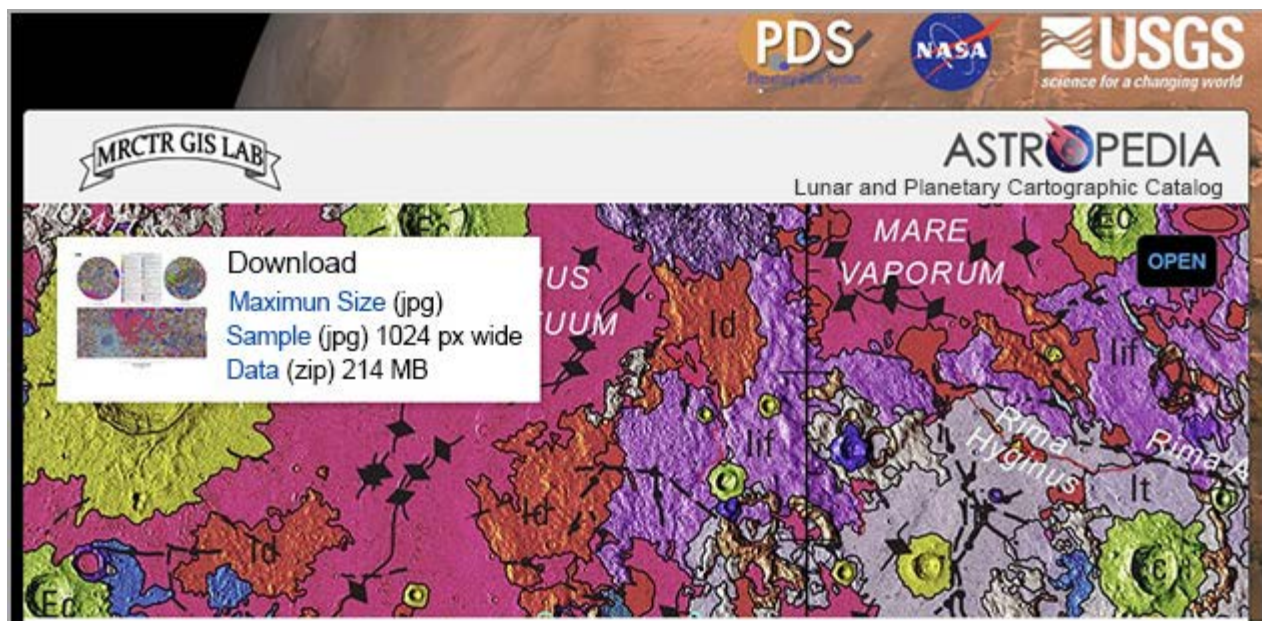


New Unified Geologic Map of the Moon

The latest renovations of geologic maps of the Moon, created in the 1970s and updated in 2013, are depicted on one unified geologic map at a 1:5,000,000 scale. Keeping pace with new higher-resolution data, the mappers have improved the accuracy of the locations of geologic contacts and linework in this 2020 product.



Unified global geologic map of the Moon at 1:5,000,000-scale. Click for link to reference at USGS.

The U. S. Geological Survey (USGS) released the map in digital formats (GIS and pdf) in March, 2020 with the stated purpose, "to summarize the current state of lunar geologic knowledge. Like terrestrial synoptic maps it provides a stratigraphic framework to be used for developing new theory and for determining the regional significance of surface exploration results. In addition to serving as a framework for interpreting surface exploration results, the effort to classify units into type and age by photogeology narrows the range of possible origins for many features."

The geologic units overlie shaded-relief maps made from JAXA's SELENE Kaguya Terrain Camera data and NASA's Lunar Reconnaissance Orbiter camera mosaic and the Lunar Orbiter Laser Altimeter digital terrain model.

The authors are Corey M. Fortezzo (USGS), the late Paul D. Spudis (Lunar and Planetary Institute), and Shannon L. Harrel (NASA Space Grant-funded graduate student from the South Dakota School of Mines and Technology).

See Reference:

- Download instructions and more information are directly [available from the USGS Astrogeology Science Center](#).

See also:

· Fortezzo, C. M., Spudis, P. D. and Harrel, S. L. (2020) Release of the Digital Unified Global Geologic Map of the Moon at 1:5,000,000-Scale, *51st Lunar and Planetary Science Conference*, Lunar and Planetary Institute, Houston, TX. [abstract #2760](#).

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