

The  
**Cassini/Huygens  
Mission**  
to  
**SATURN**

Dr. R. Srama  
MPI Nuclear Physics, Heidelberg, Germany  
University Stuttgart

Kobe, March 2010



# GALILEO TO KEPLER 1610

## **ALTISSIMUM PLANETAM TERGEMINUM OBSERVAVI**

„The most distant planet has a three-fold shape !“

„Der entfernteste Planet hat eine dreifache Form“

(discovery of Saturn's ring)



# CHRISTIAAN HUYGENS

- mathematician and physicist of the netherlands
- (\*1629, †1695)
- interpretation of Saturn's ring
- discovery of the large moon titan (1655)





# GIOVANNI CASSINI

- french astronomer and mathematician
- (\*1625, †1712)
- discovery of 4 Saturn moons and the ring division



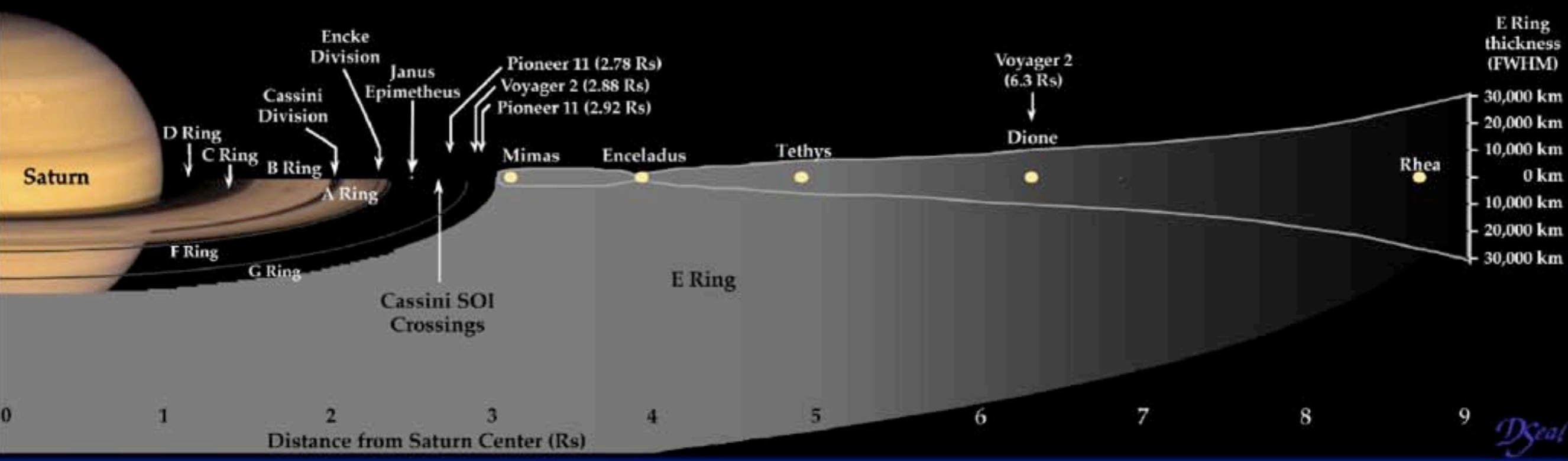


# Saturn's Satellites and Ring Structure



Not shown:

Pan	2.22 Rs	Titan	20.3 Rs
Atlas	2.28 Rs	Hyperion	24.6 Rs
Prometheus	2.31 Rs	Iapetus	59.1 Rs
Pandora	2.35 Rs	Phoebe	214.9 Rs



This graphic is available in color if required.

*DSeal*



# SATURN !

1 Saturn year :	29.5 y
Rotation :	10 h, 40 min
Distance to Sun :	1400 Mkm
Diameter at equator :	120.000 km
Mass :	95 x Earth
Volume :	760 x Earth
Density :	0.7 g/cm <sup>3</sup> (Earth 5.5)
Strong pole oblateness	
Magnetic field :	4x10 <sup>-5</sup> T at pole (Earth : 5x10 <sup>-5</sup> T)
Dipole field axis = rotation axis !	
ring plane :	27° tilted towards orbit plane





# SATURN'S INTERIOR

Atmosphere : 94 % H, 6% He

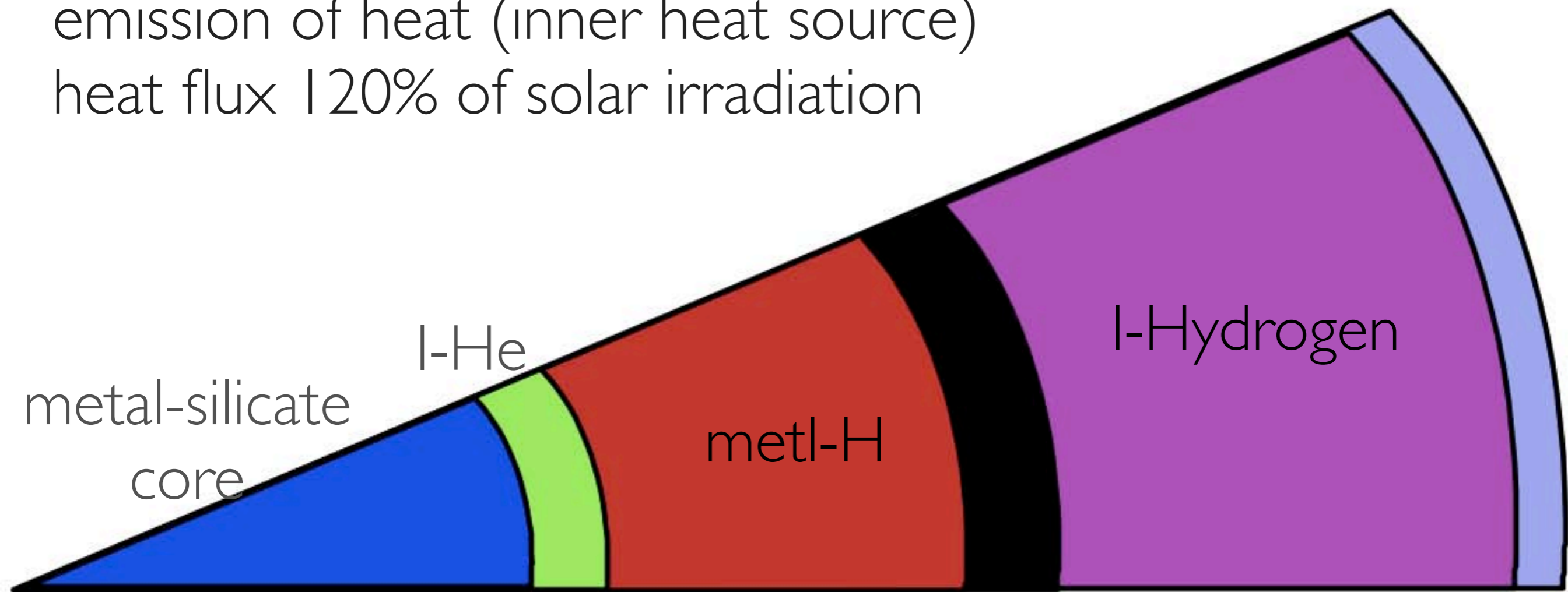
T at upper cloud boundary : 150 K

T at cloud lower boundary : 80 K

T in center : 20.000 K,  $5 \times 10^{12}$  P (Earth: 3800 K)

emission of heat (inner heat source)

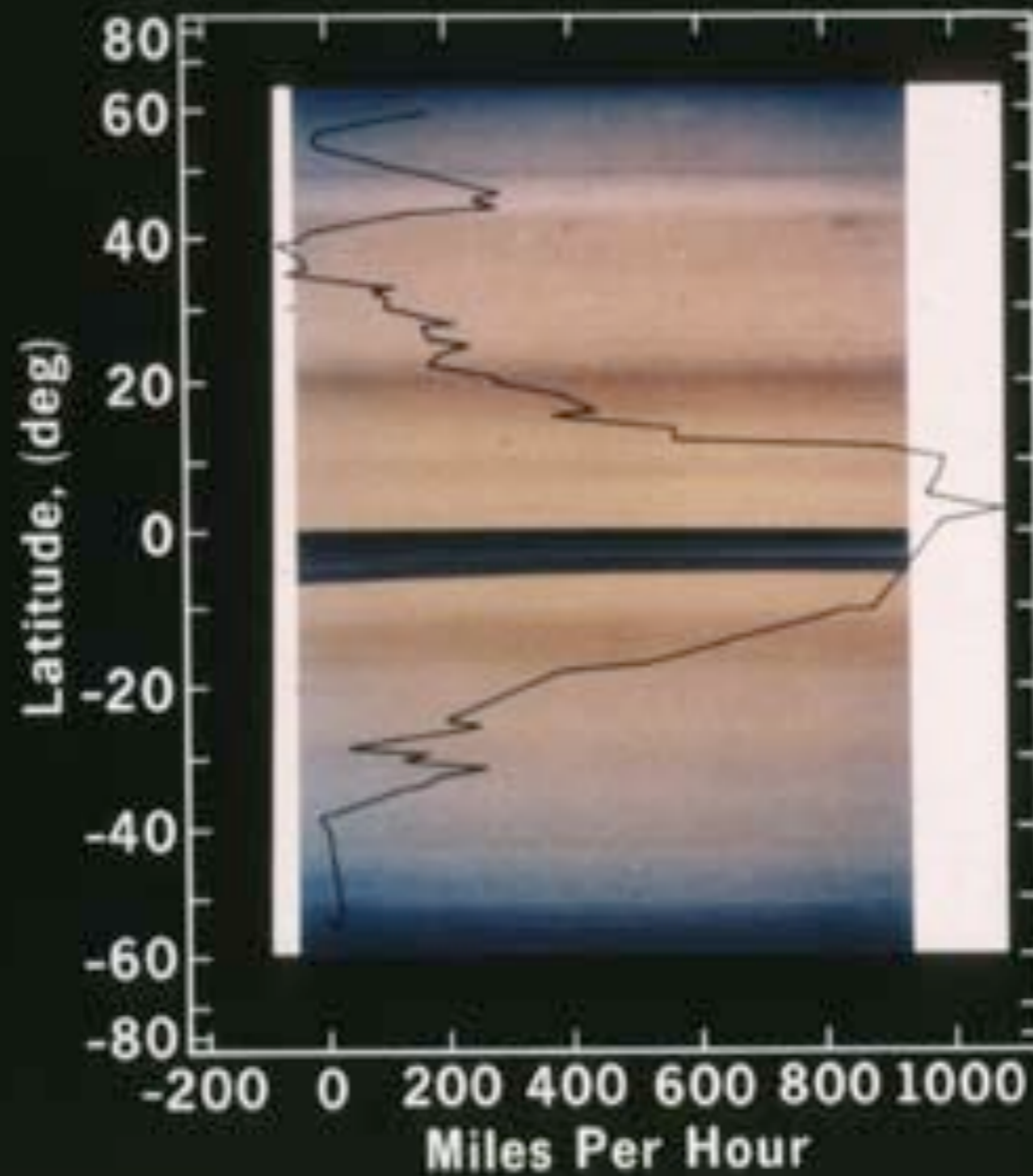
heat flux 120% of solar irradiation





# WINDS OF SATURN

(UP TO 500 M/S)





# MOON MYSTERIES

- Pandora and Prometheus are shephard moons for ring
- Dione and Tethys have own moons
- Janus and Epimetheus exchange their orbit
- Iapetus has a dark and bright side
- Mimas has a huge impact crater (1/4 of surface)
- Enceladus is active (ice geysers), highest albedo
- Phoebe has a retrograde orbit, KB object caught by Saturn (?)



