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Institut de recherche  
pour le développement

# Thermal and Dynamic History of Planets Planetary Volcanism and Crustal Evolution

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# Day 2 – The thermal evolution of Mars

Part I – The mantle source  
A geochemical model of the Martian mantle

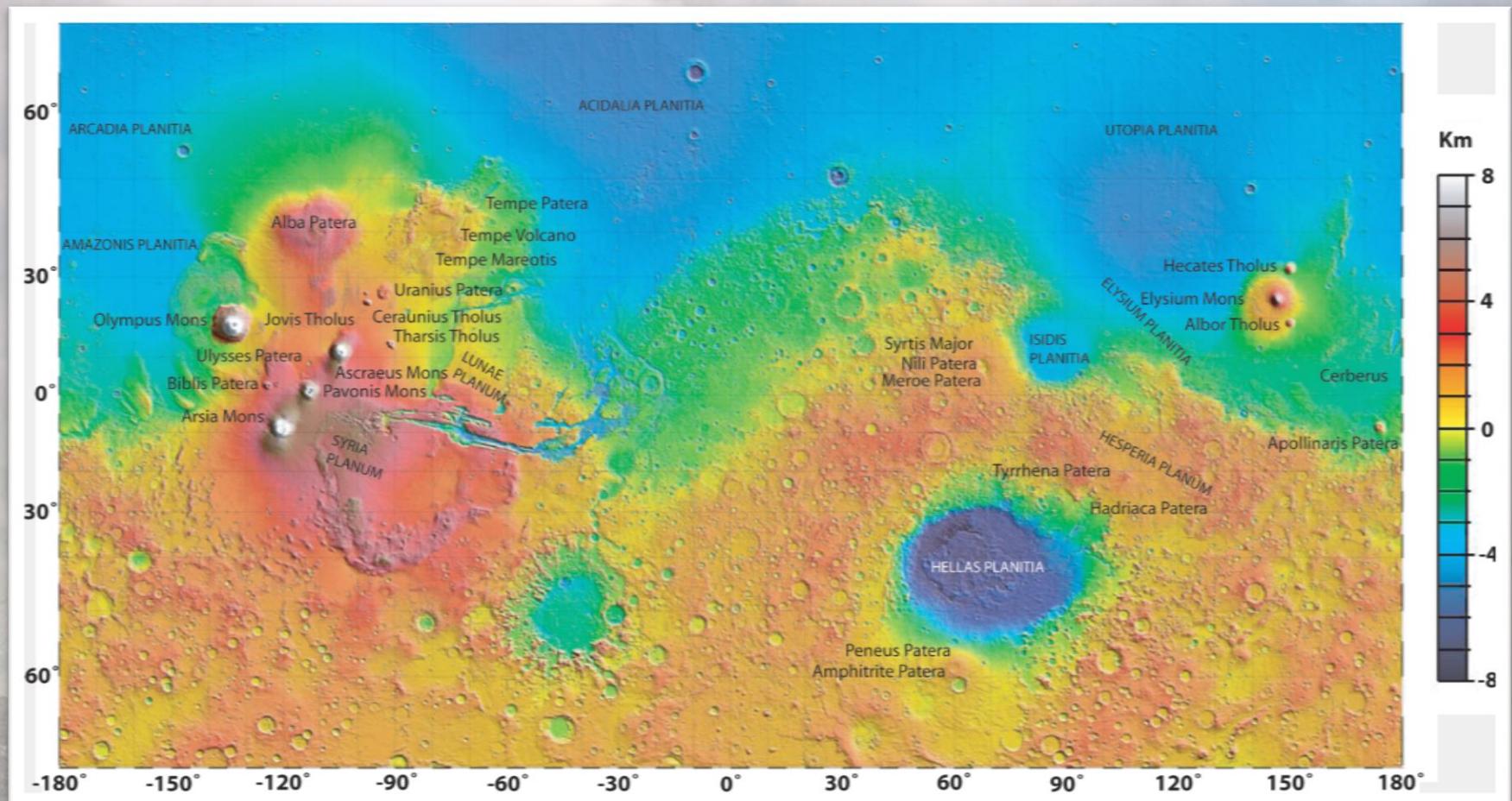
Part II – Petrological constraints on the  
thermal evolution of the mantle

Part III – Outstanding questions

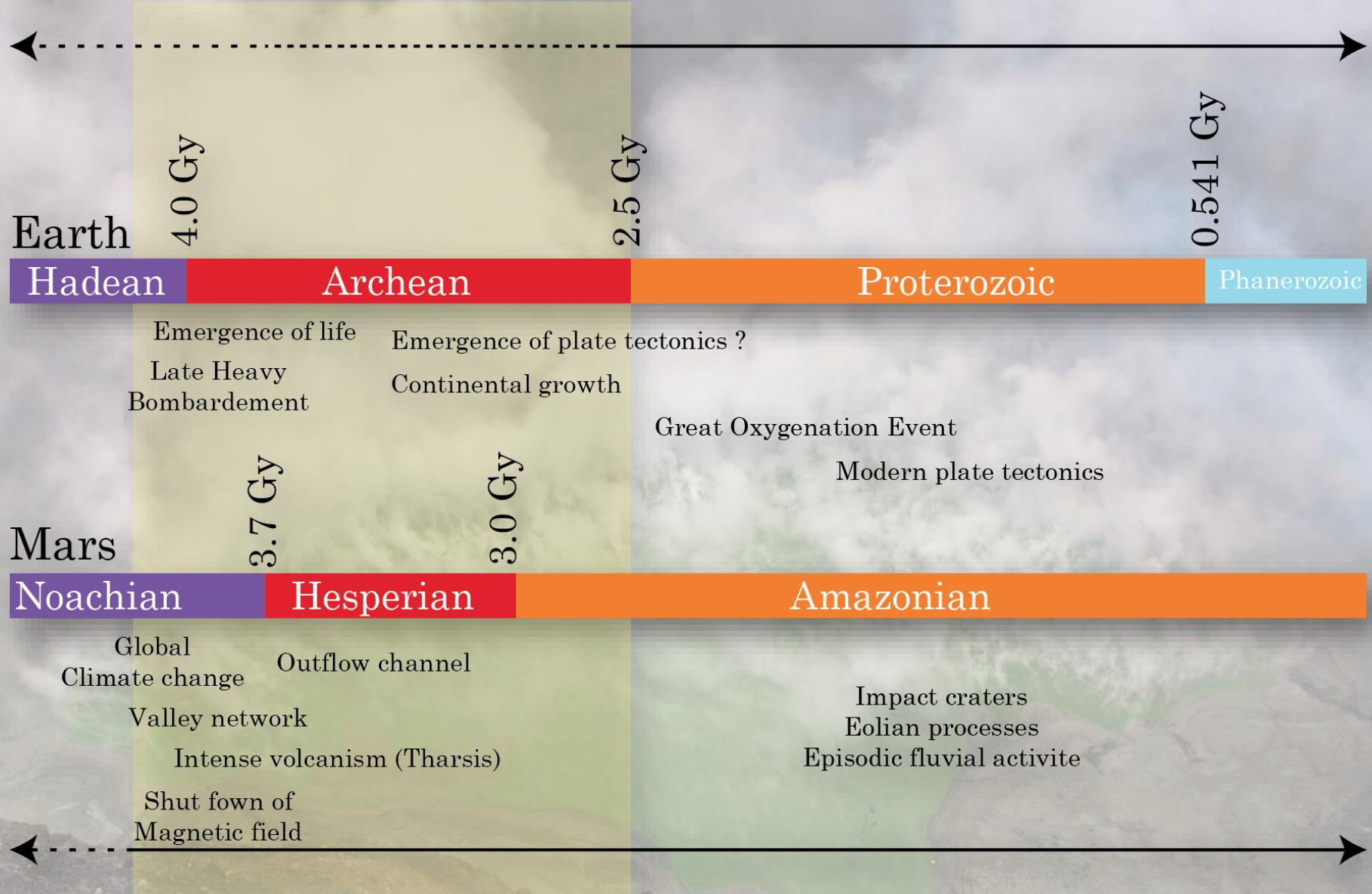
# Mars Topography and Ages

Ages from crater counts  
calibrated from Apollo samples

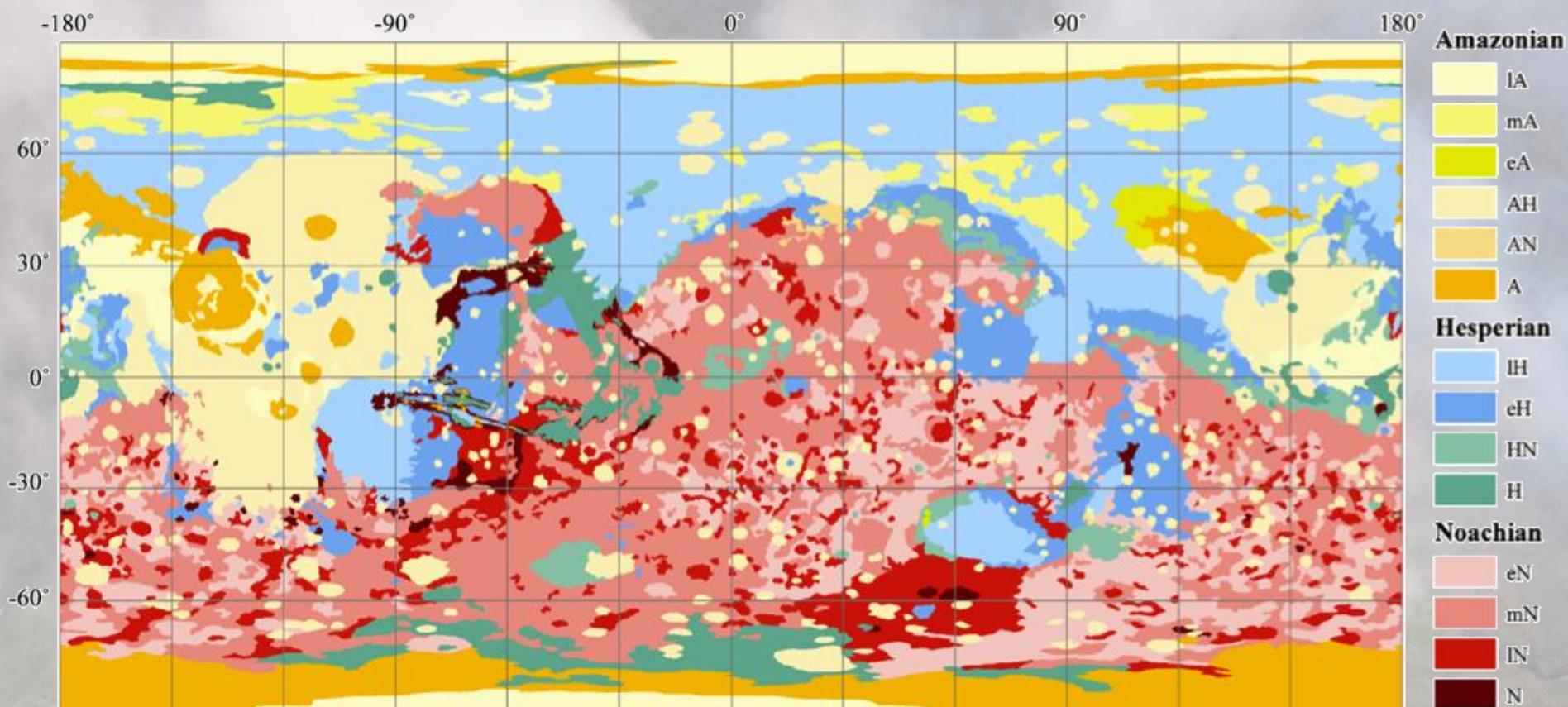
Main surface features  
-Hemispheric dichotomy  
-Large impact basins  
-Volcanic provinces  
-Valles Marineris



# Stratigraphic scale of Mars

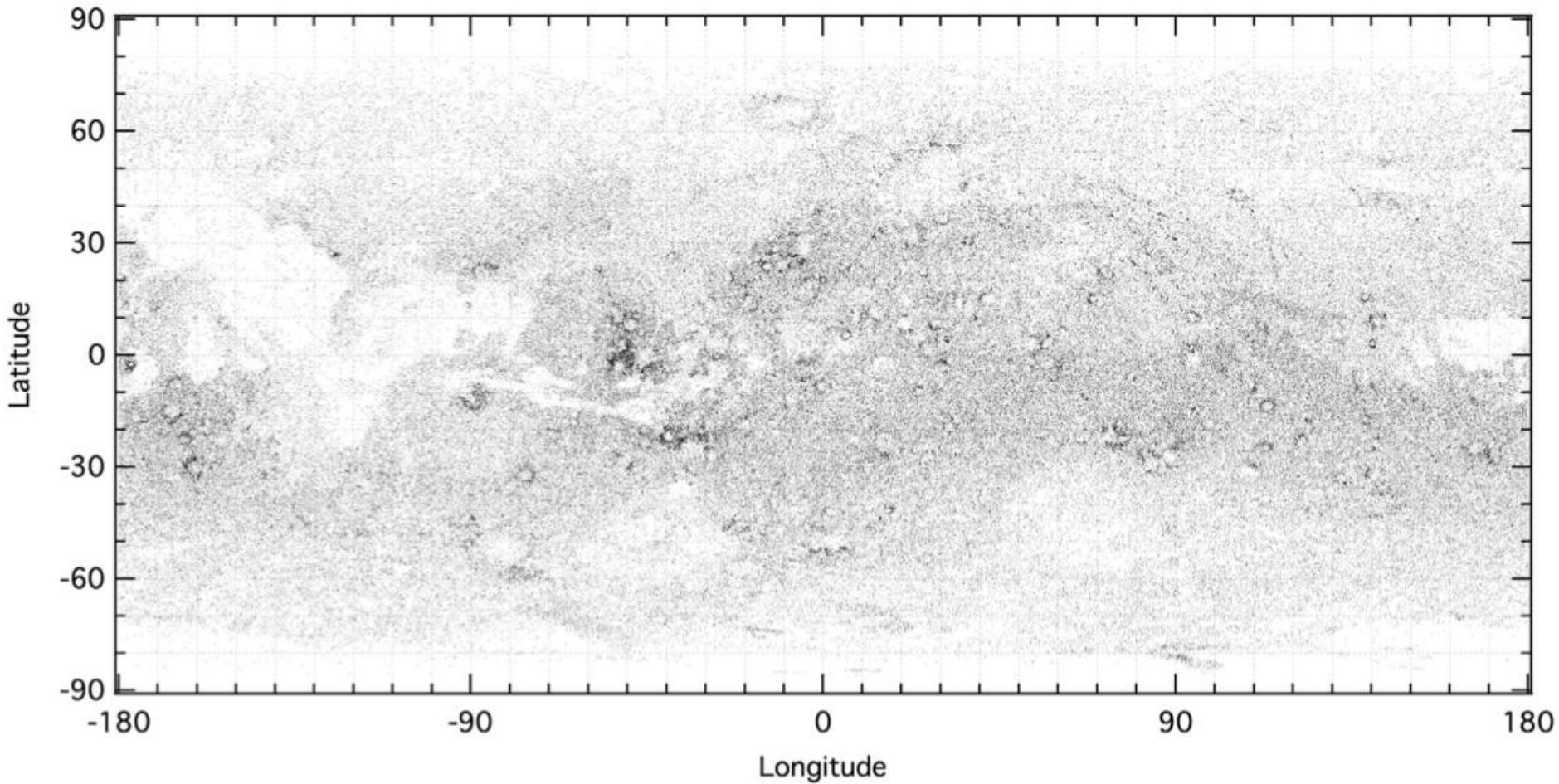


# Geological maps



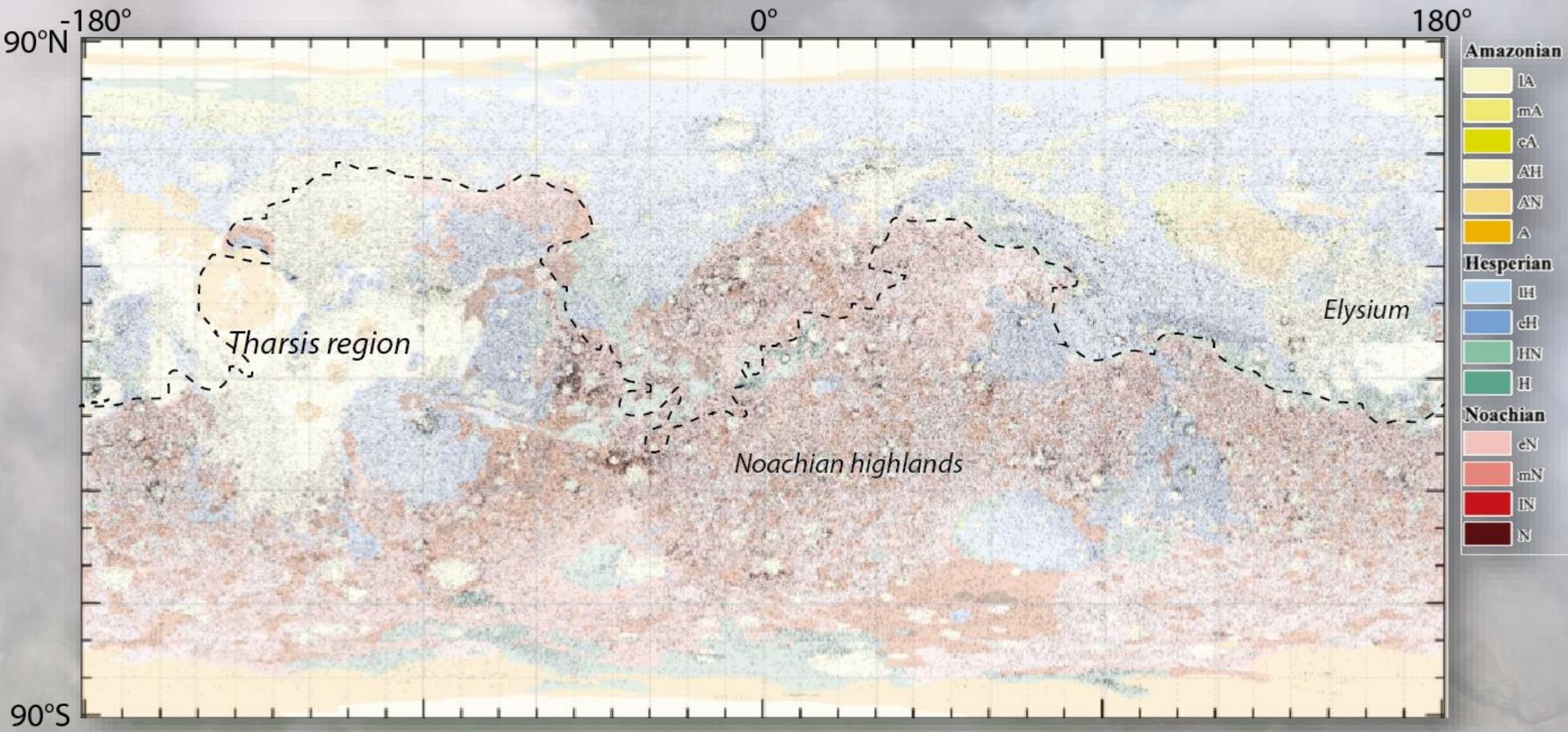
Tanaka et al., 2014, Planetary and Space Science

