



BASALT

Project Overview

John Hamilton,
Co-I Science Team, UH Hilo PI

Biologic Analog Science Associated with Lava Terrains



Biologic Analog Science Associated with Lava Terrains – Conops Development for Future Human Exploration of Mars

Planetary Science and Technology from Analog Research (PSTAR) program addresses the need for integrated interdisciplinary field experiments as an integral part of preparation for planned human and robotic missions.

- Furthermore, the program solicits proposals for investigations focused on exploring the Earth's extreme environments in order to develop a sound technical and scientific basis to conduct astrobiological research on other solar system bodies.
- The focus of this program element is on providing high-fidelity scientific investigations, scientific input, and science operations constraints in the context of planetary field campaigns.

PSTAR solicitation is a consolidation of two previous calls: Astrobiology Science and Technology for Exploring Planets (ASTEP) and Moon Mars Analogue and Mission Activities (MMAMA).



Project Goals

Science:

The BASALT science program is focused on understanding habitability conditions of early and present-day Mars in two relevant Mars-analog locations (the Southwest Rift Zone (SWRZ) and the East Rift Zone (ERZ) flows on the Big Island of Hawai'i and the eastern Snake River Plain (ESRP) in Idaho) to characterize and compare the physical and geochemical conditions of life in these environments and to learn how to seek, identify, and characterize life and life-related chemistry in basaltic environments representing these two epochs of martian history.

Science Operations:

The BASALT team will conduct real (non-simulated) biological and geological science at two high-fidelity Mars analogs, all within simulated Mars mission conditions (including communication latencies and bandwidth constraints) that are based on current architectural assumptions for Mars exploration missions. We will identify which human-robotic ConOps and supporting capabilities enable science return and discovery.

Technology:

BASALT will incorporate and evaluate technologies in to our field operations that are directly relevant to conducting the scientific investigations regarding life and life-related chemistry in Mars-analogous terrestrial environments. BASALT technologies include the use of mobile science platforms, extravehicular informatics, display technologies, communication & navigation packages, remote sensing, advanced science mission planning tools, and scientifically-relevant instrument packages to achieve the project goals.



What ?

- BASALT is an international team of scientists, engineers, mission operators, and astronauts who are dedicated to enabling the human-robotic exploration of Mars!
- 4 NASA Centers: Ames Research Center, Goddard Space Flight Center, Kennedy Space Center, Johnson Space Center
- 4 Universities: McMaster University (Canada), Univ. of Edinburgh (UK), Idaho State Univ., Univ. of Hawai'i - Hilo

How ?

- The drive to discover and explore our Solar System will benefit from and ultimately demand the infusion of science into the operational framework and execution cadence of the mission. From an early stage in the architecture development process we are designing the “How?” in such a way that supports both the well-being of astronauts and their ability to conduct *meaningful, productive, and efficient* scientific exploration.
- By examining the mineralogy of basalts, one can determine the moisture conditions during eruptions and look for changes due to both water and microbial life (bio-alterations).



Milestones

- June 2015 – Face to Face Kickoff Meeting – Ames Research Center
- Oct 2015 – Hawai'i Recon for operations sites, HVNP
- June 2016 – The first round of BASALT field tests, at Craters of the Moon National Monument and Preserve, in Idaho. The site was an analog to present-day Mars, where most evidence for the type of volcanism studied by the project is from a more active past thousands of years ago.
- November 2016 – BASALT's second field test, on the lava flows of Mauna Ulu, on the Big Island of Hawaii. This volcanically active location was an analog environment for early Mars.
- July 2017 – Operations Readiness Test – Ames
- November 2017 – The third and final season of testing for BASALT was held at Kilauea Iki and Kilauea Caldera Region, Hawaii Volcanoes National Park – also an analog environment for early Mars.
- December 2018 – AGU Washington DC
- March 2019 – The journal Astrobiology published a special issue devoted to the science, technology and engineering of future human space exploration studied by the BASALT research program: "The BASALT Program: Analog research in support of human scientific exploration of Mars."
- December 2019 – AGU San Francisco

Face to Face Meeting @ ARC 2-4 June 2015

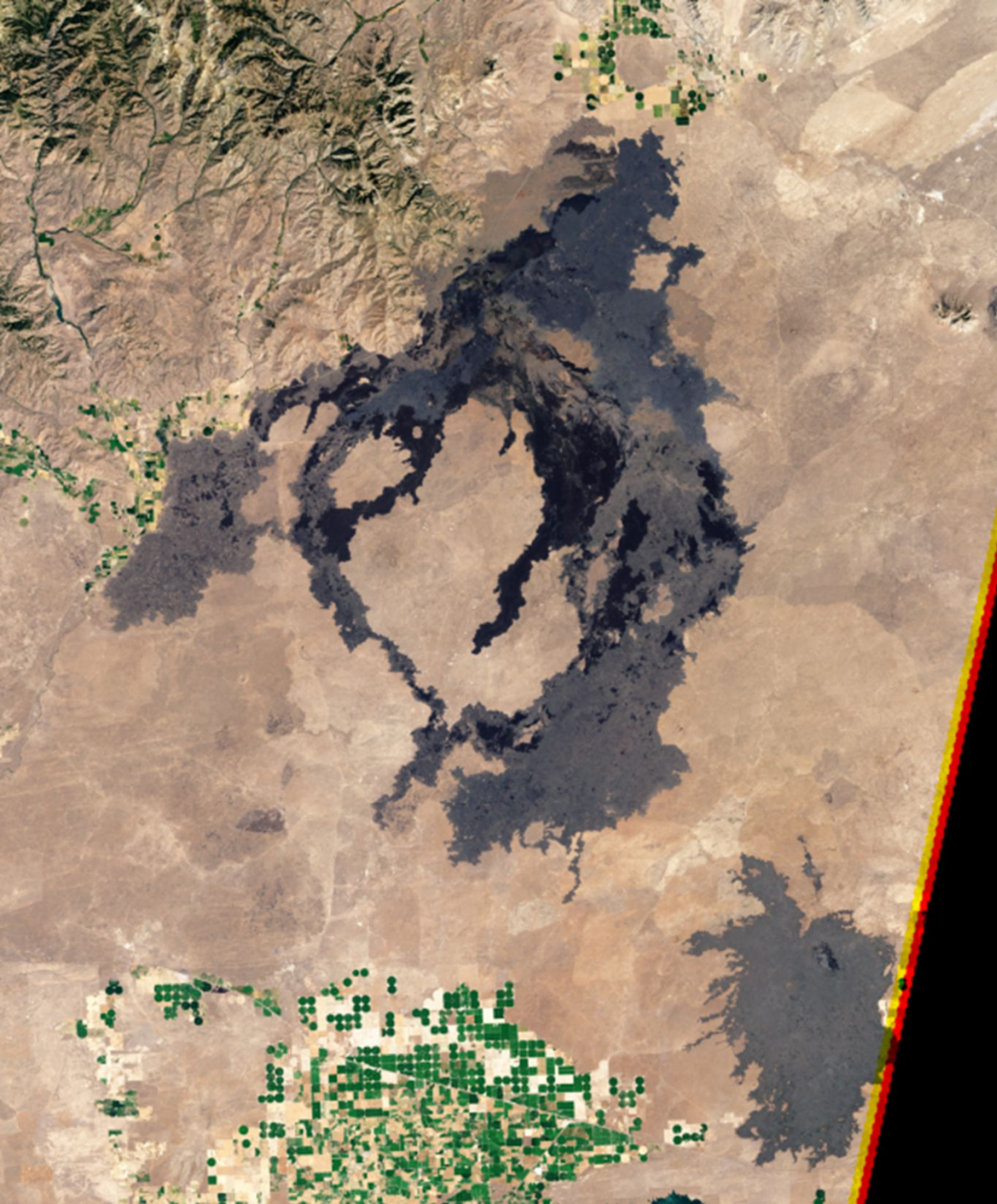
K-Rex rover on Ames Rock Yard
Viewed by Astronaut Jeff Hoffman



Rock Yards are laboratory
(artificial) versions of analog
sites.