# CASSINI/HUYGENS

High Gain Antenna

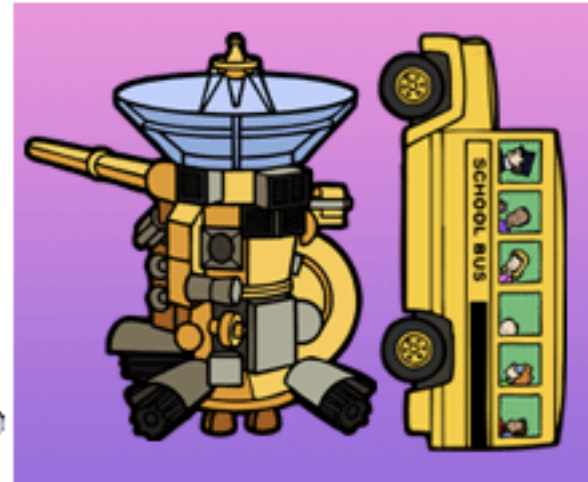
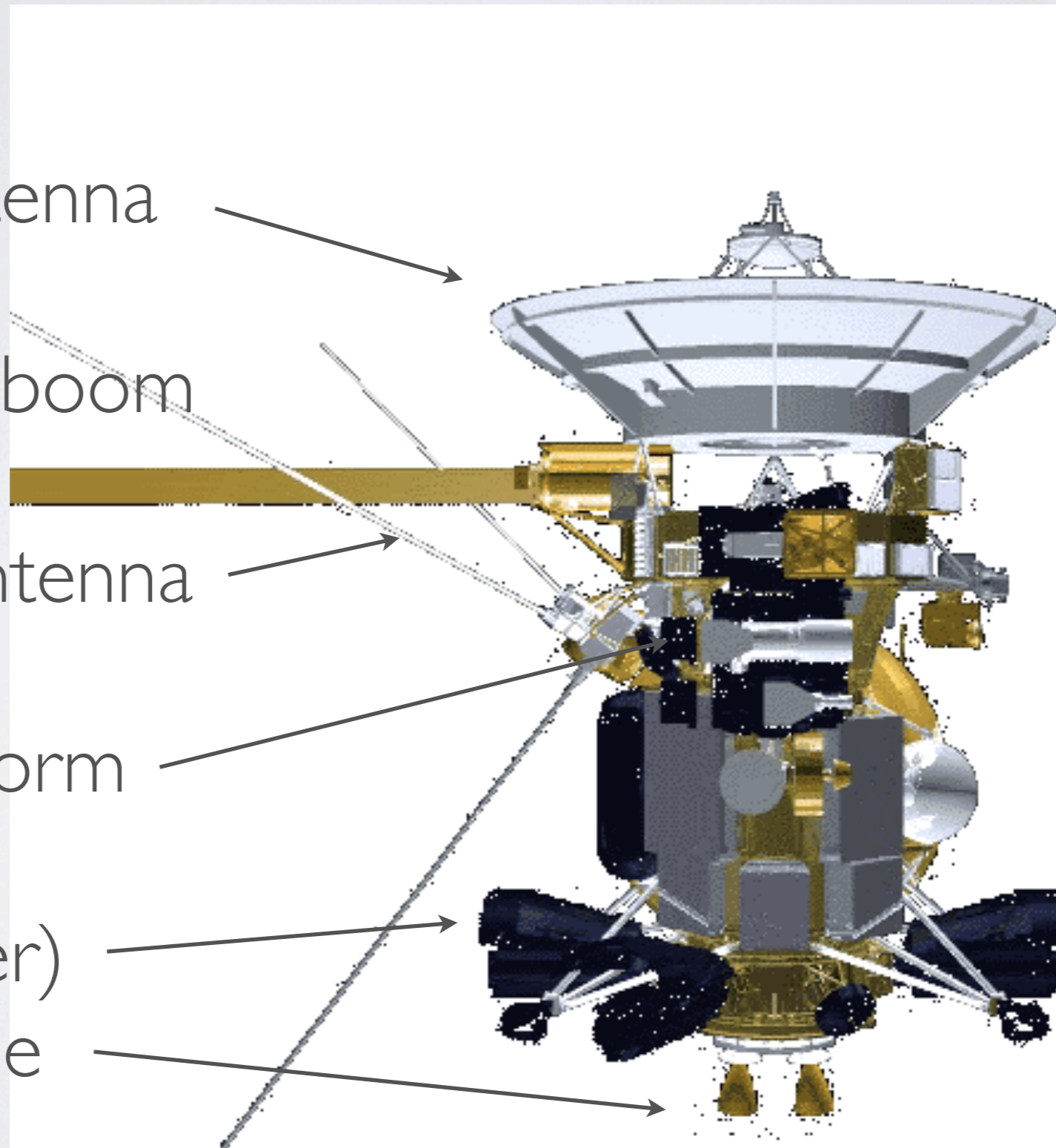
Magnetometer-boom

Plasma wave antenna

Camera platform

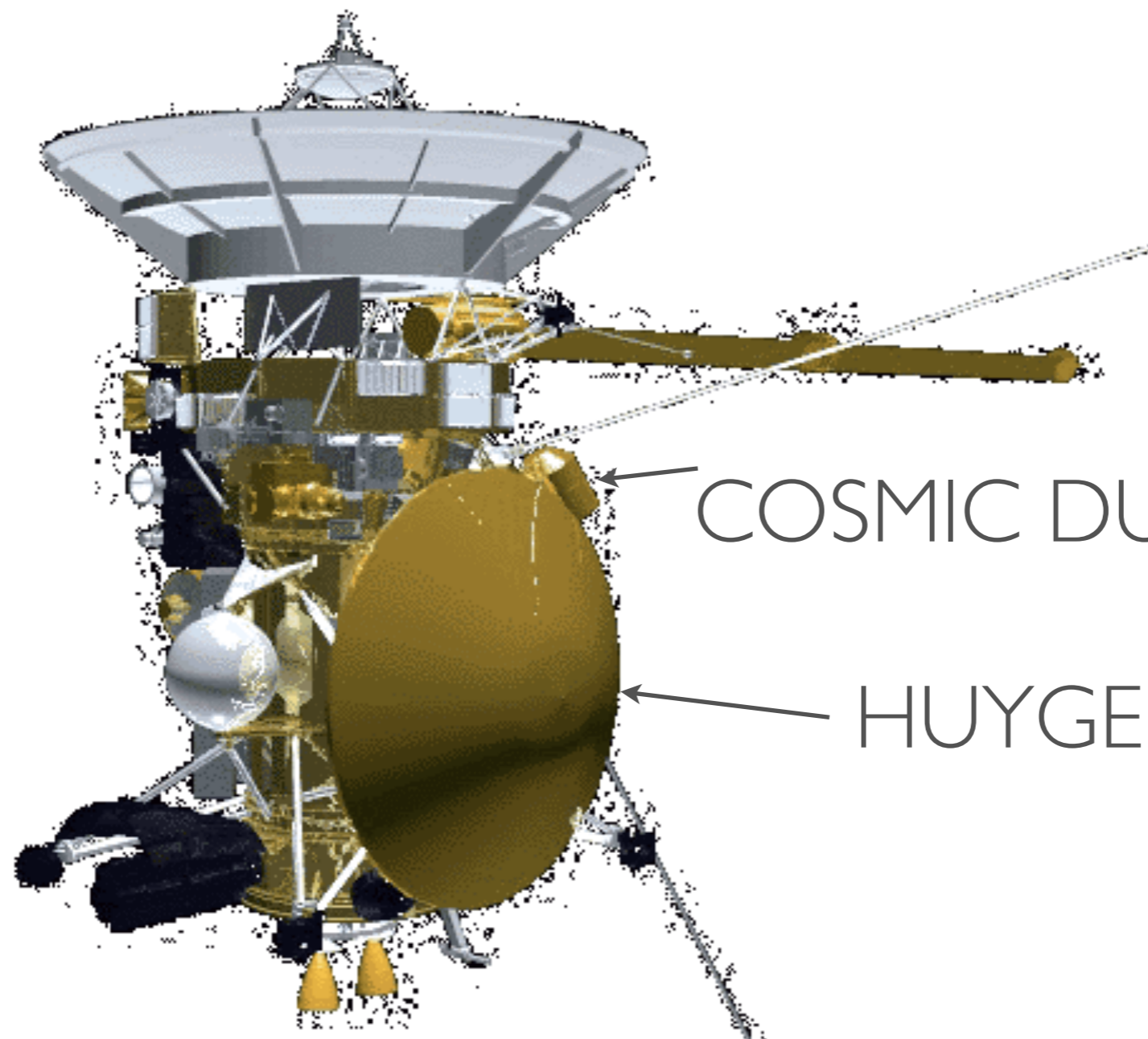
RTG (Power)

