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Maria Bualat has been at NASA Ames Research Center since 1987, working in the mobile planetary robotics field since 1995. She has served as a Deputy Group Lead for the Intelligent Robotics Group (IRG) since 2005. Maria has managed projects for NASA's Science Mission Directorate, Exploration Systems Mission Directorate, Office of the Chief Technologist, and Space Technology Mission Directorate including: the Mars Technology Program's ARC Rover Testbed project, MIDP instrument integrations and demonstrations on the K9 and K10 planetary rovers, ETDP's Human-Robot Site Survey project, and STMD's Surface Telerobotics project. Her professional interests include visual navigation, user interfaces, and field testing of mobile robots. Maria received her Bachelor of Science degree in Electrical Engineering from Stanford University, and her Master of Science degree in Electrical Engineering, emphasis Controls, from Santa Clara University.