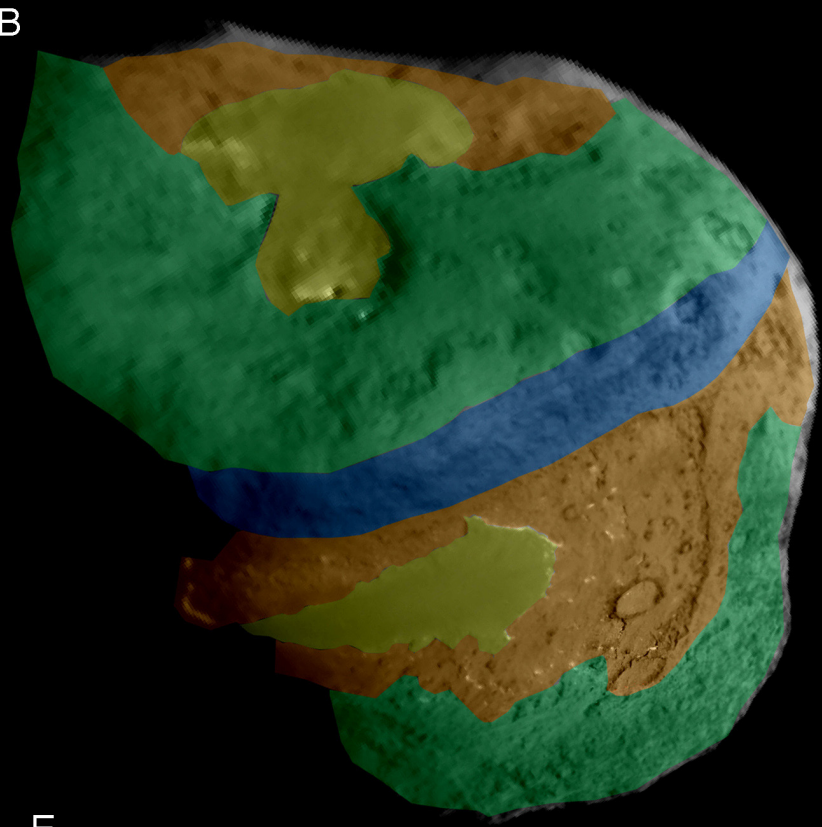


- Note geological features
  - Large, smooth surfaces
  - Round features = craters? (size-freq plot consistent)
  - Stripped terrain (old)
  - Scarps
  - Evidence of layers
- Overall Shape
  - Effective radius  $3.0 \pm 0.1$  km
  - Max-min diameters 7.6 and 4.9 km but still uncertain
  - Well-mapped surface is mostly in 3 large, more-or-less planar areas, i.e. the shape is as close to pyramidal as to ellipsoidal
- Impact site is between two craters near bottom of image.

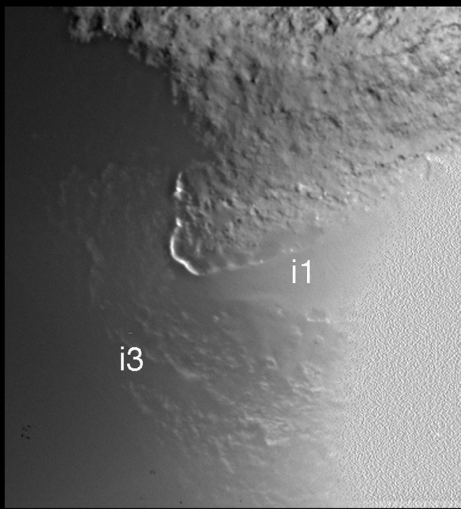
A



B

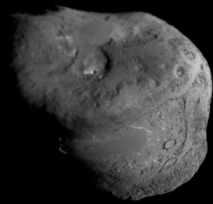


C



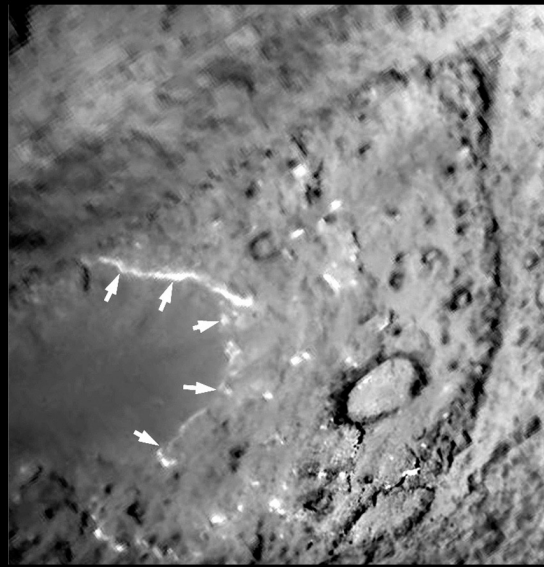
D

west facet



east facet

E



- smooth material
- thin layers
- scarped/pitted
- thick layers

Thomas et al. (2006)

## Tempel 1 Parameters

Mean radius:  $3.0 \pm 0.1$  km

Diameter range: 5.0 - 7.5 km

Gravity: 0.024 - 0.030 cm /s<sup>2</sup>

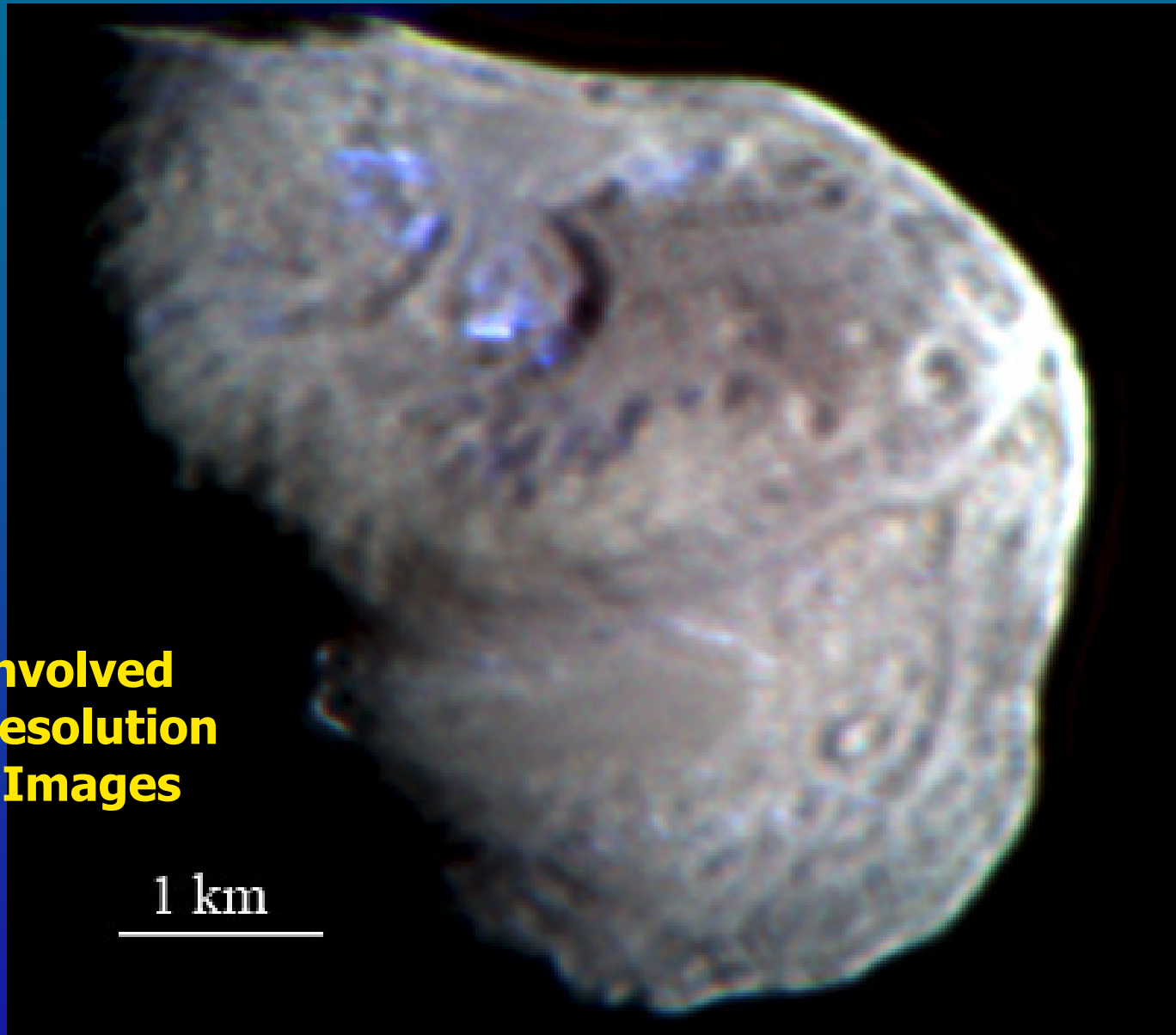
Area: 119 km<sup>2</sup>

Range of gravitational heights: 0.73 km

Mean Density:  $0.3 \pm 0.2$  gm /cm<sup>3</sup>

# Anomalously Colored Regions

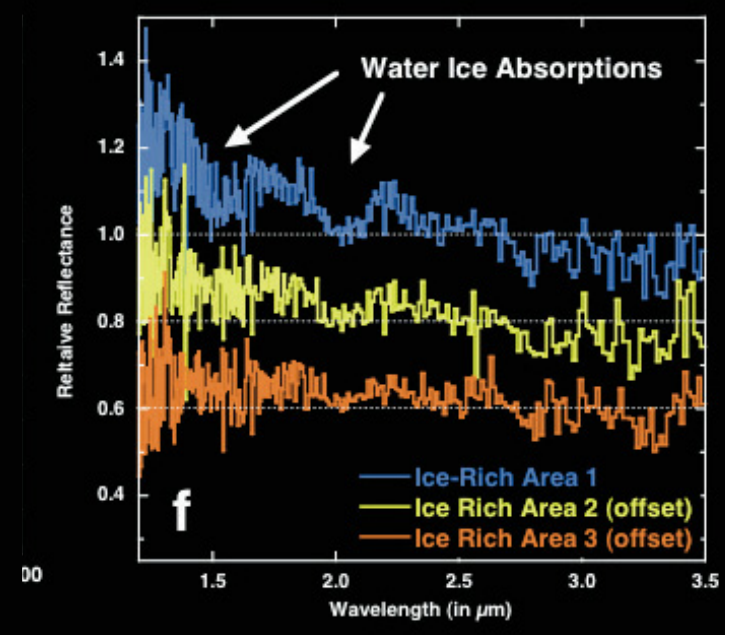
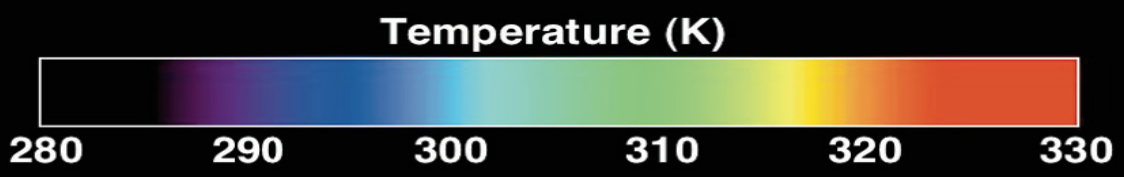
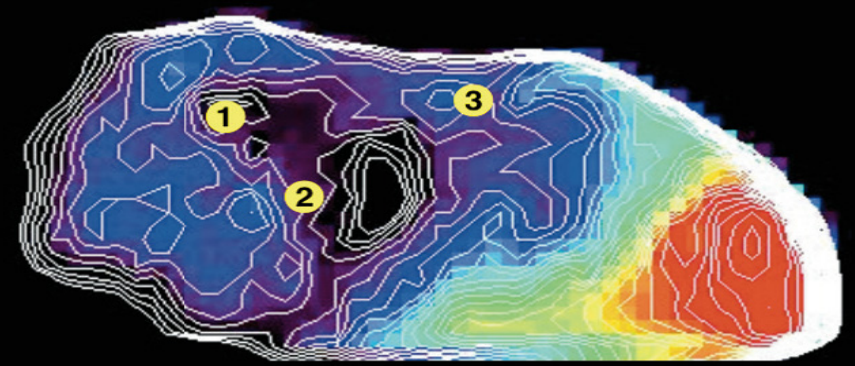
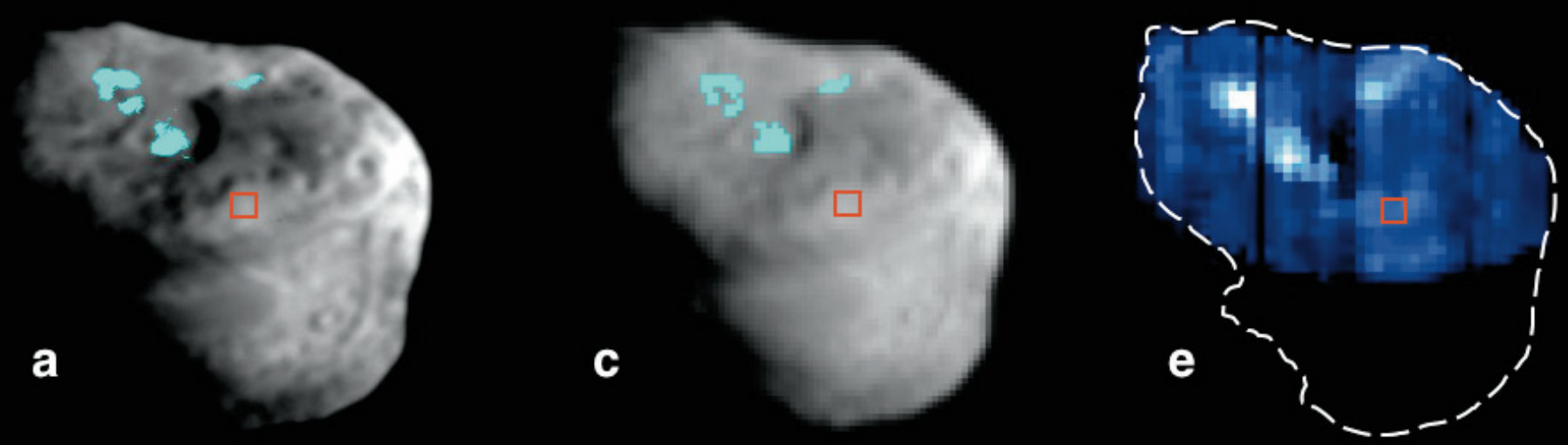
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**Deconvolved  
High Resolution  
Color Images**

1 km

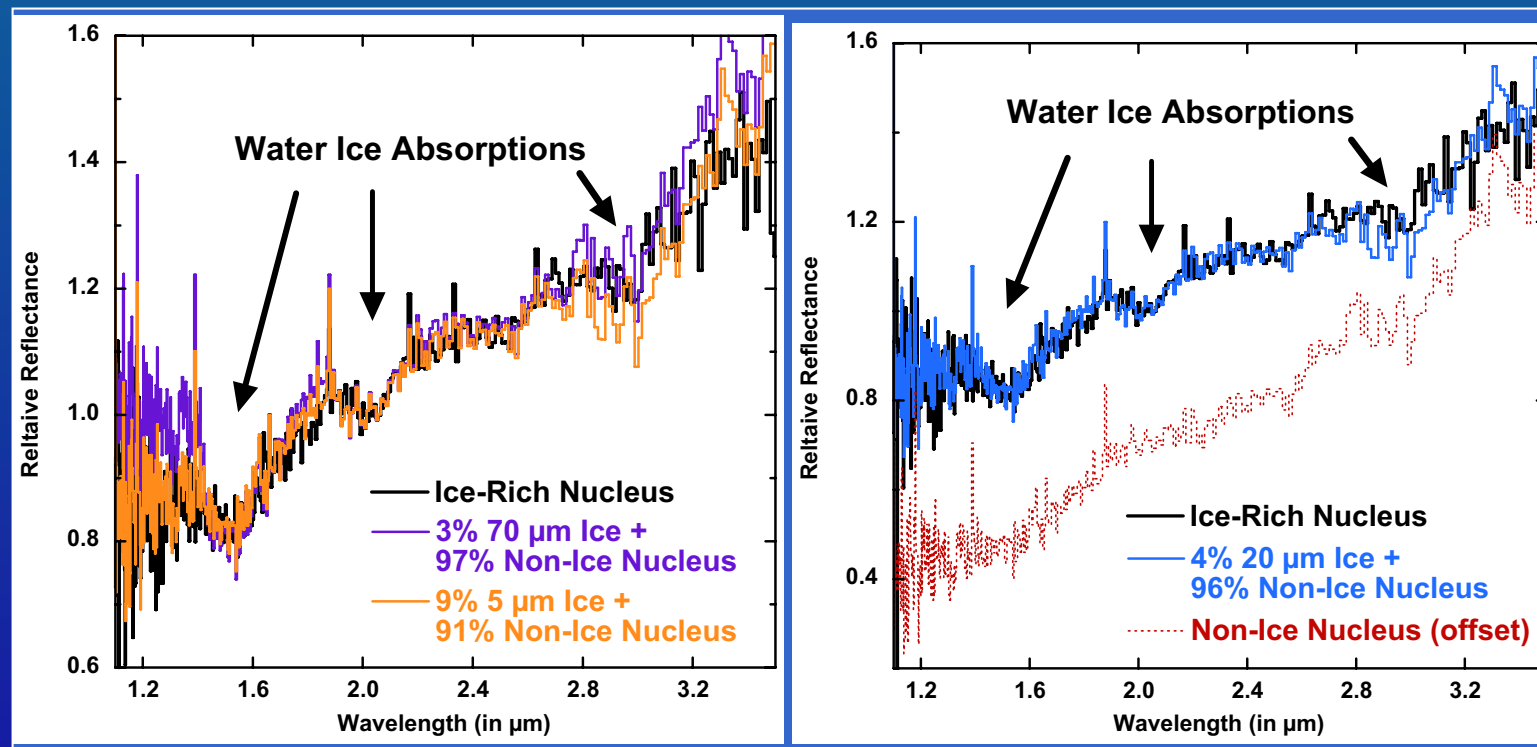
*Sunshine et al.  
2006, Science  
311, 1453*



