Friday, Nov. 21

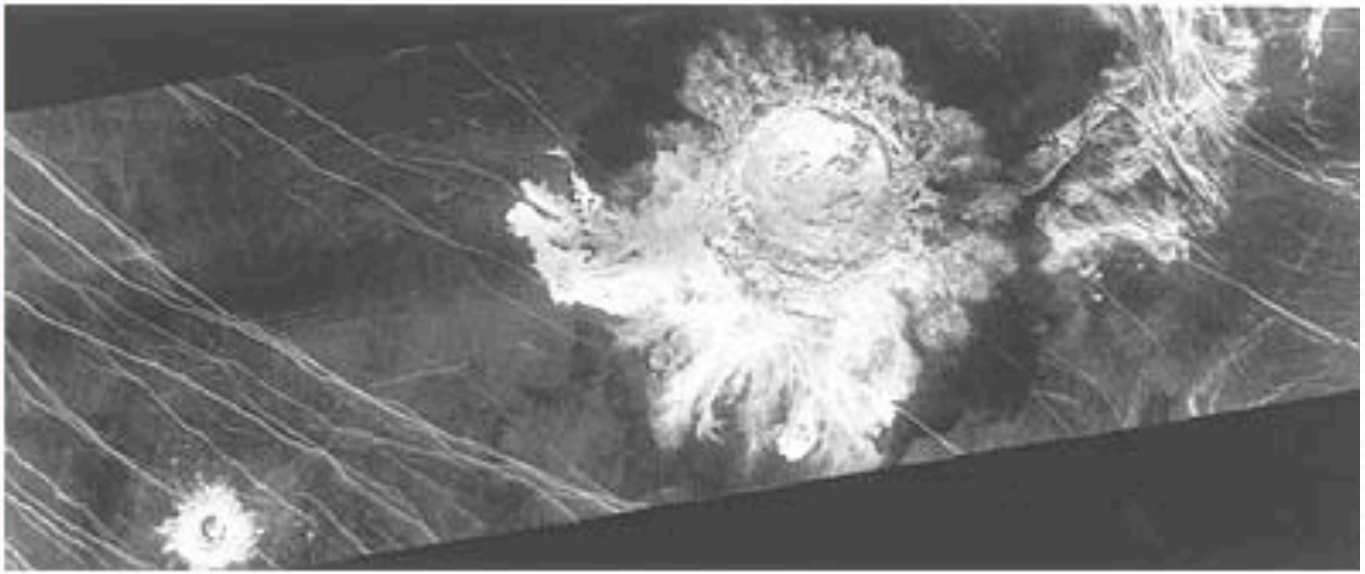
Syllabus, class notes, and homeworks are at:
www.as.utexas.edu → courses → AST 301, Lacy

