

# Geophysics (Detection) of Ocean Worlds of the Outer Solar System

Ocean Worlds 2  
Woods Hole, 25 Aug 2016

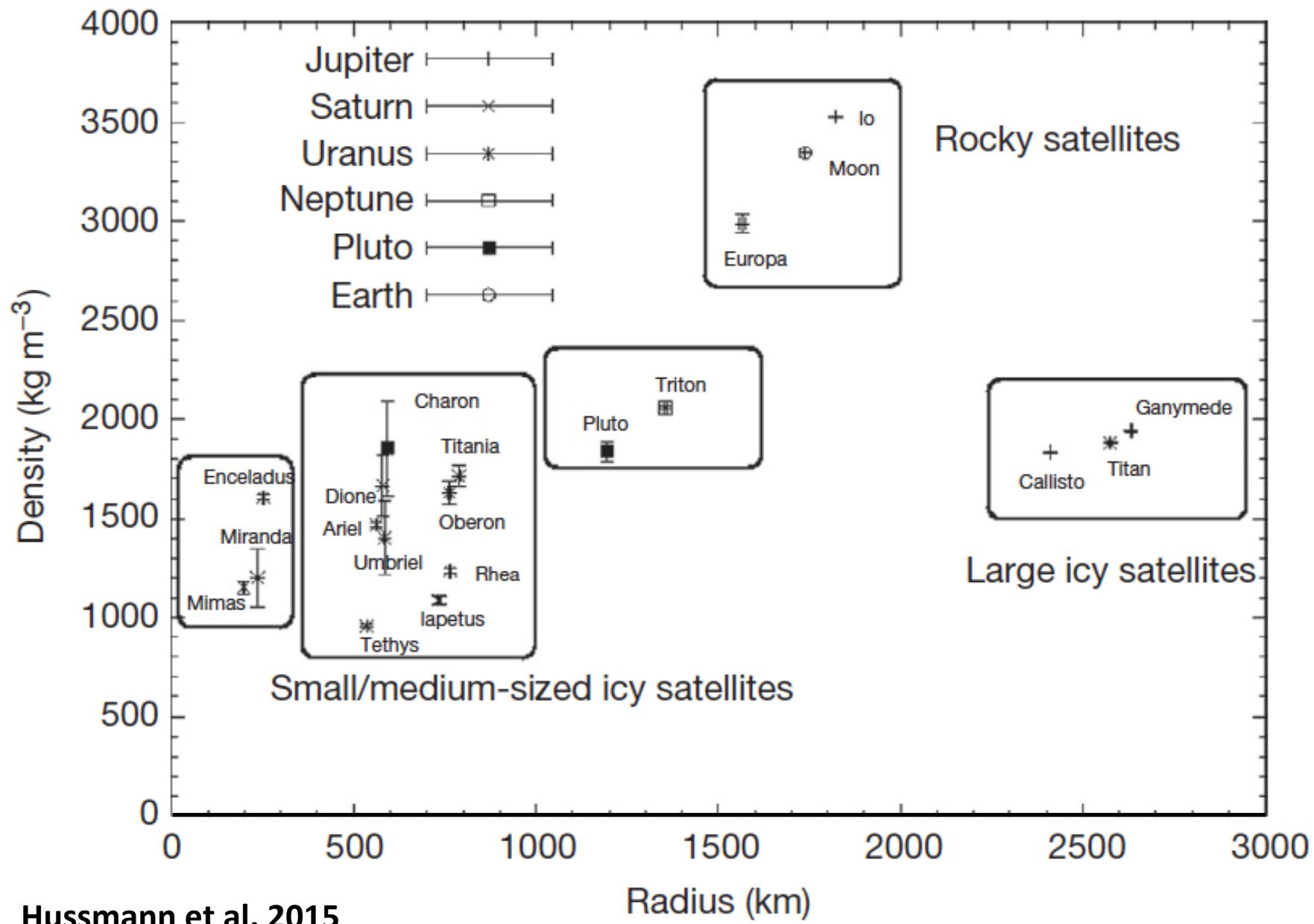
Wm B McKinnon, Dept EPSc  
Washington University in St. Louis

# *Dramatis Personae*



**How do we know  
there are icy ocean worlds?  
and  
How do we take their measure?**

# Density vs. Radius: Ice/Rock ~40/60 for largest satellites



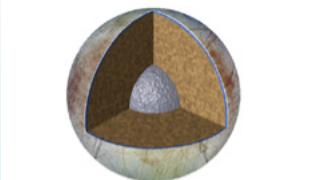
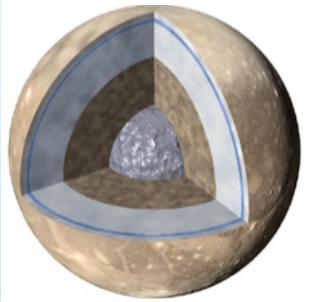
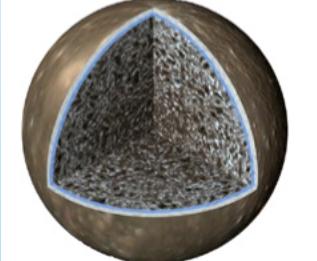
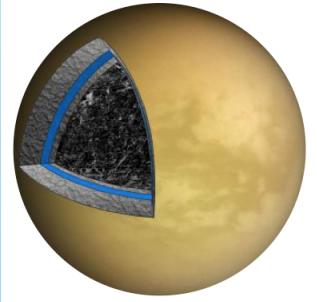
Hussmann et al. 2015

*Europa Ocean Conference, San Juan Capistrano, CA, 12-14 Nov 1996*

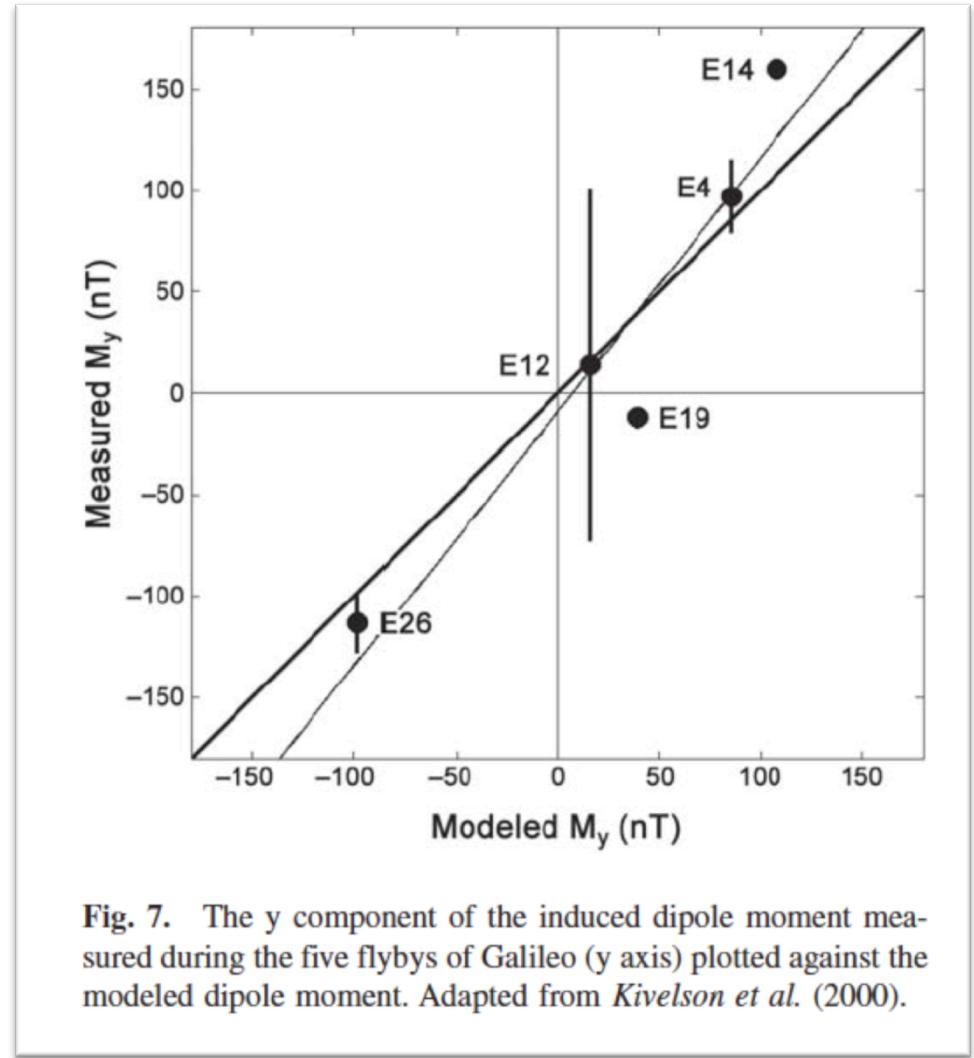
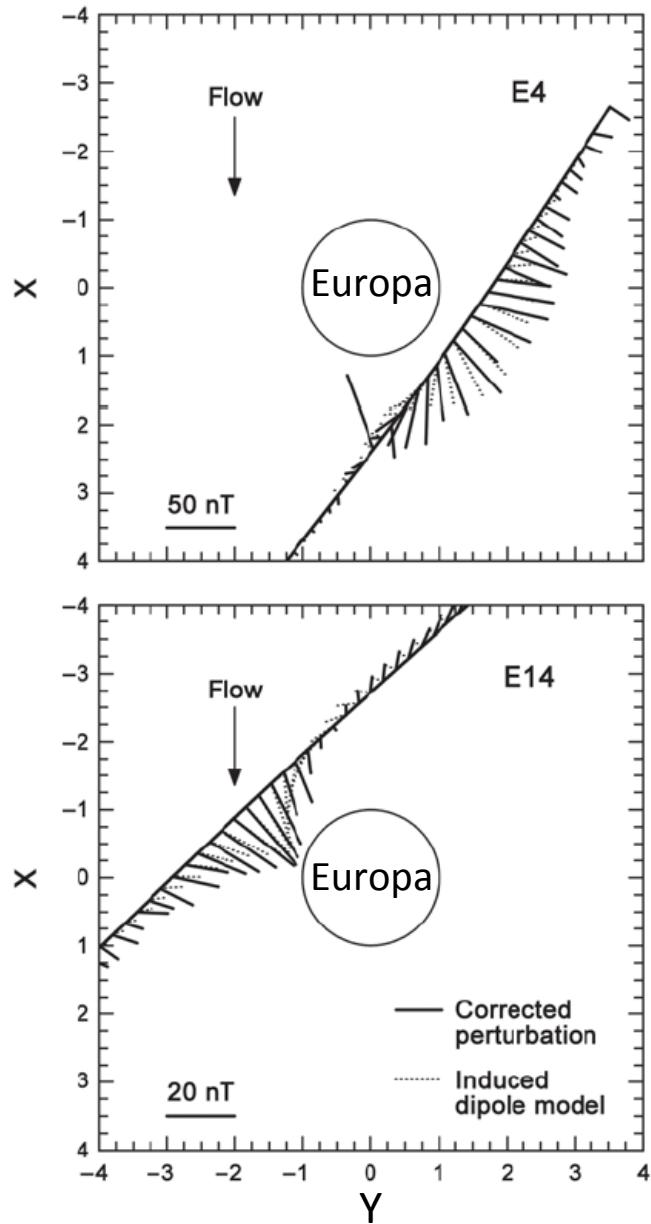
Ocean Worlds “0”