Sunshine et al. (2006)

# Modeling Surface Water Ice

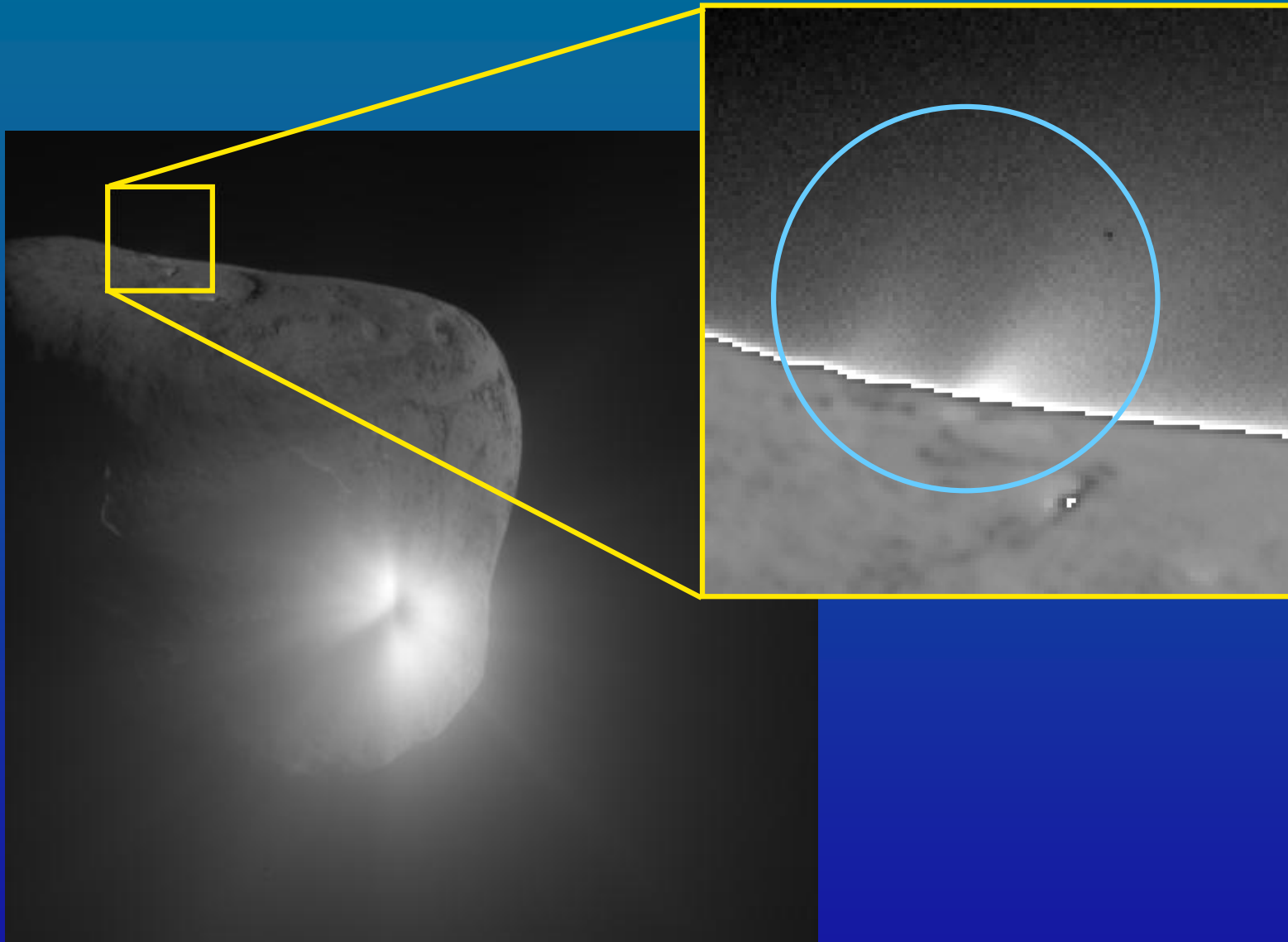
- Nominal (non-ice) nucleus + laboratory water ice
  - 3-6% water ice
  - $30 \pm 10 \mu\text{m}$  size particles
- Not enough surface to be significant in overall outgassing
- Frost from source of outbursts on shoulder?

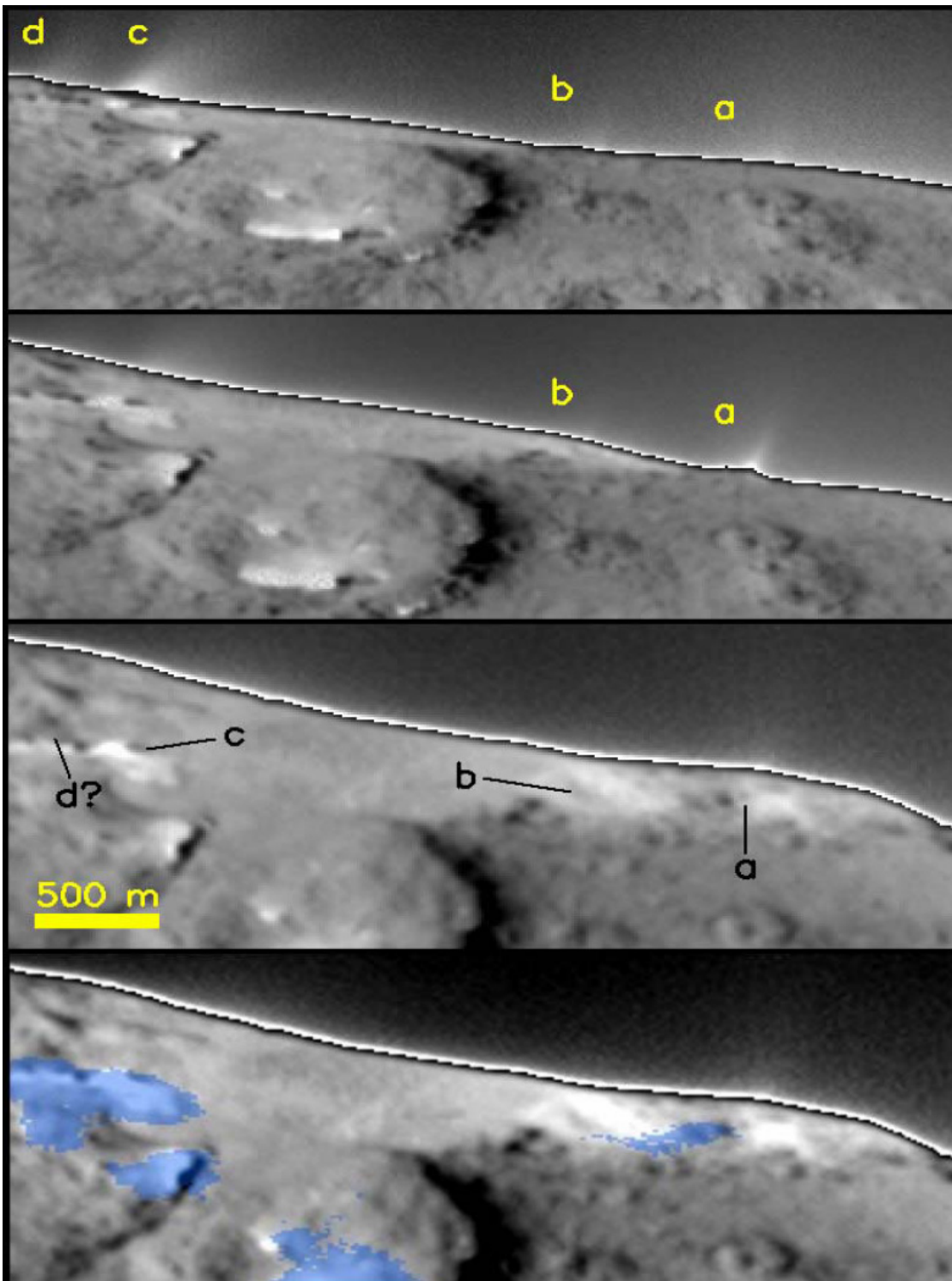




# Activity off Limb

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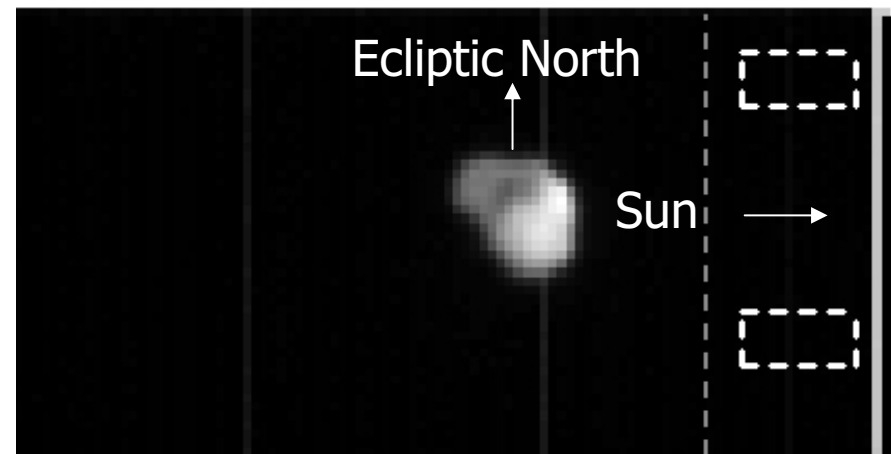
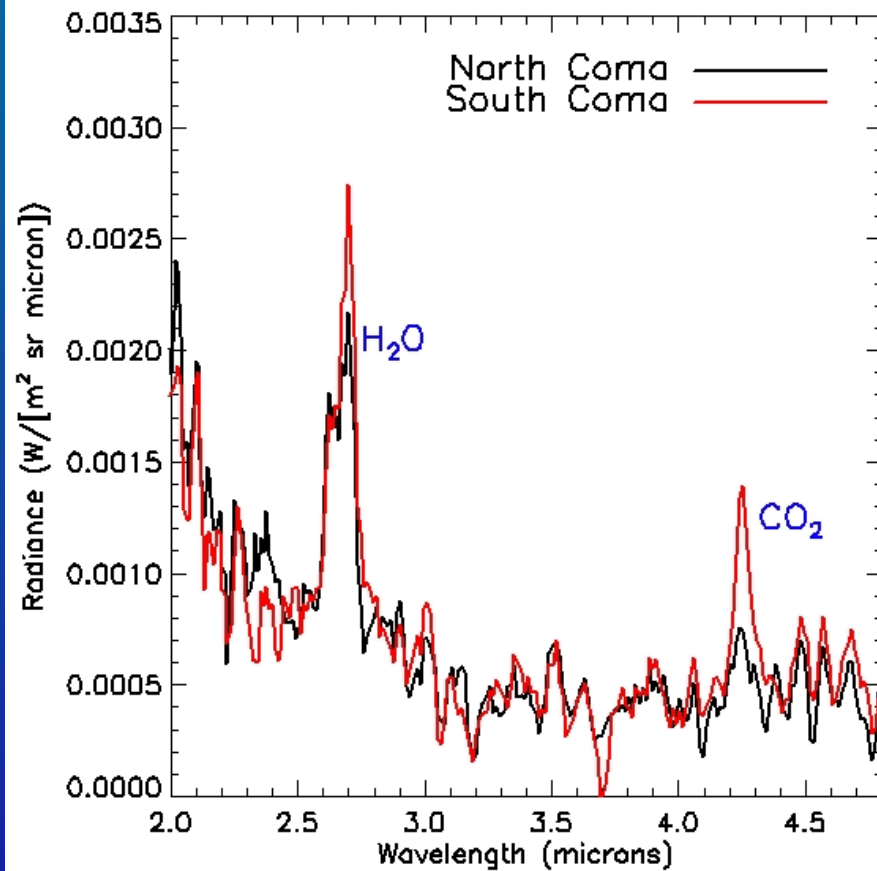




Sequence of Deep Impact images of the limb of the nucleus of comet Tempel 1, showing at least four small jets coming from the surface (“a”-“d”). As the horizon shifts with time (3 top panels), the jets pass through the plane of the sky where they are highlighted and can be traced back to their source region on the surface. Each of the jets appears to emanate from a dark possibly less active spot (letters a-d in the third panel) surrounded by brighter material. In the fourth panel, regions where water ice was detected are overlaid in blue.

Farnham et al. 2006

# Detection of Asymmetric Inner Coma

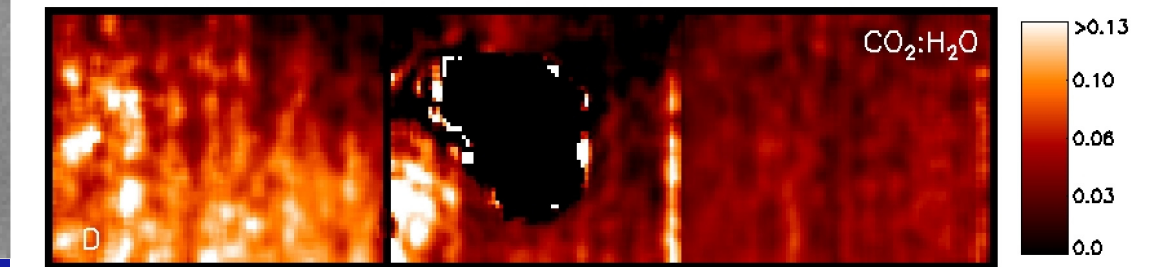
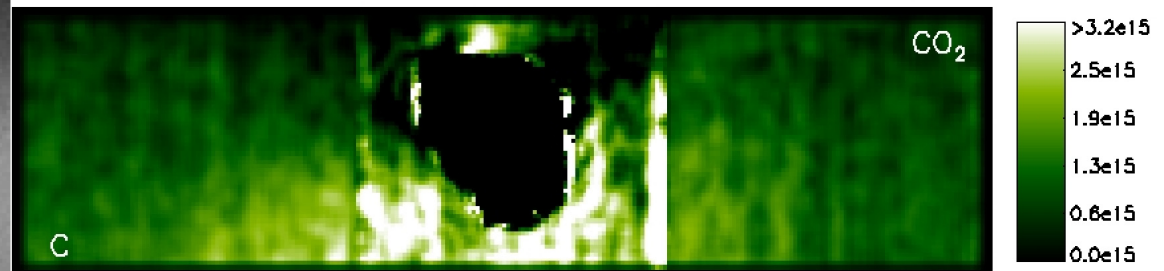
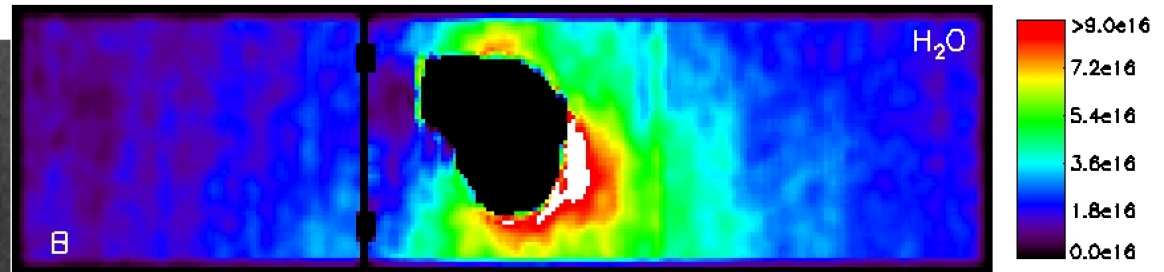
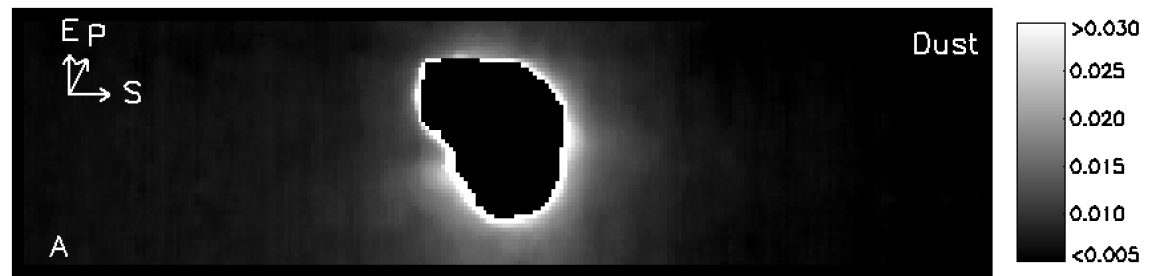
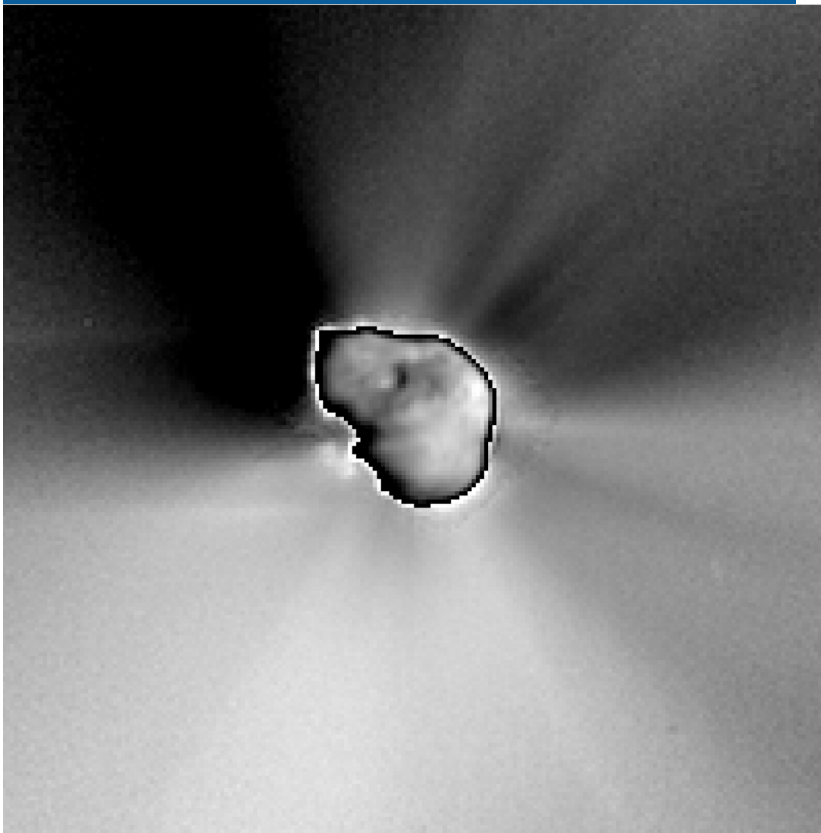