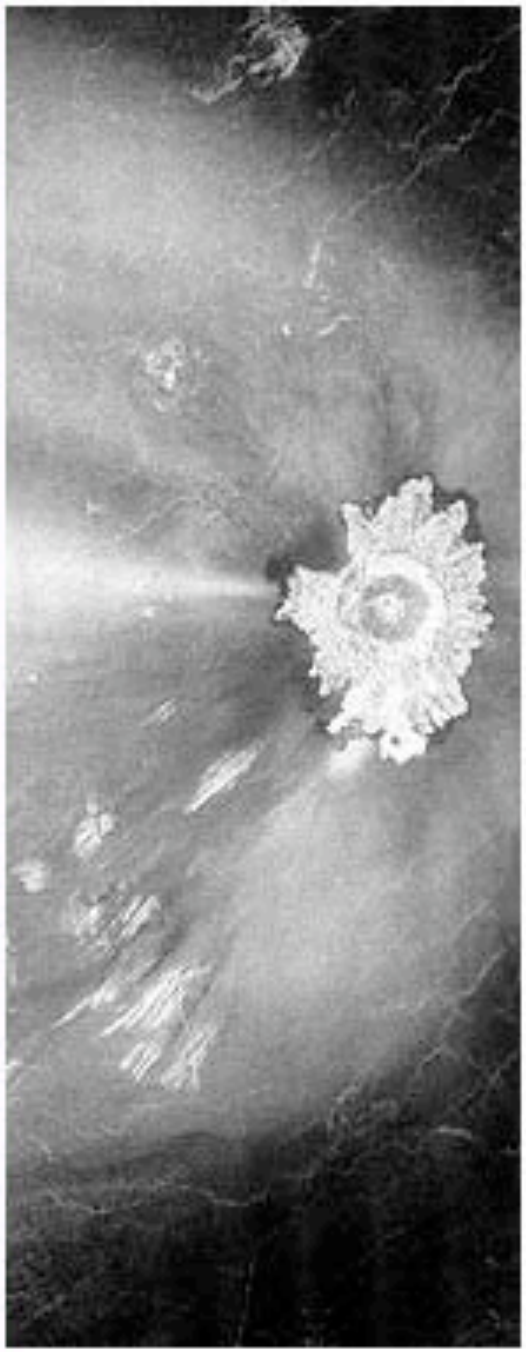
Reading for this week: chapter 16

We'll go back to the old help session time and place this week: Wednesday at 5:00 in GRG 424

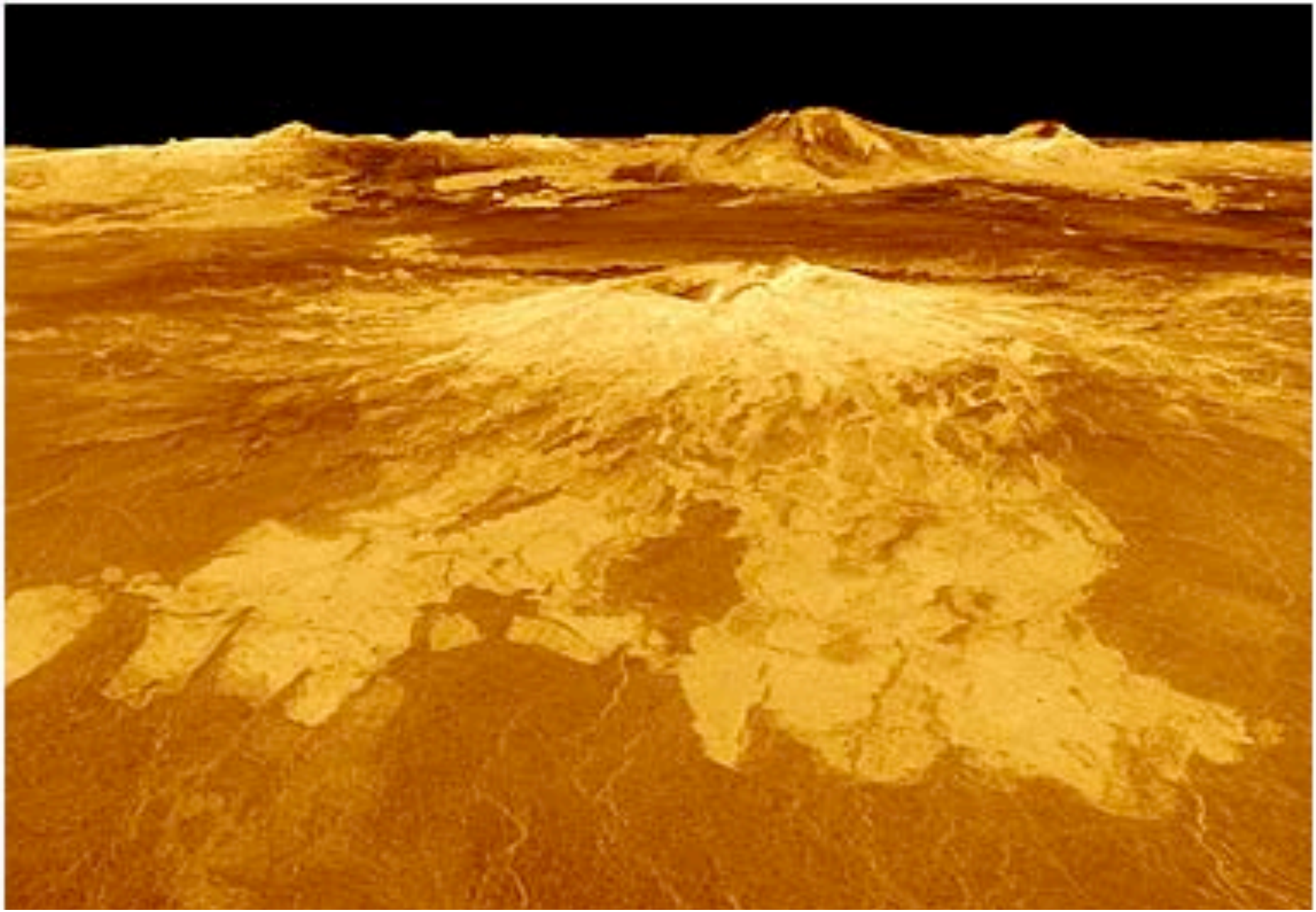
Today: Surface features on Venus and Mars

