

Spectacular Pluto!

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- After a successful flyby of Pluto and its 5 moons, New Horizons is starting to send back the encounter data
- Pluto has 3 type of snows: Nitrogen, methane, and carbon monoxide
 - North polar cap snow is primarily made up of methane ice
 - Mid-latitudes snow forms a heart shaped feature
- High resolution images of the surface at the edge of the heart feature indicate a very young (>100 million years) surface with significantly fewer craters than expected indicating Pluto has been recently “active”
- The lower image shows several icy mountain features that are ~11,000 feet tall – nearly the size of Mt. Mauna Kea in Hawaii
- These results are only from a fraction of the data so far received