# The Ocean Worlds from Gravity and Induced $\vec{B}$ Fields

	Radius (km)	Density (kg/m <sup>3</sup> )	MOI	Induced $\vec{B}$	
Europa	1561	3014	0.348	✓	
Ganymede	2631	1942	0.3115	✓	
Callisto	2410	1834	0.355	✓	
Titan	2576	1880	0.34	~✓	
Enceladus	252	1609	0.33		

# Magnetic Induction: Conductive (**salty**) Subsurface Oceans



**Fig. 7.** The  $y$  component of the induced dipole moment measured during the five flybys of Galileo (y axis) plotted against the modeled dipole moment. Adapted from Kivelson *et al.* (2000).

Khurana et al. 2009, in Europa

# Ganymede's Internal Dipole Magnetic Field

Aurora Ganymedealis!

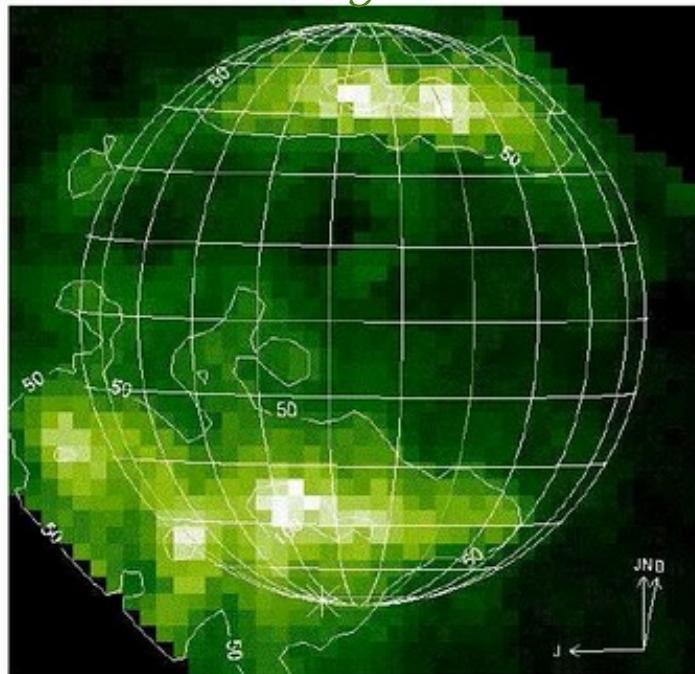
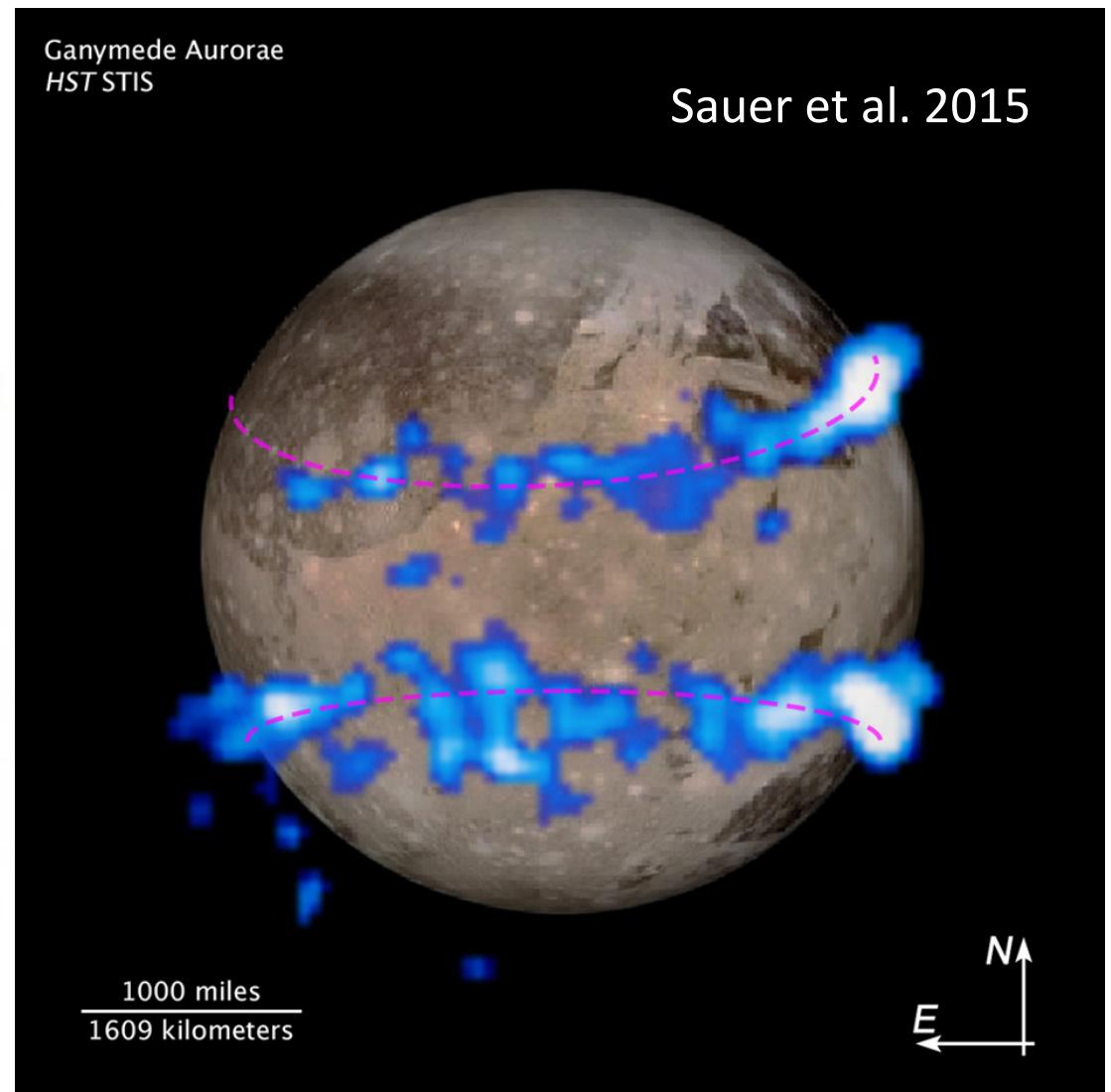


Figure 19.12. Ganymede auroral emission from oxygen (OI 1356 Å) observed with HST. Contours illustrate the observed brightness in Rayleighs.  
McGrath et al. 2004

④ Almost certainly a dynamo

④ But is there truly an induced, oscillating component?

