Lunar Explorer "KAGUYA" (SELENE) Moon Images Shot by Its Monitor Cameras

The "KAGUYA" separating the "OKINA" in a lunar orbit (Image drawing)

October 21, 2007

SELENE Project

Institute of Space and Astronoutical Science (ISAS)

Japan Aerospace Exploration Agency (JAXA)

Image taking by Monitor Cameras

(1) What we can provide

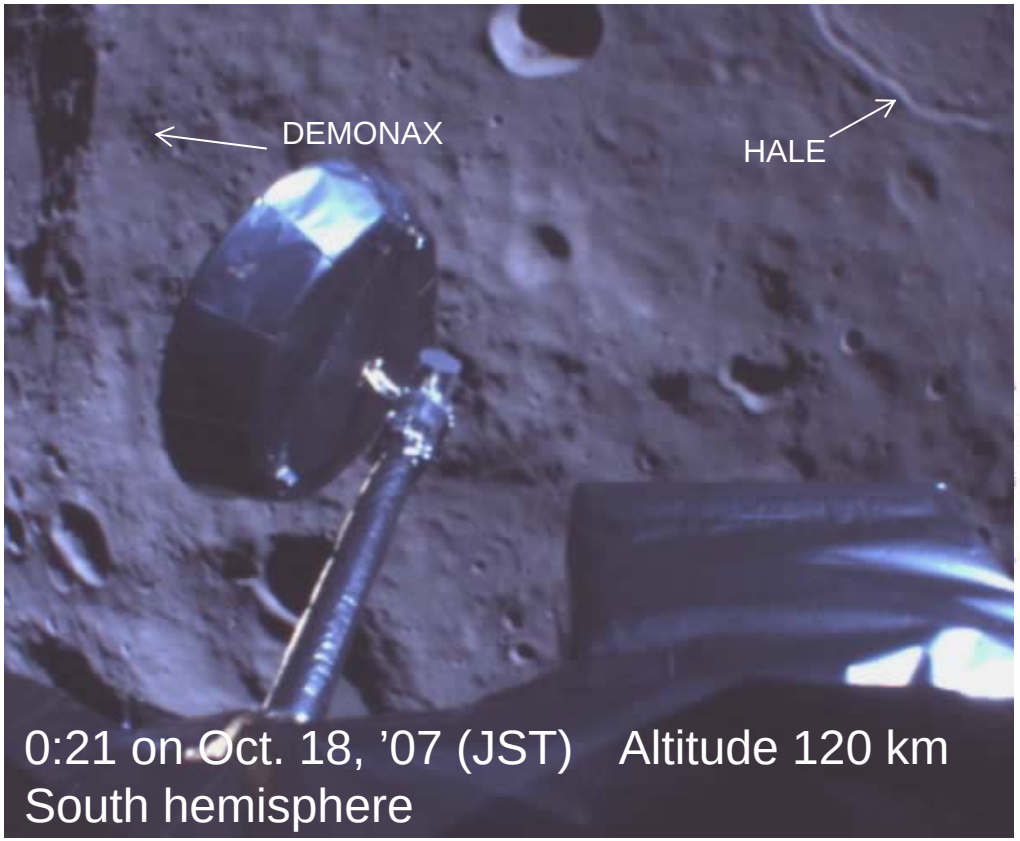
We can provide some major images of the Moon that are taken by the "KAGUYA" as supportive data from various altitudes since the KAGUYA's injection into a lunar orbit on Sep. 29 until the end of the critical phase, or prior to the initial checkout of the onboard equipment.