Impact craters

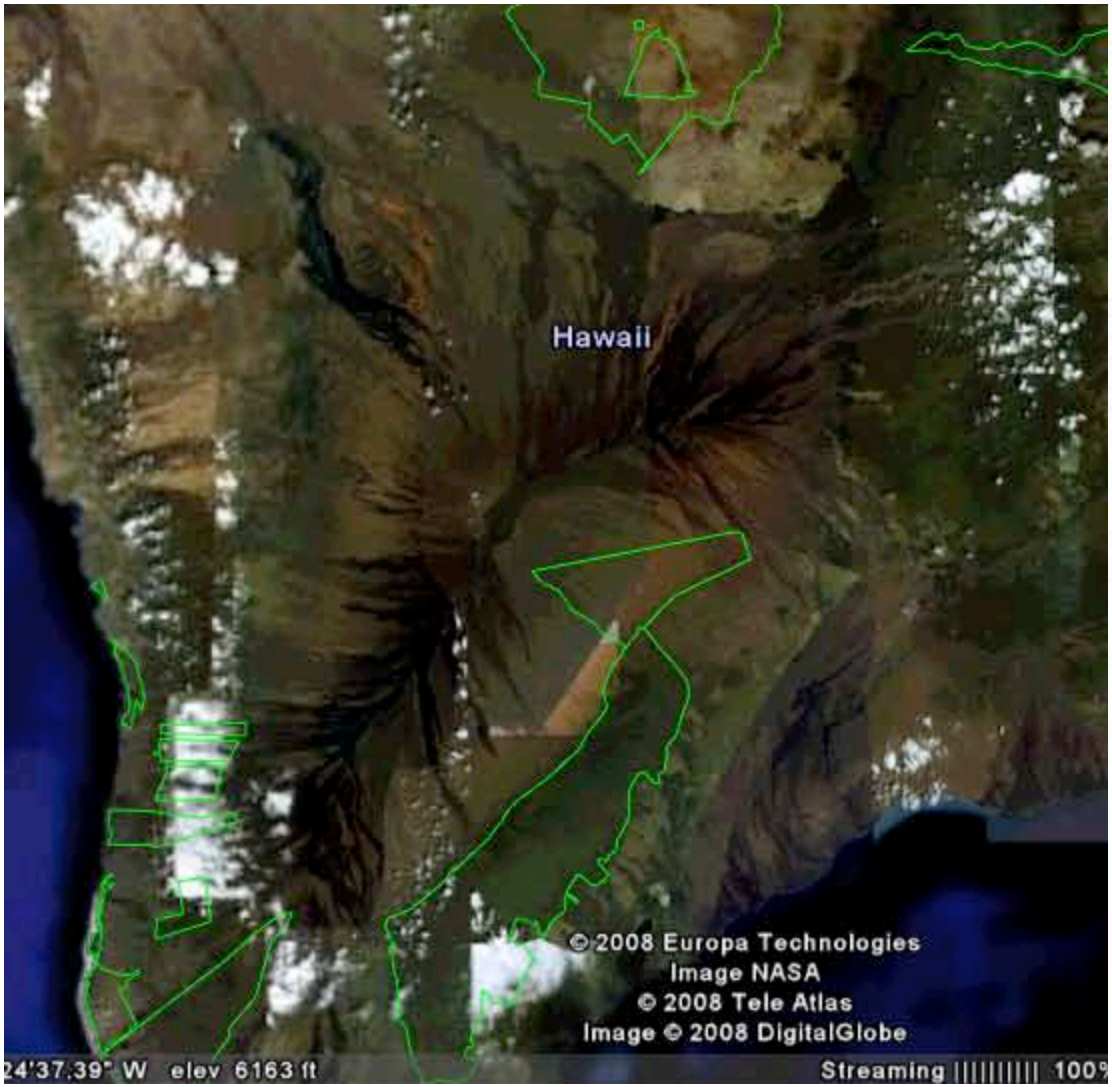




Shield volcanoes: Sapas Mons and Maat Mons

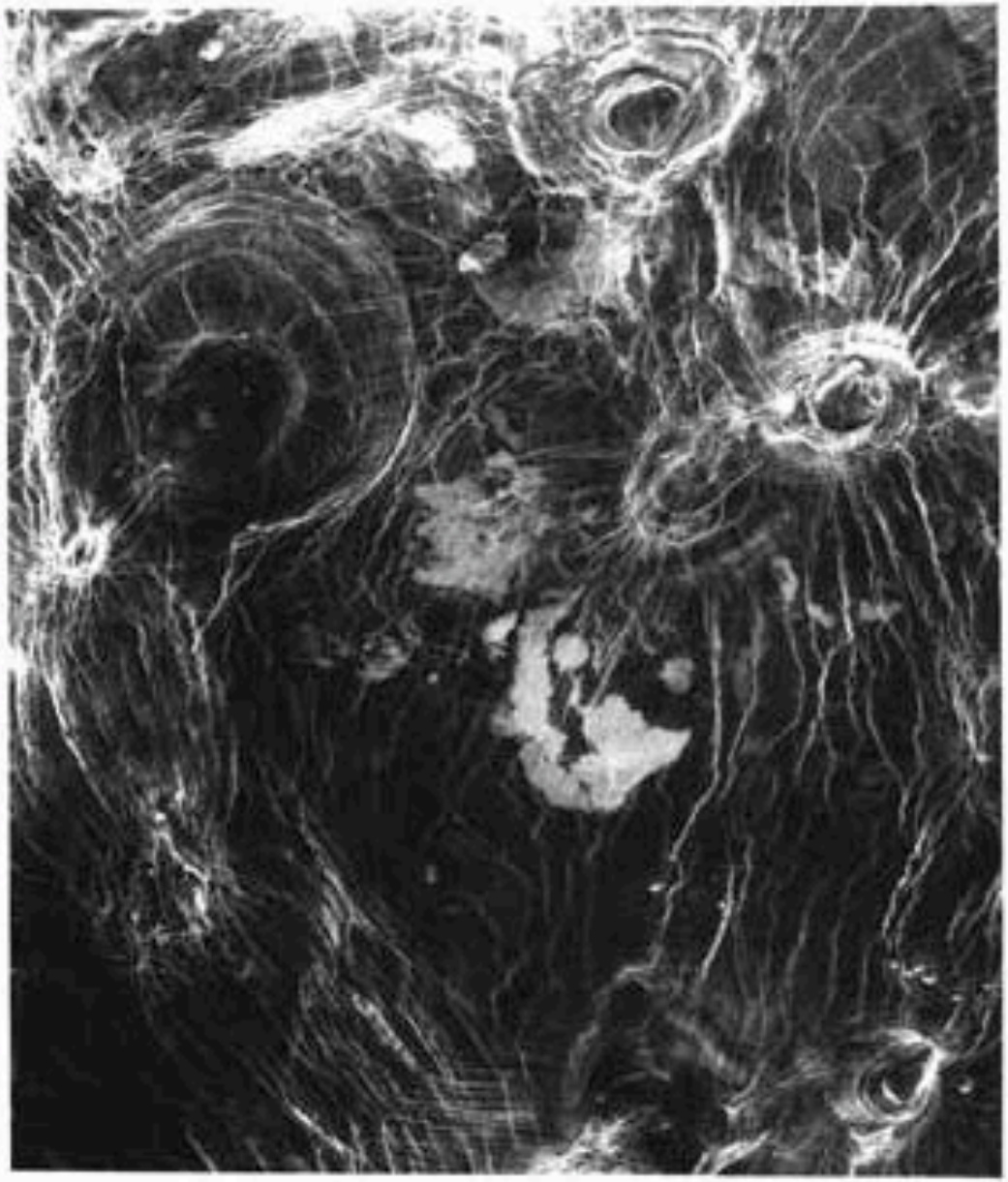


Mauna Loa
visible light and radar



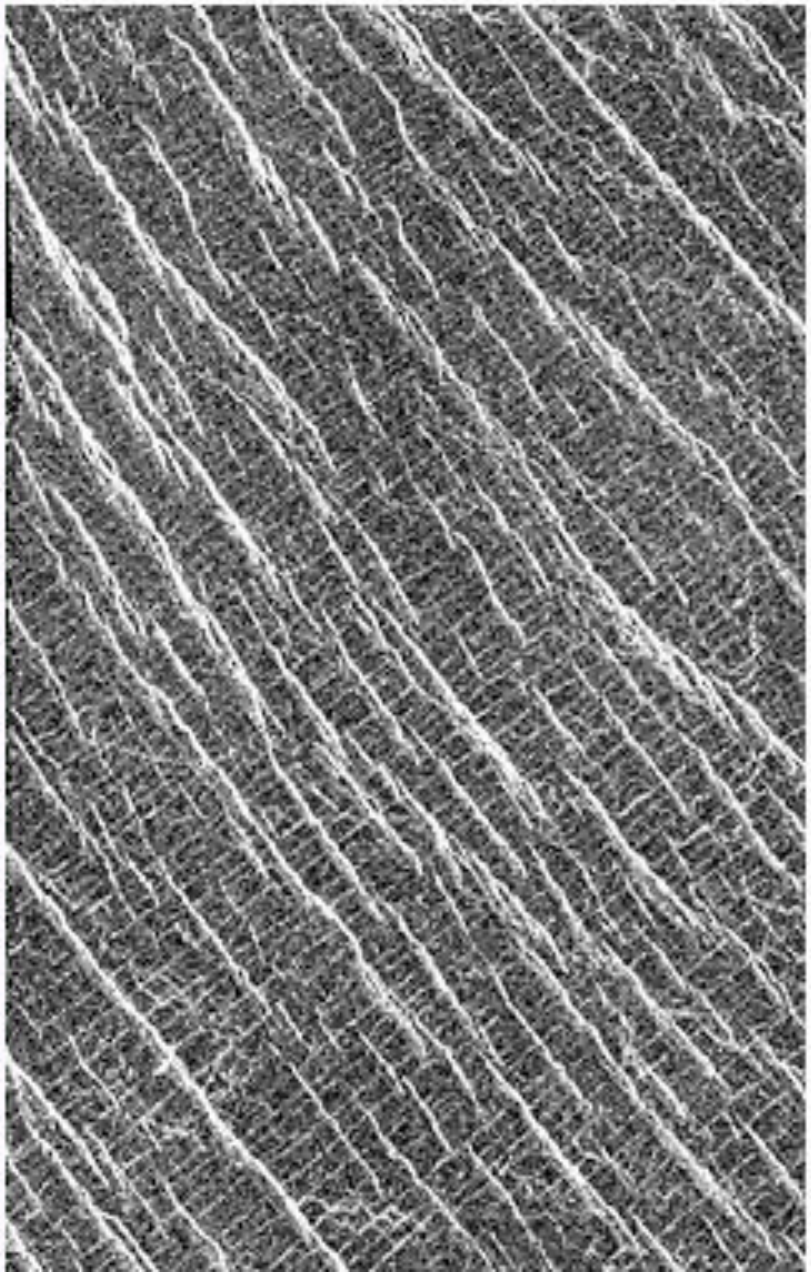
Fotla Corona

Arachnids



Atla Regio

Tessera



Chaotic tessera terrain

Global resurfacing

There is no evidence of plate tectonics on Venus.

Instead there is evidence that the entire surface was covered with lava flows about 750 million years ago (not necessarily all at once).

Could these facts be related?

Inside both the Earth and Venus, heat is generated by radioactive decay of uranium and other elements.

In the Earth, this heat gets out when magma comes to the surface or near the surface where its heat can be radiated away. This happens mostly at the mid-ocean ridges, which aren't found on Venus.

Maybe Venus stored up its heat until its crust melted.