Main engine





# CASSINI SPACECRAFT



← COSMIC DUST ANALYSER

← HUYGENS PROBE



# CASSINI FACTS

Program partners : NASA, ESA, ASI

17 countries

international engineers and scientists: 5000

costs : 1.4 billion (pre-launch development)

\$ 710 M mission operations

\$ 54 M tracking

\$ 422 M launch vehicle

\$ 500 M ESA (Huygens)

\$ 160 M ASI

\$ 3.27 billion, U.S. \$2.6, Europe \$ 660 M



# CASSINI BUS

dry mass 2.1 t + 320 kg Huygens probe + 3.1 t propellant = 5.7 t

height : 6.8 m, 4m antenna, boom 11 m

22.000 wire connections, 12 km cabling

largest interplanetary S/C ever launched

3 RTGs, 750 W + small radio-isotope heaters everywhere

Main Engine : Mono-methyl-hydrazin, N-tetraoxid oxidator

16 small thrusters (Hydrazin)

Inertial Reference Unit - perform turns/firings while retain knowledge of own position

X Band, 20 W, Ka, S, Ku

ADA software, 2x2 Gbit Solid State Recorder,

1 MB memory for command subsystem, 16 kB PROM

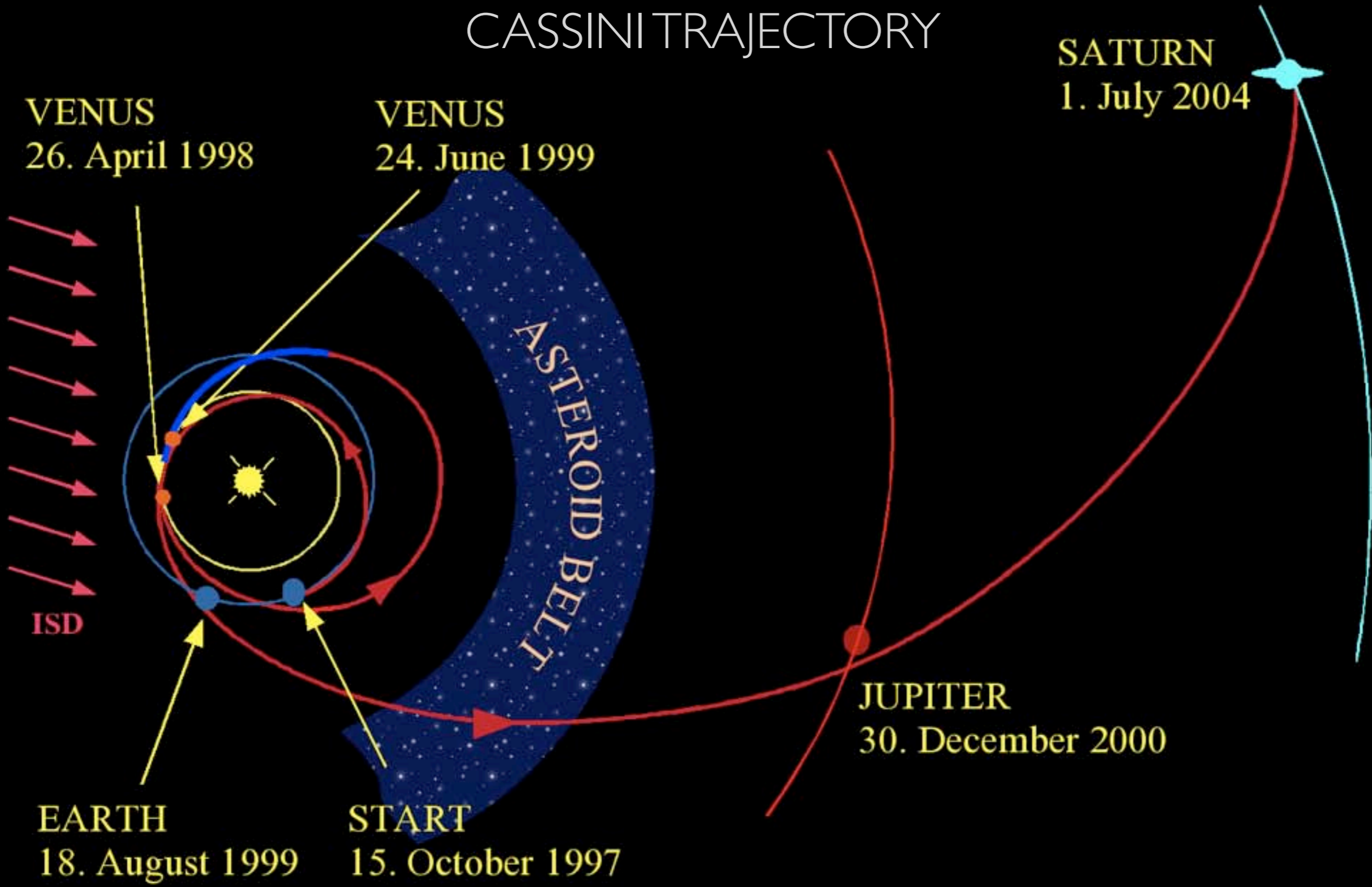
redundant computers

4 Gyros, cover for main engine

Main engine : 445 Newton, gimbaled to maintain vector if CoM changes



# CASSINI TRAJECTORY





# CRUISE SCIENCE: NOT ONLY SATURN ...

Cassini searches for gravity waves with radio science subsystem

Cassini confirms general relativity theory during conjunction (Cassini - Sun - Earth) in June 2002 ,  
Nature 2003

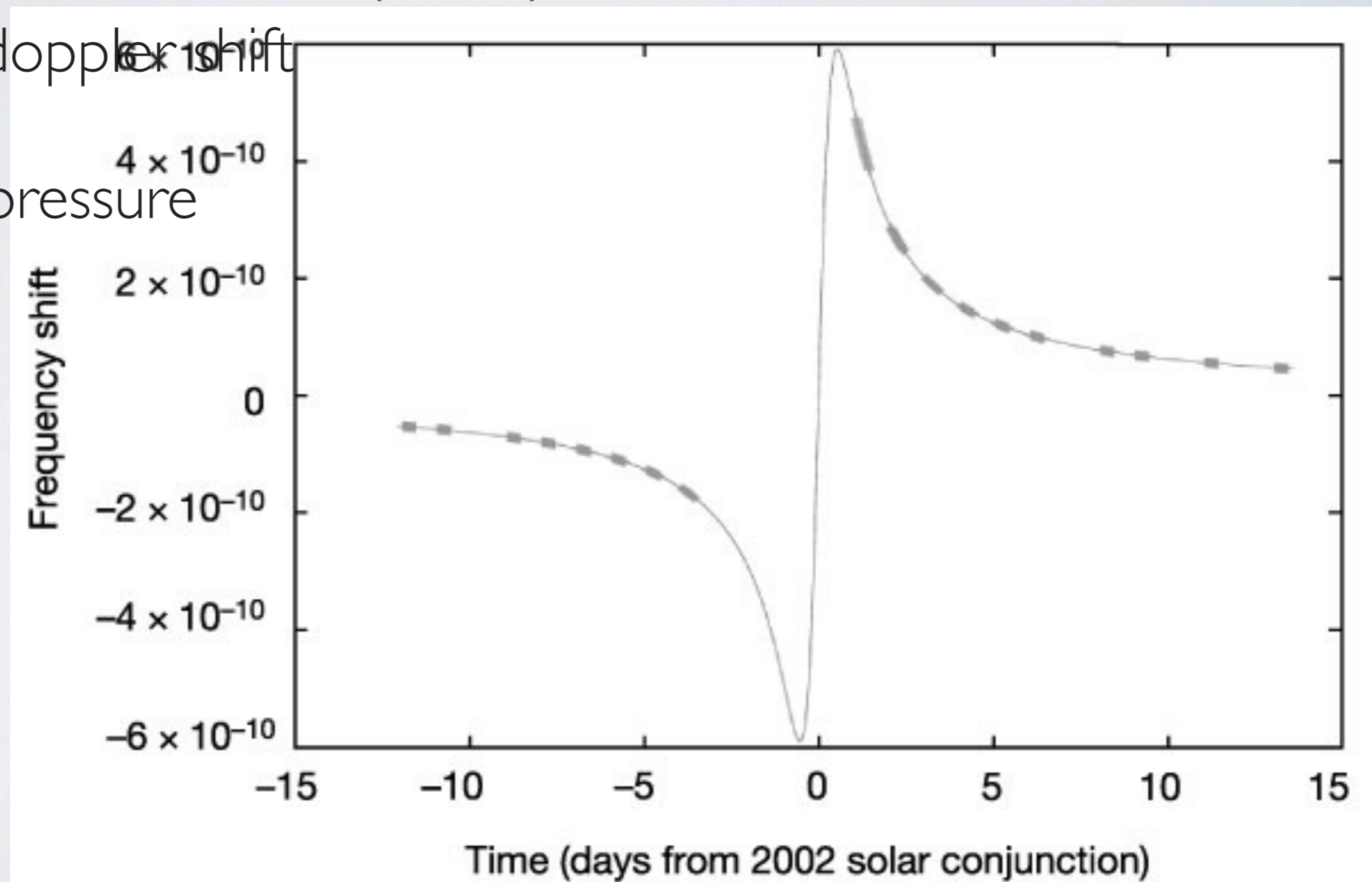




# EINSTEIN WAS RIGHT

frequency shift after corrections

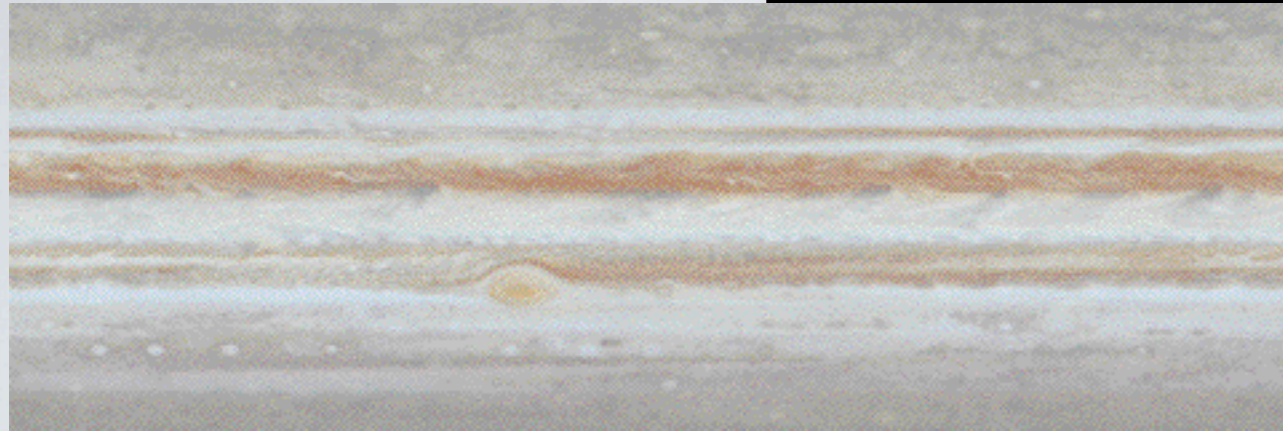
correction for doppler shift  
due to  
solar radiation pressure  
non-isotrope  
heat emission  
of RTGs, ...