(2) How to get the images

You can find them at http://www.kaguya.jaxa.jp/en/

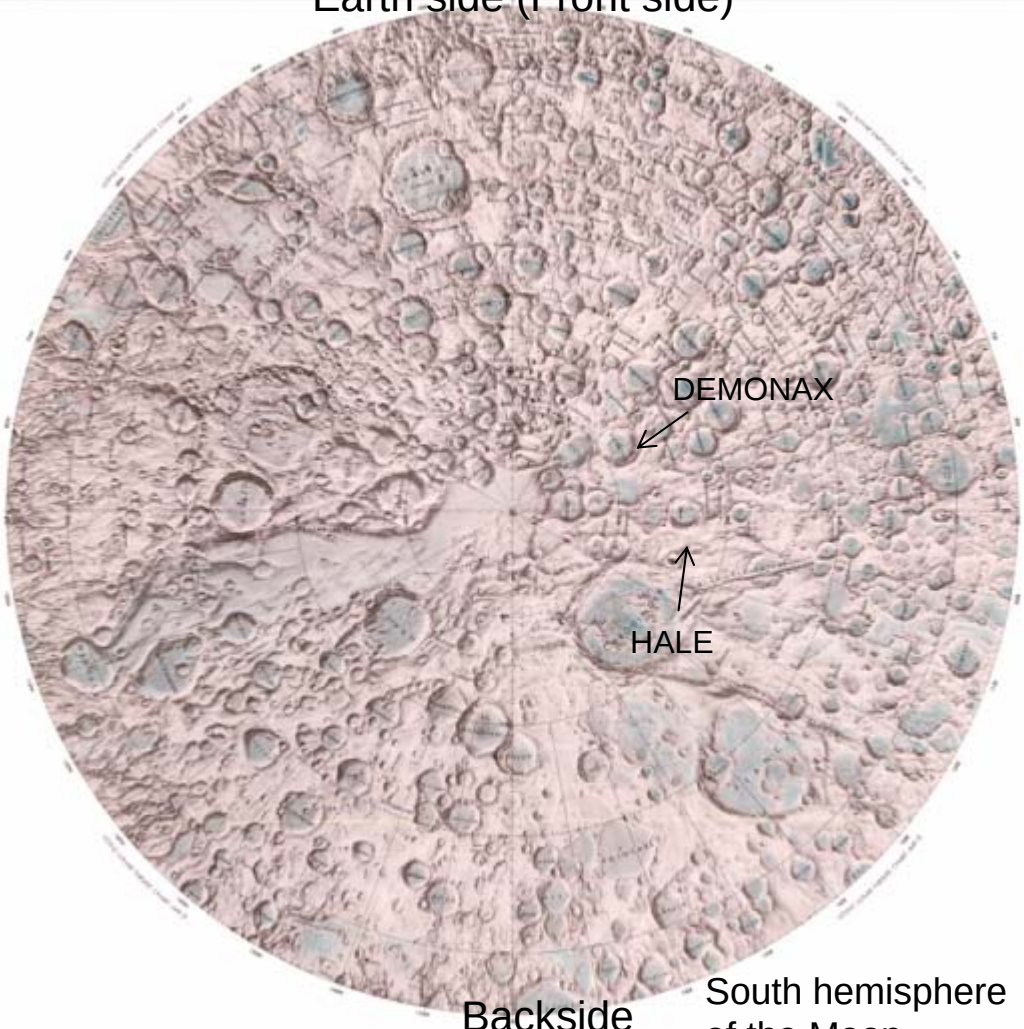
* Monitor camera: an onboard CCD camera with 3.2 megapixels (656 x 488 =320,128) of valid pixels to verify the deployment of the high-gain antenna, solar array paddle, and UPI (plasma imager) as well as the separation of the two baby satellites.

Image taken by a monitor camera in the regular observation orbit



The distance between HALE and DEMONAX is calculated to be about 180 km as they are six degrees apart in relation to the center of the Moon.

Earth side (Front side)



