

NASA/TM—2010–216445



Generation of Requirements for Simulant Measurements

D.L. Rickman

Marshall Space Flight Center, Marshall Space Flight Center, Alabama

C.M. Schrader, and J.E. Edmunson

BAE Systems, Huntsville, Alabama

September 2010

The NASA STI Program...in Profile

Since its founding, NASA has been dedicated to the advancement of aeronautics and space science. The NASA Scientific and Technical Information (STI) Program Office plays a key part in helping NASA maintain this important role.

The NASA STI Program Office is operated by Langley Research Center, the lead center for NASA's scientific and technical information. The NASA STI Program Office provides access to the NASA STI Database, the largest collection of aeronautical and space science STI in the world. The Program Office is also NASA's institutional mechanism for disseminating the results of its research and development activities. These results are published by NASA in the NASA STI Report Series, which includes the following report types:

- **TECHNICAL PUBLICATION.** Reports of completed research or a major significant phase of research that present the results of NASA programs and include extensive data or theoretical analysis. Includes compilations of significant scientific and technical data and information deemed to be of continuing reference value. NASA's counterpart of peer-reviewed formal professional papers but has less stringent limitations on manuscript length and extent of graphic presentations.
- **TECHNICAL MEMORANDUM.** Scientific and technical findings that are preliminary or of specialized interest, e.g., quick release reports, working papers, and bibliographies that contain minimal annotation. Does not contain extensive analysis.
- **CONTRACTOR REPORT.** Scientific and technical findings by NASA-sponsored contractors and grantees.
- **CONFERENCE PUBLICATION.** Collected papers from scientific and technical conferences, symposia, seminars, or other meetings sponsored or cosponsored by NASA.
- **SPECIAL PUBLICATION.** Scientific, technical, or historical information from NASA programs, projects, and mission, often concerned with subjects having substantial public interest.
- **TECHNICAL TRANSLATION.** English-language translations of foreign scientific and technical material pertinent to NASA's mission.

Specialized services that complement the STI Program Office's diverse offerings include creating custom thesauri, building customized databases, organizing and publishing research results...even providing videos.

For more information about the NASA STI Program Office, see the following:

- Access the NASA STI program home page at <<http://www.sti.nasa.gov>>
- E-mail your question via the Internet to <help@sti.nasa.gov>
- Fax your question to the NASA STI Help Desk at 443-757-5803
- Phone the NASA STI Help Desk at 443-757-5802
- Write to:
NASA STI Help Desk
NASA Center for AeroSpace Information
7115 Standard Drive
Hanover, MD 21076-1320

NASA/TM—2010–216445



Generation of Requirements for Simulant Measurements

D.L. Rickman

Marshall Space Flight Center, Marshall Space Flight Center, Alabama

C.M. Schrader, and J.E. Edmunson

BAE Systems, Huntsville, Alabama

National Aeronautics and
Space Administration

Marshall Space Flight Center • MSFC, Alabama 35812

September 2010

Available from:

NASA Center for AeroSpace Information
7115 Standard Drive
Hanover, MD 21076-1320
443-757-5802

This report is also available in electronic form at
<<https://www2.sti.nasa.gov>>

TABLE OF CONTENTS

1. INTRODUCTION	1
2. OBJECTIVES AND REQUIREMENTS	3
2.1 Requirement 1: Verify and Validate Simulant Performance Versus Lunar Regolith	3
2.2 Analysis One	3
2.3 Analysis Two	5
2.4 Assumptions	6
3. DETERMINATION OF MEASUREMENTS	9
3.1 Important Factors	11
3.2 Additional Considerations	15
4. SPECTROSCOPY	16
4.1 Addendum of May 30, 2010	16
REFERENCES	17

LIST OF FIGURES

1.	Model of the mineral gypsum ($\text{CaSO}_4 \cdot 2\text{H}_2\text{O}$)	10
----	---	----

LIST OF TABLES

1.	NASA simulant objectives	3
2.	Design considerations for measurements	4
3.	Average proportion of particles in lunar highlands regolith from Apollo 16 core 64001/64002	9

LIST OF ACRONYMS

ASTM	American Society for Testing and Materials
$\text{CaSO}_4 \cdot 2\text{H}_2\text{O}$	gypsum
EM	electromagnetic
FoM	figure of merit
Mg_2SiO_4	forsterite

TECHNICAL MEMORANDUM

GENERATION OF REQUIREMENTS FOR SIMULANT MEASUREMENTS

1. INTRODUCTION

This Technical Memorandum (TM) presents a formal, logical explanation of the parameters selected for the figure of merit (FoM) algorithm. The FoM algorithm is used to evaluate lunar regolith simulant. The objectives, requirements, assumptions, and analysis behind the parameters are provided in this TM.

