

Revision 1

# High Concentrations of Manganese and Sulfur in Deposits on Murray Ridge, Endeavour Crater, Mars

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17 **Abstract**

18 Mars Reconnaissance Orbiter HiRISE images and Opportunity rover observations of the  
19 ~22 km wide Noachian age Endeavour Crater on Mars show that the rim and surrounding terrains  
20 were densely fractured during the impact crater-forming event. Fractures have also propagated  
21 upward into the overlying Burns formation sandstones. Opportunity's observations show that the  
22 western crater rim segment, called Murray Ridge, is composed of impact breccias with basaltic  
23 compositions, as well as occasional fracture-filling calcium sulfate veins. Cook Haven, a gentle  
24 depression on Murray Ridge, and the site where Opportunity spent its sixth winter, exposes highly  
25 fractured, recessive outcrops that have relatively high concentrations of S and Cl, consistent with  
26 modest aqueous alteration. Opportunity's rover wheels serendipitously excavated and overturned  
27 several small rocks from a Cook Haven fracture zone. Extensive measurement campaigns were  
28 conducted on two of them: Pinnacle Island and Stuart Island. These rocks have the highest  
29 concentrations of Mn and S measured to date by Opportunity and occur as a relatively bright  
30 sulfate-rich coating on basaltic rock, capped by a thin deposit of one or more dark Mn oxide  
31 phases intermixed with sulfate minerals. We infer from these unique Pinnacle Island and Stuart  
32 Island rock measurements that subsurface precipitation of sulfate-dominated coatings was  
33 followed by an interval of partial dissolution and reaction with one or more strong oxidants (e.g.,  
34 O<sub>2</sub>) to produce the Mn oxide mineral(s) intermixed with sulfate-rich salts coating phases. In  
35 contrast to arid regions on Earth, where Mn oxides are widely incorporated into coatings on  
36 surface rocks, our results demonstrate that on Mars the most likely place to deposit and preserve  
37 Mn oxides was in fracture zones where migrating fluids intersected surface oxidants, forming  
38 precipitates shielded from subsequent physical erosion.

39 **Keywords:** Mars, geochemistry, mineralogy, manganese oxides, sulfates

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## Introduction

42           Recent observations by the Opportunity Mars rover on the Cape York rim segment of the  
43 Noachian-age 22 km wide Endeavour Crater (Fig. 1) revealed evidence for aqueous mobilization  
44 of Zn and precipitation of gypsum in veins (Squyres et al. 2012), together with the formation of  
45 phyllosilicate minerals in and along fractures (Arvidson et al. 2014). In parallel, the Curiosity  
46 rover in Gale Crater has uncovered morphologic, compositional, and mineralogic evidence for a  
47 broadly coeval fluvial-deltaic-lacustrine system and associated diagenetic alteration of  
48 sedimentary rocks of basaltic composition (Grotzinger et al. 2014, 2015). These discoveries add  
49 to the growing evidence from orbital and landed missions that early Mars supported extensive  
50 water-related alteration of crustal materials in both surface and subsurface environments (e.g.,  
51 Poulet et al. 2005; Ehlmann and Edwards 2014). In this paper we describe Opportunity  
52 measurements acquired while exploring the Murray Ridge rim segment of Endeavour Crater (Figs.  
53 2-4, Table 1). We first provide an overview of Opportunity's traverses and measurements on  
54 Murray Ridge and consider the implications for past aqueous processes based on exposed bedrock  
55 measurements. We then focus on rocks named Pinnacle Island and Stuart Island that were  
56 serendipitously excavated from a fracture by Opportunity's wheels. These rocks have unique  
57 coatings with the highest Mn and S concentrations found thus far at Meridiani Planum. The data  
58 imply aqueous precipitation of sulfate-rich salts, followed by introduction of a strong oxidant that  
59 led to precipitation of one or more Mn oxide(s).

60

## Opportunity Rover and Instrument Payload

61           Opportunity is a six-wheeled, solar-powered rover (Squyres et al. 2003) equipped with  
62 mast-based Pancam multispectral stereo cameras with 13 filters covering the 0.432 to 1.05  $\mu\text{m}$   
63 spectral region (Bell et al. 2003), a robotic arm (instrument deployment device or IDD) with a

64 Microscopic Imager (MI) that can acquire panchromatic images with 31  $\mu\text{m}$  pixel sizes  
65 (Herkenhoff et al. 2003), an Alpha Particle X-ray Spectrometer (APXS) to determine the target  
66 chemical compositions (Gellert et al. 2006), and a Rock Abrasion Tool (RAT) to brush loose dust  
67 and sand from targets and/or to grind into rocks to remove indurated coatings or weathering rinds  
68 (Gorevan et al. 2003). In addition, the rover carries mast-mounted stereo cameras for navigation  
69 and terrain context measurements (Navcams), and front and rear body-mounted stereo cameras  
70 (Hazcams) used for hazard avoidance during traverses and fine-scale placement of IDD-based  
71 instruments onto rock and soil targets. The science instrument payload also includes the Mini-  
72 TES thermal emission spectrometer and a Mössbauer Spectrometer, but these two instruments  
73 were no longer functioning during the time period covered by this paper.

#### 74 **Structural Geology of Endeavour Crater**

75 Endeavour is a complex impact crater that is largely buried by younger sulfate-rich  
76 sandstones of the Burns formation (Squyres et al. 2012; Crumpler et al. 2015; Grant et al. 2015).  
77 The exposed rim is divided into discrete segments separated by relatively low regions covered by  
78 Burns formation rocks. The presence of extensive breccia outcrops of the Shoemaker formation  
79 on Cape York and Murray Ridge confirms that the crater formed by a bolide impact (Squyres et al.  
80 2012; Arvidson et al. 2014; Crumpler et al. 2015). Comparison to Martian impact craters of  
81 similar size indicates that only ~100 to 200 m of rim material has been removed by erosion,  
82 mostly by fluvial activity before deposition of Burns formation materials (Grant et al. 2015).  
83 Thus, exploration and characterization of Endeavour's rim by Opportunity provide detailed ground  
84 truth information about the lithologic nature and extent of alteration by aqueous fluids for the rim  
85 of a Noachian-age complex impact crater.

86           Structural observations of complex terrestrial impact craters similar in size to Endeavour  
87 provide insight into the types of fractures expected on the rim segments and surrounding terrains  
88 explored by Opportunity. In particular, the Ries Crater, which is ~26 km in diameter (Stöffler et al.  
89 2013), the ~23 km diameter Haughton Crater (Osinski and Spray 2005), and the ~22 km wide  
90 Gosses Bluff impact structure (Milton et al. 1972) have been studied in detail, and exhibit  
91 extensive fractures that formed both radially and concentrically to the crater centers. Osinski and  
92 Spray (2005) and Kenkmann et al. (2014) provide schematic views of structural patterns generated  
93 during the collapse stage of complex crater formation. Their models, supported by observations,  
94 imply that concentric and radial fractures should cut through rim structures of complex craters.  
95 These fractures should also propagate upward through deposits generated after the impact event by  
96 reactivation during later local- to regional-scale tectonic activity and/or increased stresses  
97 associated with loading as later deposits accumulate.

98           Mars Reconnaissance Orbiter HiRISE images offer 0.25 m/pixel ground resolution, with  
99 an imaging system modulation transfer function that preserves fine spatial details of the Martian  
100 surface (McEwen et al. 2007). Examination of HiRISE images for Endeavour rim and inter-rim  
101 segments traversed by Opportunity show evidence for both concentric and radial fractures,  
102 including systems that have propagated upward into Burns formation materials. For example, the  
103 Burns formation bedrock in Botany Bay hosts fractures that are approximately parallel or  
104 perpendicular to the rim segments (Fig. 3). In addition, several fractures are evident extending  
105 westward from Murray Ridge into the surrounding Burns formation materials (Fig. 4). As will be  
106 shown in the next section of this paper, Opportunity-based images demonstrate that the impact  
107 breccia outcrops on Murray Ridge exhibit extensive fracturing that is consistent with the formation  
108 of Endeavour Crater and later readjustments.

109

## 110 **Opportunity's Exploration of Murray Ridge**

111 Opportunity traversed from outcrops of Burns formation sandstones onto the Shoemaker  
112 and underlying Matijevic formation rocks (Squyres et al., 2012; Arvidson et al., 2014; Crumpler et  
113 al., 2015) exposed on the Cape York rim segment of Endeavour Crater in 2011. The rover  
114 explored this rim segment until it was commanded to head south and enter Botany Bay.  
115 Opportunity then crossed the Burns formation outcrops in Botany Bay and approached its first  
116 outcrop on the northeastern corner of Murray Ridge (Fig. 1). After conducting several  
117 measurements on this portion of the rim, Opportunity was commanded to drive around the  
118 northern nose of Murray Ridge (Solander Point) and begin extensive exploration and  
119 characterization of its western slopes. The western side of Murray Ridge was chosen because of  
120 extensive outcrops and less steep terrain than the interior portion of the Ridge. Opportunity is a  
121 solar-powered rover located in the southern hemisphere. As a consequence, the rover is subject to  
122 low solar power during the southern winter season, and its activities are more limited than during  
123 other seasons. For its sixth winter season Opportunity was directed to Cook Haven, a gentle swale  
124 on Murray Ridge (Fig. 4) with requisite north-facing slopes that would provide enough solar  
125 power for the rover to survive and gather some science data.

126 Opportunity's exploration and characterization of outcrops on Murray Ridge included  
127 imaging using Pancam and the engineering cameras, with a number of stops for measurements of  
128 breccia and soil targets using the MI and APXS instruments. Table 1 provides APXS compositions  
129 for Murray Ridge targets covered in this paper. Two key stops for remote sensing and  
130 compositional measurements to the north of Cook Haven were the Spinifex outcrop target and,  
131 farther south, the Moreton Island area, with its Mount Tempest and Tangalooma outcrop targets  
132 (Fig. 5). At both sites these breccia outcrops exhibit extensive fractures. These breccia outcrops

133 contain relatively dark rock clasts several centimeters in diameter embedded in a relatively  
134 brighter, fine-grained matrix. The targets were too rough to brush or grind using the RAT.

135         After leaving Moreton Island, Opportunity traversed into Cook Haven from the south,  
136 thereby avoiding the need to cross south-facing slopes and low insolation values associated with  
137 the northern portion of this gentle swale. Imaging of Cook Haven shows low-lying, relatively  
138 bright outcrops cut by fractures that are partially filled with wind-blown soil deposits (Fig. 6-7).  
139 During the downhill traverse into Cook Haven Opportunity stopped on a soil-filled fracture, later  
140 executing a 146-degree turn, with the rear and middle wheels unintentionally excavating both the  
141 soil and underlying rocks (Figs. 7-8). Two rocks, subsequently named Pinnacle Island and Stuart  
142 Island (PI and SI), were fortuitously excavated and overturned to reveal unusually dark and bright  
143 material on the newly exposed rock surfaces. PI slid within reach of Opportunity's IDD after the  
144 rover completed its drive and was conducting measurements on the Cape Darby outcrop, requiring  
145 no additional rover motions to deploy the MI and APXS onto the newly arrived ~3.5 cm wide  
146 rock. Opportunity conducted measurement campaigns on both PI and SI, the soil (named Anchor  
147 Point) from which they were excavated, and a loose, relatively dark rock cobble in the vicinity  
148 named Sledge Island. Bedrock outcrops Cape Elizabeth and Green Island, both flat outcrops that  
149 were brushed before MI and APXS data were acquired (Fig. 8-9), illustrate the nature of outcrops  
150 in Cook Haven in that they are relatively bright compared to other Murray Ridge outcrops, with  
151 small rock clasts set in an extensive, fine-grained matrix. On the way out of Cook Haven during  
152 the ensuing southern hemisphere spring season, Opportunity conducted measurements on one last  
153 Cook Haven outcrop, a target named Turnagain Arm, and then exited Cook Haven to continue  
154 exploring the western portion of Murray Ridge.

155         A breccia outcrop named Bristol Well located to the south of Cook Haven exhibited bright  
156 veins within fractures (Fig. 10). Three overlapping APXS and MI measurements were acquired to

157 either side and centered on one of the veins. In-situ measurements were also made on impact  
158 breccia targets to the south of the Bristol Well targets. These targets are the Sarcobatus outcrop  
159 matrix and two overlapping measurements on a relatively dark rock clast (Fig. 11). The matrix  
160 target was flat and smooth, enabling brushing before acquiring MI and APXS data. The last two  
161 breccia targets on Murray Ridge were Tuscaloosa and Sodaville. The former represents outcrop  
162 and the latter grus-like debris within a fracture just uphill of Tuscaloosa. After these measurements  
163 the rover continued south, conducting its last in-situ measurements on a soil target named  
164 Barstow, and left Murray Ridge to begin its ascent of the Cape Tribulation rim segment (Fig. 1).

### 165 **Murray Ridge Outcrop and Soil Compositional Trends**

166 APXS compositional data in Table 1 show that Murray Ridge rocks and soils are basaltic  
167 in composition, with the notable exceptions of the Bristol Well vein and the relatively dark and  
168 bright materials associated with PI and SI rocks excavated by Opportunity's wheels. To evaluate  
169 further the extent to which there are deviations toward smectite or other phyllosilicate  
170 compositions similar to what was found on Cape York (Arvidson et al. 2014), APXS data for  
171 outcrops and soils (excluding PI and SI) are shown in a ternary plot of mole fraction  $\text{Al}_2\text{O}_3$ –  
172  $(\text{CaO}+\text{Na}_2\text{O}+\text{K}_2\text{O})$ – $(\text{FeO}_T+\text{MgO})$  (Fig. 12). Also plotted are laboratory-based measurements for  
173 various phyllosilicates and other APXS data for Endeavour's rim. The Espérance data are for  
174 APXS measurements at Cape York in a fracture zone where progressively deeper RAT grinds  
175 showed evidence for a compositional trend toward montmorillonite (Arvidson et al. 2014). With  
176 the exception of the Bristol Well and Sledge Island measurements, no significant deviations from  
177 a narrow range of basaltic compositions are evident. Examination of data shown in Table 1  
178 demonstrates that Sledge Island has a slightly different composition as compared to outcrops on  
179 Murray Ridge and may be an erratic added to Cook Haven (e.g., as impact ejecta).



204 show that the PI and SI rocks are thinly coated by dark materials (Figs. 14-17). In addition, PI  
205 shows evidence for a thin, bright coating interpreted to lie directly on top of relatively fresh rock  
206 surfaces and beneath the dark coating (Fig. 14-17). The dark coating is concentrated in the  
207 concave-upward center part of PI and has a lumpy texture. Pancam false color images, combined  
208 with MI data (Figs. 16-17), indicate that SI does not exhibit the same type of areal extensive,  
209 relatively bright coating found on PI. Instead in the false color images and MI data, SI exhibits an  
210 extensive and variably colored dark coating, together with areas interpreted to be relatively fresh  
211 or dusty rock surfaces. The former have a bluish-gray and the latter a reddish hue. MI anaglyphs  
212 covering SI do show several oval-shaped areas that are interpreted to be rock clasts, with one of  
213 them surrounded by a very thin, relatively bright annulus (Fig. 16). The bright annulus, in turn, is  
214 surrounded by a relatively dark annulus. Thus both PI and SI exhibit dark coatings, with a bright  
215 coating well exposed on PI.

216 Pancam 13-band multispectral observations (0.432 to 1.009  $\mu\text{m}$ ) acquired for PI, SI and  
217 surrounding areas provide quantitative colorimetric and spectral reflectance constraints on coating  
218 mineralogy. Pancam raw image data were calibrated to surface radiance factor ( $I/F$ , where  $I$  is the  
219 measured radiance and  $\pi F$  is the incident solar radiance) divided by the cosine of the incidence  
220 angle at the time of image acquisition, with absolute reflectance levels accurate to within  $\sim 10\%$   
221 (Bell et al. 2006). Spectral endmembers for PI were retrieved using the sequential maximum  
222 angle convex cone methodology in which spectral extremes are located in multidimensional space  
223 and separated from shadow values (Gruninger et al. 2004). Four statistically significant  
224 endmembers were retrieved: relatively fresh rock, dusty rock bright coating, and dark coating (Fig.  
225 18).

226 The dusty rock endmember spectrum has a broad ferric edge absorption ( $\sim 0.43\text{-}0.75 \mu\text{m}$ )  
227 interpreted to result from  $\text{Fe}^{3+}$  in nanophase iron oxides found in Martian dust (Morris et al. 1993).

228 The fresh rock endmember spectrum resembles the spectral properties of rocks on Murray Ridge  
229 not covered or only thinly covered by dust. The ferric edge is subdued relative to the dusty rock  
230 spectrum, and at longer wavelengths the spectrum shows a shallow dip, consistent with electronic  
231 absorptions due to the presence of one or more ferrous silicates, most likely pyroxene(s) (Clark  
232 1999). The bright coating endmember has the highest reflectance values of the four PI  
233 endmembers. The ferric edge is present, but not as prominent as observed for the dusty rock. The  
234 bright coating endmember spectrum also exhibits a relatively steep downturn in reflectance  
235 between 0.9 to 1.0  $\mu\text{m}$ , consistent with the presence of  $\text{H}_2\text{O}$  and/or OH in the mineral structure  
236 (e.g., Rice et al. 2010).

237 Spectral endmembers were retrieved using the sequential maximum angle convex cone  
238 methodology on Pancam 13-band data for SI. Four endmembers were entered as a constraint,  
239 although only three could be retrieved in a statistically viable manner. The first is similar to the PI  
240 dusty rock endmember, and the second is similar to the relatively fresh rock endmember. The third  
241 is statistically indistinguishable from the PI dark coating endmember (Fig. 18). The PI and SI  
242 dark coating endmember spectra both have very low reflectance values that increase  
243 monotonically with increasing wavelength, with the exception of a shallow dip centered at 0.754  
244  $\mu\text{m}$ , and a flattening of the slope for wavelengths longer than 0.934  $\mu\text{m}$ . Munsell color values  
245 (Kelly and Judd 1976) for the dark coating endmembers for both rocks are 2.5R2.5/2, where 2.5R  
246 designates a slight deviation from a red hue, 2.5 indicates a dark surface, and 2 indicates a near  
247 gray appearance. The dark coating endmember color and spectral properties are unique for Mars,  
248 which ubiquitously show ferric absorptions at shorter wavelengths, increasing rapidly with  
249 increasing wavelength to  $\sim 0.77 \mu\text{m}$ , as shown for the other endmember spectra. We revisit the  
250 likely mineralogy of the dark and bright coatings after first considering constraints from the  
251 APXS-based compositions for PI and SI rocks.

## 252 **Pinnacle and Stuart Island Compositions and Endmember Retrievals**

253 Five overlapping APXS observations were acquired for PI (Fig. 14) and four for SI (Fig.  
254 16) (Table 1). The field of view (FOV) of the instrument is comparable to the ~3.5 cm PI width,  
255 although most of the signal comes from the inner portion of the FOV. The situation is slightly  
256 better for the ~12 cm long SI rock. APXS placements were positioned to concentrate on the  
257 spectral endmember locations for PI and to cover the breadth of SI. For the PI APXS  
258 measurements the highly overlapping nature of the observations requires that care be taken in  
259 interpretation. Examination of the compositional data shown in Table 1 shows enrichments in  
260 Mg, Mn, Ni, and S for both PI and SI, relative to surrounding basaltic bedrock. The enrichment  
261 patterns are also distinctly different than found for the sulfate-rich sandstones that dominate the  
262 Burns formation (Clark et al. 2005). The APXS FOVs containing the highest concentrations of the  
263 dark coating endmember (PI\_3, PI\_5) have the greatest enrichments in these elements. PI\_3 and  
264 PI\_5 also show minor enrichments in Ca and P, and overall the PI targets have higher  
265 concentrations of Cl, relative to SI targets (Fig. 13, Table 1). PI\_3 has the highest concentration of  
266 Mn (3.48 wt% MnO, Table 1) measured by the Spirit and Opportunity rovers, and SI\_3 has the  
267 highest S concentration (38.21 wt% SO<sub>3</sub>, Table 1) measured by either rover. PI and SI coating  
268 compositions are thus unique among the many hundreds of APXS measurements collected by the  
269 Spirit and Opportunity rovers (Gellert et al. 2006).

