



*Aeolian forms in Meridiani Planum along the traverse
of the Opportunity rover*

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[POSTER]

Aeolian forms dominate in Meridiani Planum. Orientation and morphology of these landforms are crucial to understand aeolian transport in the area. Studying aeolian landforms requires employing in situ data, as orbital images are not sufficient to determine small features at the planetary surface. Landforms observed by the Opportunity rover are fine- and coarse-grained ripples, sand shadows, dunes, sand sheets, wind streaks, and ventifacts. The orientation and superpositions of these forms indicate that they were shaped and reshaped by different winds. Coarse-grained ripples, which cover almost entire area of Meridiani Planum, indicate changes in wind force and wind regimes over time, and formation of unstable accumulation and deflation zones.