# Ages from crater counts

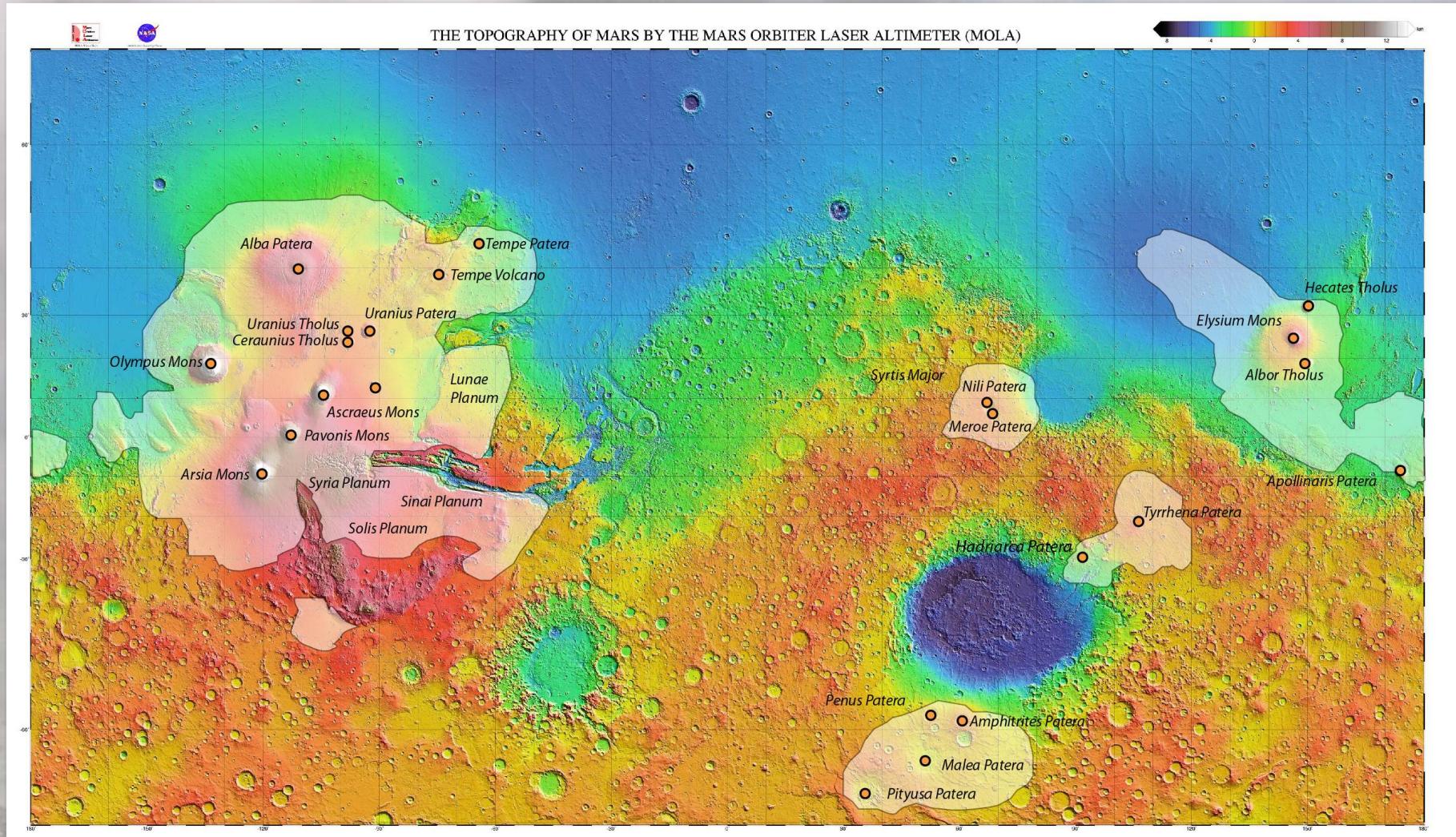


Robbins and Hynek, 2012, Journal of Geophysical Research

# Geological map of Mars and crater density



# Volcanic provinces



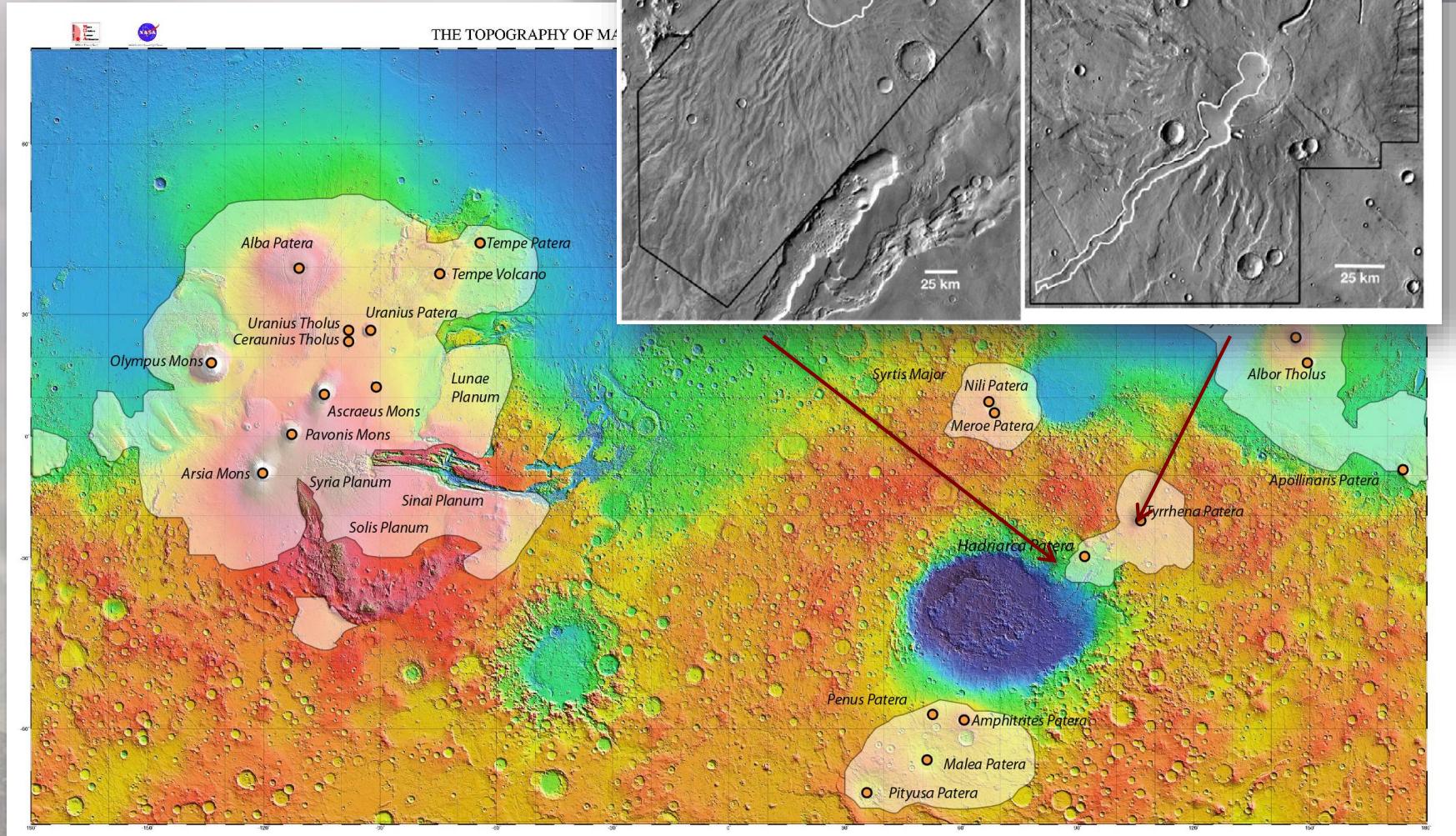
# Volcanic provinces

Hesperian volcanism (3.9 – 3.0 Gy)

Partially eroded shield volcanoes

Circum-Hellas Volcanic Province

Williams et al., 2008

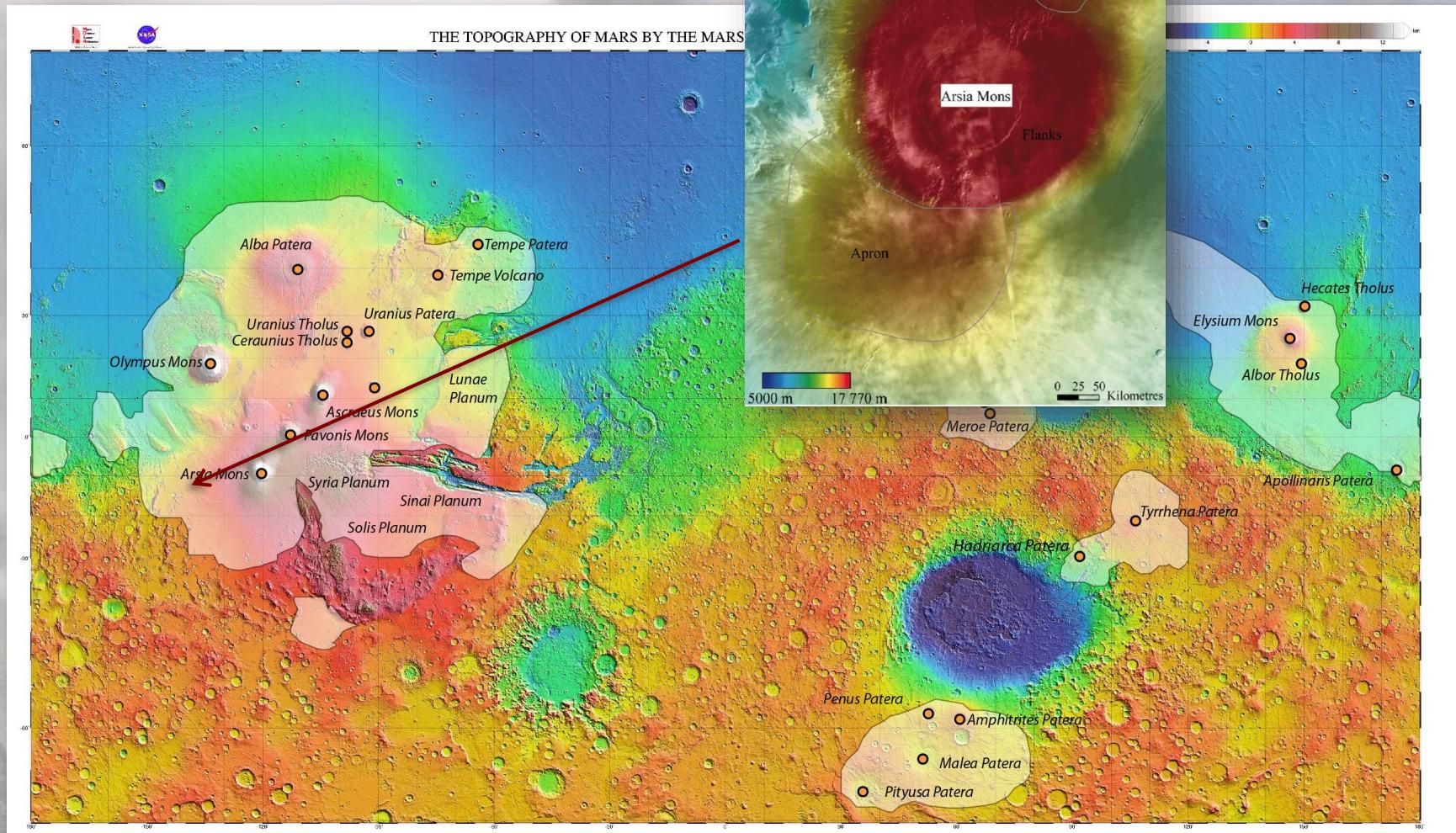


# Volcanic provinces

Amazonian volcanism (3.6 Gy ? - present Gy)

Giant shield volcanoes

Plescia, 2004

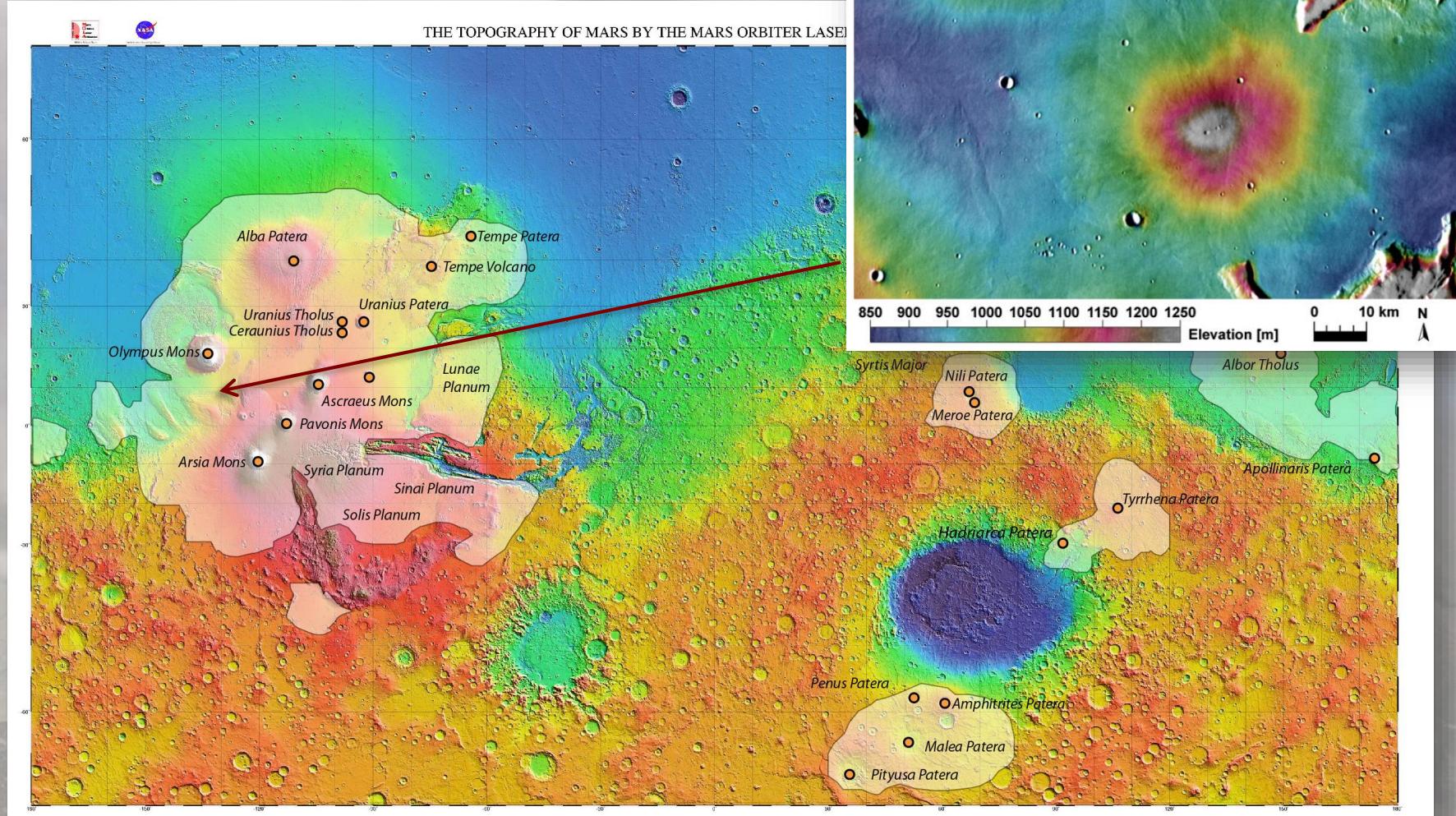


# Volcanic provinces

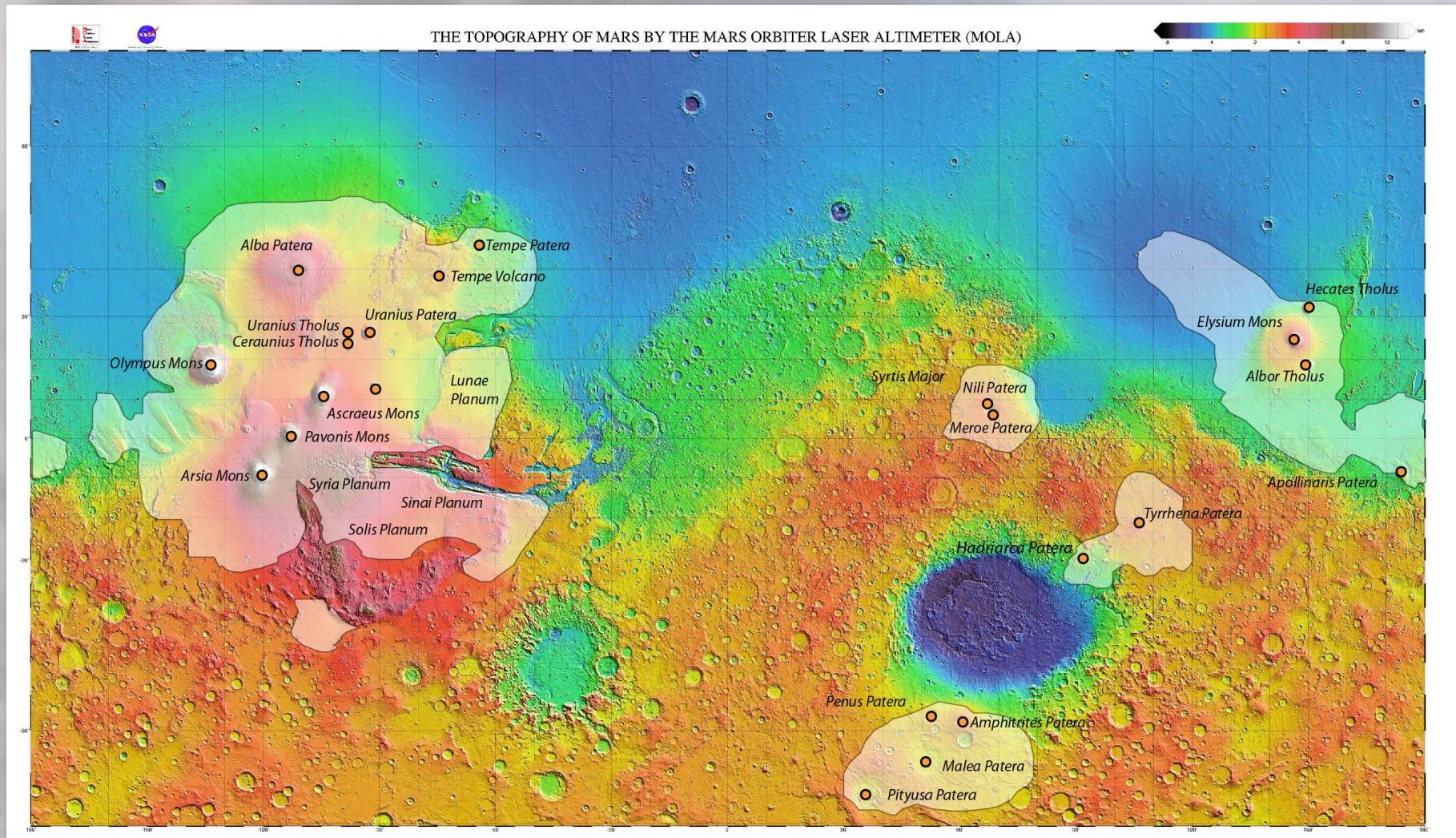
Middle to Late Amazonian volcanism (1 Gy- present)

Plain-style volcanism. Lava flows and small shield volcanoes

Hauber et al., 2009 (JVGR) – Baratoux et al., 2009 (JVGR)