- 1 hour before impact
- ~440 m/pixel resolution
- Northern and southern regions examined
- **Spectra show comparable H<sub>2</sub>O but factor of 2 increase in CO<sub>2</sub> relative to H<sub>2</sub>O in the south**

# Spatial Distributions Vary by Species

P = positive  
rotational pole  
E = Ecliptic  
north  
S = Sunward

Dust is better correlated with CO<sub>2</sub> than  
with H<sub>2</sub>O, but not perfectly with either

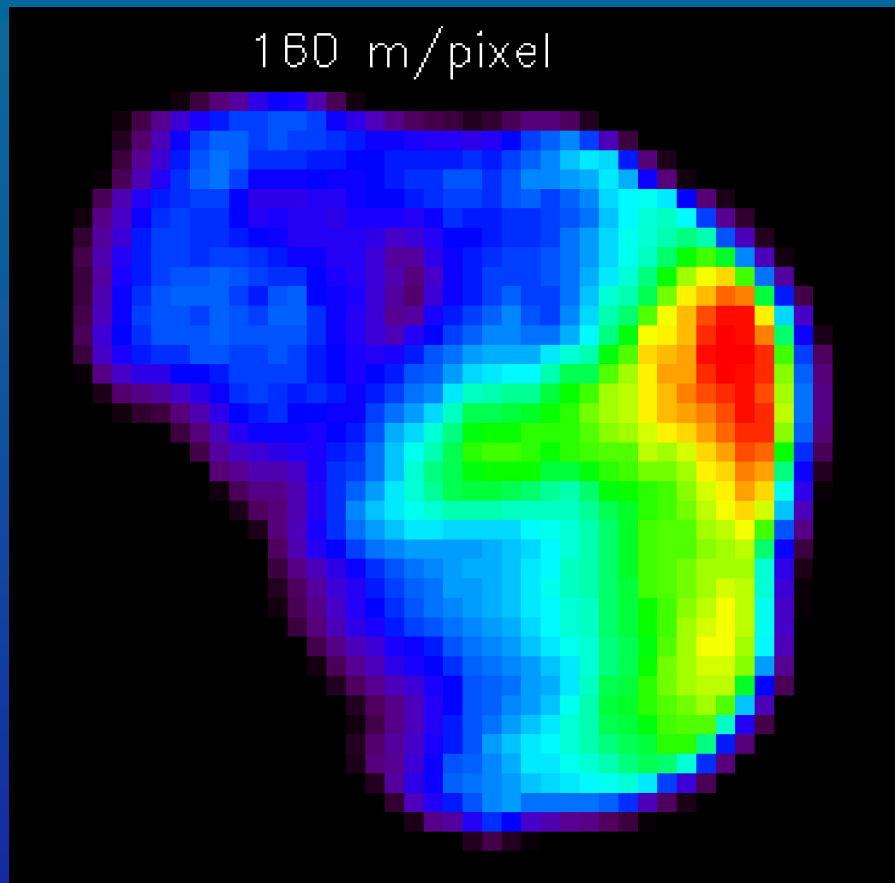


Farnham et al. 2006. *Icarus*, submitted

Feaga et al. 2006. *Icarus*, submitted

M. A'Hearn 116

# Thermal Map of Nucleus



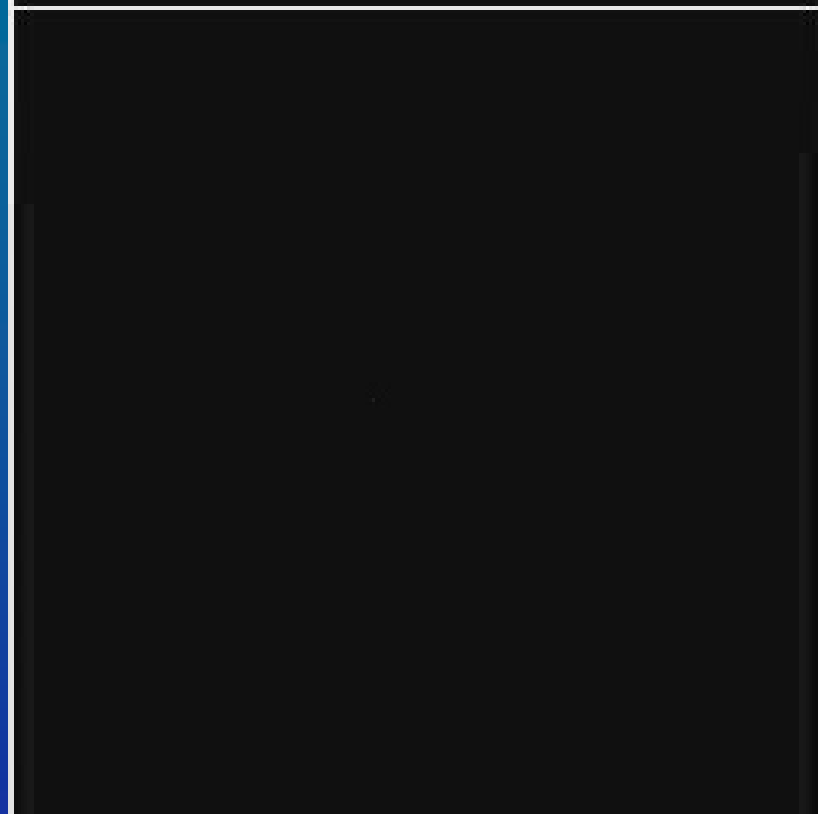
Groussin *et al.* 2006 *Icarus*, submitted

- First real thermal map of a nucleus
- Consistent with STM plus roughness to warm areas near terminator;  $I \sim < 20 \text{ W K}^{-1} \text{ m}^2 \text{ s}^{0.5}$
- No locations as cold as sublimation temperature of  $\text{H}_2\text{O}$  ice
- Therefore ice must be below the surface but “not far” below
- Diurnal skin depth 3 cm, annual skin depth 0.9m for plausible separation of components of I

# Impactor Approach

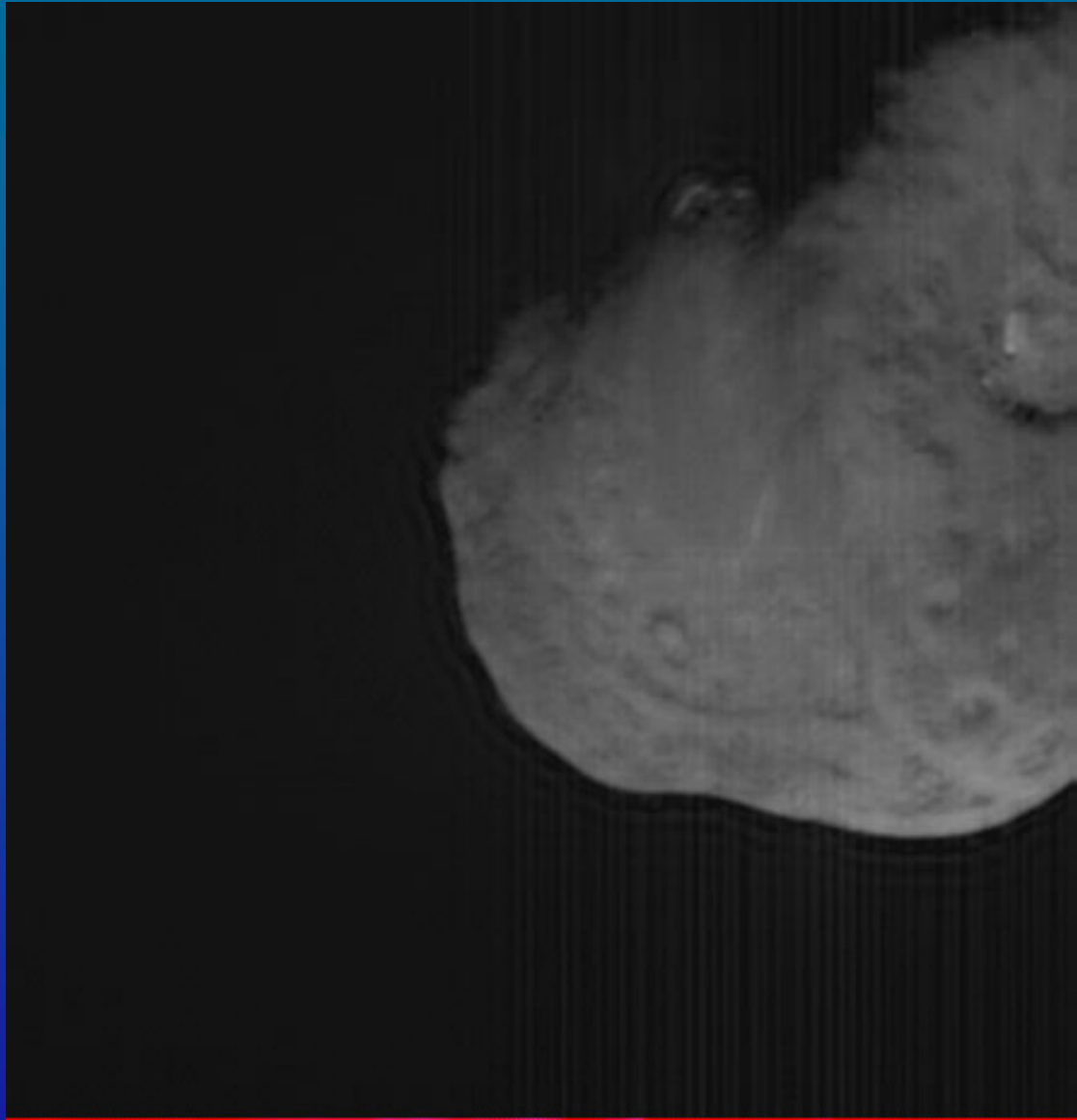
---

- Original movie (not registered) to show pointing jitter
- Note one big jitter early due to ITCM. Note big jitters in last 30 seconds due presumably to dust hits
- Orientation is “upside down” mirror image of “sky” to visualize landing on oblique surface ( $\sim 35^\circ$  from horizontal). Ecliptic north is roughly near the bottom



# HRI Movie

---

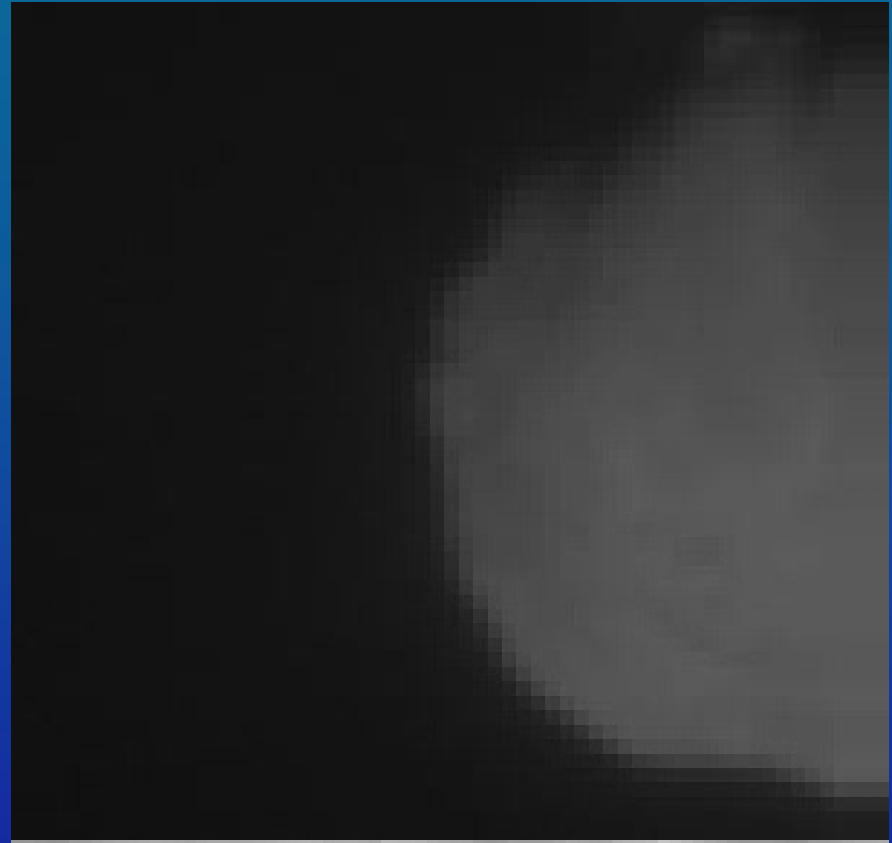


- Much slower frame speed than with MRI
- Longer period included in movie
- “Vertical bar” immediately after impact is bleeding of the saturated CCD, not real ejecta
- Note shadow cast by optically thick ejecta

# MRI Movie

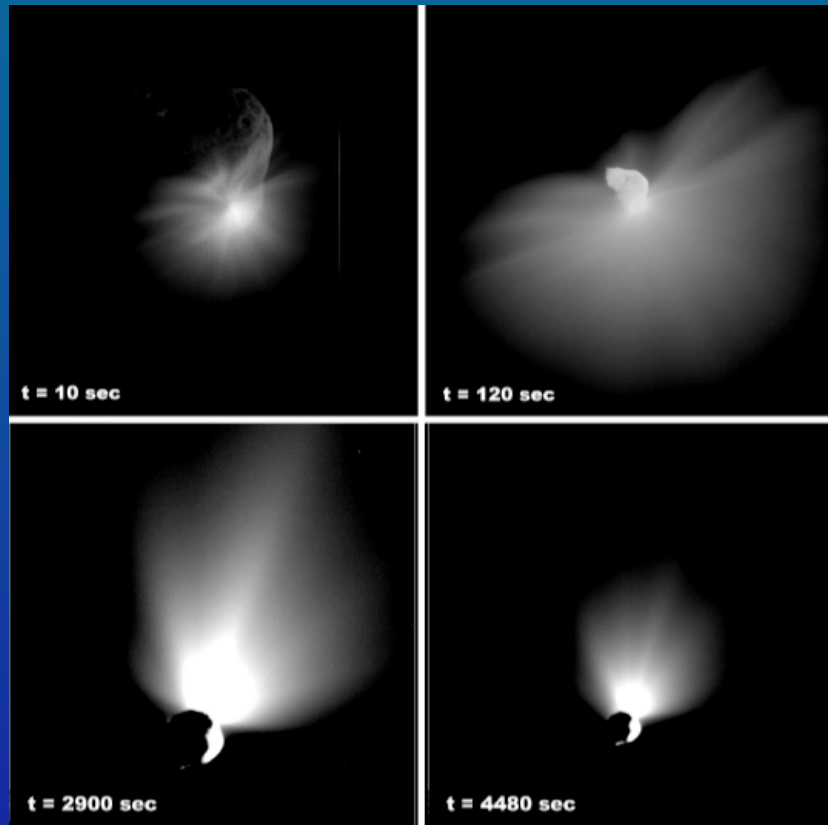
---

- Frames every 62 msec
- Initial stages of excavation only
- Small “poof” that goes rapidly to left at onset is hot, self-luminous plume of vapor + liquid or solid particles
- Later ejecta are cold
  - Water ice survives the ejection
  - Speeds start at few x 100 m/s and drop to below escape velocity as excavation continues





# Simulating Impact

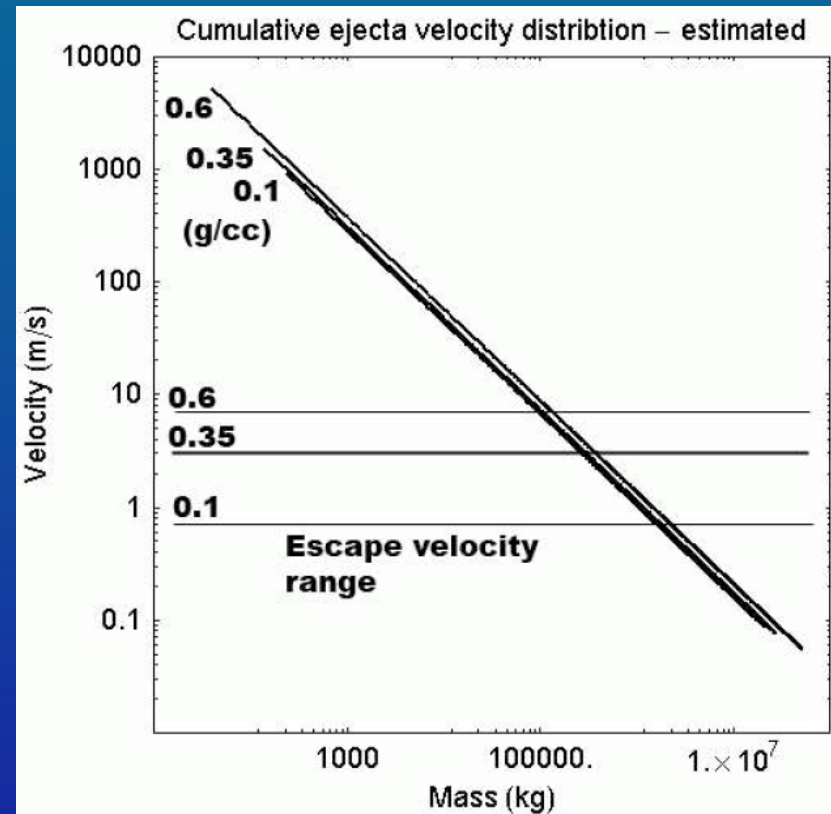


Richardson & Melosh 2007, *Icarus*, submitted

- Simulate ALL images with basic physics
- Ejecta curtain never seen to separate from surface/limb
  - Upper limit to strength  $200 \pm 100$  Pa
- Fallback on ballistic trajectories is occurring
  - Gravity  $30 \pm 20$  mgal
  - Mass  $4 \times 10^{16}$  g
  - Bulk density  $0.35 \pm 0.25$  g/cc
  - Very high porosity!
  - Errors  $\pm 2\text{-}\sigma$
- Displacement of late ejecta anti-sunward fit by radiation pressure
  - Particle size few  $\mu\text{m}$
  - Hold that thought!

