**Joel 2:28-32**28 And it shall come to pass afterward that I will pour out my Spirit upon all flesh; and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy; your old men shall dream dreams; your young men shall see visions;  
29 And also upon the servants and upon the handmaids in those days will I pour out my Spirit.  
30 And I will show wonders in the heavens and in the earth--blood, and fire, and pillars of smoke.  
31 The sun shall be turned into darkness, **and the moon into blood**, before the great and the terrible day of the Lord come.  
32 And it shall come to pass that whosoever shall call on the name of the Lord shall be delivered; for in Mount Zion and in Jerusalem shall be deliverance, as the Lord hath said, and in the remnant whom the Lord shall call.

**Acts 2:17-21**17 And it shall come to pass in the last days, saith God, I will pour out of my Spirit upon all flesh; and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, and your young men shall see visions, and your old men shall dream dreams;  
18 And on my servants and on my handmaidens I will pour out in those days of my Spirit; and they shall prophesy.  
19 And I will show wonders in heaven above and signs in the earth beneath; blood, and fire, and vapor of smoke.  
20 The sun shall be turned into darkness **and the moon into blood** before the great and notable day of the Lord come.  
21 And it shall come to pass that whosoever shall call on the name of the Lord shall be saved.

**Revelation 6:12**  
12 And I beheld when he had opened the sixth seal, and lo, there was a great earthquake; and the sun became black as sackcloth of hair, **and the moon became as blood**;

**D&C 28:3c**-4a  
3c For a trump shall sound, both long and loud, even as upon Mount Sinai; and all the earth shall quake; and they shall come forth, yea, even the dead which died in me, to receive a crown of righteousness and to be clothed upon, even as I am, to be with me, that we may be one.  
4a But behold, I say unto you that before this great day shall come, the sun shall be darkened, **and the moon shall be turned into blood**, and the stars shall fall from heaven;

**D&C 33:1e-2a**   
1e The time is soon at hand that I shall come in a cloud with power and great glory; and it shall be a great day at the time of my coming, for all nations shall tremble.  
2a But before that great day shall come, the sun shall be darkened, **and the moon be turned into blood**, and the stars shall refuse their shining, and some shall fall, and great destructions await the wicked; wherefore, lift up your voice and spare not, for the Lord God hath spoken.

**D&C 45:6a-e**   
6a And it shall come to pass that he that feareth me shall be looking forth for the great day of the Lord to come, even for the signs of the coming of the Son of Man;  
6b and they shall see signs and wonders, for they shall be shown forth in the heavens above and in the earth beneath;  
6c and they shall behold blood, and fire, and vapors of smoke; and before the day of the Lord shall come, the sun shall be darkened, **and the moon be turned into blood**, and stars fall from heaven;  
6d and the remnant shall be gathered unto this place; and then they shall look for me; and behold, I will come;  
6e and they shall see me in the clouds of heaven, clothed with power and great glory, with all the holy angels; and he that watches not for me shall be cut off.

**D&C 85:24a-b**  
24a Abide ye in the liberty wherewith ye are made free; entangle not yourselves in sin, but let your hands be clean until the Lord come.  
24b For not many days hence, and the earth shall tremble and reel to and fro as a drunken man; and the sun shall hide his face and shall refuse to give light; **and the moon shall be bathed in blood**; and the stars shall become exceeding angry and shall cast themselves down as a fig that falleth from off a fig tree.

**Strong's Concordance**

**haima: blood  
Original Word:**αἷμα, ατος, τό  
**Part of Speech:**Noun, Neuter  
**Transliteration:**haima  
**Phonetic Spelling:**(hah'-ee-mah)  
**Definition:**blood  
**Usage:**blood (especially as shed).