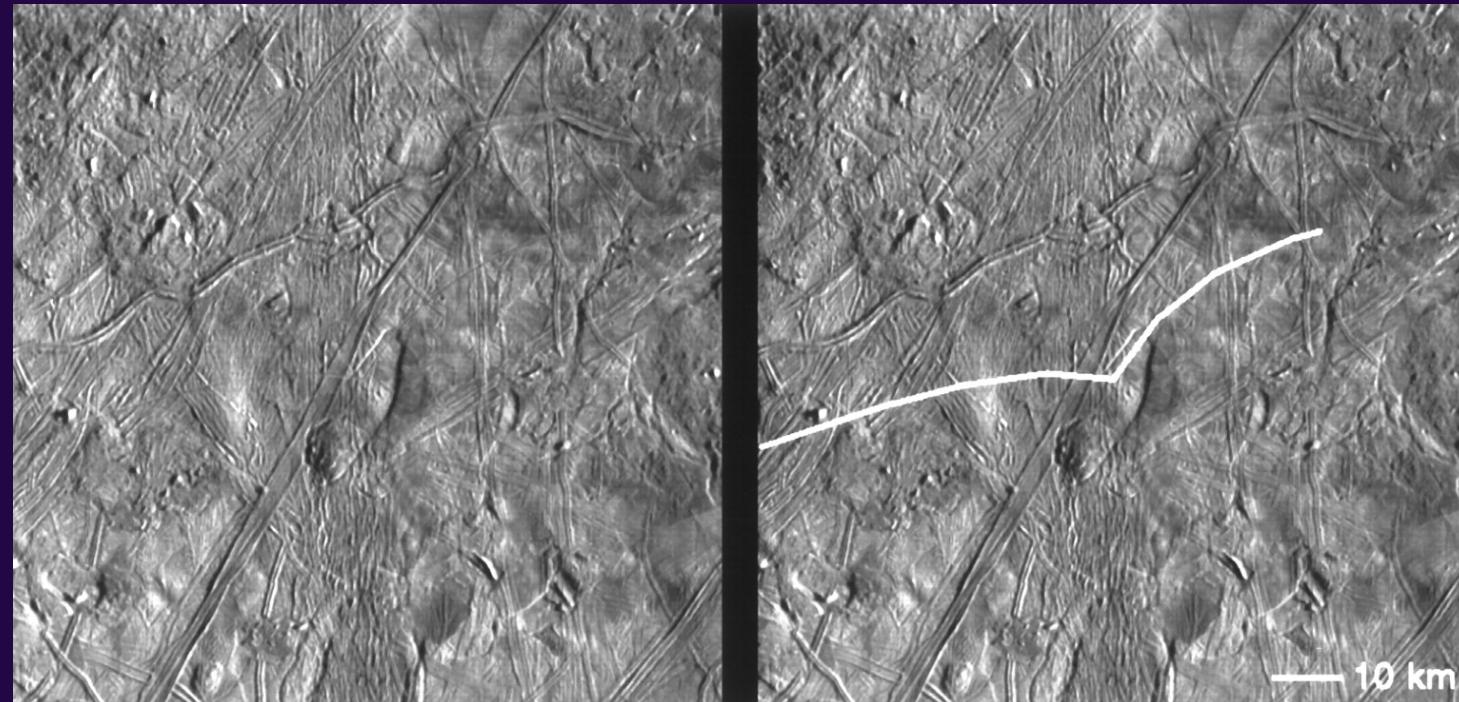


YES!

# Arcuate Ridges on Europa

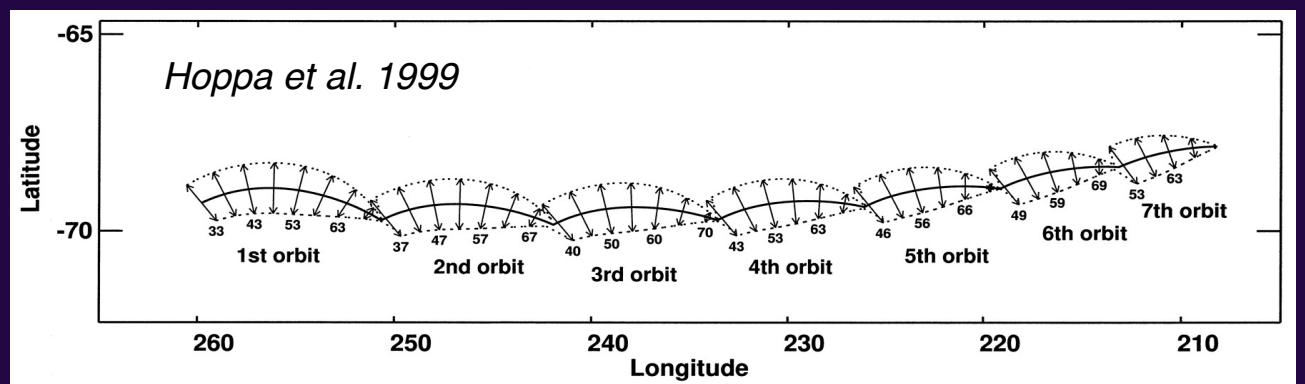


# Tectonics of Cycloid Ridges requires an Ocean

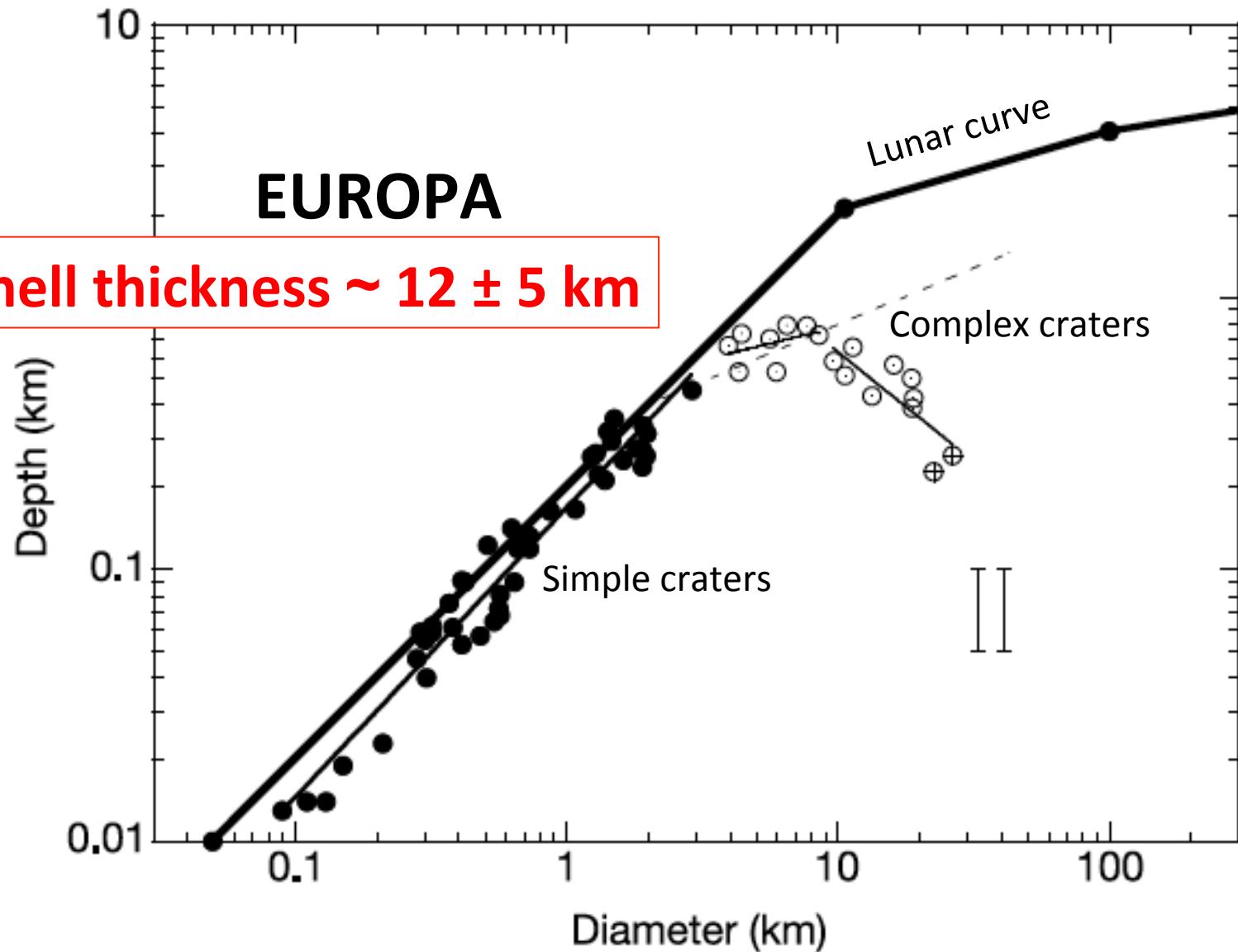


Arcuate ridges begin as arcuate cracks

Kinematic model  
depends critically on  
variation and magnitude  
of diurnal tide