# Simulation Results

- Simulation estimates total mass ejected, momentum transferred, etc.
- Characteristics similar to what was described by Benz
- Solution probably not unique



Richardson & Melosh 2007, *Icarus*, submitted

# Energy & Momentum

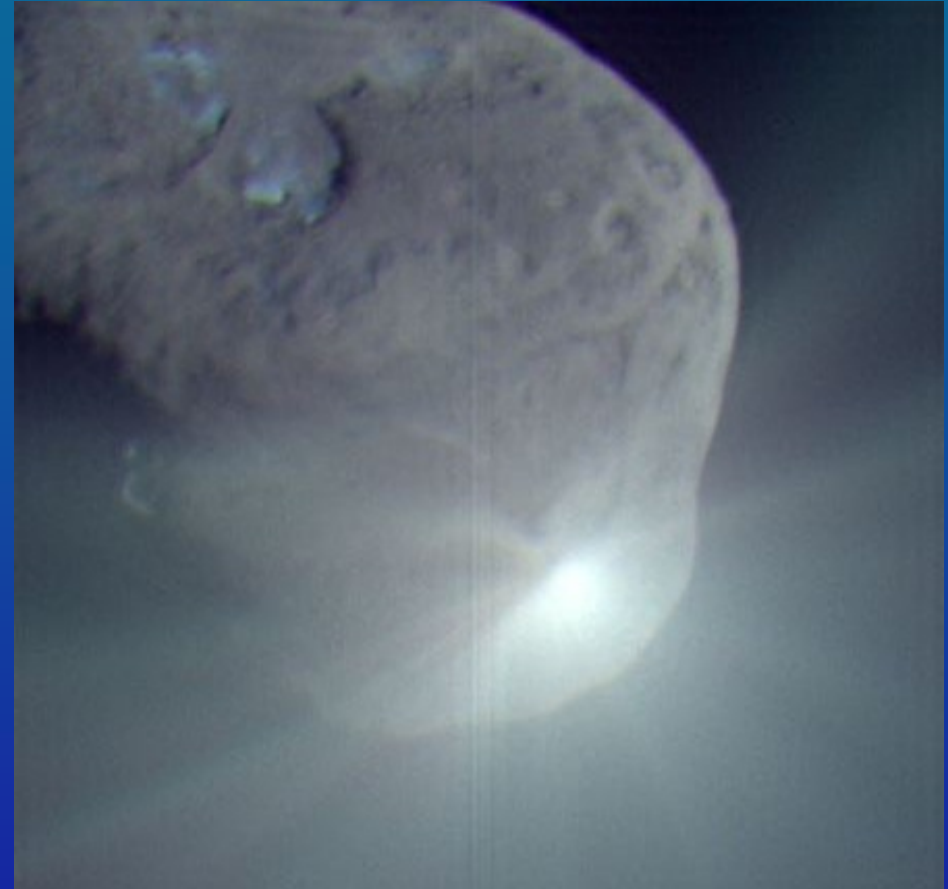
---

- Kinetic energy (K.E.) of impactor: 19 GJ
- Orbital Change
  - $< 1$  GJ from change in orbital energy
  - Momentum transfer efficiency perhaps 2x-3x (model dependent)
  - Depends on obliquity of impact (ejecta momentum not anti-parallel to impactor momentum)
- Hot Plume ( $\sim 10^0$  ton)
  - K.E. of plume has most of the impact energy
  - Sublimation and melting has 10% or less of impact energy
- Excavated material ( $\sim 10^4$  ton)
  - K.E.  $\ll 1\%$  of impact energy, but momentum exceeds input momentum
  - Sublimation of water MUST be due to sunlight evaporating excavated ice; total energy of sublimation  $\gg$  impact energy

# Deconvolved HRI Image

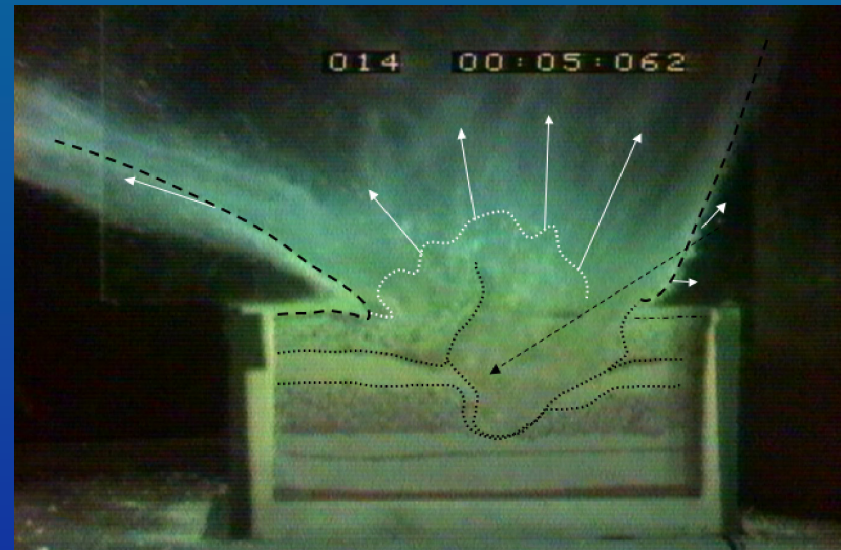
---

- IR + green + violet
- Forced to average gray
- Note very localized “bluish” areas
- Note curvature of ejecta in up-range direction
  - Consistent with lab experiments
  - Later (I+195s) detachment of these rays from crater suggests layering
  - Layering also suggested by hot plume in previous movie
  - Schultz *et al.*, in prep.
- Note smoothness of ejecta in radial direction
  - Primarily small particles
  - Rays from initial conditions



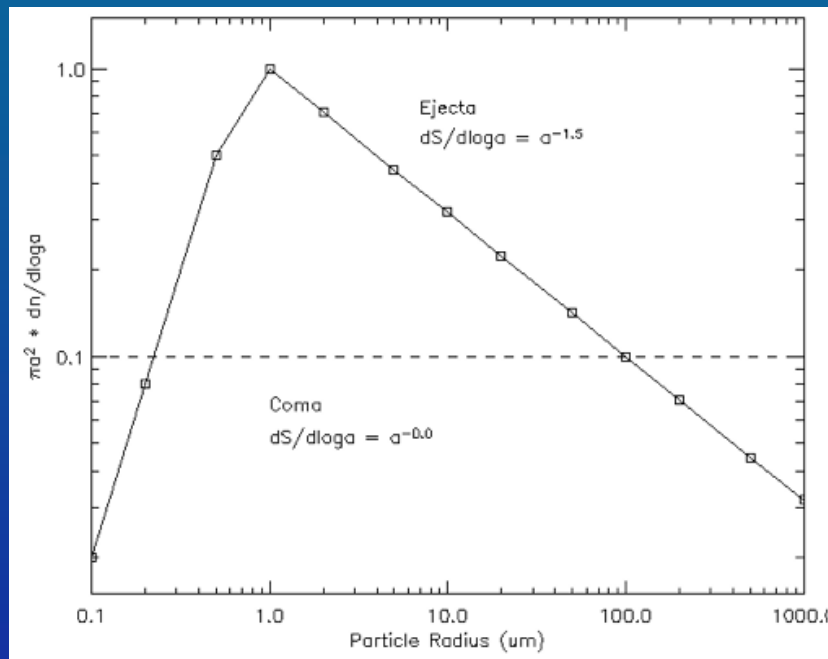
# Structure Summary

- **Fine-grained material**
  - No boulders
  - No hard crust
- **Grains are fragile aggregates**
  - fragment during excavation
  - Fragements  $\sim 1-3 \mu\text{m}$
- **Layers within 1 impactor diameter of surface at impact site**
  - Topmost layer (few cm?) devoid of ice
- **Layers are ubiquitous**
  - Varying thickness
  - Some may be primordial
  - Smooth layers not yet explained



Schultz *et al* 2007, *Icarus*, submitted

# Size Distribution at E+45m



*Lisse et al. 2006. Science, on-line*

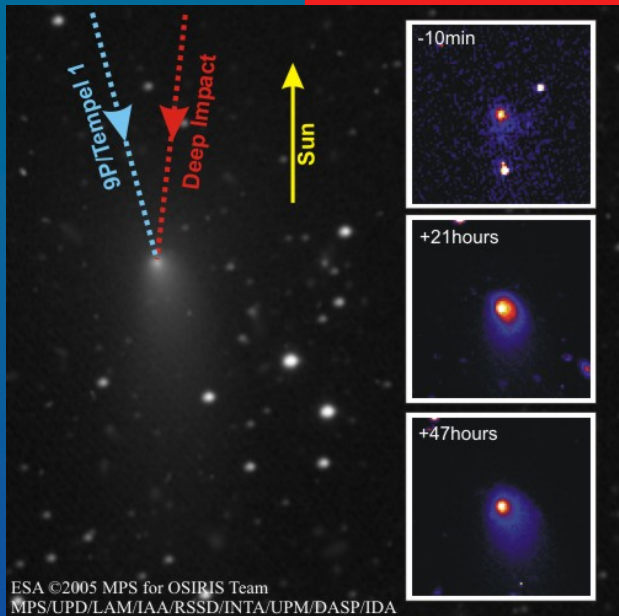
- Size distribution needed to successfully model SST spectra
- Distribution of surface area per unit mass - before (ambient release) and after (mechanically excavated grains) impact
- While largest particles still dominate total mass, they no longer dominate total cross-section
- Interpretation is that surface materials are all weak, large aggregates of smaller pieces with typical size of a few  $\mu\text{m}$

# Structure

---

- Pre-impact: normal dust release (approx. power law with mass dominated by largest particle)
- Post-impact: dominated by small (few  $\mu\text{m}$ ) particles
  - No discrete clumps in ejecta ( $>$  few m)
  - Schleicher *et al.* 2006 - radiation pressure over a week consistent with small particles
  - Richardson & Melosh 2007 - radiation pressure on ejecta curtain consistent with small particles
  - Spitzer observations require peak size  $\sim 1 \mu\text{m}$
  - Much of ejecta was ice in small ( $\sim 2 \mu\text{m}$ ) grains
- Layering (strength variation) within 1 impactor diameter of surface

# Monitoring OH

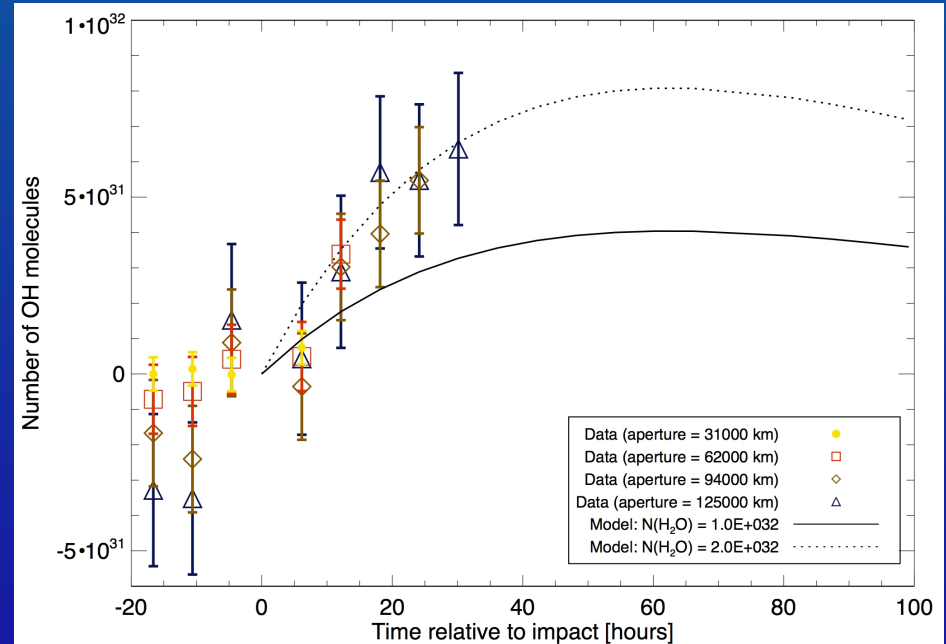
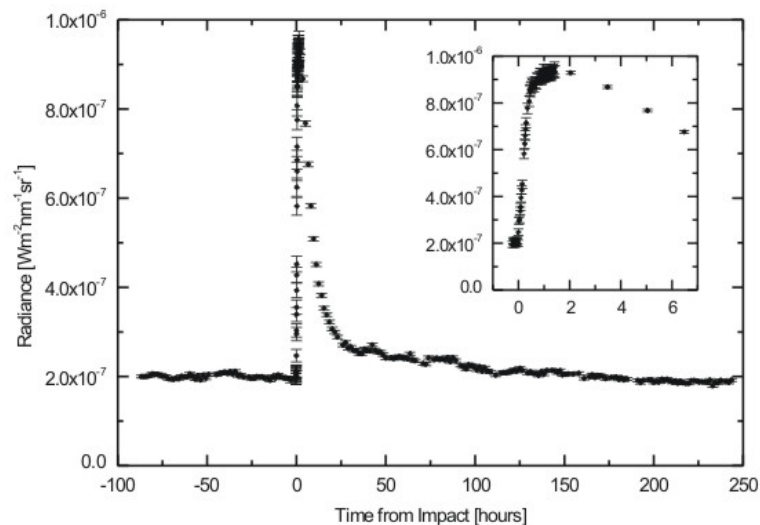


Küppers et al., 2005 Nature **437**, 987  
Observations with OSIRIS on Rosetta

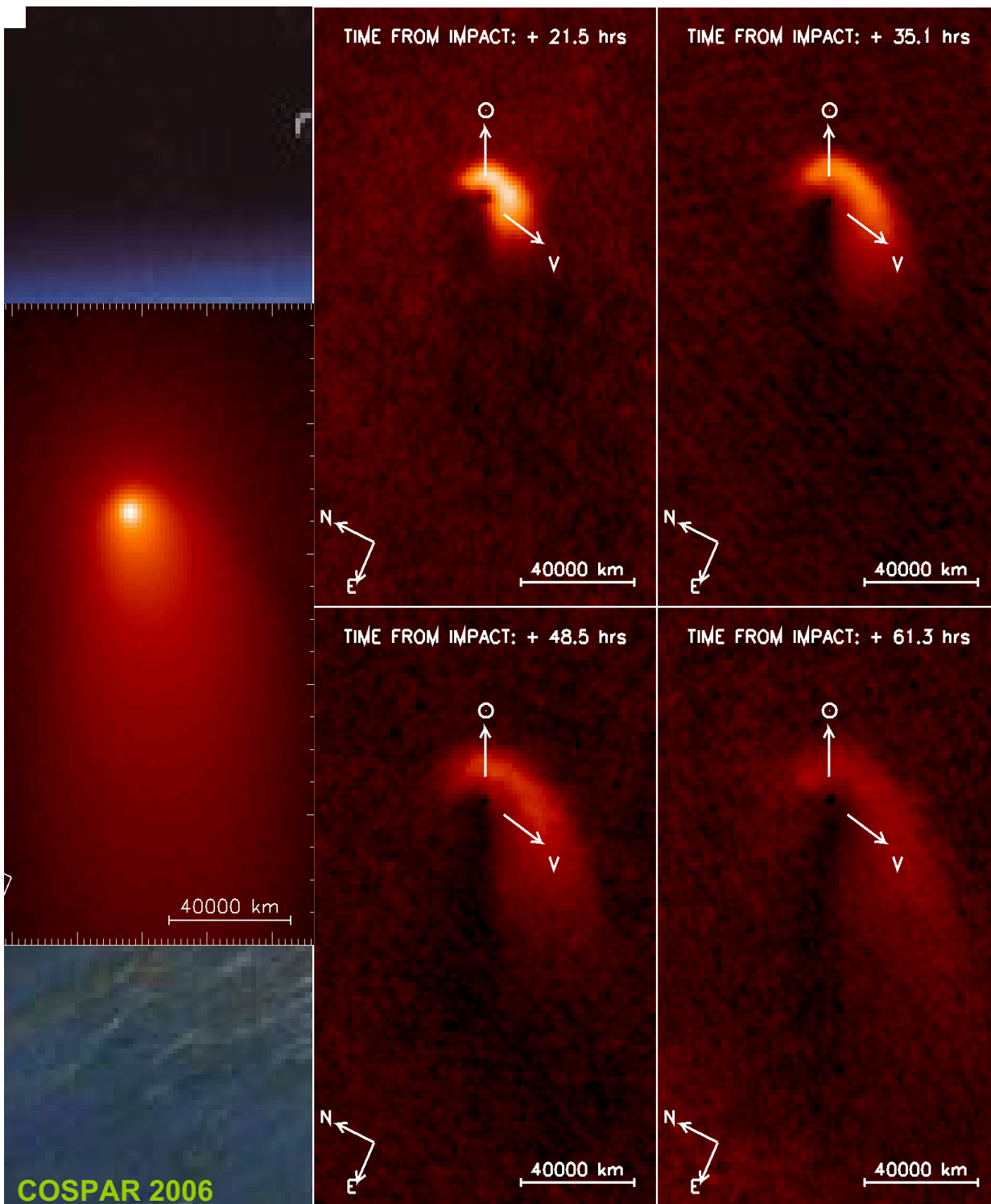
Enables determination of total water released in impact  $\sim 4000$  tons original estimate, revised upward (4500 - 9000 tons) with better calibration

