DUST ON THE MOON: FROM APOLLO TO CHENG'E-4

Prof. Brian J. O'Brien

School of Physics, University of Western Australia

brianjobrien@ozemail.com.au

www.uwa.edu.au/people/brian.obrien

Ph. 61 8 9387 3827

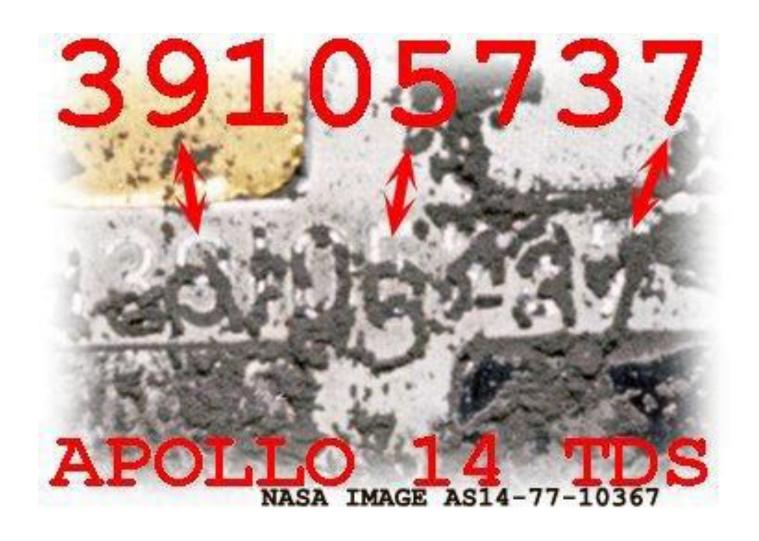
DAP2017 Boulder, Colorado 12 January 2017

Presented by courtesy of Dr William M. Farrell, GSFC

LDAP2010: OVERVIEW BY O'BRIEN

- 1. 1st REVIEW OF DDE, TDS AND LEAM EXPTS
- 2. DDE: 8 DISCOVERIES O'Brien 1970-2009
- 3. TDS: FIRST MODERN DISCUSSION GOLD's DISCOVERY OF COHESIVE FORCES IN 1971
- 4. LEAM: SUGGESTED ALTERNATIVE CAUSE AS NOISE BITS IN BURSTS, PERHAPS FROM EMI
- 5. FINAL O'B IN 2011 "BUT WHO WILL LISTEN?"
- 6. LADEE FINDINGS CONSISTENT WITH #3 + #4?

COHESIVE FORCES OF LUNAR DUST



SURFACE DUST ON MOON: MAJOR ITEMS SINCE LDAP2010

O'BRIEN 2010-16

- 2011:O'BRIEN LDAP-2010
 doi:10.1016/j.pss.2011.04.016
- 2013: LUNAR WEATHER AT 3 APOLLO SITES
- http:dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.pss. 2013.1002/2013SW000978
- <u>2015</u>: SUNRISE-DRIVEN GROUND-TRUTH FACTS
- dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.pss.2015 .09.018

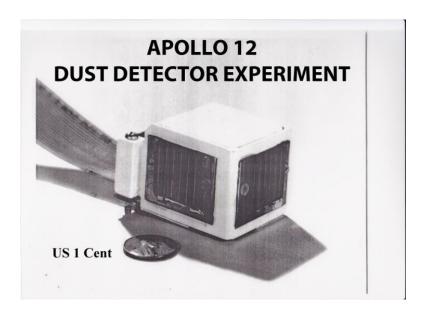
CHENG'E-3 & CHENG'E-4

- CHENG'E-3 & YUTU
- YUTU FIFTH LUNAR ROVER
- IN 2013 FIRST IN 40 YEARS
- MOVED 100m LUNAR DAY 1
- NO MOVEMENTS AFTER 1st SUNRISE: WHY NOT?
- CHENG'E-4 (2018):
- **#1 PRIORITY CHANGED 2016 TO LUNAR DUST STUDIES**