CotM



Landsat Image



Craters of the Moon National Monument



Radio Comm Link – 22 Miles



Mars to Earth



Darlene Lim,
BASALT Lead
Principal
Investigator.
Astrogeobiologist



Cinders







LIDAR mapping



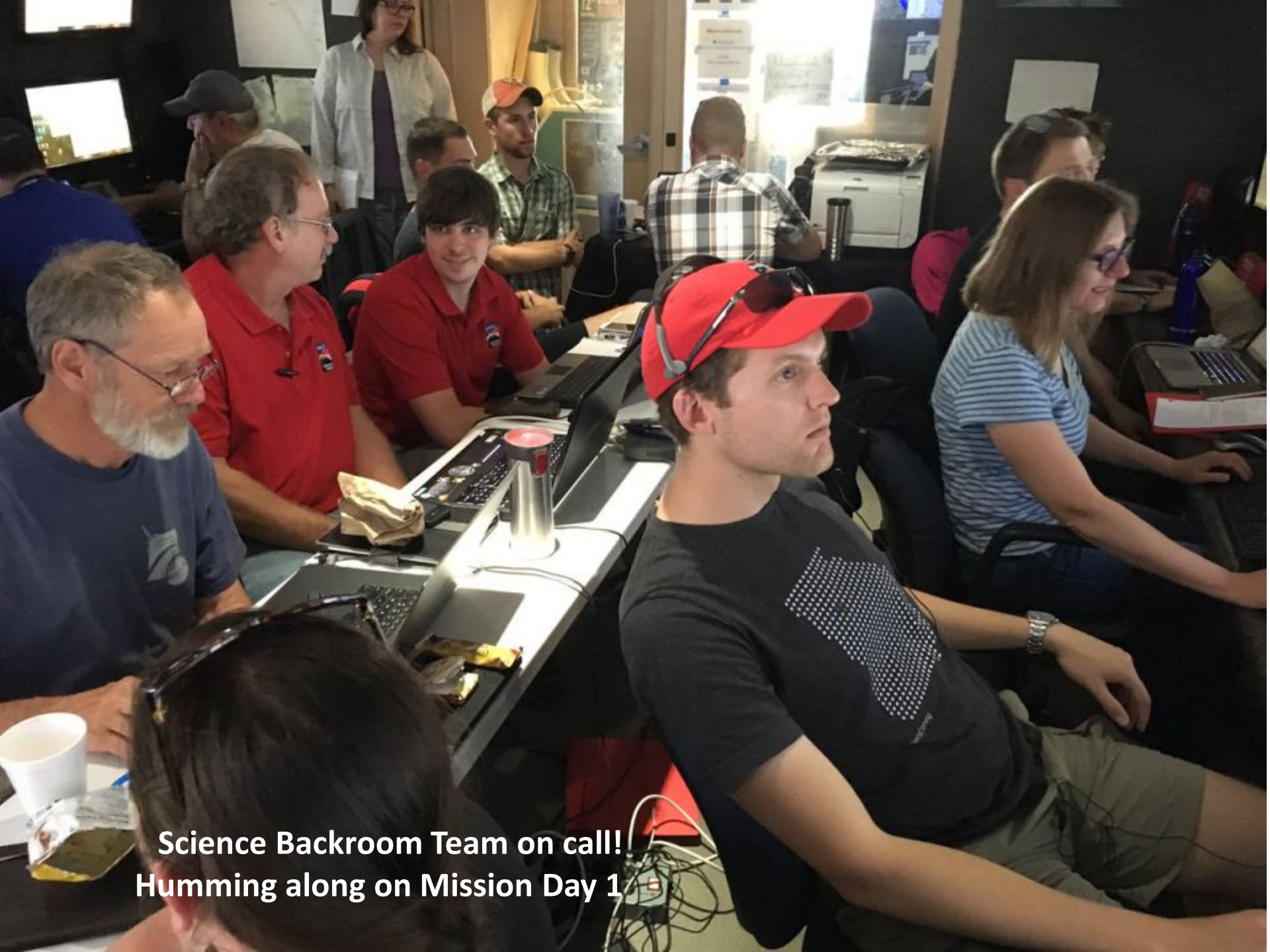
MMC - Mobile Mission Control

Arco Mountain View RV Park









Science Backroom Team on call!
Humming along on Mission Day 1

Leader Board

Sampling Priority	Marker ID	Rationale	Alt
1	BA	high alt levee	BB
2	AE	low alt levee	AC
3	AD	high alt channel	BE
4	BD	target of opportunity based on mineralogy	
5	BB	high alt levee	
6	AC	low alt levee	
7	BE	high alt channel	
8	#N/A	#N/A	
9	#N/A	#N/A	

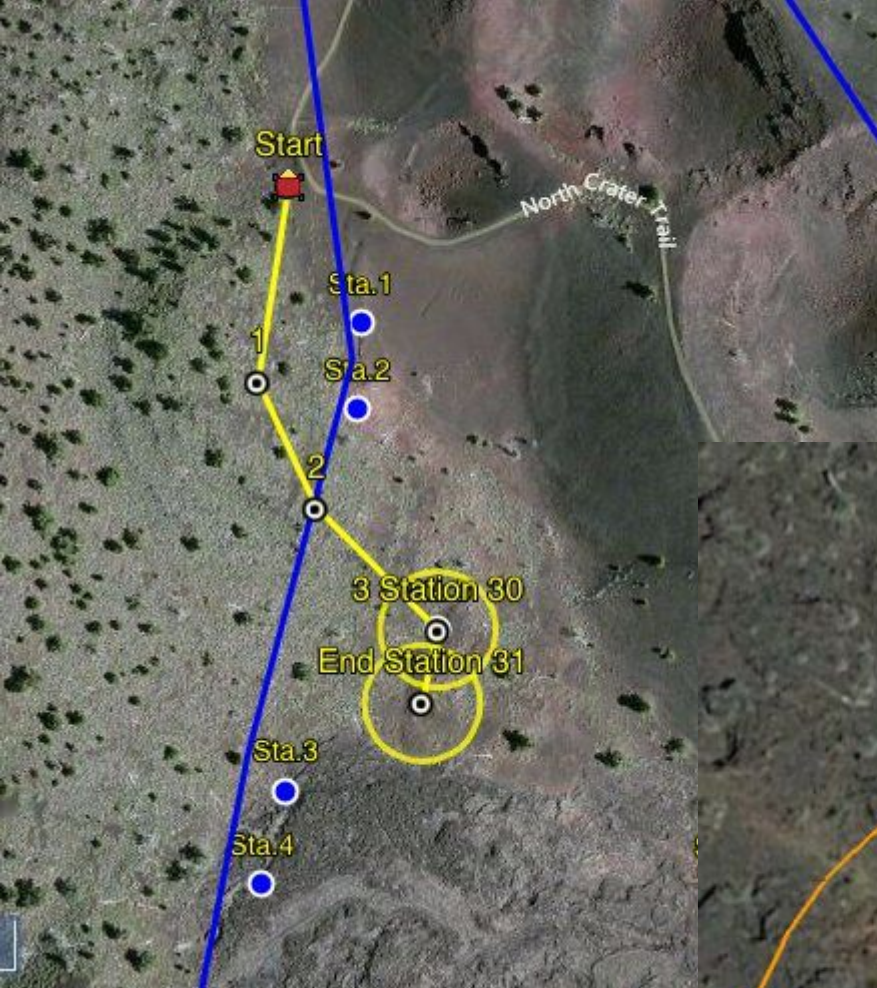
[Map](#)[EVA](#)[Notes](#)[Sample](#)[Se](#)[Photo](#)[Sample](#)[ASD](#)[FTIR](#)[Notes](#)Search: Display [Previous](#) [1](#) [2](#) [3](#) [4](#) [5](#) ... [24](#) [Next](#)

Acquisition	TZ	Name	Description	
06/22/16 13:00:32	MDT	P6220067.JPG	MD3 Sample Location BA Station 7	
06/22/16 12:59:48	MDT	P6220066.JPG	MD3 Sample Location BA Station 7	
06/22/16 12:23:32	MDT	P6220065.JPG	MD3 Sample Location BD Station 7 ASD Scan 19 Spectrum	
06/22/16 12:22:58	MDT	P6220064.JPG	MD3 Sample Location BD Station 7 ASD Scan 19 Minerals	
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06/22/16 12:20:54	MDT	P6220060.JPG	MD3 Sample Location BD Station 7 ASD Scan 17 Minerals	



Daily Mission Management Team
meeting/ritual 20 Jun 2016

Traverse Planning & Evaluation (live GPS tracking)



101 EV1 Generic_RTSP_camera



103 BDRLT SACamera_Area_M0014_camera

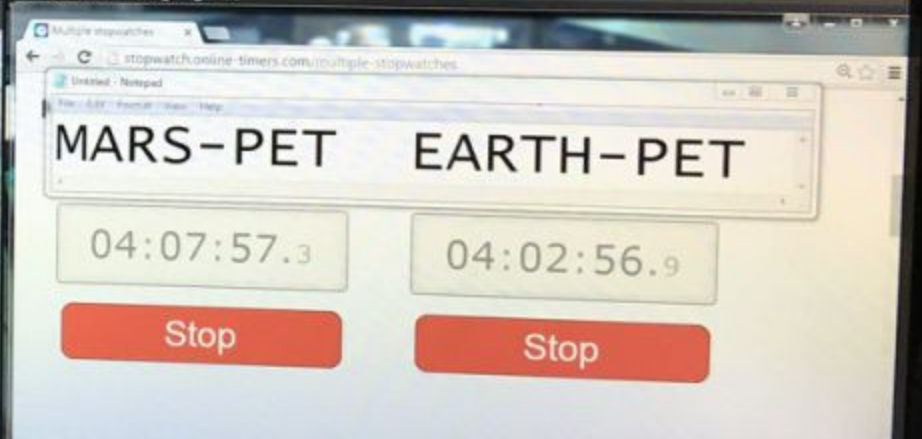
2016-06-20 17:51:55



102 EV2 Generic_RTSP_camera



104 MROC Front Camera_Area_210M_camera



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Tools of the Trade (a la Star Trek)



Thermo X-Ray Fluorescence
Spectrometer (XRF)

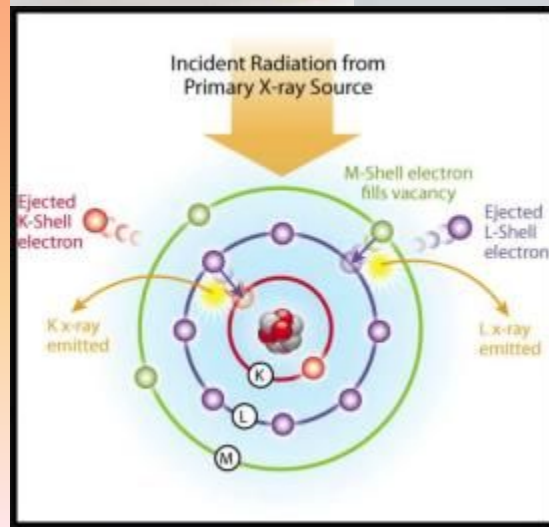
TerraSpec Halo
Portable Vis-NIR Spectrometer



