

Lunar surface exploration using a rover, searching for evidence of the evolution of the moon

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To clarify the origin and evolution of the moon, the direct investigation of the surface materials are indispensable. We have been investigating the lunar surface exploration using a small rover. In the lunar history, the crustal formation stage and late volcanism are unveiled. One of our proposals is a rover mission to the central peak of large crater to explore interior materials such as lower crust and mantle. Another proposal is a mission to dome/cone structures on mares to investigate late volcanism. We are developing mission instruments as well as planning proper mission scenarios under the collaboration between science and technology teams.