SUNRISE DRIVEN EFFECTS

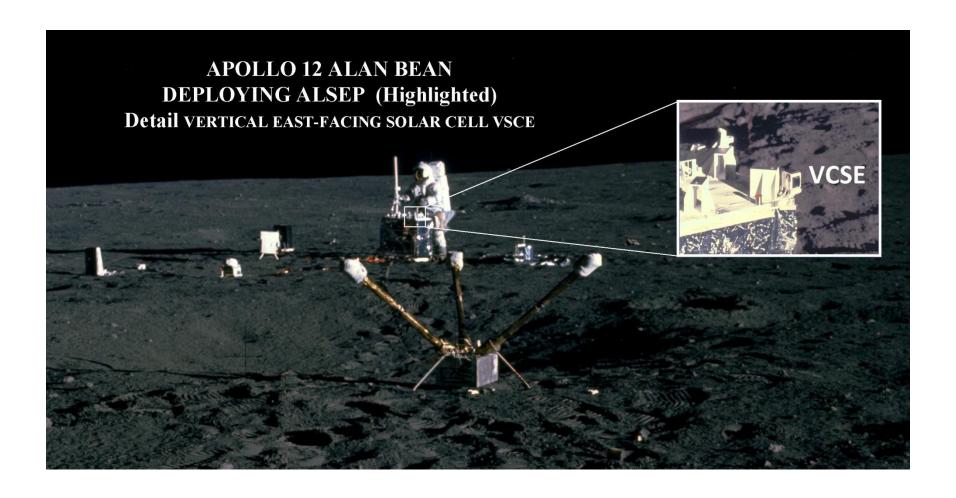
APOLLO 12 DUST DETECTOR DDE

INVENTED 12/01/1966

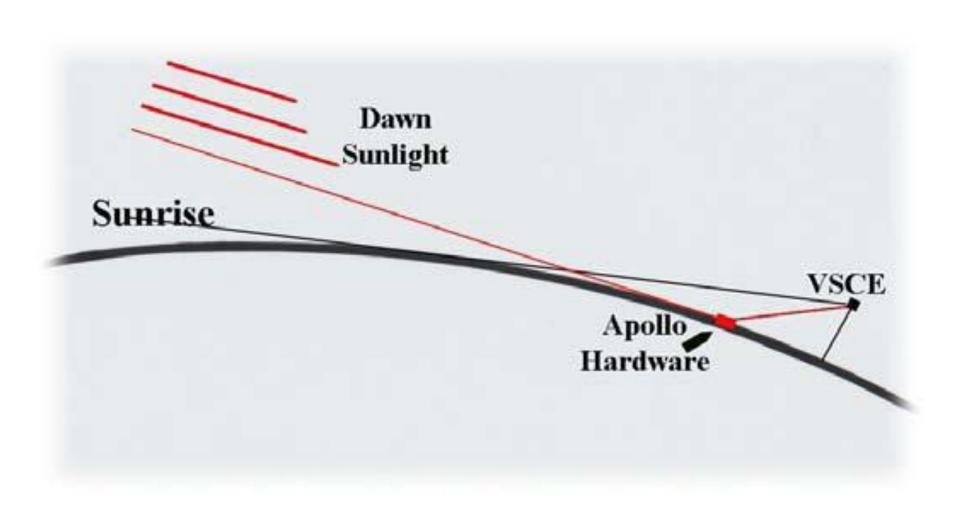


- SYNERGIES WITH 2 SOLAR CELLS AT RIGHT ANGLES
- 1 VSCE VERTICAL SOLAR CELL FACES EAST (SUNRISE MAX)
- 2 HSC HORIZONTAL CELL FACING UP (NOON MAX.).
- APOLLO 12 DDE WAS THE ONLY 1 OF 4 APOLLO DDEs LEFT WITH ORTHOGONAL DESIGN.