270 Because the APXS FOV is large relative to the size of PI, it is not possible to use the  
271 observations alone to retrieve the compositions of the purest dark and bright coatings that are well-  
272 exposed on this rock and localized using Pancam spectral analysis. On the other hand, if we  
273 assume that the compositions follow the areal concentrations of Pancam-based endmembers,  
274 various techniques can be used to retrieve compositional estimates for the purest endmember  
275 locations. To pursue these retrievals, the location of each APXS PI measurement was derived from

276 examination of MI frames pointed toward the APXS target center, together with projections of the  
277 IDD motions toward the target. Locations were refined using the predicted total signal as a  
278 function of terrain topography and derived APXS stand-off distances. Overall the methodology for  
279 localization of the APXS measurements followed the procedures described in VanBommel et al.  
280 (2016).

281 For each PI APXS observation the Pancam-based endmember phase abundance maps were  
282 spatially convolved with the APXS FOVs at the Pancam pixel scale, given the APXS  
283 measurement location, the lateral distance from the detector center, the APXS detector stand-off  
284 distance, and topography (Fig. 19). To ensure more observations than unknowns in retrieving  
285 compositions for the Pancam-based purest endmember locations, the dusty and fresh rock  
286 endmembers were combined, and SI, Anchor Point soils, and Cook Haven bedrock observations  
287 were added to the data matrix. Thus sixteen measurements were used together with the phase  
288 abundance matrix (three endmember columns and sixteen observation rows) to solve for the  
289 compositions of three endmembers (sixteen oxide columns and three endmember rows): rock,  
290 bright coating, and dark coating. In matrix notation the phase abundance matrix was post-  
291 multiplied by the endmember composition matrix to generate the matrix of oxide compositions.

292 An iterative minimization algorithm with a non-negativity constraint was used in which  
293 both the phase abundance and endmember composition matrix values were allowed to vary. Initial  
294 phase abundances for PI observations were set by the Pancam-based endmember map  
295 convolutions with the APXS FOVs, whereas the other initial phase abundances were initially set  
296 to random numbers, including those for SI. The sums of squared deviations between the model  
297 predictions and measured values for the sixteen elements for the sixteen APXS measurements  
298 were minimized and used to compute statistical errors of the retrieved endmember compositions  
299 and phase abundances. Results are presented in Table 2 for retrieved endmember compositions

300 and Table 3 for phase abundances. Major elements were retrieved with small errors for the dark  
301 coating and rock endmembers. The bright coating endmember composition retrievals have  
302 relatively large errors that are a consequence of the small areal extent of this endmember and thus  
303 relatively poor APXS statistics. Low concentration elements were also difficult to retrieve for all  
304 endmembers and some zero values were retrieved, which is compositionally incorrect, and a  
305 limitation of the retrieval procedure. Phase abundance retrievals are consistent with the Pancam-  
306 based images for PI, e.g., examinations of APXS locations over the endmember abundance maps  
307 are consistent with retrievals shown in Table 3. In addition, SI phase abundances show high  
308 concentrations of bright and dark endmembers in all four observations, consistent with the more  
309 complicated color patterns evident in Pancam data for SI than for PI (Figs. 14 and 16).

310 To pursue how the endmember retrievals match and/or extend trends in compositions, a  
311 correspondence analysis (CA) was run for all measurements on Murray Ridge and included the  
312 three endmember compositions (Fig. 20). CA is a row- and column-normalized principal  
313 component analysis used for understanding correlations among samples and variables and has  
314 been used to explore patterns for the intrinsically multivariate APXS data acquired by both the  
315 Spirit and Opportunity rovers (Arvidson et al. 2010, 2011). The first two CA factor loadings,  
316 which carry ~98% of the data variance, demonstrate that the rock endmember composition has a  
317 close affinity to bedrock. The bright and dark coating endmembers extend the differences in  
318 compositions between the measurements centered over the bright and dark coating exposures on  
319 PI. The bright coating endmember is characterized by an affinity for magnesium and sulfur, and  
320 modest amounts of manganese, whereas the dark coating also has an affinity for manganese,  
321 calcium, and phosphorus, in addition to magnesium and sulfur.

322 We also use the trends evident in the CA factor loadings plot to consider bivariate  
323 correlations between oxide compositions, e.g., Si and S are clearly negatively correlated (Fig. 20).

324 This is evident in a plot and high correlation coefficient of these two elemental abundances (Fig.  
325 21). Mg and S are positively correlated as are Ca and P (Figs. 20-21). The retrieved rock and dark  
326 coating endmembers bound the first three bivariate plots, whereas the Ca vs P plot shows a much  
327 greater spread of data and endmembers. Ni is not well estimated in the endmember retrievals.  
328 However, a strong Mn vs. Ni positive correlation is evident in the bivariate plot shown in Fig. 22,  
329 using only the actual APXS observations.

### 330 **Inferred Pinnacle Island Bright and Dark Coating Mineral Phases**

331 The bright endmember coating spectral reflectance is consistent with the presence of a pure  
332 Mg-sulfate endmember, although the composition, low overall reflectance relative to Mg sulfate  
333 powders and rocks (e.g., Cloutis et al. 2006), and the presence of the short wavelength ferric  
334 absorption imply a more complex mineral assemblage. The dark coating endmember spectral  
335 characteristics are clearly indicative of the presence of one or more minerals that are intrinsically  
336 dark because of multiple, overlapping charge transfer and/or electronic transition absorptions  
337 associated with the presence of transition metals such as Mn (Sherman 1984). We explore a range  
338 of possible candidates to show that the low reflectance and lack of ferric edge are consistent with  
339 the presence of Mn oxides. A number of synthetic samples were generated and used to pursue this  
340 comparison, including hausmannite ( $(\text{Mn}^{2+}, \text{Mn}^{3+})_2\text{O}_4$ ), bixbyite ( $\alpha\text{-Mn}^{3+}_2\text{O}_3$ ), pyrolusite ( $\beta\text{-Mn}^{4+}\text{O}_2$ ),  
341 a series of phylломanganates: triclinic and hexagonal forms of birnessite ( $\text{Na, Ca, K}_x(\text{Mn}^{4+}, \text{Mn}^{3+})_2\text{O}_4 \cdot n\text{H}_2\text{O}$ ), and vernadite ( $\text{Na}_{0.2}\text{Mn}^{4+}_{0.95}\text{O}_2 \cdot n\text{H}_2\text{O}$ ). These phases were synthesized  
342 in the laboratory under controlled conditions, with phase identification verified using X-ray  
343 diffraction (Hinkle 2015). Spectral reflectance data were acquired for silt-sized portions of these  
344 minerals with lighting and viewing conditions similar to those for which the Pancam data were  
345 acquired (Fig. 23). All of the Mn oxide spectra have low overall values and either are spectrally  
346 flat, or increase modestly in reflectance with increasing wavelength, consistent with the  
347

348 overlapping nature of the charge transfer and electronic transition absorptions for these oxides. To  
349 our knowledge no other Mn-bearing minerals (e.g., Mn sulfates, which are bright pink) exhibit  
350 these spectral characteristics. Mn sulfides were not considered to be viable matches for the dark  
351 coating endmember spectra because these minerals are exceptionally rare in nature. The reason is  
352 that the electronic structure of Mn favors the maintenance of localized 3d orbitals in a high-spin  
353 configuration, rather than hybridization into molecular orbitals shared with sulfur and typical of  
354 other sulfide minerals (Vaughan and Rosso 2006).

355 To further pursue possible mineral assemblages we calculated the phases that would have  
356 been produced if the bright and dark coating endmember compositions formed via equilibrium  
357 precipitation from an aqueous fluid. Calculations were based on a geochemical reaction model  
358 using The Geochemist's Workbench version 10.0.6 (Bethke 2007). Oxide components reported in  
359 Table 2 were modeled as reacting with 1 kg of water, converting to mineral phases based on fluid  
360 saturation state. Cr<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub>, Br, Ni, and Zn were excluded from the model as these occur at minor to  
361 trace levels and will largely occur as substituting elements in other minerals. Reaction of 1.5 kg of  
362 oxide components with 1 kg of water yielded a stable configuration, i.e., an incremental addition  
363 of oxide components yielded a proportional increase in existing minerals. This reaction left a  
364 residual brine containing primarily Mg and sulfate; this fluid was then evaporated to obtain the full  
365 mineralogy. The initial reaction employed a previously-described thermodynamic database  
366 (Catalano 2013). The evaporation step required use of a Pitzer-style activity model. A previously-  
367 compiled database (Tosca et al. 2005, 2007) was modified with more recent compilations of ion-  
368 interaction parameters (Marion et al. 2003, 2008, 2009, 2010) and revised solubility data (Grevel  
369 and Majzlan 2009, 2011; Kobylin et al. 2011; Majzlan et al. 2004a, 2004b). Pitzer models are not  
370 parameterized for P and Ti, and thus these elements were removed for the evaporation step;  
371 >99.99% of the P and Ti added to the system were precipitated in minerals in the initial reaction.

372 All calculations were performed at 25°C because the thermodynamic data available is most robust  
373 at this temperature.

374 The geochemical modeling results yield plausible mineral assemblages, with both  
375 endmembers dominated by Mg sulfate, as expected from the bulk compositions (Fig. 24). The  
376 dark coating endmember retrieval also contains gypsum, ferric hydroxysulfates, and ferric  
377 phosphate, with the bright coating retrieval containing nontronite (as the main host of SiO<sub>2</sub>), and  
378 minor gibbsite and gypsum. Mn in both coatings is predicted to occur as a phyllomanganate  
379 (birnessite), with the dark coating containing a substantially larger mass fraction of this mineral.  
380 These calculations assume all phases were in equilibrium and that the endmembers contained no  
381 detrital material. Neither assumption is fully valid for real systems. Thus these calculated  
382 assemblages simply demonstrate that endmember compositions correspond to realistic mineral  
383 assemblages that would form by precipitation from aqueous solutions. Additional calculations  
384 (not shown) explored possible paragenetic sequences associated with closed system chemical  
385 processes during and after deposition, but were unable to produce the dark coatings by alteration  
386 or leaching of the bright coatings, and vice versa, as both contain mixtures of soluble and  
387 insoluble phases and have distinct compositions. The model results suggest that the formation of  
388 these coatings involved multiple stages of fluid flow and coating formation.

### 389 **Formation and Uniqueness of Pinnacle and Stuart Island Coatings**

390 The morphologic, stratigraphic, spectral, and compositional patterns evident on the PI and  
391 SI rock surfaces are interpreted to indicate two episodes of authigenic mineral deposition, both  
392 dominated by precipitation of sulfates from subsurface fluids that were largely neutralized by  
393 reactions with basaltic bedrock. The initial precipitation generated bright coatings that were  
394 subsequently altered to form a thin layer of what is likely Mg-sulfate-dominated mineralogy that

395 also includes Mn oxides. We note that the presence of Mn oxides would also suggest scavenging  
396 of Ni (Post 1999), thereby helping to explain the positive correlation between these two elements  
397 (Fig. 22). The precipitation of Mn oxides requires the presence of a high concentration of potential  
398 oxidants (e.g., O<sub>2</sub>, although this is by no means a unique identification), most likely associated  
399 with fluids in direct contact with the atmosphere. To account for the observed elemental  
400 correlations, incorporation of Ca, P, Cl, and Br into one or more phases (e.g., chloroapatite (Klein  
401 2002)) must also have occurred for PI.

402 The PI and SI coating compositions are unique among the many hundreds of APXS  
403 measurements acquired by the Opportunity and Spirit rovers. This is evident in a plot of Fe vs. Mn  
404 for all data collected through Murray Ridge (Fig. 25). It is also evident when the S- and Cl-free PI  
405 and SI compositions are placed in context with all of the soil and bedrock measurements.  
406 Specifically, projecting the data onto an S- and Cl-free ternary diagram illustrates the decreasing  
407 importance of silicates and Fe-bearing phases as PI and SI measurements move from rock to  
408 bright coating to dark coating compositions (Fig. 26). PI and SI coating trends are distinctly  
409 different from trends related to hematitic concretions in the Burns formation sulfate-rich  
410 sandstones (Morris et al. 2006), Ca-sulfate veins on Cape York and surrounding bench deposits  
411 (Squyres et al. 2012), Bristol Well Ca-sulfate veins, and aluminous phyllosilicates (Espérance) in  
412 a fracture on Cape York (Arvidson et al. 2014).

### 413 **Implications**

414 Endeavour's highly fractured rim is interpreted to have provided a conduit for subsurface  
415 fluid flow, and this would have particularly been the case in the immediate aftermath of the crater-  
416 forming impact event and associated heating of groundwater (e.g., Osinski and Pierazzo 2012).  
417 Based on Opportunity observations, most of the impact breccia outcrops on the western rim of

418 Endeavour's Murray Ridge rim segment do not show major element compositional deviations  
419 from a basaltic composition. Minor fracture-filling Ca-sulfate veins have been encountered,  
420 implying modest flow of fluids and regional-scale precipitation of a relatively insoluble sulfate  
421 phase or phases. In addition, relatively high S and Cl concentrations associated with Cook Haven  
422 bedrock outcrops imply modest addition of these mobile elements. On the other hand, Pinnacle  
423 and Stuart Island rocks, serendipitously excavated from a soil-filled fracture by Opportunity's  
424 wheels, provide strong evidence for movement of fluids through the subsurface, and formation of  
425 a unique sulfate-rich deposit overlain by a sulfate and Mn oxide-rich coating.

426         On the basis of inferred mineralogy, the aqueous fluids that deposited coatings on Pinnacle  
427 and Stuart Island rocks exhibited temporally varying redox conditions governed by subsurface  
428 rock-water interactions in contact with an oxidizing surface environment. Discovery of these rare  
429 deposits on the rim of Endeavour Crater complements the discovery of equally rare Mn-oxide  
430 deposits formed by aqueous flow in subsurface fractures by the Curiosity rover in Gale Crater  
431 (Lanza et al. 2015). These two discoveries demonstrate that Mn-oxides must have been part of the  
432 planet's secondary mineral repertoire that required a stronger redox gradient in some near-surface  
433 environments than previously recognized. In contrast to arid regions on Earth, where Mn oxides  
434 are widely incorporated into coatings on surface rocks (e.g., Liu and Broecker 2008), our results  
435 demonstrate that on Mars the most likely place to deposit and preserve Mn oxides was in fracture  
436 zones where migrating fluids intersected surface oxidants, forming precipitates shielded from  
437 subsequent physical erosion.

438

439

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## Figure Captions

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639 **Figure 1.** HiRISE-based mosaic showing Endeavour Crater, Opportunity's traverses, and key  
640 locations on the crater rim explored by the rover. Endeavour is largely buried by later Burns  
641 formation sulfate-rich sandstones and thus only high portions of the crater rim are exposed. Box  
642 shows the location of the portion of the mosaic shown in Fig. 2.

643 **Figure 2.** HiRISE-based image showing Botany Bay and Murray Ridge, with Opportunity's  
644 traverses shown. Cook Haven is a gentle swale on the Murray Ridge rim segment and was the site  
645 for Opportunity's sixth winter sojourn. Bristol Well is a Ca sulfate vein and Tuscaloosa is a  
646 breccia outcrop examined by Opportunity, and both are shown to provide context for the rover's  
647 exploration of Murray Ridge. Box A is the location shown in Fig. 3 that illustrates concentric and  
648 radial fractures in the Burns formation. Box B is the location shown in Fig 4 that shows fractures  
649 and the northern portion of Murray Ridge. HiRISE image ESP\_036753\_1775\_MRGB (merged  
650 color and gray scale).

651 **Figure 3.** Portion of the HiRISE-based image segment covering Botany Bay, highlighting the  
652 locations of concentric fractures that are interpreted to have propagated up through the Burns  
653 formation outcrops just above a buried portion of Endeavour's rim between the Cape York and  
654 Murray Ridge rim segments. Radial fractures are evident extending to the east and northeast into  
655 Endeavour. HiRISE image ESP\_036753\_1775\_MRGB.

656 **Figure 4.** Portion of the HiRISE-based image segment covering the northern part of Murray  
657 Ridge. Concentric fractures are evident extending into the Burns formation outcrops located to the  
658 north of Murray Ridge. Note the radial fracture (strike N85°W) extending from the west to the  
659 east, terminating near the Cook Haven location. Spinifex and Moreton Island are two of

660 Opportunity's breccia outcrop targets and are shown for context. HiRISE image  
661 ESP\_036753\_1775\_MRGB.

662 **Figure 5.** Pancam false color image mosaic of the Moreton Island outcrop on Murray Ridge, with  
663 the Tangalooma and Mount Tempest in-situ targets shown. These highly fractured rocks are  
664 impact breccias with embedded rock clasts. For reference the outcrop with the two in-situ targets  
665 is approximately 0.25 m wide. Pancam images were acquired on sols 3494-3496, with bands  
666 centered at 0.753, 0.535, and 0.432  $\mu\text{m}$  shown as RGB colors. This band assignment is the same as  
667 other Pancam false color data shown in subsequent figures. Mosaic available as  
668 <http://photojournal.jpl.nasa.gov/catalog/PIA17753>.

669 **Figure 6.** Navcam image mosaic acquired on sol 3512 while Opportunity was south of Cook  
670 Haven before entering this gentle swale for its winter campaign. View is to the northeast and  
671 provides an overview of the polygonally fractured, low relief outcrops that dominate Cook Haven.  
672 Two prominent fractures are shown that intersect at right angles, with strikes of N75°E and  
673 N10°W. Green Island is an in-situ target for which Microscopic Imager (MI) and Alpha Particle  
674 X-ray Spectrometer (APXS) data were acquired after brushing using the Rock Abrasion Tool  
675 (RAT). For reference the Green Island outcrop is ~0.35 m wide. A dust devil can be seen on the  
676 floor of Endeavour Crater. Navcam mosaic 1NNZ12ILFCACYPDPP0673L000M2.

677 **Figure 7** Orthorectified view of Navcam image mosaic shown in Fig. 6, augmented with a  
678 portion from a later Navcam mosaic (Site 182, position 194, sol 3507, where site is a location  
679 where the rover coordinate system is set to zero, and position is a location relative to that new  
680 coordinate system) to show terrain elements masked by the rover in the earlier data. The two  
681 orthogonal fractures labeled in Fig. 6 are shown, along with the soil-filled fracture (N80°W strike,  
682 similar in azimuth to the inferred fracture extending into Cook Haven from the west, Fig. 4) from

683 which Opportunity excavated Pinnacle and Stuart Island rocks. The rover's turn in place and drive  
684 into Cook Haven is evident from tracks on lower left of the figure. Navcam data from site 182,  
685 position 194 are from a mosaic acquired on sol 3507, and the product ID is  
686 1NNZ07ILFCAVRTCMP1797L000M2. Navcam data from site 182, position 233 are shown in  
687 Fig. 5 in cylindrical projection whereas the orthorectified view for this figure is derived from  
688 product ID 1NNZ12ILFCAVRTDPP0673L000M2.

689 **Figure 8.** Pancam false color image mosaic acquired on sol 3567 from Cook Haven looking south  
690 after excavating Pinnacle and Stuart Island rocks. Also shown are in-situ bedrock targets Cape  
691 Darby and Cape Elizabeth. Anchor Point in-situ targets are soils excavated from the soil-filled  
692 fracture (N80°W strike), King Island is another target with a bright coating and perhaps the mate  
693 of Pinnacle Island, and Sledge Island may or may not have existed as an erratic rock before  
694 Opportunity arrived. Mosaic product IDs 1PPZ67ILFCACYLFCP2397L222M1,  
695 1PPZ67ILFCACYLFCP2397L555M1, and 1PPZ67ILFCACYLFCP2397L777M1 were used to  
696 generate the false color mosaic. For reference Pinnacle Island is ~3.5 cm wide and Stuart Island is  
697 ~12 cm in its longest dimension.

