

Re: Lunar rilles

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- *From:* Frogwatch <dbohara@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx>
 - *Date:* Thu, 20 Sep 2007 12:59:22 -0700
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On Sep 20, 3:45 pm, Joe Strout <j...@xxxxxxxxxxx> wrote:

In article <1190314567.854445.298...@xx>,

Frogwatch <dboh...@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx> wrote:

I have long accepted the standard idea that lunar rilles are mostly collapsed lava tubes but after looking at a lot of rille pics I am now not so sure.

Why? I've looked at a lot of them myself, and am even more convinced that that's what they are.

However, I cannot accept the odd idea of them being electrical discharge features on a large scale. I wonder if they could be related to collapse along faults? Why has this not been considered more?

Well, that's a fair question. Probably because it doesn't hold water. When a scientist says, "could it be foo?" and the immediate answer is "no, it's clearly not foo because of this, this, and that," then you'll probably never read about it in a journal -- it's just not worth reporting.

I'm hopeful that with all the upcoming lunar probes (hopefully including some commercial or prize-entry ones soon!), we'll finally get a good look at some of these. Hopefully including a big, gaping lava tube mouth with a reasonably smooth gentle entrance way. Now I just have to figure out how to lay claim to that place when it's found...

Best,
- Joe

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Re: Lunar rilles

If they are lava tubes, I am surprised we have not seen such a "gaping mouth" on images from various orbiters because many of them stop and start in a way that should produce such

.