Basalt ISRU & Planetary Analog Test Sites in Hawai'i.

LSIC E&C Meeting

January 29, 2021

HONEYBEE ROBOTICS

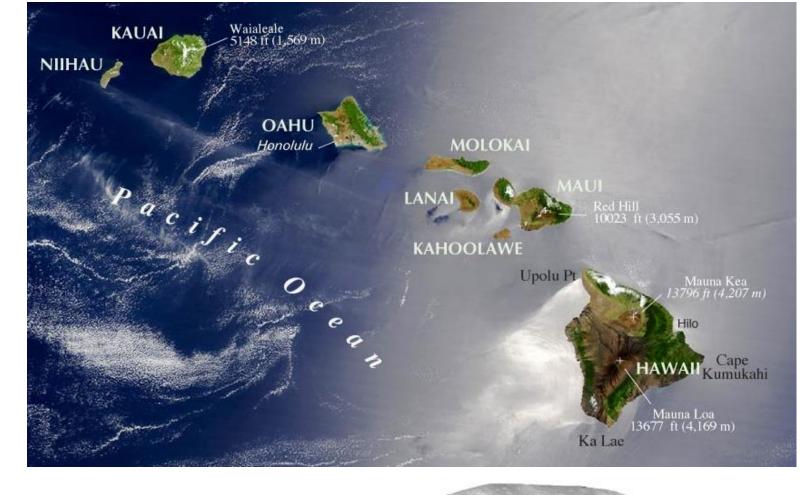
PISCES

### PISCES

State Agency under Department of Business, Economic Developmen & Tourism (DBEDT) located in Hilo, HI

Objective: To Promote the Aerospace Industry & Foment Economic Development in the State.