**Thayer's Greek Lexicon**

**STRONGS NT 129: αἷμα**  
  
**αἷμα**, (τος, τό, **blood,** whether of men or of animals:

***d.*** It is used of those things which by their redness resemble blood: αἷμα σταφυλῆς the juice of the grape ('the blood of grapes,' [Genesis 49:11](https://biblehub.com/interlinear/genesis/49-11.htm); [Deuteronomy 32:14](https://biblehub.com/interlinear/deuteronomy/32-14.htm)), Sir. 39:26 Sir. 50:15; 1 Macc. 6:34, etc.; Achilles Tatius 2:2; reference to this is made in [Revelation 14:18-20](https://biblehub.com/interlinear/revelation/14-18.htm). εἰς αἷμα, of the moon, [Acts 2:20](https://biblehub.com/interlinear/acts/2-20.htm) ([Joel 2:31](https://biblehub.com/interlinear/joel/2-31.htm) ()), equivalent to ὡς αἷμα [Revelation 6:12](https://biblehub.com/interlinear/revelation/6-12.htm).

<https://biblehub.com/greek/129.htm>

**1828 Webster’s Definition**

**HEM'ATITE**, *noun* [Gr. from blood.] The name of two ores of iron, the red *hematite* and the brown *hematite* They are both of a fibrous structure, and the fibers, though sometimes nearly parallel, usually diverge, or even radiate from a center. They rarely occur amorphous, but almost always in concretions, reniform, globular, botryoidal, stalactitic, etc. The red *hematite* is a variety of the red oxyd; its streak and powder are always nearly blood red. The brown *hematite* is a variety of the brown oxyd or hydrate of iron; its streak and powder are always of a brownish yellow. The red *hematite* is also called blood-stone.

**Online Etymology Dictionary**

**hematite (n.)** 1540s, haematites, from French hematite (16c.), from Latin haematites, from Greek haimatites lithos "bloodlike stone," from haima (genitive haimatos) "blood" (see -emia). Earlier in English as emachite (late 14c.).

**The Moon Is Rusting, and Researchers Want to Know Why**

<https://www.nasa.gov/solar-system/moon/the-moon-is-rusting-and-researchers-want-to-know-why/>

**Jet Propulsion Laboratory**

**SEP 02, 2020**

[](https://www.nasa.gov/wp-content/uploads/2020/09/pia02442-16.jpg)

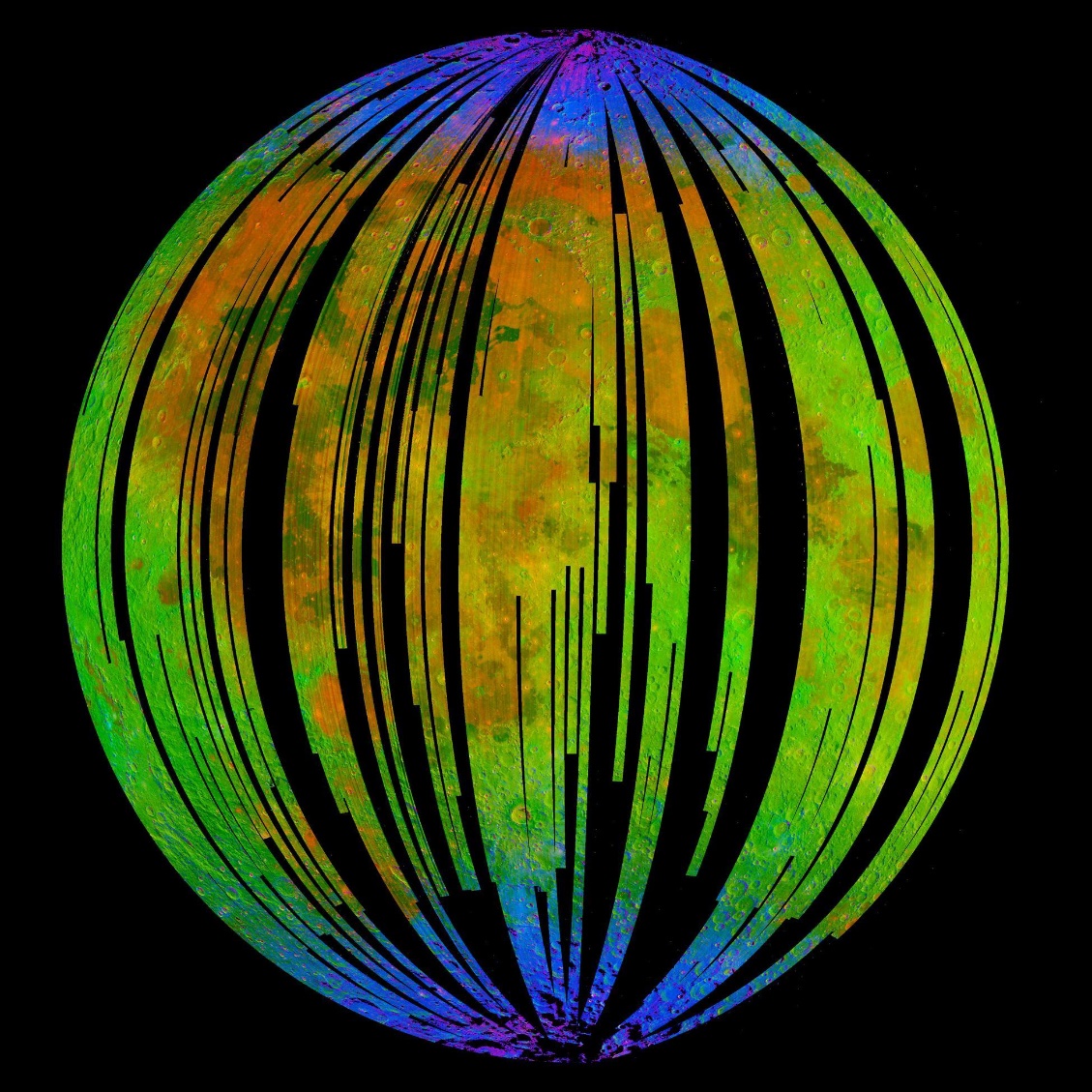
The Moon as viewed by NASA’s Mariner 10 in 1973, well before research would find signs of rust on the airless surface.