*JST: Japan Standard Time

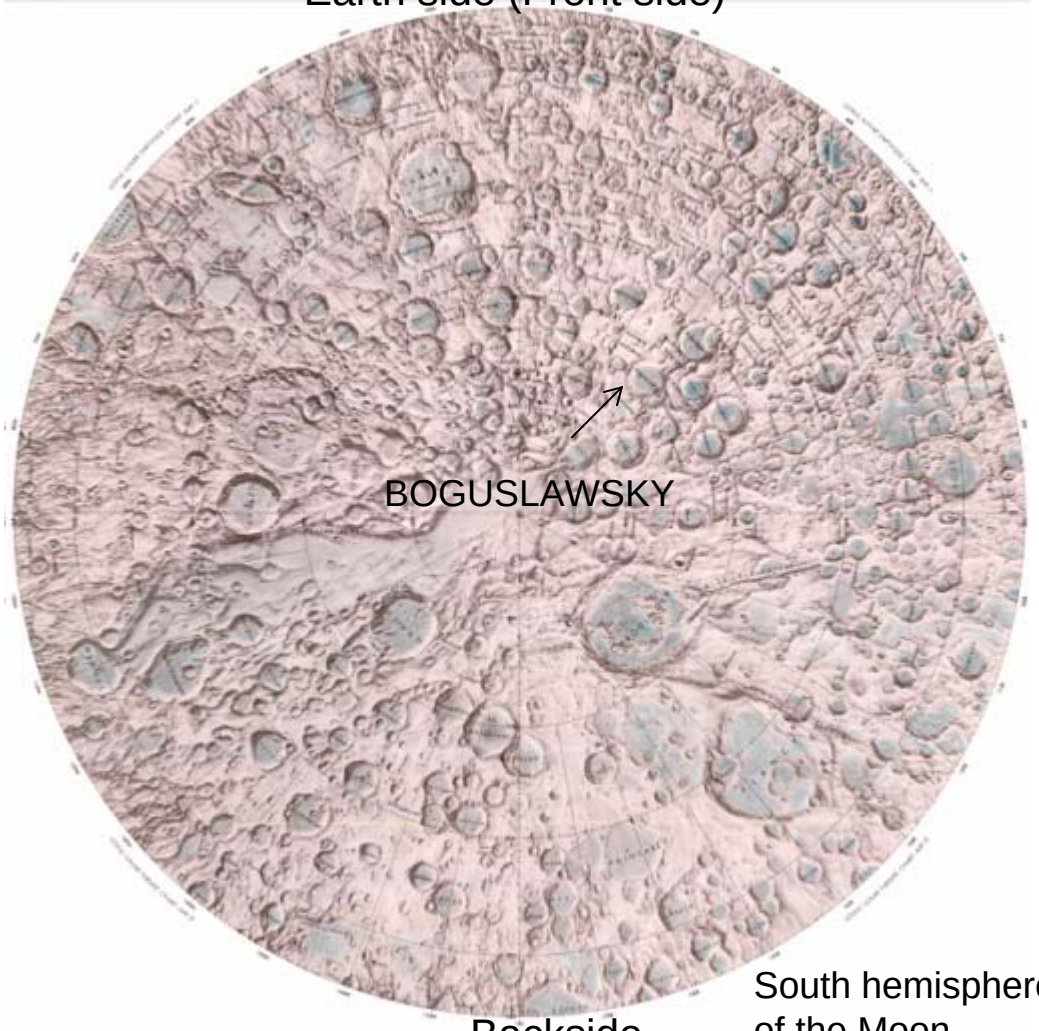
Reference source：USRA
http://www.lpi.usra.edu/resources/mapcatalog/LMP/

Images taken by monitor cameras in the regular observation orbit

0:17 on Oct. 19, ’07 (JST) Altitude about 98 km
(South hemisphere and the Earth)

0:20 on Oct. 19, ’07 (JST) Altitude about 94 km
(South hemisphere and the Earth)

Earth side (Front side)