2. OBJECTIVES AND REQUIREMENTS

An analysis of NASA objectives for lunar regolith simulants was used to establish the FoM evaluation criteria. The FoM criteria are a series of measurements. These measurements compare quantitatively to a sample of regolith and a sample of simulant. This TM provides a historical view of why the measurements in the FoM criteria were selected, why others were not selected, and the consequences of the selection to specific problems of interest for engineering applications. Table 1 identifies the current simulant objectives that NASA has determined.

Table 1. NASA simulant objectives.

Objective No.	Objective
1	Reproduce characteristics of lunar regolith using simulants.
2	Produce simulants as cheaply as possible.
3	Produce simulants in the amount needed.
4	Produce simulants to meet users' schedules.

This TM only deals with the first NASA simulant objective; that is, to reproduce characteristics of lunar regolith using simulants. Thus, requirement 1 is yielded.

2.1 Requirement 1: Verify and Validate Simulant Performance Versus Lunar Regolith

Analysis of this requirement implied a direct comparison of measurements taken on lunar regolith and measurements on simulant. Simplicity and a desire for high confidence strongly recommended that the same measurements be taken on regolith and simulant. This approach was adopted in the following specification:

- Specification 1: Requirement 1 shall be satisfied by comparison of measurements taken the same way on both regolith and simulants.

2.2 Analysis One

It should be noted that using identical measurements on regolith and simulant is not a necessity. This is a design choice and, as such, is subject to trade analysis. Permitting the use of nonidentical measurements permits greater flexibility. As an example, Apollo program Surveyor scoop measurements might be used to provide a lunar geotechnical value; however, a different method must be used to evaluate the same value with lunar regolith simulant. Scientifically, this is a common technique that allows one to take advantage of all the available data in a data-poor situation.

A primary difficulty with this approach is that one needs to have a high degree of confidence that the two different measurements are functionally equivalent within the tolerance of the application.

To meet the stated objectives is a very difficult constraint. The regolith is not a material with which we have a lot of engineering experience, and the abundant scientific measurements are focused on features that are not perfectly translatable to engineering needs. Defending or understanding the equivalence of two different measurements can be difficult, especially for the nonexpert.

Further, there is a general paucity of geotechnical and engineering measurements on the regolith, especially for measurements taken on the Moon. The amount of published data pertaining to geology dwarfs the geotechnical and engineering data.

Finally, there is no single sample for which all or even a majority of the desired measurements were obtained. This is a major consideration. Even the most casual survey of the lunar literature shows the regolith varies rapidly and substantially as one moves from any given point.

It is a truism that the concept of “average” is useful, but what is processed is always a specific sample. It can be useful to test with average material, but exclusively doing so for an innovative design placed in a high-risk environment is probably not prudent. However, if there is no single sample of the regolith that was measured for all the properties, some concept of average or typical is all that can be used. It was thus concluded that using different measurement techniques on regolith and on simulants was an inherently risky option.

2.2.1 Basic Data

Having stated the requirement, examined the conceptual options, and selected an approach, there are many technical points to be considered. Table 2 identifies the design considerations for measurements.

Table 2. Design considerations for measurements.

Consideration		Design Consideration Description
A	The individual measurements must be:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Agreed on. ii. Practical to make on both simulant and regolith. iii. Reproducible. iv. Of properties that process controls can affect consistently. v. Functionally or physically meaningful. vi. Taken in a uniform, standardized manner.
	B	Measurements should be as few as technically defensible.
	C	The phenomena measured should be independent.
	D	The phenomena measured should have maximal explanatory power.

It is desirable for the measurements and underlying phenomena to have intuitive meaning and direct applicability to the users' needs, but this is a design choice and not a demand of the requirement. There is no requirement to provide measurements that match user needs or desires based on their individual backgrounds or training.