Range:
350-2500 nm



Resolution:
3 nm @ 700 nm
9.8 nm @ 1400 nm
8.1 nm @ 2100 nm



~ \$30,000

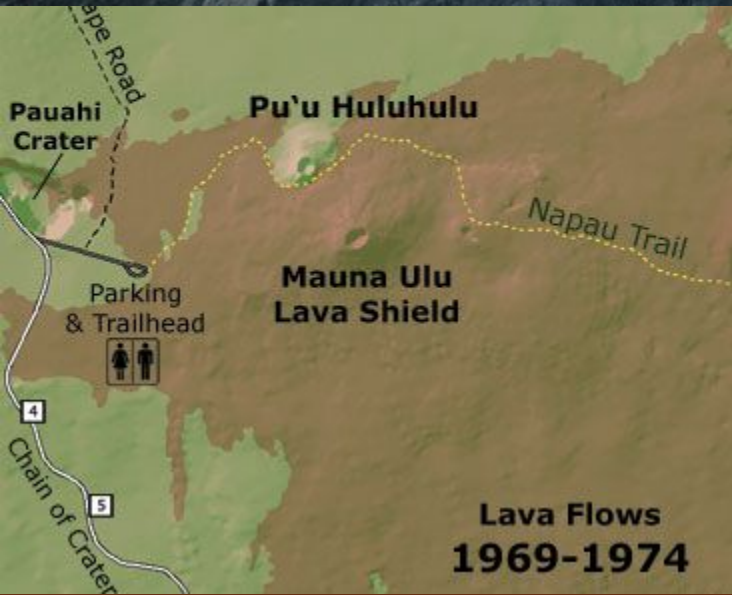
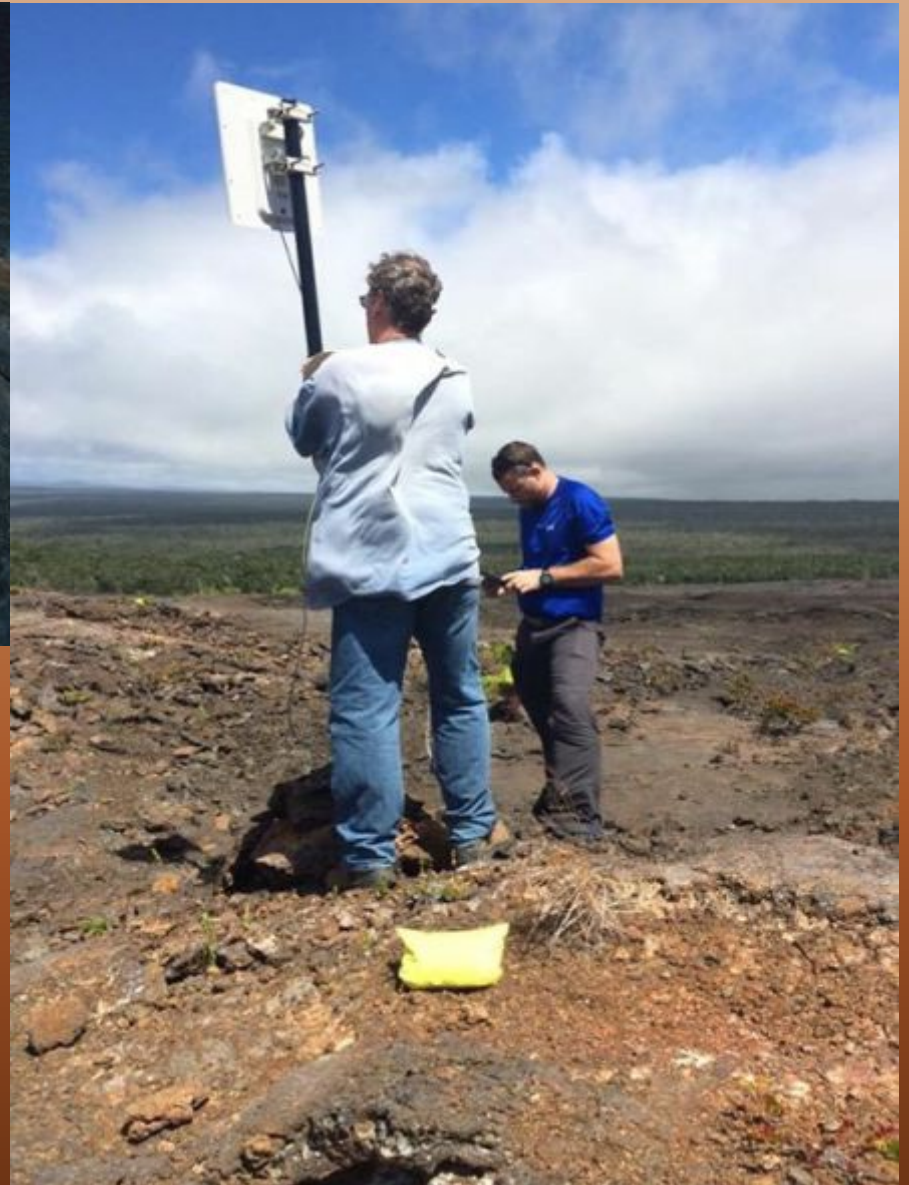




Chris and Shannon w/ UHH support



Comms Recon at Mauna Ulu





Kilauea Military Camp

Volcano

Kilauea Visitor Center

1.4 miles

Hawaii
Volcanoes
National Park

Jaggar
Museum
HVO

Kilauea

Nāhuku - Thurston
Lava Tube

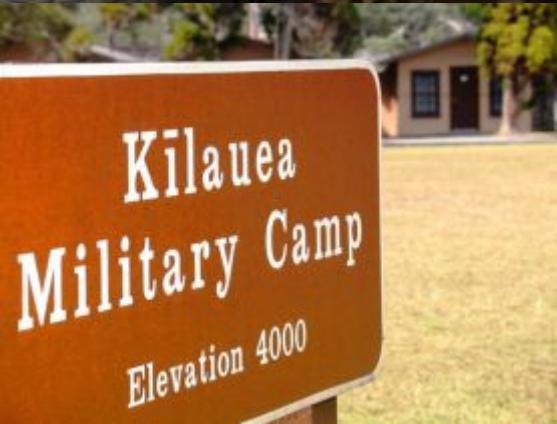
~8 Miles

Hawaii
Volcanoes
National Park

Mauna Ulu
Summit

Kilauea Military Camp aka “Earth”

- Science Backroom



MOUNTAIN COTTAGES & RESORT
KILAUEA MILITARY CAMP
www.KilaueaMilitaryCamp.com
808.967.8333