# What is the Noachian crust ?



- Eroded volcanoes ?
- Cumulates (magmatic chambers) exposed by erosion ? of a magma ocean ? (like for the moon)
- A primary crust formed in the context

# One crust or several crusts ?

## Multiple crustal extraction events

Primary crust

Secondary crust

Tertiary crust

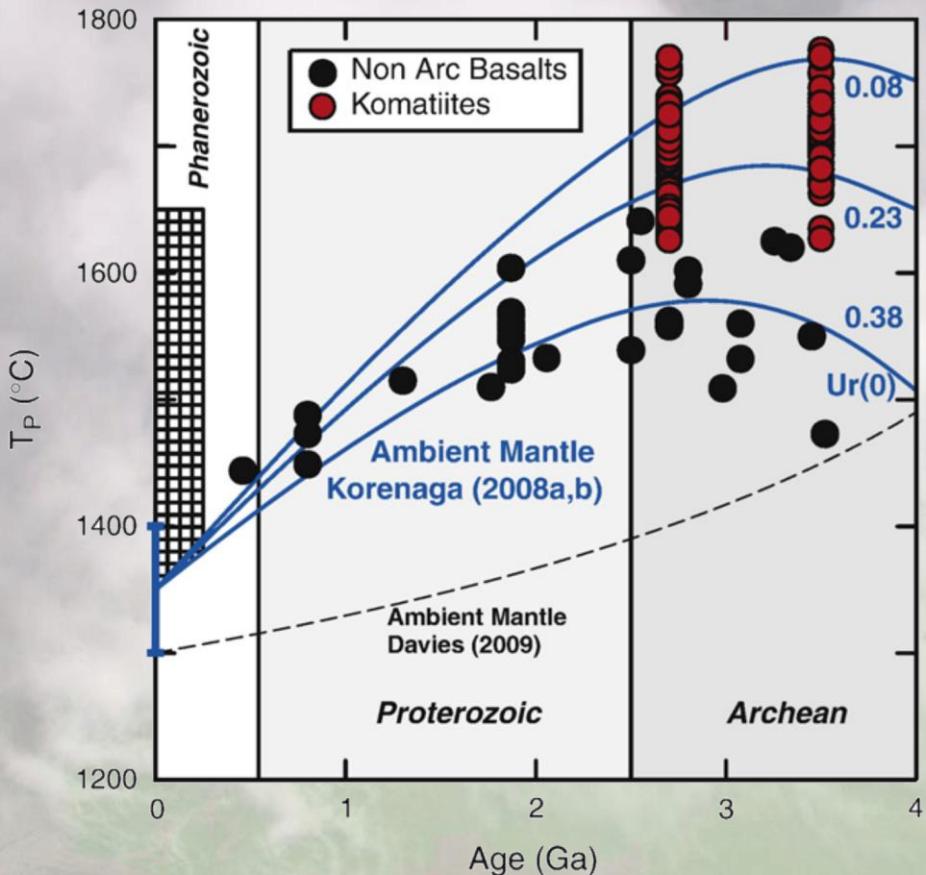
# How/when did the Martian crust form ?

	Earth	Moon	Mars
Primary Crust – Magma ocean Crystallization (cumulates)	No sample	Anorthositic crust	Highlands ? (Not a plagioclase-floatation crust)
Secondary crust – volcanism, partial melting of the mantle	Basaltic volcanism, oceanic crust, LIP	Mare (basaltic) volcanism	Tharsis, Elysium, Hesperia Planum, etc...
Tertiary crust – differentiated crust, re-melting of the crust	Continental crust	Almost non-existent	May be ?

Formation of primary crust should precede the formation of secondary and tertiary crusts, but the formation of secondary and tertiary crusts may occur simultaneously

The surface of Mars would correspond to a secondary crust

# Petrologic expression of thermal evolution of the interior



Herzberg et al., 2010, EPSL

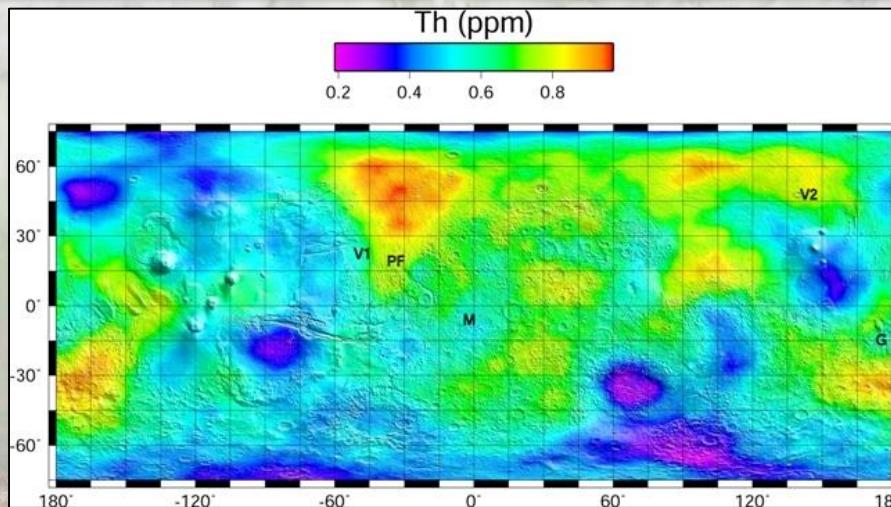
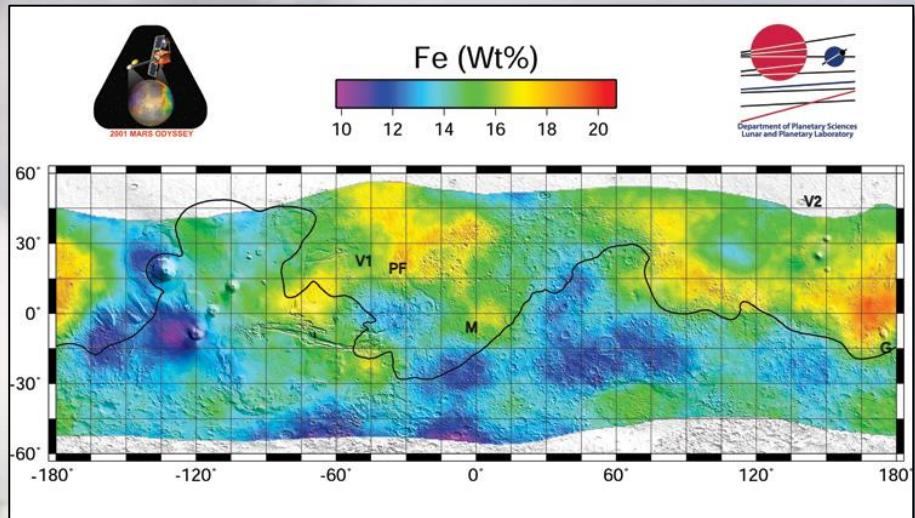
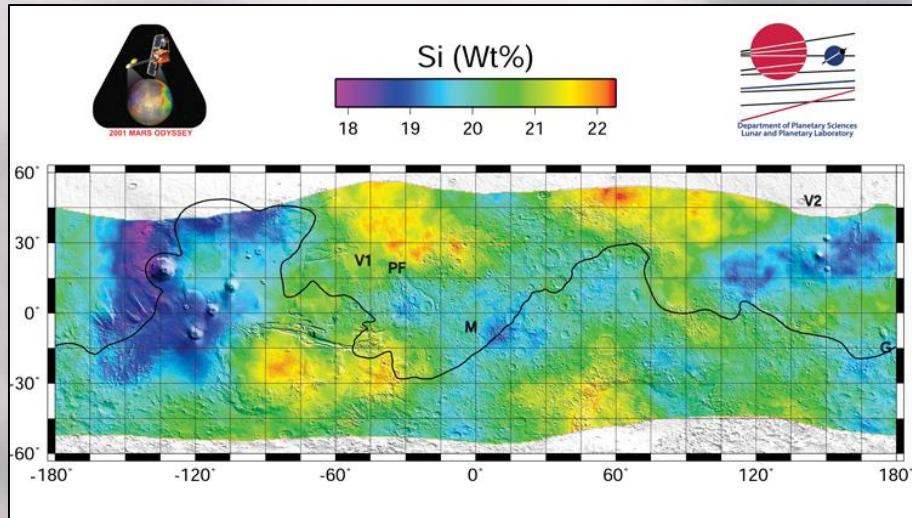
Magmatism & Volcanism

↓  
Expression of the thermal state of the mantle

Comparison with numerical models of the thermal evolution of the Earth

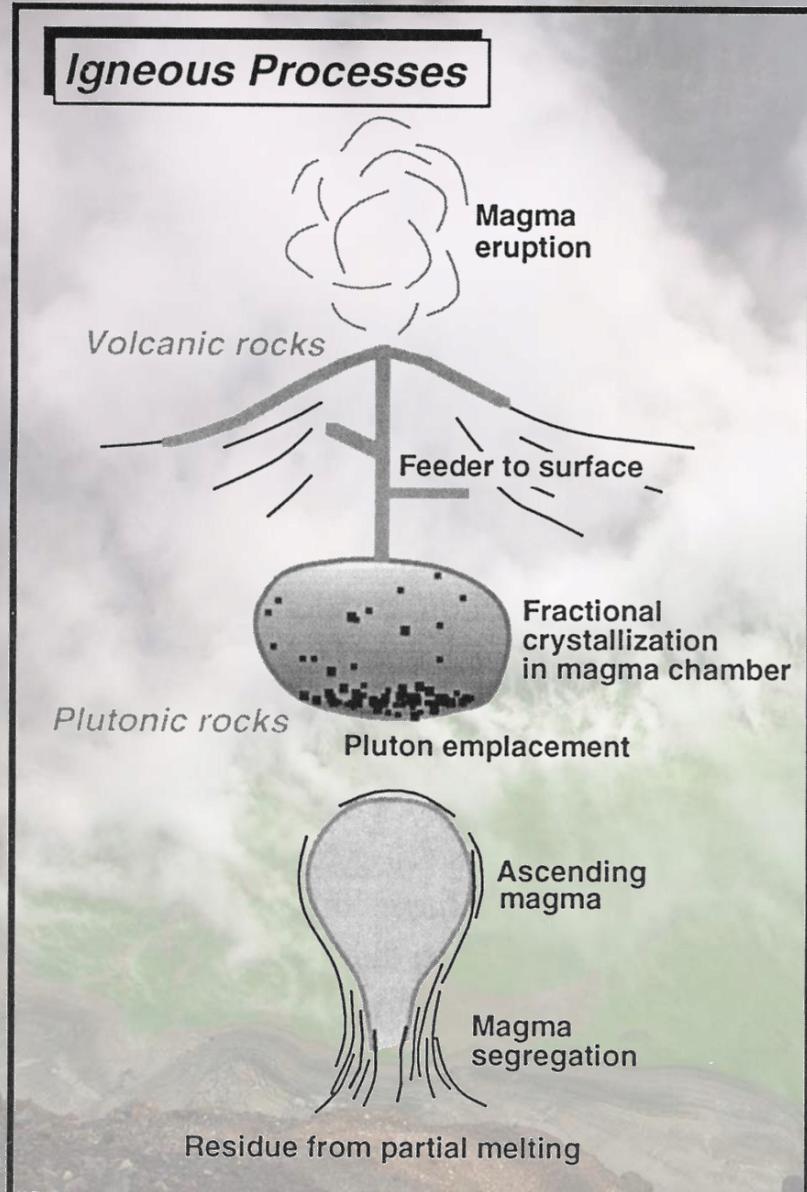
A scenario for the thermal evolution of Mars compatible with the volcanic activity at the surface was missing !

# GRS Data – Global Maps of SiO<sub>2</sub>, FeO and Thorium



Boynton et al., 2007

# Petrogenesis of Martian Volcanic Rocks



Eruption of magmas  
Liquid + Phenocrysts

Few kilometers below the surface  
Magmatic chambers  
Fractional Crystallization



Transport

At greater depth in the mantle:  
Zone of partial melting

McSween, Meteorites and their parent bodies

# Batch melting experiments on pMELTS

Mantle source – dry primitive martian mantle of Dreibus and Wanke

Title: DW85Mg75-195

Initial Composition: SiO<sub>2</sub> 44,400

Initial Composition: TiO<sub>2</sub> 0,1400

Initial Composition: Al<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub> 3,02

Initial Composition: Cr<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub> 0,760

Initial Composition: FeO 17,9

Initial Composition: MnO 0,4600

Initial Composition: MgO 30,2

Initial Composition: CaO 2,45

Initial Composition: Na<sub>2</sub>O 0,50

Initial Composition: K<sub>2</sub>O 0,0350

Initial Composition: P<sub>2</sub>O<sub>5</sub> 0,1600

Initial Temperature: 1600,00

Final Temperature: 800,00

Initial Pressure: 19500,00

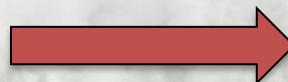
Final Pressure: 19500,00

Increment Temperature: 1,00

Increment Pressure: 0,00

dp/dt: 0,00

log fo<sub>2</sub> Path: -3FMQ



pMELTS simulation from  
1600° C to 800° C



Composition of the liquid  
Mineral assemblage and  
mineral chemistry  
Physical properties  
(density, viscosity)

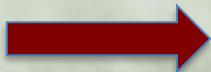
# What are MELTS and pMELTS ?

A family of thermodynamic calculators with the ability to simulate the evolution of silicate melts and solids as a function of pressure and temperature, under thermodynamic equilibrium

<http://melts.ofm-research.org>

Inputs (what you need to know)

Composition  
 $fO_2 / fO_2$  buffer  
P, T path

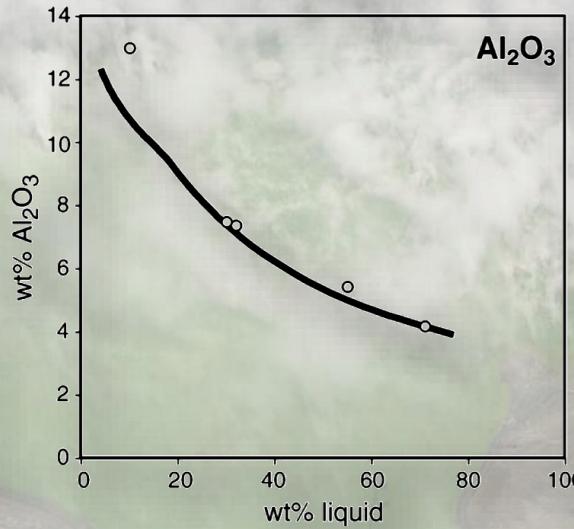
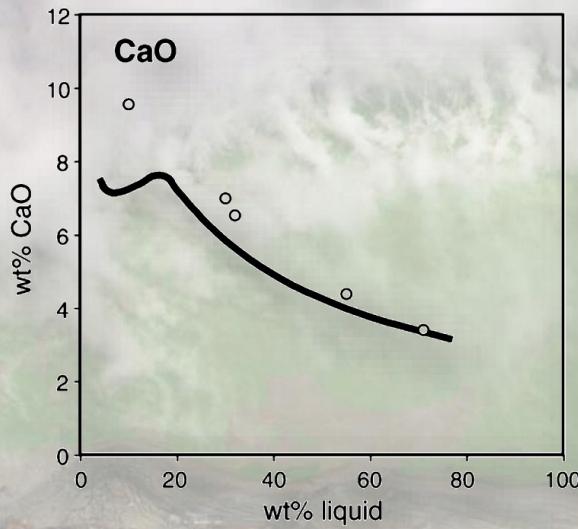
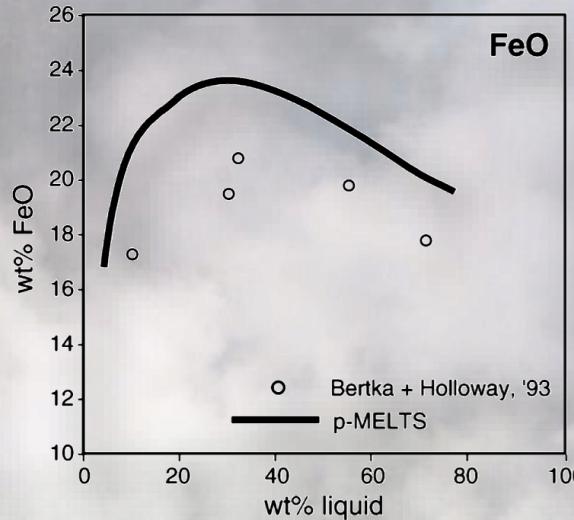
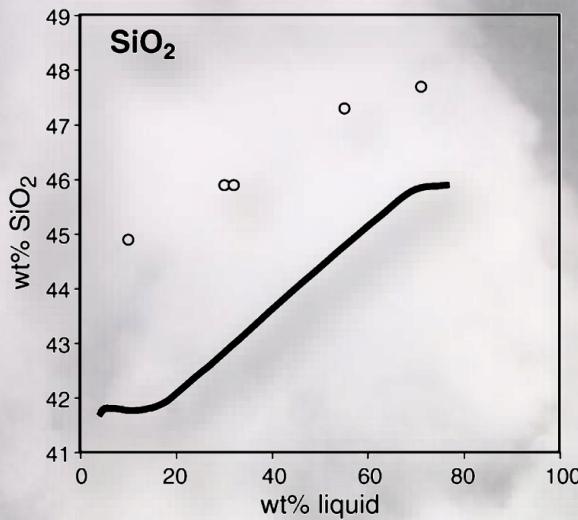


Outputs (what you get)

Chemical composition of the liquid  
Mineral assemblage and mineral chemistry  
Thermodynamical properties

# Comparing Pmelts / Experimental Data

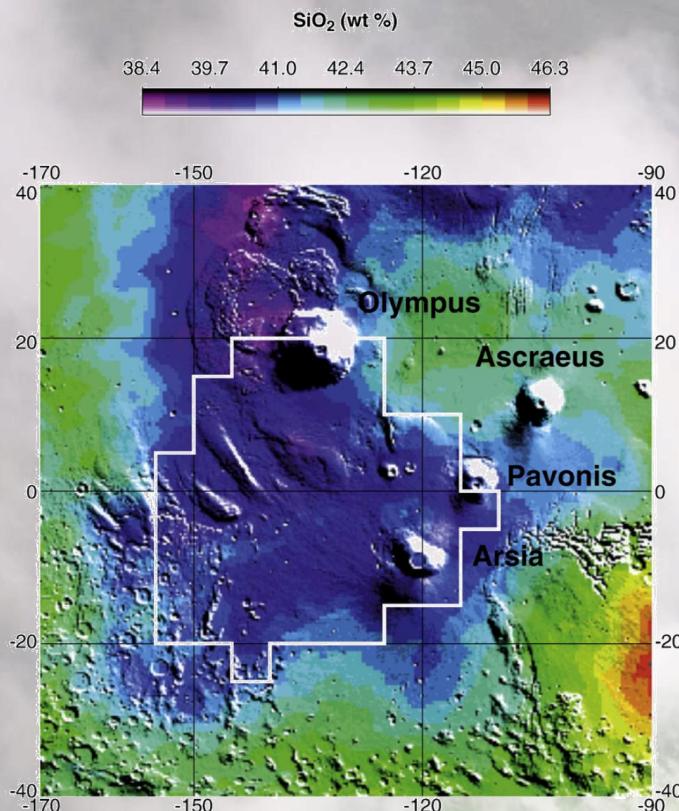
## How does pMELTS reproduce the real world ?