Many observers (incl. ODIN, ground-based OH) find 4 to  $10 \times 10^3$  tons of water

Other species (CO best determined) of order 5-10% of water







COSPAR 2006

act



## Dust from impact

Post impact images minus pre impact image

OSIRIS images contain information about particle velocity and size distribution

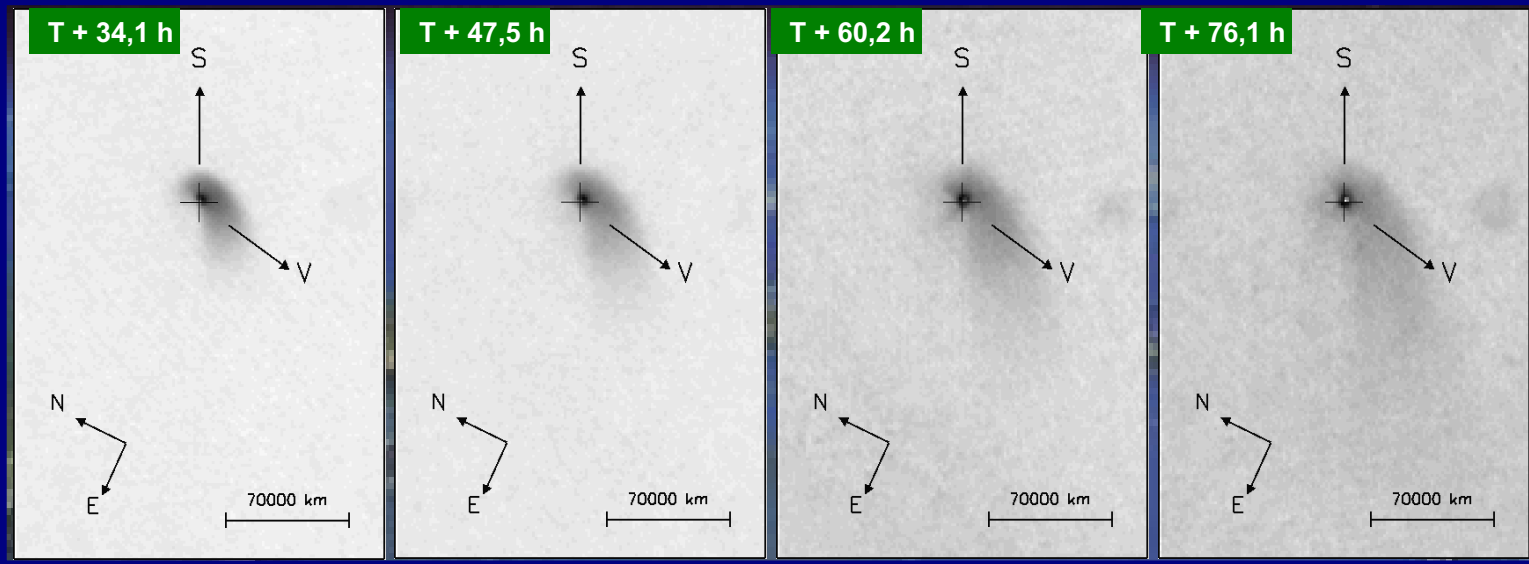
L. Jorda et al.

# DUST MODELING

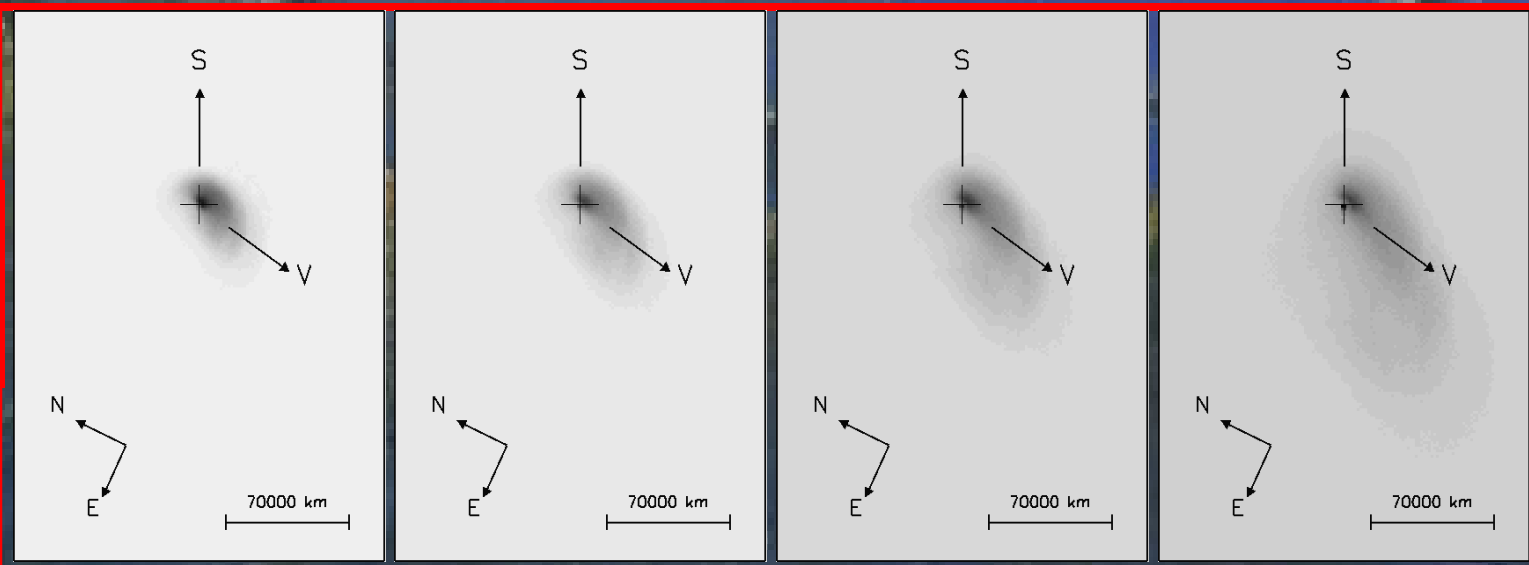
## COMPARISON MODEL – OBSERVATIONS



OBSERVATIONS

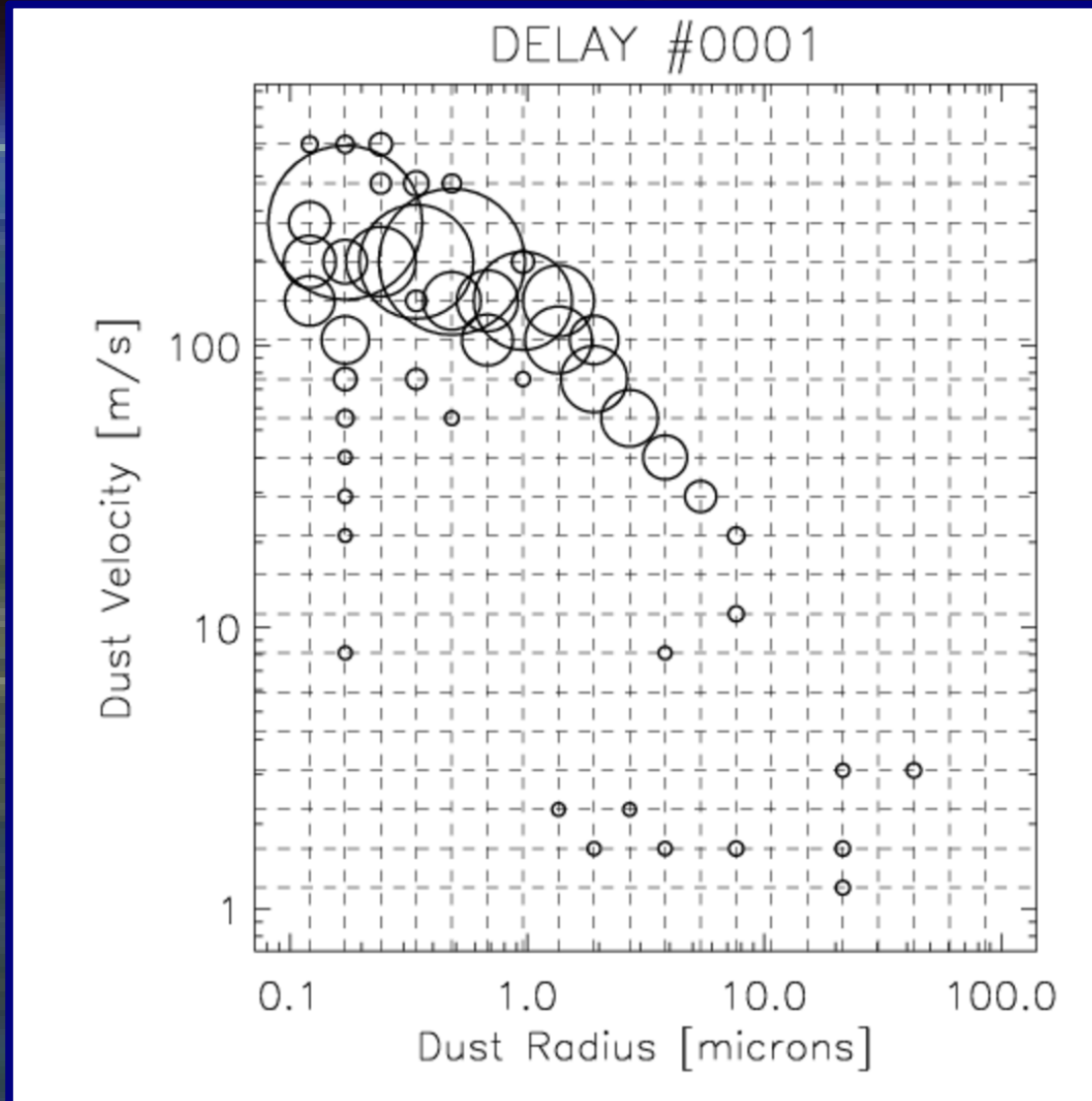
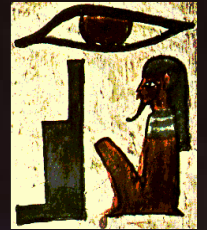


MODEL



# DUST MODELING

## DUST CROSS SECTION



### RESULTS:

- 90 % of cross section for grains  $< 10 \mu\text{m}$  radius
- 80 % of cross section for grains  $< 1.4 \mu\text{m}$  radius

→ cross section dominated by *sub-micron grains*

# Deep Impact

- Crater formation in gravitational regime => tensile strength of cometary nucleus small
- Most dust in small particles
- Volatile components observed similar to other comets => not more volatiles than from surface
- Dust to gas (ice) ratio  $> 1$

# Tempel 1 Conclusions

- **Second “cratered” nucleus**
  - Nature of craters?
    - 2 distinct populations
- **Layers – primordial**
  - Different from previous comets?
- **Smooth and hammocky terrains**
  - Smooth: avalanche-like, activity, formed recently
  - Erosion rates of terrains have varied, slope retreats
- **Spots of activity with water ice near surface**
- **Very low thermal inertia => thin porous dust cover**
- **Localized and focused activity (jets) but no corresponding landforms identified**



# Deep Impact eXtended Investigation of Comets

Michael F. A'Hearn  
*Principal Investigator*

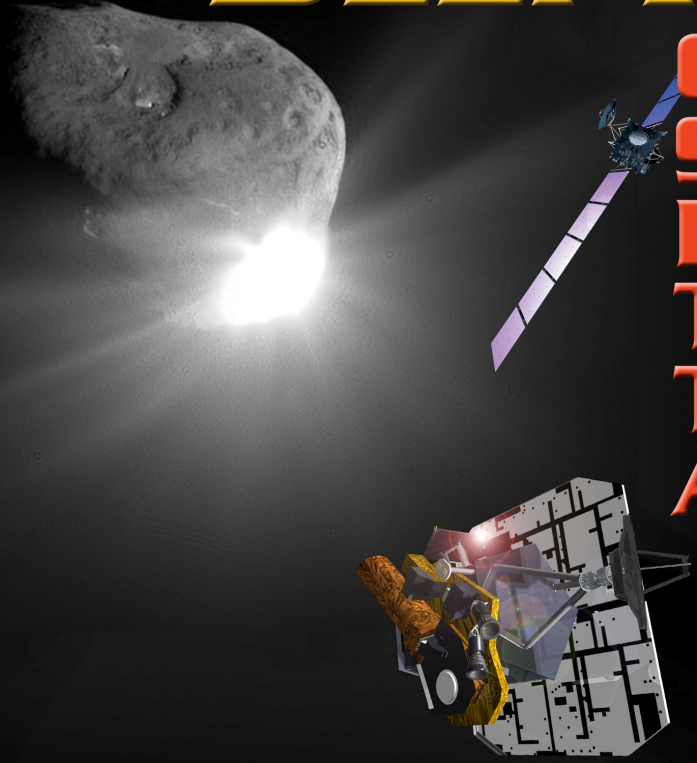
Extending the Renaissance in  
our understanding of comets

March 30, 2006





# DEEPR

# OSSETTA

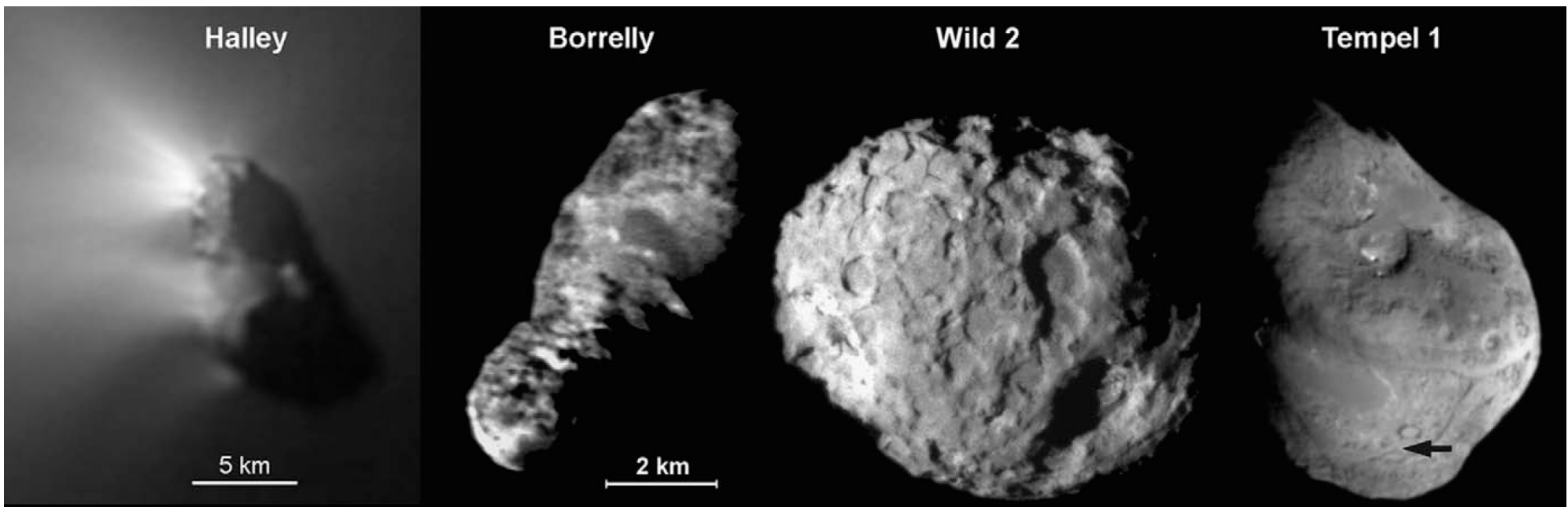


*Making A Greater Impact On Cometary Science*



# Comets - Asteroids

- **The irregular shape and size of the nuclei are similar to what can be found for asteroids**
- **Transition: asteroidal comets (MBC) – cometary asteroids (extinct comets)**
- **However, impact craters?**
- **Surface features on cometary nuclei are driven by activity resulting in possibly complex features**
- **For JF comets sublimation driven erosion is fast, even by terrestrial standards (several meters per orbit)**
- **Mass loss and decay are dominated by shedding of substantial pieces and by splitting**
- **Comet Halley: more mass in meteoroides than in its present day nucleus**
- **Consequently, imaging an evolved nucleus provides a look into its 'interior' structure**



<p><b>Very active Oort cloud comet, but activity still localized</b>  <b>Very ablated, most of the nucleus mass in meteor stream</b>  <b>Accentuated topography</b>  <b>Depressions, range of hills, high outcrop</b></p>	<p><b>Evolved (ablated) JF comet</b>  <b>No craters anymore visible</b>  <b>Localized activity</b>  <b>Smooth and mottled terrains, mesas</b>  <b>Long ridges, large terrain unities</b></p>	<p><b>Strongly cratered surface (saturated)</b>  <b>Young JF comet</b>  <b>From early history</b>  <b>Craters eroded</b>  <b>Material lost in the order of 100 m</b>  <b>Suggests only short time of sublimation activity</b></p>	<p><b>Eroded surface but craters (still?) visible</b>  <b>Indication of thick layers</b>  <b>Smooth (avalanche) layers</b>  <b>Low thermal inertia</b>  <b>Active spots covered only by thin dust layer</b></p>
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<b>Most evolved</b>	<b>Strongly evolved</b>	<b>Least evolved</b>	<b>Evolved</b>
---------------------	-------------------------	----------------------	----------------

**Large scale landforms not in agreement with rubble pile assumption**



Is this an end member example?  
Do comets look like this when they  
enter the inner solar system for the  
first time?