# JUPITER SCIENCE

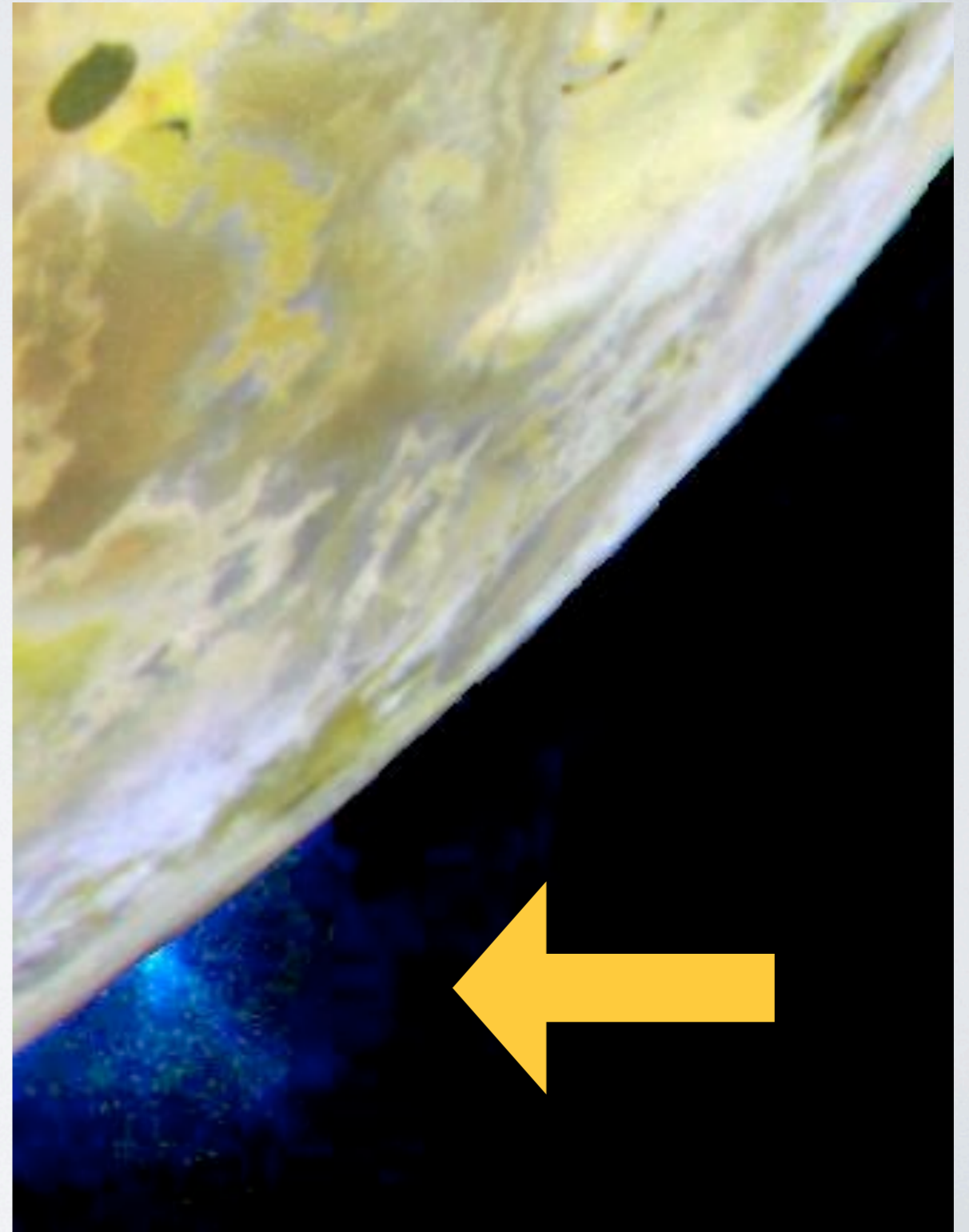
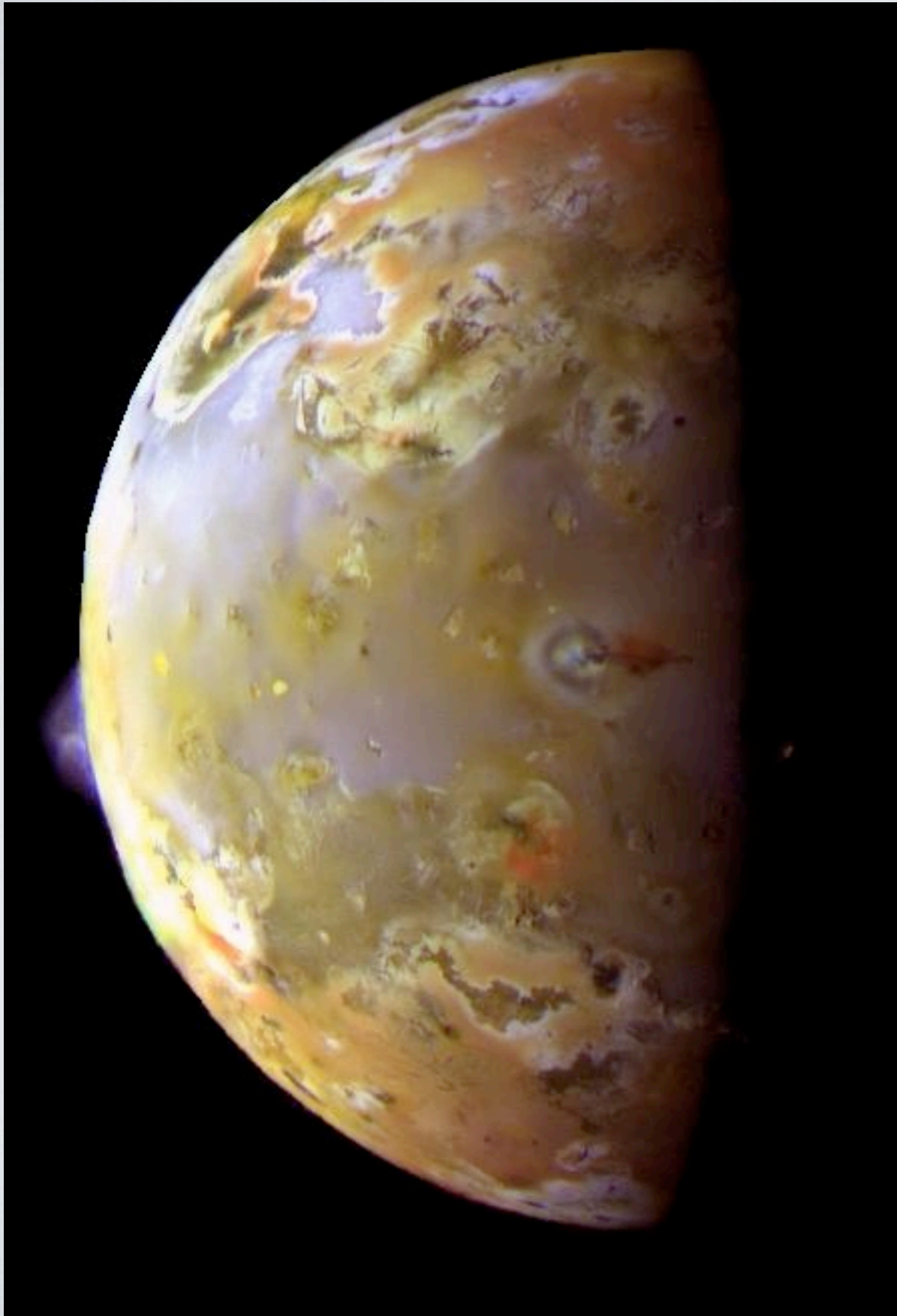
2000