Correct for the trends  
Offset between experimental data and experimental modeling (easily corrected)

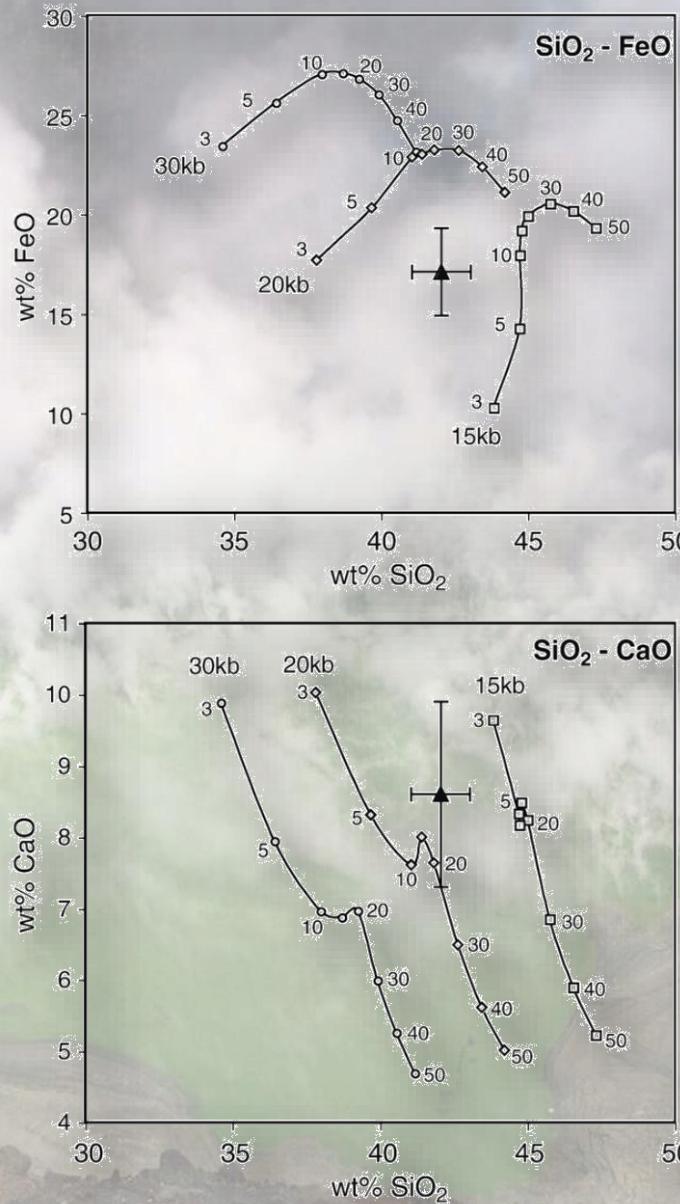
Maary et al., 2009  
Journal of Volcanology  
and Geothermal  
Research

# Conditions of Formation of Volcanic Rocks at the Tharsis Dome



Comparison between major element abundances in volcanic rocks and partial melts of the martian mantle.

Maary et al., 2009  
Journal of Volcanology and Geothermal Research

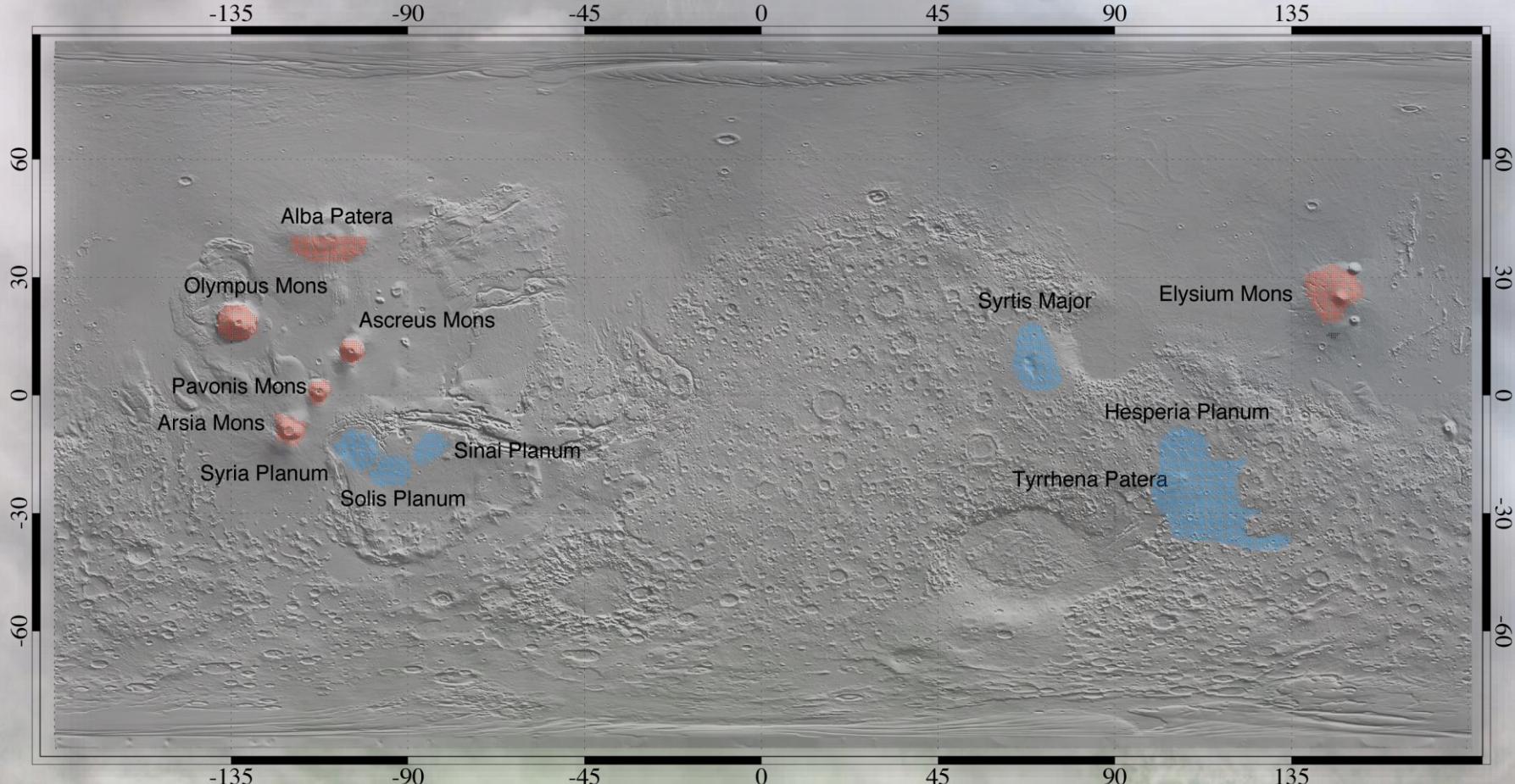


Chemistry (Si, Fe, Ca) consistent with primary melts of the martian mantle (DW85, iron-rich)

5% - 10% partial melting at 17kbar

Pressure is also consistent with independant estimates of the thickness of the lithosphere (from gravity/topography)

# Selection of 12 volcanic provinces



*Selection of 12 volcanic provinces*

Homogeneous composition

Morphological evidences for volcanic landforms

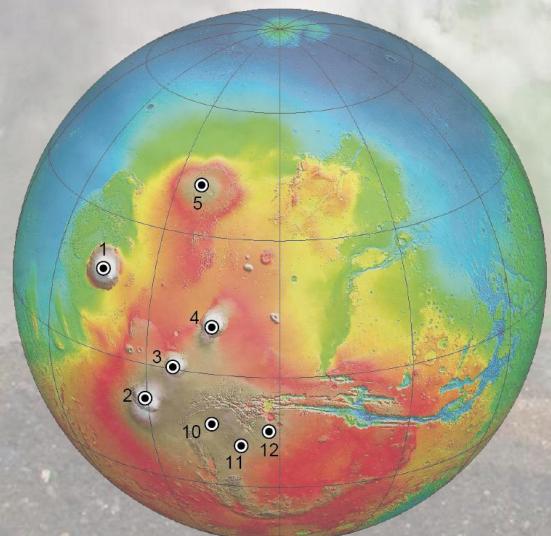
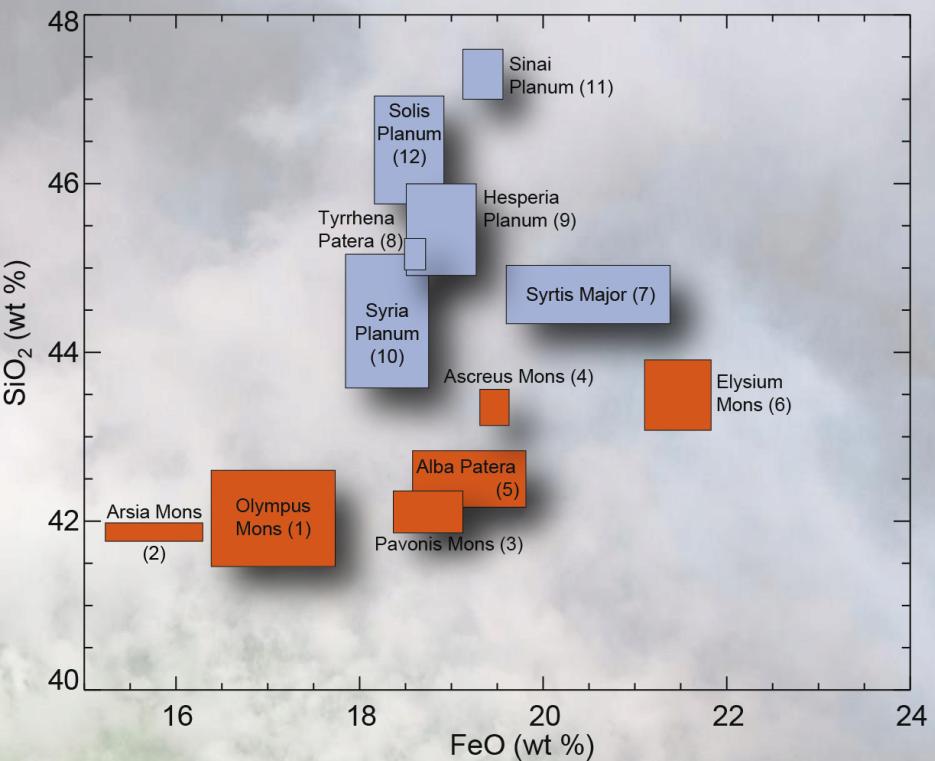
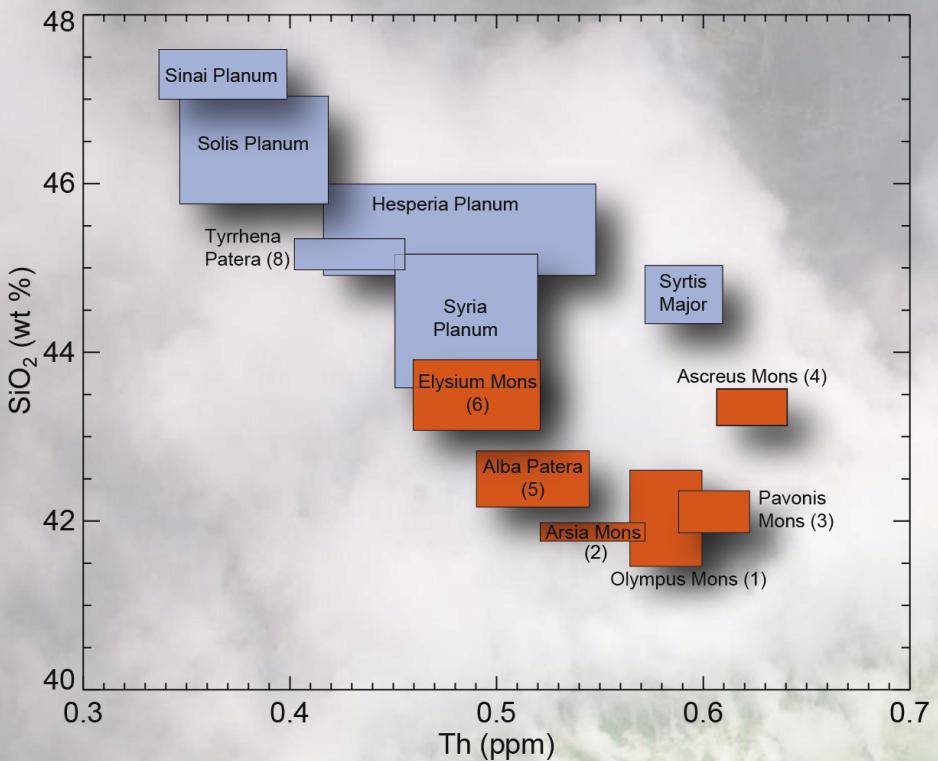
Baratoux et al. 2011, Nature



6 young volcanic provinces (Amazonian)

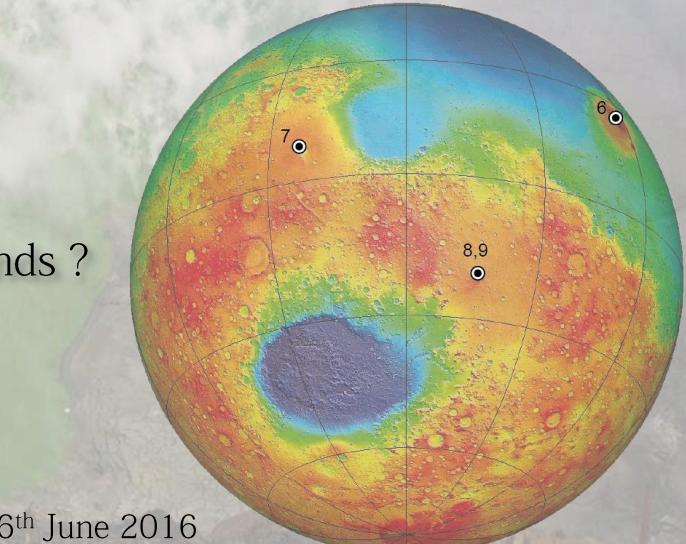
6 old volcanic provinces (Hesperian)

# $\text{SiO}_2$ , $\text{FeO}$ and Thorium for 12 volcanic provinces



What are the meaning of these trends ?

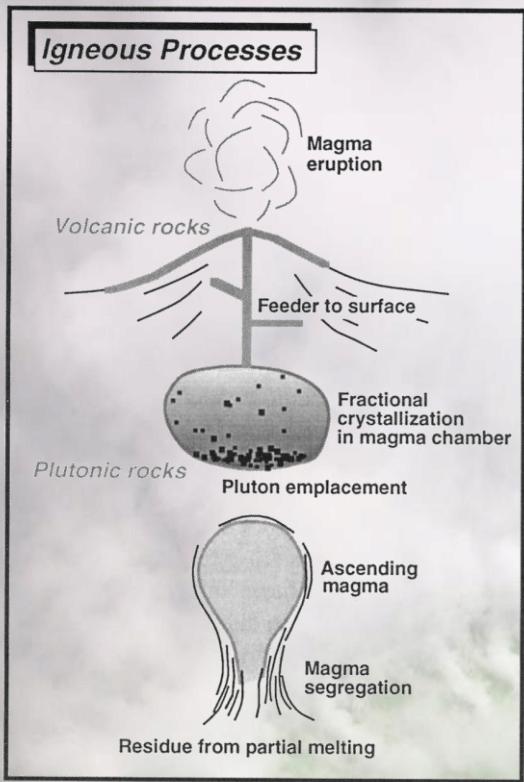
Baratoux et al. (2011) - Nature



# Conditions of partial melting from chemical composition

P / F from  $\text{SiO}_2$ ,  $\text{FeO}$ , et Th abundances (wt%)

McSween, Meteorites and their parent bodies



$$\text{SiO}_2 = f(P, F, \text{DW85})$$

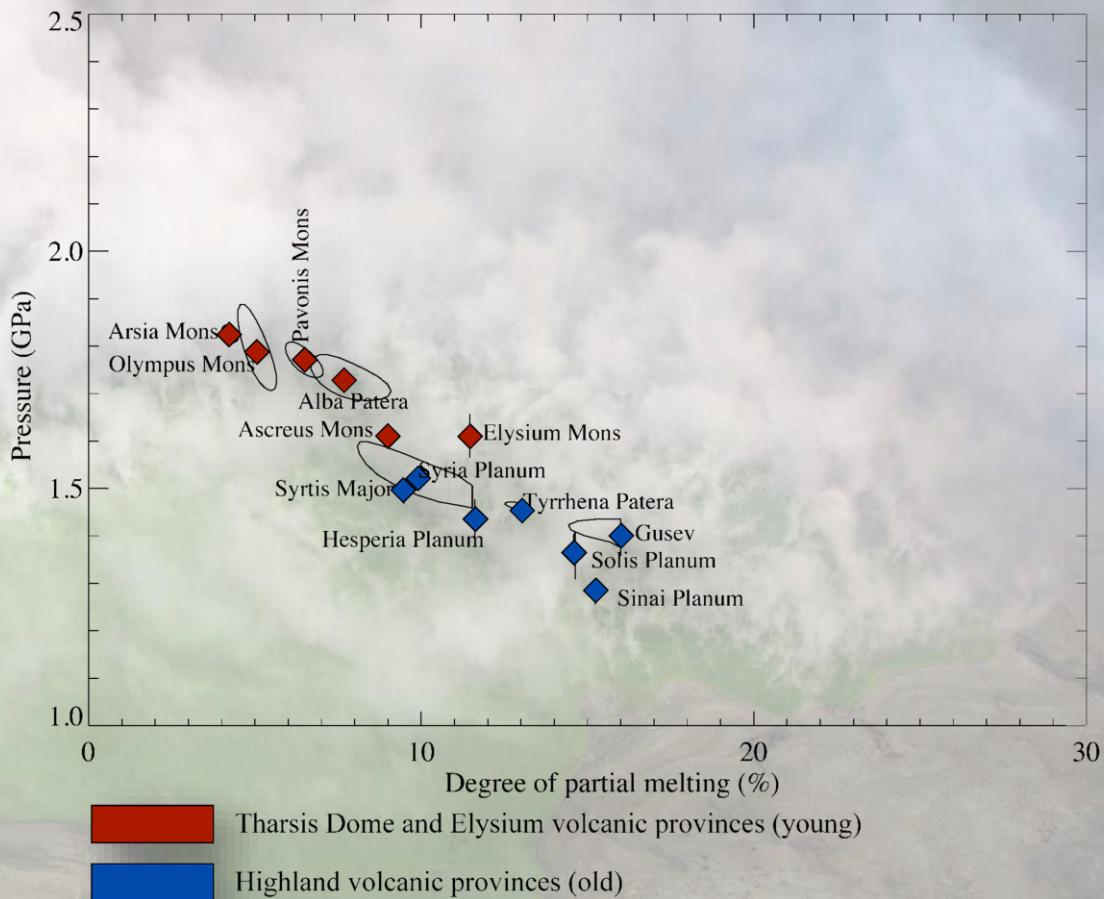
$$\text{FeO} = f(P, F, \text{DW85})$$

P: Pressure

F: Degree of partial melting

Independent check for the degree of partial melting from Thorium

DW85 mantle (Dreibus & Wanke, 1985) – constrained from martian meteorites  
Batch melting model (pMELTS)