# Sensing the ocean the old fashioned way: Impact craters!



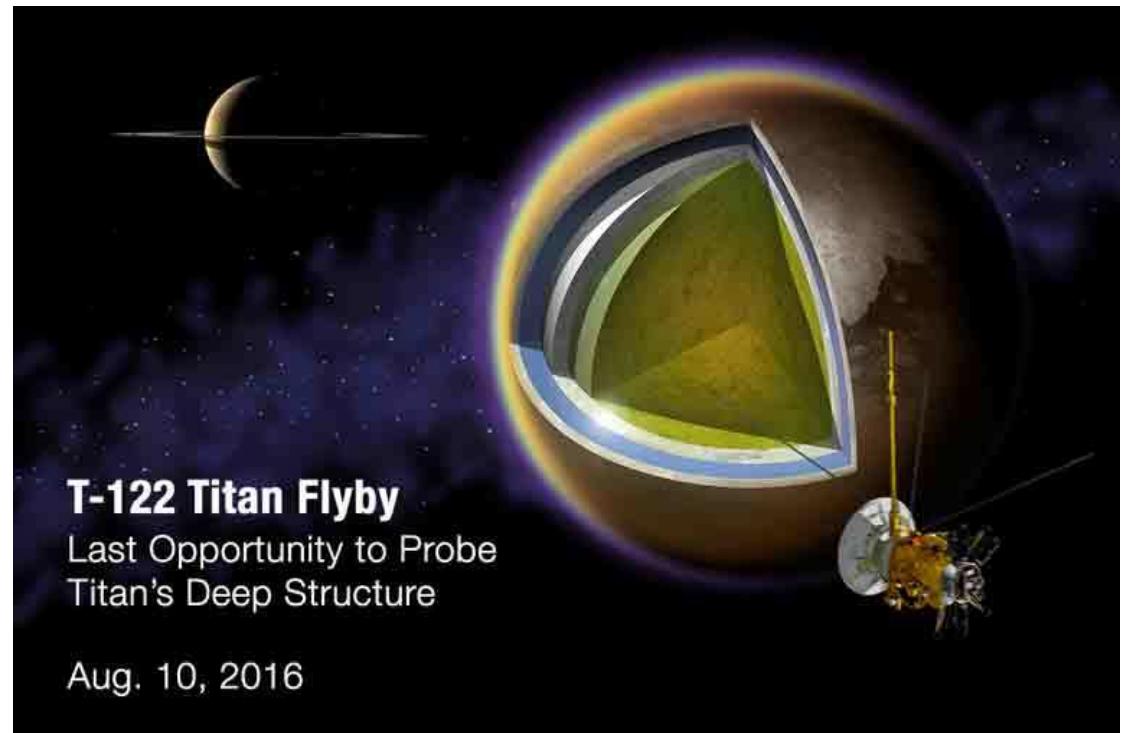
Schenk 2002

**Saturn's Magnetic Field Does not Oscillate (from a satellite's perspective) in the Manner of the Jovian Field**

**But TITAN's orbit is eccentric (0.03), leading to variations in tidal gravity and corotating plasma flow**

**1) Schumann EM resonance, detected by Huygens probe (Begin et al. 2012)**

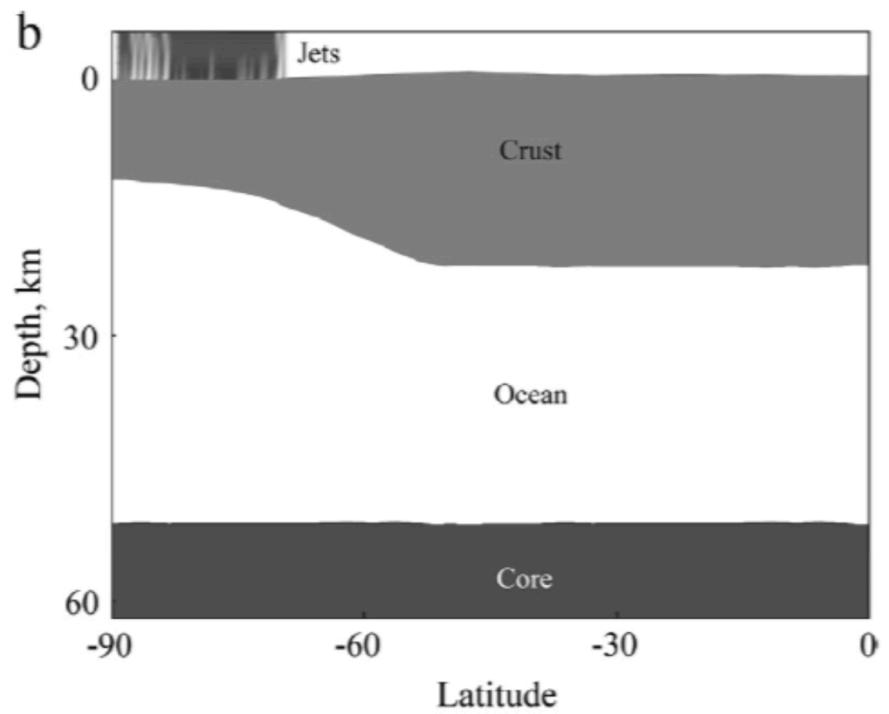
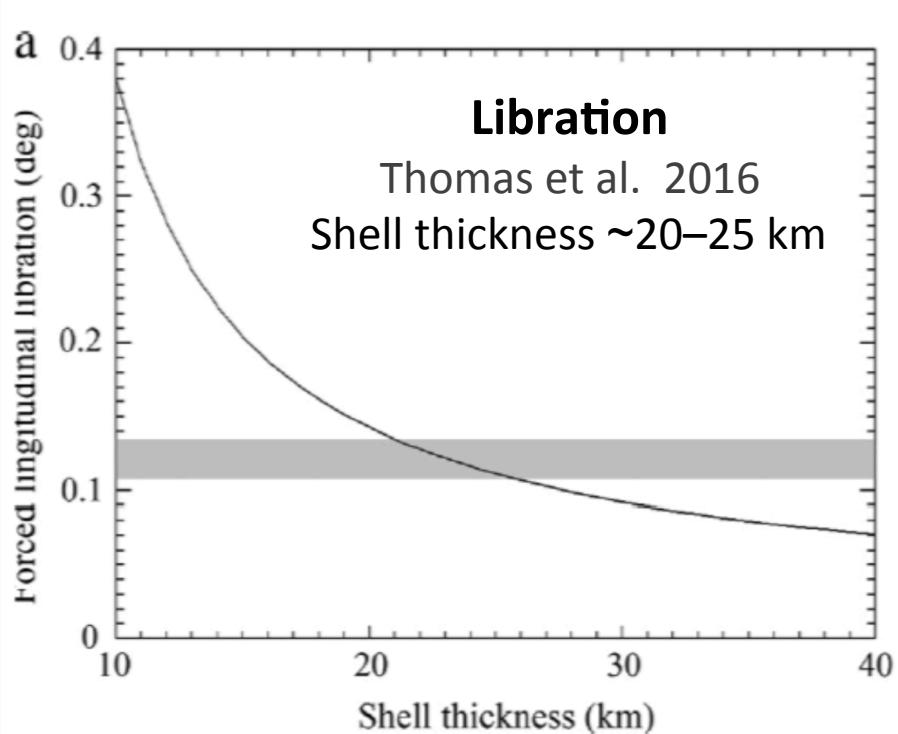
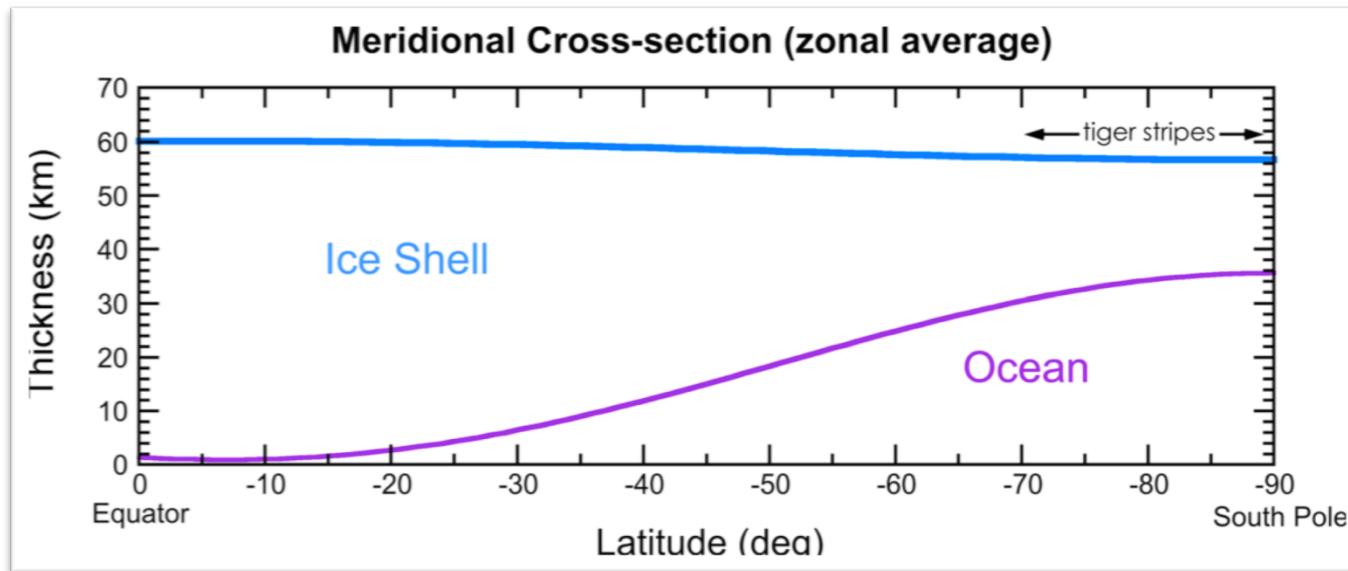
**2) Oscillating tidal gravity  $k_2 \sim 0.6$  (less et al. 2014)  
Unexpectedly large!**