698 **Figure 9.** Pancam false color image of Green Island, a brushed in-situ target. The brushed circle is  
699 ~3.8 cm in diameter and is dark as compared to surrounding bedrock because wind-blown dust  
700 and sand have been removed. A small rock clast can be seen embedded in the fine-grained matrix  
701 of the breccia. The central reddish spot is remnant dust and soil from the brushing activity. Soil-  
702 filled fractures are evident on the right side of the image. Generated from Product IDs  
703 1P445203637RADCAG7P2537L2C1, 1P445203721RADCAG7P2537L5C1, and  
704 1P445203794RADCAG7P2537L7C1.

705 **Figure 10.** Pancam false color images of impact breccias in the Bristol Well in-situ target location  
706 on Murray Ridge. Note the relatively large embedded rock clasts as compared to Green Island in  
707 Cook Haven. The **right**-hand view shows the location of the Bristol Well in-situ target for which  
708 three overlapping in-situ observations were acquired. This target is located to the south of the area  
709 covered by the Pancam data shown in the **left**-hand view. Table 1 shows that the compositions are  
710 consistent with the dominance of Ca-sulfate veins. For reference the large breccia block on the  
711 lower left side of the **left** image is ~0.35 m high. Portion of Pancam mosaic product IDs  
712 1PPAG3ILFCDCYLAHP2277L222M, 1PPAG3ILFCDCYLAHP2277L555M1, and  
713 1PPAG3ILFCDCYLAHP2277L777M1 were used to generate the **left**-hand image. Pancam  
714 product IDs 1P453282110RADCDAAP2586L2C1, 1P453282143RADCDAAP2586L5C1, and  
715 1P453282180RADCDAAP2586L7C1 were used to generate the **right**-hand image.

716 **Figure 11.** Portion of a Front Hazcam image is shown on the **left** for the Sarcobatus in-situ targets  
717 for a rock clast (two overlapping measurements) and the brushed matrix target (Sarcobatus\_flat).  
718 Pancam false color image of the targets is shown on the **right**. For reference the brushed spot is  
719 ~3.8 cm wide. Hazcam product ID 1F454088547FFLCDBAP1148R0M1. Pancam product IDs  
720 1P454529822RADCDBAP2589L2C1, 1P454529907RADCDBAP2589L5C1, and  
721 1P454529979RADCDBAP2589L7C1.

722 **Figure 12.** Ternary plot of mole fraction  $\text{Al}_2\text{O}_3$ –(CaO+Na<sub>2</sub>O+K<sub>2</sub>O)–(FeO<sub>T</sub>+MgO) with  
723 Shoemaker and Matijevic formation data plotted for Cape York, along with Murray Ridge  
724 observations, and various phyllosilicates and pyroxene compositions. Espérance is a suite of in-  
725 situ targets within a Matijevic formation fracture in which deeper grinding using the RAT and  
726 APXS observations showed a trend to montmorillonite. The Murray Ridge data lie within the field  
727 of basalts, with no evidence for alteration to phyllosilicate compositions. Montmorillonite data are  
728 from Emmerich et al. (2009) and Wolters et al. (2009).

729 **Figure 13.** Scatter plot of S and Cl contents for APXS measurements acquired on Murray Ridge.  
730 Cook Haven data are shown in italics. Pinnacle and Stuart Island (PI and SI, respectively)  
731 measurements show large enrichments in S, with increased Cl for PI as opposed to SI  
732 measurements. The main trend shows that Cook Haven outcrops (CD, Cape Darby; CE, Cape  
733 Elizabeth, TAA, Turn Again Arm; GI\_b, Green Island, brushed) are enriched in S and Cl as  
734 compared to other Murray Ridge targets. AP, Anchor Point, delineates a pair of measurements on  
735 soils dislodged by Opportunity, along with PI and SI rocks. Augustine is a rock just south of Cook  
736 Haven. Bristol Well corresponds to three measurements across a C sulfate vein. Sarcobatus\_clast  
737 and Sarcobatus\_flat\_b (brushed) are targets to the south of Cook Haven. The latter is a breccia  
738 matrix enriched in Cl.

739 **Figure 14.** Pancam false color image acquired on sol 3541 in which the brightness has been  
740 combined with an MI mosaic of Pinnacle Island. The locations of dark and bright coatings are  
741 shown, along with dusty and fresh rock. The box shows the location of an MI-based stereo  
742 anaglyph shown in Fig. 15, and the circles represent ~100% fields of view and locations for the  
743 five overlapping APXS observations. For reference Pinnacle Island is ~3.5 cm wide. Pancam  
744 product IDs 1P442541197RADCAEOP2595L2C1, 1P442541258RADCAEOP2595L5C1, and  
745 1P442541300RADCAEOP2595L7C1. MI product ID 1M442544805IFFCAEOP2955M2F1.

746 **Figure 15.** MI-based anaglyph from overlapping stereo coverage is shown for a portion of  
747 Pinnacle Island. The coating can be seen directly on top of the rock, with the dark coating  
748 occupying the center of the rock and interpreted to overlie the bright coating. The dark coating  
749 exhibits a lumpy or popcorn structure. MI product ID 1M442544805IFFCAEOP2955M2F1 and  
750 four other MI images were used to construct the anaglyph. Illumination is from the top of the  
751 scene.

752 **Figure 16.** Pancam false color image of Stuart Island acquired on sol 3567 showing the locations  
753 and 100% field of view of the four APXS observations. Box delineates location for the MI-based  
754 anaglyph shown in Fig. 17. The location is denoted from which a dark area spectrum derived from  
755 Pancam data is shown in Fig. 18. For reference Stuart Island is about 0.12 m in its long dimension.  
756 Pancam product IDs 1P445650967RADCAGYP2539L2C1,  
757 1P445651052RADCAGYP2539L5C1, and 1P445651127RADCAGYP2539L7C1.

758 **Figure 17.** MI-based anaglyph of a portion of Stuart Island that shows a thin bright annulus  
759 around what is interpreted to be a rock clast. This bright annulus is surrounded by a dark coating.  
760 A second clast is surrounded by a dark coating. MI product ID  
761 1M445651708IFFCAGYP2935M2F1 and four other MI frames were used to construct the  
762 anaglyph. Target was fully shadowed when the data were acquired.

763 **Figure 18.** Locations of Pancam spectral endmembers derived from the unmixing algorithm are  
764 shown on the Pancam false color image on the **left**, and mean spectra for these regions are shown  
765 on the **right**. Also shown is the mean spectrum for the dark area on Stuart Island. One standard  
766 deviation error bars are also plotted. The dark coating spectra for the Island rocks are  
767 indistinguishable and unique for any Pancam observation. The spectra lack the ferric absorption  
768 edge shortward of  $\sim 0.7 \mu\text{m}$  that is characteristic of Martian spectra, and evident for the other three  
769 spectra shown in the figure. The dusty rock spectrum has the deepest ferric absorption edge,  
770 followed by the bright coating spectrum, and the rock spectrum has the shallowest absorption.

771 **Figure 19.** Pinnacle Island endmember concentration maps for dark and bright coatings, fresh  
772 rock, and dusty rock are shown, along with APXS fields of view that correspond to the highest  
773 retrieved areal concentrations of each of these endmembers (Table 3). As discussed in the text the  
774 dusty and fresh rock endmembers were combined to a single rock endmember in the retrievals.

775 **Figure 20.** Correspondence analysis for the first two factor loadings is shown for Murray Ridge  
776 observations, except for the three Bristol Well Ca sulfate vein measurements. Also included in the  
777 calculations were the three Pinnacle Island-based endmembers (rock, dark coating, and bright  
778 coating), which on the plot extend beyond, but encapsulate the data. The endmembers show the  
779 affinity of the dark coating for Mn, S, P, and Ca whereas the bright coating endmember shows an  
780 affinity for Mg and S.

781 **Figure 21.** Bivariate plots are shown of SiO<sub>2</sub>, MgO, MnO as a function of SO<sub>3</sub> contents, along  
782 with CaO as a function of P<sub>2</sub>O<sub>5</sub>, for Cook Haven APXS measurements. Bright and dark coatings  
783 and rock retrieved endmember compositions are also shown. Error bars are plotted for the bright  
784 coating (Table 2). For the other two endmembers the errors are comparable to the box symbol  
785 sizes. Least squares linear fits to the APXS data (not endmembers) are shown as straight lines,  
786 along with the square of the Pearson linear correlation coefficient. These bivariate plots were  
787 chosen to illustrate trends with high correlation coefficients, based on results from the  
788 correspondence analysis shown in Fig. 20.

789 **Figure 22.** MnO vs. Ni bivariate plot is shown for Cook Haven outcrops, Anchor Point soils, and  
790 Pinnacle and Stuart Islands. Least squares linear fits to the data are shown as straight lines, along  
791 with the square of the Pearson linear correlation coefficient.

792 **Figure 23** The Pinnacle Island dark coating endmember spectrum is shown, together with data  
793 from the region with the highest concentration of this endmember mapped to Stuart Island. Data  
794 are also shown for lab spectra of synthesized Mn oxides. Mg and Mn-bearing sulfates have much  
795 brighter spectra as shown by the labels and arrows at the top of the plot. Only high valence state  
796 Mn oxides are compatible with the spectral trends observed in the dark areas on the two Island  
797 rocks and the compositions of these two targets. A unique mineral phase is impossible to retrieve,

798 given the number of unknowns (optical constants, grain size and shape of each constituent,  
799 together with coating porosity) involved in any retrievals, together with the limited Pancam  
800 spectral range and number of bands.

801 **Figure 24.** Mass fractions of minerals produced by equilibrating the endmember coating  
802 compositions (Table 2) with water in a geochemical reaction model. The “Other Salts/Oxides”  
803 category contains rutile and an array of minor sulfate and chloride salts.

804 **Figure 25.** Fe and Mn concentrations are plotted for all of Opportunity’s APXS observations  
805 through Murray Ridge, together with the three endmember values retrieved from Pinnacle Island  
806 data. The trends for the Island rocks are unique and indicate a special process that concentrated  
807 Mn relative to Fe in the bright and, especially, the dark coatings.

808 **Figure 26.** Ternary plot for all Meridiani Planum and Endeavour Crater soil and bedrock APXS  
809 analyses through measurements acquired on Murray Ridge and calculated to  $\text{SO}_3 = \text{Cl} = 0.0$   
810 weight percent. The trends show the unique chemistry of Pinnacle and Stuart Island targets as  
811 compared to other rock and soil compositions and are broadly consistent with precipitation from  
812 aqueous sulfate solutions. The dashed arrow terminates on the extrapolated  $\text{SO}_3$ -free composition  
813 of the mixed-cation sulfate-dominated endmember, which is also the location of the predicted dark  
814 coating endmember. The rock endmember plots within the rock and soil field whereas the bright  
815 coating endmember plots between the other two endmembers, slightly displaced toward the Fe  
816 apex. This trend is consistent with the ferric edge observed in the spectrum for this endmember  
817 and the inferred presence of one of more  $\text{Fe}^{3+}$ -bearing phases. North Pole\_2 is a dust-covered soil  
818 target measured by Opportunity on the Cape York rim segment of Endeavour Crater. This target  
819 has a composition that is representative of Martian global dust and plots near the center of the  
820 cluster.



822

## Tables

823

824 **Table 1.** APXS compositional data for the western portion of Murray Ridge, including Cook  
825 Haven localities for key measurements discussed in this paper. Values are oxide concentrations  
826 unless otherwise indicated. Also given in the table are the average percentage uncertainty for each  
827 element representing the statistical error for each measured spot (Gellert et al. 2006). These are  
828 typically better for higher abundances and worse for lower. The last column gives the average  
829 relative accuracy for each element found for the MER APXS calibration with homogeneous  
830 powdered geological reference samples (Gellert et al. 2006).

Sol	3463	3498	3502	3522	3535	3542	3546	3548	3551	3560	3564
Type <sup>a</sup>	RB	RU	RU	RU	RU	RB	RU	RU	RU	RU	RU
Target	Spinifex	Tanga- looma	Mount Tempest	Cape Darby	Cape Darby 2	Cape Elizabeth	Pinnacle Island	Pinnacle Island 2	Pinnacle Island 3	Pinnacle Island 4	Pinnacle Island 5
Norm	76	68	72	66	73	74	31	39	41	28	40
SiO <sub>2</sub>	45.7	45.7	46.3	46.3	45.5	44.7	28.1	23.8	18.1	36.2	20.1
TiO <sub>2</sub>	1.04	1.09	1.16	1.13	1.18	0.96	0.76	0.62	0.44	0.91	0.58
Al <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub>	8.76	9.43	10.30	9.39	9.23	9.06	5.75	4.70	3.48	7.57	3.68
Cr <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub>	0.22	0.20	0.21	0.25	0.27	0.20	0.21	0.12	0.10	0.22	0.10
FeO <sub>T</sub> <sup>b</sup>	17.6	16.2	16.1	17.0	17.1	16.7	16.6	16.0	15.1	17.9	15.5
MnO <sub>T</sub> <sup>b</sup>	0.78	0.36	0.40	0.31	0.35	0.26	1.67	2.12	3.48	1.30	3.35
MgO	8.85	8.58	7.48	6.96	7.13	8.01	12.06	13.26	13.00	9.43	11.50
CaO	6.18	6.29	7.14	6.67	6.47	5.92	5.45	6.08	7.66	5.69	8.26
Na <sub>2</sub> O	2.32	2.04	2.39	2.25	2.37	2.54	1.01	1.02	0.86	1.57	0.84
K <sub>2</sub> O	0.70	0.23	0.30	0.46	0.49	0.36	0.32	0.17	0.14	0.41	0.13
P <sub>2</sub> O <sub>5</sub>	1.18	1.15	1.18	0.97	0.98	0.89	1.57	2.18	2.37	1.33	2.44
SO <sub>3</sub>	5.52	7.82	6.25	7.20	7.66	9.17	25.44	28.81	34.51	16.44	32.70
Cl	0.95	0.74	0.75	1.06	1.17	1.12	0.92	0.95	0.66	0.91	0.65
Ni	537	523	342	394	394	447	661	884	1001	354	736
(ppm)											
Zn	460	118	87	258	203	121	185	130	155	204	116
(ppm)											
Br	706	97	43	112	110	78	262	476	334	144	269
(ppm)											
Sol	3569	3573	3574	3575	3577	3581	3583	3587	3598	3664	3666
Type <sup>a</sup>	RB	RU	RU	RU	RU	SD	SD	RU	RB	RU	RU
Target	Green Island	Stuart Island 1	Stuart Island 2	Stuart Island 3	Stuart Island 4	Anchor Point 1	Anchor Point 2	Sledge Island 1	Turnagain Arm	Bristol Well 1	Bristol Well 2
Norm	78	75	82	65	73	59	78	63	76	66	66
SiO <sub>2</sub>	43.3	27.3	22.5	16.1	25.6	37.8	39.3	47.6	44.5	42.8	41.9
TiO <sub>2</sub>	1.02	0.78	0.65	0.57	0.65	0.95	1.07	0.63	1.04	0.94	0.92
Al <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub>	8.89	5.67	4.38	3.60	4.87	7.00	7.86	10.44	9.10	8.50	8.25
Cr <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub>	0.19	0.13	0.17	0.14	0.16	0.35	0.38	0.21	0.20	0.27	0.26
FeO <sub>T</sub> <sup>b</sup>	16.7	16.2	16.5	17.0	16.8	18.2	18.3	12.8	16.4	15.1	14.8
MnO <sub>T</sub> <sup>b</sup>	0.27	1.57	2.01	2.85	3.37	0.75	1.01	0.30	0.28	0.34	0.33
MgO	7.31	12.31	14.49	15.58	11.65	8.14	8.52	6.35	8.05	6.98	6.86
CaO	6.38	5.36	3.75	4.05	4.85	7.28	7.07	9.65	5.98	9.42	10.00

Na <sub>2</sub> O	2.53	0.93	0.82	0.53	0.86	1.74	1.92	2.48	2.32	2.15	2.03
K <sub>2</sub> O	0.37	0.18	0.12	0.09	0.28	0.33	0.35	0.28	0.36	0.49	0.45
P <sub>2</sub> O <sub>5</sub>	0.99	1.08	0.91	0.98	1.40	1.82	1.53	0.82	0.95	1.01	1.06
SO <sub>3</sub>	10.48	28.20	33.31	38.21	28.95	15.09	12.06	7.74	9.37	11.00	12.04
Cl	1.54	0.22	0.26	0.21	0.33	0.43	0.45	0.65	1.36	0.95	0.97
Ni (ppm)	376	547	715	1024	1022	372	603	123	453	312	269
Zn (ppm)	152	82	111	175	231	218	198	138	114	321	302
Br (ppm)	65	40	88	77	77	117	180	94	167	75	81

Sol Type <sup>a</sup>	3667	3671	3675	3676	3707	3708	3709	Avg. Stat.	Approx. Accuracy
Target	Bristol Well 3	Sarcobatus Flat 1	Sarcobatus Sarcobatus Clast	Sarcobatus Sarcobatus Clast 2	Sodaville	Tuscaloosa	Sodaville 2	Error (%)	Accuracy (%)
Norm	50	76	37	41	65	73	47		
SiO <sub>2</sub>	45.4	44.9	46.0	46.2	45.4	45.9	45.6	2	4
TiO <sub>2</sub>	1.15	0.98	1.15	1.41	1.11	1.05	1.12	10	20
Al <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub>	8.89	8.84	9.89	11.23	9.18	9.10	9.25	2	7
Cr <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub>	0.27	0.23	0.20	0.14	0.28	0.19	0.24	25	20
FeO <sub>T</sub> <sup>b</sup>	17.6	17.6	16.5	15.3	18.0	17.1	17.7	2	10
MnO <sub>T</sub> <sup>b</sup>	0.36	0.24	0.51	0.27	0.25	0.14	0.23	10	10
MgO	7.14	7.78	6.98	6.21	7.42	8.20	7.34	3	15
CaO	7.17	6.38	7.72	8.17	6.56	6.20	6.75	2	7
Na <sub>2</sub> O	2.03	2.30	1.90	2.00	2.29	2.13	2.22	15	15
K <sub>2</sub> O	0.50	0.48	0.51	0.44	0.55	0.41	0.52	10	15
P <sub>2</sub> O <sub>5</sub>	1.00	1.17	1.09	1.61	1.01	1.11	1.07	10	15
SO <sub>3</sub>	7.36	7.10	6.40	6.12	6.69	7.18	6.56	2	15
Cl	1.05	1.92	1.06	0.83	1.12	1.19	1.24	4	30
Ni (ppm)	365	293	193	292	391	371	305	15	15
Zn (ppm)	361	162	295	151	372	132	325	10	15
Br (ppm)	102	98	69	69	71	117	87	10	20

831 Notes: <sup>a</sup>Abbreviations for Type: RU = rock, unbrushed; RB = rock, brushed; SD = soil, disturbed. <sup>b</sup>Total Fe reported  
832 as FeO (FeO<sub>T</sub>) and Mn as MnO<sub>T</sub>.

833

834 **Table 2.** Compositions and associated errors for Pinnacle Island endmembers in weight percent  
 835 for each oxide.