The Software Support behind the Science Team

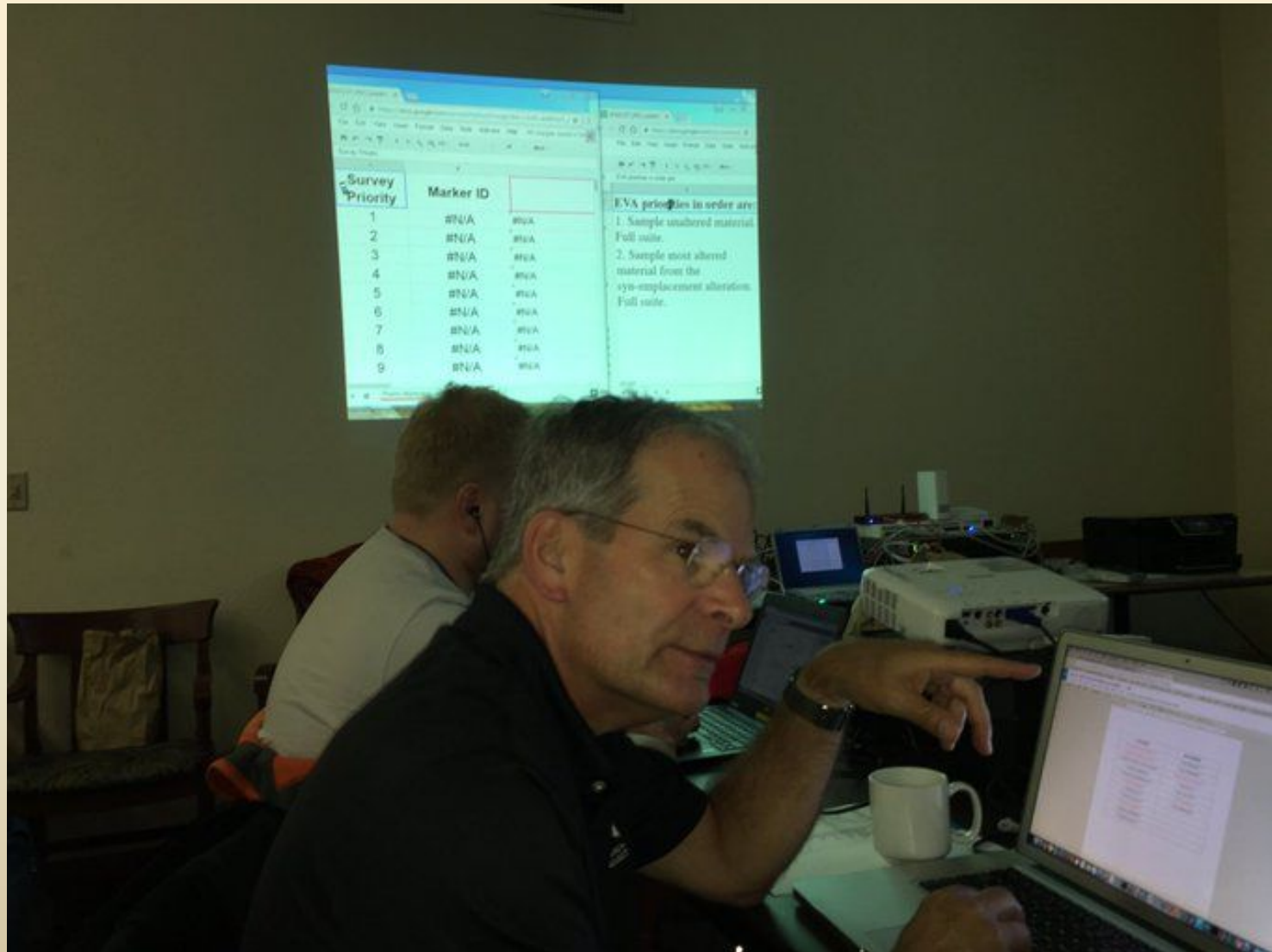




Image and Location

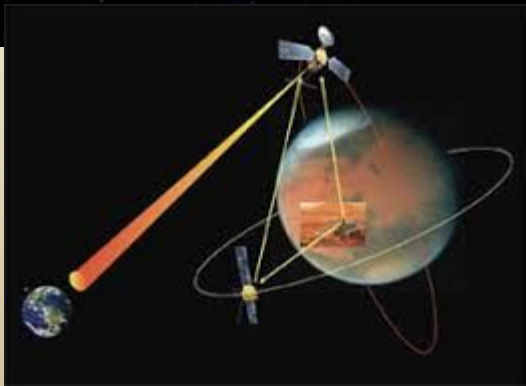
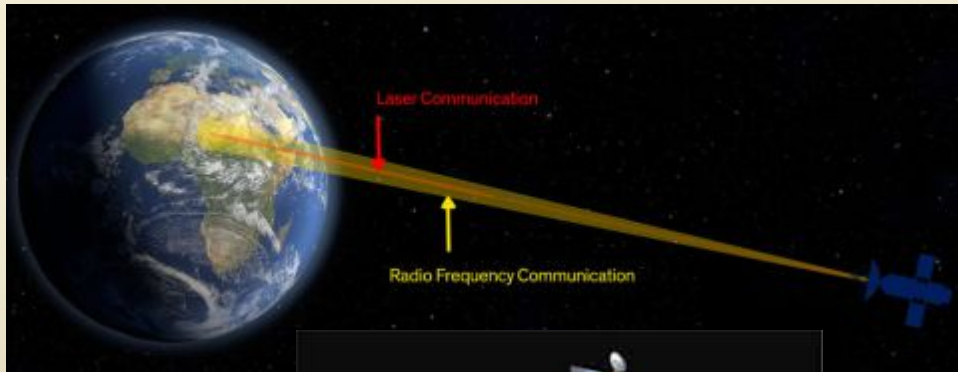
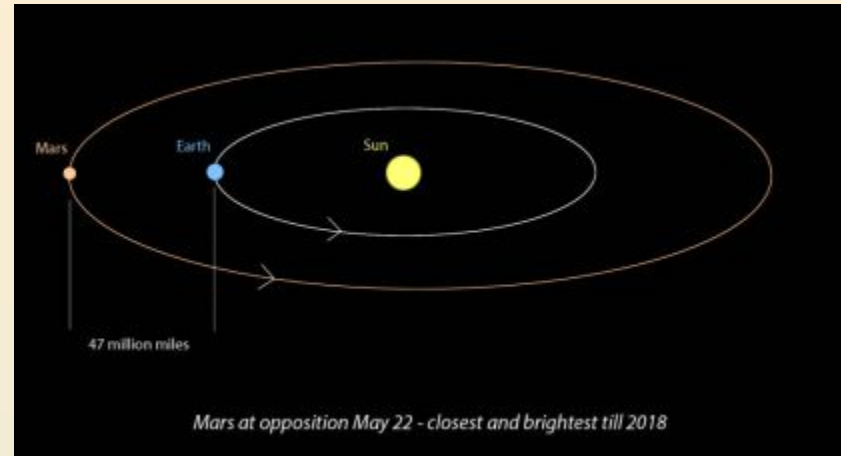


Leader Board



OWLT and BW

- Communication latency will occur between Mars and Earth, ranging from 4 to 22 min one-way light time (OWLT) (8–44 min round trip). The question remains as to when and how Earth-based support could assist during EVAs.



Radio vs Laser: Bandwidth afforded by communications architecture will impact the ability to share data products and other communications between space and ground during EVA.

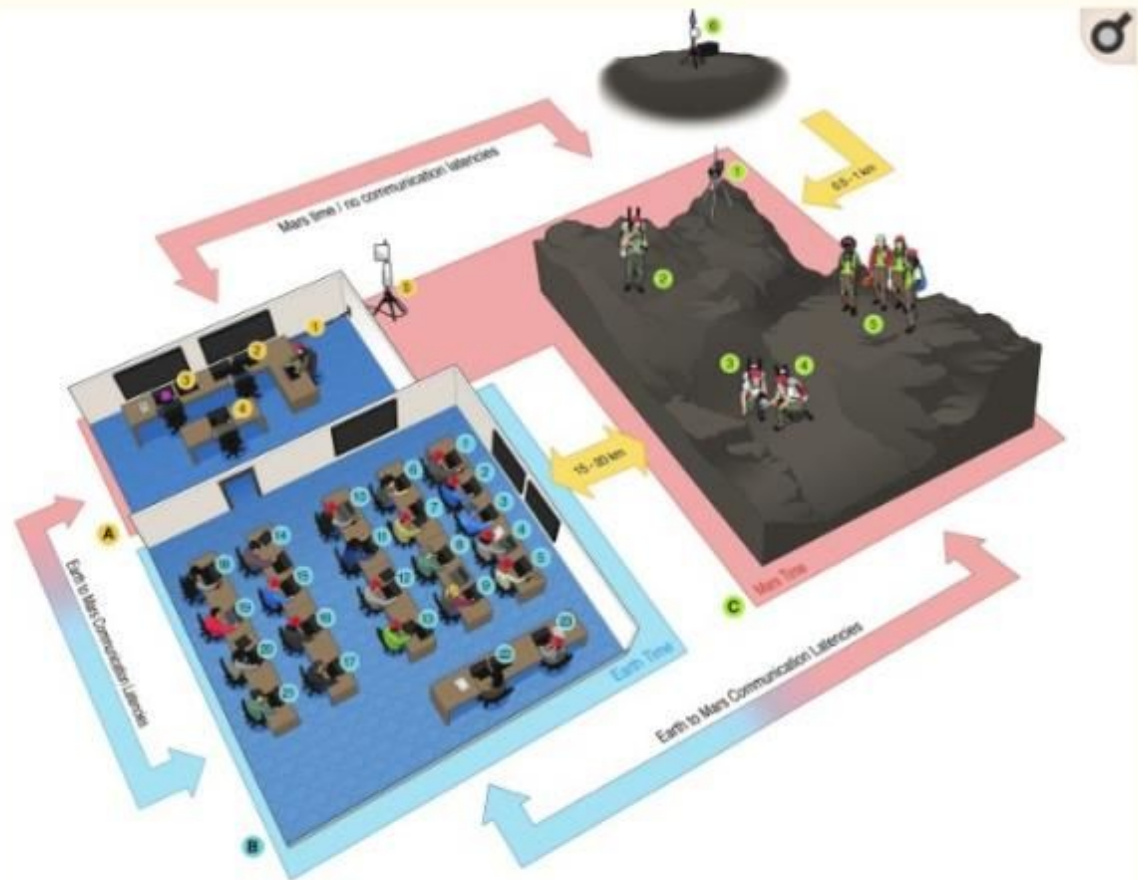
Timeline



Timeline Managers - Playbook



Mission Architecture



A Intra-Vehicular Workstation

1. Stereographer
2. IV Crewmember - Science
3. IV Crewmember - Operations
4. X-Sim Playbook
5. Base Camp Relay Node

B Mission Support Center

1. Leaderboard Lead
2. Science Lead
3. Sci-Comm
4. CapCom
5. EVA Timeline/Planner
6. Situational Awareness
7. Image Tagging
8. Instrument Lead
9. Science Tactical (Geo)
- 10 & 11. Situational Awareness/ Image Management/ Science Tactical
12. Ethnographer
13. Science Tactical (Bio)
- 14 & 15. xGDS Members
16. SEXTANT
17. VR/AR Support
- 18 & 19. Additional Support
- 20 & 21. Communications/Networking Support
22. Bio Lead
23. Geo Lead

C Field

1. Situational Awareness Camera / Mobile Instrument Platform (MP)
2. In-Field Communications Leader / MP
3. EV Crewmember - Operations
4. EV Crewmember - Science
5. Field Support Team (FST) / MP
6. Central Relay Node

OPS LAYOUT



Mauna Ulu
and Kilauea

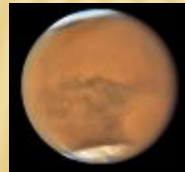
Simulation
Astronauts
Mars Surface
EVA



Realtime

Mars Base
support
Astronauts

KMC
(Quarantined)



Earth Science
Backroom
support



Time Delay
(5 and 20min)