Backside

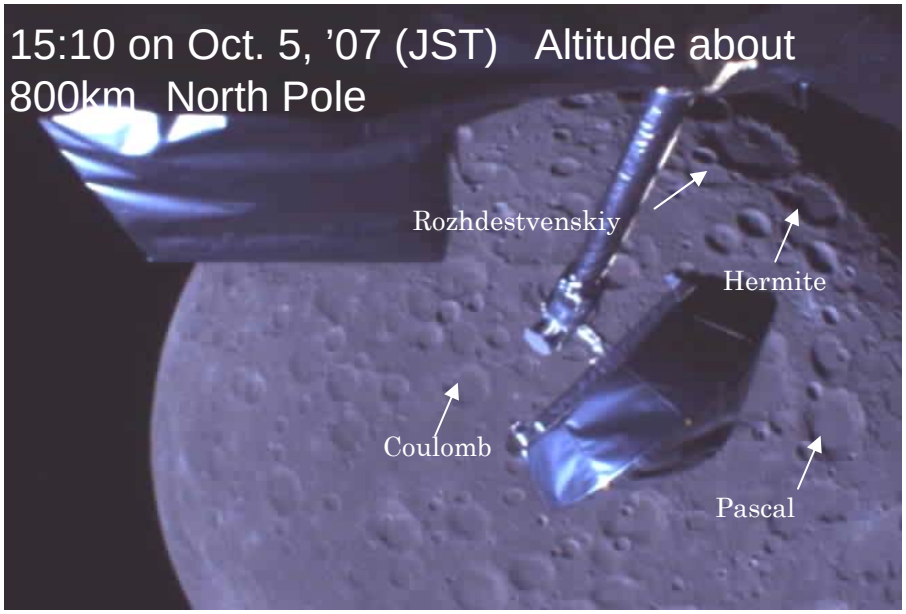
South hemisphere
of the Moon

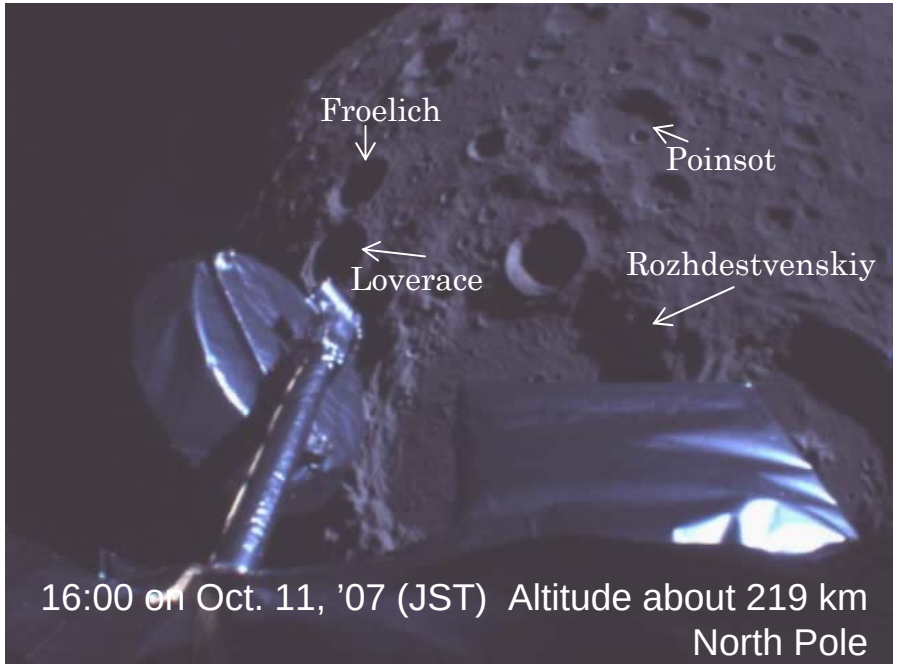
Reference source：USRA
http://www.lpi.usra.edu/resources/mapcatalog/LMP/

(Reference)

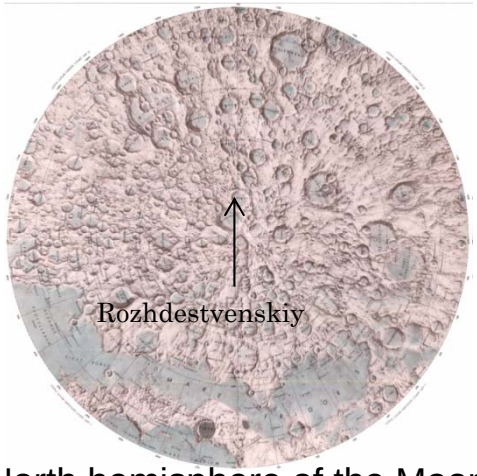
Major Moon Images Shot by Monitor Cameras from Different Altitudes in the Past

The first Moon image shot by the “KAGUYA” (at the separation of the RSAT, already released to the press)

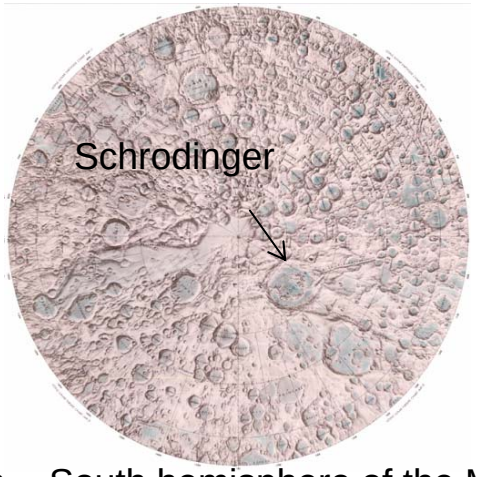




After separating the Relay Satellite "OKINA"