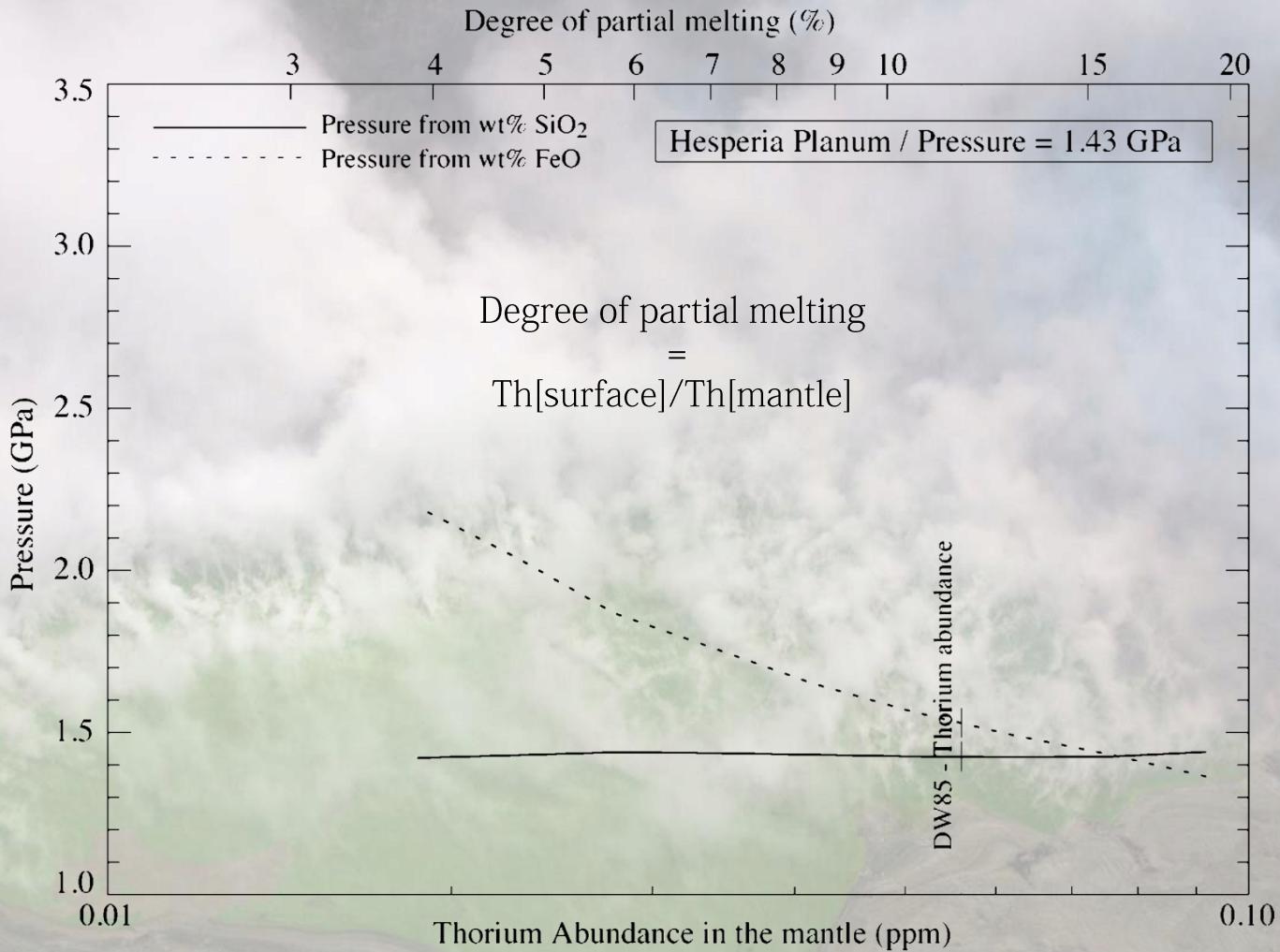


Baratoux et al. (2011) - Nature

# Determination of conditions of partial melting from Si, Fe and Th

Thorium is incompatible.

Its concentration in the melt is inversely proportional to the degree of partial melting.

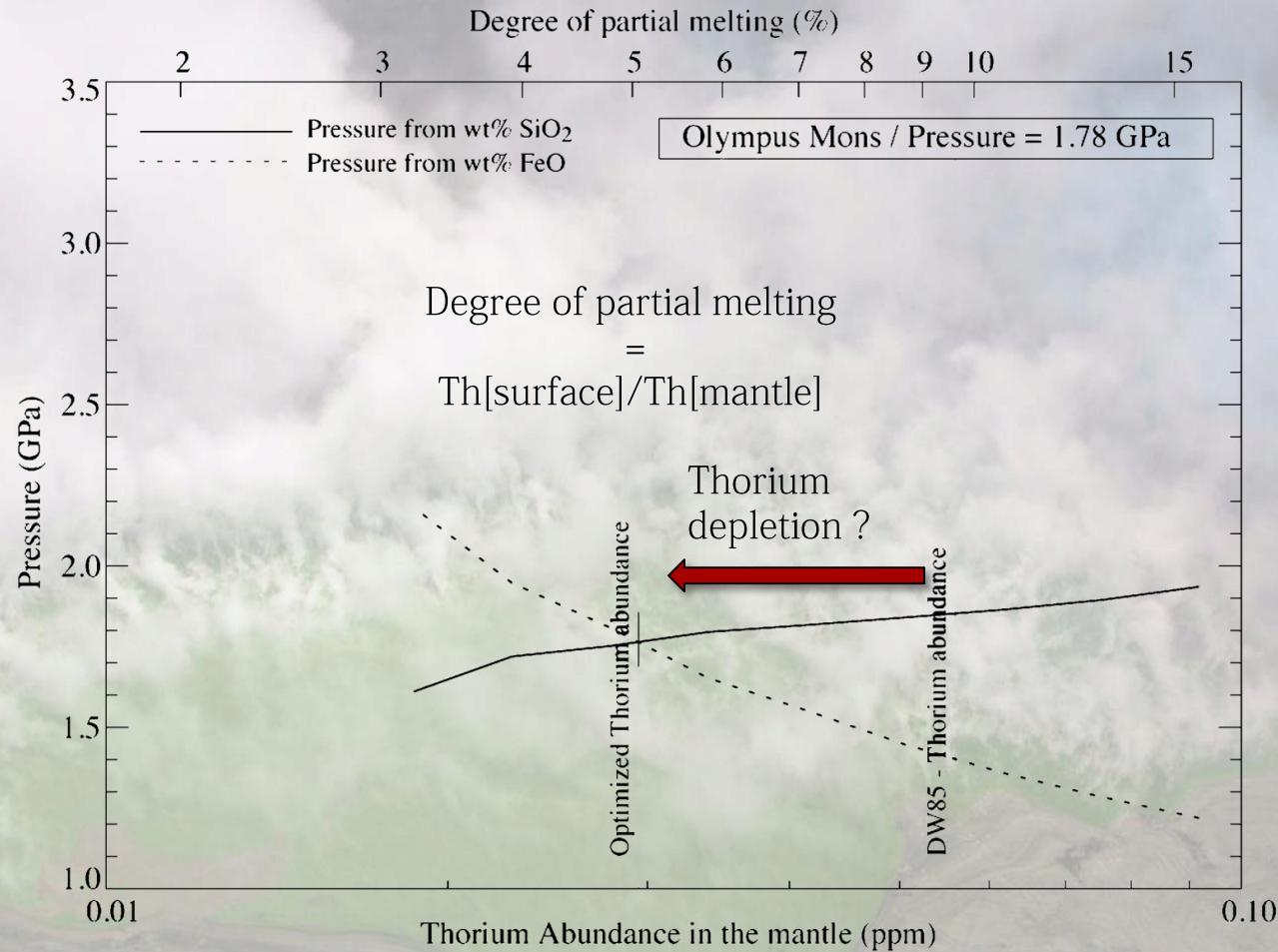


Results are consistent for old volcanism

# Determination of conditions of partial melting from Si, Fe and Th

Thorium is incompatible.

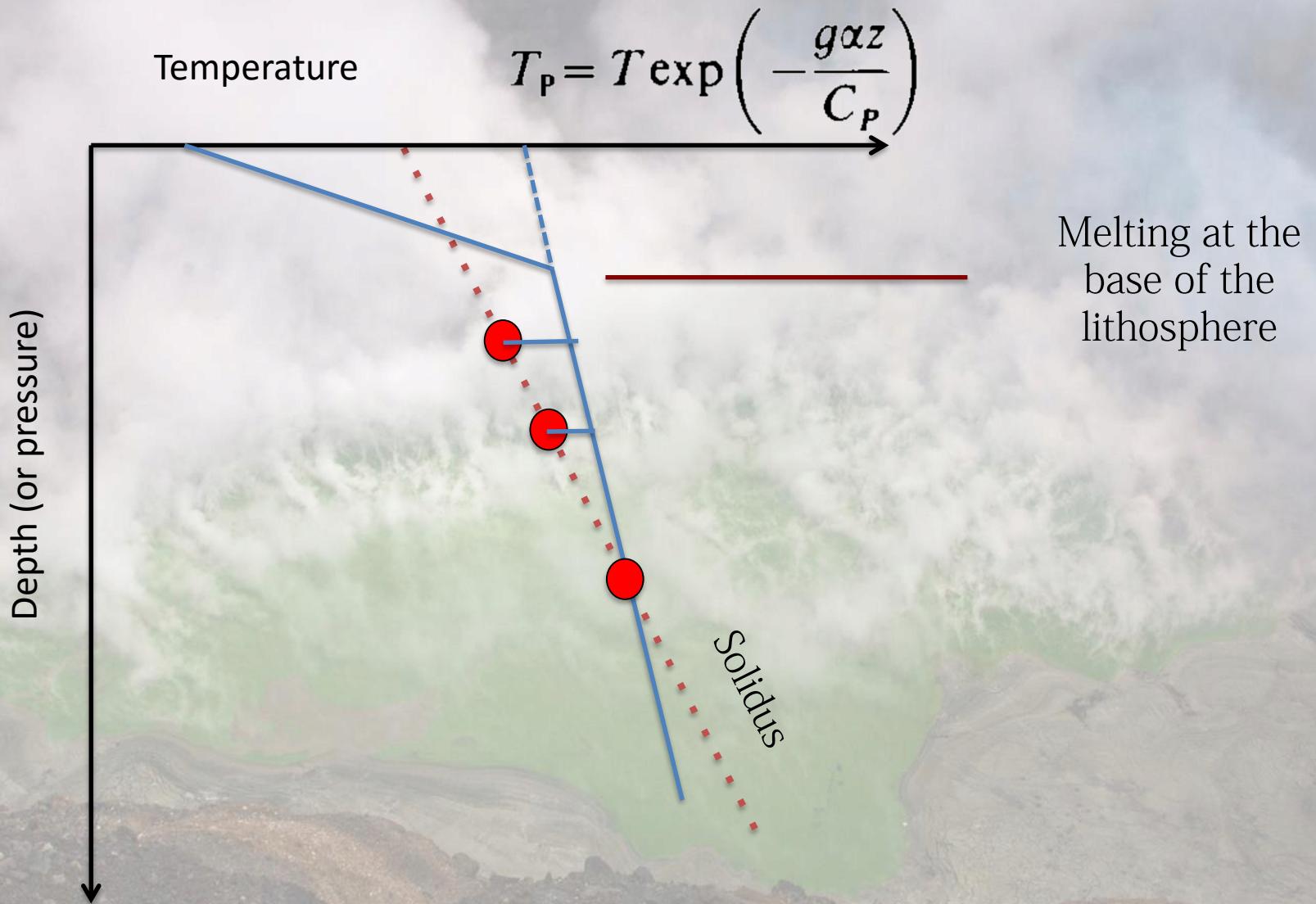
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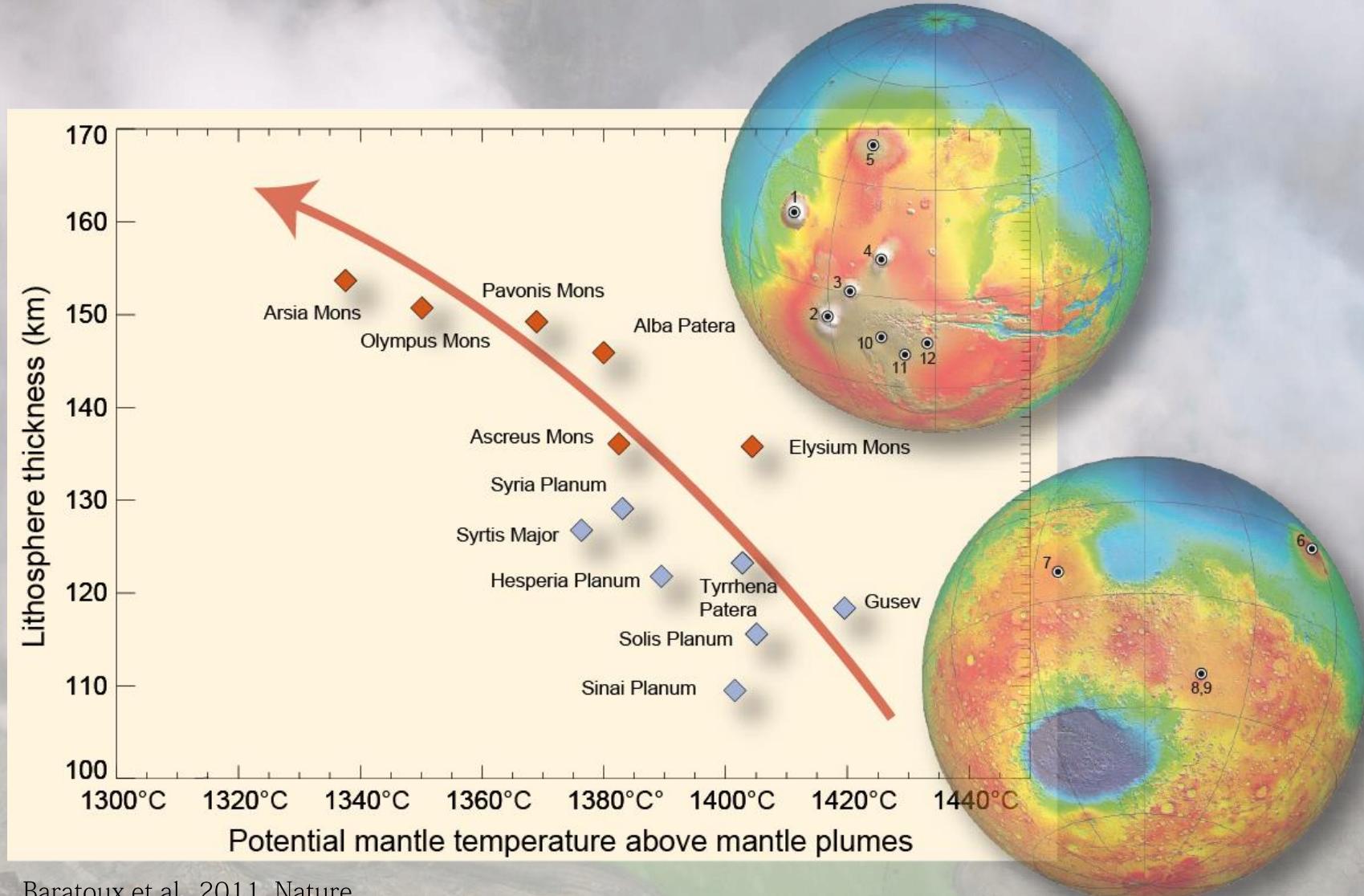
Implies a depleted mantle for young volcanism

# $P, T \Rightarrow T_{\text{pot}}$ and $T_L$

Potential mantle temperature and lithosphere thickness

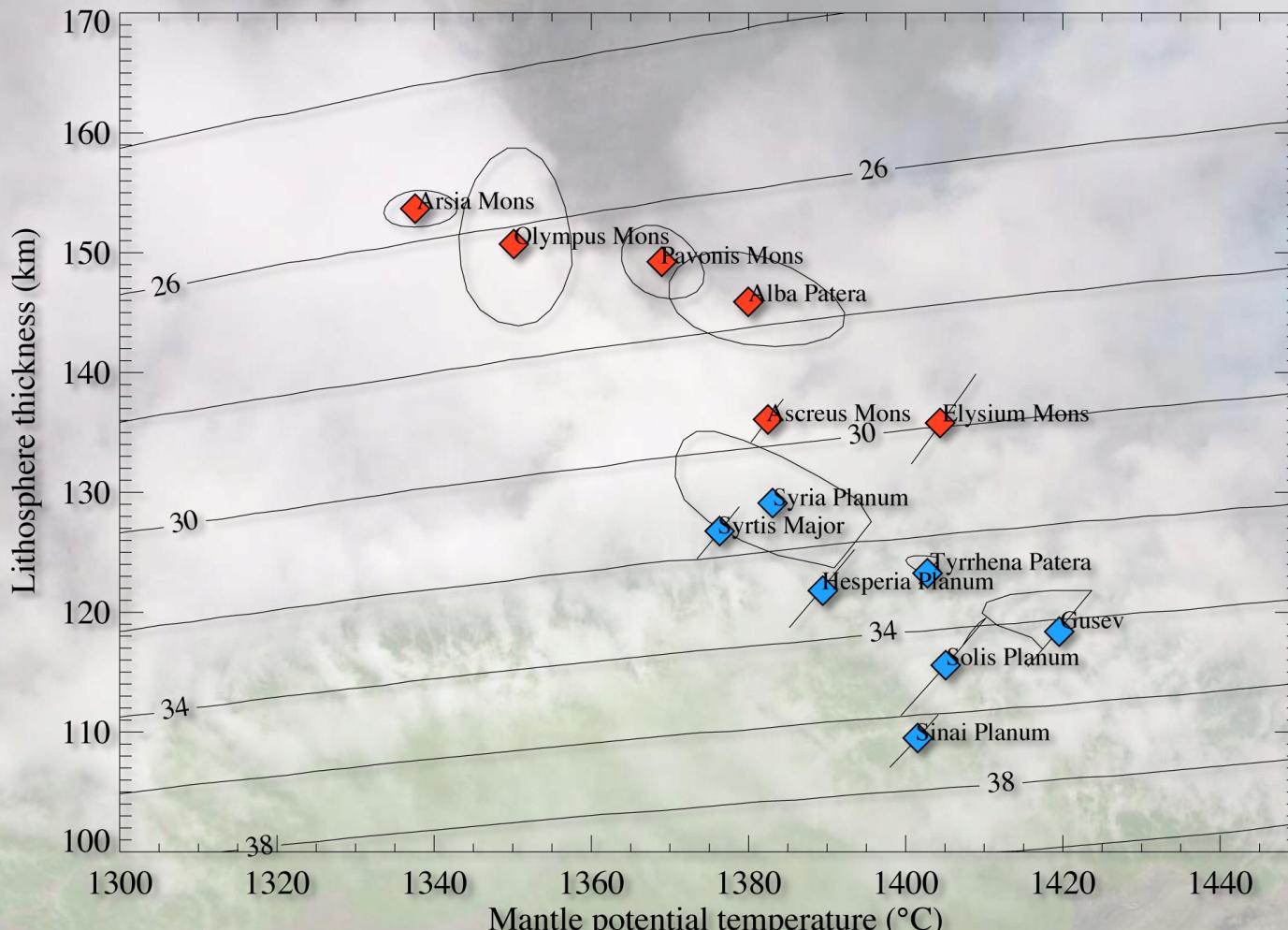


# The petrological expression of Mars cooling history



Baratoux et al., 2011, Nature

# The petrologic expression of Mars cooling history



Tharsis Dome and Elysium volcanic provinces (young)

Baratoux et al., 2011 Nature

Highland volcanic provinces (old)