Kilauea
Military
Camp



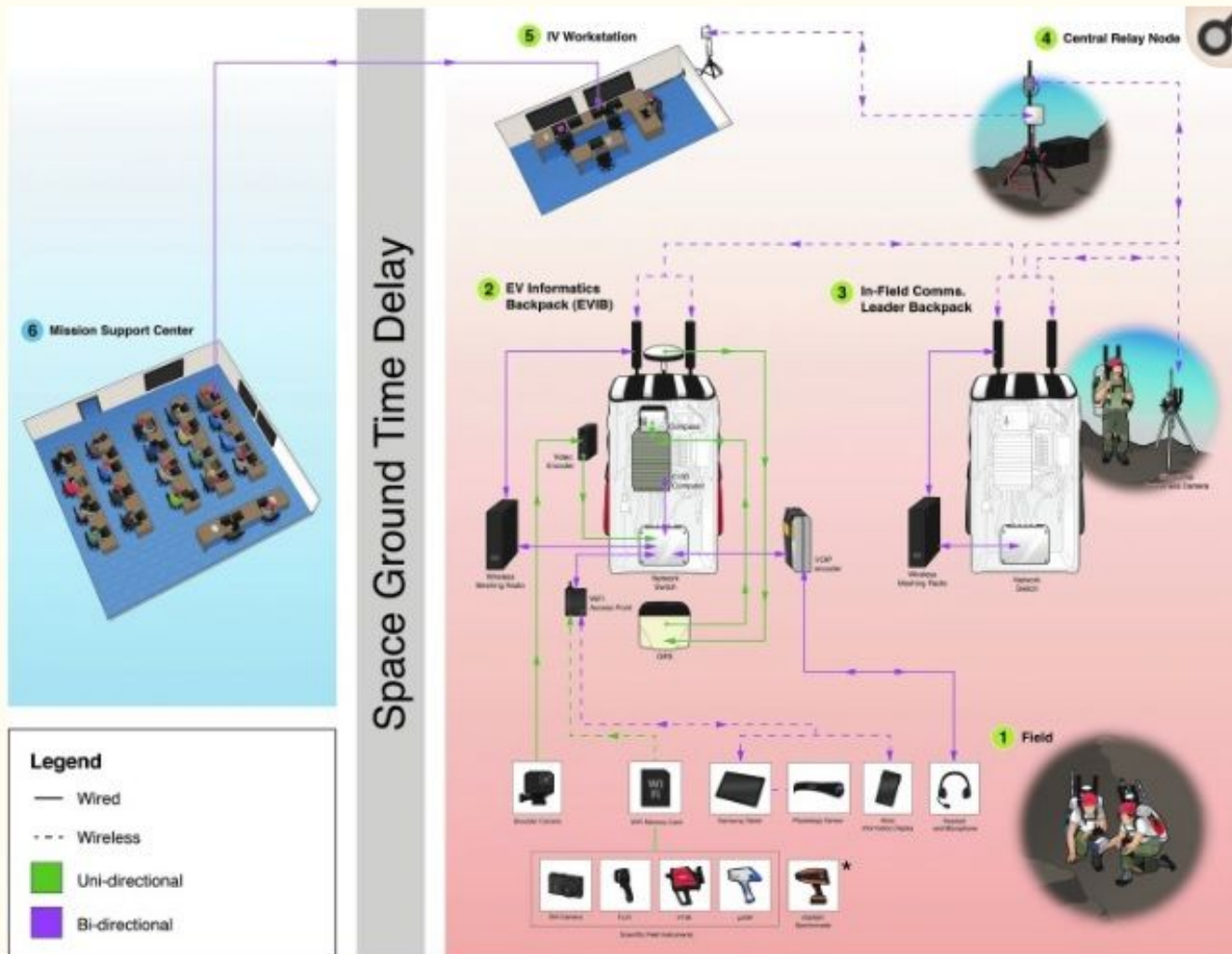
Another Day back on Earth



Mars Base



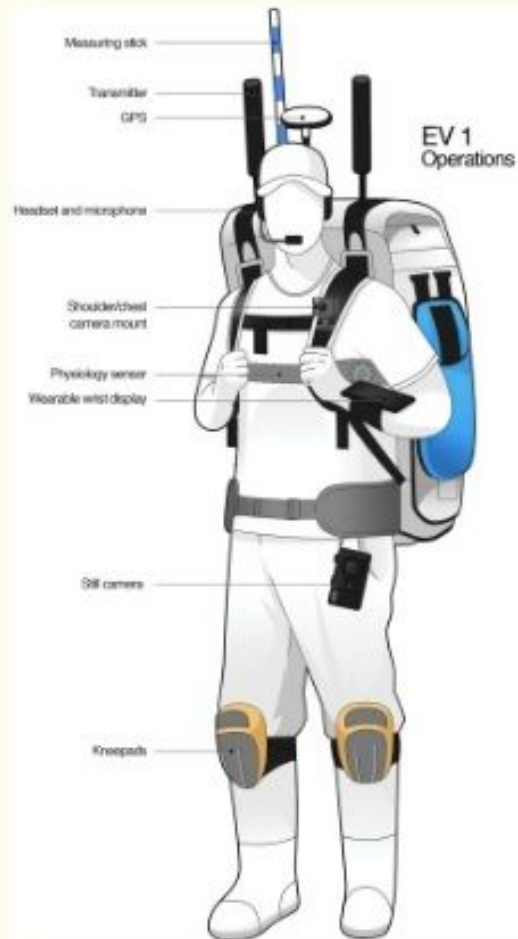
Communications Architecture



Mike Miller - KSC



EV backpacks



High Bandwidth video stream



BASALT FIELD SUPPORT TEAM



WE SIT, WE STAND, WE HAND

Group Photo Time





Not every day is sunny

SA CAM

2016-11-08 12:23:21:22





December 2016

December 2016 Vol. 9 No. 12

National Aeronautics and
Space Administration



KENNEDY SPACE CENTER'S
SPACEPORT
magazine



BASALT
MARTIAN TOOL TEST

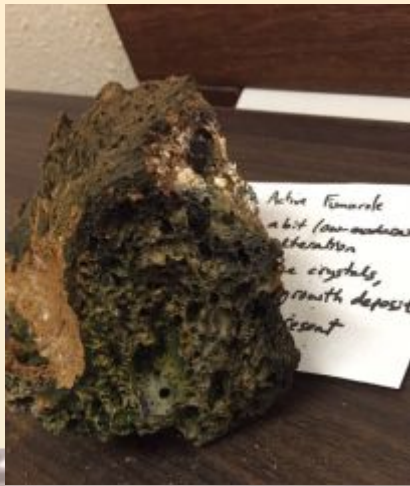
Science team members discussing tactical sampling priorities for today's EVA.



Learning Experimental Instrument Samples (LEIS)



Examples & Frozen Samples





Last day of Operations – Science Team



Altered BASALT on Mauna Ulu







Tartigrade outcrop.

Astronaut in Training - summit of Mauna Ulu



Stan Love – in the field and The Martian commentator



EARTH SCIENCE PICTURE OF THE DAY

A SERVICE OF UNIVERSITIES SPACE RESEARCH ASSOCIATION

BASALT is developing the geology and biology sampling protocols for future Mars astronauts as well as concepts of operations involving traverse planning and execution under time-delay and high/low communication bandwidth conditions.



Simulating Mars Exploration

November 21, 2016

Photographer: Andrew Hara (ENA Media)