	Abundance (wt%)			Error (wt%)		
	Dark	Bright	Rock	Dark	Bright	Rock
SiO <sub>2</sub>	0.42	27.03	47.90	1.25	10.80	0.86
TiO <sub>2</sub>	0.07	0.83	1.15	0.10	0.25	0.03
Al <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub>	0.00	5.48	9.66	0.00	2.12	0.01
Cr <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub>	0.00	0.22	0.28	0.02	0.08	0.01
FeO	14.64	17.64	17.35	0.73	0.99	0.22
MnO	5.41	1.38	0.00	0.18	1.39	0.06
MgO	16.5	14.26	6.60	0.61	1.83	0.16
CaO	7.89	2.11	6.62	0.70	1.53	0.30
Na <sub>2</sub> O	0.00	0.71	2.46	0.00	0.43	0.06
K <sub>2</sub> O	0.00	0.15	0.46	0.00	0.07	0.01
P <sub>2</sub> O <sub>5</sub>	3.27	0.00	1.07	0.31	0.49	0.12
SO <sub>3</sub>	51.42	30.07	5.15	2.06	10.14	1.02
Cl	0.31	0.00	1.23	0.29	0.10	0.08
Ni	767	941	407	883	739	159
Zn	0	177	216	28	116	38
Br	14	74	206	178	81	51

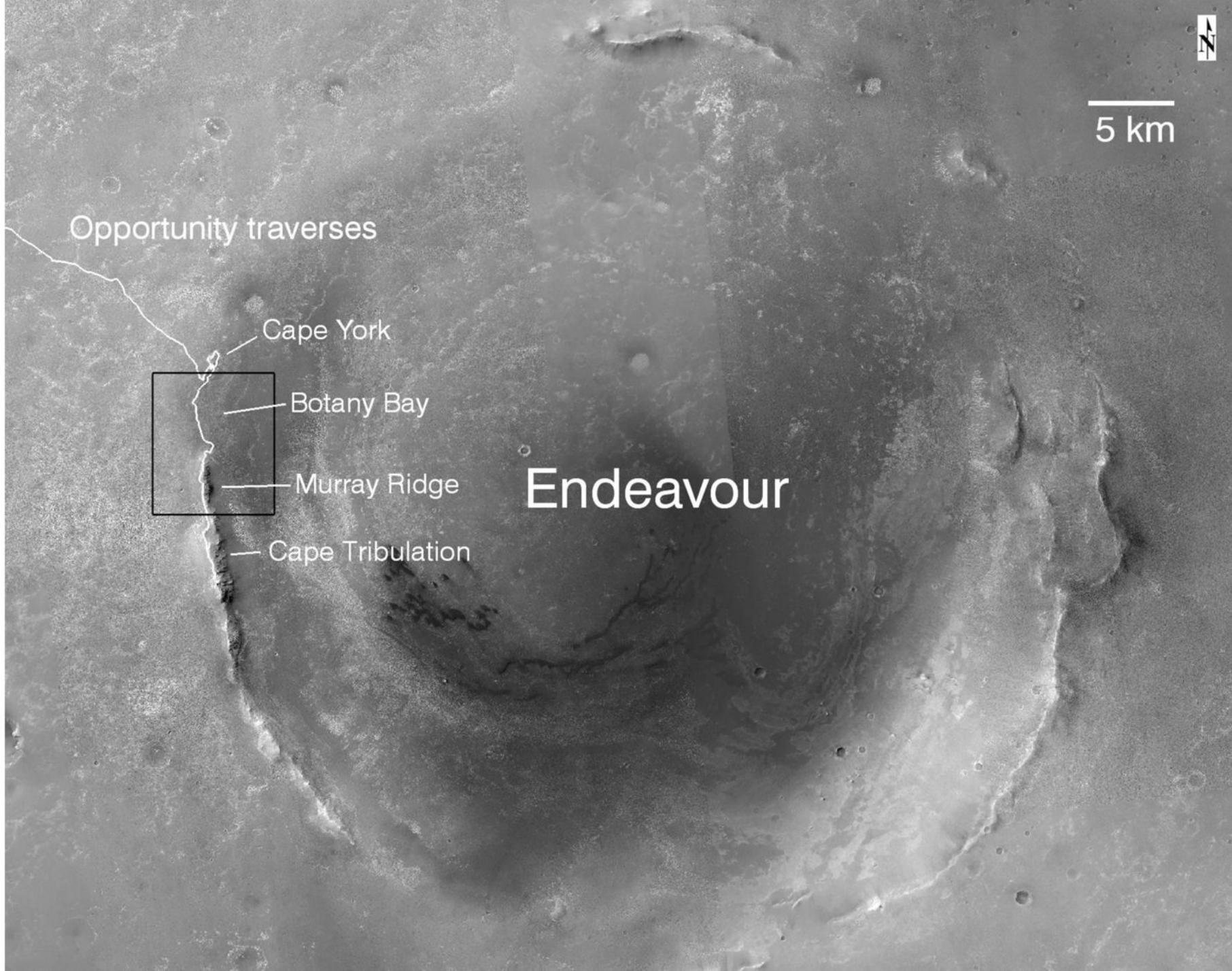
836

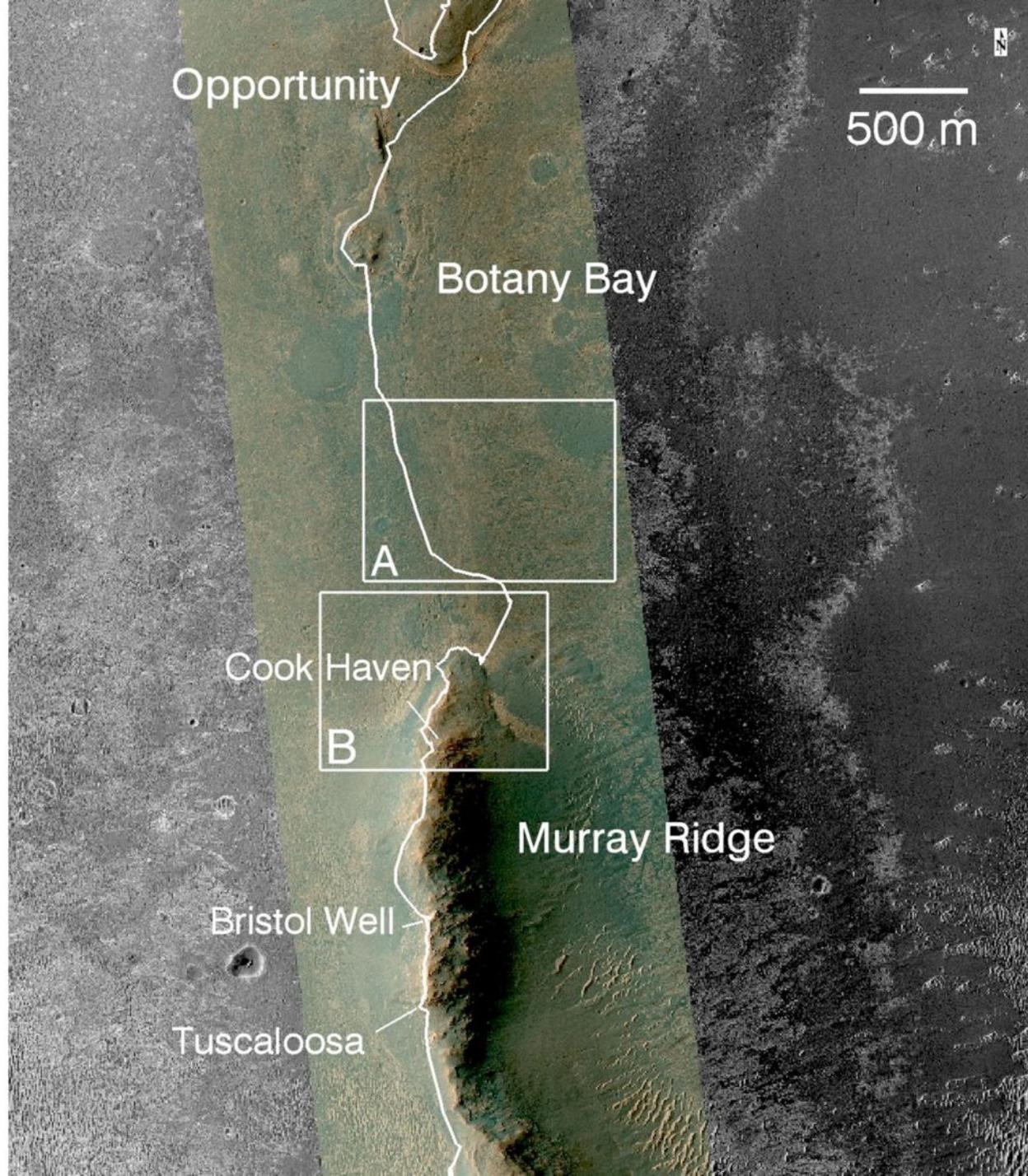
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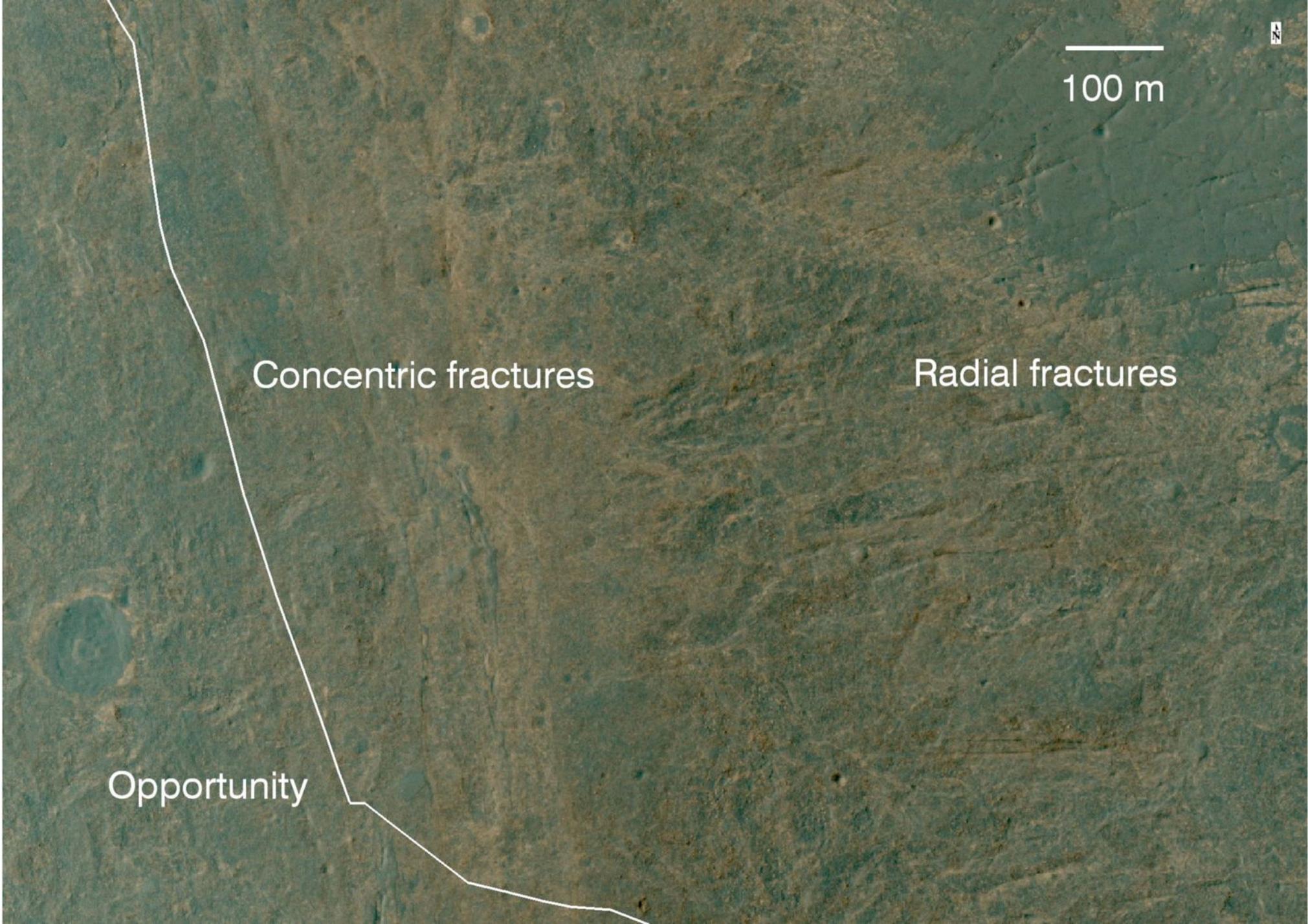
838 **Table 3.** Endmember abundances for APXS observations, with numbers in percent for each  
 839 endmember and estimated errors.

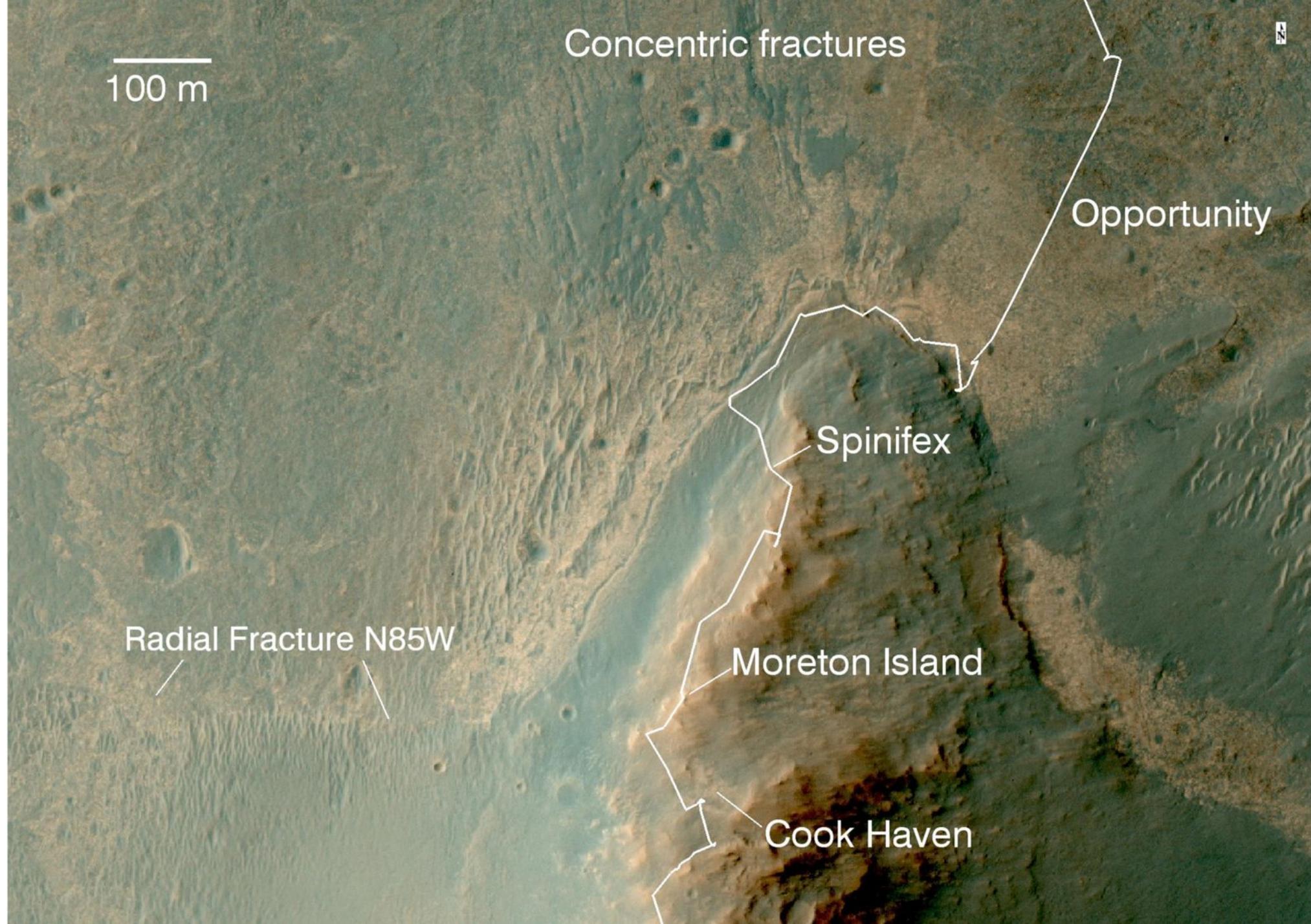
	Abundance (%)			Error (%)		
	Dark	Bright	Rock	Dark	Bright	Rock
CapeDarby	4	2	94	4	5	3
CapeDarby2	5	2	93	5	6	3
CapeElizabeth	5	7	88	5	9	6
PinnacleIsland1	38	9	53	3	1	3
PinnacleIsland2	40	11	50	3	3	1
PinnacleIsland3	56	5	38	2	2	1
PinnacleIsland4	23	5	72	2	1	2
PinnacleIsland5	64	1	35	5	2	6
GreenIsland	4	8	88	4	12	7
StuartIsland1	22	49	29	14	15	11
StuartIsland2	22	69	9	22	15	12
StuartIsland3	40	58	2	22	16	6
StuartIsland4	34	41	25	12	11	10
AnchorPoint1	13	17	70	7	16	9
AnchorPoint2	12	14	74	12	24	12
TurnagainArm	3	10	87	4	9	6