2.3 Analysis Two

Analysis of the above, known engineering needs and existing knowledge of the lunar regolith provides the following points:

- Unless they were measured during Apollo, many of the measurements of interest cannot be known with precision for lunar materials, as they would have to be measured in situ. This is obviously true for phenomena that are sensitive to precise interactions between aggregates of particles in situ, such as bearing strength. While some data for bearing strength exists from Apollo, to state that the bearing strength of any given regolith is known sufficiently to verify and validate a simulant's performance is unreasonable.
- Any single parameter can be measured in many ways and the method of measurement strongly affects the values determined. Often the correspondence between two methods of measurement is poor.
- Selecting which method of measurement is used is often contentious because each user will make many specific measurements in a specialized way. Simulants will be needed for more than a decade and will be measured by numerous groups with updated equipment.
- Estimates of the volumes of simulant that will be needed are at best speculative, and production of additional simulant will require repeated precise measurements.
- Critical measurements should not be limited to a single person or piece of equipment.
- There is a cost, often very substantial, to making a measurement. A conservative estimate of the number of measurements will have to be made.
- The average particle size of the lunar regolith is approximately 50 μm (50 microns).
- The average grain size is substantially smaller than the average particle size.
- The regolith has substantial and functionally significant variations on almost any spatial scale of relevance to engineering.
- There is no standard method for comparison of two mixtures of particulates when the composition, sizes, and shapes of the particles can all vary simultaneously.
- The materials of interest, regolith and simulants, are geological products. They are not engineered products.
- The body of knowledge that describes the materials of interest is geology.

2.4 Assumptions

A statement of two explicit assumptions made is necessary in addition to the given objectives, derived requirement, stated design considerations, and compiled salient facts.

2.4.1 First Assumption

The behavior of the regolith is not uniquely a function of being on the Moon. We are assuming that there is nothing about being on the Moon that changes the physics of materials in manners unknown on Earth. In simple terms, physics is physics.

2.4.2 Second Assumption

Conceptually, one can find two divergent approaches to measurement standards. One is based on a systematic language and requires a framework of integrated concepts, and the other approach is ad hoc.

Familiar examples of the first approach are standards related to the load-bearing capacity of structural components. These standards use a common terminology taught in basic physics and depend on the formal concepts of science. It should be further noted that using such measurements frequently requires use of the formal concepts (e.g., bending resistance of a steel beam).

In the ad hoc approach, a test is created that relates to a property of interest, but the measurement protocols and results cannot be immediately tied to anything else. An example of this approach used in soil engineering is the Atterberg limit codified in American Society for Testing Materials (ASTM) D4943-08 “Standard Test Method for Shrinkage Factors of Soils by the Wax Method.” While very useful in practical applications, it is highly problematic to relate numbers obtained under ASTM D4943-08 to other parameters except by making organized suites of measurements and seeking correlations. First principles are not needed to express or use these measurements.

Both systematic and ad hoc methods are commonly used in measurement standards. There are benefits and problems with each approach. The systematic approach has the advantage of explicit ties to basic concepts; such measurements can say something fundamental. It has a disadvantage in that some knowledge of the basic concepts is needed to use or understand the measurements. The ad hoc approach has the advantage of directly addressing a specific need. The major disadvantage to the ad hoc method is that it is almost useless where broad application in different fields is needed.

There is no common framework of basic concepts to guide and inform different uses. An ad hoc approach is commonly used within highly specialized and tightly restricted applications; understanding their limitations and their utility frequently depends on considerable technical knowledge. Further, it is common that specialized applications in a field will develop multiple versions of the same ad hoc “standard” measurement to suit specific types of problems. It is impractical to rigorously relate the results of one “standard” measurement to another “standard” measurement.

Simulants will be needed by a broad range of users with diverse technical backgrounds who will be using the simulants in unrelated ways. Questions about load-bearing capacity are quite different from questions of air filtration, water filtration, high-temperature melting, or movement induced by rocket plume exhaust; yet, all are dealing with the same regolith. It was therefore assumed that, in this case, an organized approach to measurement standards was overwhelmingly superior and probably the only tractable approach. The number of desired ad hoc measurements is almost certainly beyond any reasonable budget.

Therefore, a set of measurements was sought that would be based on a systematic language and a framework of integrated concepts. Because the lunar regolith is a geologic material made from broken and melted rock, it was concluded that the source of the most rigorous vocabulary and conceptual framework for this purpose was from the field of geology.