DEPLOYMENT OF APOLLO 12 DDE



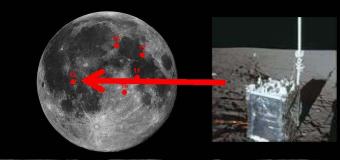
SUNRISE ON VSCE (EXAGGERATED)



SUNRISE – DRIVEN LUNAR DUST STORMS

FIRST SUNRISE MEASUREMENTS BY APOLLO 12 DDE VERTICAL SOLAR CELL FACING EAST







- SMOOTH LUNAR SURFACE DISTURBED BY APOLLO 12
- 2. STORMS OCCUR FIRST HOURS OF FIRST SUNRISES
- 3. LEVITATE FREED DUST GRAINS TO > 100cm
- 4. LINKED WITH SUNRISE HORIZON BRIGHTENING
- SUNRISE ANALOGUE OF SUNSET HORIZON GLOW
- 6. IN FIRST 3 LUNAR DAYS HORIZONTAL CELL MEASURED 30% OF 6-YEAR DUST ACCUMULATION

"Sunrise-driven transport of dust on the Moon"
Brian J. O'Brien & M. Hollick, Accepted for Publication
8 Oct 2015, DOI 10.1016/j.pss.2015.09.018



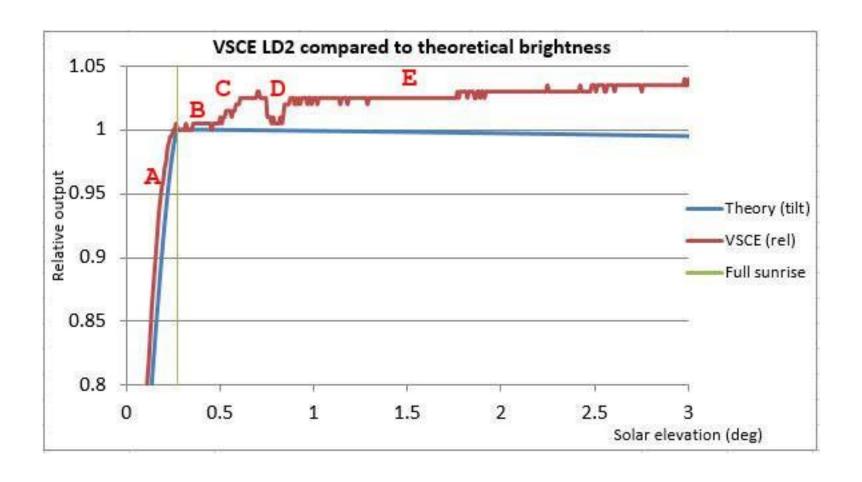
VSCE: VERTICAL EAST-FACING; HSC: HORIZONTAL CELL

- VSCE MEASURES DAWN BRIGHTNESS OF LIGHT
- 1. MEASURES DUST
 STORMS ON FIRST
 FEW SUNRISES;
- 2. MEASURES DAWN
 HORIZON-GLOW FOR
 14 of FIRST 17 LUNAR
 DAYS THEN NONE FOR
 NEXT 61 LUNATIONS

- HSC MEASURES
 ACCUMULATED DUST

 AT NOON FOR 6 YEARS
- ON FIRST 3 LUNAR
 DAYS DEGRADATION BY
 DUST ACCUMULATION
 WAS ABOUT 30% OF
 TOTAL OVER 6 YEARS
- PROVES LEVITATION TO 100CM HEIGHT OF DDE

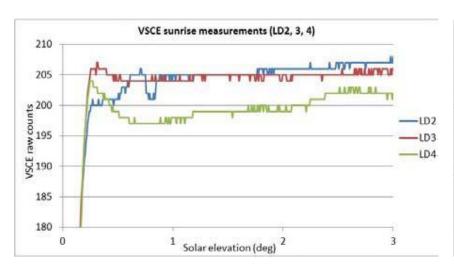
SUNRISE-DRIVEN DUST STORMSFIRST SUNRISE WAS ON LUNAR DAY 2 (LD2)