840



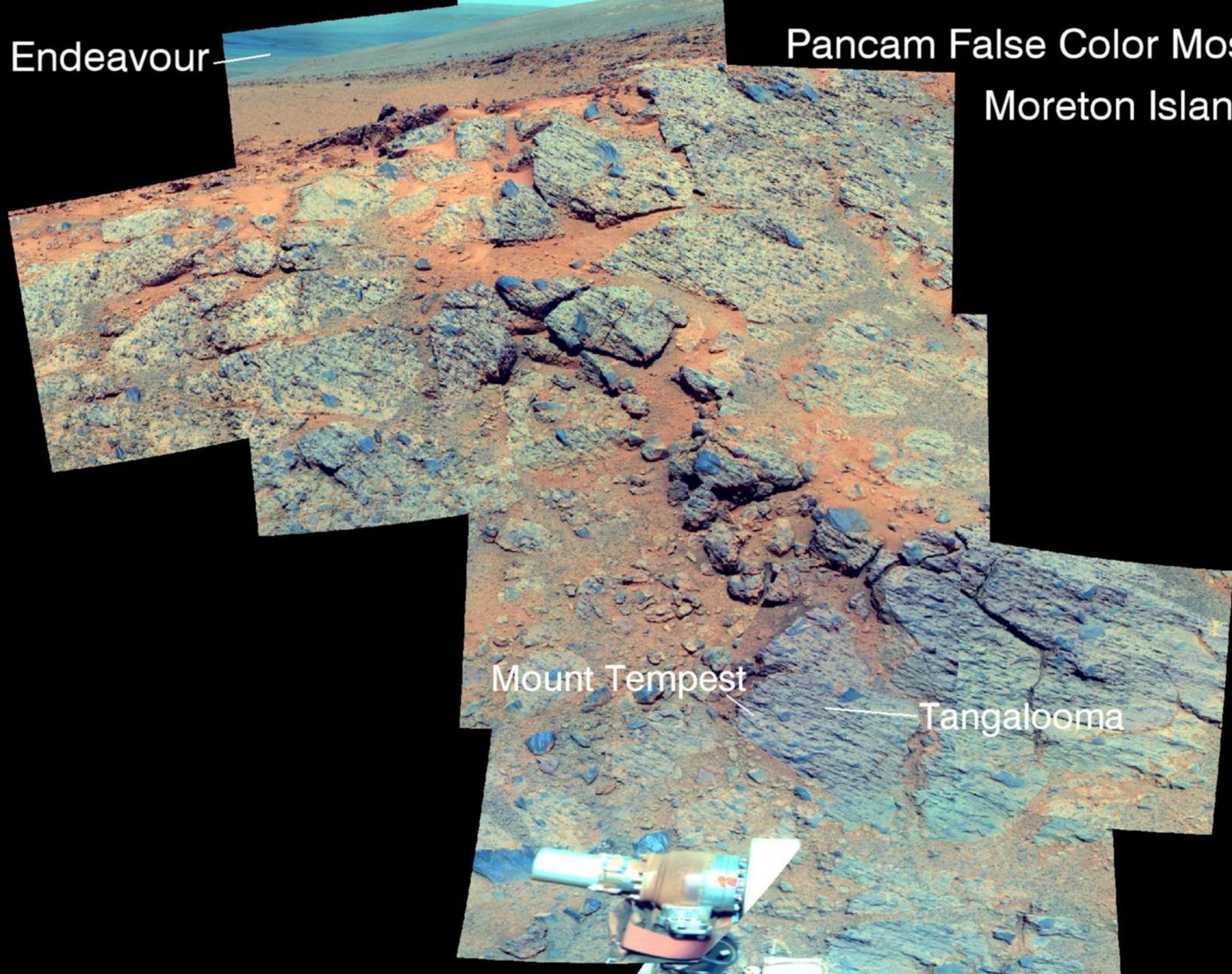






Endeavour

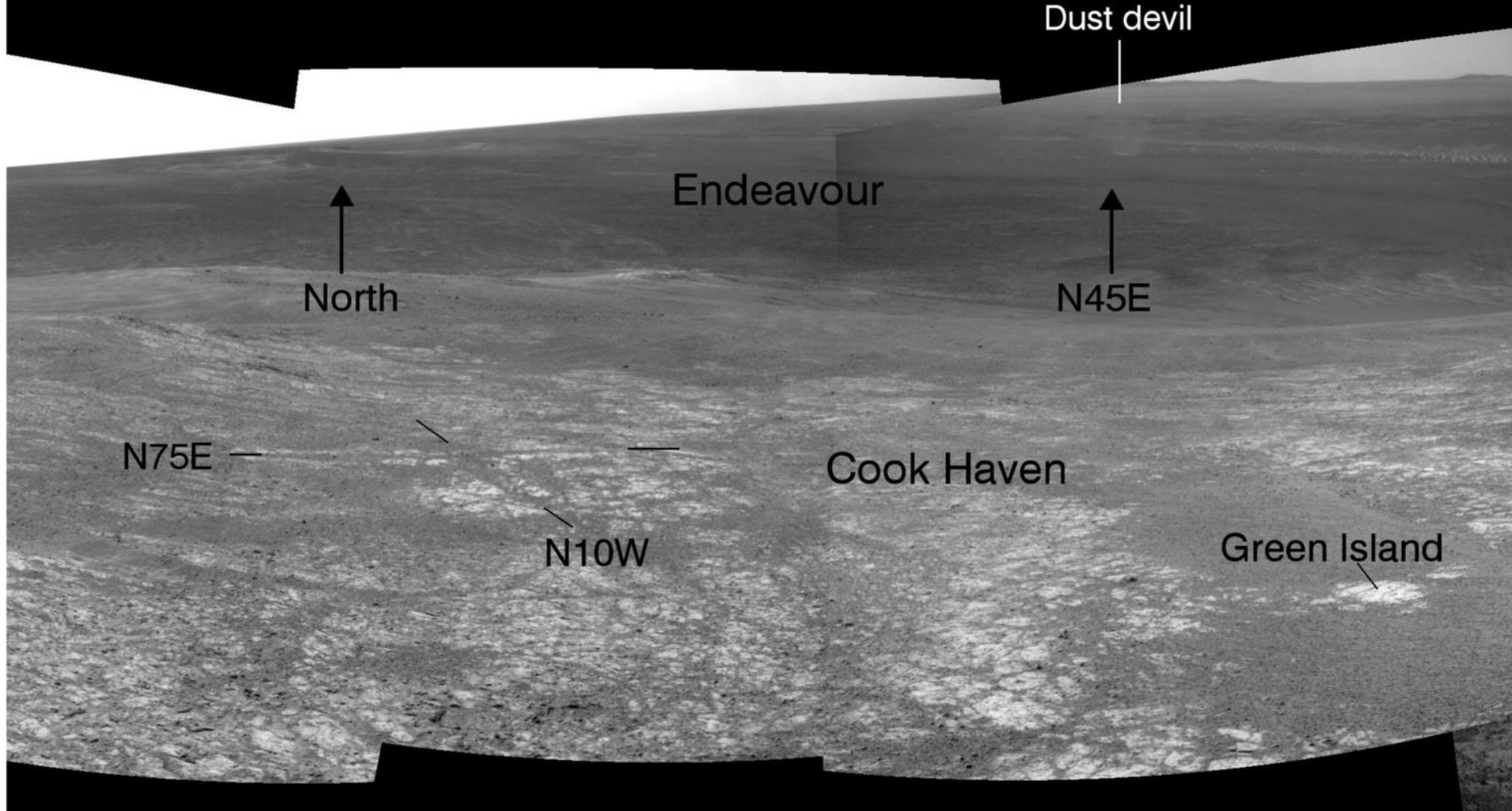
Pancam False Color Mosaic  
Moreton Island