# DUST FROM JUPITER

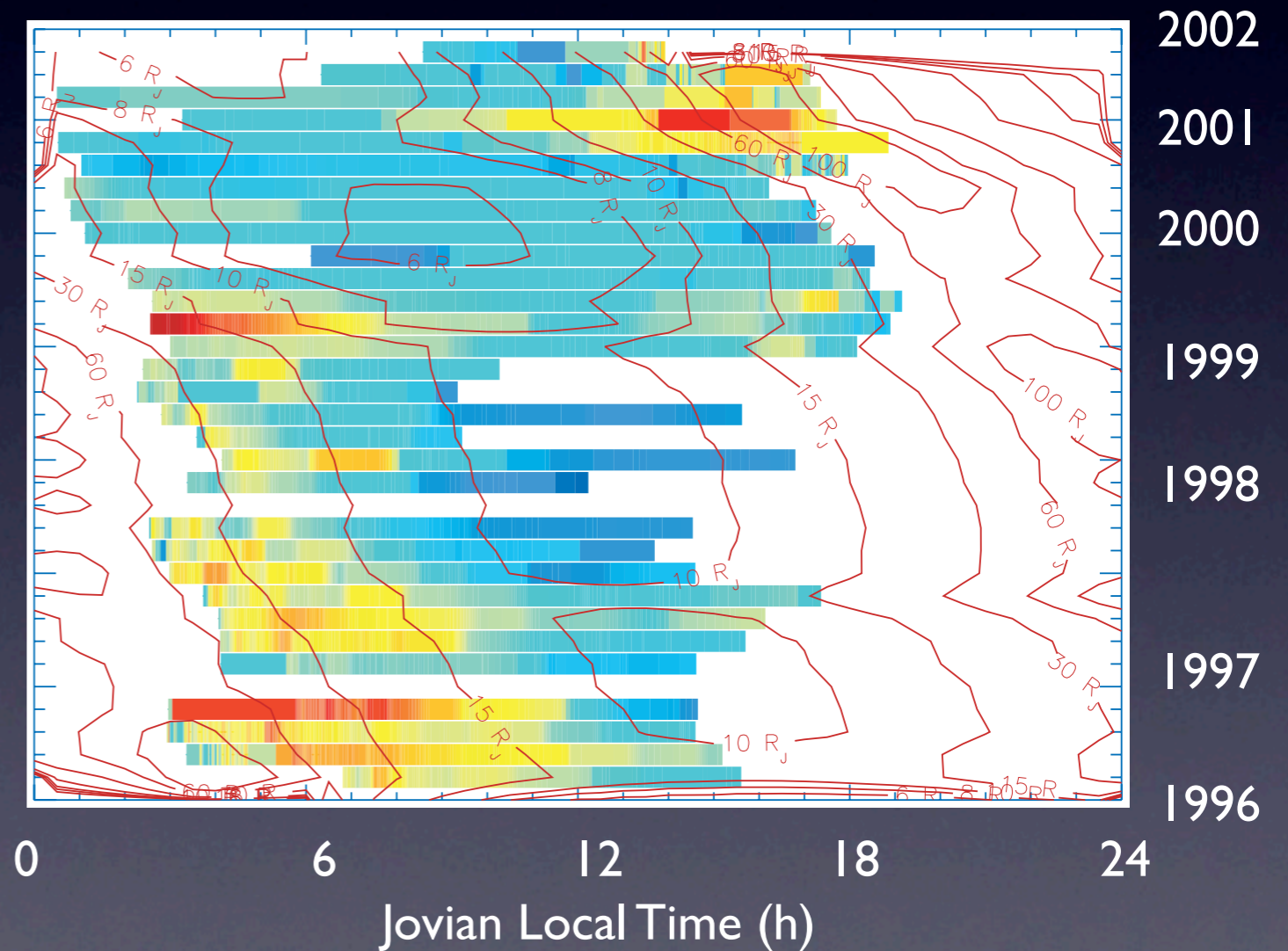
„Io Ashes“





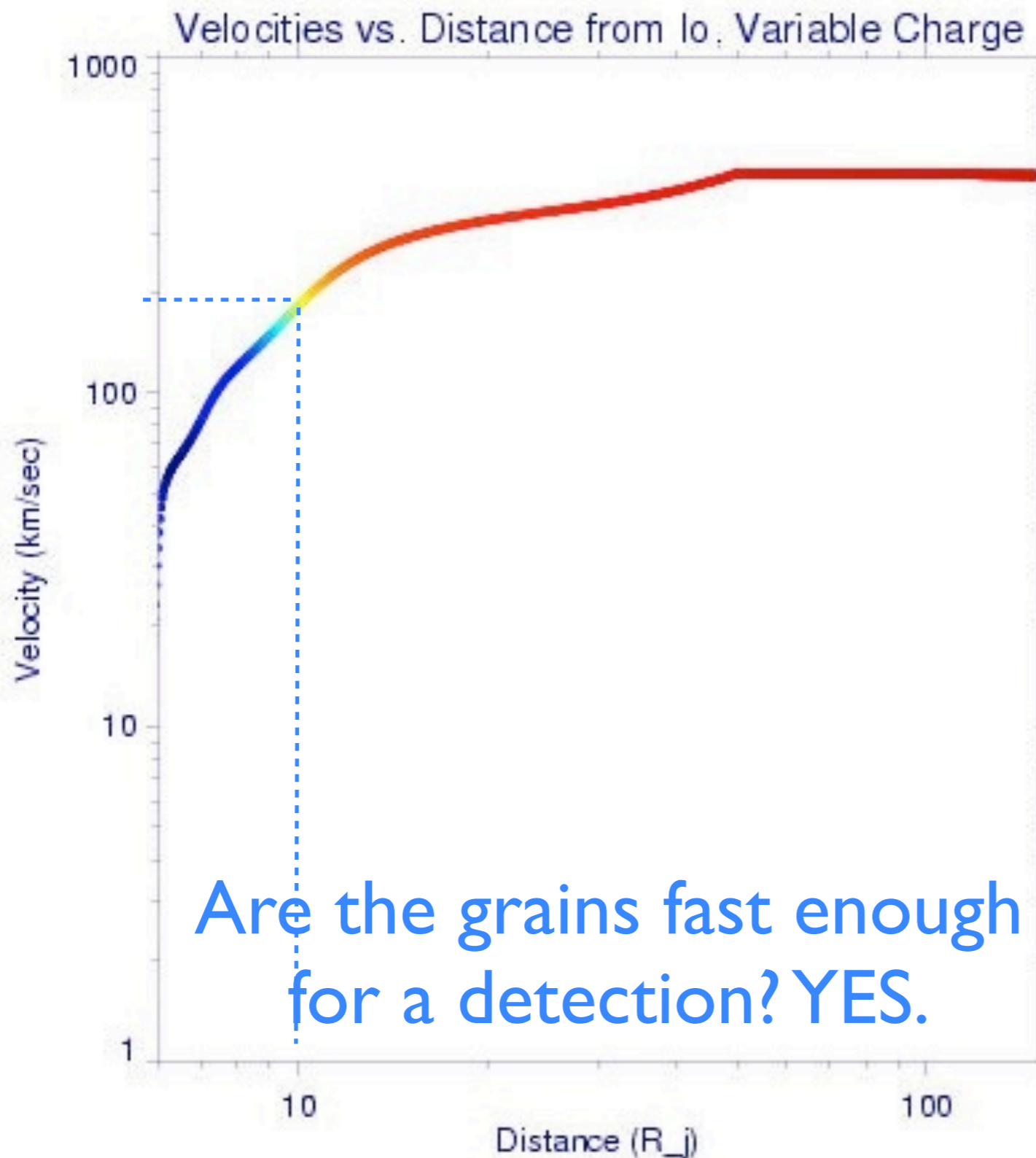
# „Io Ashes“ - Stream Particles

- Origin: Io Volcanoes
- Size: 5 ... 40 nm
- Dynamics Dominated by EM Forces
- Fast Enough to Escape From Jovian System
- Allow to Monitor Io Activity





# Speed of nano-dust : $> 100$ km/s



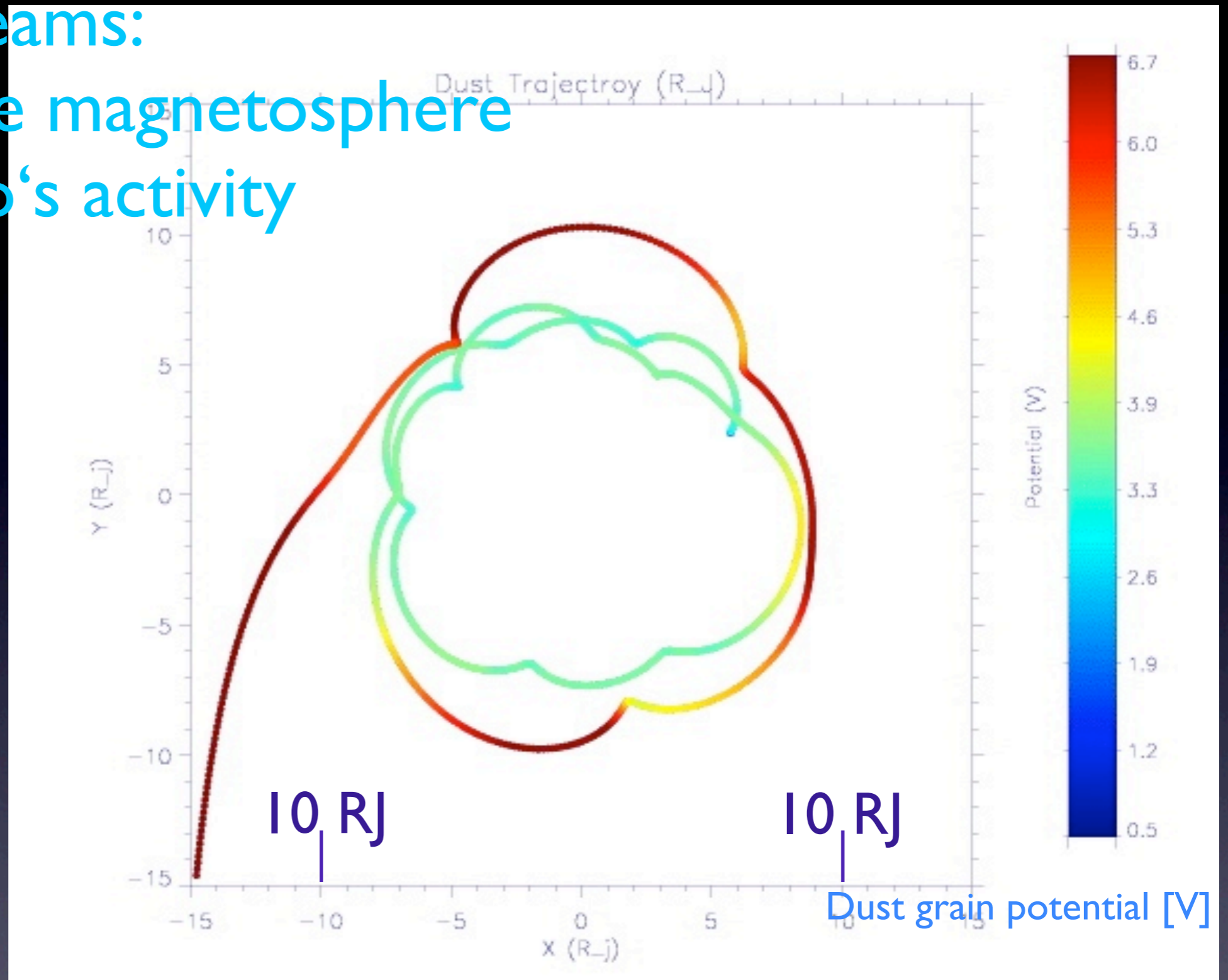
Are the grains fast enough for a detection? YES.