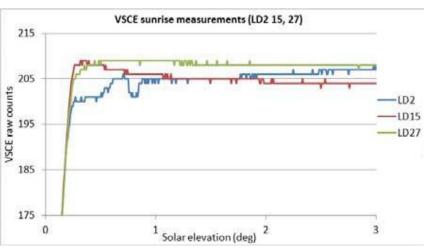


VSCE: DUST STORMS WANED EARLY versus LATER SUNRISES

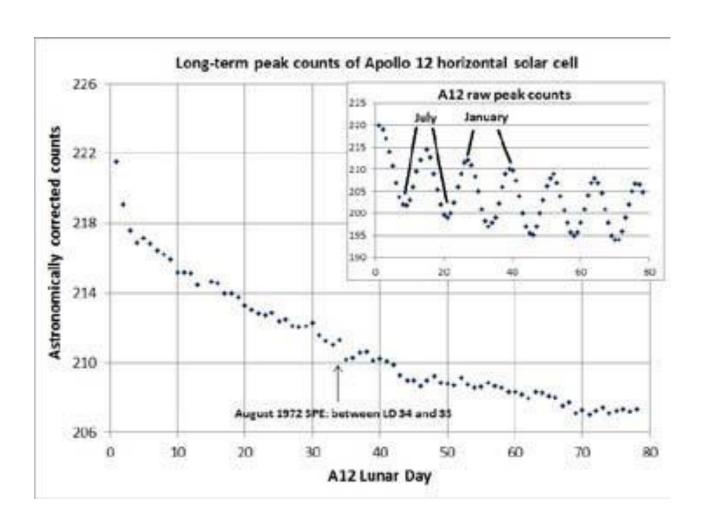
FIRST 3 SUNRISES: LD2, LD3 and LD4

FIRST 3 PERIHELIONS LD2,LD15 & LD27





HSC:LARGEST ACCUMULATION OF DUST IN FIRST FEW DAYS

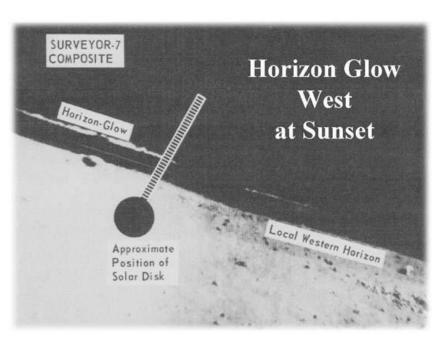


HORIZON BRIGHTENING AT DAWN

- MEASURED ON 14 OF FIRST 17 LUNATIONS THEN NOT FOR LAST 61;
- SUNRISE ANALOG TO HORIZON GLOW (HG)
 PHOTOGRAPHED AFTER SUNSET BY
 SURVEYOR (see next slide);
- DUST CAUSING HG WAS A PRIME OBJECTIVE OF LADEE BUT NOT MEASURED AT 2-250 km
- GROUND TRUTH DDE HERE IS AT 100cm.

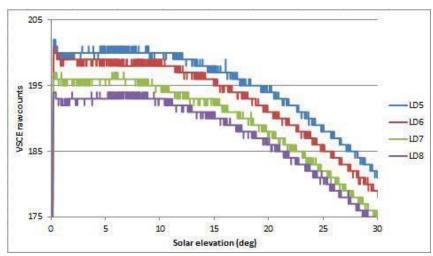
HORIZON GLOW (BRIGHTENING)

SURVEYOR 7 (SUNSET)



APOLLO 12 DDE (SUNRISE)

LD5 to LD8 (<1 degree)
Samples near aphelion



MODEL OF LEVITATED DUST

- BOTH LEVITATION & TIME VARIATION OF DAWN BRIGHTNESS ARE CONSISTENT WITH O'BRIEN SIMPLE 5-STEP MODEL:
- STEP 1: COHESIVE FORCES DISRUPTED BY ROCKET EXHAUSTS DIGGING UNDER SURFACE, FREEING FINE DUST PARTICLES;
- STEP 2: SUNRISE SUDDENLY CAUSES PHOTOELECTRIC EFFECTS WHICH CHARGE FREED DUST PARTICLES;
- STEP 3: COULOMB FORCES OF REPULSION MOBILISE DUST LATERALLY & TO CIRCA 100CM HEIGHT, LIKE GROUND MIST;
- STEP 4: LUNAR DAY BY LUNAR DAY, POPULATION OF FREED DUST PARTICLES BROADLY DECREASES, SUBJECT TO ORBIT;
- STEP 5: CONSEQUENTLY, AFTER ABOUT 1 YEAR, LUNAR SURFACE IS SMOOTH ONCE MORE.