Mount Tempest

Tangalooma

# Navcam Mosaic Cook Haven



# Navcam Overhead Mosaic Cook Haven

Site 182, pos 233

↑  
North  
1.5 m

N75E →

↑  
N10W

Green Island

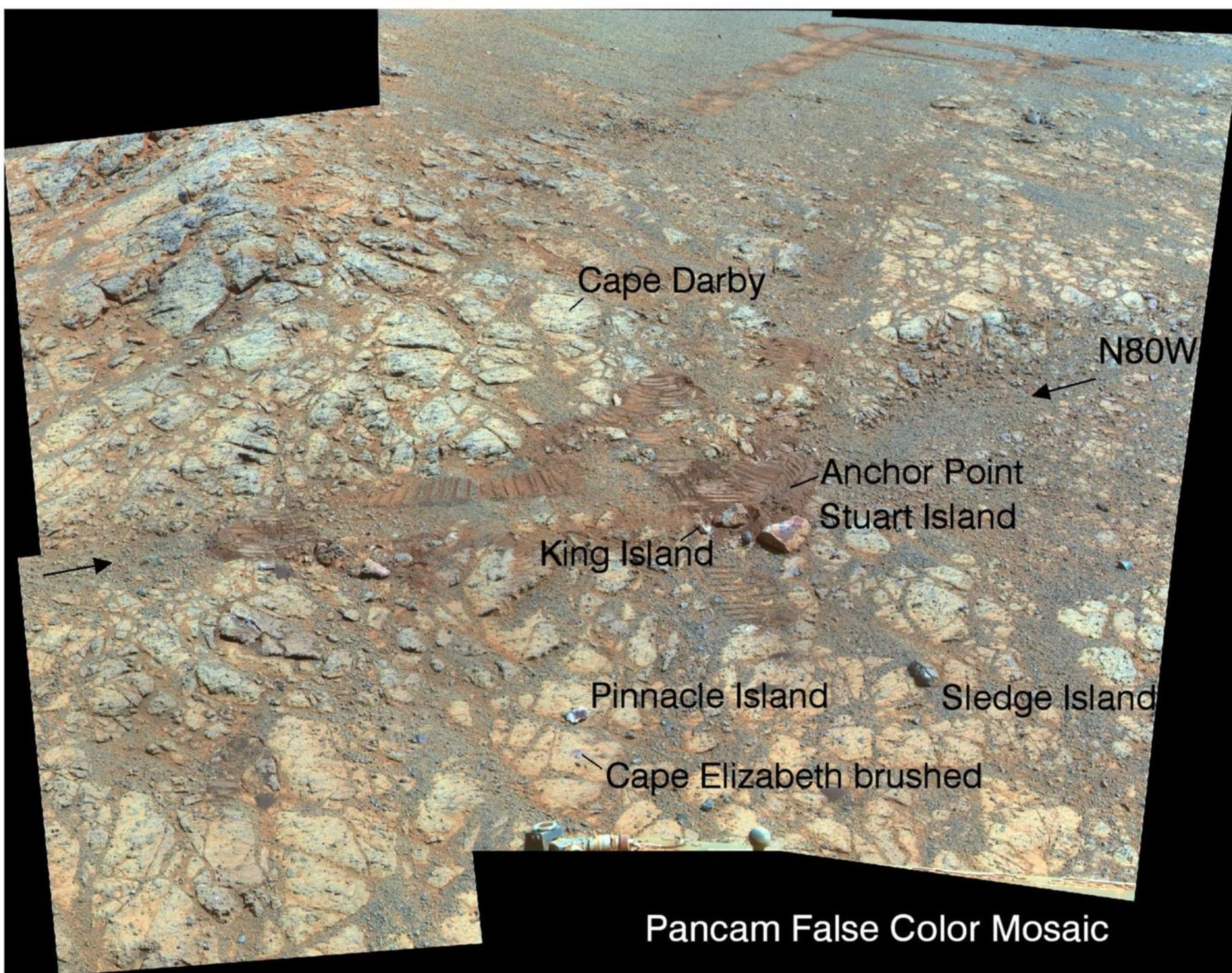
→  
N80W

— Cape Elizabeth

— Cape Darby

←  
Site 182, pos 194

Rover tracks



Cape Darby

N80W

Anchor Point  
Stuart Island

King Island

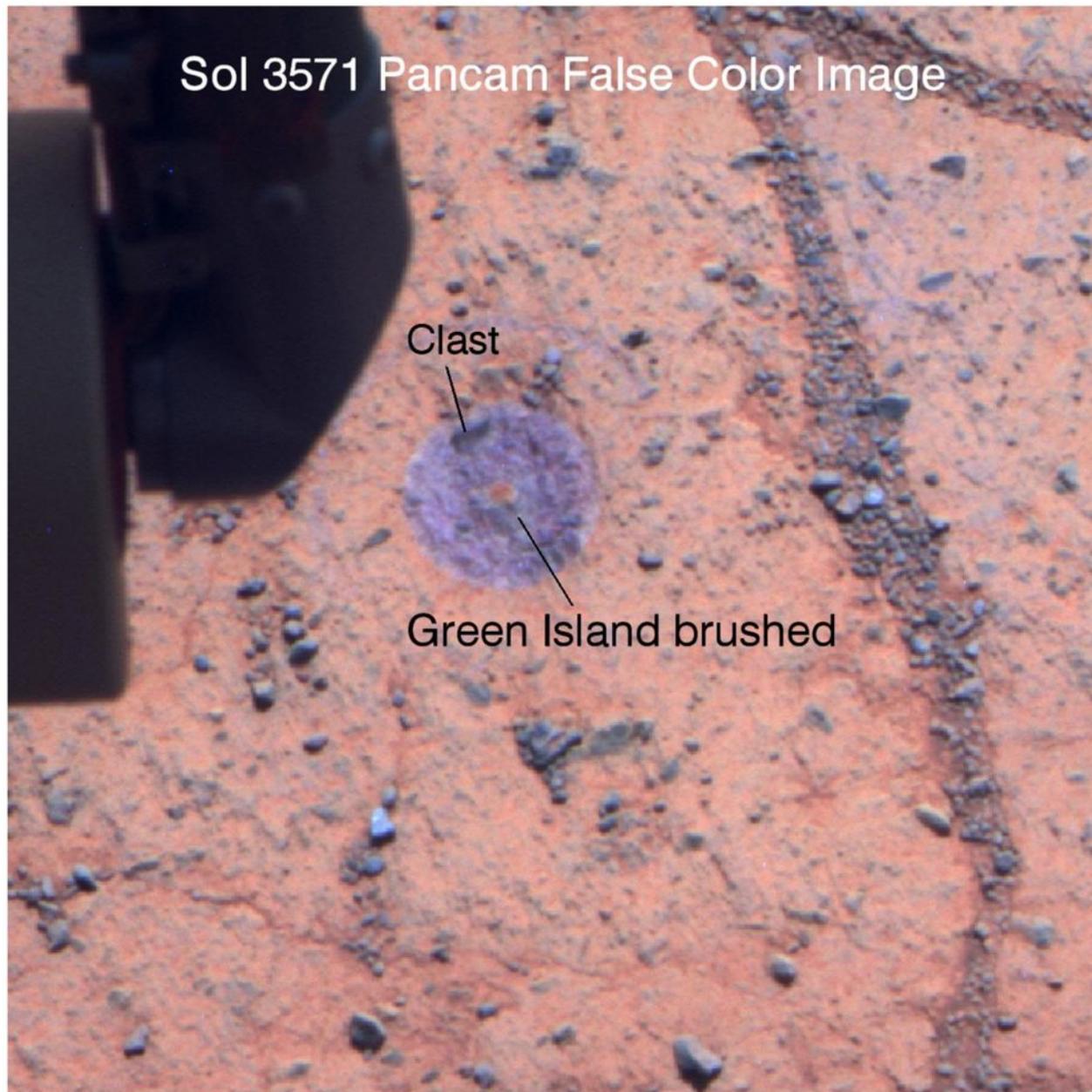
Pinnacle Island

Sledge Island

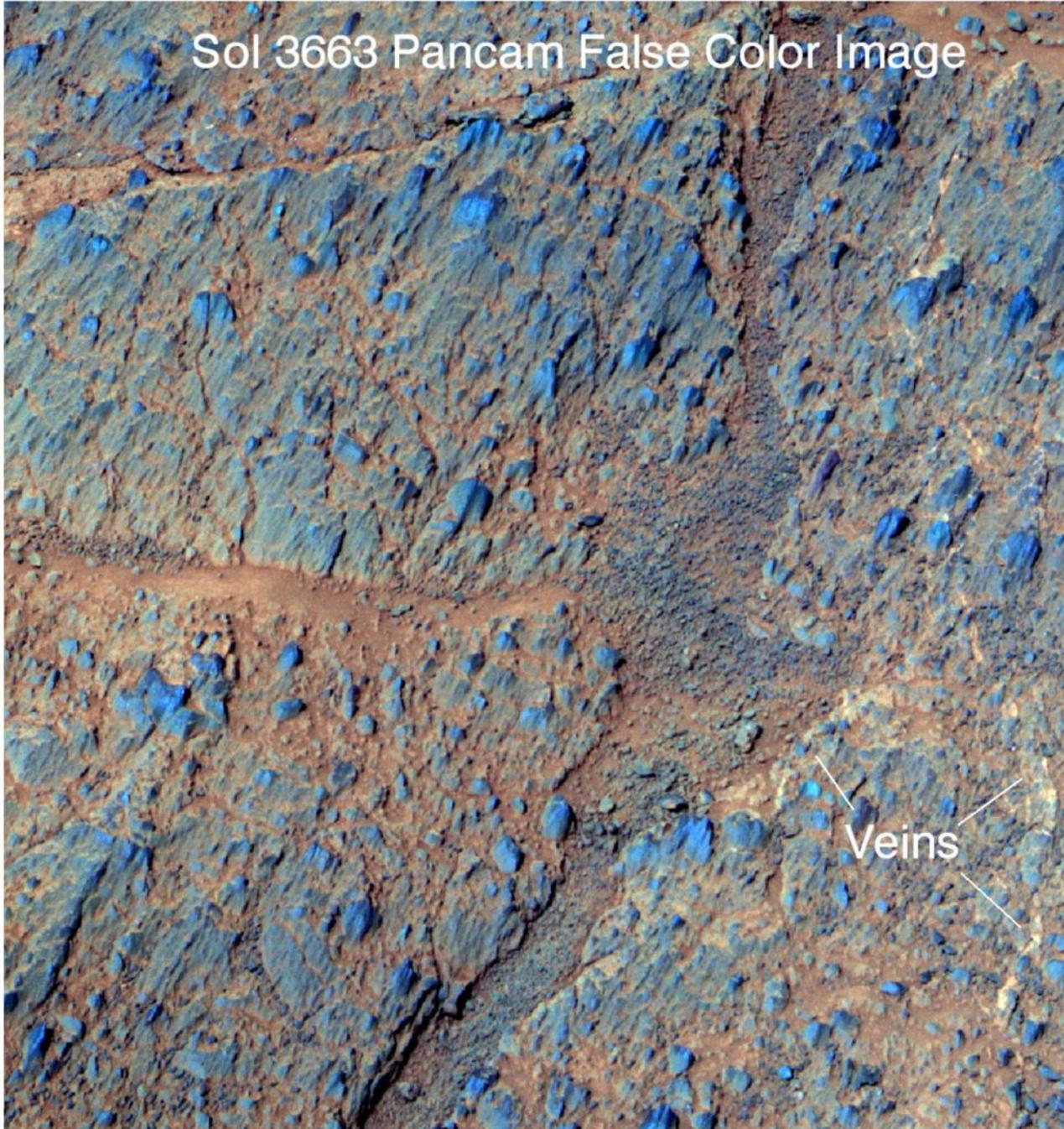
Cape Elizabeth brushed

Pancam False Color Mosaic

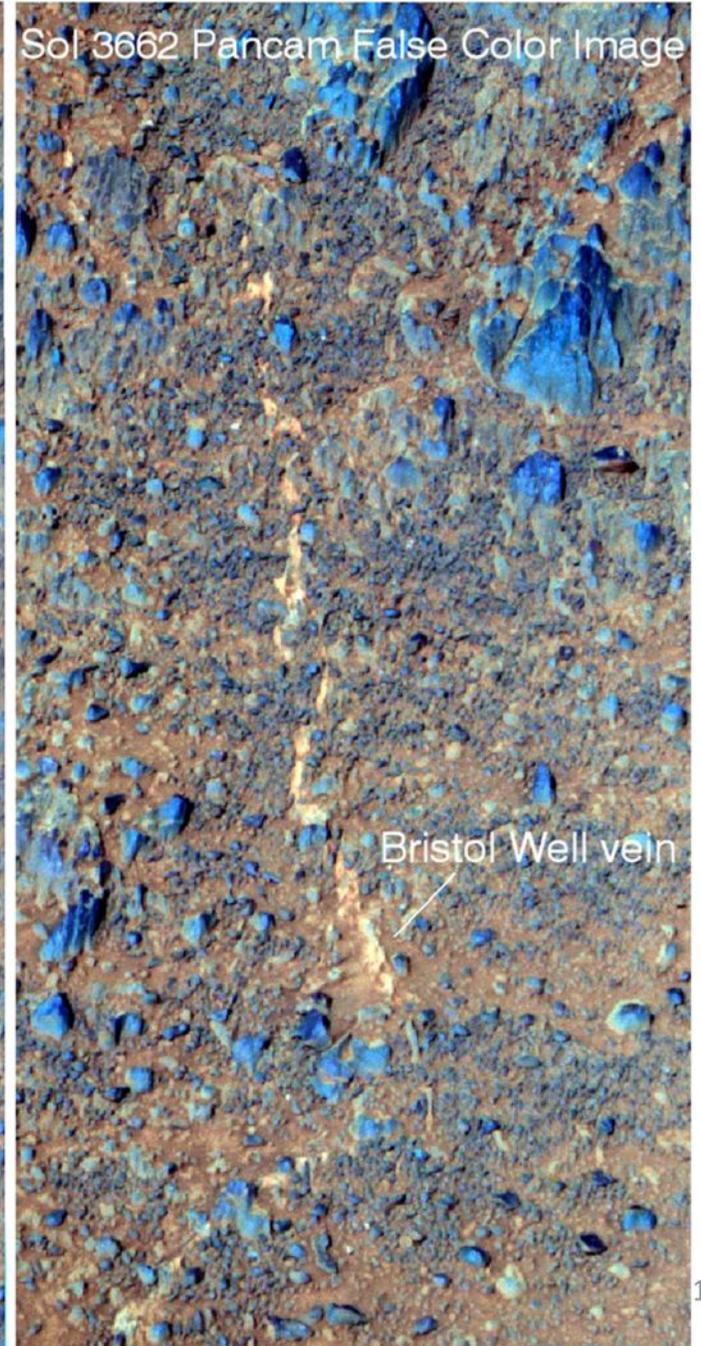
Sol 3571 Pancam False Color Image

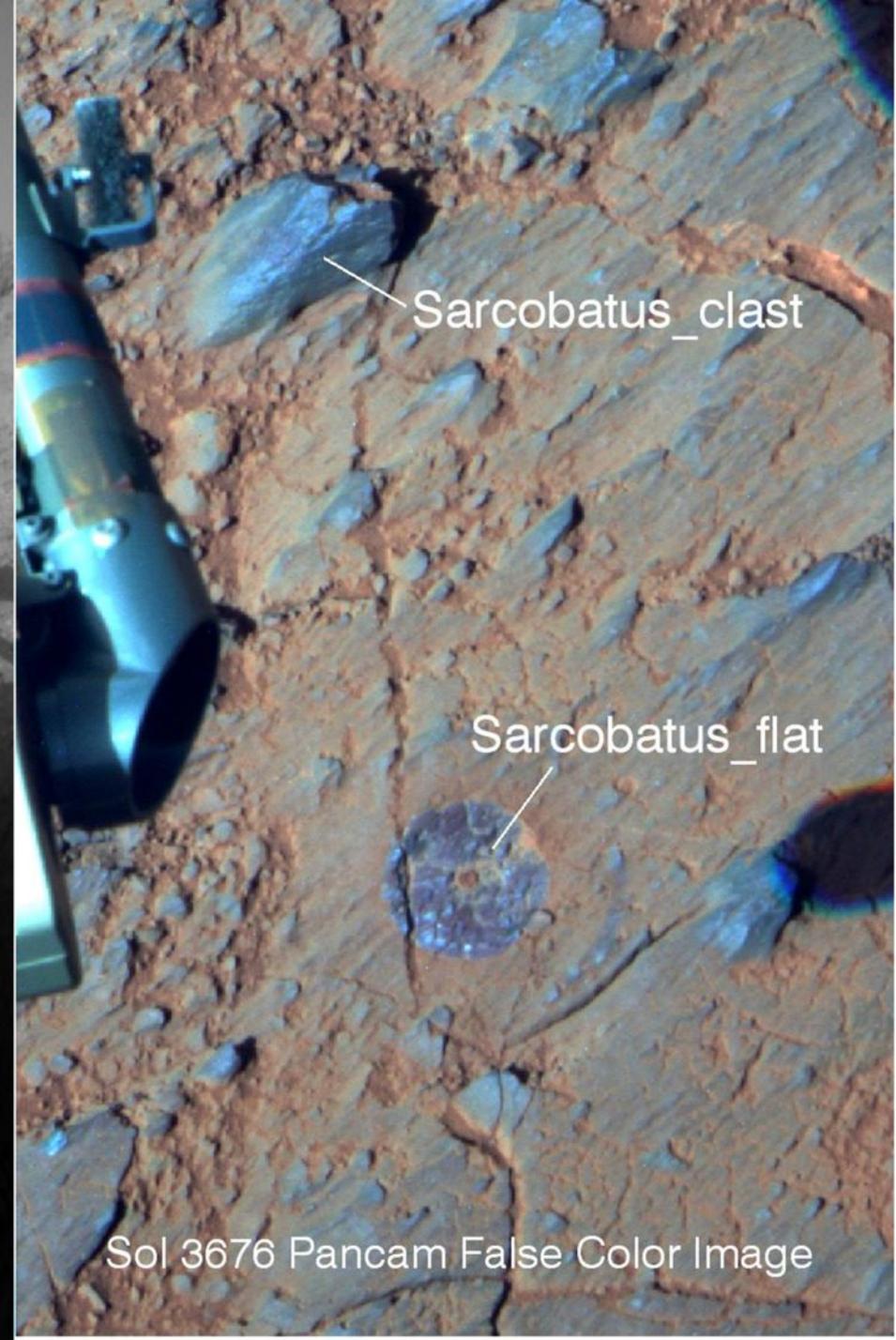


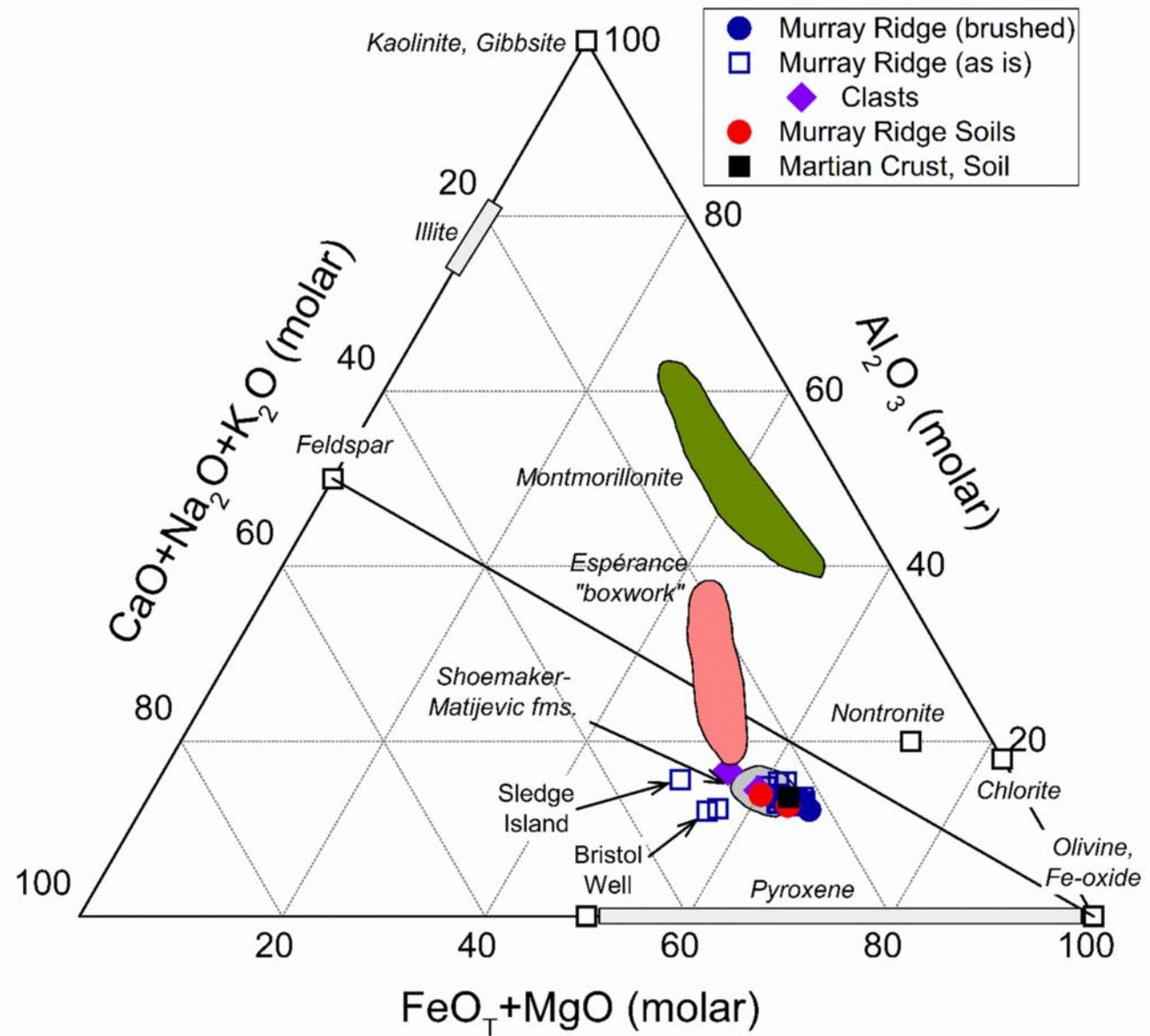
Sol 3663 Pancam False Color Image

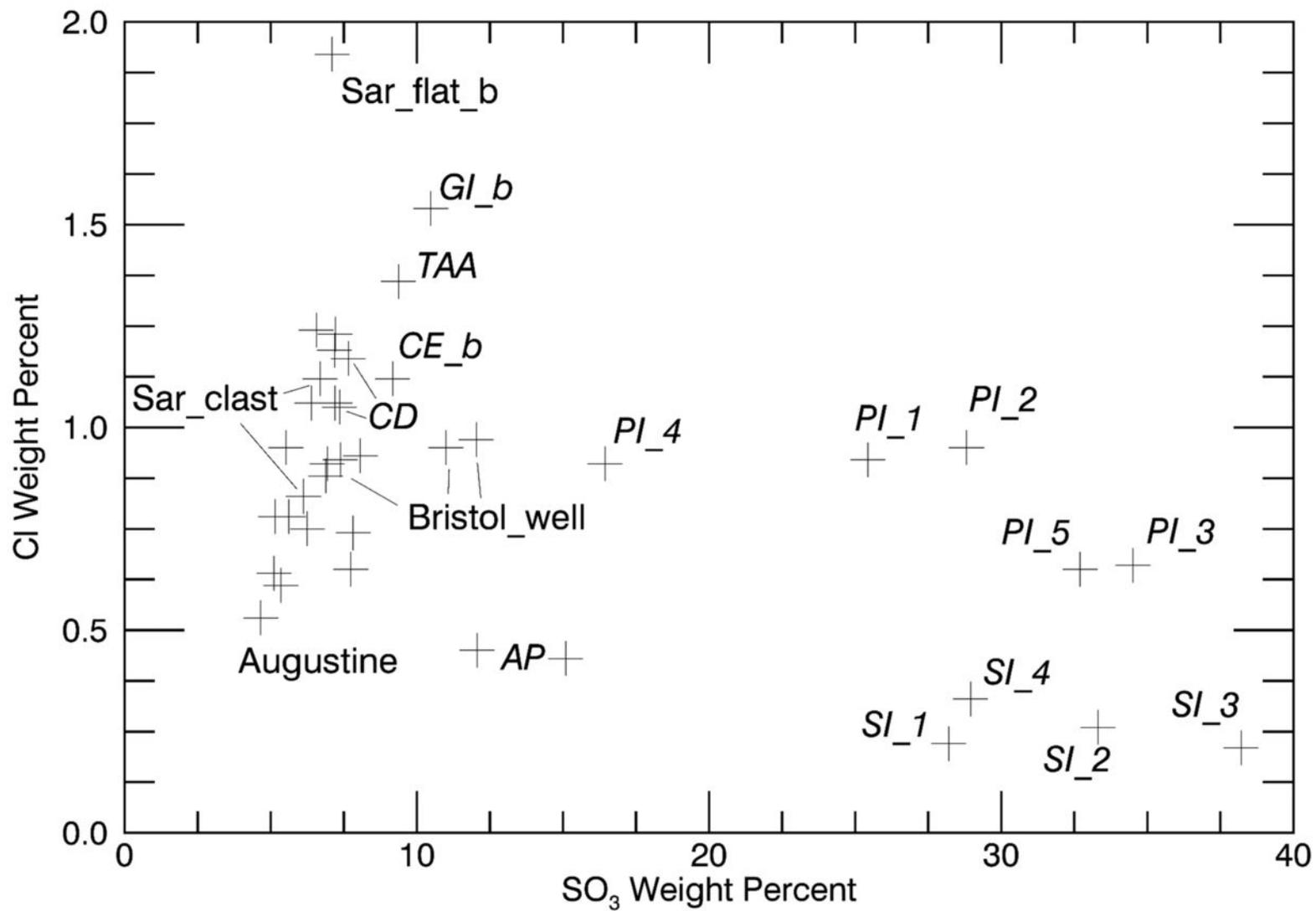


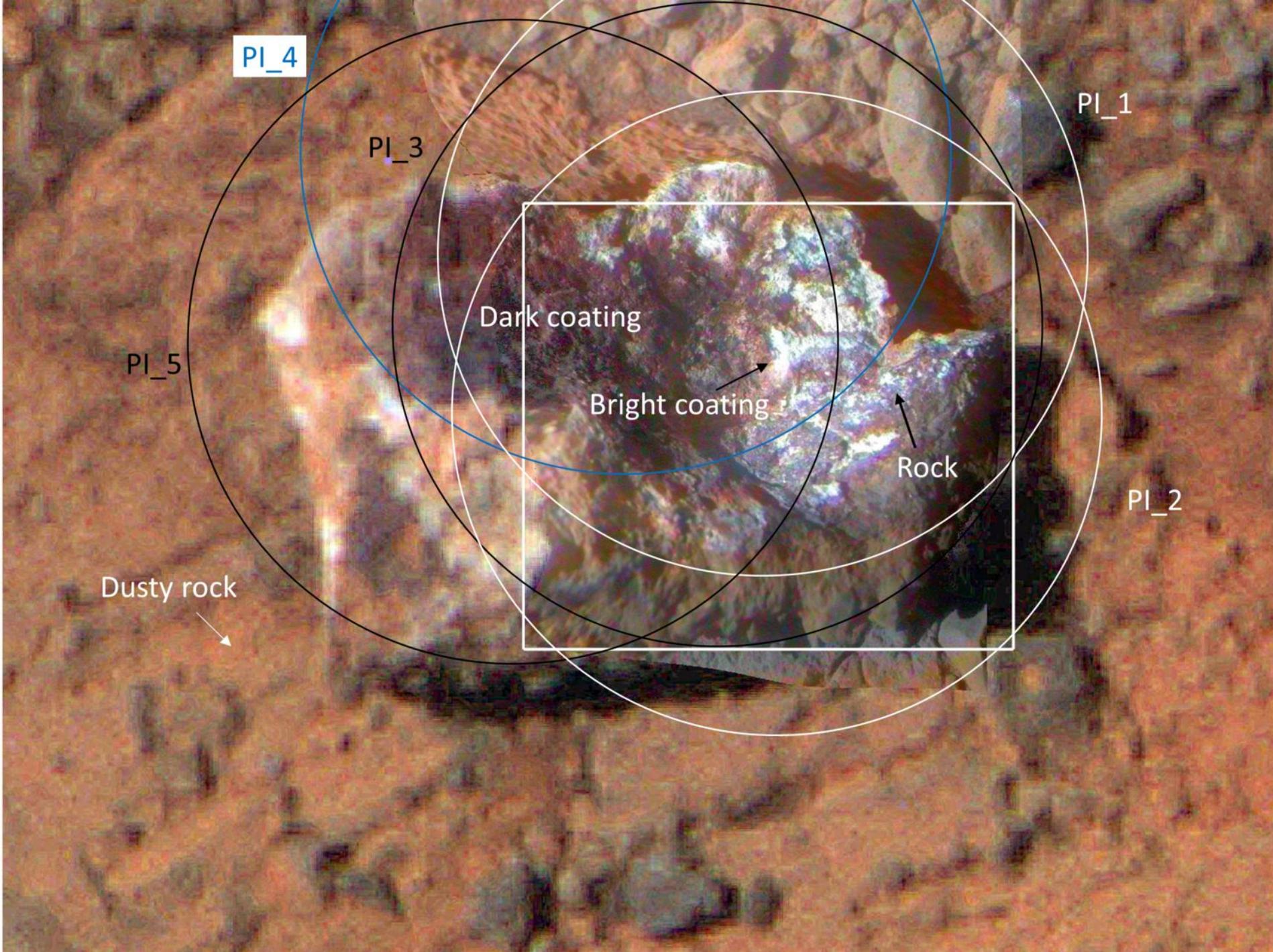
Sol 3662 Pancam False Color Image



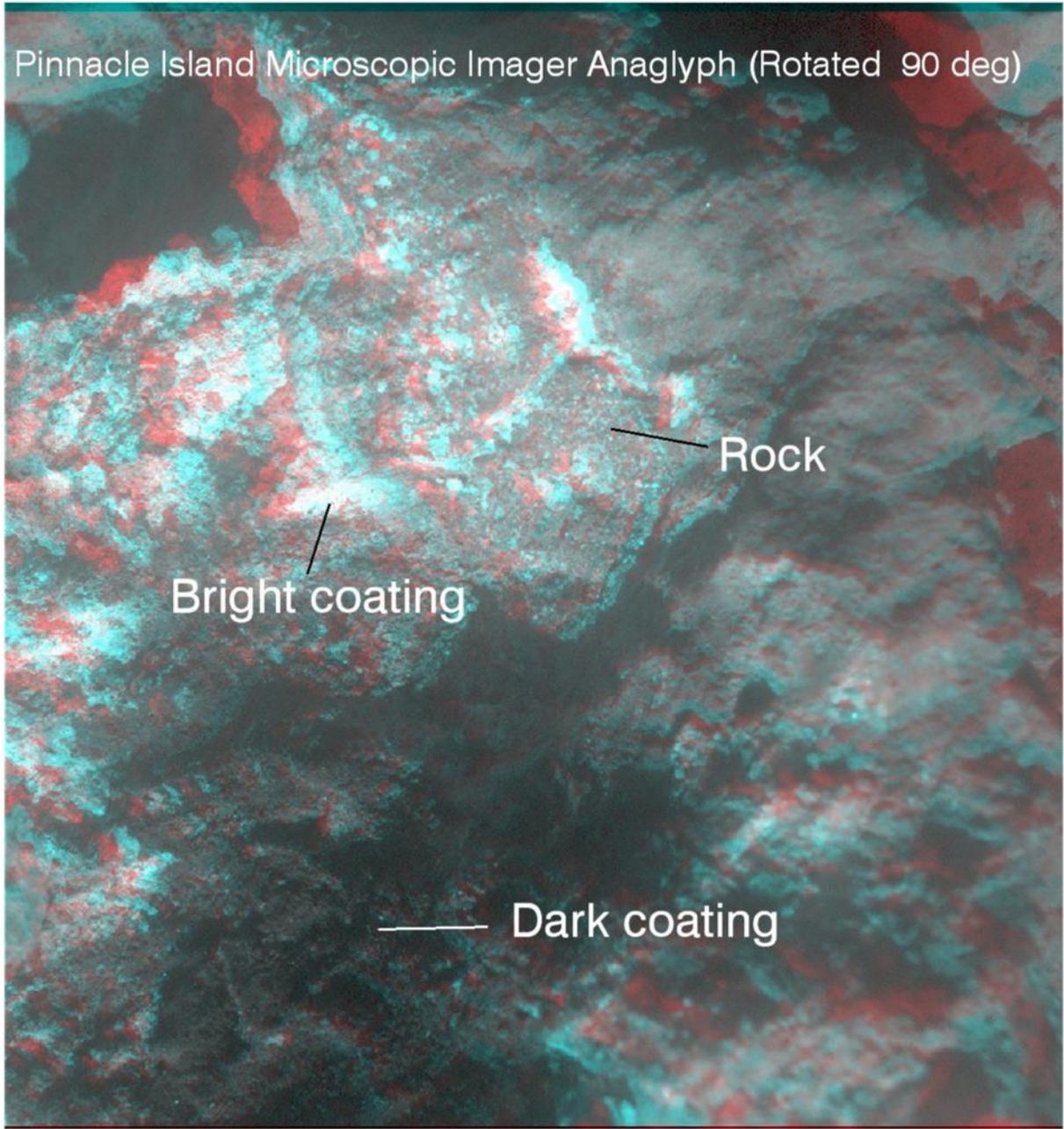








Pinnacle Island Microscopic Imager Anaglyph (Rotated 90 deg)