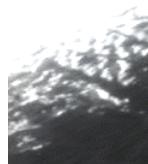
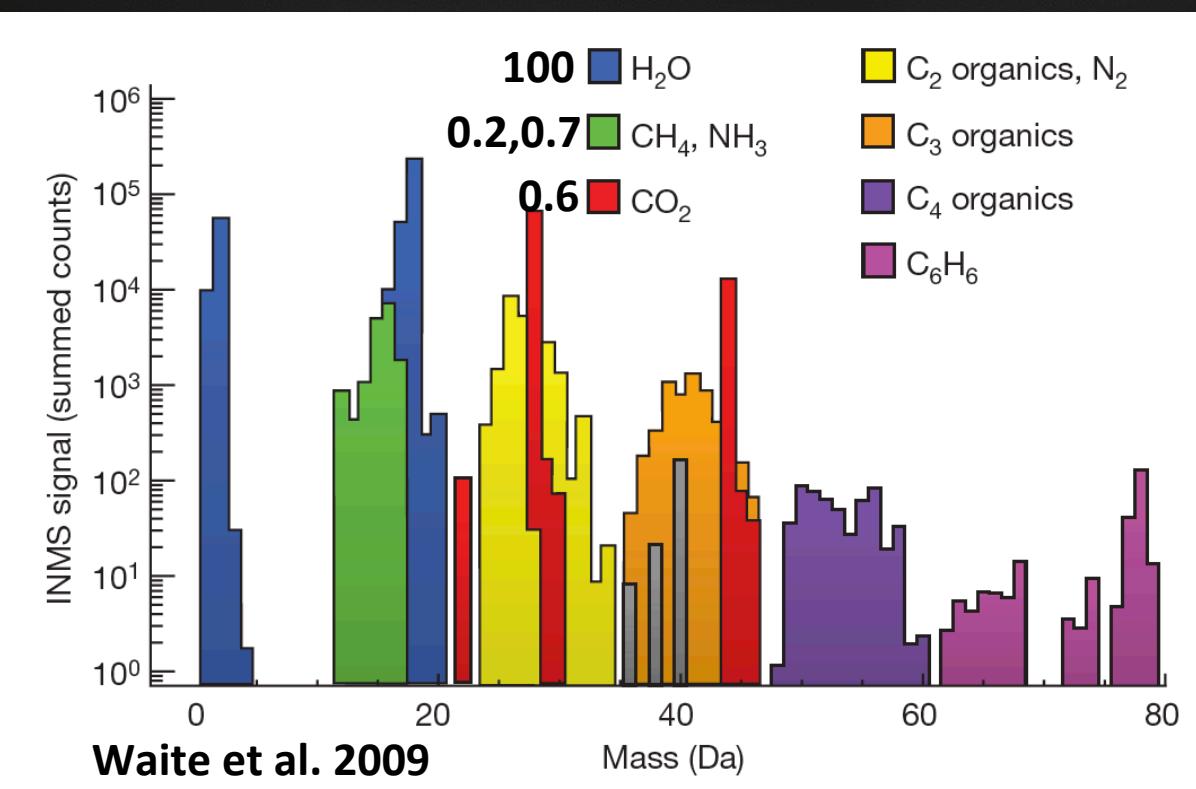
# ENCELADUS Ice Shell Gravity & Topography Model

e.g., McKinnon 2015  
Compensation (shell)  
depth  $\sim$ 50 km

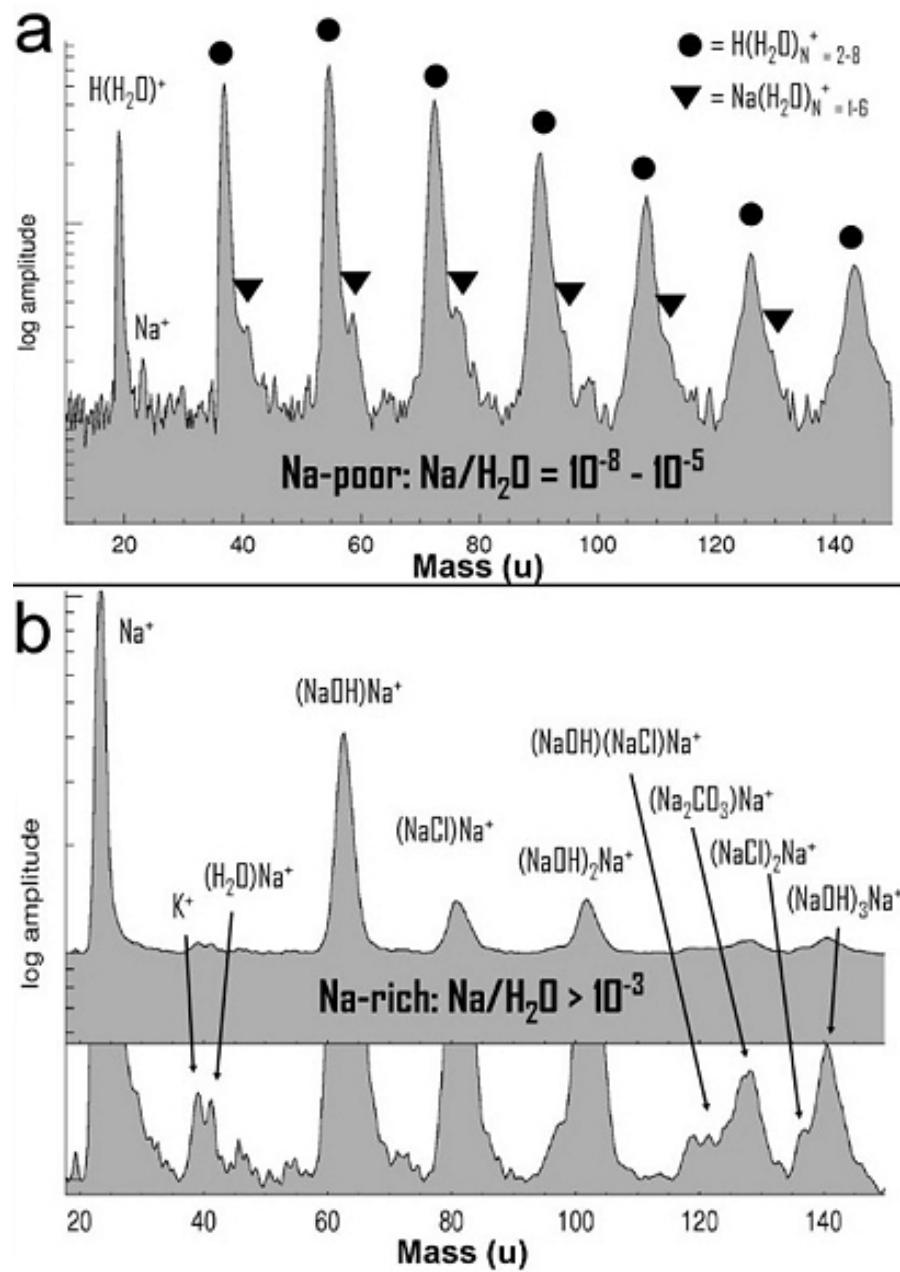
VS.