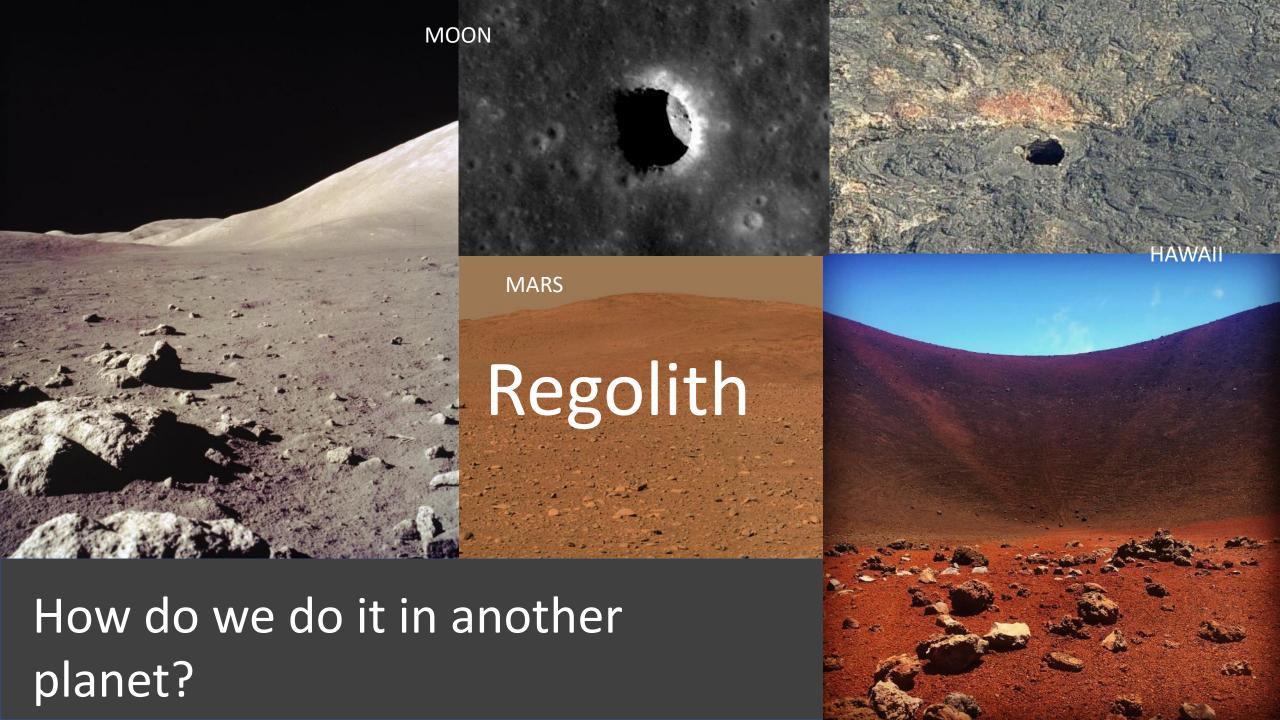




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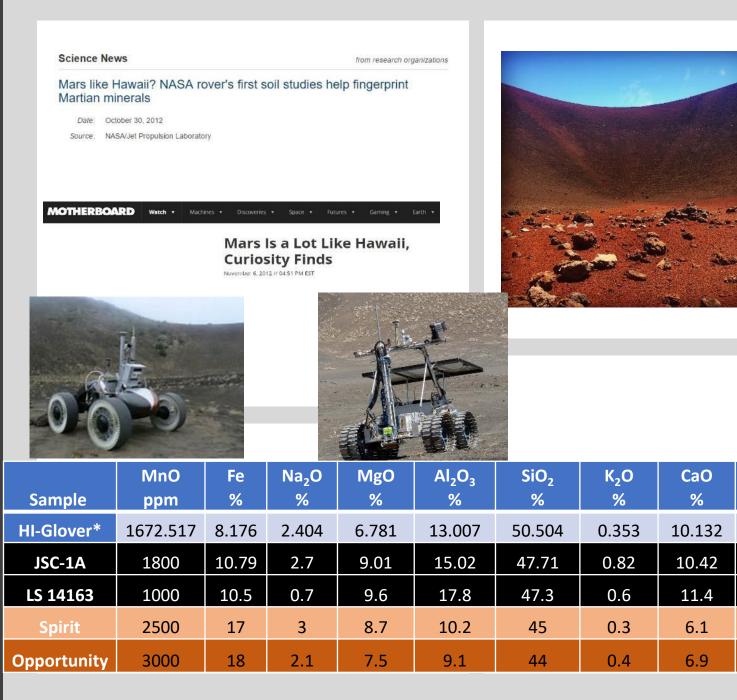
ISRU: We've been doing it for a long time, but the real question is...



#### Hawai'i is a Great place to test space exploration technologies

- Terrain similar to Moon or Mars
- Composition of basalt similar to that of Moon and Mars





TiO<sub>2</sub>

%

1.777

1.59

1.6

1

1.1

# **<u>PISCES FOCUS</u>**: Sintering of basalt to produce a feedstock for construction & manufacturing

#### **Potential Applications**

- Launch Pads
- Paver manufacturing for Thermal Wadis
- Reentry Thermal Heat Shields
- Radiation Shields.
- Indoor/Outdoor Flooring Tiles
- Tools & Parts
- Construction Blocks
- Thermal insulation
- Paved surfaces for dust mitigation























#### 2015-2016 VTVL Project PISCES, Swamp Works & Honeybee Robotics







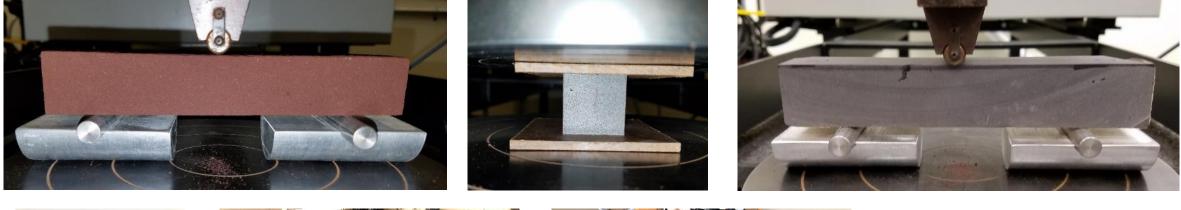


- Rocket Motor Test Firing
- AEROTECH N3300: 960 lb (f) Class M Rocket Motor (12 kg of ammonium perchlorate propellant)
- Plume temp: 1,926°C
- Total impulse 13,410 N/s
- Static Motor Test
- Motor Nozzle to be placed 16" above Impact Paver.

### Improving the Sintering Process (2016-2020)

#### High temperature sintering of Hawaiian Basalt Fines

	Residential Portland Cement	2100	Commercial Portland	Specialty Portland Cement	2150
Test	Concrete (typical)		Cement Concrete (typical)	Concrete (typical)	
Flexural Strength (psi)	500	716	800	2,000	5,852
Compressive Strength (psi)	2,500	3,116	4,000	10,000	30,825
Density (g/cm <sup>3</sup> )		1.699			2.64

