3. DETERMINATION OF MEASUREMENTS

Most people will agree that what the regolith or simulants are made of has bearing on many of the properties of engineering interest. Geologically, the lunar regolith is broken and melted (glass) rock. The individual particles of the regolith are a variable mixture of pieces of rock, pieces of minerals, and pieces of glass (see table 3 for representative particle compositions of lunar highlands regolith). Rocks, of the type relevant to the Moon, are various combinations of minerals and glasses. Glass is a brittle solid that does not show atomic ordering on a scale sufficient to diffract x rays. In theory, its composition can be almost anything, but the lunar glasses are dominantly silicate based because the dominant source materials for the glasses are silicate minerals. To a geologist, lunar rocks are defined in a context of mineralogy.

Table 3. Average proportion of particles in lunar highlands regolith from Apollo 16 core 64001/64002.

Sample 64001/64002 Particle Type	%
Monomineralic particles	23.5
Plagioclase	21.5
Pyroxene	1.7
Olivine	0.2
Opaque (oxides and sulfides)	0.1
Crystalline lithics	0.7
Breccia fragments	27.9
Agglutinates	40.0
Glass	7.8
Total	100.0

Note: Data are summarized and averaged from references 3 and 4.

Mineralogy, of course, is the study of minerals. According to the Glossary of Geology,¹ a mineral is a naturally occurring chemical element or compound having a definite chemical composition and usually a characteristic crystal form. One of the subsidiary statements in the definition of mineral is “A naturally occurring, usually inorganic, crystalline substance with characteristic physical and chemical properties that are due to its atomic arrangement.”¹ What does this definition mean to an engineer?

First, the natural world does not assemble atoms in geologic solids at random. There is almost always order on very large scales involving $\gg 10^9$ atoms per discrete entity (grain, particle, crystal, etc.). Only certain orders or patterns occur naturally. On Earth, $< 5,000$ such patterns (i.e., minerals) are known, and most of those are extremely rare. Known patterns from the Moon are less than a few hundred.² When one examines a pattern (i.e., mineral), one finds the atoms are assembled into an extremely consistent spatial pattern termed a unit cell. The unit cell is repeated

in three dimensions to form a lattice (fig. 1). Within a given lattice, an element can only occupy specific positions. This in turn limits the ratios of the elements within a mineral. For example, the mineral forsterite (Mg_2SiO_4) must have one silicon atom for every two magnesium atoms and four oxygen atoms. Thus, it is the presence of specific minerals in the lunar regolith that restricts its composition. In addition, the elements are going to be locked together in a restricted number of ways.

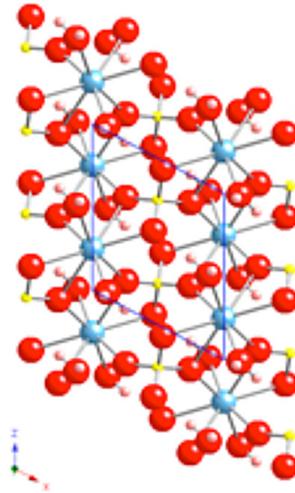


Figure 1. Model of the mineral gypsum ($CaSO_4 \cdot 2H_2O$).

Noted in the subsidiary statement to the definition of a mineral is the fact that a mineral will have characteristic properties (i.e., specific, physical and chemical properties). Thus, a forsterite crystal from the Moon must have the same hardness, magnetic susceptibility, dielectric constant, chemistry, strength, melting point, or any additional property of a forsterite crystal from Earth. This is a very tight constraint on the engineering performance of both regolith and simulants.

To the extent lunar regolith is made of minerals and the minerals control the performance of the regolith, simulant with the same mineralogy will replicate the behavior of the regolith.

This constraint raised the following two questions:

- (1) To what extent is the regolith made of minerals?
- (2) To what extent do minerals solely control the performance of the regolith?

The first question has been answered by numerous studies of regolith samples obtained by Apollo astronauts (table 3).^{3,4} The regolith is effectively a mixture of glasses and minerals. Therefore, mineralogy strongly constrains the performance of regolith and simulants. It was also realized during these studies that the number of minerals on the Moon compared to Earth is actually small, and that fewer than 20 minerals could describe >99% of the regolith. Further, most of the 20 minerals are common terrestrial minerals.

Due to the fact that the word mineral does not adequately describe the constituents of the lunar regolith, the word particle is used. A particle is hereby defined as a solid entity that, in concept, could be separated from other particles without breaking chemical bonds, either surface to surface or lattice. A grain is a physically distinct subset of a particle, typically crystalline.