**Hyperion**

# Summary

- The physical process of activity is one of the key questions of cometary physics

- Flybys have little contributed to answers

However:

- Flybys have changed the paradigm from the “icy conglomerate” (ice dominated) nucleus to a widely inactive highly porous body whose physical strength is controlled by dust (refractory material)

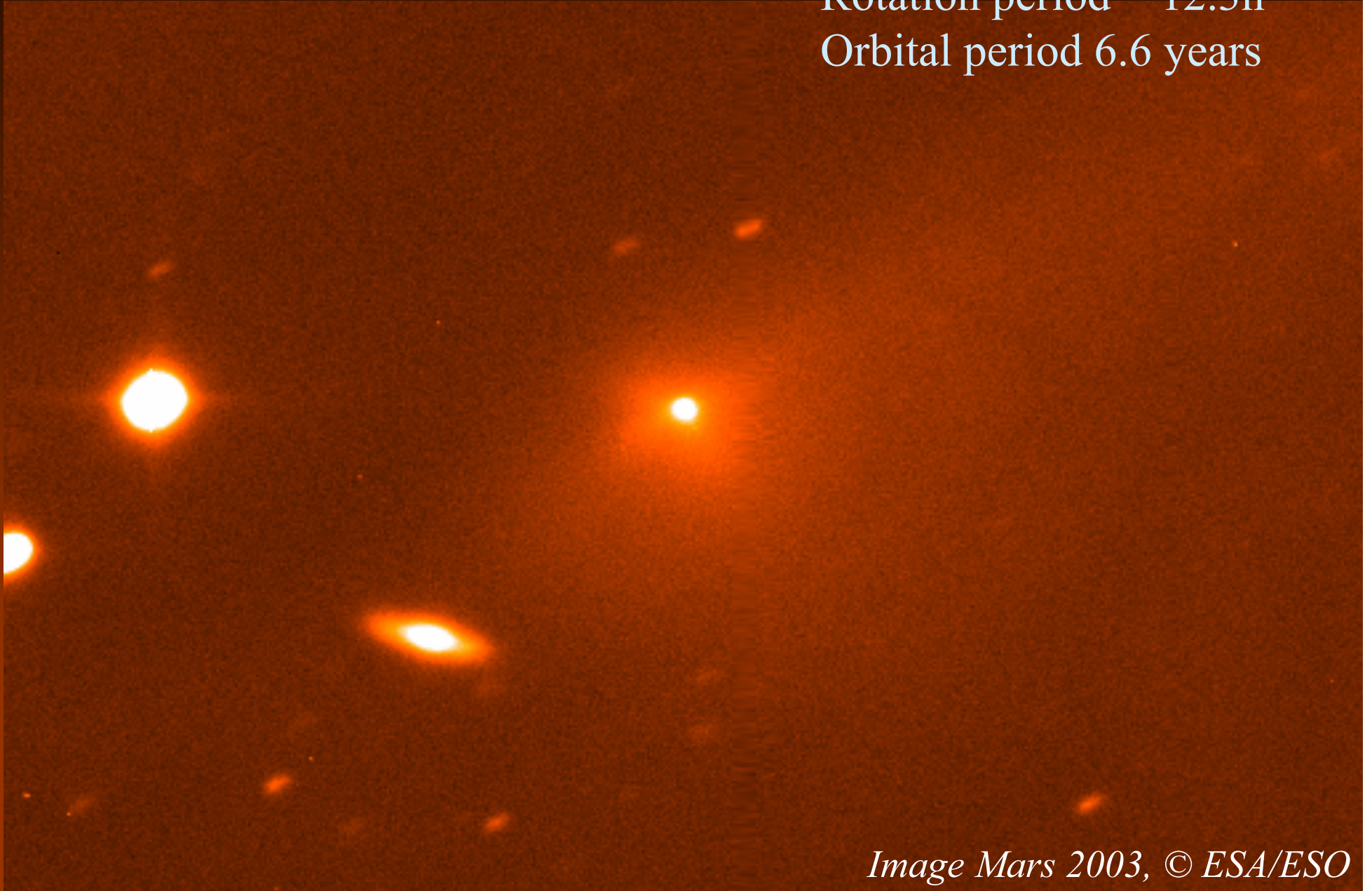
**ROSETTA**

**67P/Churyumov-Gerasimenko**

# Orbit of 67P/Churyumov-Gerasimenko

Perihelion	r <sub>h</sub> [UA]	Δ [UA]	m <sub>1</sub>	Elong	Perigee	r <sub>h</sub> [UA]	Δ [UA]	m <sub>1</sub>	Elong
08-12-1582	<b>1.713</b>								
28-04-1721	<b>1.832</b>								
05-10-1855	<b>2.802</b>								
20-03-1956	<b>2.739</b>	<b>3.033</b>		<b>63°</b>					
24-02-1963	<b>1.265</b>	<b>1.650</b>		<b>51°</b>					
11-09-1969	<b>1.285</b>	<b>1.390</b>	<b>12.5</b>	<b>63°</b>	25-01-1970	<b>2.000</b>	<b>1.155</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>139°</b>
07-04-1976	<b>1.298</b>	<b>2.132</b>	<i>13.5</i>	<b>25°</b>	27-08-1975	<b>2.640</b>	<b>1.730</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>148°</b>
12-11-1982	<b>1.306</b>	<b>0.405</b>	<b>10.0</b>	<b>135°</b>	27-11-1982	<b>1.318</b>	<b>0.391</b>	<b>9.5</b>	<b>142°</b>
18-06-1989	<b>1.299</b>	<b>2.260</b>	<i>13.5</i>	<b>14°</b>	26-02-1990	<b>2.835</b>	<b>1.934</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>152°</b>
17-01-1996	<b>1.300</b>	<b>1.085</b>	<b>11.0</b>	<b>78°</b>	07-10-1995	<b>1.748</b>	<b>0.904</b>	<b>13.0</b>	<b>131°</b>
18-08-2002	<b>1.292</b>	<b>1.739</b>	<b>12.8</b>	<b>47°</b>	08-02-2003	<b>2.270</b>	<b>1.399</b>	<b>14.5</b>	<b>145°</b>
01-03-2009	<b>1.246</b>	<b>1.685</b>	<i>12.5</i>	<b>47°</b>	07-09-2008	<b>2.270</b>	<b>1.394</b>	<i>16</i>	<b>142°</b>
13-08-2015	<b>1.243</b>	<b>1.771</b>	<i>12.6</i>	<b>43°</b>	14-02-2016	<b>2.360</b>	<b>1.485</b>	<i>15</i>	<b>145°</b>
02-11-2021	<b>1.211</b>	<b>0.421</b>	<b>9.5</b>	<b>111°</b>	12-11-2021	<b>1.217</b>	<b>0.418</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>113°</b>

**67P/Churyumov-Gerasimenko: Nucleus:** Dimensions: 4.8x3.6 km  
Surface active ~5%  
Rotation period = 12.3h  
Orbital period 6.6 years



*Image Mars 2003, © ESA/ESO*

# Rosetta

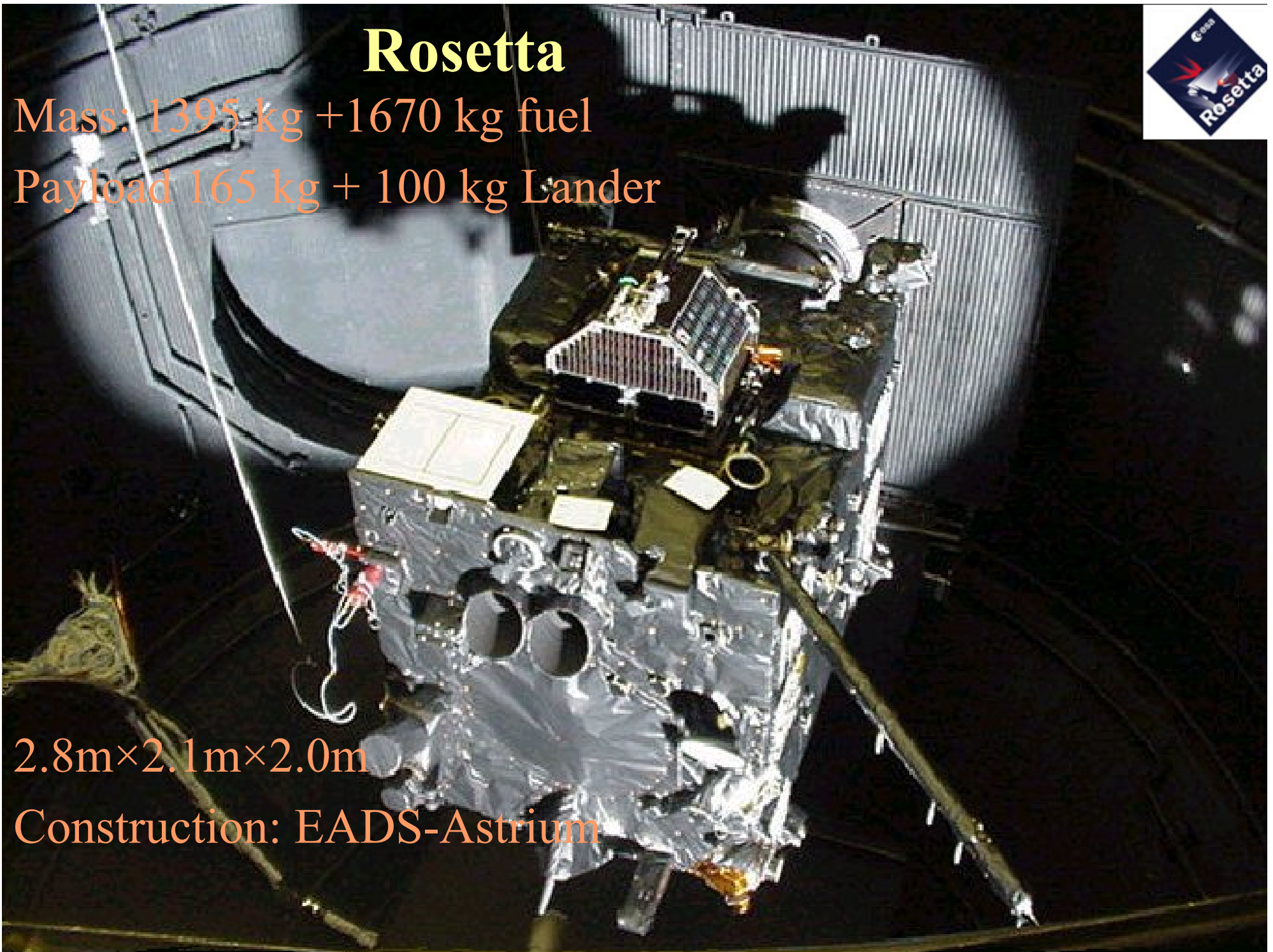
Mass: 1395 kg + 1670 kg fuel

Payload 165 kg + 100 kg Lander



2.8m×2.1m×2.0m

Construction: EADS-Astrium



## Remote sensing instruments

**ALICE:** Ultraviolet Spectrometer (70 nm – 205 nm) *PI: A. Stern (USA)*

**OSIRIS:** Camera Visible (CCD 2k×2k 14bit 250 – 1000 nm):

Large FOV: WAC 140mm:12°

Narrow FOV: NAC 700mm: 2.4° *PI: H.U Keller (Germany)*

**VIRTIS:** Visible – Infrared spectrometers (0.25 – 5 mm)

Virtis-H spectrometer  $\lambda/\Delta\lambda=1300$ ,

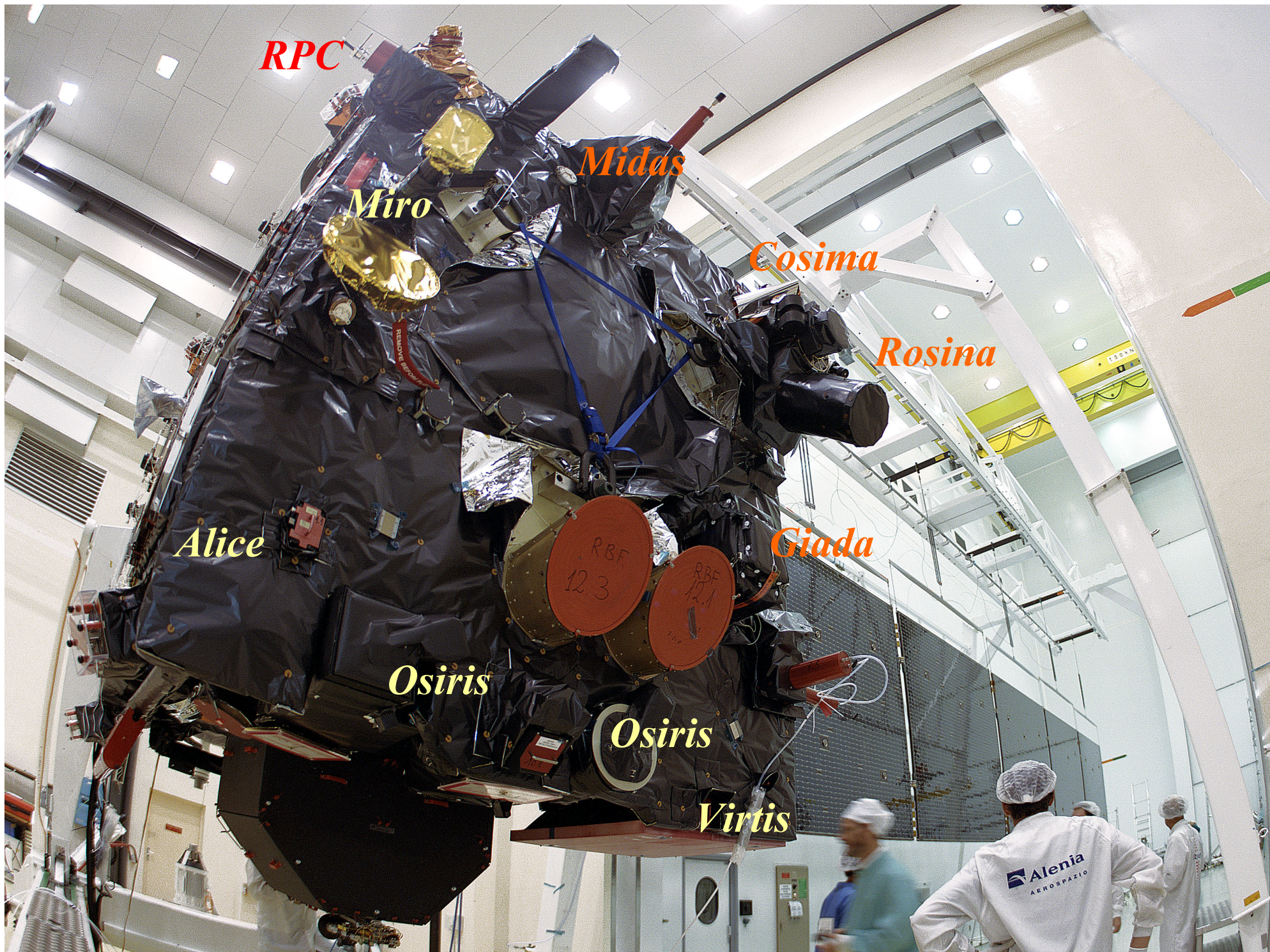
Virtis-M: spectro-imager 3.6°/  $\lambda/\Delta\lambda=200$  *PI: A. Coradini (Italy)*

**MIRO:** Microwave spectrometer (1.3 mm et 0.5 mm) *PI: S. Gulkis (USA)*

### Indirect measurements:

**RSI: Radio science**

*PI: M. Pätzold (Allemagne)*



*RPC*

*Midas*

*Miro*

*Cosima*

*Rosina*

*Alice*

*Giada*

*Osiris*

*Osiris*

*Virtis*

**Alenia**  
AEROSPAZIO



# Instruments to measure the nucleus environment

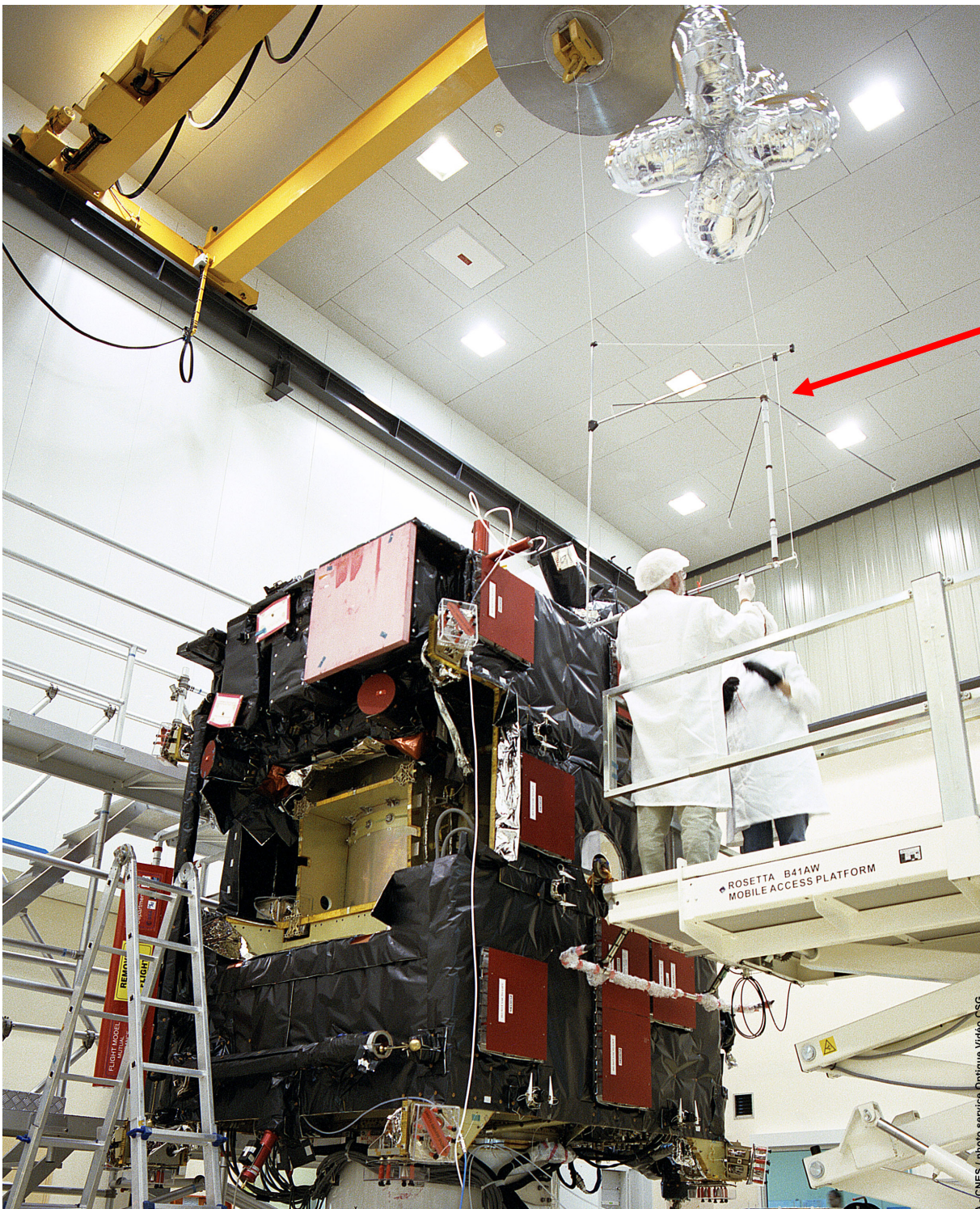
**COSIMA:** Dust mass spectrometer. *PI: J. Kissel (Germany)*