#### Effects that variations in mineralogy have on sintering process (2017-2020)

#### Hawaii-Lunar-Mars Basalt/Regolith Characterization (EDXRF)

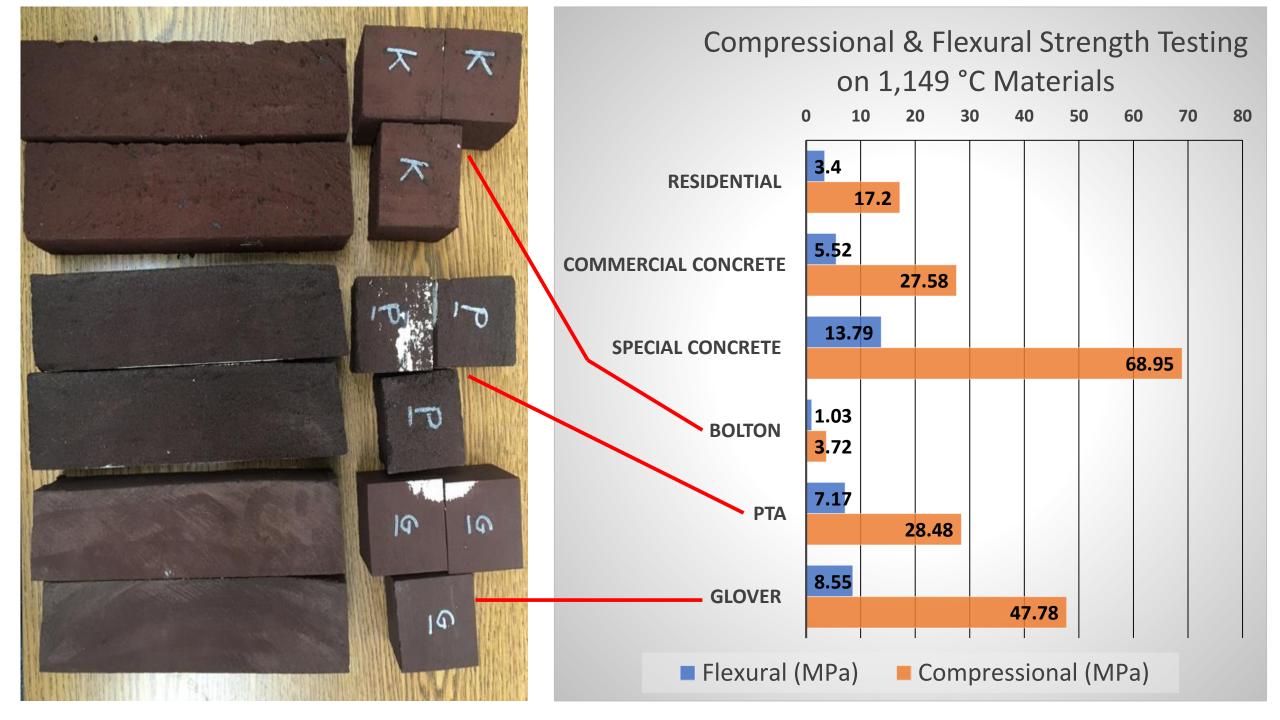
	MnO	Fe	Na <sub>2</sub> O	MgO	Al <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub>	SiO <sub>2</sub>	K <sub>2</sub> O	CaO	TiO <sub>2</sub>	
Sample	ppm	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	Source
HI-Glover*	1672.517	8.176	2.404	6.781	13.007	50.504	0.353	10.132	1.777	Mauna Loa
HI-Puna	1677.425	8.54	2.392	9.109	12.552	50.69	0.347	9.938	1.755	Mauna Loa (?)
HI-Puna-b	1773.913	9.606	1.758	<mark>19.127</mark>	9.027	47.513	0.223	6.941	1.259	Kilauea
HI-PTA	1639.78	8.23	2.45	5.574	13.664	52.119	0.411	10.808	1.977	Mauna Loa
HI-Kona	1712.953	9.41	2.284	<mark>14.067</mark>	11.804	50.152	0.293	8.304	1.577	Hualalai











Present Work: Use of a mineral based binder in aqueous solution

#### Benefits:

- Reduce mold deterioration
- Reduce sintering temperature
- Curing in lunar/Mars environment
- Potential for additive manufacturing through extrusion
- Binder has the potential to be synthesized from Martian regolith (lunar regolith less likely)

