



Properties and Provenance of the Lunar Regolith at Chang'E-5 Landing Site

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Geologic Setting

➤ Northern Oceanus Procellarum

❖ Episodic volcanic activities: 3.6 – 1.2 Ga

➤ P58/EM4

❖ Young: 2 Ga

❖ High FeO/TiO₂ (16.7 wt.% / 4.6 wt.%)

❖ Basalt thickness: ~15 – 50 m

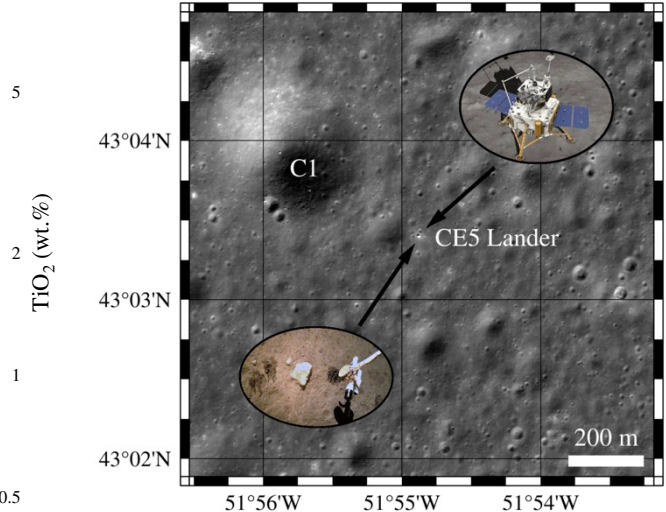
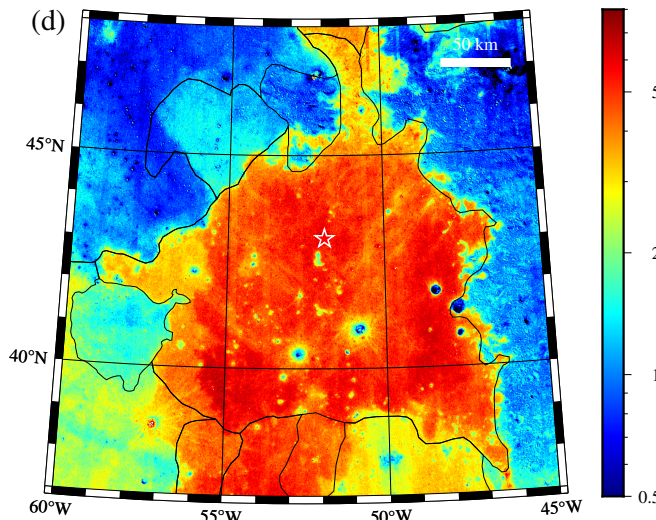
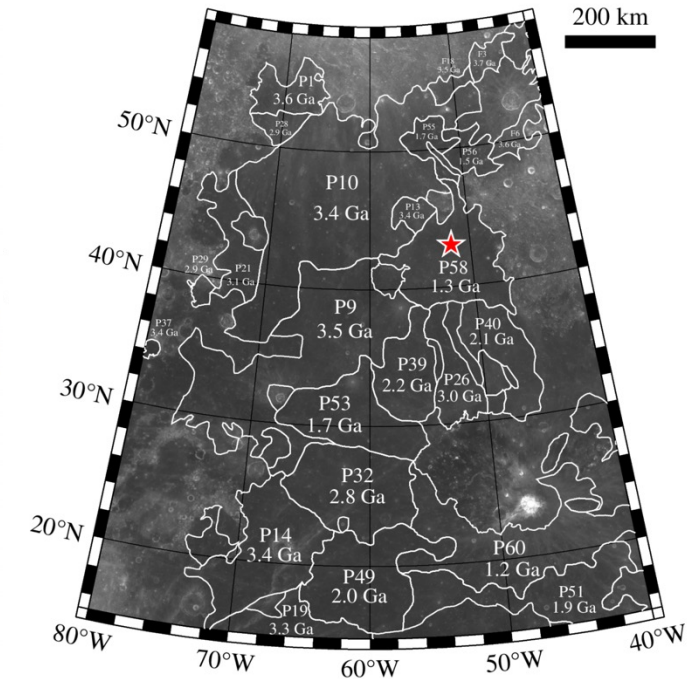
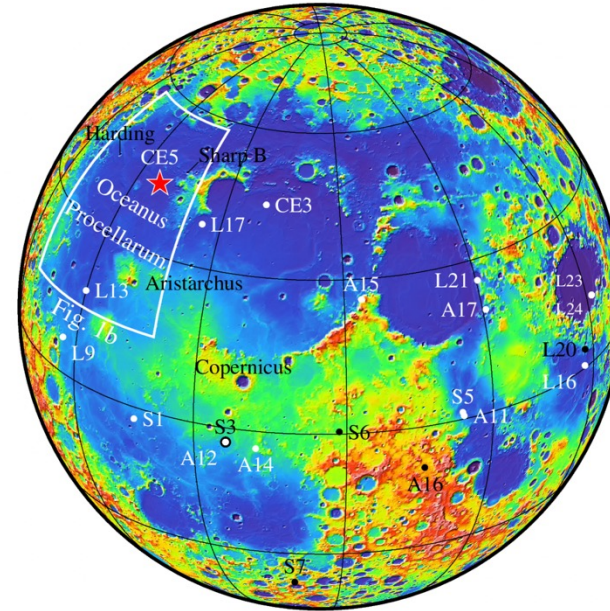
➤ Landing site