**MIDAS:** Dust microscopic analyser. *PI: W. Riedler (Austria)*

**GIADA:** Dust mass analyser: numbers, mass, speed, direction.  
*PI: L. Colangeli (Italy)*

**ROSINA:** Gas mass spectrometer (12 - 200 amu). *PI: H. Balsiger (Swiss)*

**RPC:** Plasma and magnetic field analyser (consortium)  
*PI: A. Eriksson (Sweden), J. Burch (USA), K.H. Glassmeier (Germany), R. Lundin (Sweden), J.G. Trotignon (France)*



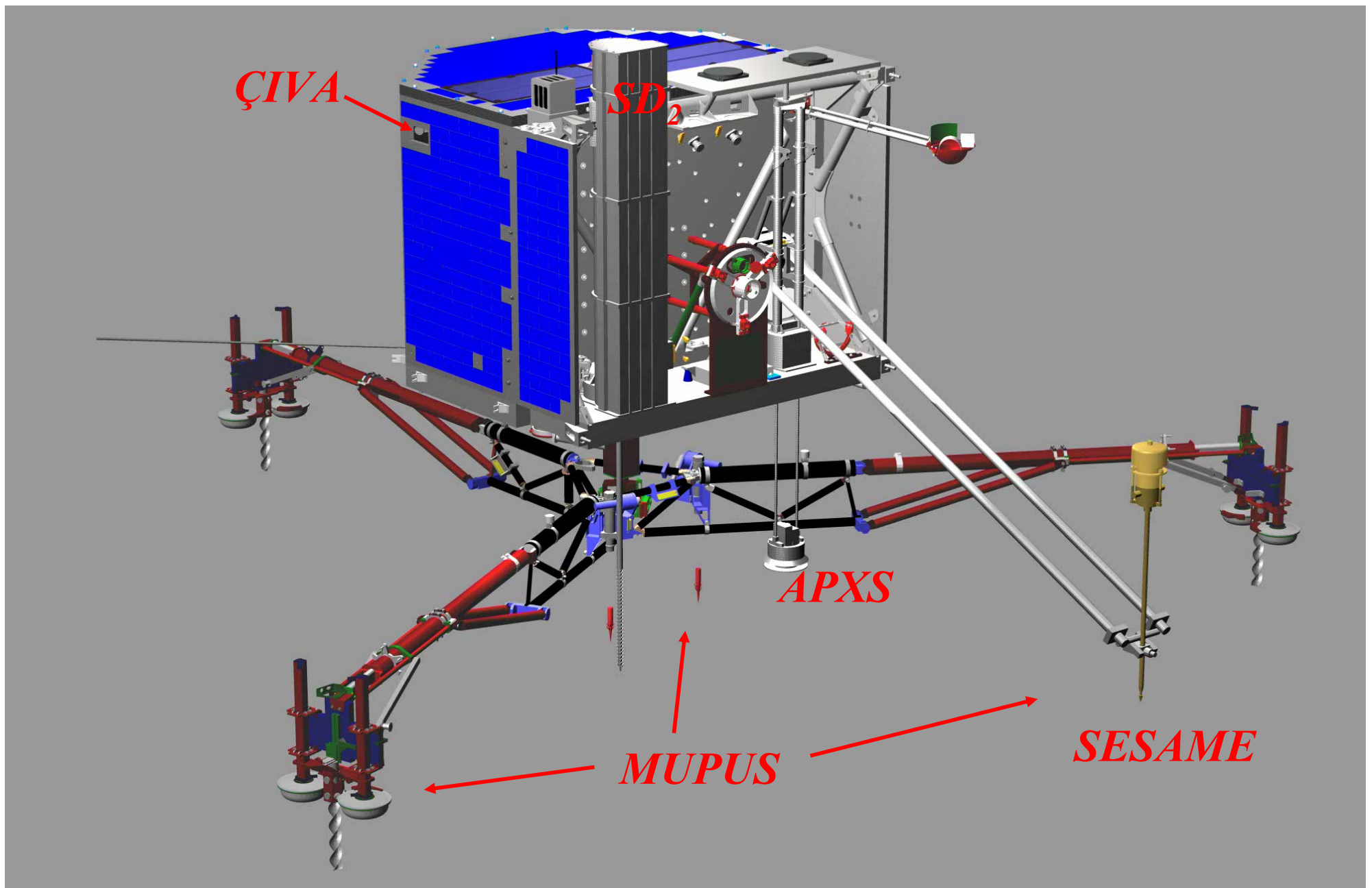
# CONSERT

**Antenna deployment test at ESTEC**

Experiment combining antennas on the orbiter and lander to measure the nucleus interior by radio sounding at 90 MHz

*PI: W. Kofman (France)*

# The Lander of Rosetta: Philae



# Lander Philae : expériences

**APXS:** Alpha-proton-Xray spectrometer *PI: R. Riedler (Germany)*

**COSAC:** Gas analyser: elemental and molecular composition  
*PI: H. Rosenbauer (Germany)*

**MODULUS:** gas analyser (isotopic composition) *PI: I. Wright (GB)*

**SD2:** Drill (down to 20cm) and sampling *PI: A.Ercoli Finzi(Italy)*

**CIVA/ROLIS:** 6 micro panoramic cameras 70° + microscope (res. 7µm)  
and a high resolution stereo camera.

*PI: J.-P. Bibring (France), S. Mottola (Germany)*

**SESAME:** 3 instruments to measure the properties of the nucleus  
surface: electric and acoustic sounding

*PI: D. Möhlmann (Germany) H. Laasko (Finland), I. Apathy (Hungary)*

**MUPUS:** Mesuring the mechanical and thermal properties of the nucleus  
(part of the anchoring system) *PI: T. Spohn (Germany)*

**ROMAP:** Magnetometer and plasma measurements (interaction with the  
solar wind) *PI: U. Auster (Germany), I. Apathy (Hungary)*

**PHILAE**

**mounted on**

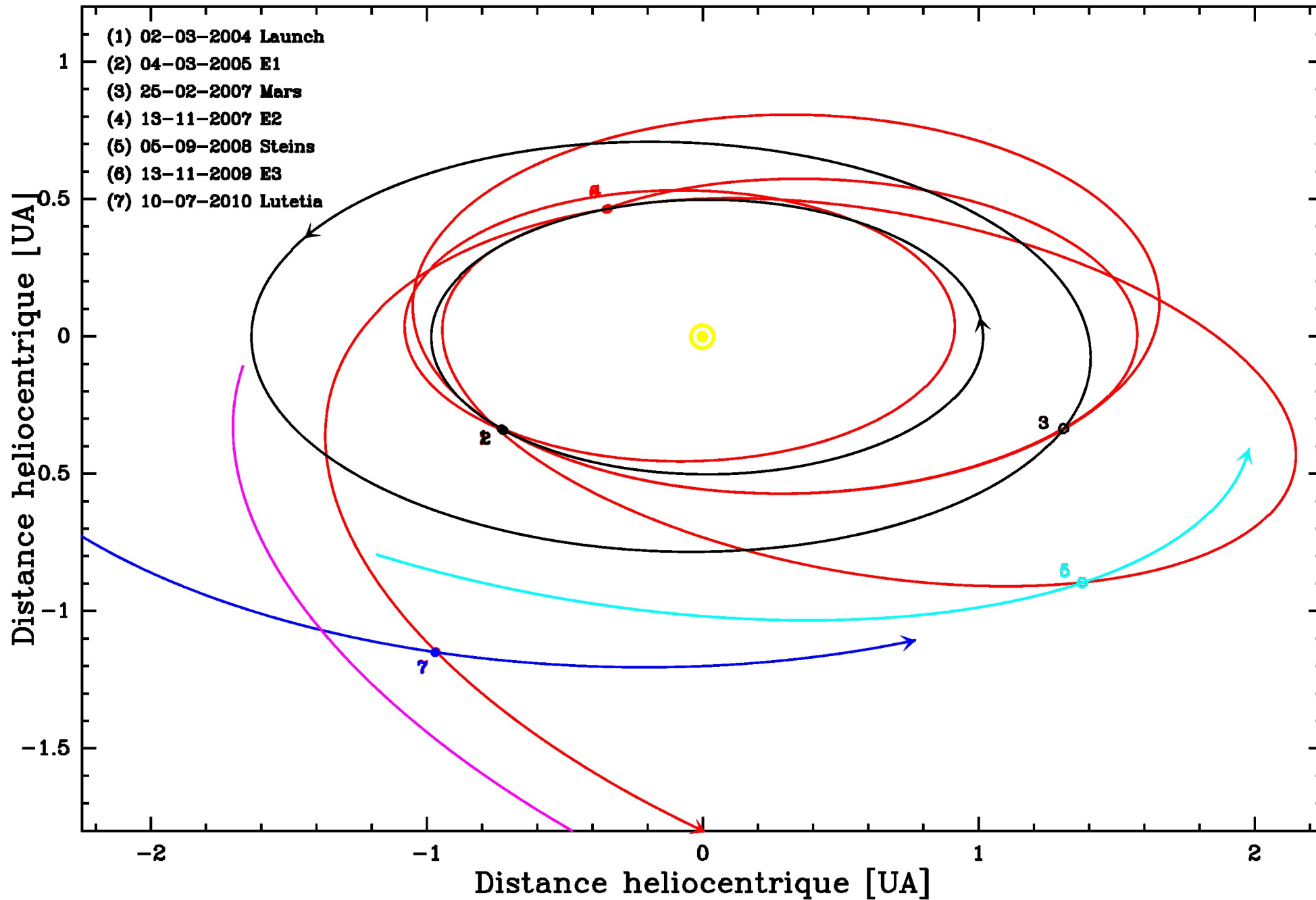
**ROSETTA**



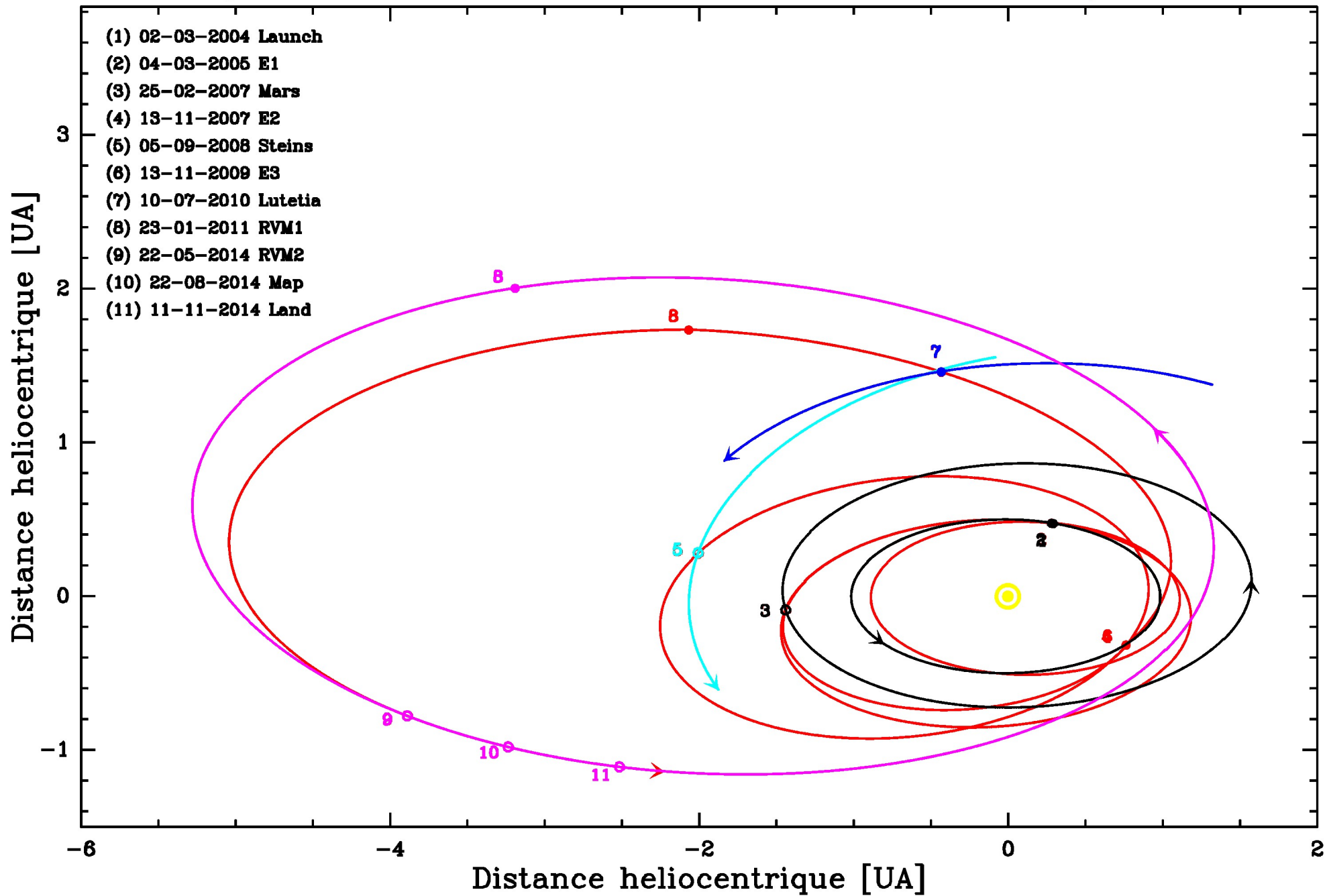
**Landing Gear  
(2 out of 3 Legs)**

**Area where tilt  
limiter attached**

Trajectoires: Terre Mars Rosetta Steins Lutetia 67P/C.-G.



Trajectoires: Terre Mars Rosetta Steins Lutetia 67P/C.-G.



# Mission to 67P/Churyumov-Gerasimenko

	Date	Distance	Speed $\infty$	Correction
Launch	<b>02 Mar.2004</b>	<b>0 km</b>	<b>3.543 km/s</b>	
<i>Manœuvre</i>	<b>11+16 Mai 2004</b>	<b><math>\Delta=0.2</math> UA</b>		<b><math>\Delta v=153+5</math>m/s</b>
Earth flyby	<b>04 Mar.2005</b>	<b>1954 km</b>	<b>3.9 km/s</b>	
<i>Manœuvre</i>	<b>29 Sep. 2006</b>	<b><math>r_h=1.0</math> UA</b>		<b><math>\Delta v= 81</math>m/s</b>
Mars flyby	<b>25 Fév. 2007</b>	<b>200 km</b>	<b>8.88 km/s</b>	
Earth flyby	<b>13 Nov.2007</b>	<b>1400 km</b>	<b>9.3 km/s</b>	
(2867) Steins	<b>05 Sep. 2008</b>	<b>1700 km</b>	<b>9 km/s</b>	
Earth flyby	<b>13 Nov.2009</b>	<b>2300 km</b>	<b>9.3 km/s</b>	
(21) Lutetia	<b>10 Juil. 2010</b>	<b>3000 km</b>	<b>15.1 km/s</b>	
<i>Manœuvre</i>	<b>23 Jan. 2011</b>	<b><math>r_h=4.1</math> UA</b>		<b><math>\Delta v=740</math>m/s</b>
<i>Manœuvre/RDV</i>	<b>22 Mai 2014</b>	<b><math>r_h=4.1</math> UA</b>	<b>0.65 km/s</b>	<b><math>\Delta v=648</math>m/s</b>
Mapping phase	<b>22 Aout 2014</b>	<b><math>r_h=3.5</math> UA</b>		
Philae release	<b>10 Nov. 2014</b>	<b><math>r_h=3.0</math> UA</b>		