# Martian mantle cooling rate

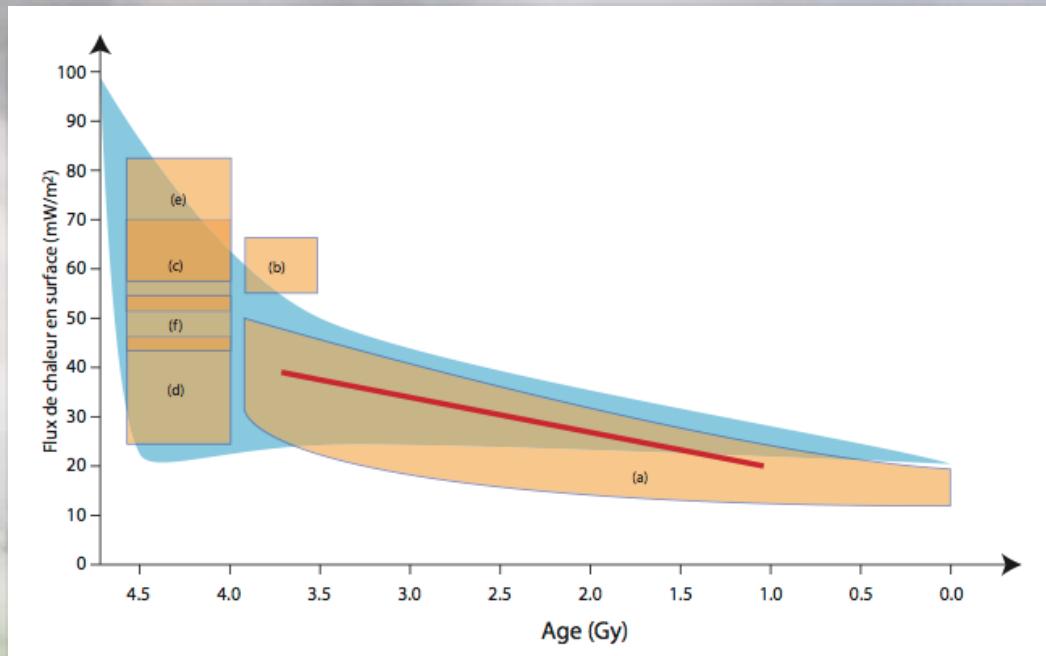
✓ Our results are compatibles with:

Numerical modeling of mantle

✓ convection

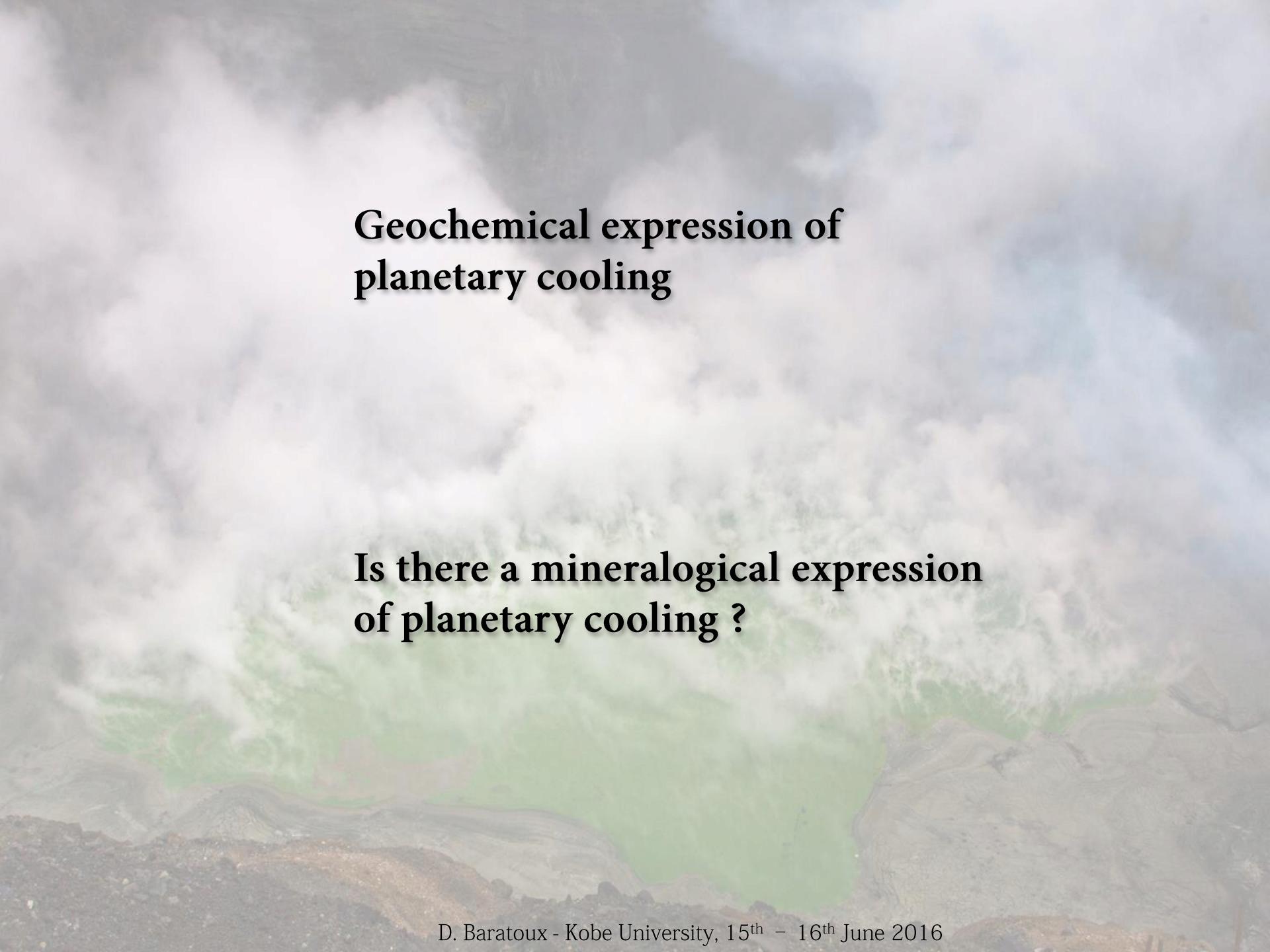
(Hauck and Philipps, 2002, Schumacher and Dreuer, 2005, Fraeman and Korenaga, 2010)

Thermal evolution from  
lithosphere elastic thicknesses  
constrained by  
gravity/topography data (Mc Govern  
et al., 2002, Belleguic et al., 2005, etc ⋯).



→ Martian cooling rate : 30 – 40 K / Gy  
Terrestrial cooling rate : 50 – 100 K / Gy

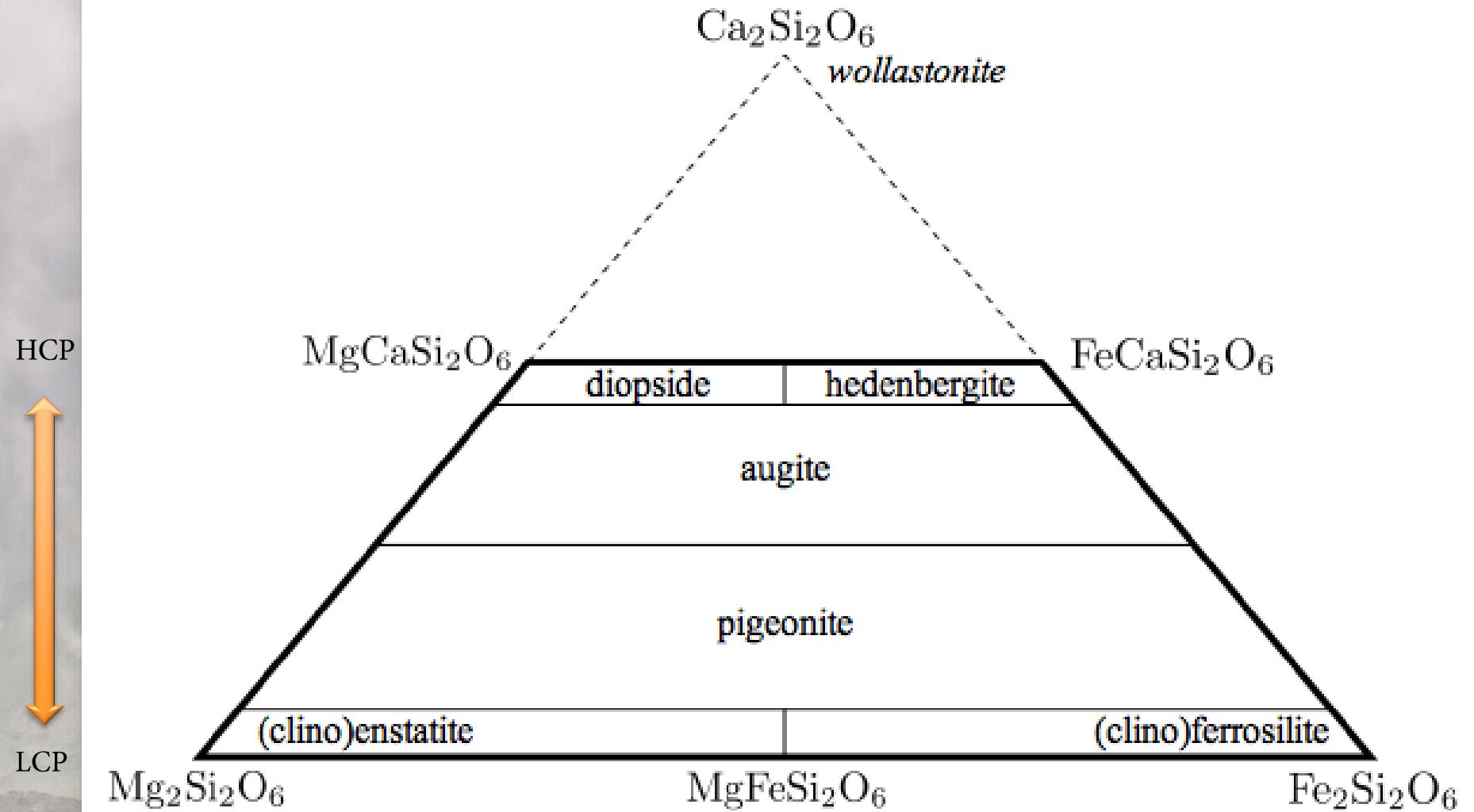
Large uncertainty on the thermal state of the mantle in the Noachian



# **Geochemical expression of planetary cooling**

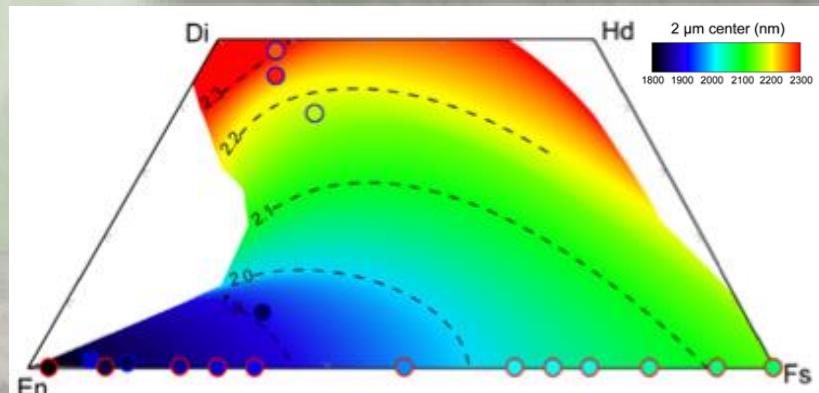
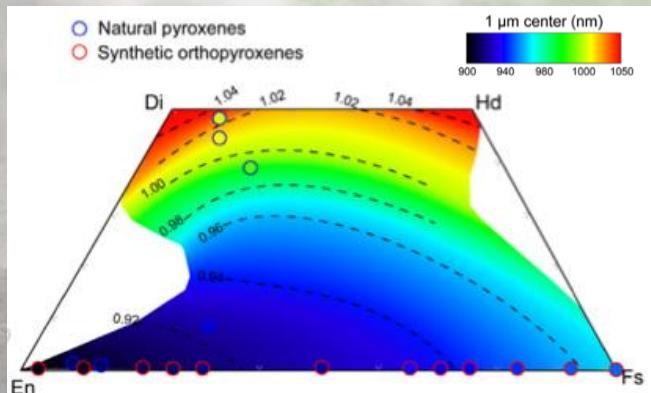
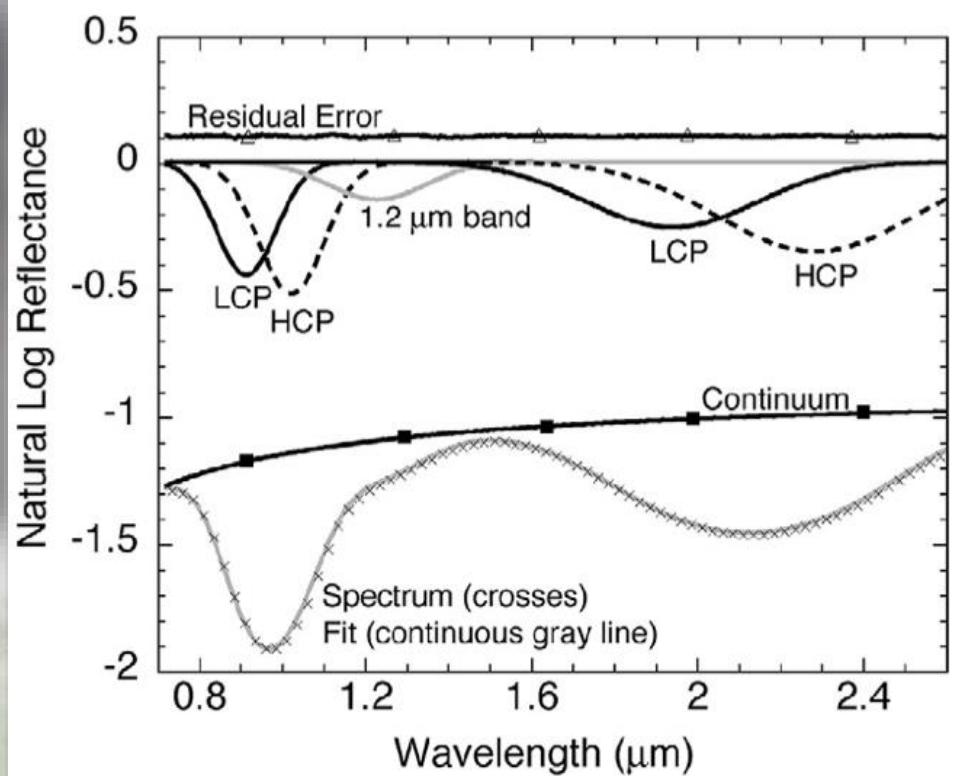
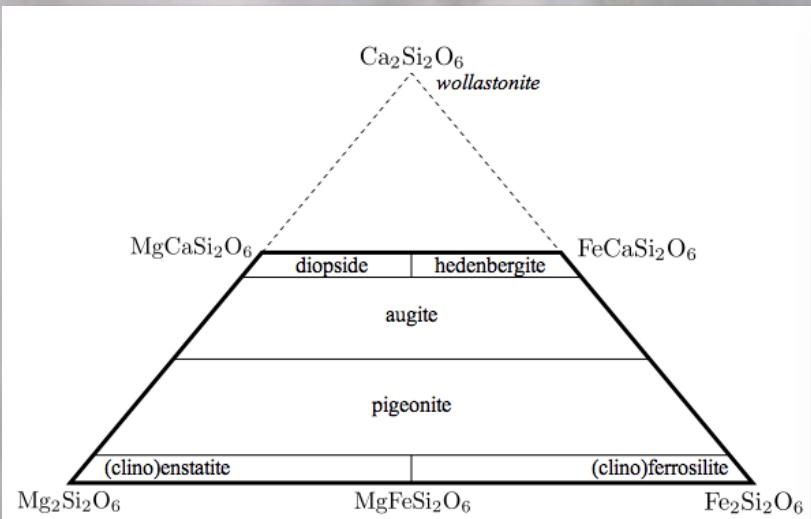
## **Is there a mineralogical expression of planetary cooling ?**

# Pyroxenes – Vis/NIR spectroscopy can map pyroxene composition

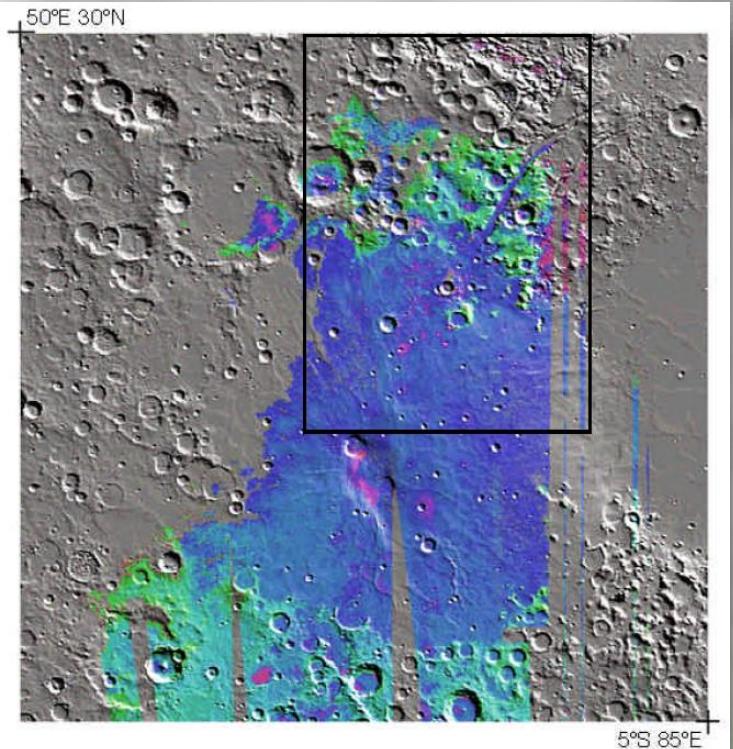


# Pyroxenes – Vis/NIR spectroscopy can map pyroxene composition

HCP  
LCP



# A transition in pyroxene composition at the H/N boundary



Mustard et al., 2005 (LPSC)