Astronaut Jeff Hoffman and crew









New Window



PB110050.JPG

EV ONE 11/11/16 12:56:22 HST

Download

Edit

Heading: 123° Resolution: 1920 x 1440 | 2.76 MP | 0.58 MB



Add Note

102 EV2 Backpack sensor

Live View Playback

EV2
2016-11-09 14:56:04:02

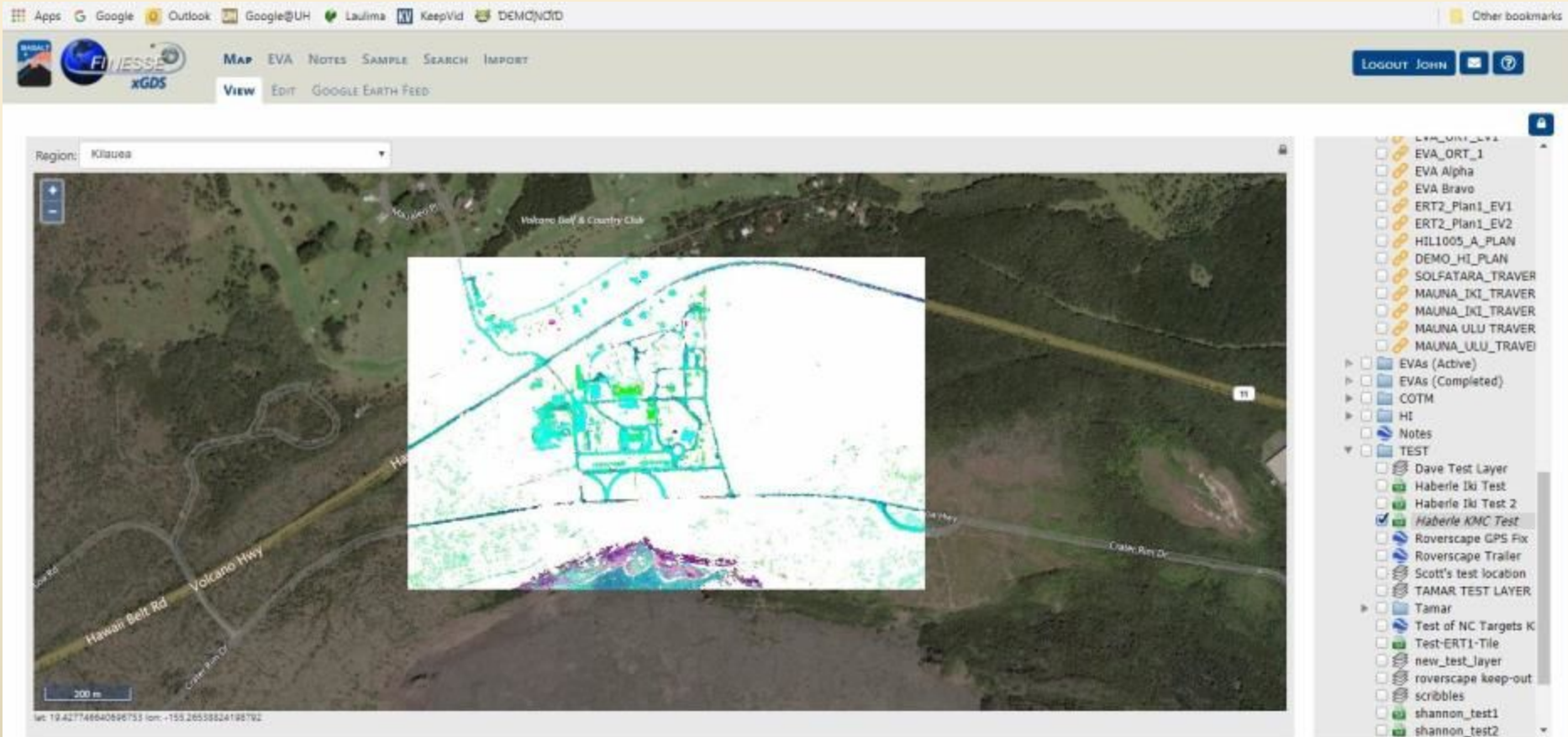


100089



x1.18

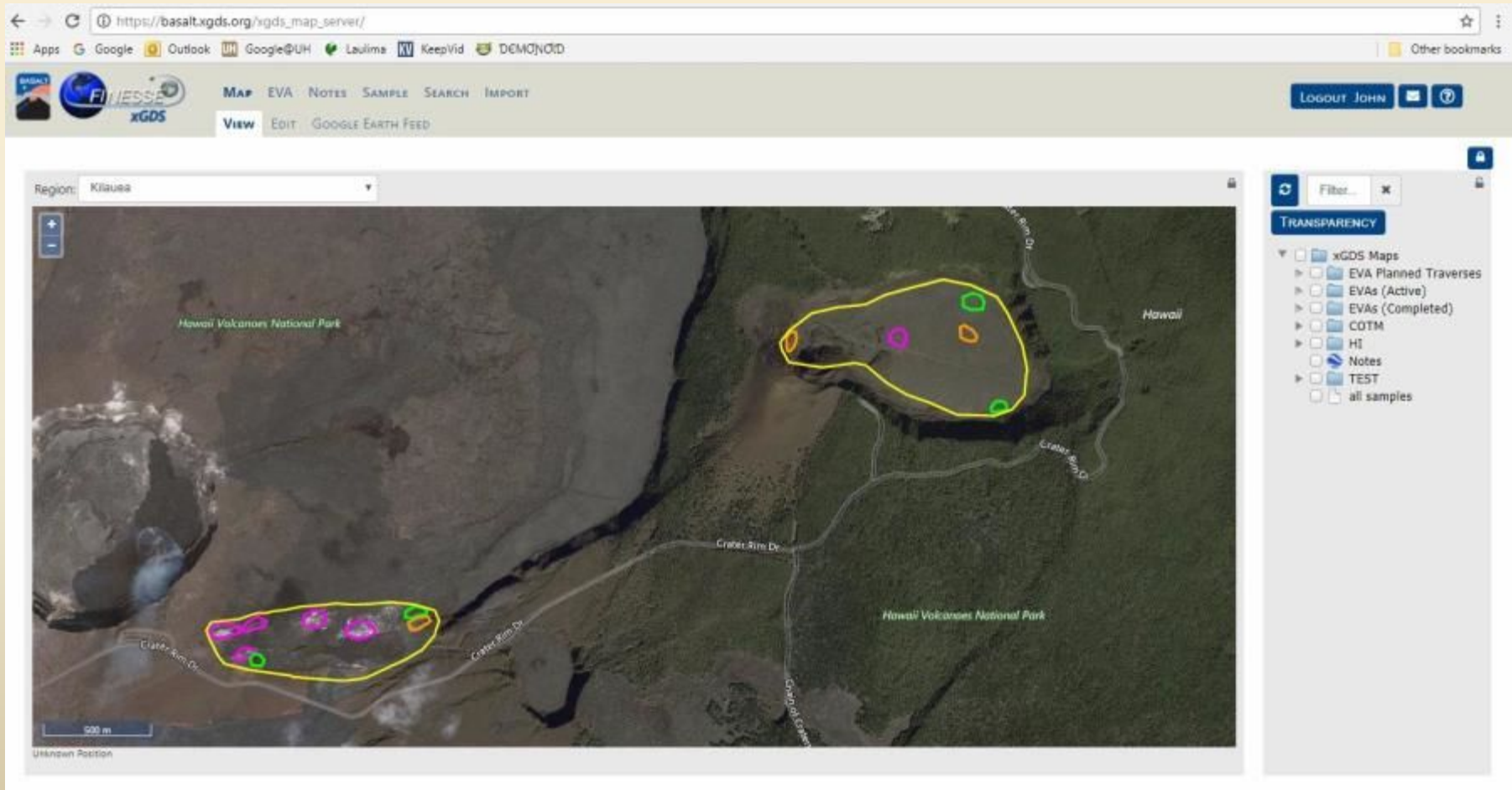
Kilauea Military Camp Science Backroom, Earth