6 nm grains

A. Graps



# Io's dust streams: Probes of the magnetosphere Probes for Io's activity

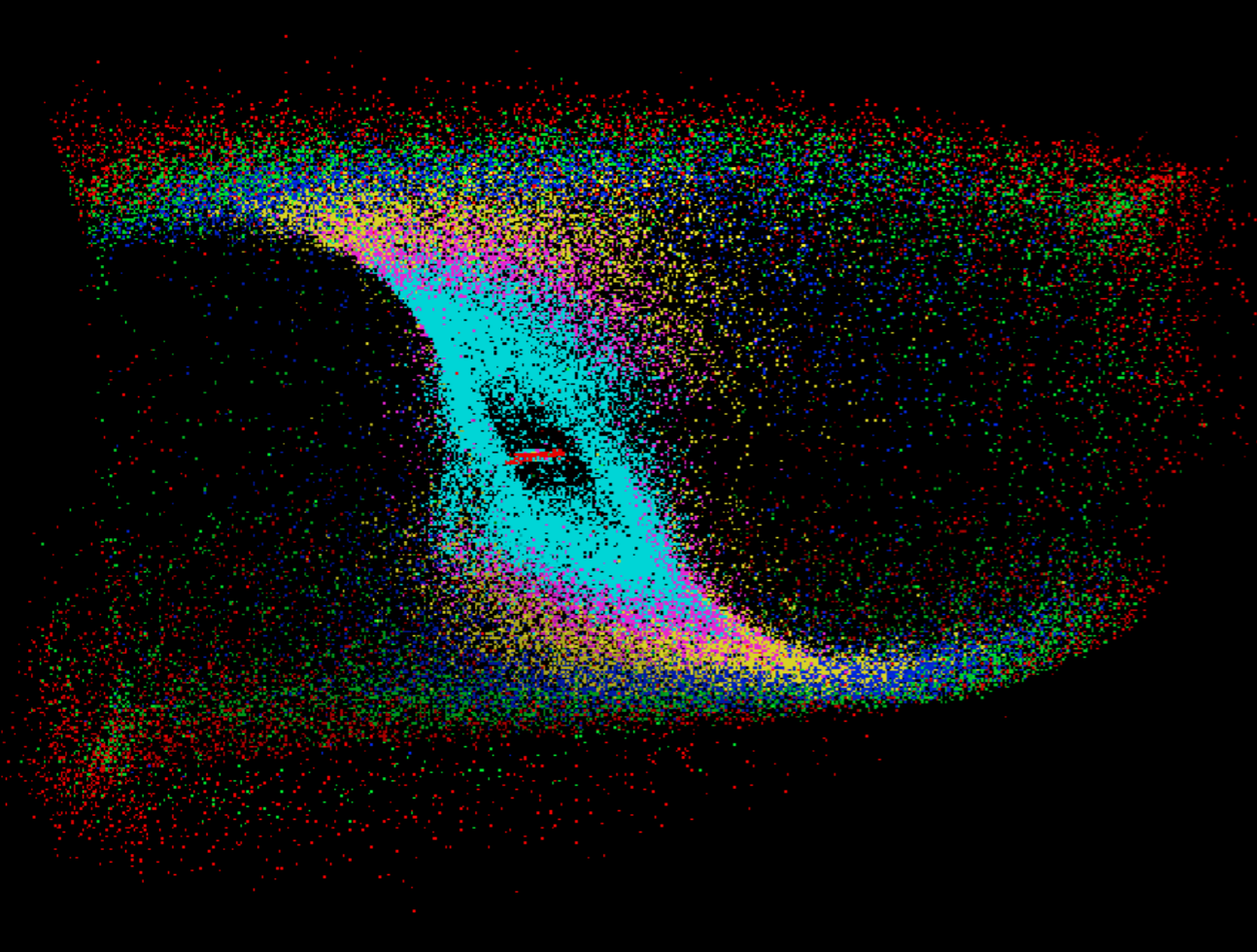


5 nm grain (silicate)