The mineralogy of the Noachian crust appears to be different

- Change in pyroxene composition
- Less plagioclase

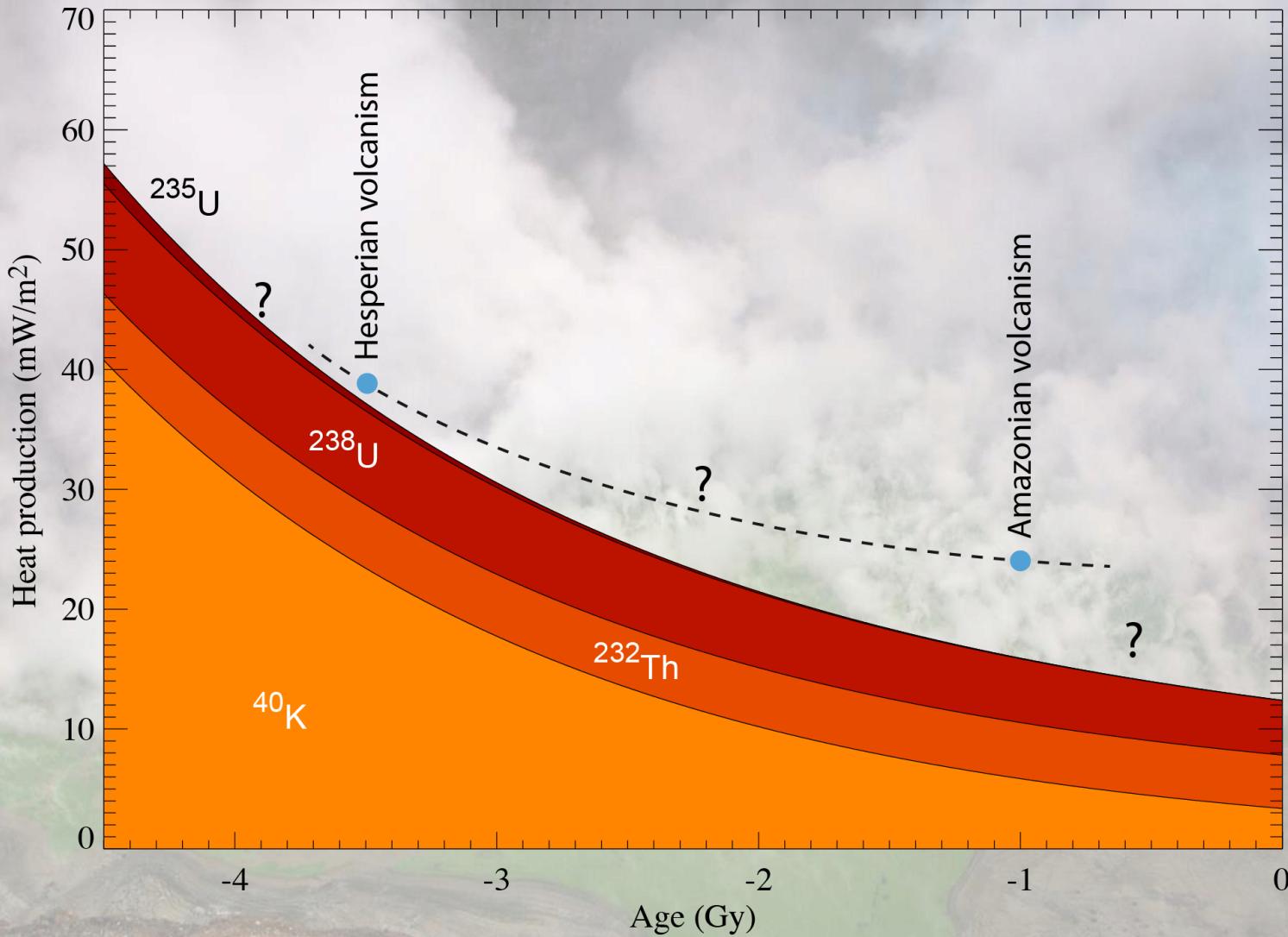


Baratoux et al., 2007 (JGR-planets)

HCP = High-Calcium-Pyroxene  
LCP = Low-Calcium-Pyroxene

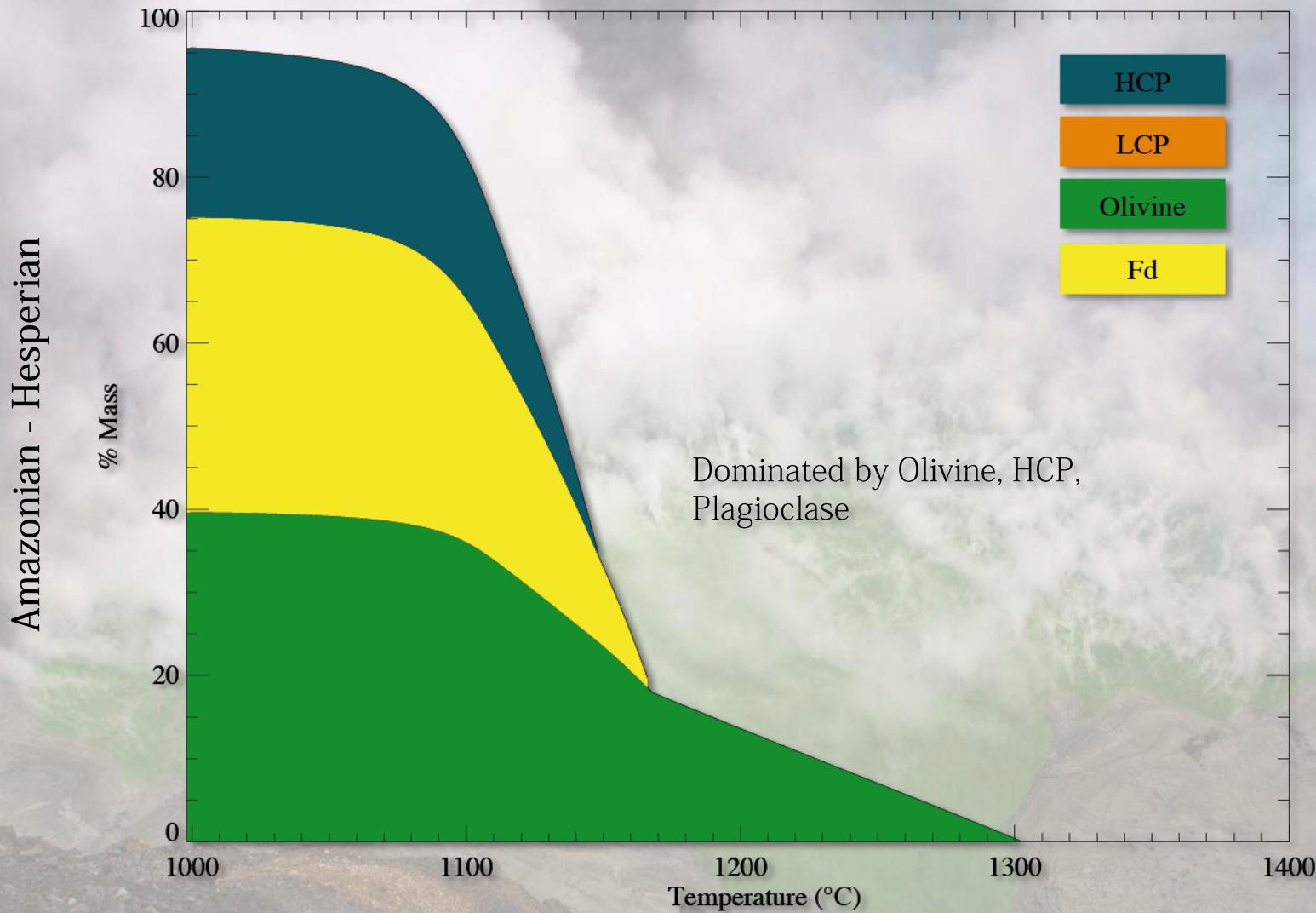
# Heat producing elements as a function of time

More HPE during early Mars -> ancient mantle should be warmer



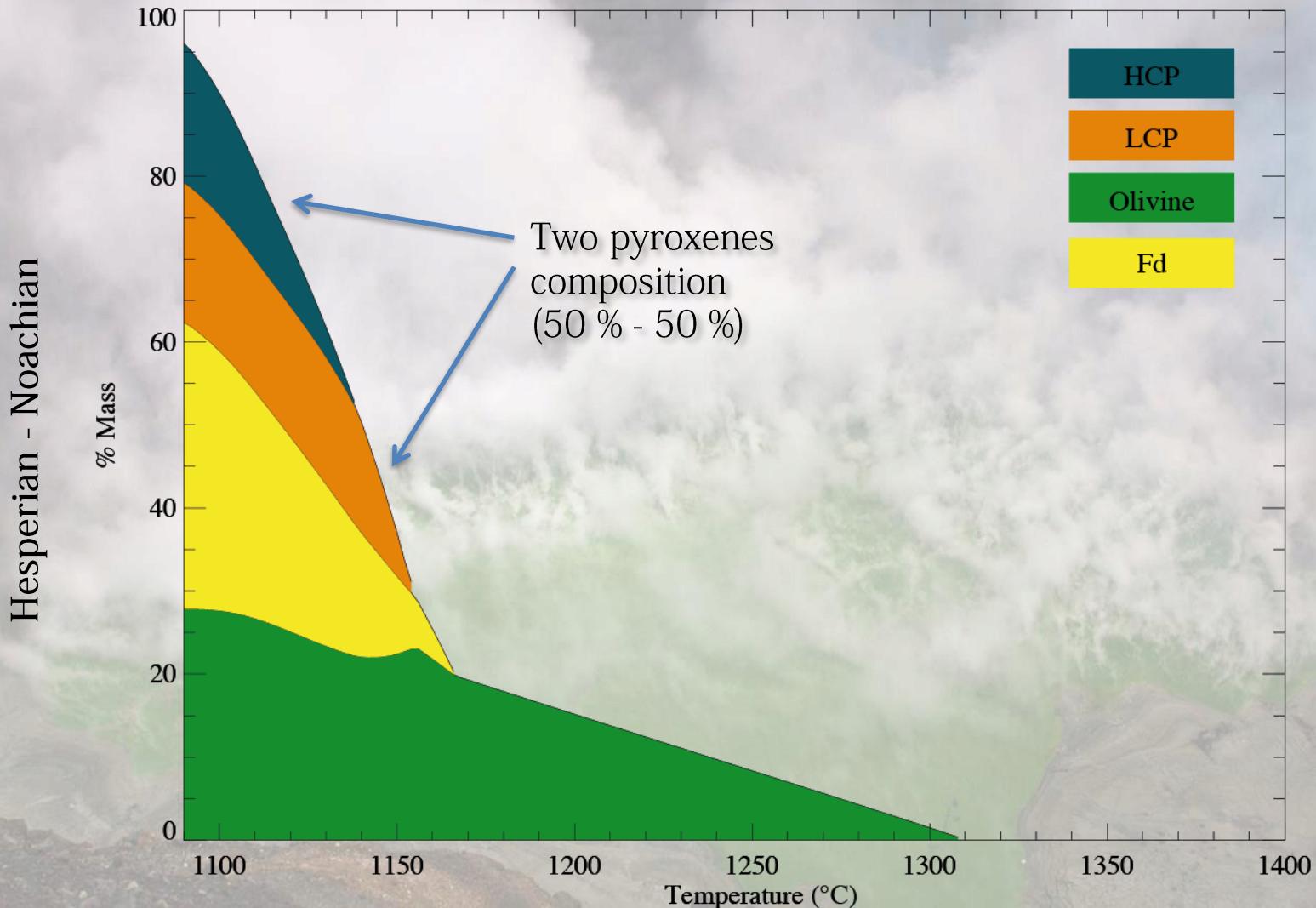
# Thermal evolution of Mars

## Prediction of partial melts composition and crystallization assemblages



# Thermal evolution of Mars

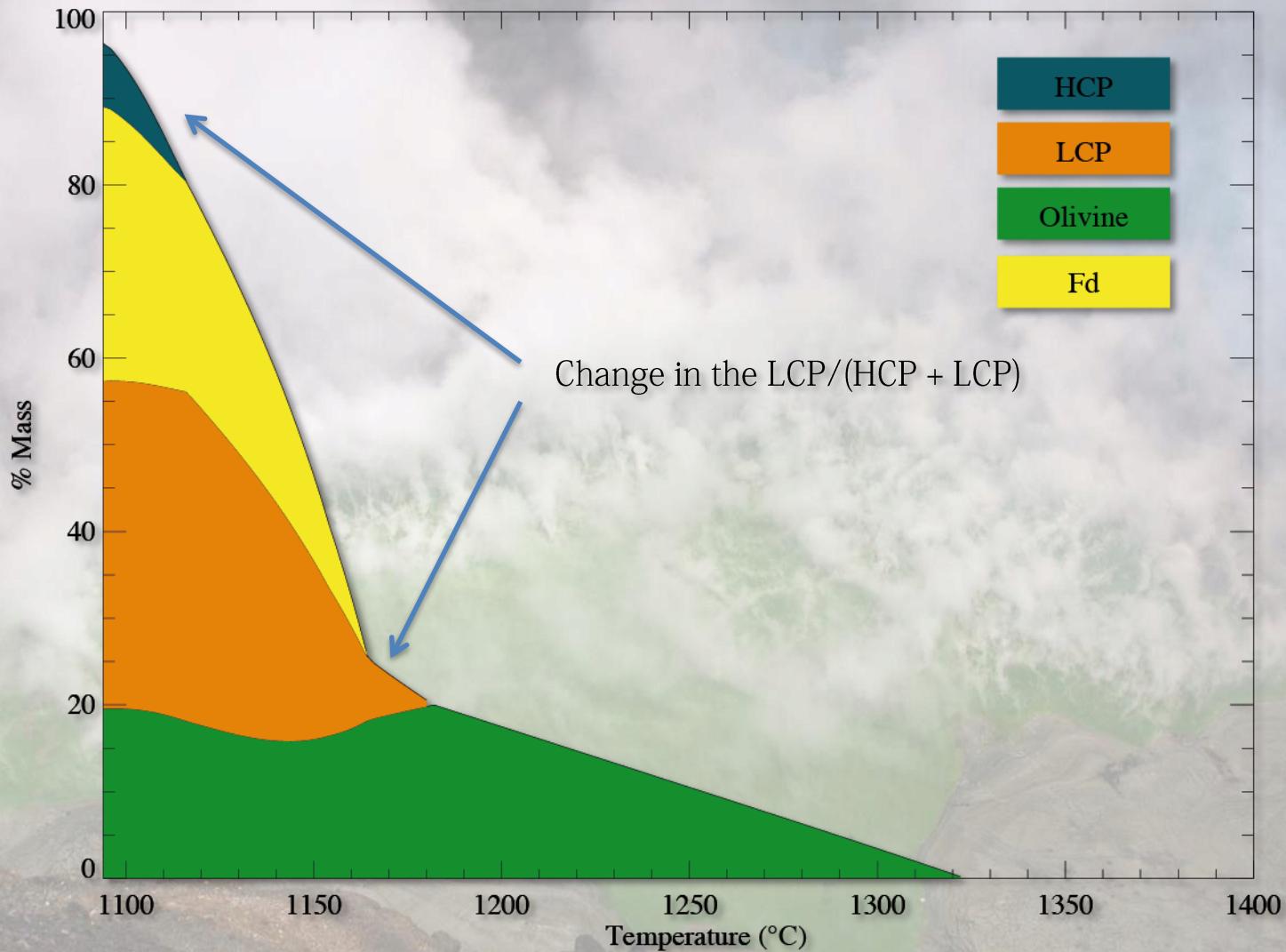
Prediction of partial melts composition and crystallization assemblages



# Thermal evolution of Mars

## Prediction of partial melts composition and crystallization assemblages

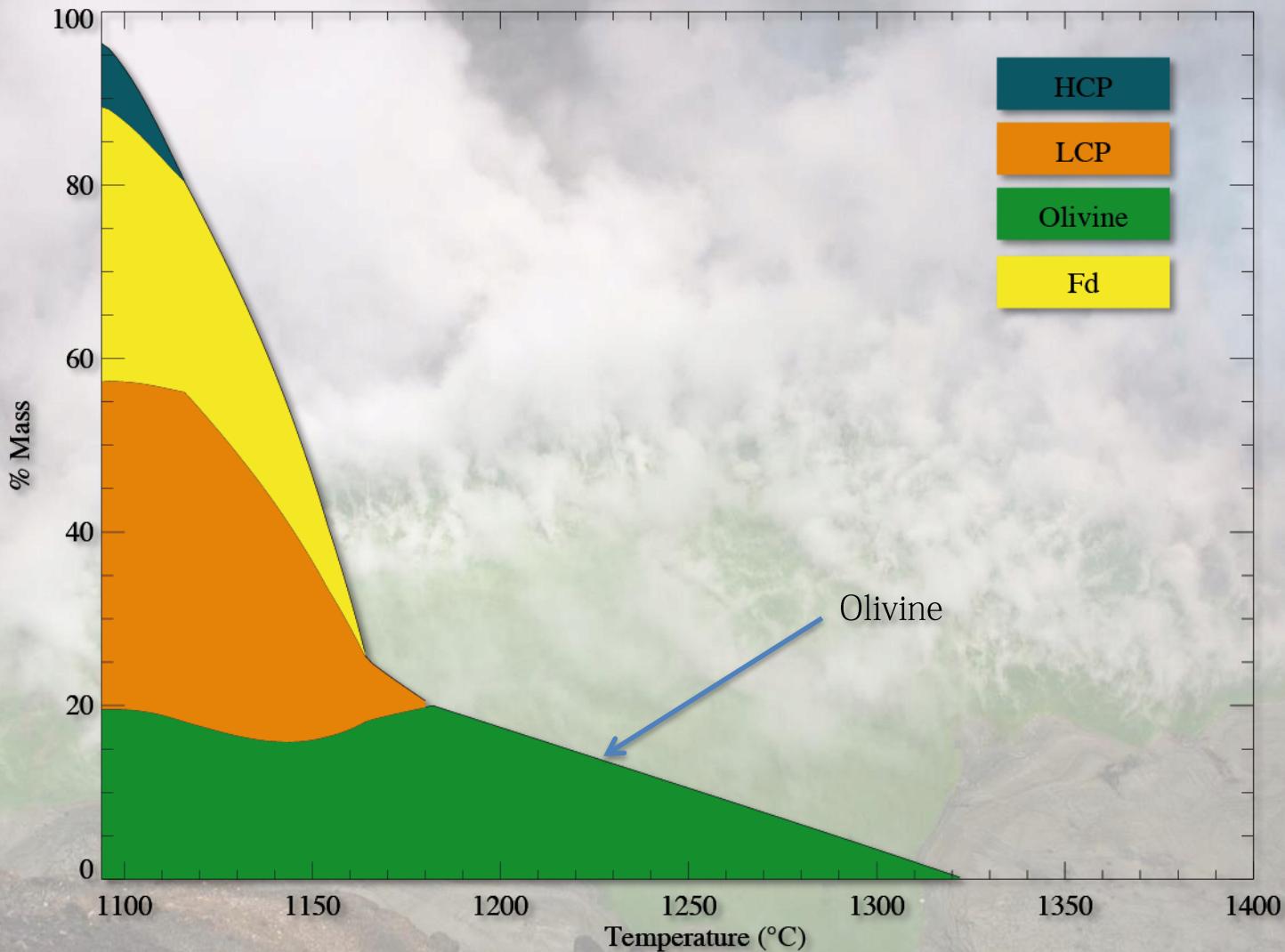
Noachian - ?