❖ FeO/TiO₂ 17.4 wt.% / 5.9 wt.%

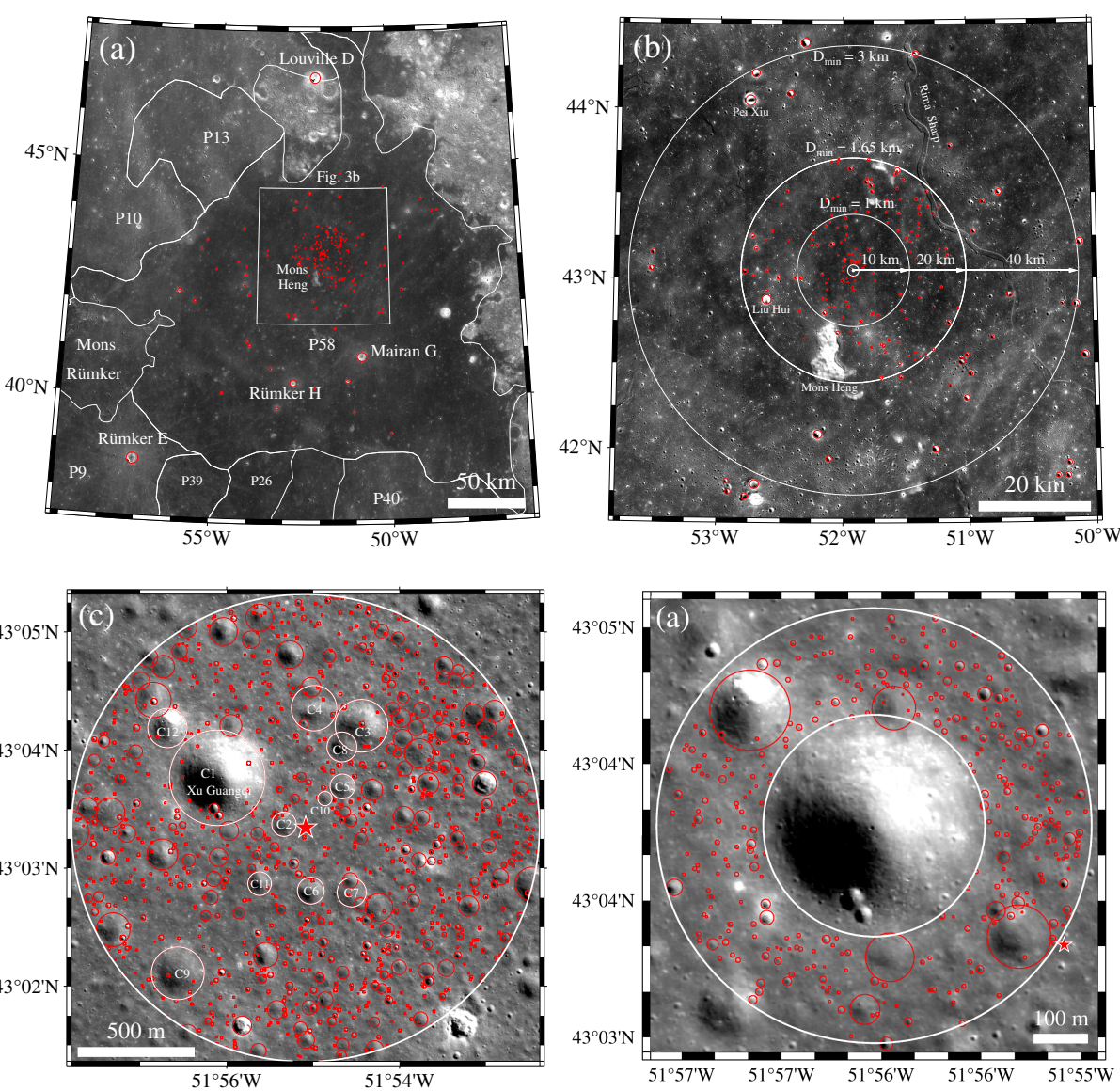
❖ Xu Guangqi crater (C1)