# Portrait of Rosetta on 18 May 2004



*Images (enhanced) taken by the panoramic lander cameras*



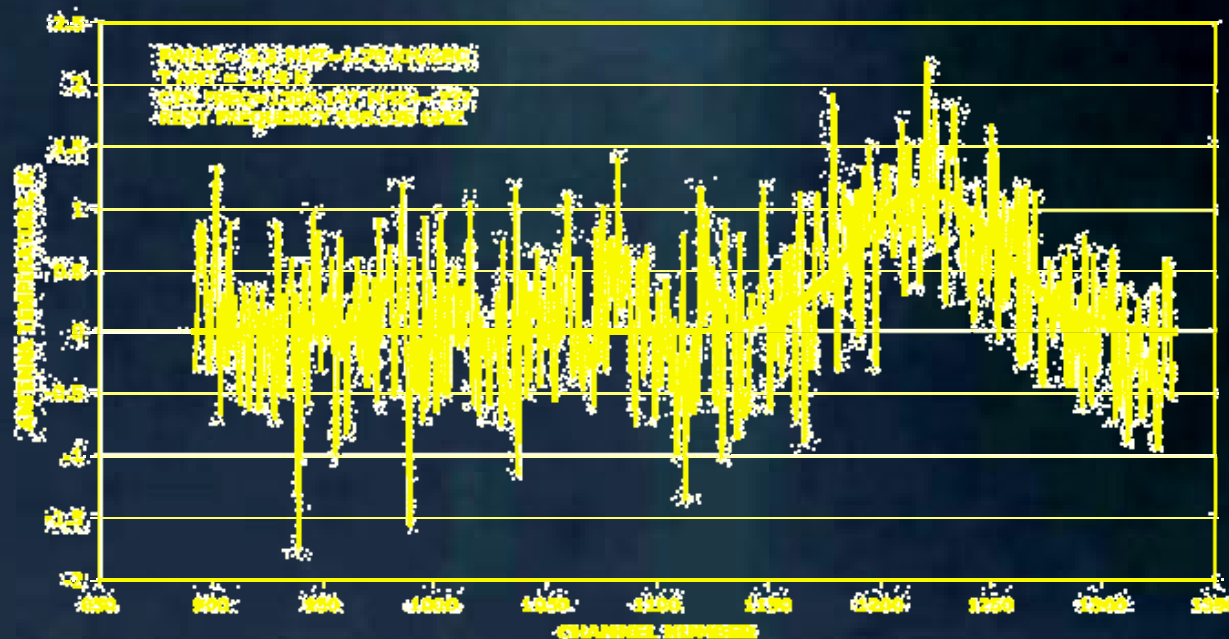
# First comet observations by Rosetta

C/2002 T7 (LINEAR) on 30 April 2004



**MIRO:**  
*Radiotelescope  
of 30cm:  
Measurement of  
water  
production (at  
557GHz)  
(+CO,  
methanol,  
ammoniac)*

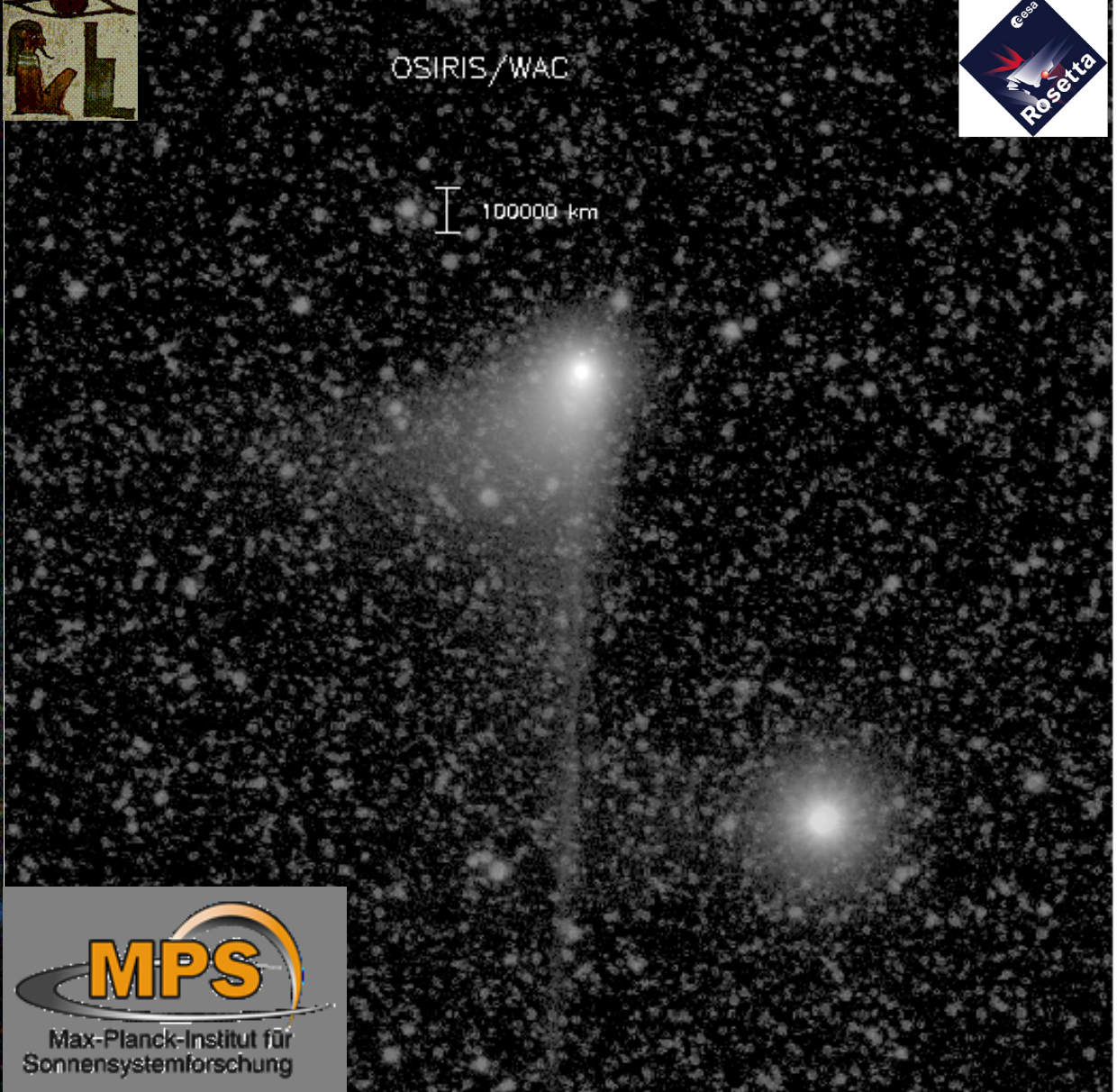
WATER RELEASED IN COMET LINEAR 2004 AT  
OBSERVED ANGLES, 30. APRIL 2004 WITH MIRO, ROSETTA.





# Images of comet C/2004 Q2 (Machholz) taken on 20 January 2005 by OSIRIS/Rosetta

© MPS/LAM/CISAS/IAA/INTA/DASP/RSSD

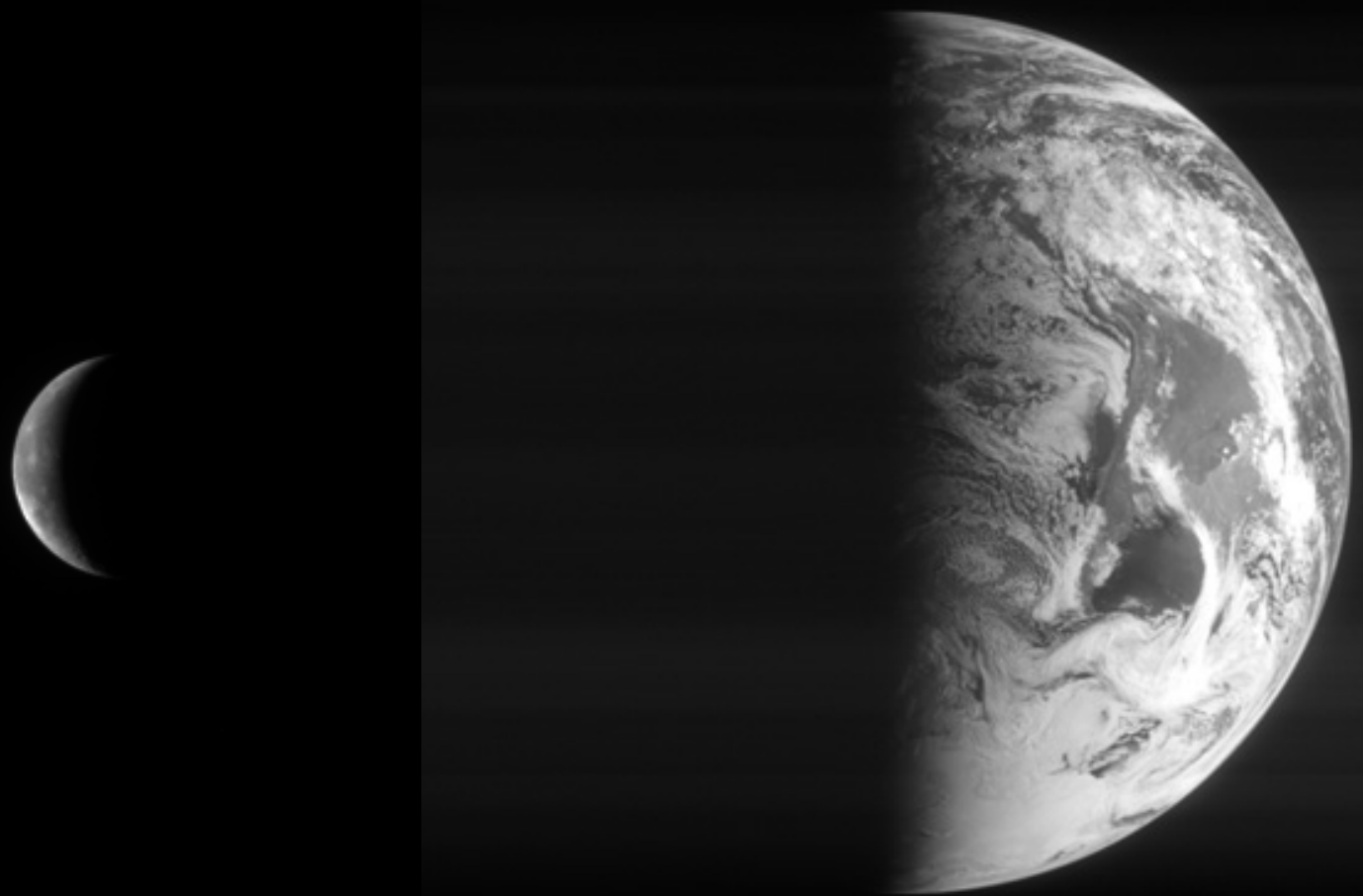


# OSIRIS NAC 28. Sept. 2004



M42 Orion Nebula - Osiris NAC Color Composite

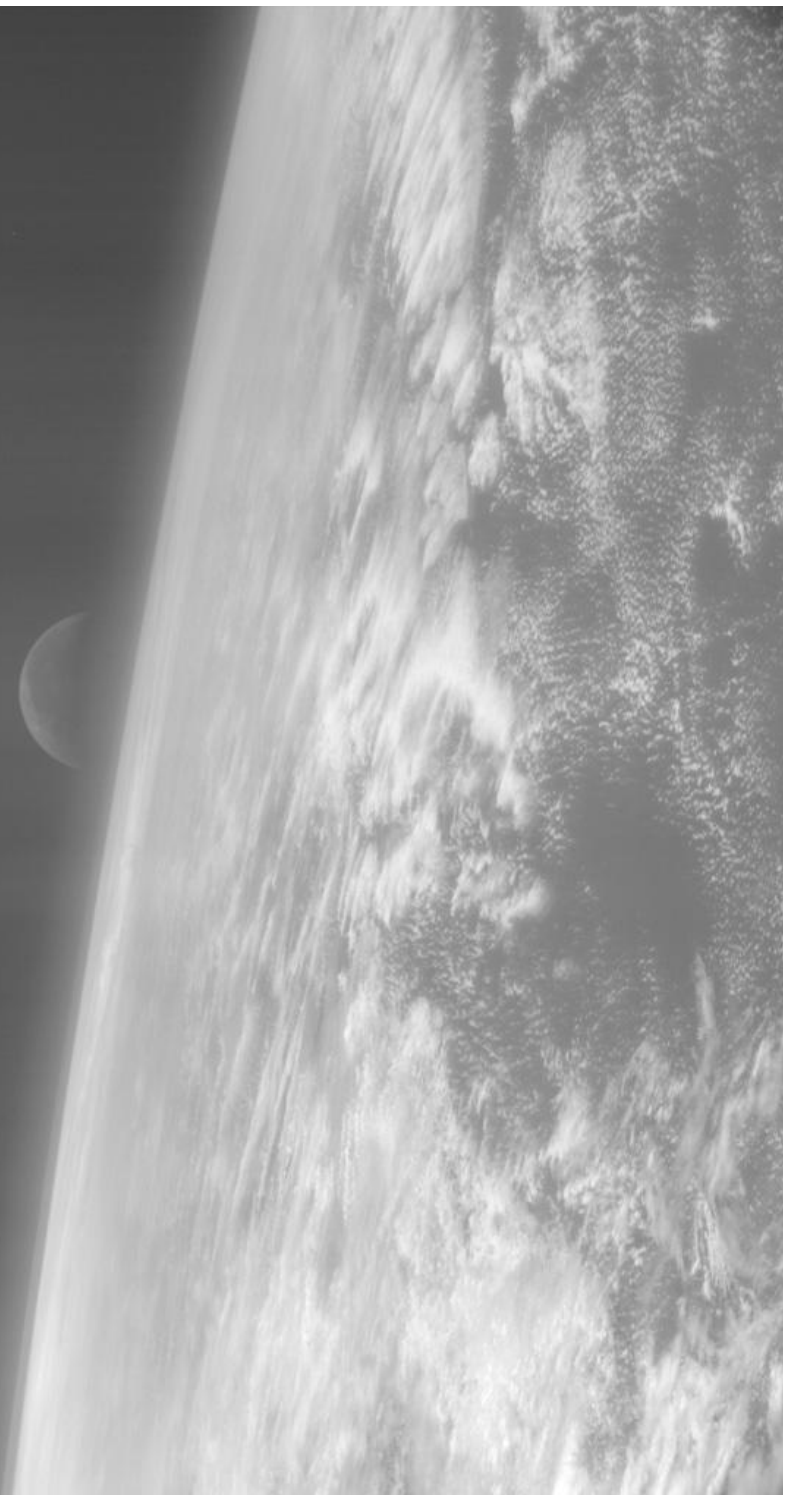


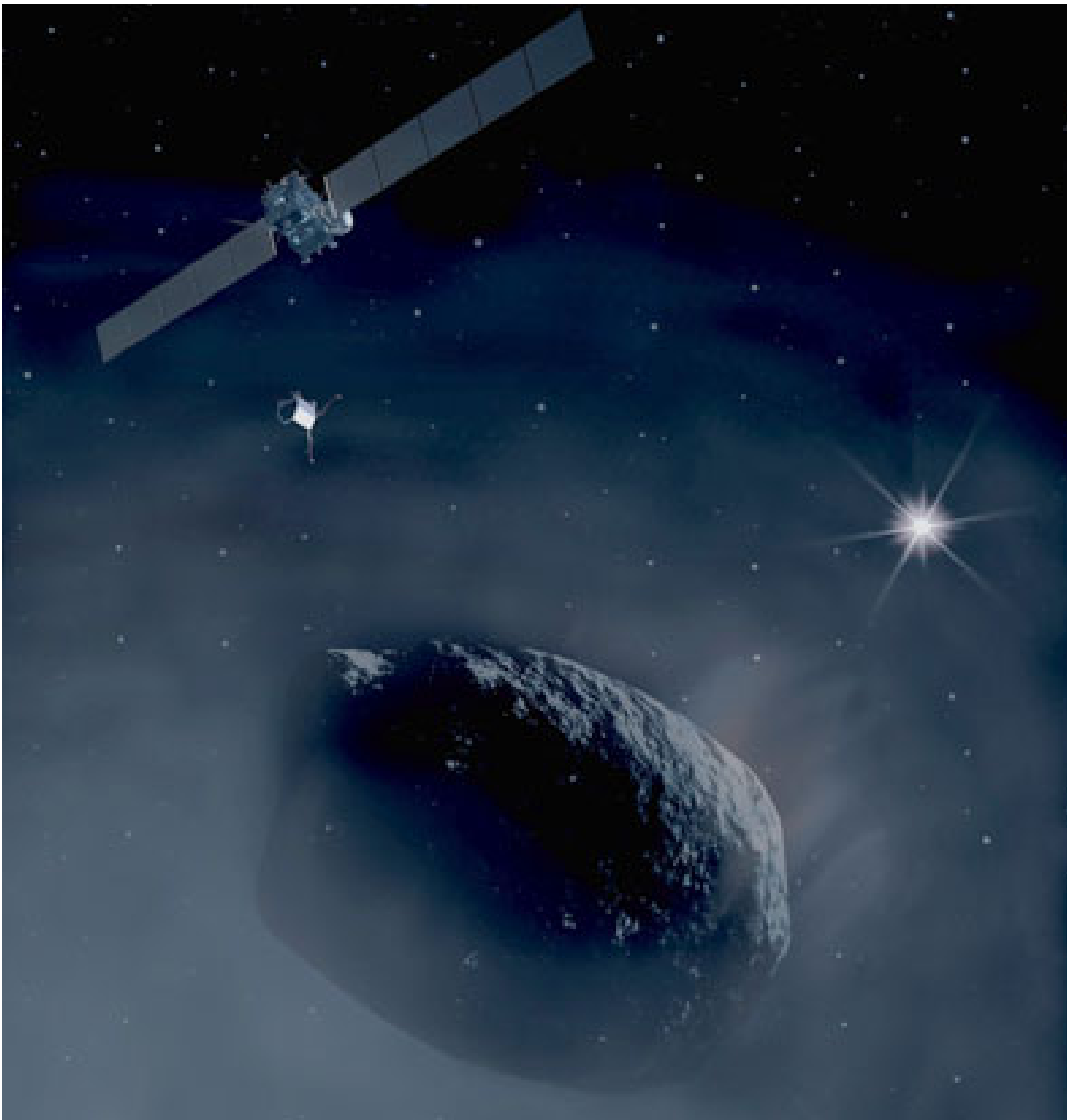


*Images taken by the navigation cameras on 4 March 2005:  
Moon (at 428061 km), before the flyby of Earth on 4 March  
at 15h10* *Earth just after flyby on 5 March*

***Flyby of the  
Earth by  
Rosetta on 4  
March 2005 at  
22h09:***

*Image taken by  
the navigation  
camera 3 min.  
before closest  
approach: the  
moon rises  
above the limb  
of earth*





*In November  
2014:*

*Philae  
lands on the  
nucleus*

*67P/Churyumov  
-Gerasimenko*

*End of mission:  
August 2015  
(at perihelion)*

**END**