The second question was initially very difficult. Any answer would require knowledge of all the ways the simulant might be used and all the interactions of the simulant with the equipment; this was functionally impossible. One approach to addressing this problem was to ask experts to recommend what properties might be common to many needs and sufficient to permit adequate testing of components and systems bound for the Moon. This was done in a workshop held in Huntsville in January, 2005.⁵ At the workshop, an effort was made to tabulate properties needed to understand engineering interactions with the regolith. The result was a list of 31 properties, too long to be economically practical. Further, many of the implied measurements violated one or more items in table 2.

3.1 Important Factors

An observation was made upon examination of the list from the 2005 workshop. If one understands what controls many of the properties of interest in addition to mineralogy, only a few factors are important. Nine factors were informally titled as follows:

- (1) Minerals.
- (2) Glass.
- (3) Rocks.
- (4) Aggregations of disparate materials in single particles.
- (5) Mechanical structures within a grain or particle.
- (6) Relationships between grains.
- (7) The size of the particles.
- (8) The shapes of the particles.
- (9) How the particles are packed together.

A critical realization was made at this stage. Due to complexity, when dealing with mixtures of particles, practical treatments of behavior may be forced to deal with measurements of the collection, but their theoretical understanding is very commonly, if not always, founded in the behaviors of individual particles. There is commonly an implicit assumption that if the particles could be understood, the property of interest would be deterministic. By corollary, if the particles were reproduced exactly, the observed behavior would be reproduced exactly.

It was also noted that factors one through four concern particle composition. Factors five through eight are geometric attributes of individual grains or particles. Factor nine addresses an emergent property that arises from collections of particles.

3.1.1 Background Factors

Mineralogy has already been discussed; however, there are subtleties that have not been discussed such as the mineralogy of solid solutions, the distribution of trace elements, and lattice strains due to mechanical and chemical phenomena. The logic used to select a subset of the lunar minerals has not been discussed, but these are clearly secondary or tertiary to a statement that mineralogy is a powerful tool in reproducing lunar regolith.

Background knowledge of each of the other factors is also necessary in order to understand the applicability and limitations of the above corollary.

Glass is of major importance; it can be more than 50% of the total mass of the regolith. In theory it could be made from anything found on the Moon, but it typically has a restricted compositional range. It is produced by only two methods, meteor impacts and volcanism. Therefore, most of the glass will typically have a relatively narrow range of mechanical and chemical properties, especially compared to the minerals. The conclusion was reached that it would be sufficient to measure the abundance of glass to characterize the simulant. As long as the glass composition was roughly similar to that of the rest of the simulant, detailed glass chemistry was not needed.

Rocks are simple collections of grains. The grains can be all one mineral or combinations of minerals. Rocks can also incorporate glasses. Many of the particles in the regolith are fragments of rocks. Rocks do not behave the same way as particles made up of single minerals or glass. The differences are reasonably well understood and are often due to the type of rock. It was therefore reasonable to incorporate a measure of the abundance of rocks by specific type. This was a simplifying assumption and, to a limited extent, helped deal with the next two points.

Aggregations of materials in a single particle, such as those found in the lunar regolith, are very difficult to replicate. For this work, rock could be considered a special case of such particles; however, it is very simple geologically to treat rocks as discrete constituents of the regolith. Therefore, it was decided to restrict consideration of aggregations to the subset of particles in the regolith for which there is no natural, terrestrial analog.

The most well known aggregations on the lunar surface are agglutinates. These are aggregate particles composed of particles welded together by spatter glass. The glass of agglutinates contains spheres or globules of metallic iron that are frequently ≈ 30 nm in diameter. Agglutinates can comprise up to 60% of selected regolith. Many regolith particles also have rims composed of glass layers a few nanometers thick; these contain small globules of metallic iron. It is presumed that the rims are directly deposited from the vapor phase. The abundance of these rims in lunar regolith is currently unknown.

Agglutinates and the vapor deposited rims would certainly have impacts on engineering performance. Unfortunately, there was no language to quantitatively describe them or any standard methods to measure them. This makes it very difficult to have quantitative measures, which are necessary if one is to satisfy requirement 1. There was also no mechanical or chemical data on the behavior of lunar agglutinates.