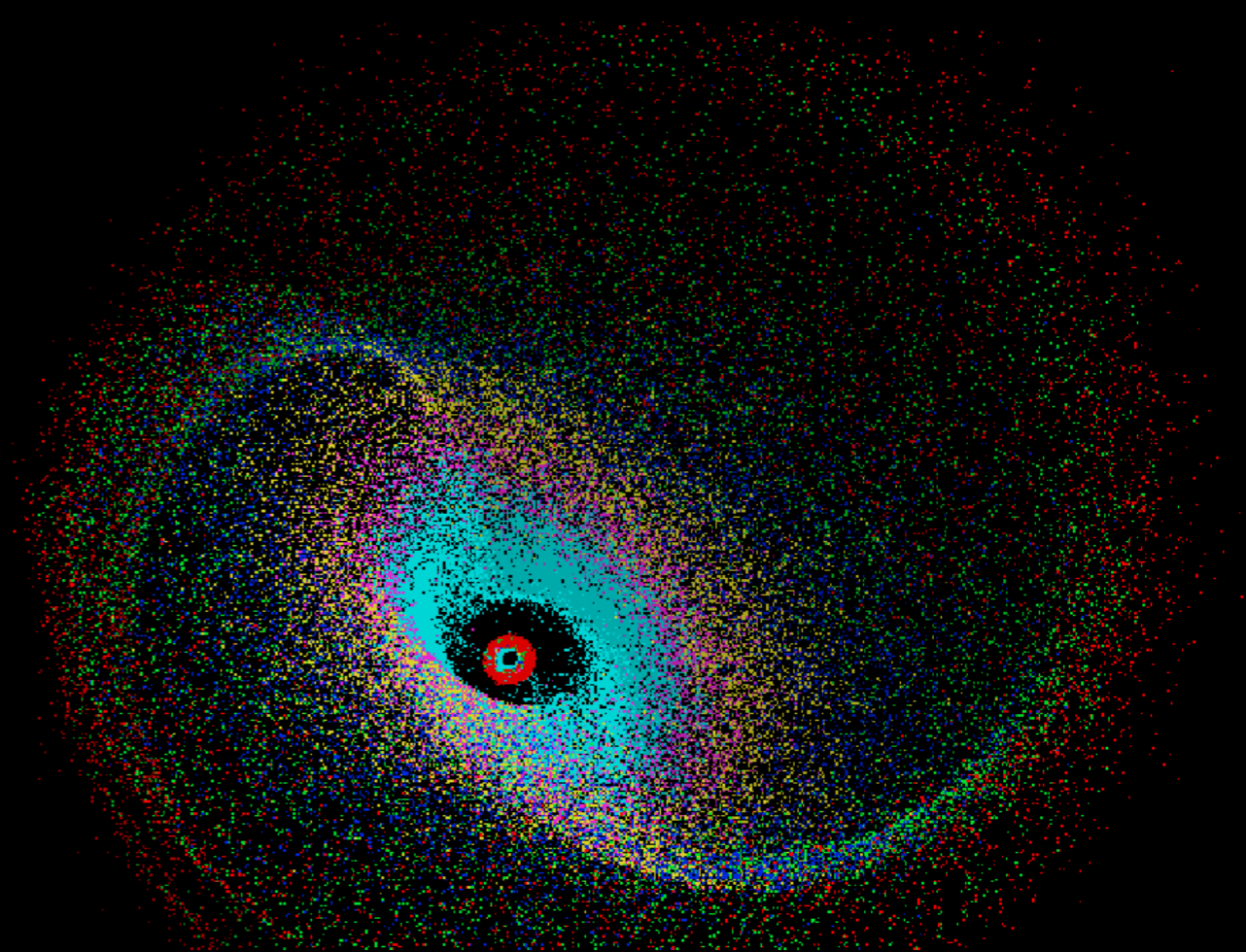




# Io as a Dust Source: Nano-Dust Coupling to Magnetosphere



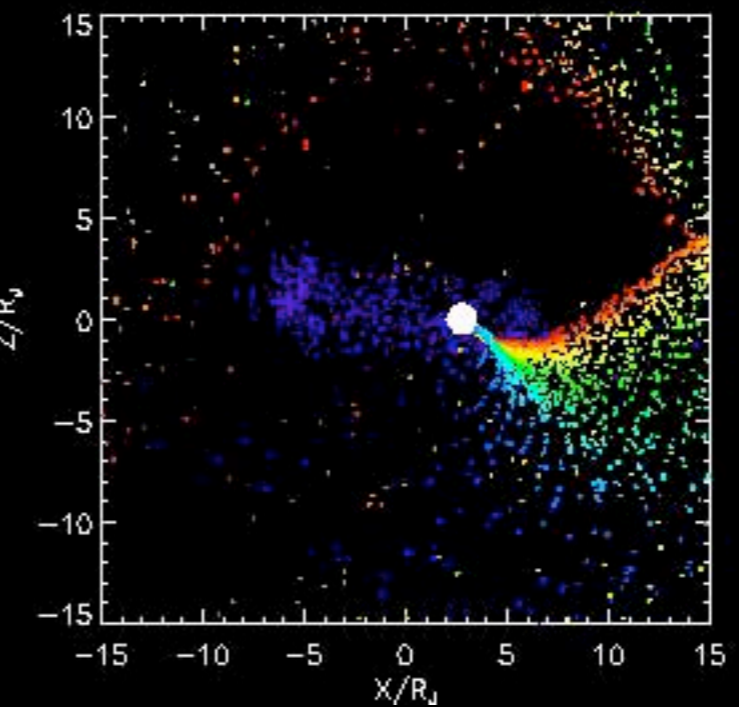
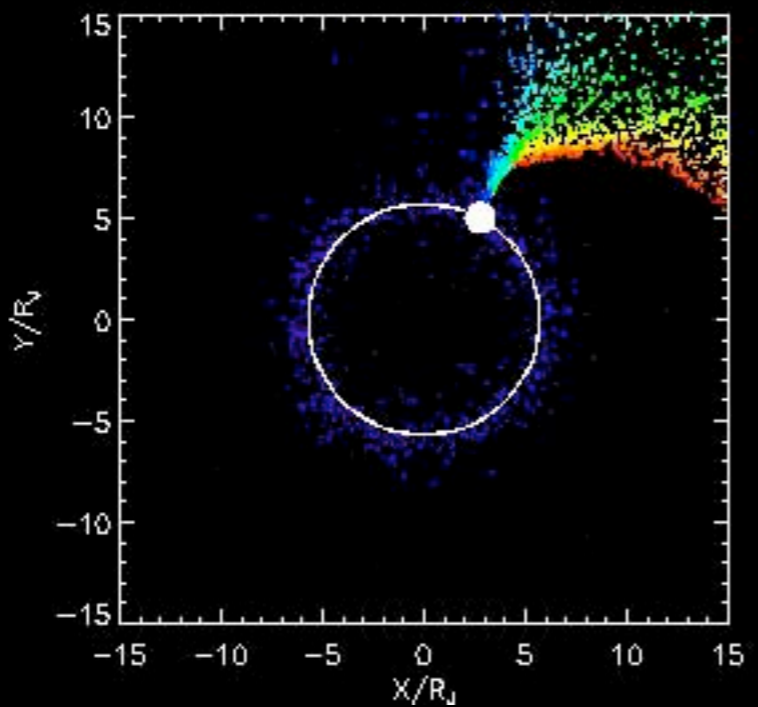
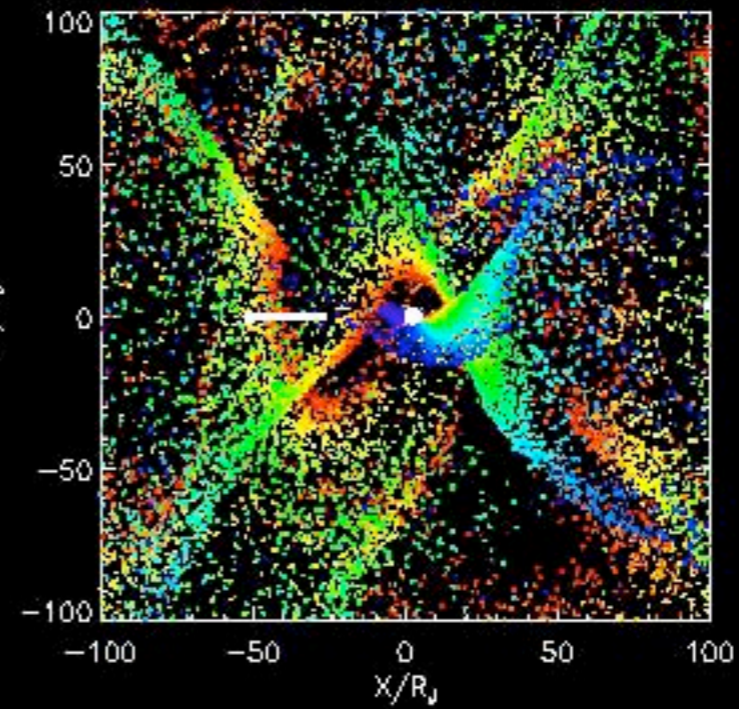
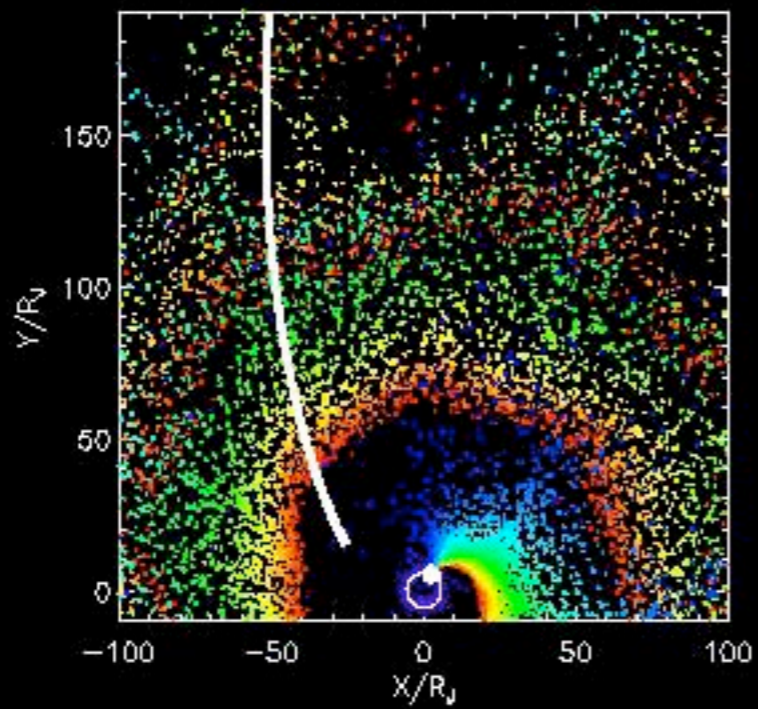
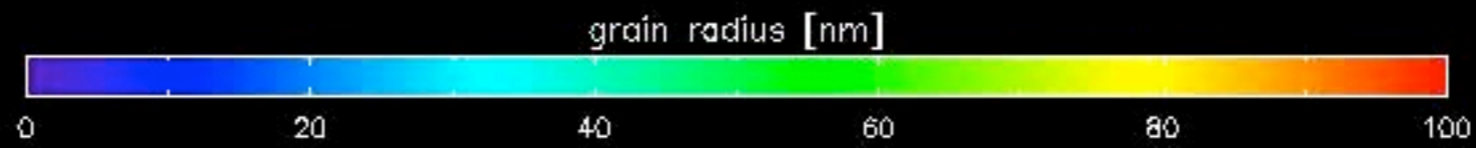
Side View



Top View

A. Graps

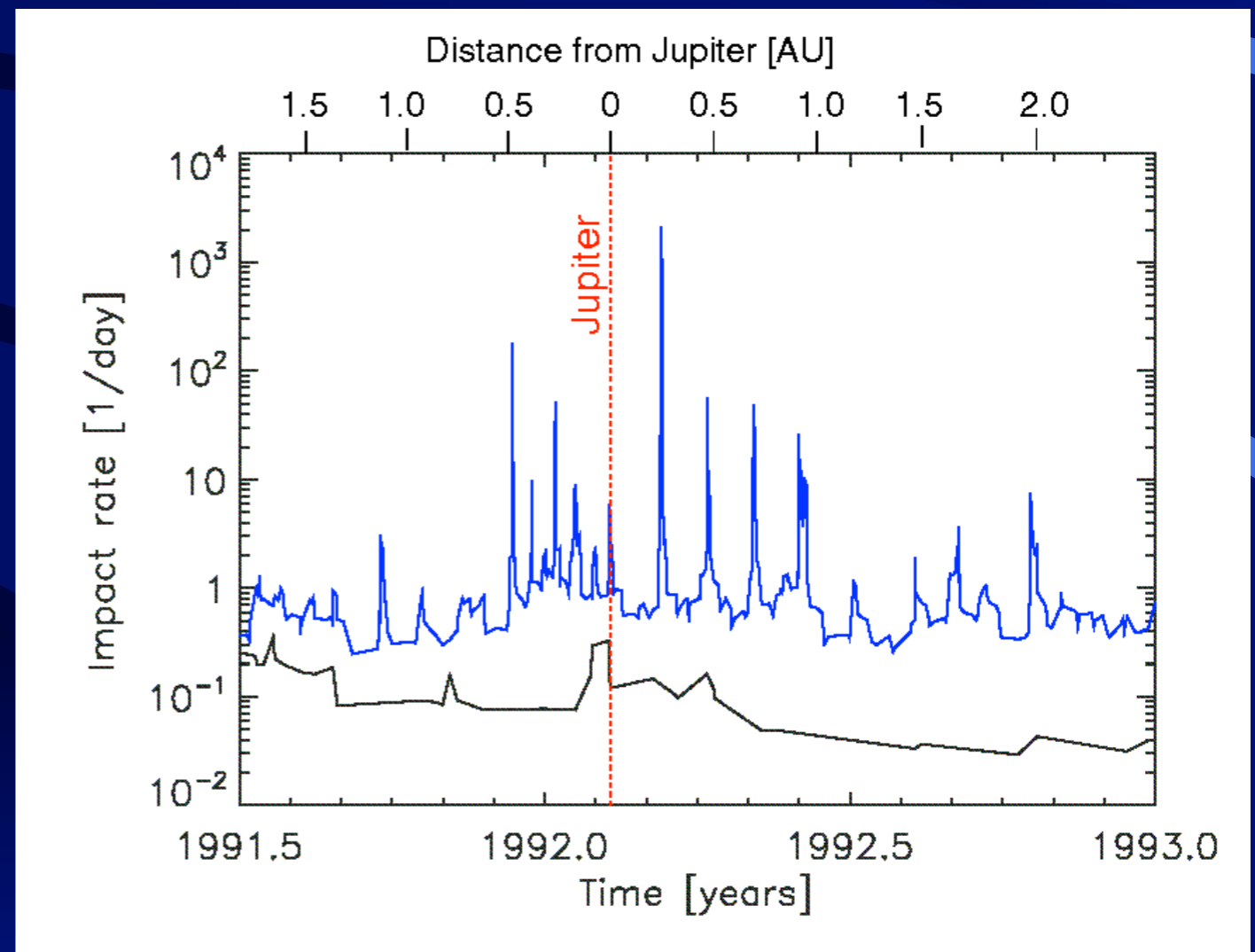




M. Horanyi

# Io as a Dust Source in the Jovian System

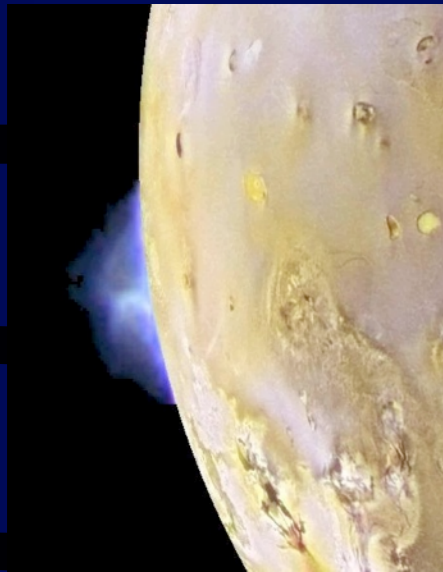
- Streams of electrically charged dust grains emanating from the jovian system (Grün et al., 1993)
- 26 day periodicity (Krüger et al., 2006)
- Interaction with interplanetary magnetic field
- Grain radii:  $\sim 10$  nm, speeds  $> 300$  km/sec (Zook et al., 1996)
- Jupiter's magnetosphere: giant dust accelerator
- Source: Io (Graps et al., 2000)
- Confirmed during 2<sup>nd</sup> Jupiter flyby in 2004 (Krüger et al. 2006)
- Stream formation due to CIR and CME interaction (Flandes & Krüger, 2007)