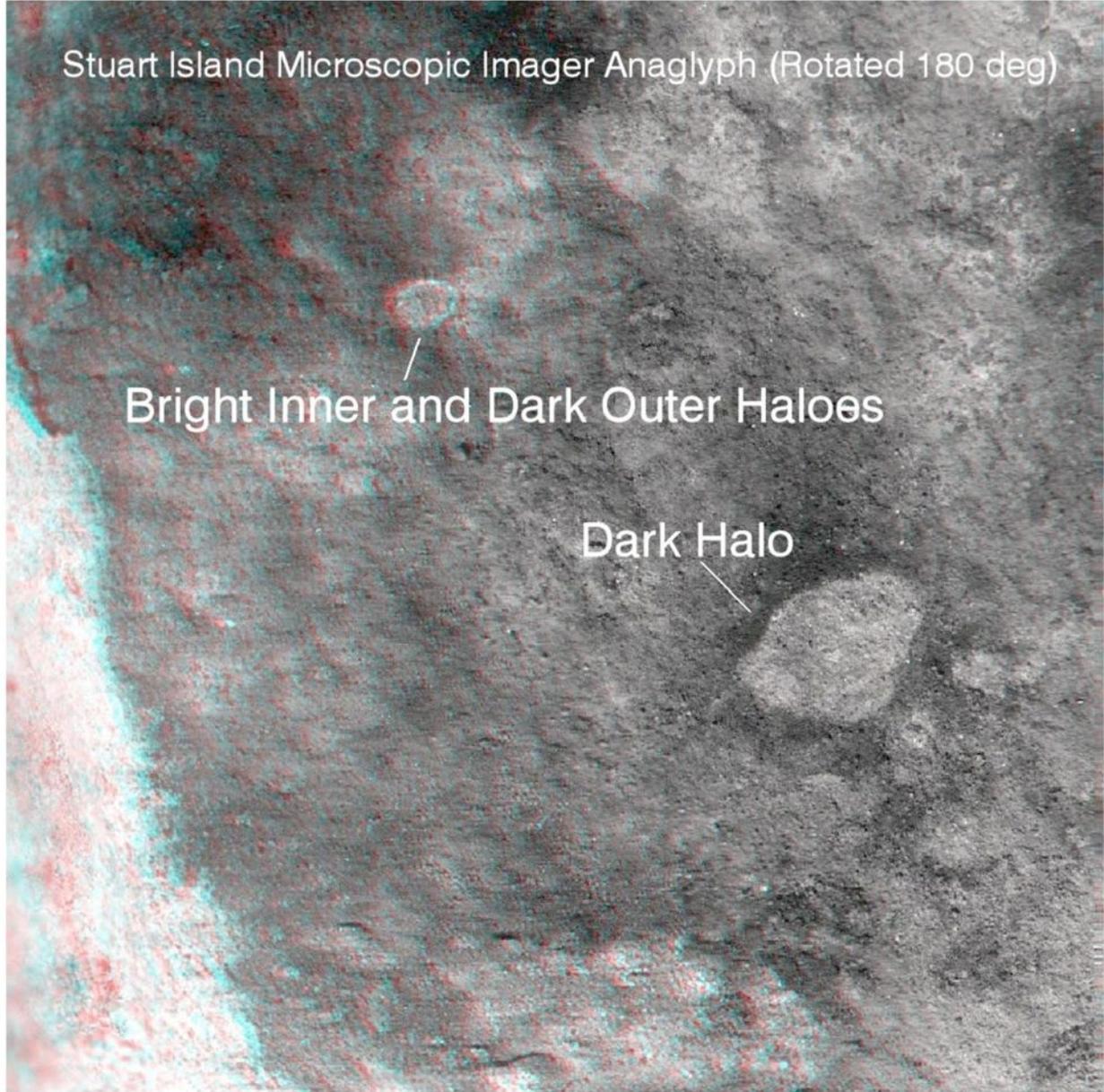
Bright coating

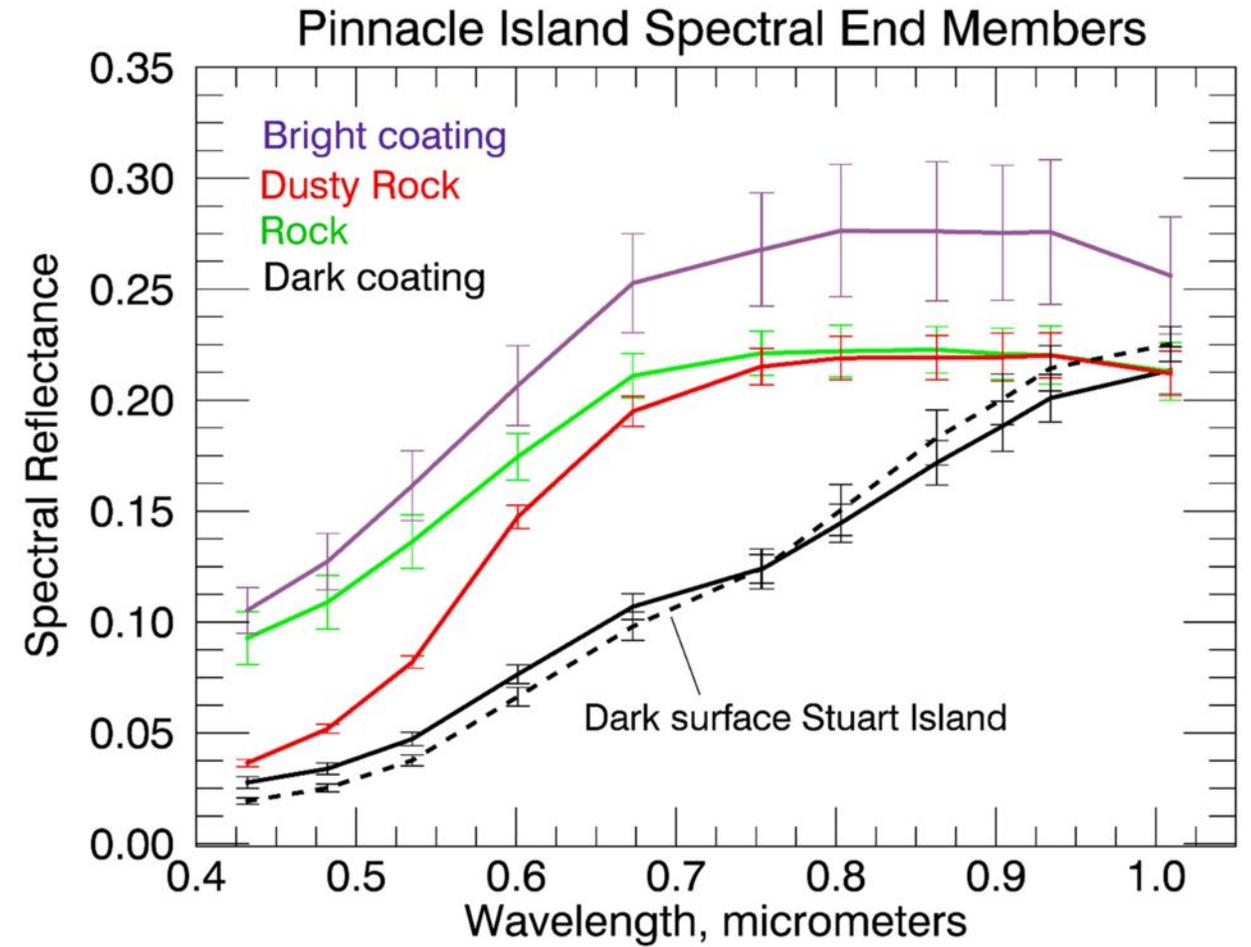
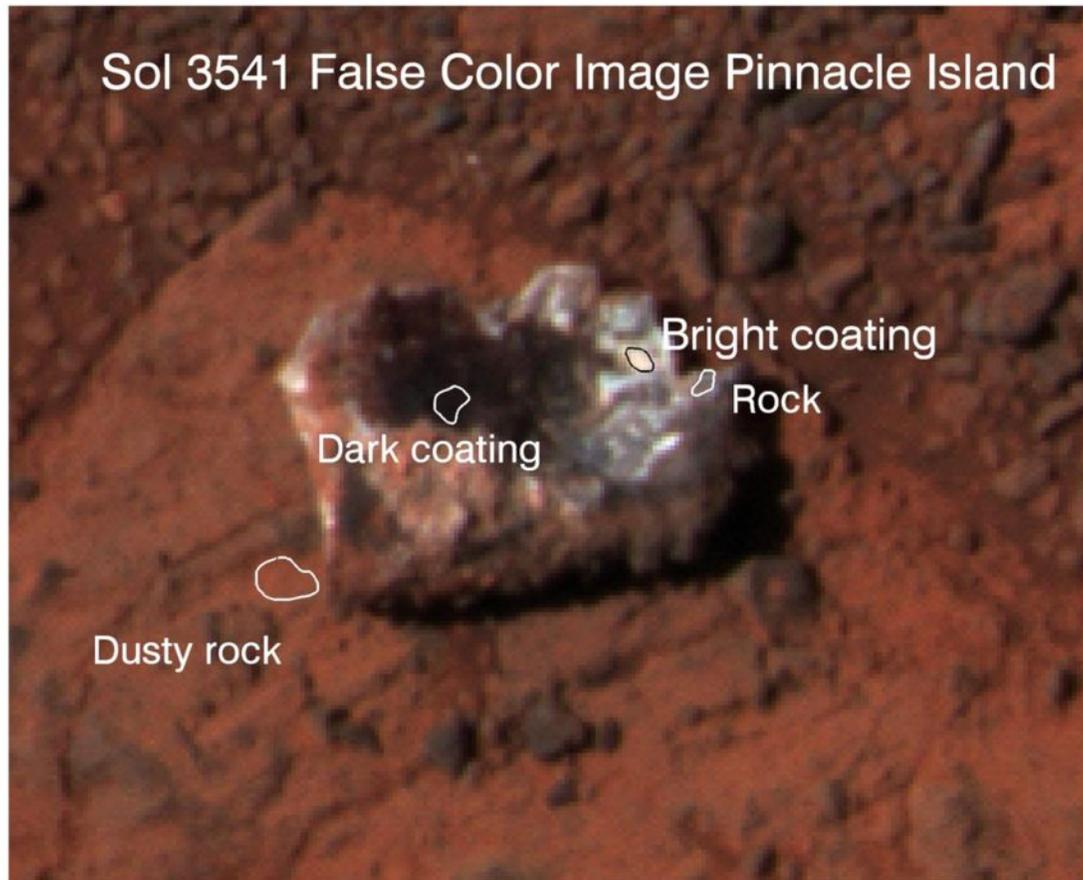
Rock

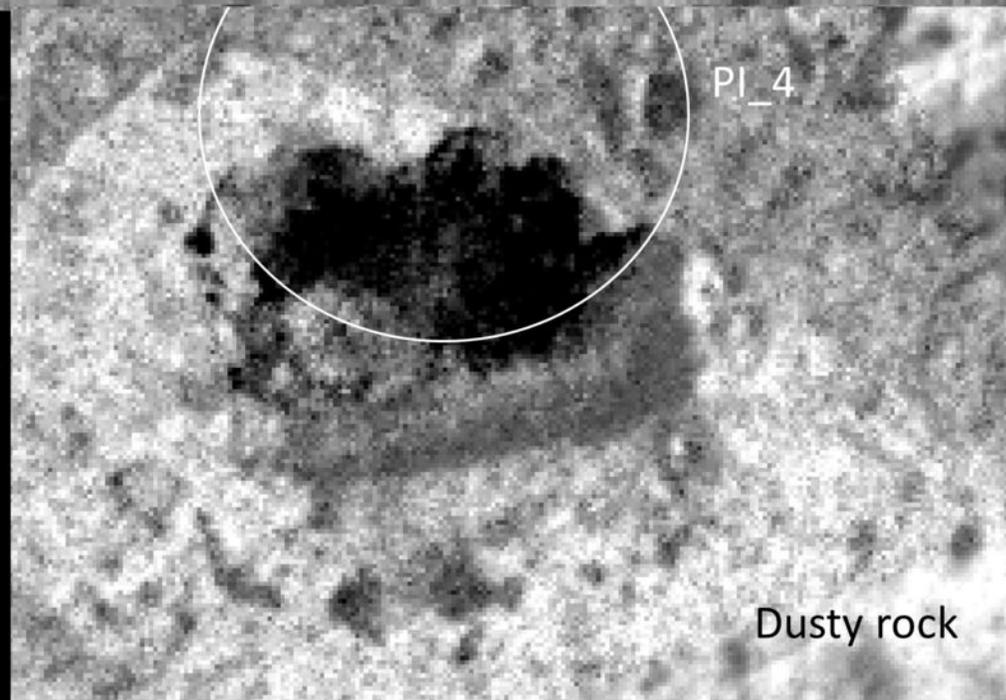
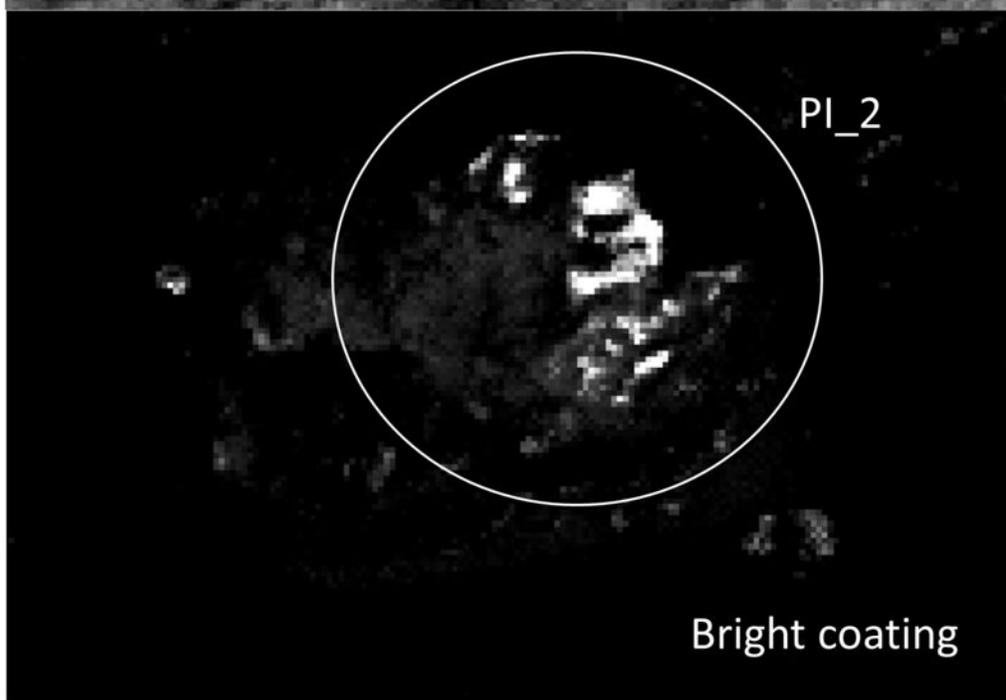
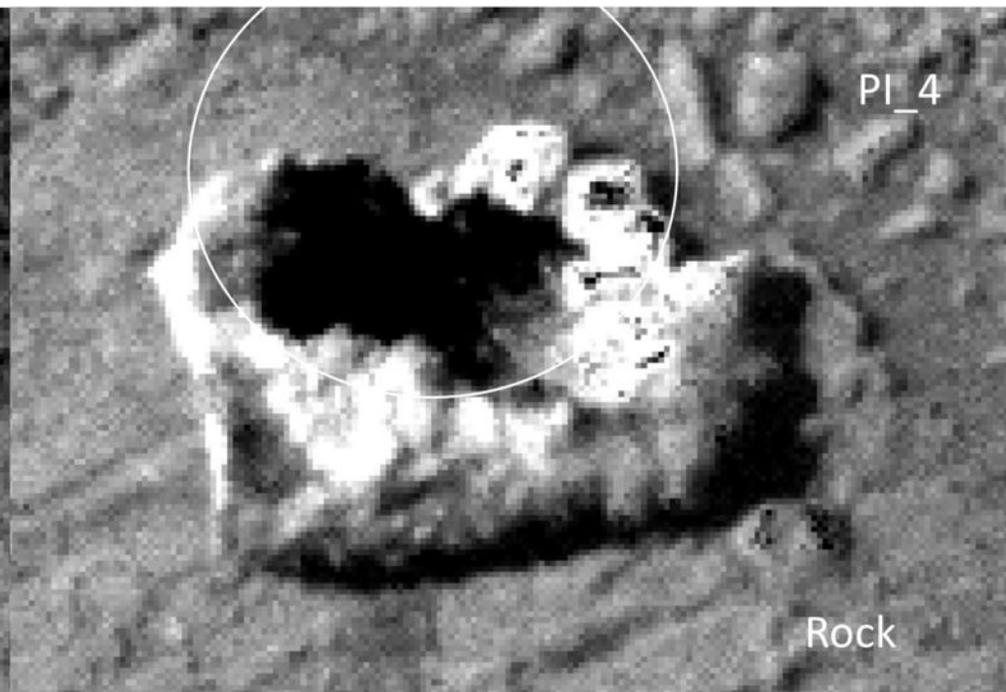
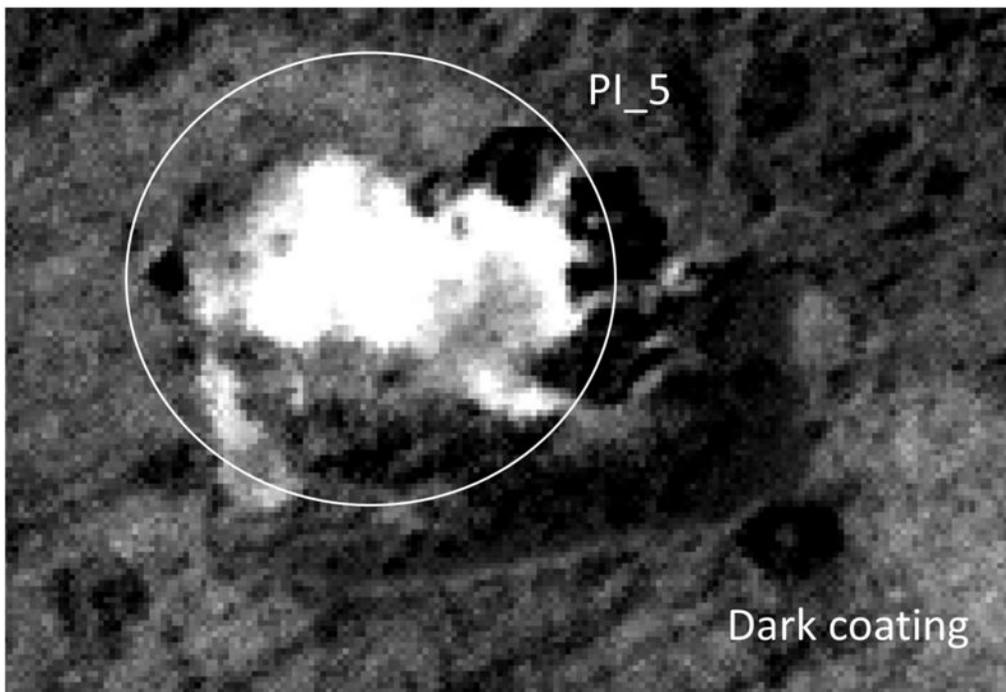
Dark coating

