

MGS-1 Mars Global Simulant | Fact Sheet

December, 2022

Simulant Name: MGS-1 Mars Global Simulant

Simulant Type: General purpose **Reference Material:** Rocknest soil

Uncompressed Bulk Density: 1.29 g/cm³

Mean Particle Size: 90 μm **Median Particle Size:** 60 μm

Particle Size Range: >0.04 μm – 600 μm



Geotechnical Properties

Avg Angle of Repose: 38.9° **Max Angle of Repose:** 43.6°

More coming soon!

Mineralogy

As mixed.

Component	Wt.%
Anorthosite	27.1
Glass-rich basalt	22.9
Pyroxene	20.3
Olivine	13.7
Mg- sulfate	4.0
Ferrihydrite	3.5
Hydrated silica	3.0
Magnetite	1.9
Anhydrite	1.7
Fe-carbonate	1.4
Hematite	0.5

Safety

See SDS for details.
Primary hazard is dust inhalation; wear a respirator in dusty conditions.

Bulk Chemistry

Relative abundances. Measured by XRF.

Oxide	Wt.%
SiO ₂	42.9
TiO ₂	0.6
Al ₂ O ₃	12.8
FeO	11.2
MnO	0.1
MgO	14.6
CaO	7.4
Na ₂ O	1.5
K ₂ O	0.6
P_2O_5	0.1
LOI*	5.3
Total**	97.1

Loss on ignition

Photo credit Matthew Villegas. XRF data obtained by Hamilton Analytical Lab using fused bead sample preparation. Reflectance spectrum courtesy of Dr. Takahiro Hiroi, NASA RELAB, Brown University.

^{**} Excluding volatiles and trace elements



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Trace Elements Measured by XRF

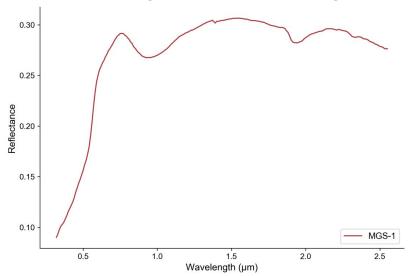
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Element	ppm		
Ni	540		
Cr	1375		
V	92		
Sc	13.8		
Cu	19		
Zn	51		
Ga	12		
Ва	144		
Rb	10		
Cs	0		
Sr	236		
Υ	9		
Zr	64		
Hf	2.3		
Nb	14.5		
Ta	1		
Мо	8		
La	6		
Ce	21		
Nd	13		
Sm	2.4		
Dy	2.2		
Yb	1.1		
Th	0		
U	1		
TI	1		
Pb	3 2		
Sn			
Bi	0		
Sb	1		

Volatiles Measured by XRF

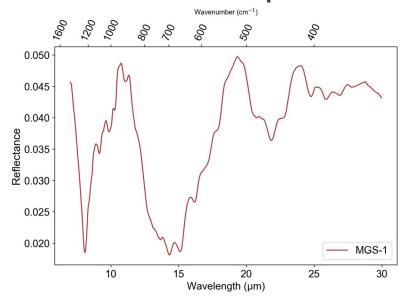
Compound	Wt%
F	≥0.1
Cl	≥0.005
SO ₃	≥1.27

Compound	ppm
Br	≥2
As	≥1

Reflectance Spectrum Incidence angle 30°, emission angle 0°



Mid-Infrared FTIR Spectrum



XRF data obtained by Hamilton Analytical Lab using fused bead sample preparation. FTIR spectrum courtesy of Dr. Takahiro Hiroi, NASA RELAB, Brown University.

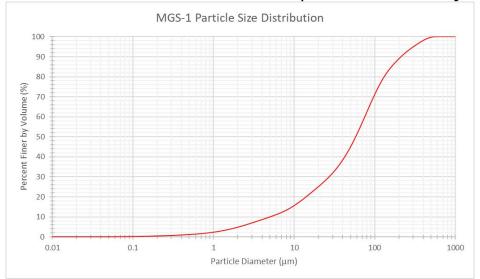


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Volumetric Particle Size Distribution

From CILAS 1190 laser diffraction particle size analyzer



Sieve AnalysisFollowing ASTM Standard E11 using RO-TAP RX-30 sieve shaker

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Sieve Number	Diameter	Mass of Soil Retained	Percent	Cumulative	Percent
	(μm)	on Each Sieve (g)	Retained by Mass (%)	Retained by Mass(%)	Finer by Mass(%)
18	1000.000	0.0000	0.0%	0.0%	100.0%
25	710.000	65.0000	6.6%	6.6%	93.4%
35	500.000	61.0000	6.2%	12.8%	87.2%
45	355.000	66.1667	6.7%	19.5%	80.5%
70	212.000	112.1667	11.4%	30.8%	69.2%
140	106.000	383.5000	38.8%	69.6%	30.4%
200	75.000	166.8333	16.9%	86.5%	13.5%
270	53.000	97.6667	9.9%	96.4%	3.6%
PAN		35.6667	3.6%	100.0%	0.0%

Sieve analysis skews particle size larger, as many of the fines cling to the larger pieces of regolith. This is measured by mass percent rather than volume