Finally, no one was attempting to reproduce the vapor deposited rims, which were very poorly characterized and difficult to study. The decision was made that agglutinates had to be accounted for in some way and the rims could, at least initially, be ignored. How to define, characterize, and count agglutinates was a problem delayed for further consideration.

The first four of the nine factors (i.e., mineralogy, glass, rocks, and aggregations) define what the particles are made of; in other words, the particle's composition. In a geologic sense, the only things known in the regolith that fall outside these four are the vapor deposited rims.

3.1.1.1 Mechanical Structures. The mechanical structures within a grain or particle include things like lamellae (alternating crystals of two related compositions that often appear as stripes) and disruptions of the original grain (such as broken grains). There is no standardized way to express these features, no accepted way to measure these features, and no data on how common these features are. No data exist to describe how these features affect anything. Reason suggests these features will have some bearing on the strength of individual particles; however, if the particles mechanically fail, they can then be treated as discrete particles. It was therefore decided that this feature would have to be ignored for measurements, but a caveat would be associated with them. At present, it was assumed that this could be a substantial problem or limitation only when considering particles bigger than ≈ 1 cm.

A similar situation exists for relationships between grains within a particle. There are attempts in various literatures to deal with this consideration; however, there is no standardization, and the affects of grain-to-grain relationships can be very complex. As with features within a grain, it was therefore decided that this feature would have to be ignored for measurements, but a caveat would be associated with them. It was anticipated that this would be a substantial problem or limitation when considering techniques to beneficiate the regolith, where grain-to-grain relationships are extremely important. There are other possible situations where grain-to-grain relationships are important, but the judgment was made that the engineering sophistication necessary for such things was well in the future for lunar applications.

If something cannot be measured in a standardized way, there is no standard language to describe it, and its impact is likely to be relatively minor compared to other things, prudent management of resources and time suggests ignoring the effect, at least initially. Thus, the effects of mechanical structures within grains and particles and the relationships between particles would not be considered in the first generation of standard measurements.

3.1.1.2 Particle Size. Particle size is intellectually an easy concept; however, definition is quite difficult. It becomes a question of how size is measured. A cursory examination of literature about the regolith showed the following:

- The size range of particles does not show discrete limits, which is not analogous to terrestrial geologic materials.
- The particle size range in samples easily goes from multimeter to submicron, which is five orders of magnitude.

- There are at least 10 discrete minerals, rocks, and agglutinates that are substantial constituents of the regolith.
- Except by hand, there are no practical technologies to measure an individual particle's size along with any other property.

Consideration of the number of measurements needed to characterize a size distribution given the number of constituents led to the conclusion that at least 105 discrete values would be needed for each sample of regolith or simulant evaluated. It was therefore decided that knowledge of each individual particle's size, along with its composition, was not practical; however, the distribution of sizes could be obtained for the regolith or simulant as a whole. It would be necessary, at least initially, to assume the size distribution for the whole would be representative of the size distribution of each constituent.

It should be noted that the assumption of identical size distributions was not necessary for the FoM software. It is relatively straightforward to write the code such that when component specific size data becomes available it will transparently override the assumption of a common size distribution.

A question was asked about the significance and likely impact of the assumption of identical size distribution of each constituent. There is no clear way to quantitatively evaluate this. There is data that suggested some variation in composition with size; however, the differences are not major and informed judgment suggests they are not large enough, compared to other factors, to merit concern at the beginning.

The assumption of uniformity in shape is also used because shape is an easy concept that is hard to measure. Useful values require thousands of measurements, and measurements of an individual particle cannot be linked to the particle's composition.

3.1.1.3 Interaction of Multiple Particles. Each point discussed above deals with individual particles. However, there are many phenomena of interest to engineers that involve how multiple particles interact (e.g., shear strength). Is it necessary to know the size, shape, composition, and spatial orientation of each particle to understand the behavior of the bulk?

In almost all, if not all cases, it is not necessary if two assumptions can be made: (1) Random and (2) uniform distributions. In other words, are there biases in size, shape, composition, or orientation that are functions of spatial location? There is little data on the regolith showing preferential orientation of particles,⁶ and there is no data showing broad scale sorting of size or shape. Visual inspection of the regolith shows no apparent preferences. Compared to Earth, this is extremely unusual. There is spatial variation in composition. The mare are clearly different compared to the highlands. The surface commonly has more agglutinates. In contrast, within a single Apollo sample, there appears relatively little ordering of composition, at least compared to terrestrial materials. Therefore, it is likely that an assumption of uniform, internal randomness to each sample is not unreasonable.