Credits: NASA/JPL/Northwestern University

*While our Moon is airless, research indicates the presence of hematite, a form of rust that normally requires oxygen and water. That has scientists puzzled.*

Mars has long been known for its rust. Iron on its surface, combined with water and oxygen from the ancient past, give the Red Planet its hue. But scientists were recently surprised to find evidence that our airless Moon has rust on it as well.

A new paper in Science Advances reviews data from the Indian Space Research Organization’s Chandrayaan-1 orbiter, which [discovered water ice](https://www.nasa.gov/feature/ames/ice-confirmed-at-the-moon-s-poles) and mapped out a variety of minerals while surveying the Moon’s surface in 2008. Lead author Shuai Li of the University of Hawaii has studied that water extensively in data from Chandrayaan-1’s Moon Mineralogy Mapper instrument, or M3, which was built by NASA’s Jet Propulsion Laboratory in Southern California. Water interacts with rock to produce a diversity of minerals, and M3 detected spectra – or light reflected off surfaces – that revealed the Moon’s poles had a very different composition than the rest of it.

[](https://www.nasa.gov/wp-content/uploads/2020/09/389081main_PIA12237_full.jpg)

The blue areas in this composite image from the Moon Mineralogy Mapper (M3) aboard the Indian Space Research Organization’s Chandrayaan-1 orbiter show water concentrated at the Moon’s poles. Homing in on the spectra of rocks there, researcher found signs of hematite, a form of rust.

Credits: ISRO/NASA/JPL-Caltech/Brown University/USGS

Intrigued, Li homed in on these polar spectra. While the Moon’s surface is littered with iron-rich rocks, he nevertheless was surprised to find a close match with the spectral signature of hematite. The mineral is a form of iron oxide, or rust, produced when iron is exposed to oxygen and water. But the Moon isn’t supposed to have oxygen or liquid water, so how can it be rusting?

**Metal Mystery**

The mystery starts with the solar wind, a stream of charged particles that flows out from the Sun, bombarding Earth and the Moon with hydrogen. Hydrogen makes it harder for hematite to form. It’s what is known as a reducer, meaning it adds electrons to the materials it interacts with. That’s the opposite of what is needed to make hematite: For iron to rust, it requires an oxidizer, which removes electrons. And while the Earth has a magnetic field shielding it from this hydrogen, the Moon does not.