❖ Regolith thickness: ~1.5 – 8 m

❖ Rock abundance: ~ 0.47% – 0.88%
subsurface rocks → 10% – 20% blockage



Provenance and Thickness



➤ 1892 inside
+4 outside

(Aristarchus, Copernicus, Harding, Sharp B)

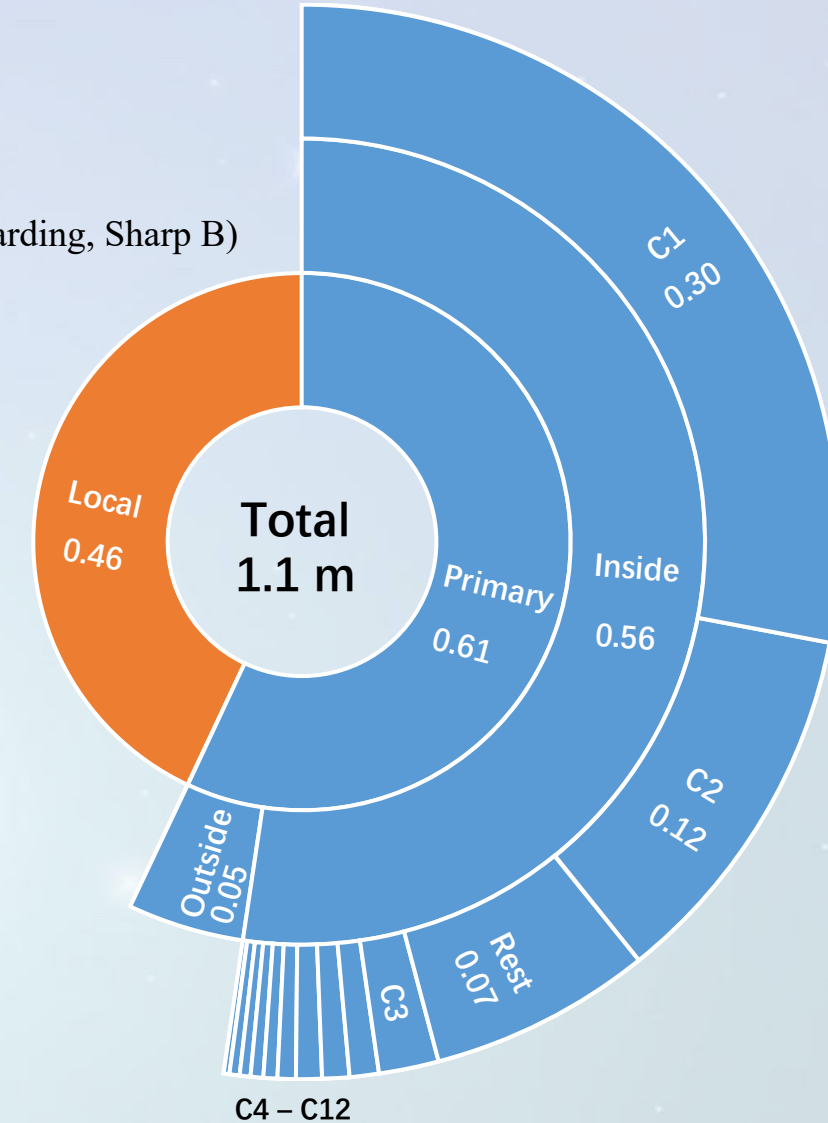
➤ Primary ejecta
and excavated
local material