# Thermal evolution of Mars

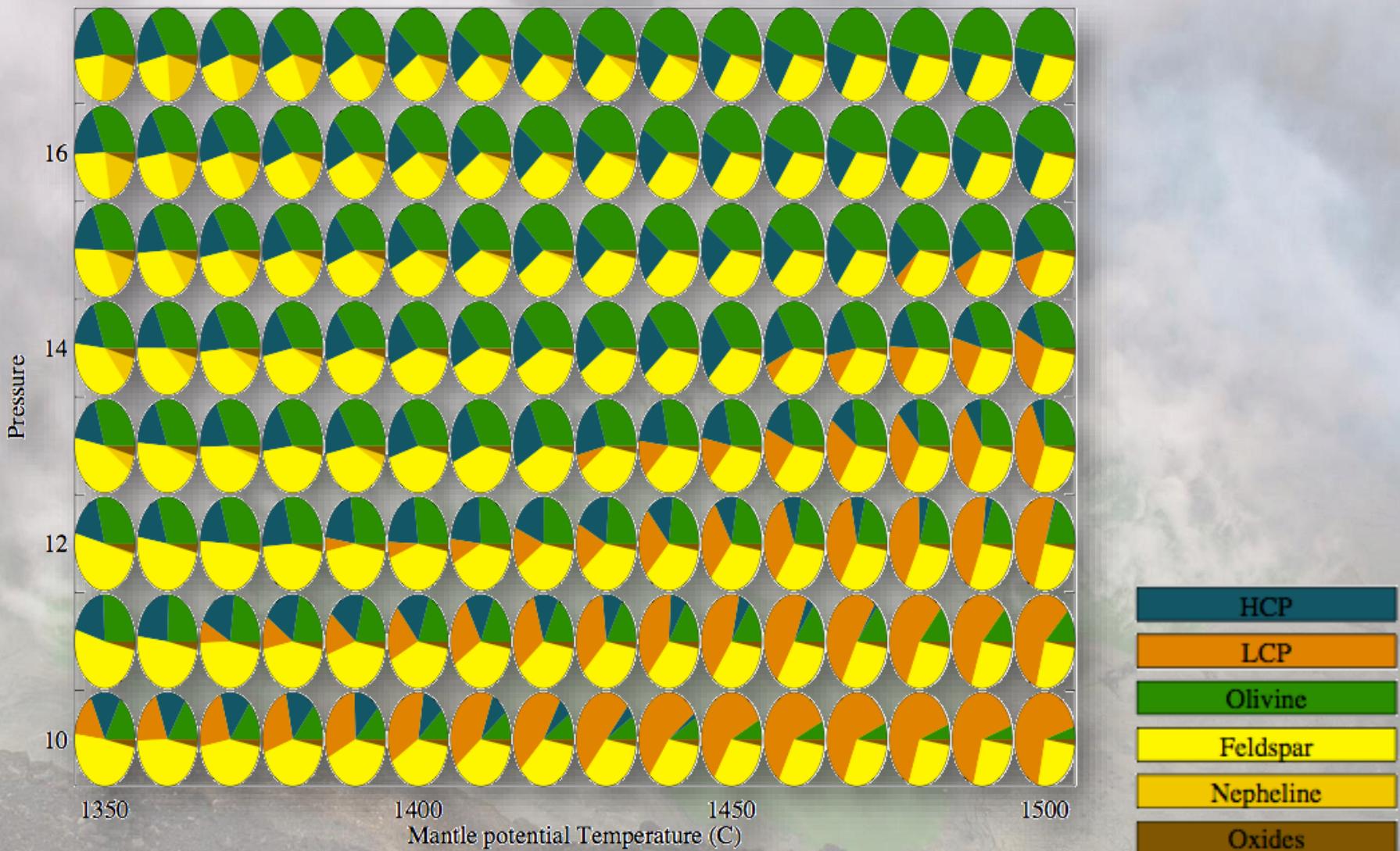
## Prediction of partial melts composition and crystallization assemblages

Noachian - ?



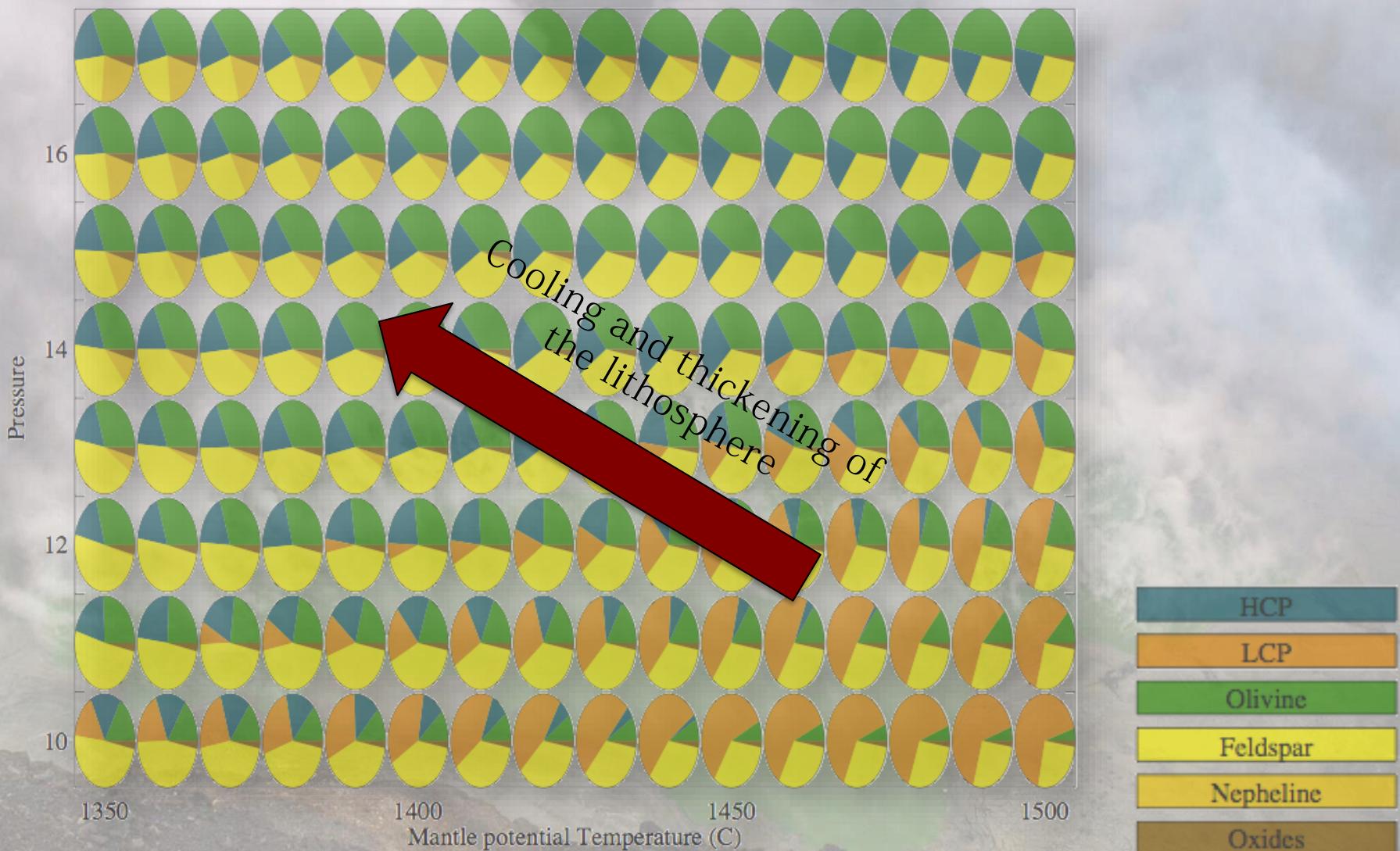
# Thermal evolution of Mars

## Prediction of partial melts composition and crystallization assemblages



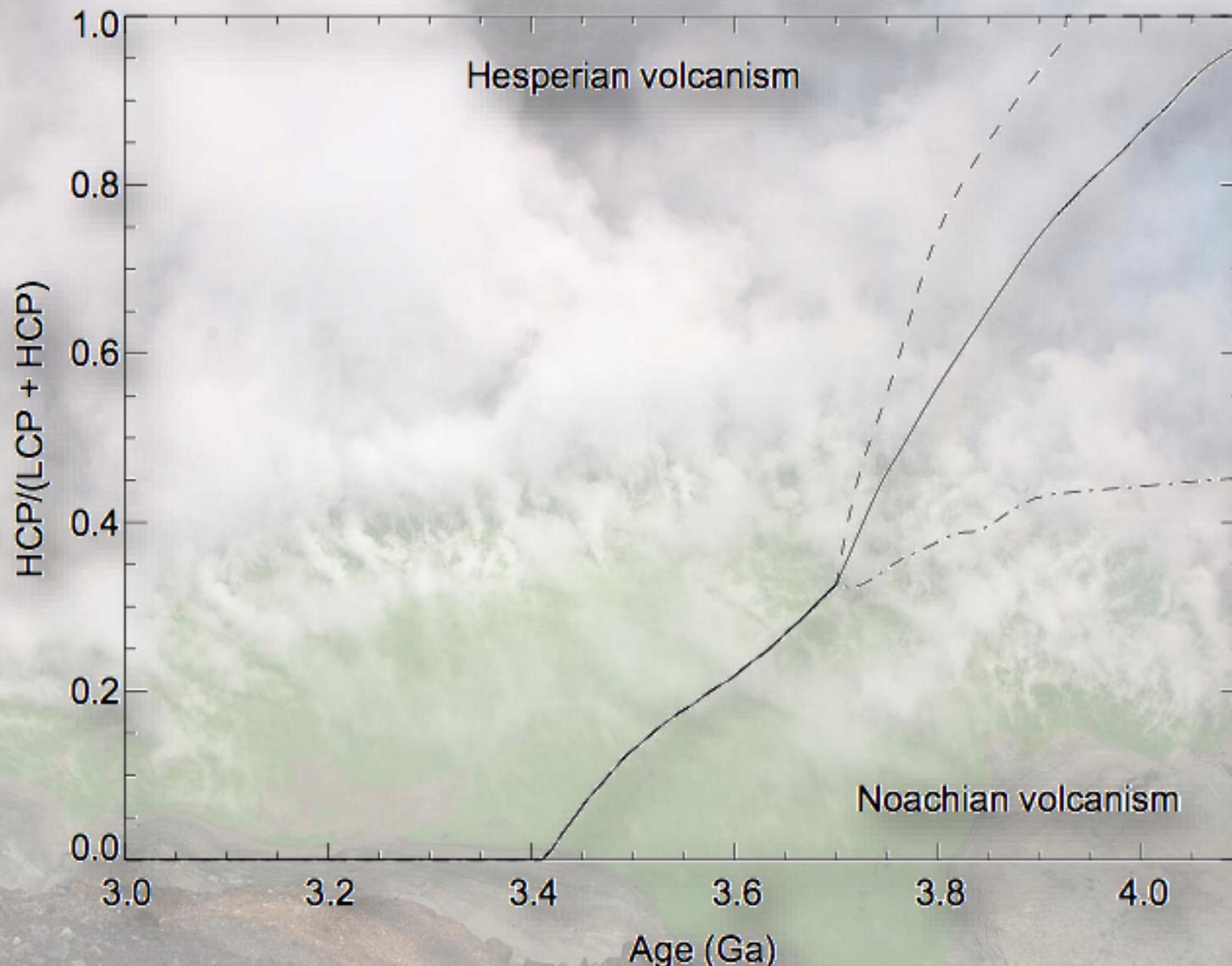
# Thermal evolution of Mars

## Prediction of partial melts composition and crystallization assemblages

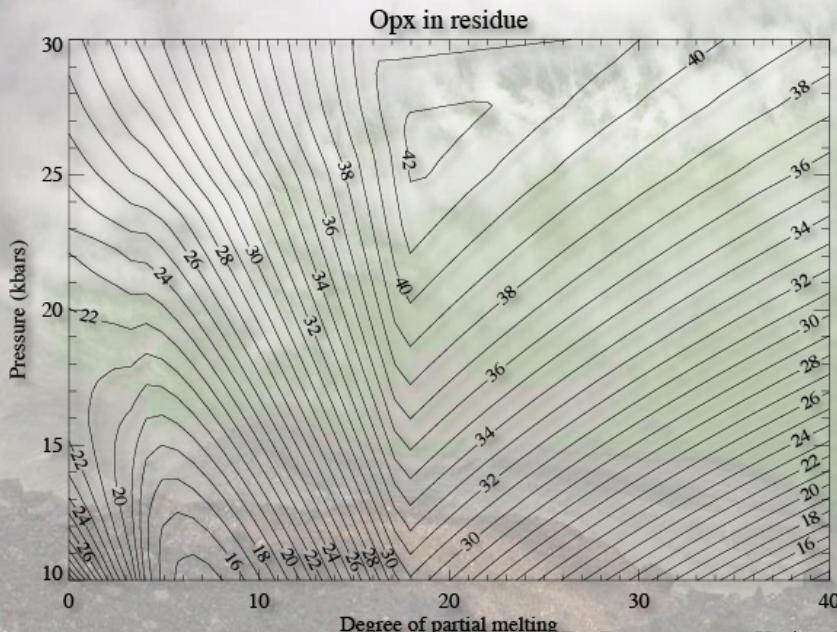
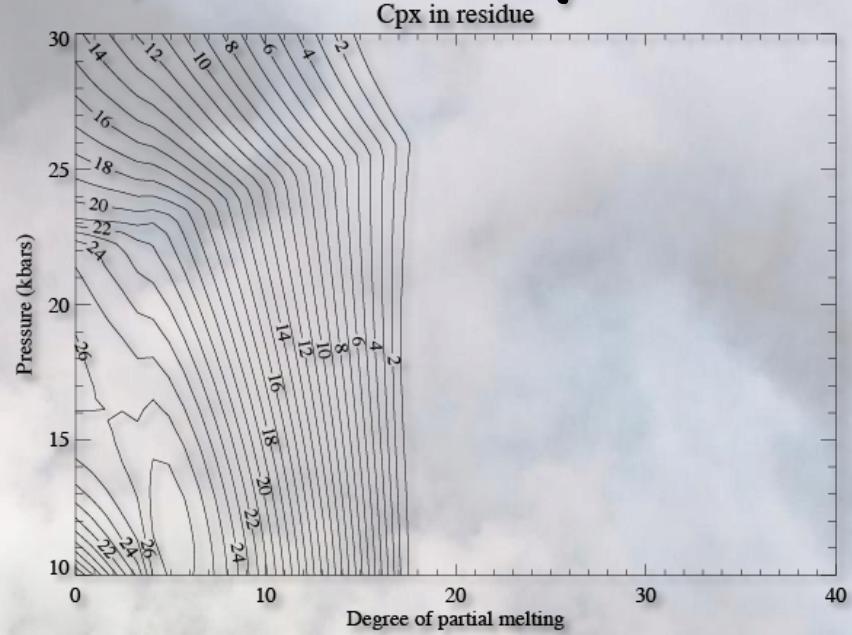
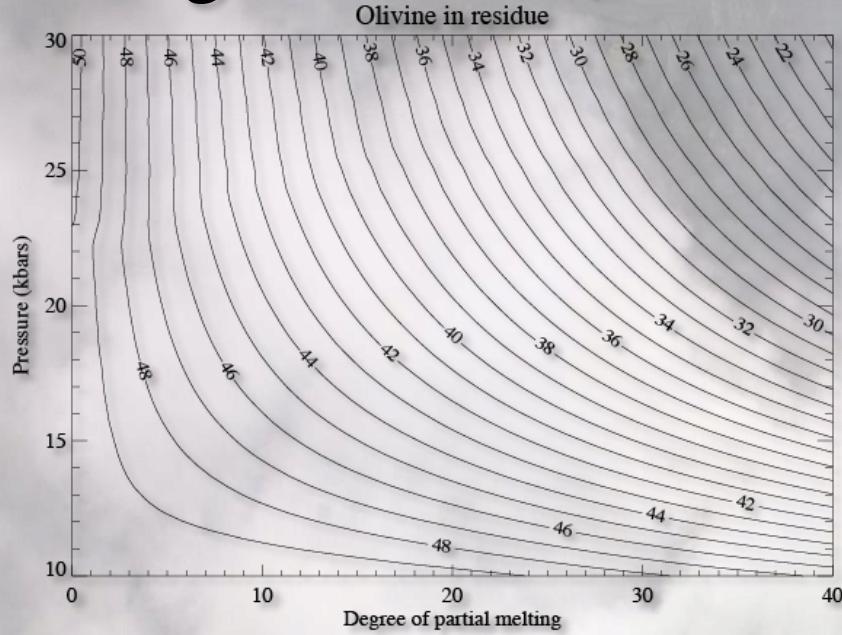


# Thermal evolution of Mars

A natural evolution of the LCP/(HCP + LCP) ratio



# Change in LCP/(HCP + LCP) ratio – why ?



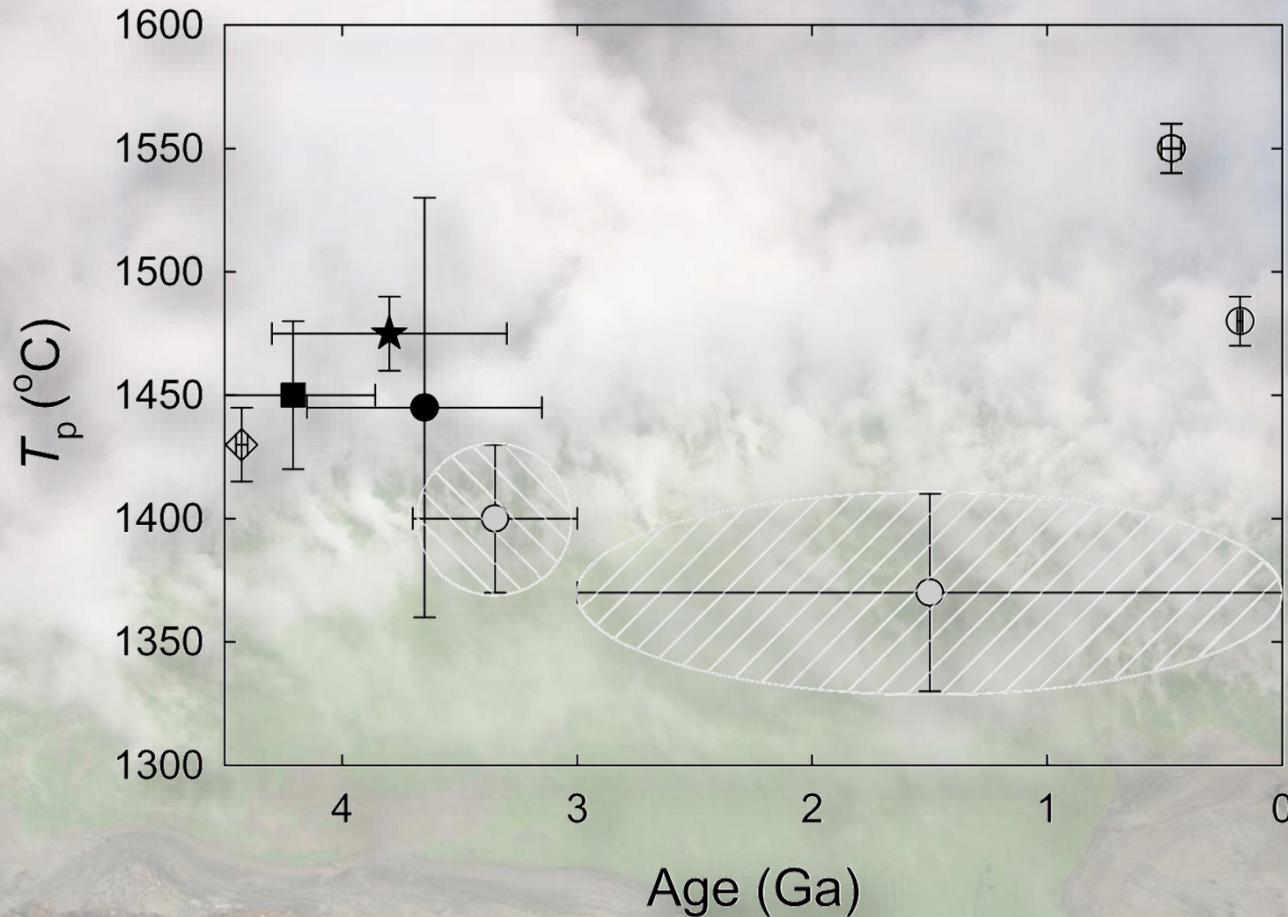
18 % partial melting      > 100% of Cpx in the liquid

> Opx starts to melt

18 % partial melting achieved  
for  $T_{pot} \sim 1420^\circ\text{C}$  and  $P = 13 \text{ kbars}$

# Conclusion (preliminary)

Basaltic material on Mars consistent with simple convective cooling of the mantle



Filiberto et al. 2015 – JGR Planets