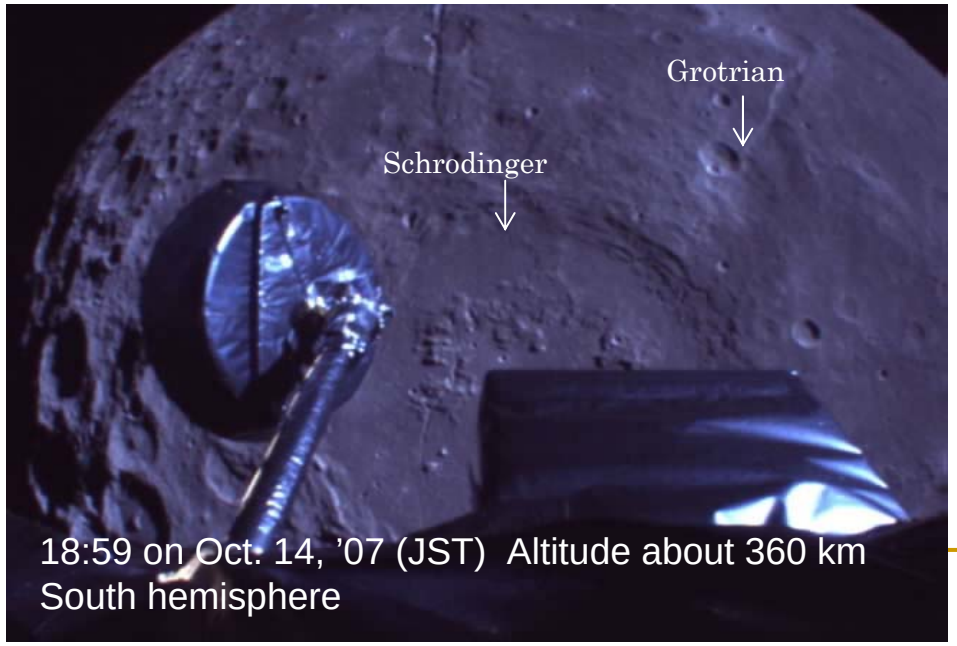


North hemisphere of the Moon



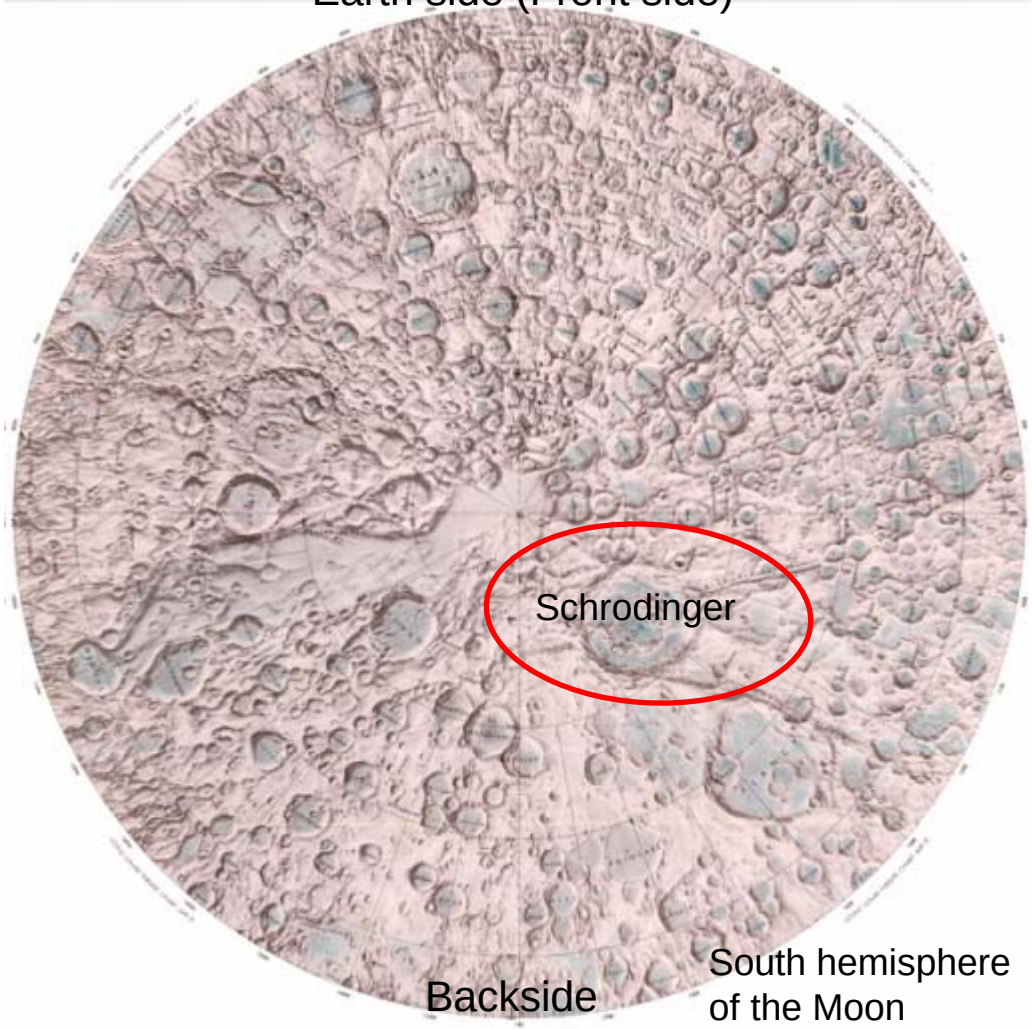
South hemisphere of the Moon