# Plumes of Enceladus: The Smoking Gun



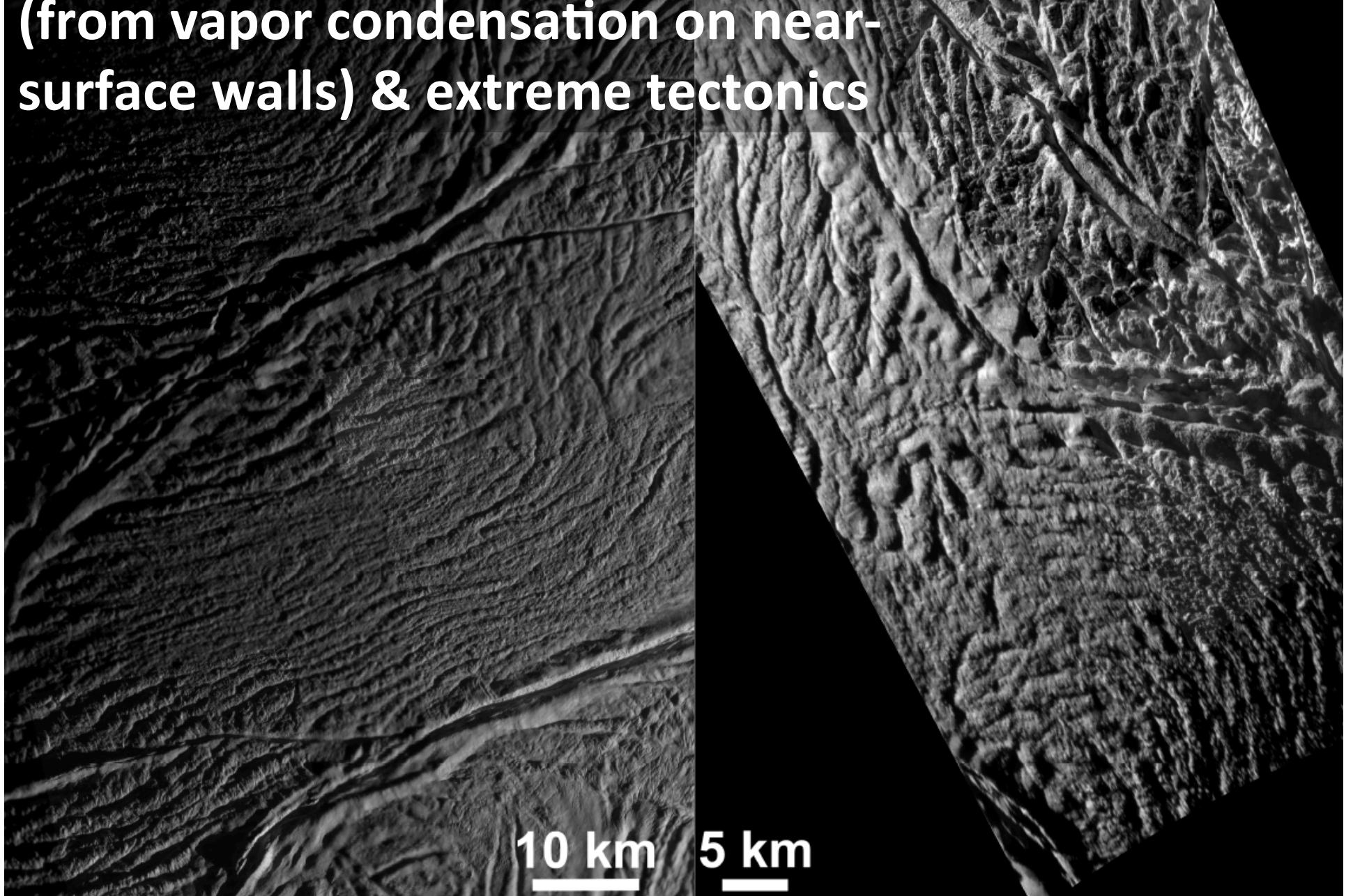
# Cassini CDA (Cosmic Dust Analyser)



Postberg et al.  
2008, 2009, 2011

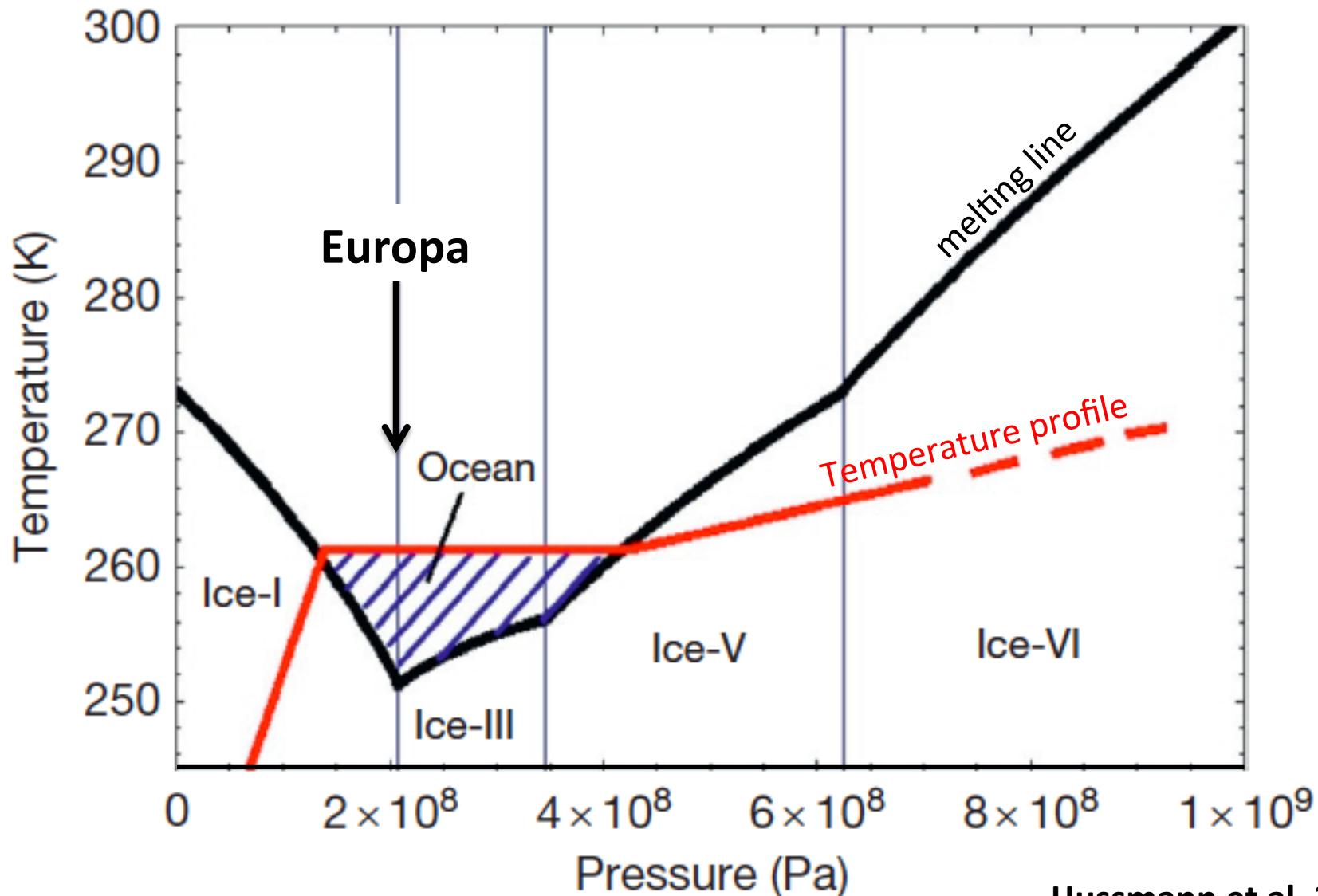
$\text{Na}/\text{K} \gg 1$   
 $\text{NaCl}, \text{NaCO}_3, \text{NaHCO}_3$   
plus organic rich particles

