

these morphologies is simply that Pr have experienced post-impact modification and infilling, resulting in extremely shallow crater depths and subdued ejecta textures.

- (2) Given the diameter ranges of EE and Pr (Fig. 9), and the estimated thickness of the mid-latitude ice-rich deposit during periods of high obliquity (tens to hundreds of meters), these impacts overwhelmed the ice-rich layer, penetrating to the underlying martian silicate regolith. This resulted in the excavation of rock that formed the blocky ejecta necessary to preserve the ice-rich deposits.
- (3) The smaller size of Pd, and the significant differences from Pr and EE in topographic profile due to the absence of ejecta, requires that Pd result from a slightly different process. The fact that the pedestals of Pd have the same average thickness as the excess ejecta of EE and Pr (Fig. 9), and form in the same geographic regions (Fig. 10) implies that they result from impacts into the same type of ice-rich target material. However, Pd differ in that they do not penetrate through the icy surface layer, and thus do not generate a rocky silicate-rich ejecta covering. Instead, an indurated, dusty lag deposit appears to protect the underlying ice-rich material.
- (4) The ages of EE, Pr, and Pd suggest that ice-rich material has been repeatedly deposited at mid latitudes in both hemispheres throughout the Amazonian. The geographic distribution of EE, Pr, and Pd, with significantly higher concentrations in the northern hemisphere (Fig. 10), suggests that the lowlands may be superposed more frequently by these ice-rich deposits. Stratigraphic, morphologic, and crater counting evidence supports the interpretation that there have been multiple generations of these crater populations. This would require the episodic emplacement of icy paleodeposits, which are likely to have accumulated and sublimated at mid latitudes due to obliquity-driven climate variations.

Acknowledgments

The authors would like to thank the HiRISE, CTX, and HRSC teams, without whom this study could not have been completed, as well as Sarah Stewart and one anonymous reviewer for their constructive comments that improved the quality of the manuscript. The authors are grateful for financial support from NASA Mars Data Analysis Program (MDAP) Grant NNX09A14GG to J.W.H.