“It’s very puzzling,” Li said. “The Moon is a terrible environment for hematite to form in.” So he turned to JPL scientists Abigail Fraeman and Vivian Sun to help poke at M3’s data and confirm his discovery of hematite.

“At first, I totally didn’t believe it. It shouldn’t exist based on the conditions present on the Moon,” Fraeman said. “But since we discovered water on the Moon, people have been speculating that there could be a greater variety of minerals than we realize if that water had reacted with rocks.”

After taking a close look, Fraeman and Sun became convinced M3’s data does indeed indicate the presence of hematite at the lunar poles. “In the end, the spectra were convincingly hematite-bearing, and there needed to be an explanation for why it’s on the Moon,” Sun said.

**Three Key Ingredients**

Their paper offers a three-pronged model to explain how rust might form in such an environment. For starters, while the Moon lacks an atmosphere, it is in fact home to trace amounts of oxygen. The source of that oxygen: our planet. Earth’s magnetic field [trails behind the planet like a windsock](https://www.nasa.gov/mission_pages/sunearth/multimedia/magnetosphere.html). In 2007, Japan’s Kaguya orbiter discovered that oxygen from Earth’s upper atmosphere can hitch a ride on this trailing magnetotail, as it’s officially known, traveling the 239,000 miles (385,00 kilometers) to the Moon.

That discovery fits with data from M3, which found more hematite on the Moon’s Earth-facing near side than on its far side. “This suggested that Earth’s oxygen could be driving the formation of hematite,” Li said. The Moon has been inching away from Earth for billions of years, so it’s also possible that more oxygen hopped across this rift when the two were closer in the ancient past.

Then there’s the matter of all that hydrogen being delivered by the solar wind. As a reducer, hydrogen should prevent oxidation from occurring. But Earth’s magnetotail has a mediating effect. Besides ferrying oxygen to the Moon from our home planet, it also blocks over 99% of the solar wind during certain periods of the Moon’s orbit (specifically, whenever it’s in the full Moon phase). That opens occasional windows during the lunar cycle when rust can form.

The third piece of the puzzle is water. While most of the Moon is bone dry, water ice can be found in shadowed lunar craters on the Moon’s far side. But the hematite was detected far from that ice. The paper instead focuses on water molecules found in the lunar surface. Li proposes that fast-moving dust particles that regularly [pelt the Moon](https://www.nasa.gov/ames/moon-engulfed-in-permanent-lopsided-dust-cloud/) could release these surface-borne water molecules, mixing them with iron in the lunar soil. Heat from these impacts could increase the oxidation rate; the dust particles themselves may also be carrying water molecules, implanting them into the surface so that they mix with iron. During just the right moments – namely, when the Moon is shielded from the solar wind and oxygen is present – a rust-inducing chemical reaction could occur.

More data is needed to determine exactly how the water is interacting with rock. That data could also help explain another mystery: why smaller quantities of hematite are also forming on the far side of the Moon, where the Earth’s oxygen shouldn’t be able to reach it.

**More Science to Come**

Fraeman said this model may also explain hematite found on other airless bodies like asteroids. “It could be that little bits of water and the impact of dust particles are allowing iron in these bodies to rust,” she said.

Li noted that it’s an exciting time for lunar science. Almost 50 years since the last Apollo landing, the Moon is a major destination again. NASA plans to send dozens of new instruments and technology experiments to study the Moon beginning next year, followed by human missions beginning in 2024 all as part of the [Artemis program](https://urldefense.us/v3/__http:/www.nasa.gov/artemis__;!!PvBDto6Hs4WbVuu7!cBmyRx48bGash_-nS3YRjG4J4xsX18PUnULADo_o-On0Nww_9AKGPTySm0UHRdz0Pg$).

JPL is also building a new version of M3 for an orbiter called Lunar Trailblazer. One of its instruments, the High-resolution Volatiles and Minerals Moon Mapper (HVM3), will be mapping water ice in permanently shadowed craters on the Moon, and may be able to reveal new details about hematite as well.

“I think these results indicate that there are more complex chemical processes happening in our solar system than have been previously recognized,” Sun said. “We can understand them better by sending future missions to the Moon to test these hypotheses.”

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