Reference source : USRA
http://www.lpi.usra.edu/resources/mapcatalog/LMP/



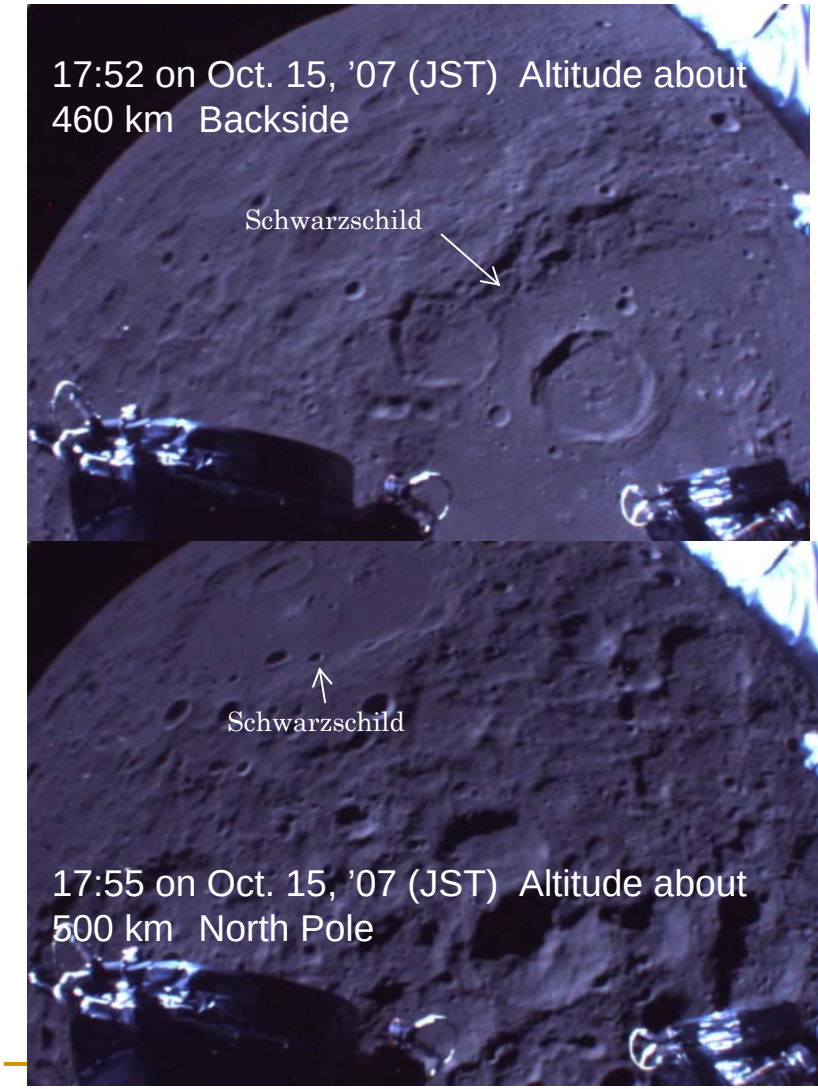
After separating the VRAD Satellite "OUNA"

