OK. We in Hawaii like to see lots of images of the Moon in our “Images of the Month” selection, but it has been hard to find new ones in recent months. So we have started to generate our own, combining images from LROC and topographic data from the Kaguya mission. This image shows an oblique view looking north over the Aristarchus Plateau, with the 40 km diameter crater Aristarchus at right, and Schroter’s Valley at top left. This is one of the most interesting areas on the Moon, as the Plateau is mantled with extensive pyroclastic material, and fresh ejecta from Aristarchus crater covers much of the area. This image reminds us of the view from the Apollo 15 mission (see below), except that the astronauts were looking south (i.e., in the opposite direction).

Apollo 15 image AS15-M-2611