Having established that randomness and uniform distributions are reasonable assumptions, what measure or measures are needed to characterize the relationships between particles? Packing density is the only measure needed to characterize the relationships between particles. If the specific gravities of the constituents are known, the size and shape distributions are known and the particles are randomly and uniformly distributed. The only variable left is the tightness of packing of the particles.

3.1.1.4 Considerations Not Covered by This Approach. At this point, the objectives and consequent requirement have directed attention to basically four parameters: composition, size distribution, shape distribution, and density. The numerous assumptions made are known to be robust and are based on available data, common practice, and fundamental understandings.

There are things clearly not explicitly covered by this approach. For example, magnetism is not well handled and is very problematic to reproduce. Nonetheless, magnetism is important and how well it is described depends on what causes the magnetism. If it is derived from specific minerals, it is likely to be well described. If it is due to the agglutinates, it is likely to be well described. If it is due to something else, it is not likely to be well described.

Another thing, not recognized as important at the time, is spectral properties: reflectance, transmittance, and emission. For this, there is substantial data on the lunar materials. As with magnetism, how well it is handled depends on what causes it. If it is dominated by agglutinates and other elements of composition, it is likely to be handled well. Otherwise, it will not be handled well.

3.2 Additional Considerations

Some final notes are in order as follows:

- There are things in terrestrial materials that are not present in studied lunar regolith (e.g., hydrous alteration phases). Simulant producers and users must be aware of this fact and must consider it during analysis. The impacts of these differences are as varied as the differences themselves.
- Even though the numbers of parameters to be measured are very few and quite simple, there are serious technical hurdles to getting the measurements. Commonly, these problems derive from the extremely fine average particle size of the regolith. It is daunting to consider how hard it would be to make even more specialized measurements when common, ordinary measurements are so difficult.
- The reduction to just four basic parameters must be recognized as just a way station, sufficient to start. The parameters selected are clearly able to robustly constrain the performance of simulant with respect to regolith, though they do not permit prediction of behavior.

4. SPECTROSCOPY

4.1 Addendum of May 30, 2010

In the spring of 2010, the impact of the lunar regolith's reflectance, absorption, transmittance, and emission of electromagnetic (EM) radiation was identified as a significant consideration for thermal system design.

As stated in table 2, there are several considerations any measurement proposed for an FoM should meet. Definitions of the relevant measures are well understood in the remote sensing communities. Appropriate and necessary measurements can be obtained for both the Moon and the simulants. Existing process controls clearly are sufficient to obtain reproducible spectral behavior. The existing simulants vary substantially in their albedos. This variation is stated to be highly significant for design purposes.

Spectral measurements, while subtly difficult, are commonly done in a highly reproducible manner with good comparability between labs. The number of measurements required could be as low as one and is not likely to exceed three. One or more of the other parameters do not obviously and definitively control the variation in albedo.

Spectroscopy is one of the most powerful tools in modern science. It is used in virtually every field because the data are extremely informative. Spectroscopy, in the general sense, clearly satisfies the considerations for inclusion. With future development, an FoM will probably need to be defined for spectroscopy.

REFERENCES

1. Gary, M.; McAfee, R., Jr.; and Wolf, C.L.; (eds.): *Glossary of Geology*, American Geological Institute, Falls Church, VA, 805 p, 1974.
2. Frondel, J.W.: *Lunar Mineralogy*, Harvard University Press, Cambridge, MA, 323 p, 1975.
3. Basu, A; and McKay, D.S.: “Petrologic Profile of Apollo 16 Regolith at Station 4,” Proceedings of the 15th Lunar and Planetary Science Conference, Part 1, *J. of Geophys. Res.*, Vol. 89, Sup., pp. C133–C142, 1984.
4. Houck, K.J.: “Modal Petrology of Six Soils From Apollo 16 Double Drive Tube 64002,” Proceedings of the 13th Lunar and Planetary Science Conference, Part 1, *J. of Geophys. Res.*, Vol. 87, Sup., pp. A210–A220, 1982.
5. Sibille, L.; Carpenter, P.; Schlagheck, R.; and French, R.A.: “Lunar Regolith Simulant Materials: Recommendations for Standardization, Production, and Usage,” *NASA/TP—2006–214605*, p. 118, 2006.
6. Mahmood, A.; Mitchell, J.K.; and Carrier, W.D., III: “Grain Orientation in Lunar Soil,” Proceedings of the 5th Lunar Science Conference, *Geochimica et Cosmochimica Acta*, Vol. 3, Sup. 5, pp. 2347–2354, 1974.