COLLATERAL "NICE" DISCOVERIES FOR HUMAN EXPLORATION OF MOON

- 1. SUNRISE EFFECTS NATURALLY MITIGATE DUST PROBLEMS FROM MINING & EXPLOITATION OF NATURAL RESOURCES;
- SIMPLE 5-STEP MODEL EXPLAINS SMOOTH SURFACES OF MOON, LEVITATION & OCCASIONAL HORIZON GLOW;
- 3. "GROUND TRUTH" MEASUREMENTS APPEAR CONSISTENT WITH APOLLO 12 DDE PARTLY-ACHIEVING 2 MAJOR ORIGINAL GOALS OF LADEE
- 4. AFTER 20 LUNAR LANDING SPACECRAFT, CHENG'E-4 IN 2018 WILL BE THE FIRST GIVING #1 PRIORITY TO MEASUREMENTS OF LUNAR DUST, 50 YEARS AFTER INVENTION OF DDE.

COLLATERAL "NOT-NICE" DISCOVERIES FOR HUMAN EXPLORATION OF MOON

- SUNRISE-DRIVEN DUST STORMS MAY INFLITRATE MOVING PARTS CAUSING VERY FINE DUST which "ADHERES TO EVERYTHING, ...ITS RESTRICTIVE, FRICTION-LIKE ACTION TO EVERYTHING IT GETS ON..."
- SO WE SPECULATED IN DECEMBER 2015 THAT YUTU MIGHT HAVE BEEN IMMOBILISED BY SUNRISE-DRIVEN DUST;
- THE CHENG'E-4 DECISION IN 2016 TO MAKE STUDIES OF LUNAR DUST #1 PRIORITY IMPLIES CHINA GROUP AGREES;
- WE INCREASE OUR DUST CAUTIONS TO COMPETITORS IN GOOGLE LUNAR XMEDAL AND PLANNERS OF MOON VILLAGE

ANSWERING SCHMITT'S QUESTION?

- JACK SCHMITT ASKED FOR DECADES:
- "IF DUST IS MOVING AROUND, WHY ARE MOST ROCK SURFACES FREE OF DUST?"
- SUNRISE DDE PAPER TENTATIVELY ANSWERS JACK'S QUESTION, BUT OUR DISCUSSIONS CONTINUE.

EVIDENCE OF VALIDITY OF DDE GROUND-TRUTH MEASUREMENTS

- DETAILED IN TEXT PLUS SUPPLEMENTARY
- ECLIPSE CALIBRATED 6 SENSORS ON DAY 4
- Line-detail evidence, see Supplementary online of
 - http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.pss.2015.09.018
- APOLLO 12 DDE HOLDS RECORD OF LONGEST OPERATIONAL SUCCESS (6 Years) OF ANY ACTIVE APOLLO SURFACE EXPERIMENT

SUMMARY: NEW APOLLO 12 DDE HIGHLIGHTS

- 1. DISCOVERY SUNRISE-DRIVEN DUST STORMS;
- 2. FIRST MEASURED LEVITATED DUST AT 100cm
- 3. MEASURED DUST CAUSE OF SUNRISE EQUIVALENT OF SUNSET HORIZON GLOW
- 4. SUNRISE-DRIVEN EVENTS CAUSE NATURAL SMOOTHING OF LUNAR SURFACES
- 5. SIMPLE 5-STEP MODEL EXPLAINS ALL ABOVE
- 6. SURFACE-DUST PRIORITY #1 FOR FUTURE.