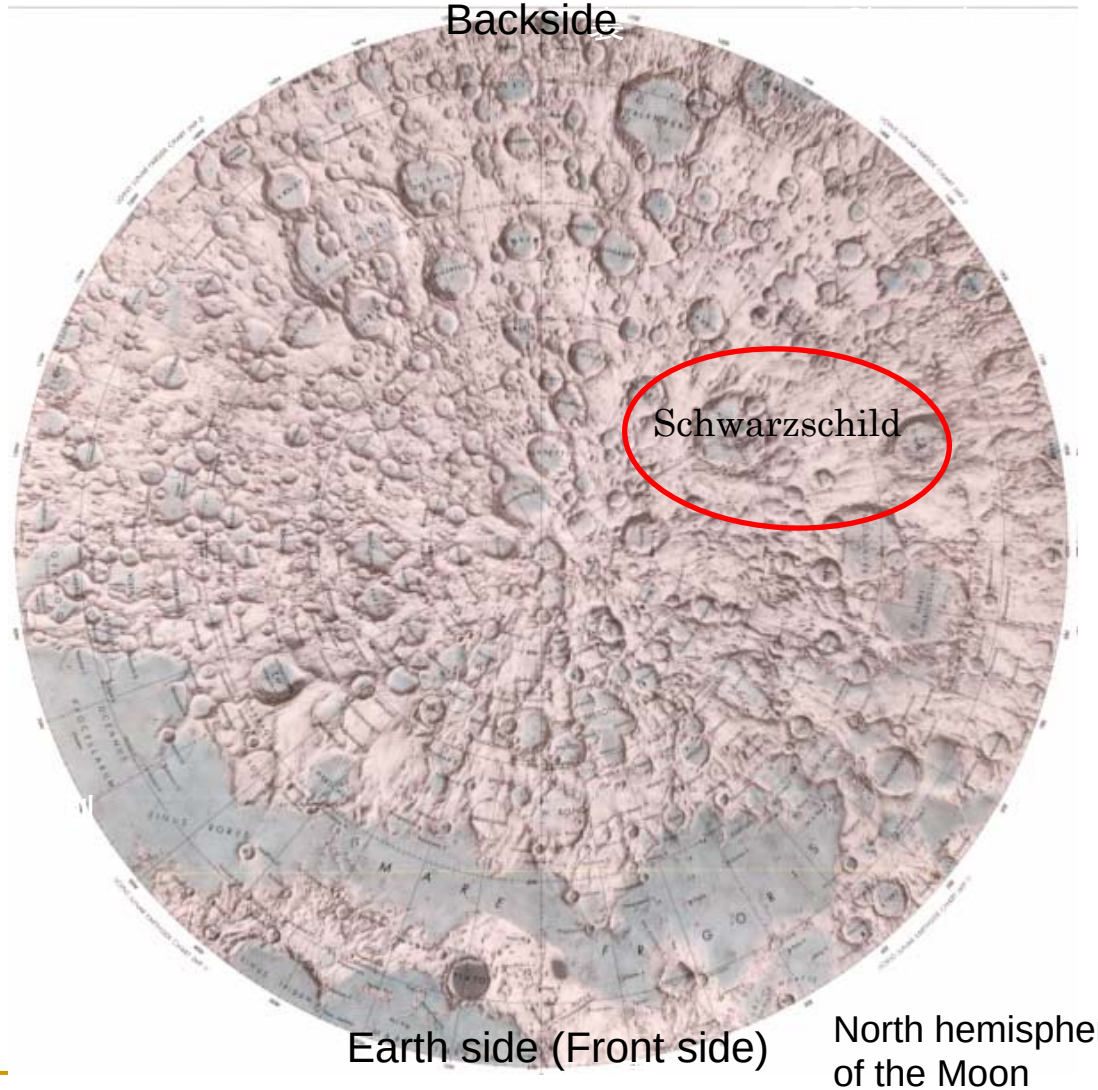
Earth side (Front side)



Reference source : USRA
http://www.lpi.usra.edu/resources/mapcatalog/LMP/

Near Schwarzschild Crater after separating the VRAD Satellite “OUNA”





Reference source：USRA
http://www.lpi.usra.edu/resources/mapcatalog/LMP/