

Potential Lunar Subsolar Hydration Feature

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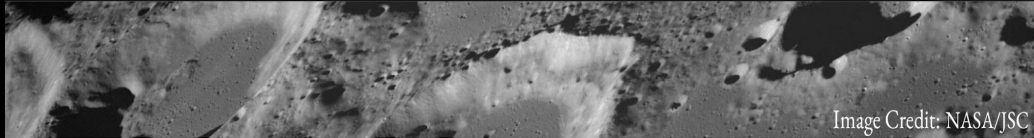


Image Credit: NASA/JSC

Cassini

Year: 1999

Findings: Hydration Found
At the Poles and Highlands
of the Moon

Deep Impact

Year: 2007 & 2009

Findings: Entire Lunar
Surface Hydrated During
Some Portions of the Day

Moon Mineralogy Mapper
on Chandrayaan-1

Year: 2009

Findings: Water Molecules
on the Poles of the Moon



Wally Pacholka / AstroPics.com

The Sub-Solar Point

In order to establish how any water/hydroxyl absorption feature was present, considering it's presence may vary with Lunar time of day, one type of location was chosen and observed at different Lunar phases. Beside are the locations observed.



NEATM: Near Earth Asteroid Thermal Model

- The basis of the STM is the assumption of instantaneous equilibrium between insolation and thermal emission and a simple temperature distribution on a smooth spherical (Lebofsky et al)
- The near-Earth asteroid thermal model (NEATM) (Harris and Lagerros) is an improved version of STM that takes into account the surface roughness and thermal inertia
- the sub-solar temperature of the Moon is calculated by assuming equilibrium between solar insolation and emitted thermal flux. The temperature across the disk is then assumed to vary as $[\cos(i)]^{.25}$.
- The Planck function is then integrated over the visible surface of the disk to get the emitted intensity, which is multiplied by the solid angle to get the flux as seen at the earth.

$$S_{obs} = \pi \frac{D^2}{4} S(1 - A)$$

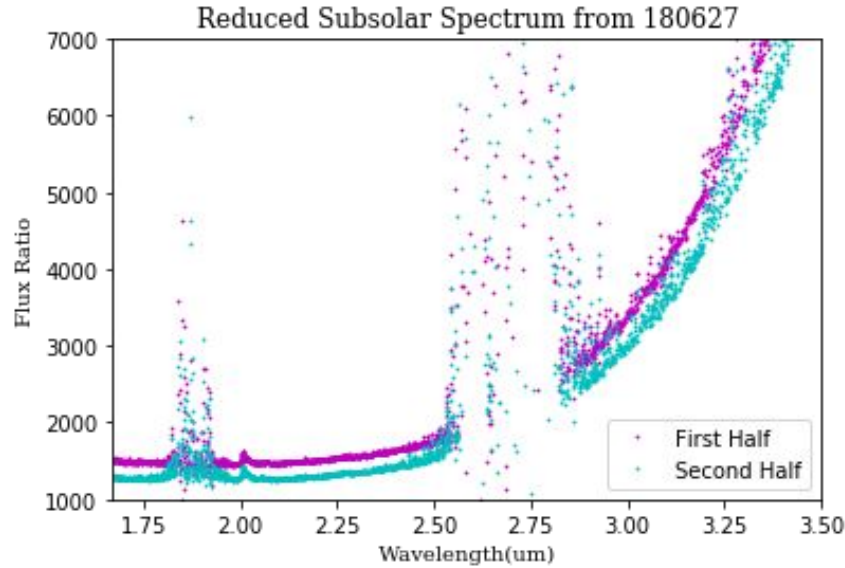
$$T(\varphi) = T(0) \cos^{1/4} \varphi$$

$$A = A_v = q p_v$$

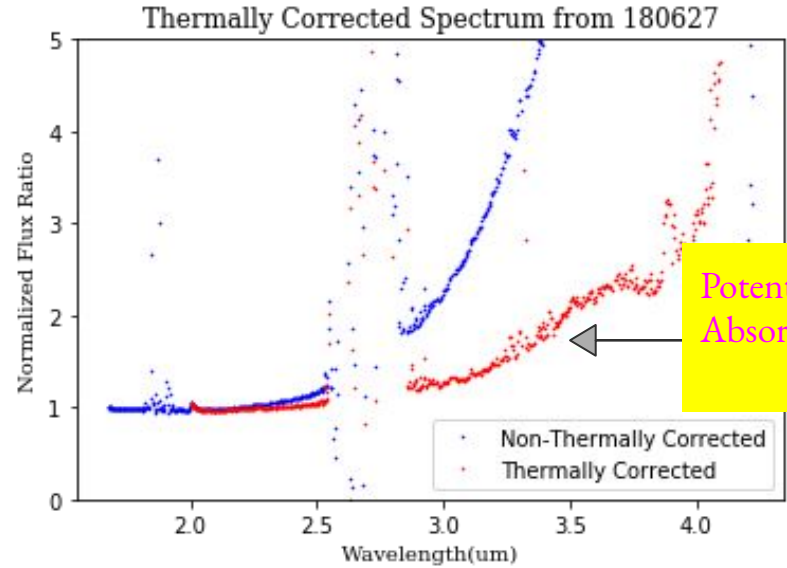
$$T(0) = [(1 - A)S/(\eta \epsilon \sigma)]^{1/4}$$

Best Results from Three Nights of Data

Before Thermal Correction



After Thermal Correction



In Summary

- Potential Absorption Feature Detected Using NEATM
- Consistent with Hydration Feature at Lunar Noon

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