REPORT DOCUMENTATION PAGE			Form Approved OMB No. 0704-0188		
<p>The public reporting burden for this collection of information is estimated to average 1 hour per response, including the time for reviewing instructions, searching existing data sources, gathering and maintaining the data needed, and completing and reviewing the collection of information. Send comments regarding this burden estimate or any other aspect of this collection of information, including suggestions for reducing this burden, to Department of Defense, Washington Headquarters Services, Directorate for Information Operation and Reports (0704-0188), 1215 Jefferson Davis Highway, Suite 1204, Arlington, VA 22202-4302. Respondents should be aware that notwithstanding any other provision of law, no person shall be subject to any penalty for failing to comply with a collection of information if it does not display a currently valid OMB control number.</p> <p>PLEASE DO NOT RETURN YOUR FORM TO THE ABOVE ADDRESS.</p>					
1. REPORT DATE (DD-MM-YYYY) 01-09-2010		2. REPORT TYPE Technical Memorandum		3. DATES COVERED (From - To)	
4. TITLE AND SUBTITLE Generation of Requirements for Simulant Measurements			5a. CONTRACT NUMBER		
			5b. GRANT NUMBER		
			5c. PROGRAM ELEMENT NUMBER		
6. AUTHOR(S) D.L. Rickman, C.M. Schrader,* and J.E. Edmunson*			5d. PROJECT NUMBER		
			5e. TASK NUMBER		
			5f. WORK UNIT NUMBER		
7. PERFORMING ORGANIZATION NAME(S) AND ADDRESS(ES) George C. Marshall Space Flight Center Marshall Space Flight Center, AL 35812			8. PERFORMING ORGANIZATION REPORT NUMBER M-1234		
9. SPONSORING/MONITORING AGENCY NAME(S) AND ADDRESS(ES) National Aeronautics and Space Administration Washington, DC 20546-0001			10. SPONSORING/MONITOR'S ACRONYM(S) NASA		
			11. SPONSORING/MONITORING REPORT NUMBER NASA/TM-2010-216445		
12. DISTRIBUTION/AVAILABILITY STATEMENT Unclassified-Unlimited Subject Category 91 Availability: NASA CASI (443-757-5802)					
13. SUPPLEMENTARY NOTES Prepared by the Earth Sciences Office * BAE Systems, Huntsville, Alabama					
14. ABSTRACT This TM presents a formal, logical explanation of the parameters selected for the figure of merit (FoM) algorithm. The FoM algorithm is used to evaluate lunar regolith simulant. The objectives, requirements, assumptions, and analysis behind the parameters are provided. A requirement is derived to verify and validate simulant performance versus lunar regolith from NASA's objectives for lunar simulants. This requirement leads to a specification that comparative measurements be taken the same way on the regolith and the simulant. In turn, this leads to a set of nine criteria with which to evaluate comparative measurements. Many of the potential measurements of interest are not defensible under these criteria. For example, many geotechnical properties of interest were not explicitly measured during Apollo and they can only be measured in situ on the Moon. A 2005 workshop identified 32 properties of major interest to users. Virtually all of the properties are tightly constrained, though not predictable, if just four parameters are controlled. Three parameters (composition, size, and shape) are recognized as being definable at the particle level. The fourth parameter (density) is a bulk property. In recent work, a fifth parameter (spectroscopy) has been identified, which will need to be added to future releases of the FoM.					
15. SUBJECT TERMS lunar simulant, figure of merit, requirements					
16. SECURITY CLASSIFICATION OF:			17. LIMITATION OF ABSTRACT	18. NUMBER OF PAGES	19a. NAME OF RESPONSIBLE PERSON
a. REPORT	b. ABSTRACT	c. THIS PAGE			STI Help Desk at email: help@sti.nasa.gov
U	U	U	UU	24	19b. TELEPHONE NUMBER (Include area code) STI Help Desk at: 443-757-5802

National Aeronautics and

Space Administration

IS20

George C. Marshall Space Flight Center

Marshall Space Flight Center, Alabama

35812