References

- Arvidson, R.E., Coradini, M., Carusi, A., Coradini, A., Fulchignoni, M., Federico, C., Funicello, R., Salomone, M., 1976. Latitudinal variation of wind erosion of crater ejecta deposits on Mars. *Icarus* 27 (4), 503–516. doi:10.1016/0019-1035(76)90166-4.
- Barlow, N.G., 2005. A new model for pedestal crater formation. Workshop on the Role of Volatiles and Atmospheres on Martian Impact Craters. LPI Contribution No. 1273, pp. 17–18.
- Barlow, N.G. et al., 2000. Standardizing the nomenclature of martian impact crater ejecta morphologies. *J. Geophys. Res.* 105 (E11), 26733–26738.
- Barlow, N.G., Koroshetz, J., Dohm, J.M., 2001. Variations in the onset diameter for martian layered ejecta morphologies and their implications for subsurface volatile reservoirs. *Geophys. Res. Lett.* 28 (16), 3095–3098.
- Black, B.A., Stewart, S.T., 2008. Excess ejecta craters record episodic ice-rich layers at middle latitudes on Mars. *J. Geophys. Res.* 113, E02015. doi:10.1029/2007JE002888.
- Boyce, J.M., Mouginiis-Mark, P., 2006. Martian craters viewed by the Thermal Emission Imaging System instrument: Double-layered ejecta craters. *J. Geophys. Res.* 111, E10005. doi:10.1029/2005JE002638.
- Boyce, J.M., Mouginiis-Mark, P., Garbeil, H., 2005. Ancient oceans in the northern lowlands of Mars: Evidence from impact crater depth/diameter relationships. *J. Geophys. Res.* 110, E03008. doi:10.1029/2004JE002328.
- Forget, F., Haberle, R.M., Montmessin, F., Levrard, B., Head, J.W., 2006. Formation of glaciers on Mars by atmospheric precipitation at high obliquity. *Science* 311, 368–371.
- Garvin, J.B., Sakimoto, S.E.H., Frawley, J.J., Schnetzler, C., 2000. North polar region craterforms on Mars: Geometric characteristics from the Mars Orbiter Laser Altimeter. *Icarus* 144, 329–352.
- Garvin, J.B., Sakimoto, S.E.H., Frawley, J.J., 2003. Craters on Mars: Global geometric properties from gridded MOLA topography. In: Sixth International Conference on Mars. Abstract #3277.
- Head, J.W., Marchant, D.R., 2003. Cold-based mountain glaciers on Mars: Western Arsia Mons. *Geology* 31, 641–644. doi:10.1130/0091-7613.
- Head, J.W., Marchant, D.R., 2009. Inventory of ice-related deposits on Mars: Evidence for burial and long-term sequestration of ice in non-polar regions and implications for the water budget and climate evolution. *Lunar Planet. Sci. XL*. Abstract #1356.
- Head, J.W., Mustard, J.F., Kreslavsky, M.A., Milliken, R.E., Marchant, D.R., 2003. Recent ice ages on Mars. *Nature* 426, 797–802.
- Kadish, S.J., Head, J.W., 2011. Preservation of layered paleodeposits in high-latitude pedestal craters on Mars. *Icarus* 213 (2), 443–450. doi:10.1016/j.icarus.2011.03.029.
- Kadish, S.J., Head, J.W., Barlow, N.G., Marchant, D.R., 2008. Martian pedestal craters: Marginal sublimation pits implicate a climate-related formation mechanism. *Geophys. Res. Lett.* 35, L16104. doi:10.1029/2008GL034990.
- Kadish, S.J., Barlow, N.G., Head, J.W., 2009. Latitude dependence of martian pedestal craters: Evidence for a sublimation-driven formation mechanism. *J. Geophys. Res.* 114, E10001. doi:10.1029/2008JE003318.
- Kadish, S.J., Head, J.W., Barlow, N.G., 2010. Pedestal crater heights on Mars: A proxy for the thicknesses of past, ice-rich, Amazonian deposits. *Icarus* 210, 92–101. doi:10.1016/j.icarus.2010.06.021.
- Kreslavsky, M., Head, J.W., 2002. Mars: Nature and evolution of young latitude-dependent water-ice-rich mantle. *Geophys. Res. Lett.* 29. doi:10.1029/2002GL015392.
- Laskar, J., Correia, A.C.M., Gastineau, M., Joutel, F., Levrard, B., Robutel, P., 2004. Long term evolution and chaotic diffusion of the insolation quantities of Mars. *Icarus* 170 (2), 343–364.
- Lefort, A., Russell, P., Thomas, N., McEwen, A., Dundas, C.M., Kirk, R., 2009. Observations of periglacial landforms in Utopia Planitia with the High Resolution Imaging Science Experiment (HiRISE). *J. Geophys. Res.* 114. doi:10.1029/2008JE003264.
- Levrard, B., Forget, F., Montmessin, F., Laskar, J., 2004. Recent ice-rich deposits formed at high latitudes on Mars by sublimation of unstable equatorial ice during low obliquity. *Nature* 431, 1072–1075.
- Levy, J., Head, J.W., Marchant, D.R., 2010. Concentric crater fill in the northern mid-latitudes of Mars: Formation processes and relationships to similar landforms of glacial origin. *Icarus* 209, 390–404. doi:10.1016/j.icarus.2010.03.036.
- Madeleine, J.-B., Forget, F., Head, J.W., Levrard, B., Montmessin, F., Millour, E., 2009. Amazonian northern mid-latitude glaciation on Mars: A proposed climate scenario. *Icarus* 203, 390–405.
- McCaughey, J.F., 1973. Mariner 9 evidence for wind erosion in the equatorial and mid-latitude regions of Mars. *J. Geophys. Res.* 78, 4123–4137. doi:10.1029/JB078i020p04123.
- Melosh, H.J., 1989. *Impact Cratering: A Geological Process*. Oxford Univ. Press, New York.
- Meresse, S., Costard, F., Mangold, N., Baratoux, D., Boyce, J.M., 2006. Martian perched craters and large ejecta volume: Evidence for episodes of deflation in the northern lowlands. *Meteorit. Planet. Sci.* 41, 1647–1658.
- Morgan, G.A., Head, J.W., 2009. Sinton crater, Mars: Evidence for impact into a plateau icefield and melting to produce valley networks at the Hesperian–Amazonian boundary. *Icarus* 202, 39–59.
- Mustard, J.F., Cooper, C.D., Rifkin, M.K., 2001. Evidence for recent climate change on Mars from the identification of youthful near-surface ground ice. *Nature* 412, 411–414.
- Osinski, G.R., 2006. Effect of volatiles and target lithology on the generation and emplacement of impact crater fill and ejecta deposits on Mars. *Meteorit. Planet. Sci.* 41 (10), 1571–1586.
- Schaefer, E.I., Head, J.W., Kadish, S.J., 2011. Vaduz, an unusual fresh crater on Mars: Evidence for impact into a recent ice-rich mantle. *Geophys. Res. Lett.* 38, L07201. doi:10.1029/2010GL046605.
- Schultz, P.H., Mustard, J.F., 2004. Impact melts and glasses on Mars. *J. Geophys. Res.* 109. doi:10.1029/2002JE002025.
- Skorov, Y.V., Markiewicz, W.J., Basilevsky, A.T., Keller, H.U., 2001. Stability of water ice under a porous nonvolatile layer: Implications to the south polar layered deposits of Mars. *Planet. Space Sci.* 49, 59–63. doi:10.1016/S0032-0633(00)00121-5.
- Smith, D.E. et al., 2001. Mars orbiter laser altimeter: Experiment summary after the first year of global mapping of Mars. *J. Geophys. Res.* 106. doi:10.1029/2000JE001364.
- Stewart, S.T., Valiant, G.J., 2006. Martian subsurface properties and crater formation processes inferred from fresh impact crater geometries. *Meteorit. Planet. Sci.* 41, 1509–1537.
- Wrobel, K., Schultz, P., Crawford, D., 2006. An atmospheric blast/thermal model for the formation of high-latitude pedestal craters. *Meteorit. Planet. Sci.* 41 (10), 1539–1550.