➤ 12 major
contributors

➤ Xu Guangqi
C1 crater

❖ <100 Ma

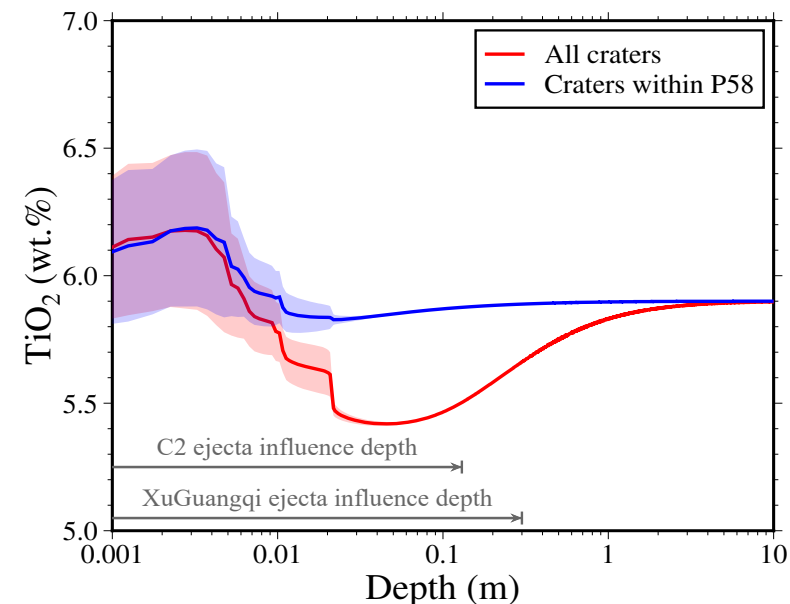
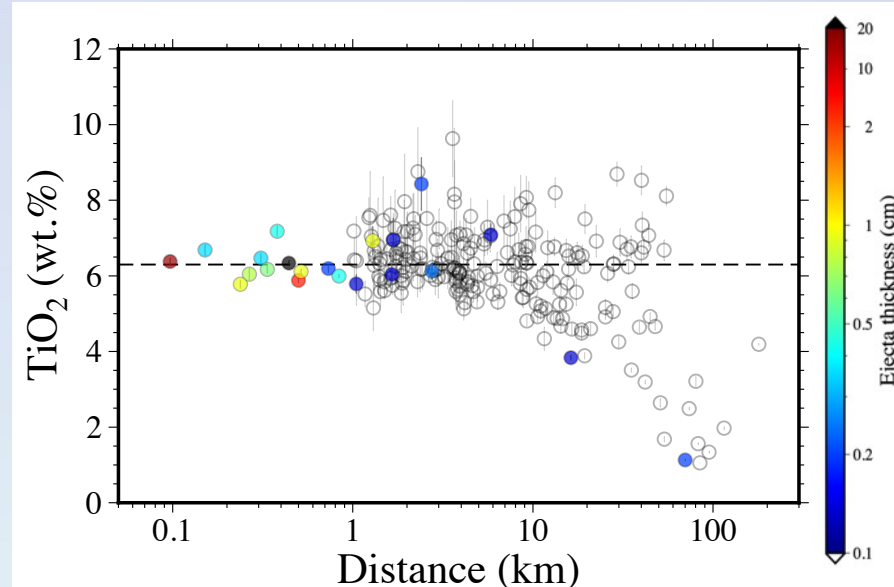
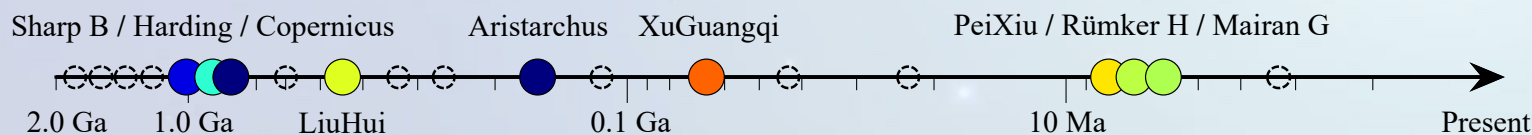
❖ Local basalt



Composition and Modification



- Chemical composition of primary ejecta
 - ❖ Decrease with distance and diameter
- Stratigraphy
 - ❖ Uppermost: C1+C2+ low Ti ejecta, < 100 Ma exposure time
 - ❖ Underneath: mixture of ejecta deposits
 - ❖ Distant ejecta lower FeO/TiO₂ abundance
- Sample properties
 - ❖ Scooped samples – local basalt excavated by C1, C2
 - ❖ Drilled samples – complex mixture
 - ❖ Exotic materials other than local basalt can be identified from FeO/TiO₂ abundances



Summary

- Landing region P58/EM4 and Chang'E-5 landing site
 - ❖ A flat, young, intermediate titanium (4.6 wt.%) mare basalt unit
 - ❖ 15 – 50 m basalt thickness
 - ❖ 1.5 – 8 m regolith thickness
 - ❖ Subsurface RA ~0.47%–0.88%, lead to 10% – 20% blockage possibility
- Stratigraphy and sample provenance
 - ❖ Catalogue of 1896 craters, 1.1 m ejecta deposits in total, 50% of primary ejecta from Xu Guangqi crater
 - ❖ FeO/TiO₂ abundances of primary ejecta decrease with distance and diameter
 - ❖ Surface / scooped samples: Xu Guanqi + C2 + possible young low Ti materials
Underlaid / drilled samples: mixture with complex deposition history
 - ❖ Distant primary ejecta lower FeO/TiO₂ abundance at CE-5 landing site,
Possibly get sampled by CE-5, can be identified from composition



Thanks! & Questions?

Ejecta thickness of Xu Guangqi

- Relative difference ~10%
- Sharpton 2014 b: for complex crater

Model (m)	Present (408 m)	Fresh (333 m)
McGetchin 1973	0.370	0.173
Pike 1974	0.332	0.147
Sharpton 2014 a	0.300	0.133
Sharpton 2014 b	3.264	1.636