**Plus very high heat flow measured  
(from vapor condensation on near-  
surface walls) & extreme tectonics**

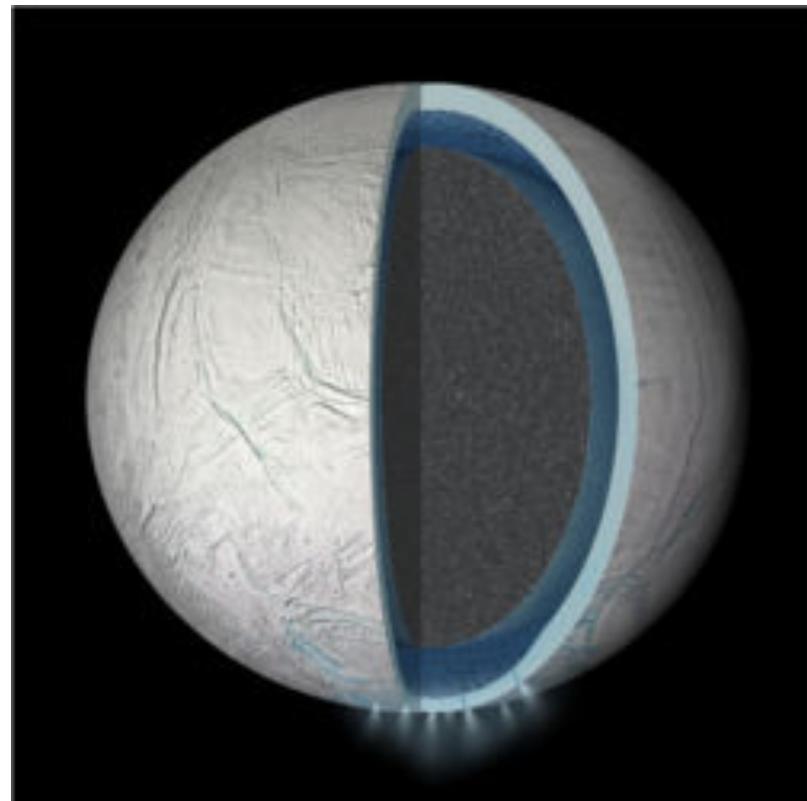


**There are 2 classes of ocean worlds**

# Europa & Enceladus oceans have seafloors (Ganymede, Callisto, Titan are perched)



Hussmann et al. 2015



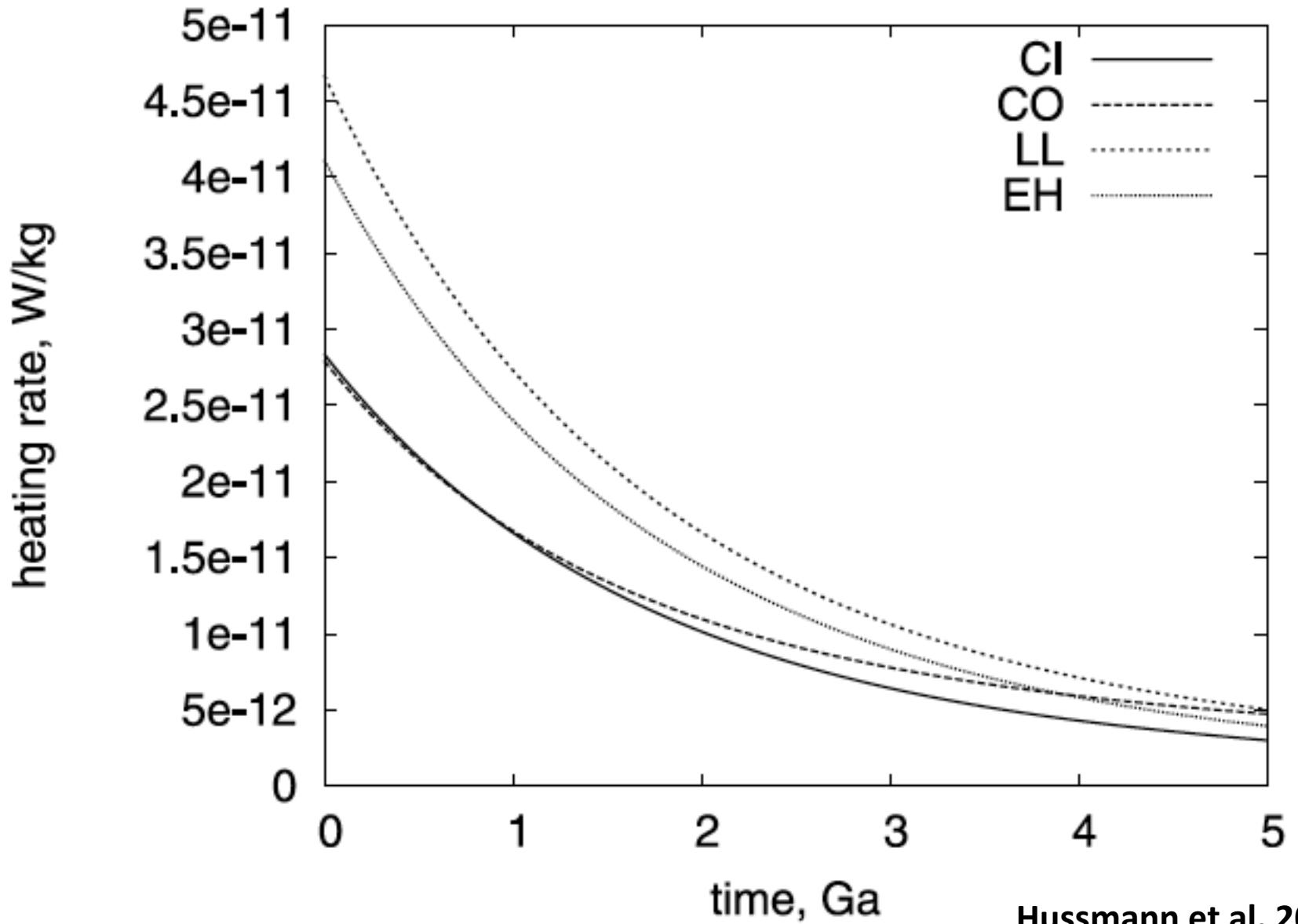
**Enceladus Cross-section**

**Early heat sources (accretion, SLR,  
satellite-disk interactions) may be  
important for initial ocean formation**

**Persistence requires long-lived  
radiogenics & esp. tidal heating**

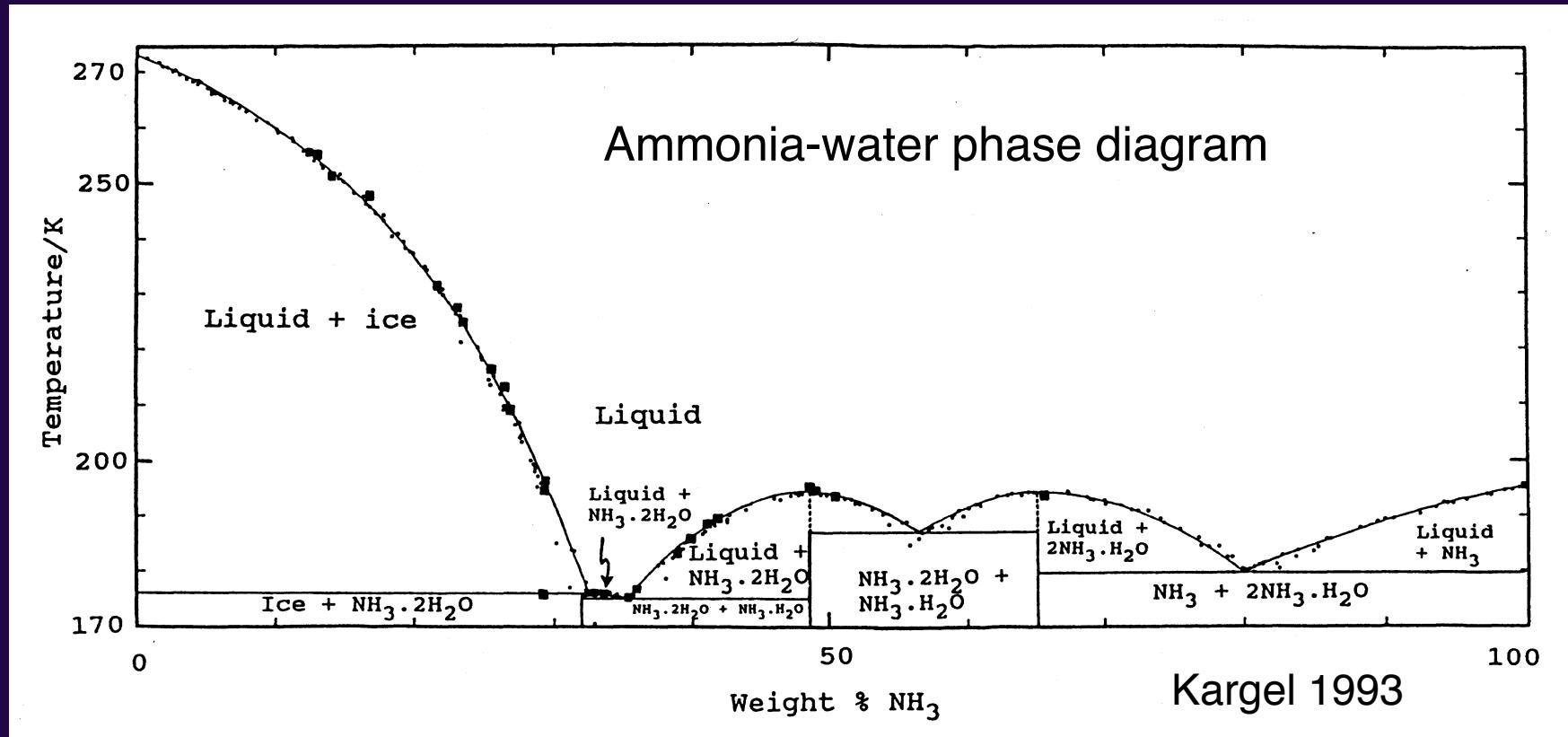
**Greatly assisted by antifeezes**

## Radiogenic heating, based on meteorite class



Hussmann et al. 2010

# Very large freezing point depressions possible: Hard to totally freeze oceans

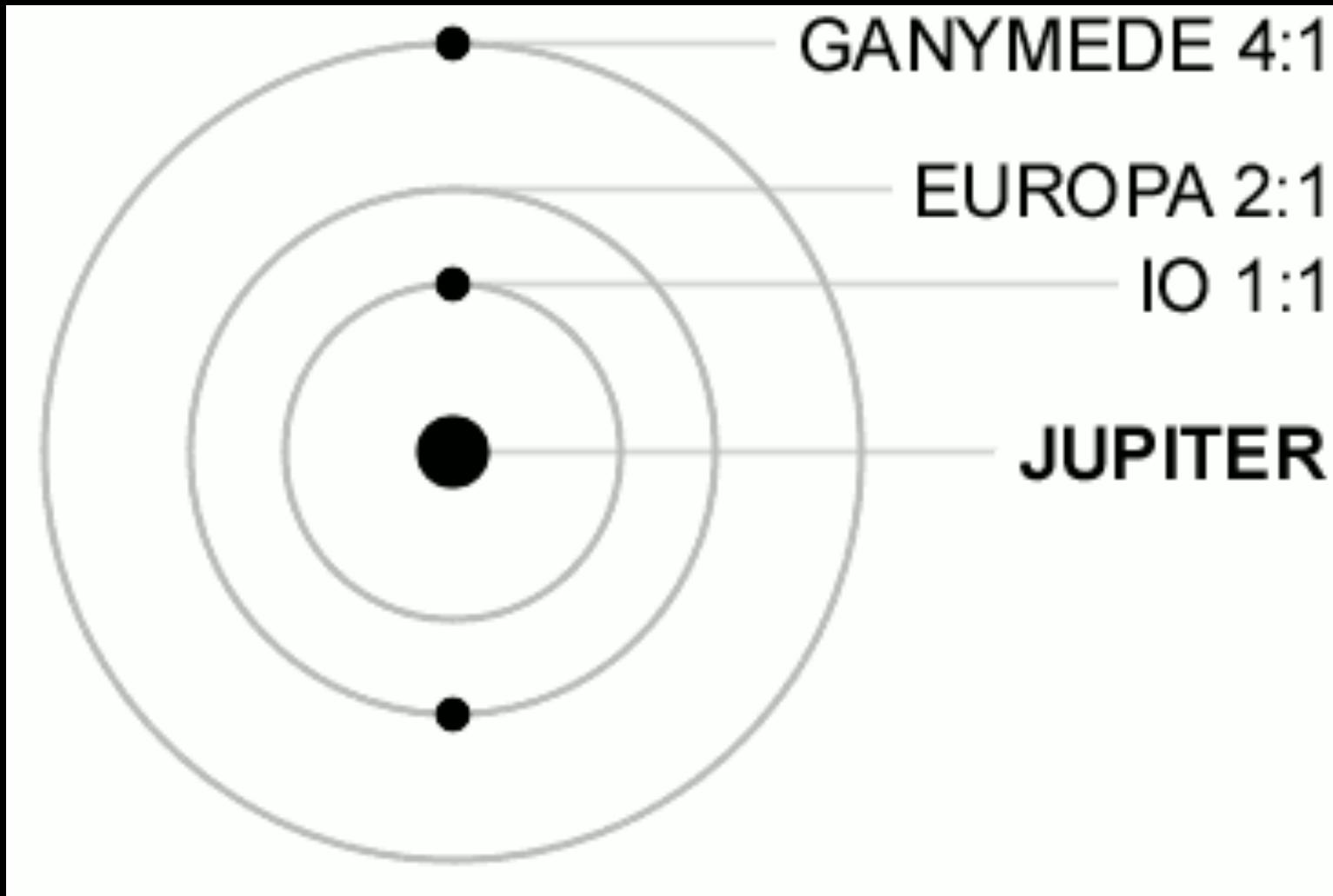


methanol

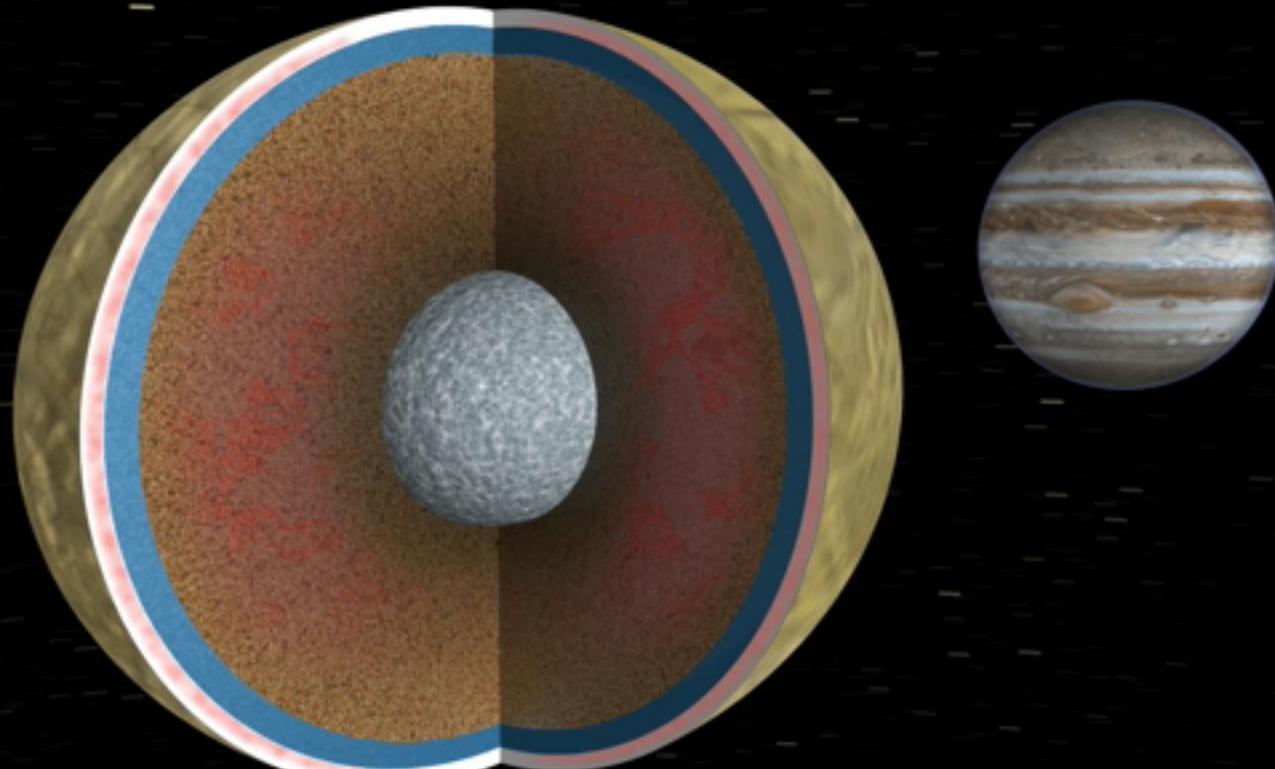
alkali halides

sulfate hydrates

Tidal heating key to ocean survival  
e.g., the *Laplace* Resonance:



# jovian tides on Europa



# The Ocean Worlds

	Gravity	Induced $\vec{B}$	Libration	Obliquity	Geology	Plumes
Europa	✓	✓		TBD	Active	?
Ganymede	✓	✓		TBD	Dormant	
Callisto	✓	✓			Dead	
Titan	✓		✓		"not dead yet"	
Enceladus	✓			✓	Hyperactive	✓✓
Triton					Active	✓

# Further Background

Nimmo & Pappalardo, *Ocean Worlds in the Outer Solar System* (JGR, 2016)

Hussmann et al., *Interiors and Evolution of Icy Satellites*, (Treatise on Geophysics, 2015)

Grasset et al. (eds), *Satellites of the Outer Solar System: Exchange Processes Involving the Interiors* (Space Science Reviews, 2010)

Pappalardo et al. (eds), *Europa* (UofA Space Science Series, 2009)

Schenk et al. (eds), *Enceladus and the Icy Moons of Saturn* (UofA Space Science Series, 201x)