Sol 3576 Pancam False Color Image Stuart Island

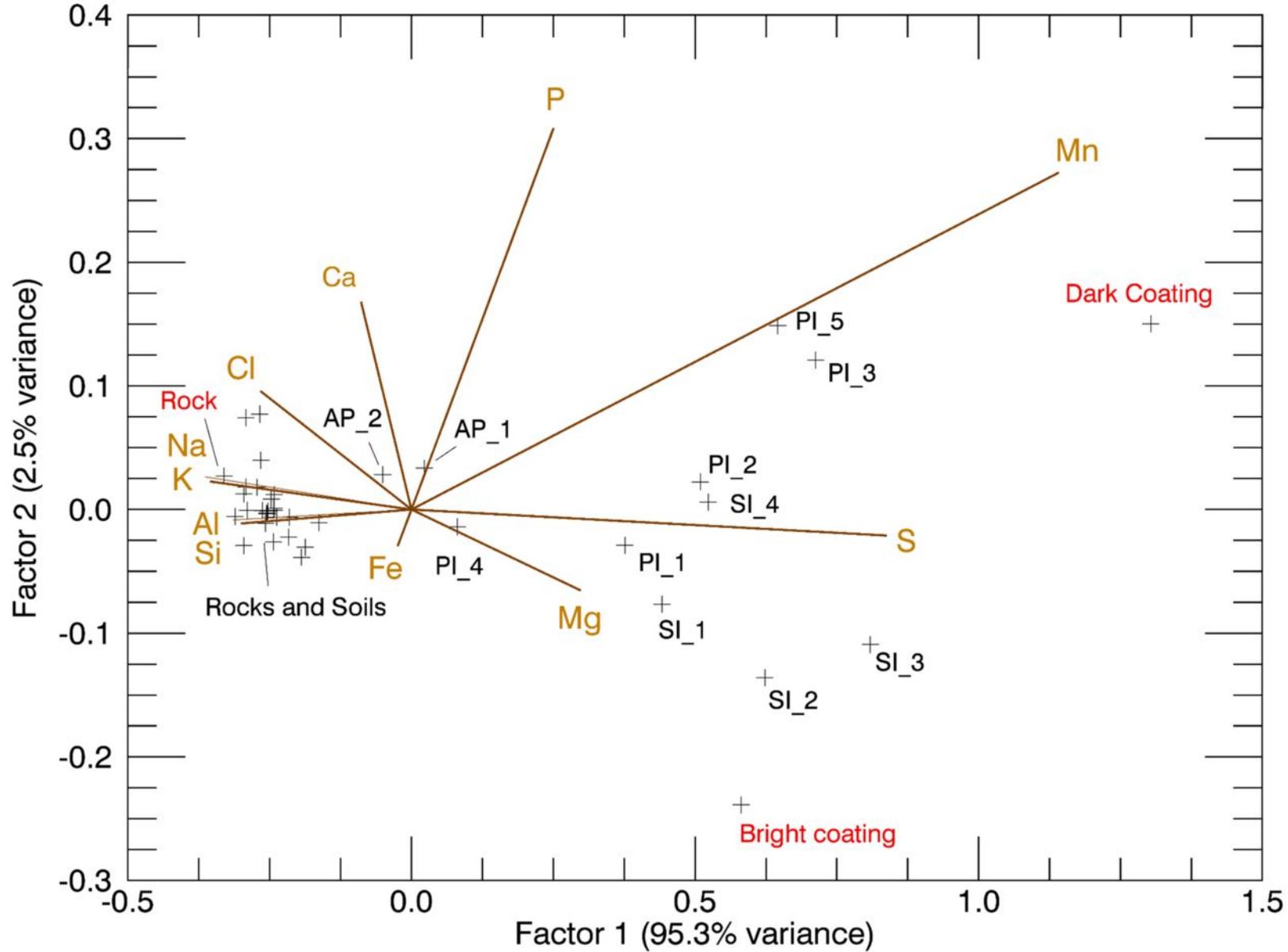


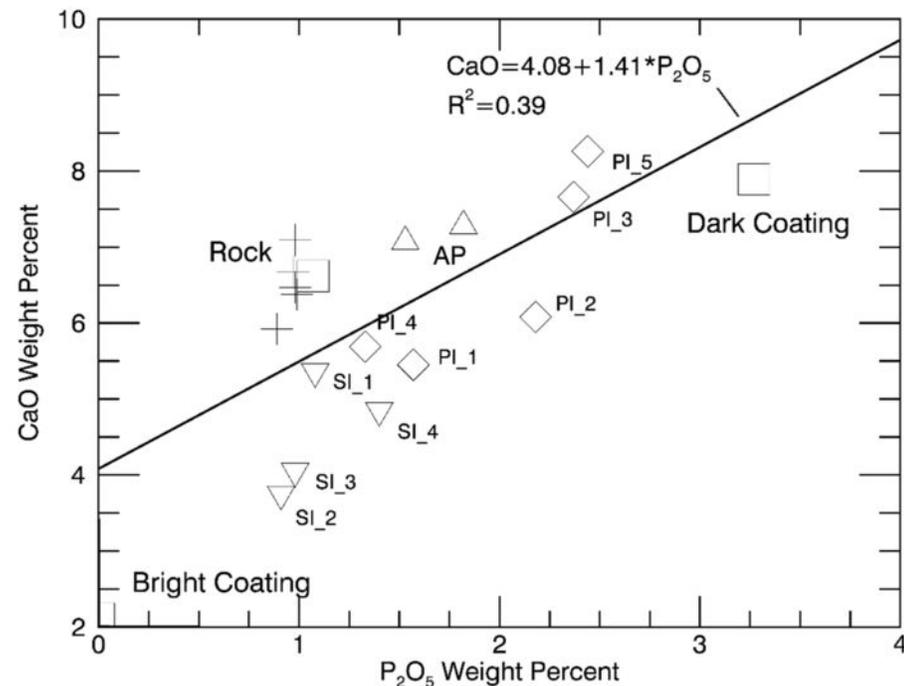
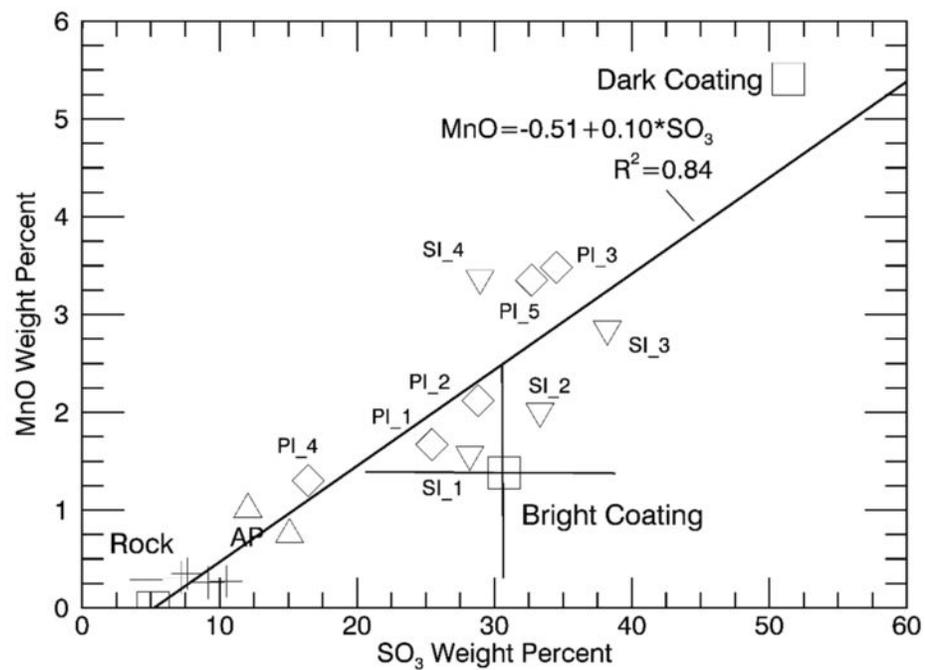
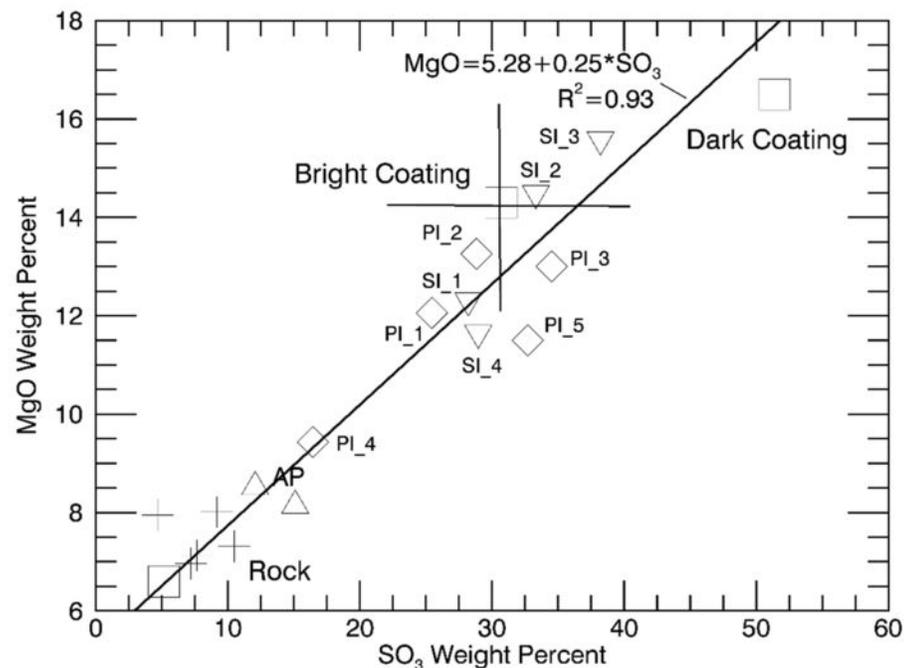
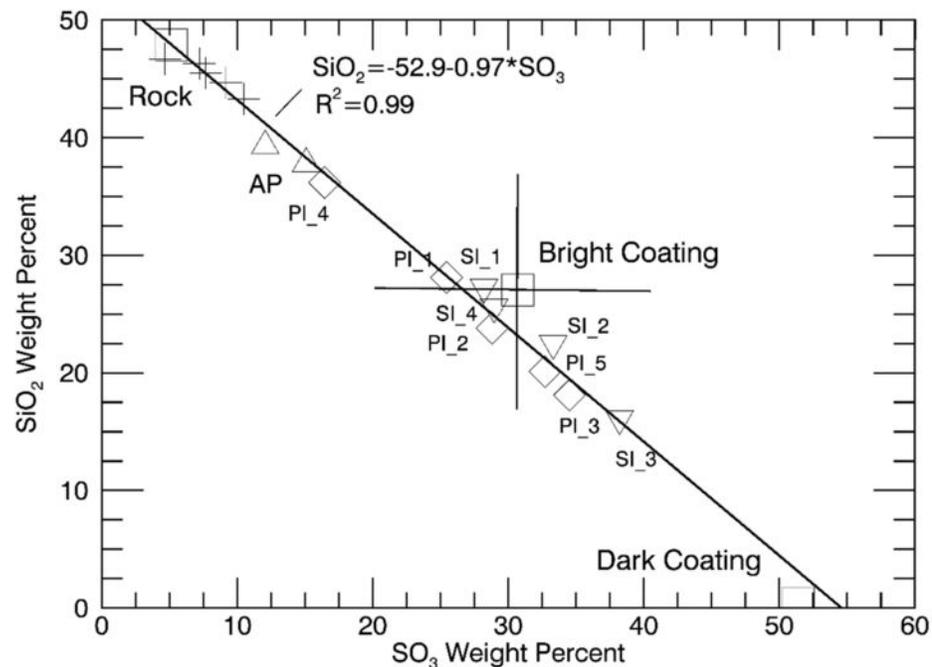


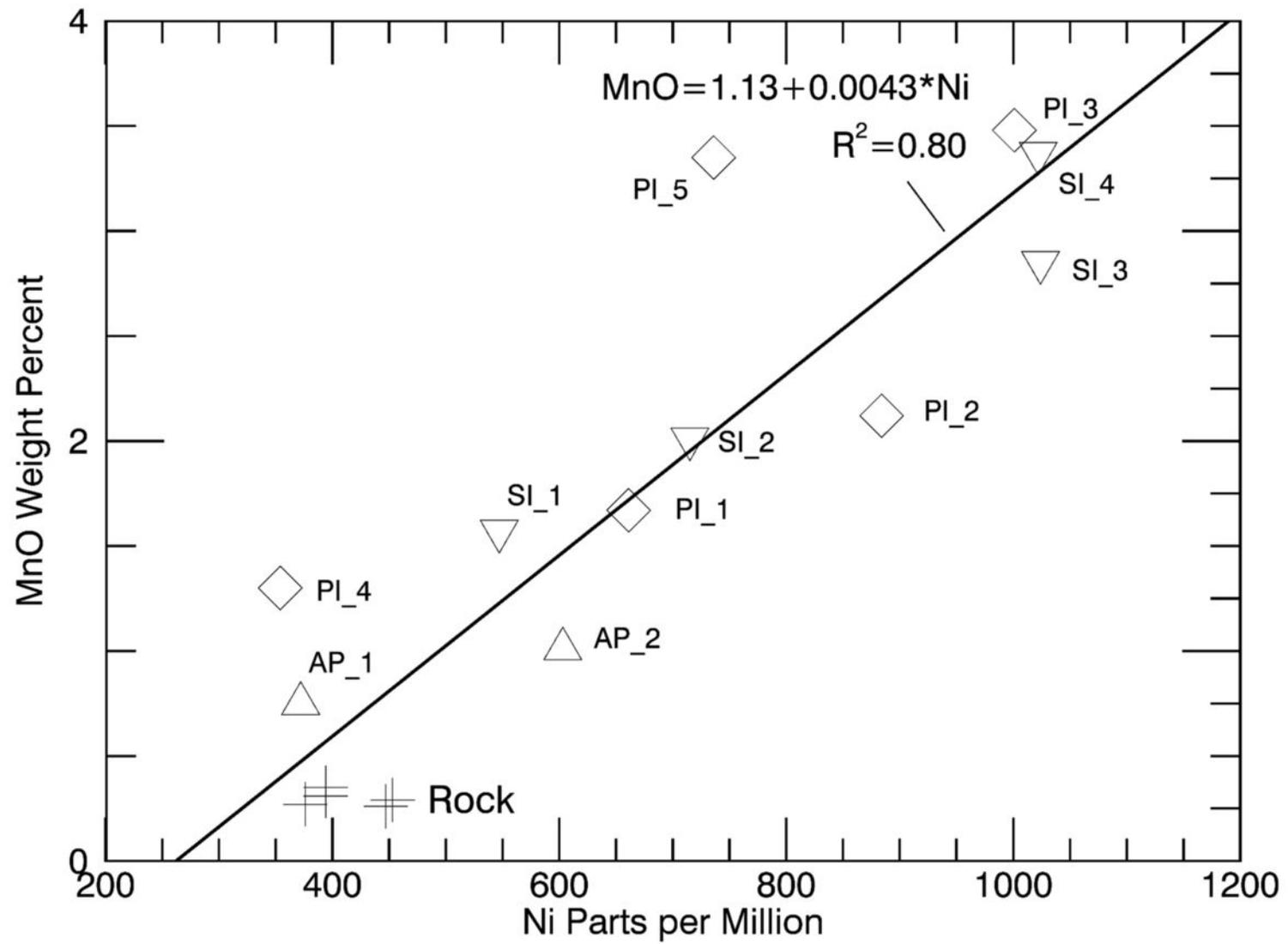


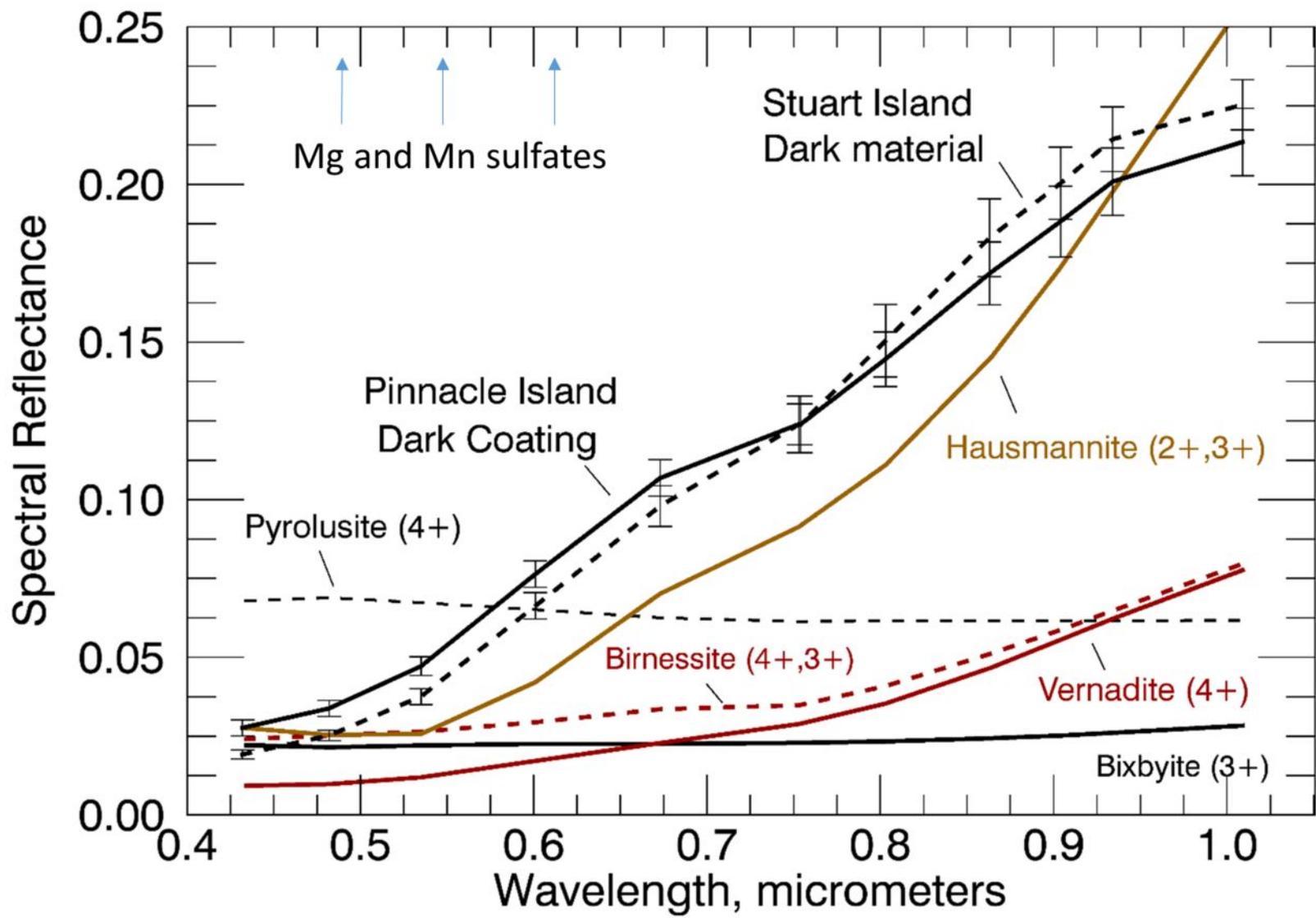


Western Murray Ridge APXS Data (not Bristol Well)

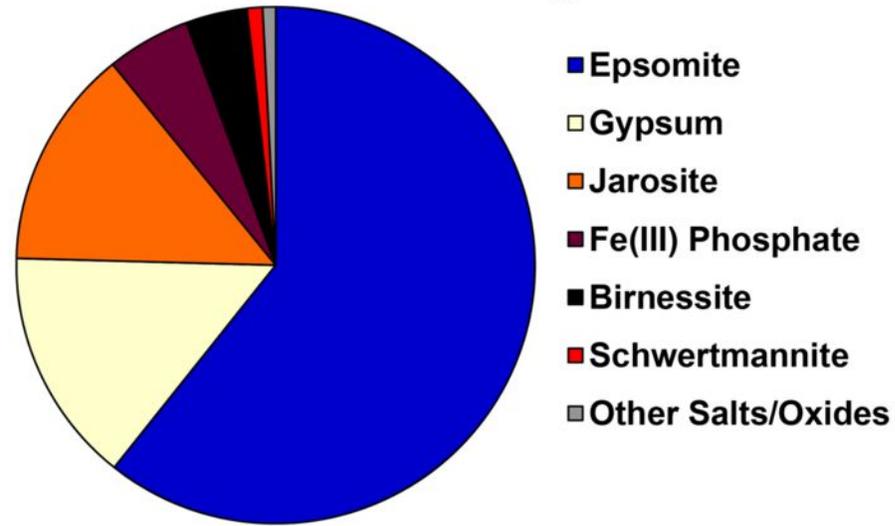




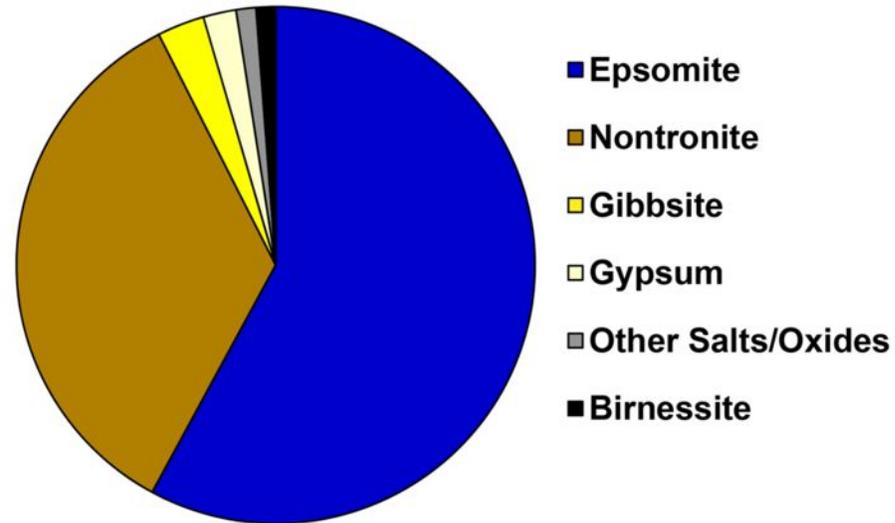




**Dark Coating**



**Bright Coating**



# Opportunity APXS Meridiani Planum Through Murray Ridge