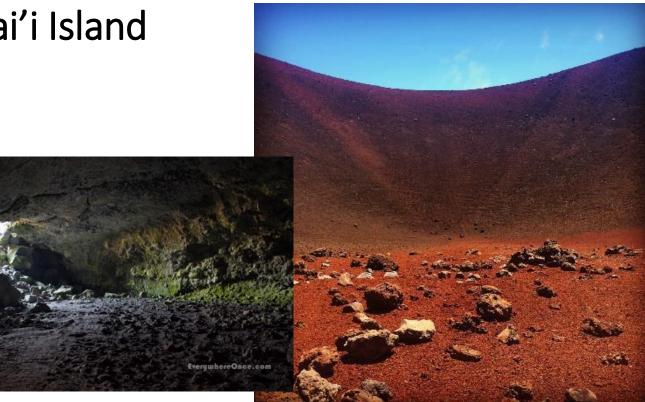


## **HAD** Hawaii Analogs for Lunar Operations



### Hawai'i Island

- Formed by 5 Volcanoes -
- Multiple lava fields with wide range of characteristics -
- Pristine lava fields with no significant vegetation \_
- Multiple lava tubes
- Wide range of climates (Sea Level 4,200 m ASL)
- Two major airports (Kona, Hilo)
- Deep Sea Water Port (Hilo)
- University & Community College -
- Ideal infrastructure for testing







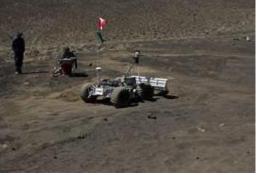


### Recent Analog Testing under PISCES

- 2008 ISRU Analog Demo NASA
- 2010 ISLO Analog Field Test NASA
- 2012 Resolve Field Test NASA, CSA
- 2013 Team Puli Field Test GLXP team
- 2014: Helelani DRM-1 (PISCES)
- 2014: PRISM (Robotic Mining Competition)

- 2015: MoonRIDERS, (I'olani, Kealakehe, PISCES, NASA) EDS Test
- 215: Helelani DRM-2 (PISCES) @ Pu'u Nene
- 2015-Spring 2016: ACME VTVL (PISCES, NASA & Honeybee Robotics)
- 2016: Helelani DRM-3n & Resource Prospector Remote Driving Test, (PISCES & NASA Ames)
- 2017: Helelani DRM-4 (PISCES)
- 2020: Helelani at HI-SEAS EMMIHS-III, HI-SEAS







#### **Overview of Three Analog Sites**

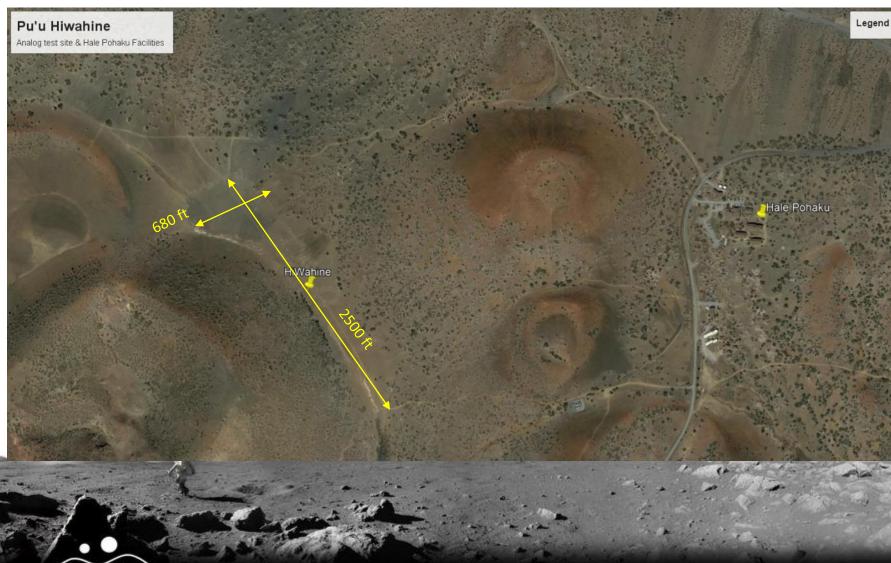
- Analog Test Sites Legend 🕴 Feature 1 Write a description for your map Feature 2 **Google** Earth N SIO, NOAA, U.S. Nevy, NGA, GEBCC / Copernicus
- Pu'u HiwahineNELHA
- NELHA - HI-SEAS



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## Pu'u Hiwahine (2,750 m /9,000 ft ASL)

- High Elevation
- Full facilities close by
- Easy access (4x4 to valley)
- Requires DLNR Permit
- Communications Available
- Low Probability for Precipitation
- Site for many previous tests
- Wide range of terrain and surface.

