

Fig. 8. Venera 14 (side A) panorama in Viking lander survey mode perspective.

extent and orientation than those at Venera 10. The overall roughness of the bedrock surfaces at Venera 13 is comparable to that of Venera 10, with perhaps a slightly lesser amount of surface texture and small-scale topography.

Unlike Venera 10 there is a significant component of fragmental material at the Venera 13 locality. The fragments at the site range in size from centimeter scale to boulders up to 0.5 m in length. The size distribution of fragments is clearly bimodal with the pebble fraction (1–5 cm) dominating the boulders (tens of centimeters) in number. The albedo of most of the fragments of all sizes at Venera 13 is comparable to that of the unmantled bedrock exposures and is higher than that of the dark, fine materials that compose the soil. Unlike the Venera 9 locality, the blocks at Venera 13 are clustered in isolated piles rather than providing a continuous cover of the surface. The smaller fragments are more continuously distributed and can be found on top of bedrock exposures, mixed

with the soil, and on the lander ring. The highest concentration of the pebble fraction occurs in an annulus around the lander ring. Many of the pebbles nearest the lander ring are unburied, perhaps due to effects associated with the spacecraft landing. However, most pebbles in other areas are at least partially buried.

In terms of general morphology, the larger fragments are predominantly platy in form, have angular to subangular outlines, are often layered, and display a tendency to fracture in a planar manner. Many of the larger fragments are strikingly similar in form to those seen at the Venera 9 site. The larger fragments appear to be distributed in clusters related to bedrock exposures at Venera 13. Surface textures similar to those visible on bedrock surfaces are typical of such large fragments. The smaller fragments are generally in the pebble size range and are more rounded in outline than the boulders, although a few are polygonal in outline like their larger counterparts.

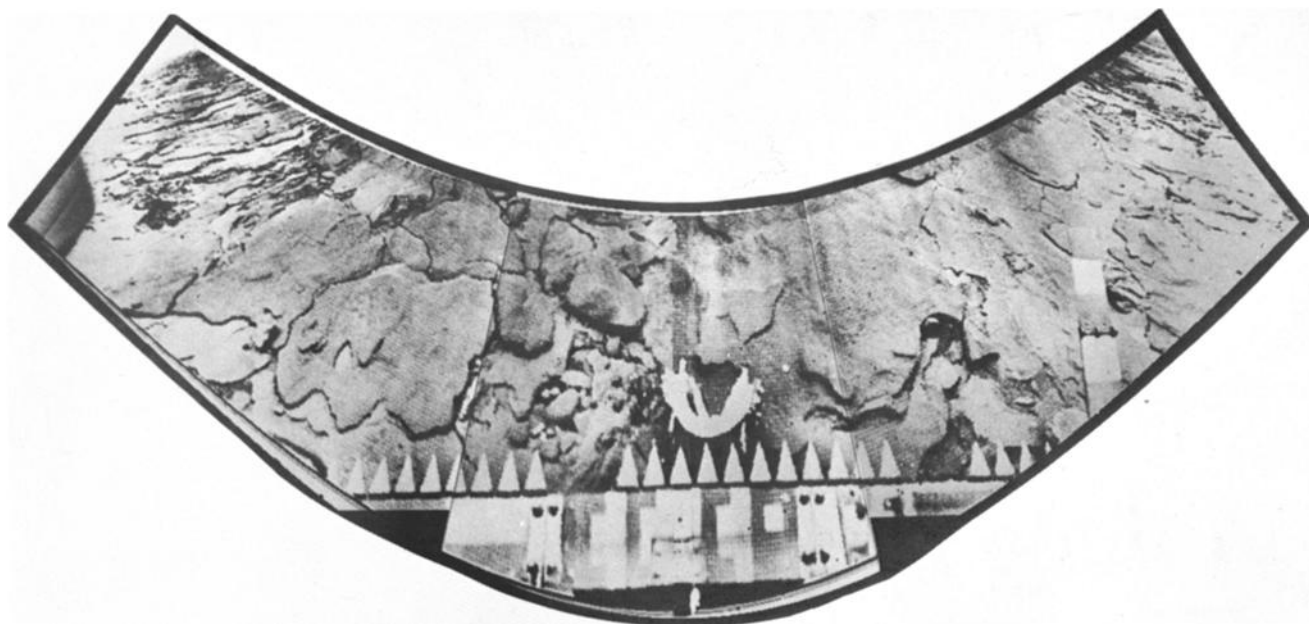


Fig. 9. Venera 14 (side B) panorama in Viking lander survey mode perspective.