What are Mars Analogue Research Stations?

Dr Jonathan Clarke President Mars Society Australia

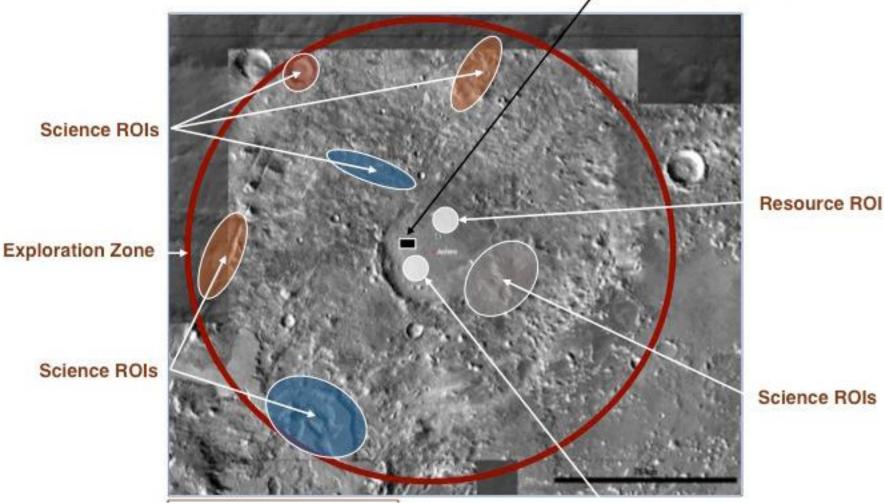




Mars surface mission parameters Crews of 4-8 500-sol surface stay Long range traverses (100s -1000s km) Multiple regions of interest (science and resource) Hundreds of well-documented sites visited Large scale sample return (100s kg)

Exploration Zone Layout Considerations

Mars Landing Site and Surface Field Station



ROI = Region of Interest

Resource ROI

What is analogue research?

- Terrestrial analogues enable us to use counterparts of features seen on other planets (e.g. Mars) to better understand them
 - Geology
 - Biology
 - Etc.
- Planetary analogue facilities help us better prepare for missions to them
 - Engineering
 - Architecture
 - Human aspects
- Planetary analogue habitats are field stations that provide a safe platform for integrated research into design and operational concepts of human exploration
- Should be distinguished from extrapolations from hostile environment expeditions, laboratory testing, analogue expeditions, and centre based research (also important)

Analogue field station - MDRS



Expeditions – Concordia station



Laboratory - Yuegong-1



Outstation – University of N Dakota



MDRS (Utah)

FMARS (Canada)



Desert Mars Analogue Ramon Station - Israel



DAMAS

MAN

March, 2019

HiSEAS – University of Hawaii







Mars base China - CNSA

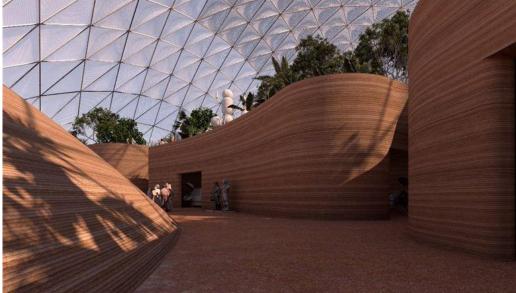
53,330 m2

Qaidam Basin



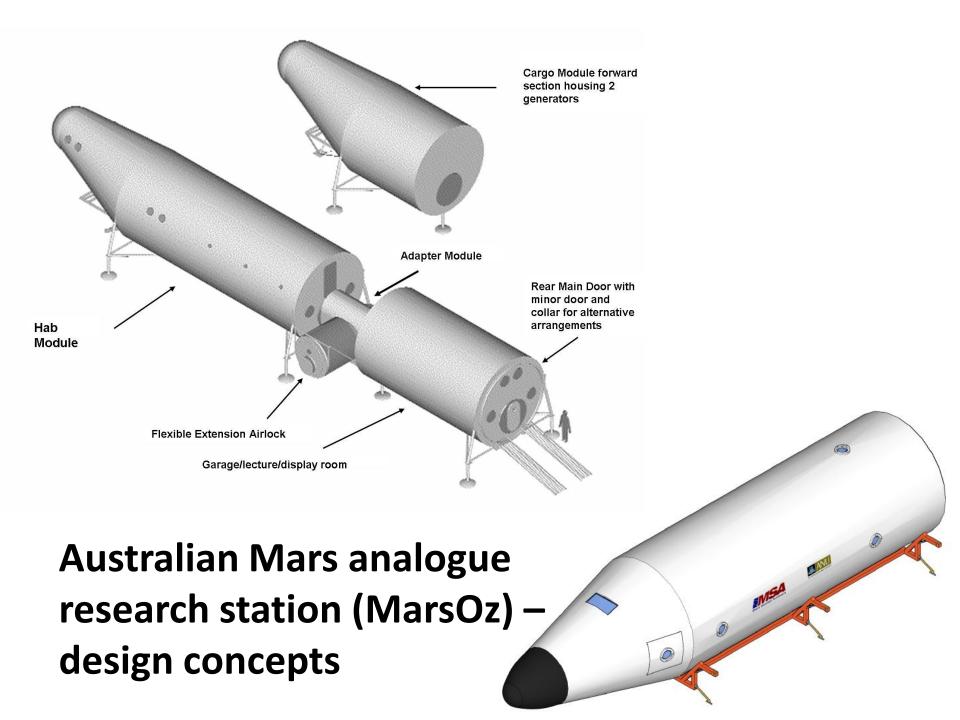
Mars Science City Dubai - UAE government





An Australian Planetary Research Station should....

- Be accessible for Australian researchers
- Be of international significance
- Be in an area that is a useful Mars analogue
- Offer unique capabilities compared to others
- Cheap to build, operate, and use
- Safe for students as well as professionals
- Accessible all year round and to all interested parties
- Have reliable support
- Sustain diverse research
- Be self sustaining



DISCUSSION