Hawai`i 2017

Science Deployment areas

Keanakekoi and Kilauea Iki

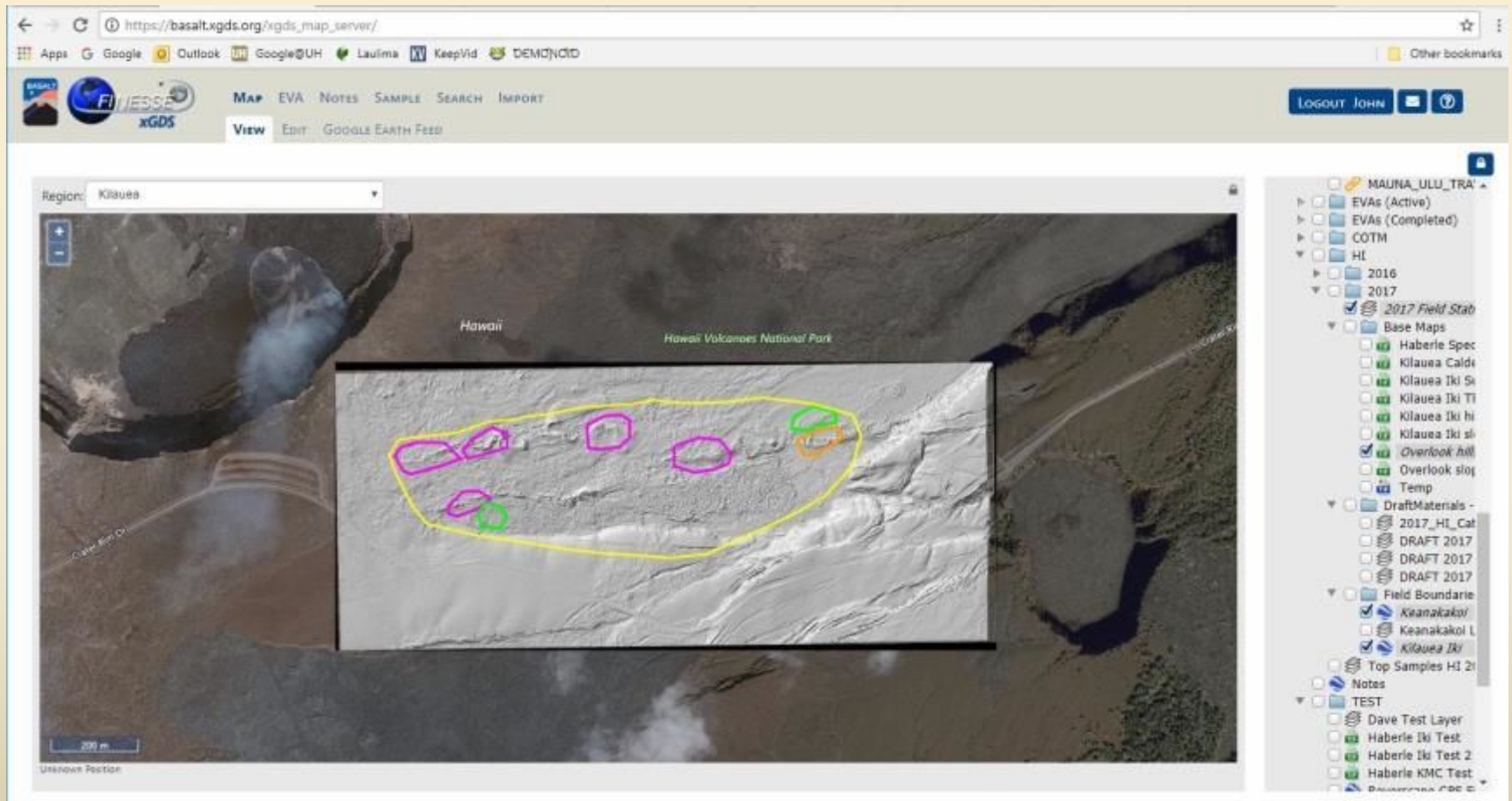




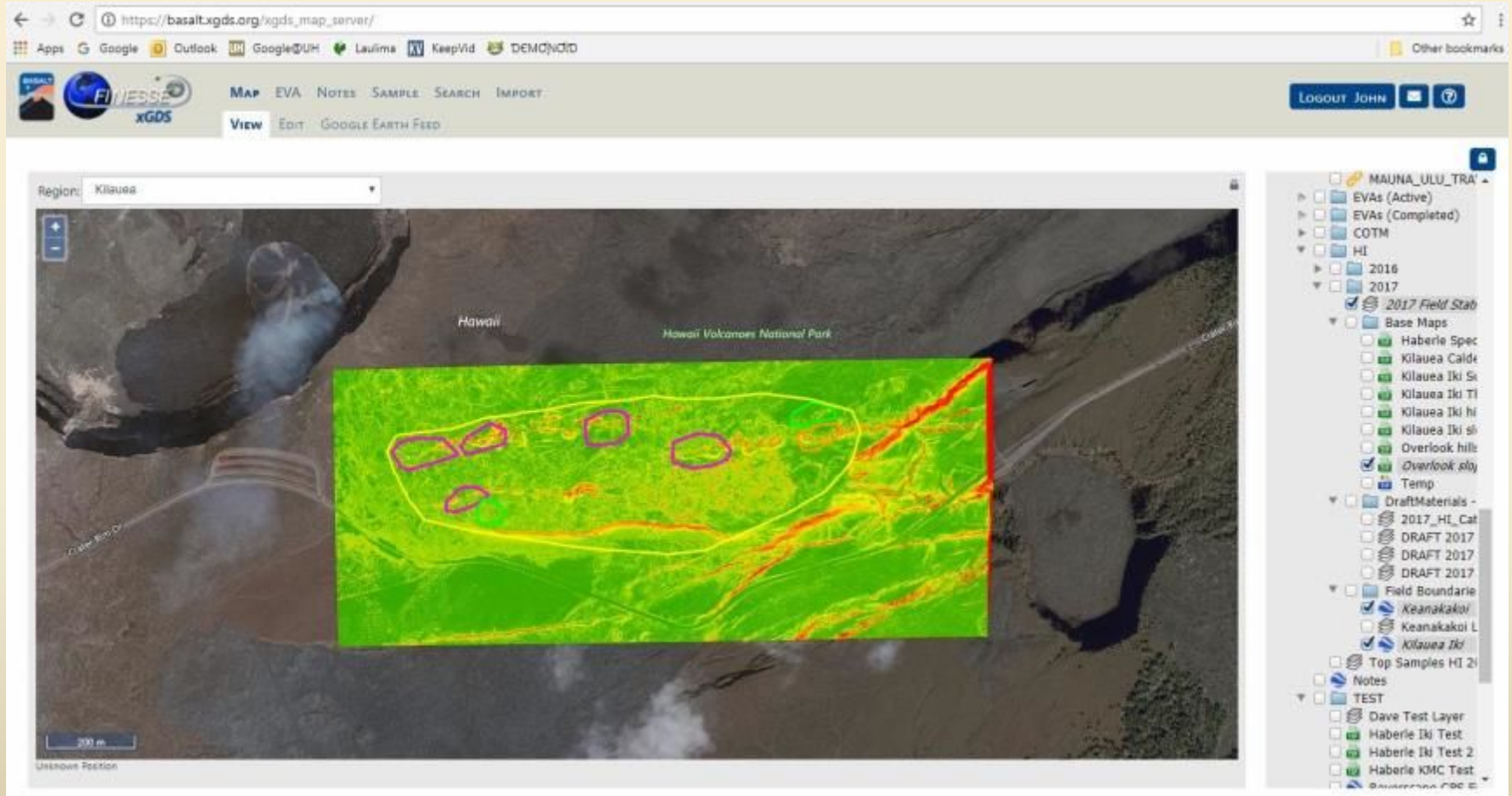
- MAUNA_ULU_TRAVEI
- EVAs (Active)
- EVAs (Completed)
- COTM
- HI
- 2016
- 2017
 - 2017 Field Station
 - Base Maps
 - Haberle Spectra
 - Kilauea Caldera
 - Kilauea Iki Sulfur
 - Kilauea Iki Ther
 - Kilauea Iki hill s
 - Kilauea Iki slop
 - Overlook hillsha
 - Overlook slope
 - Temp
 - DraftMaterials - Dr
 - 2017_HI_Cathe
 - DRAFT 2017 st
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 - Field Boundaries
 - Keanakakoi
 - Keanakakoi Lav
 - Kilauea Iki
 - Top Samples HI 201
 - Notes
 - TEST
 - Dave Test Layer
 - Haberle Iki Test
 - Haberle Iki Test 2
 - Haberle KMC Test
 - BOUNDRY FOR CA



ROI – Keanakekoi DEM



Keanakekoi - Slopes



← → ↻ https://basalt.xgds.org/xgds_map_server/ ☆ ⓘ

Apps Google Outlook Google@UH Lailima KeepVid DEMONOTD Other bookmarks

 **MAP** EVA NOTES SAMPLE SEARCH IMPORT **LOGOUT JOHN** ⓘ ⓘ

View Edit GOOGLE EARTH FEED

Region: Kilauea



Crater Rim Dr Crater Rim Dr Crater Rim Dr Crater Rim Dr

Hawaii Hawaii Volcanoes National Park Hawaii

100 m

Unknown Position

Filter... x

TRANSPARENCY

- ☐ xGDS Maps
 - ☐ EVA Planned Traverses
 - ☐ EVAs (Active)
 - ☐ EVAs (Completed)
 - ☐ COTM
 - ☐ HI
 - ☐ Notes
 - ☐ TEST
 - ☐ all samples

