

University of Arizona graduate limey farts for science

(Dis-Associated Press) - A poison cloud of gas provides insights into problems of planetary proportions for stinky University of Arizona graduate student Paul Withers.

"Flatulent gases are more than just vaporized pieces of shit," notes Withers. "They provide us with much needed observations of interactions of some of the most important compounds in planetary evolution."

Withers has applied his intimate knowledge of intestinal emissions to a variety of planetary problems, including those related to martian life. "Methane and carbon dioxide are components of flatulent gases, and by studying farts we can learn more about how these gases interact." Such gases have already provided Withers with a theory for the formation of martian channels. "While both liquid water and liquid carbon dioxide are unstable on the surface of Mars, clathrates of water, carbon dioxide, and methane could, after being released from subsurface reservoirs, have carved the outflow channels we see on Mars today," hypothesizes the limey. "We hope that similar clathrates in liquids expelled with farts will be useful in learning more about the behavior of these mixtures." Withers also states that if such mixtures are on Mars in great abundance that microscopic martian life might evolve into forms similar to *E. coli*, a bacterial culture found in human intestines and Jack-in-the-Box hamburgers.

Flatulent gases may have been responsible for false reports of impacts. Withers' modeling has shown that monks in Canterbury did probably not observe the formation of the Giordano Bruno impact crater on the moon in 1178 A.D. Withers suggests the monks may simply have misinterpreted an exploding fart for a lunar impact event. "In the same way swamp gases can explode, gases released from farts may explode if concentrations are high enough." Consuming rancid meat certainly contributes to flatulence, according to the smelly limey. Atmospheric temperature inversions may have trapped gas released by the Canterbury monastery in the lower atmosphere until the gases combusted due



Paul Withers in front of a white backdrop
(Photo credit: Maria Schuchardt - under duress)

to an electrical discharge. "If the moon were in the right place in the sky relative to a ground observer, the resulting explosion, similar to a fuel-air explosion, would appear to be a lunar impact," notes the rank Brit.

Farts even allow the researcher to learn more about the atmospheres of Uranus and Neptune. "Uranus and Neptune both appear blue due to the presence of methane, a product of flatulence, in their upper atmospheres. My official LPL photo was actually taken in front of a white backdrop. The reason the background appears blue is due to the fact that methane preferentially absorbs red light, so predominately blue light is scattered from the gas back to our eyes."

The white cracker with the brown ass describes an early interest in passing winds. "My interest in flatulent gases began as a young child when I listened to my great-grandfather talk about life in the trenches and how they were in constant danger of being gassed by the Huns," notes Withers. "However, he only spoke Welsh, so the only way he could communicate the idea of poison gas to me was to press the palms of his hands to his mouth and blow."

When not espousing anti-Kraut epitaphs, Withers works on his dissertation and picks up loose women in local dives. When asked how he can maintain a social life while surrounded by a cloud of poison gas, Withers notes that he is "charming, handsome, and single, but it might just be luck." However, others asked the same question of Withers state that he has no life.