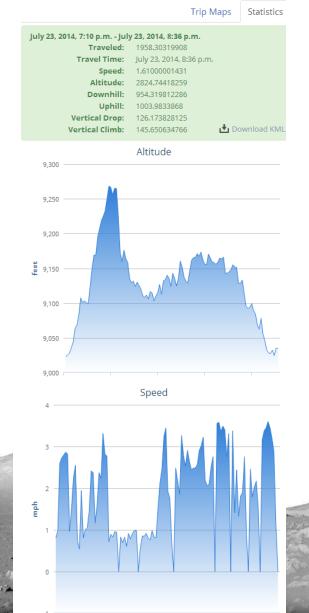




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#### Test Run 3 (7/23/2014) – Steep Climb | Controlled from Base Camp







### Facilities: Hale Pohaku

- ~1hr from Hilo/Kona
- Paved Road Access
- Full cafeteria service
- Bedrooms
- Conference Center
- Rec Center
- Comms



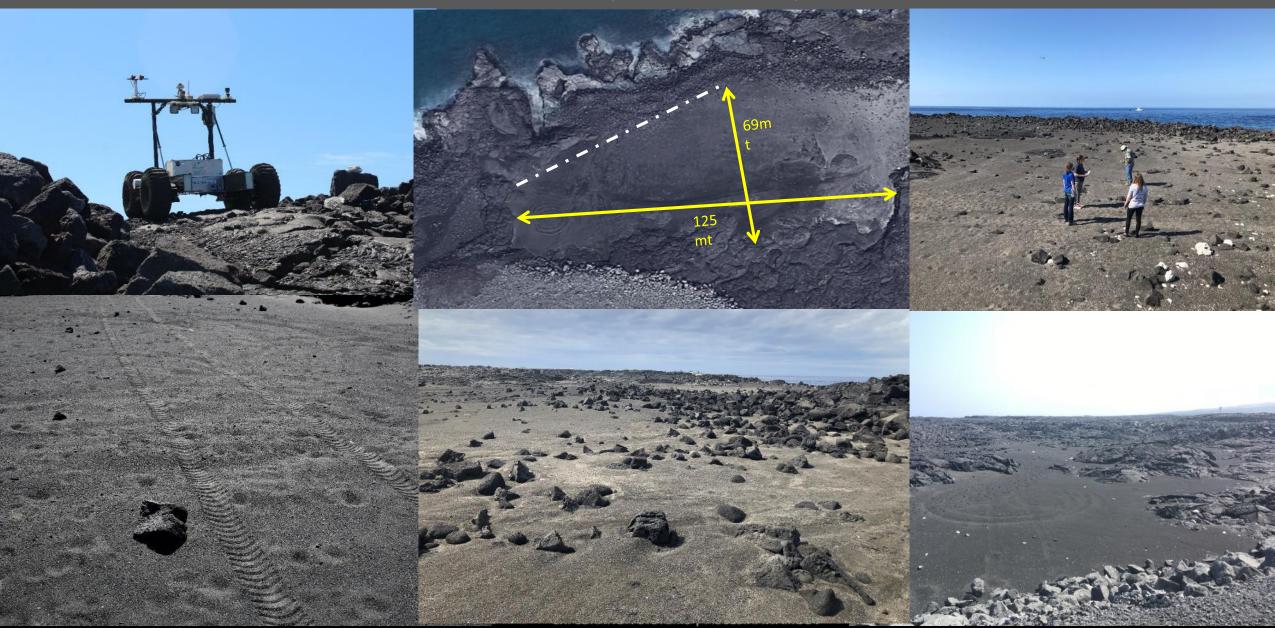


## NELHA (Sea Level)

- Full facilities close by
- Easy access
- No Permit Required
- Communications Available
- Low Probability for Precipitation
- Lunar Analog
- Flat surface with sandy terrain & lava outcrops
- Good site for surface mobility tests



## NELHA (Sea Level)













## **NELHA (Facilities)**

### Hawaii Space Exploration And Simulation (HI-SEAS)







Field Test Equipment: Tents Charis & Tables Generators & power hardware Local Comm Network Remote Comms Analog Rover

Logistics: Land permit Reservations High Bay / shop Interns/volunteers Secured Trailer Third Party Equipment Rentals **Control Room Settings** 



### **PISCES Support Capabilities**

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#### <u>HELELANI</u>

#### ODG ARGO Rover

- Open Payload Deck Design
- Handheld or GUI control
- Up to 200lbs payload on deck 100lb on mast
- 3 Sit cams
- GPS, IMU
- 12V, 24V & 48V DC





## MOKU (Island)

(Mobile Operations Kommand Unit)

• Trailer equipped with power (gas generator)

• Serves as relay station to connect Hale Iako to Test Site or to create a local LAN for rover operations.

- Work stations and tool area.
- AC equipped.