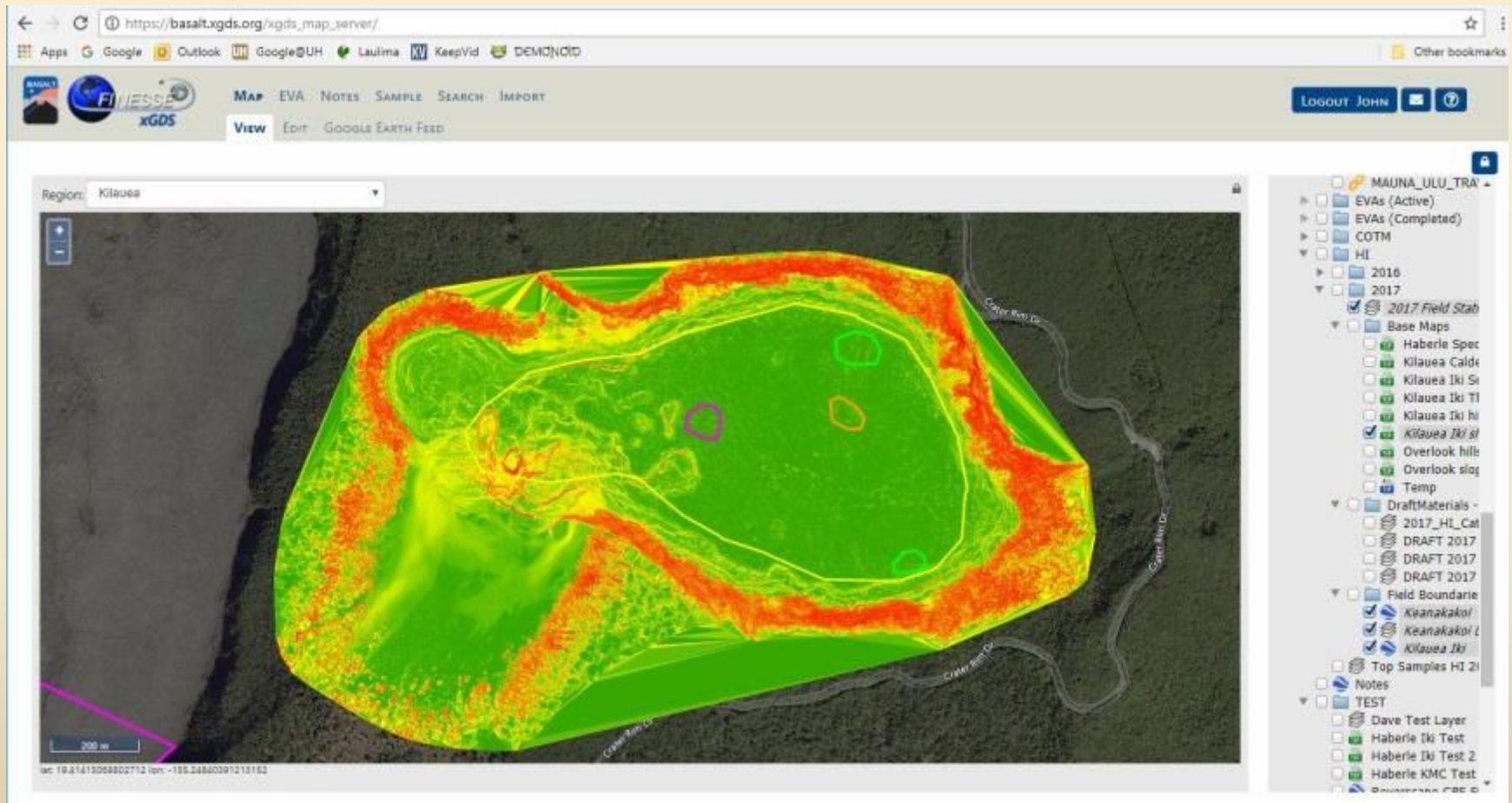
Kilauea Iki - ROI



Kilauea Iki - DEM



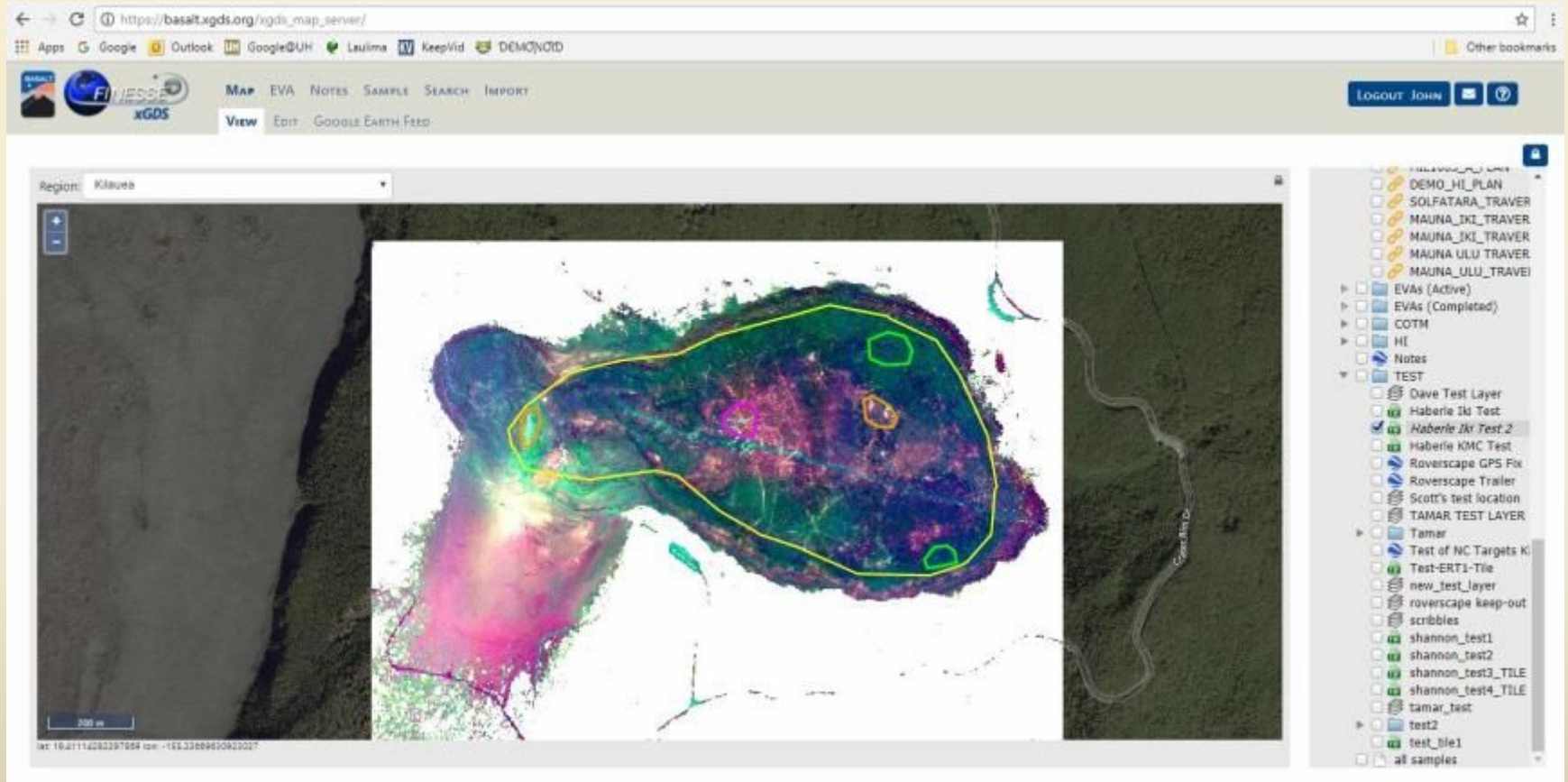
Kilauea Iki - Slopes



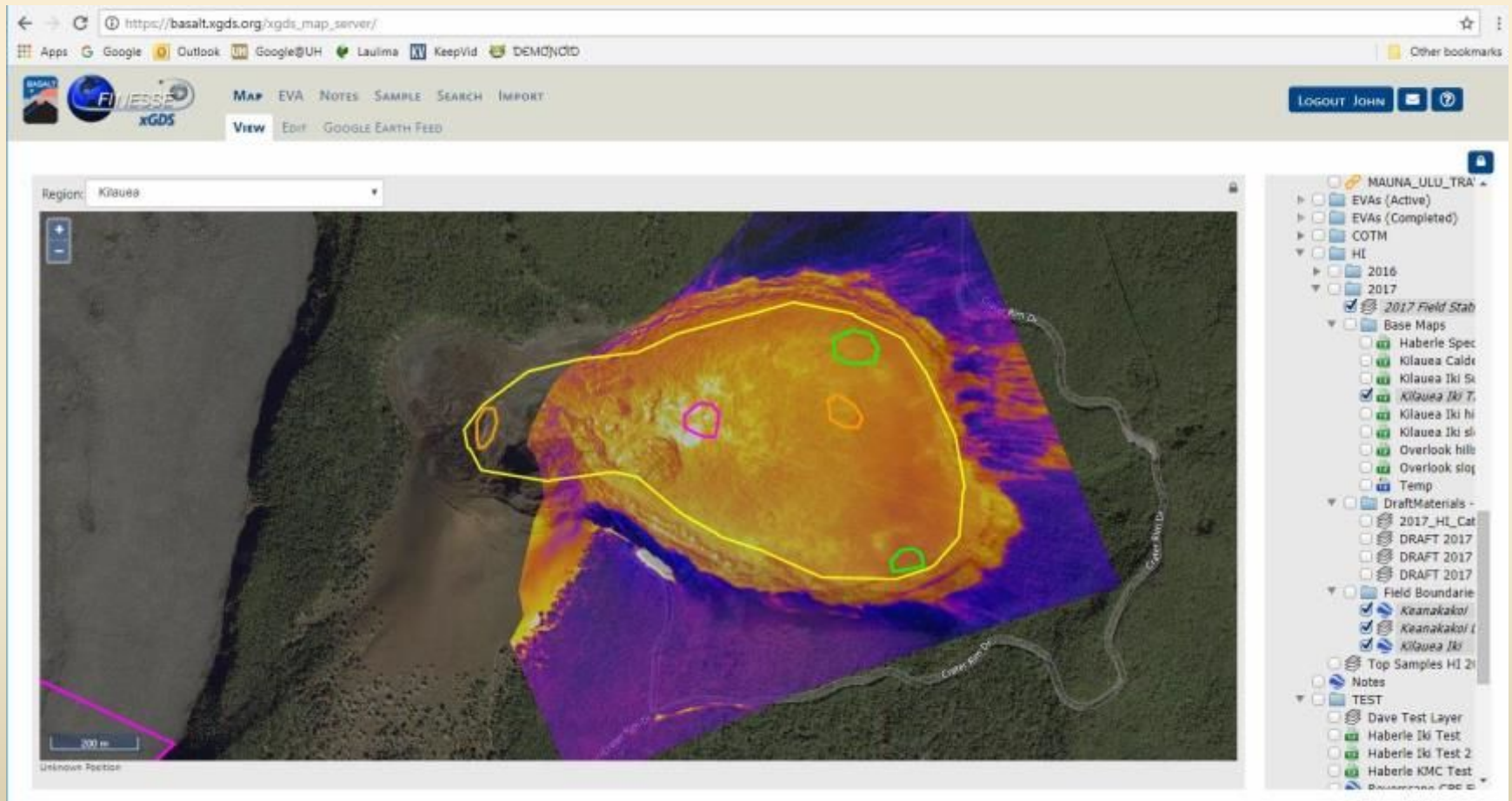
Kilauea Iki – Minerology 1



Kilauea Iki – Minerology 2

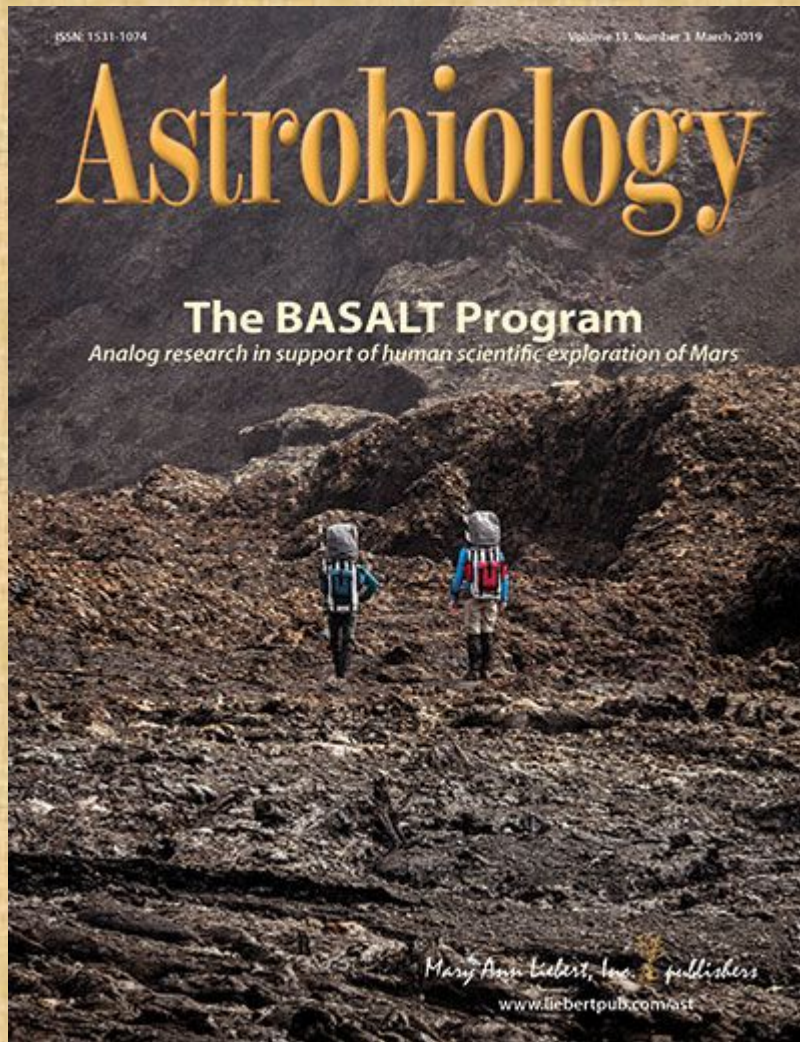


Kilauea Iki - Thermal



Special Issue of Astrobiology

VOLUME 19, ISSUE 3 / MARCH 2019



1. **BASALT: The Future of Mars, on Earth Today** - Stanley G. Love
2. **The BASALT Research Program: Designing and Developing Mission Elements in Support of Human Scientific Exploration of Mars**
3. **Basaltic Terrains in Idaho and Hawai'i as Planetary Analogs for Mars Geology and Astrobiology**
4. **A Low-Diversity Microbiota Inhabits Extreme Terrestrial Basaltic Terrains and Their Fumaroles: Implications for the Exploration of Mars**
5. **Using Science-Driven Analog Research to Investigate Extravehicular Activity Science Operations Concepts and Capabilities for Human Planetary Exploration**
6. **Assessing the Acceptability of Science Operations Concepts and the Level of Mission Enhancement of Capabilities for Human Mars Exploration Extravehicular Activity**
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11. **Opportunities and Challenges of Promoting Scientific Dialog throughout Execution of Future Science-Driven Extravehicular Activity**
12. **Future Needs for Science-Driven Geospatial and Temporal Extravehicular Activity Planning and Execution**
13. **Developing Future Deep-Space Telecommunication Architectures: A Historical Look at the Benefits of Analog Research on the Development of Solar System Internetworking for Future Human Spaceflight**
14. **A Flexible Telecommunication Architecture for Human Planetary Exploration Based on the BASALT Science-Driven Mars Analog**

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