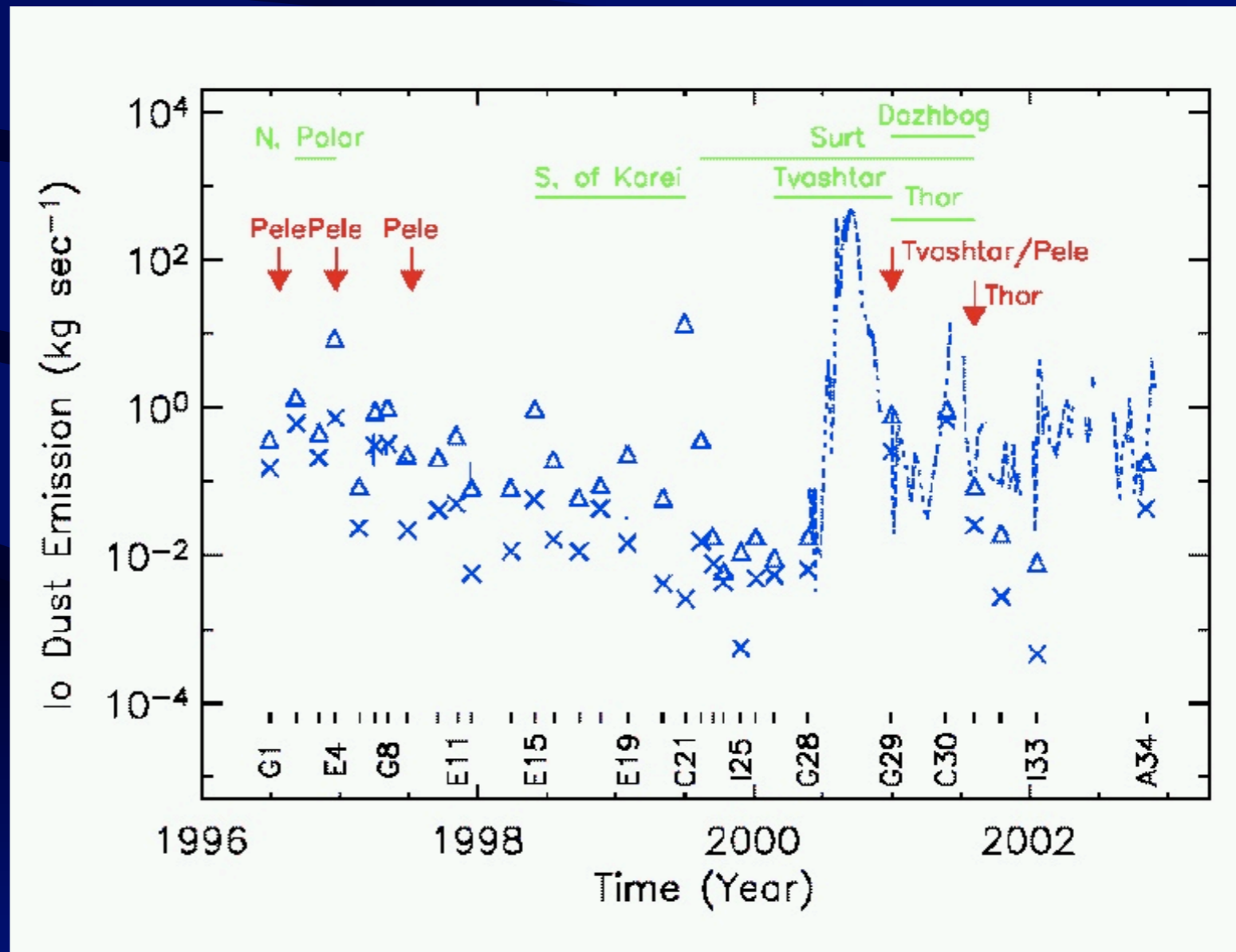
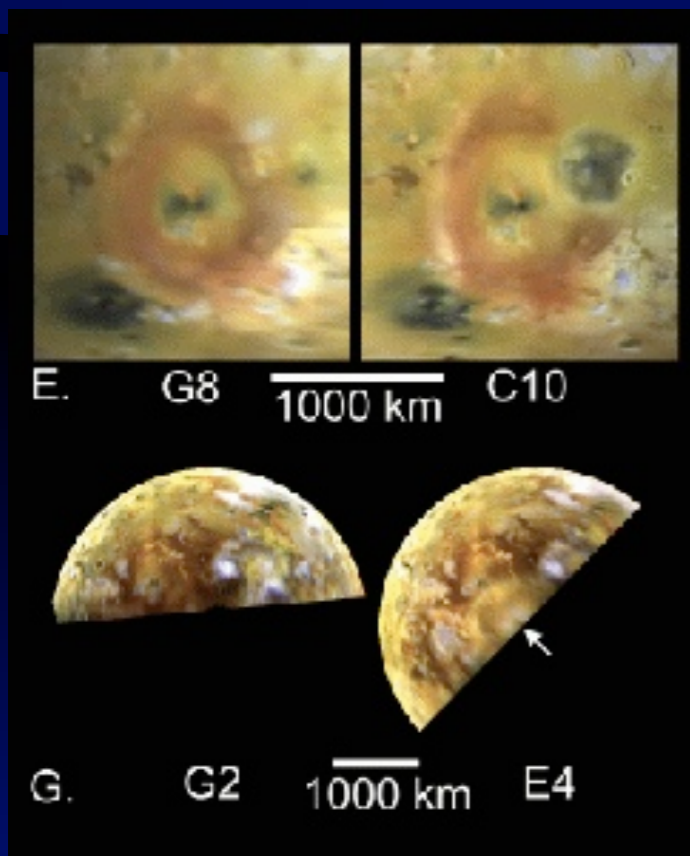


# Dust Streams: A Monitor of Io's Volcanism

- Average Io dust emission:  $\sim 0.1 - 1 \text{ kg s}^{-1}$
- Small compared to  $\sim 1 \text{ ton s}^{-1}$  of plasma ejected
- Peaks in dust emission coincide with largest surface changes
- Dust condensation in plumes

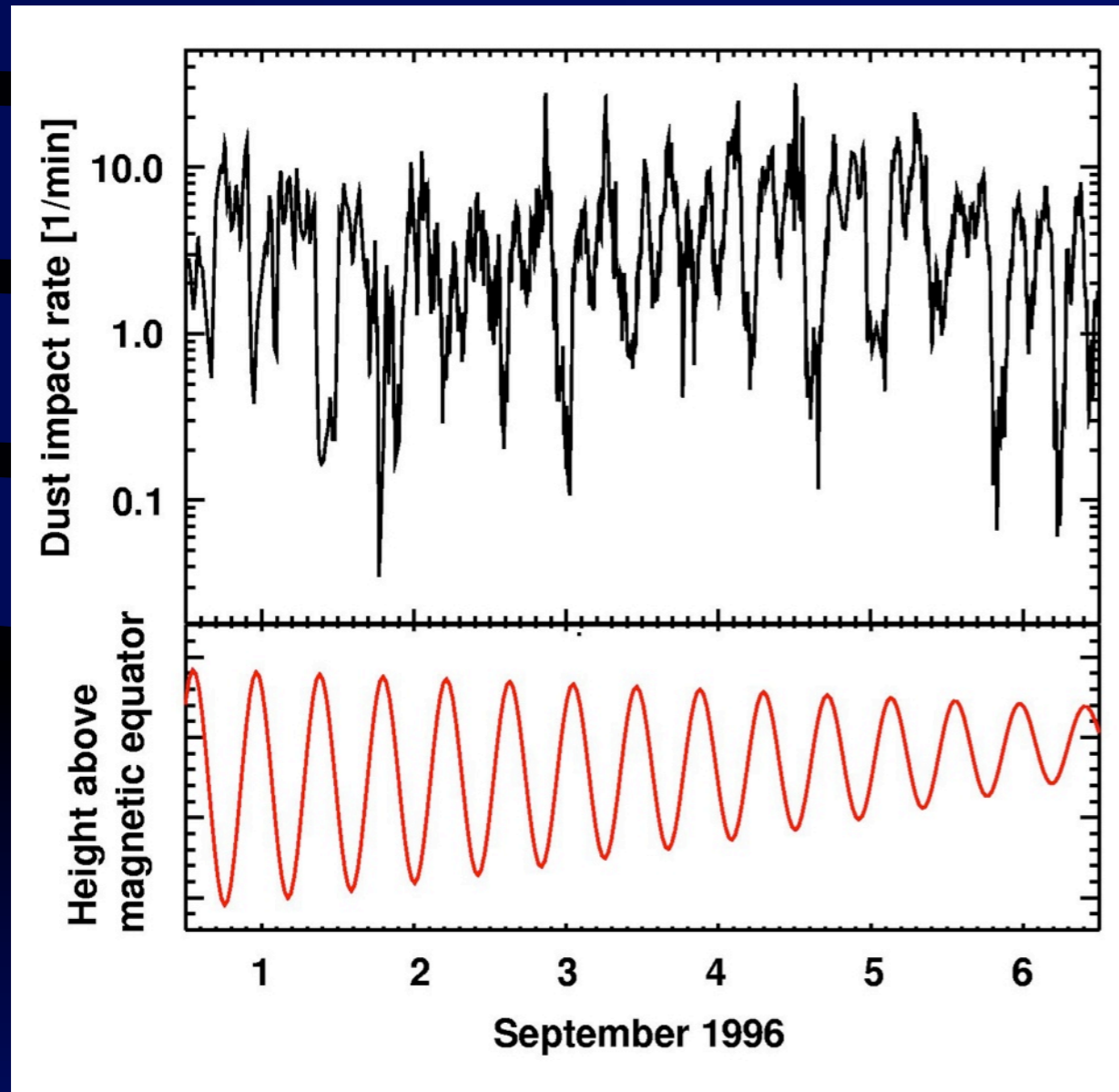
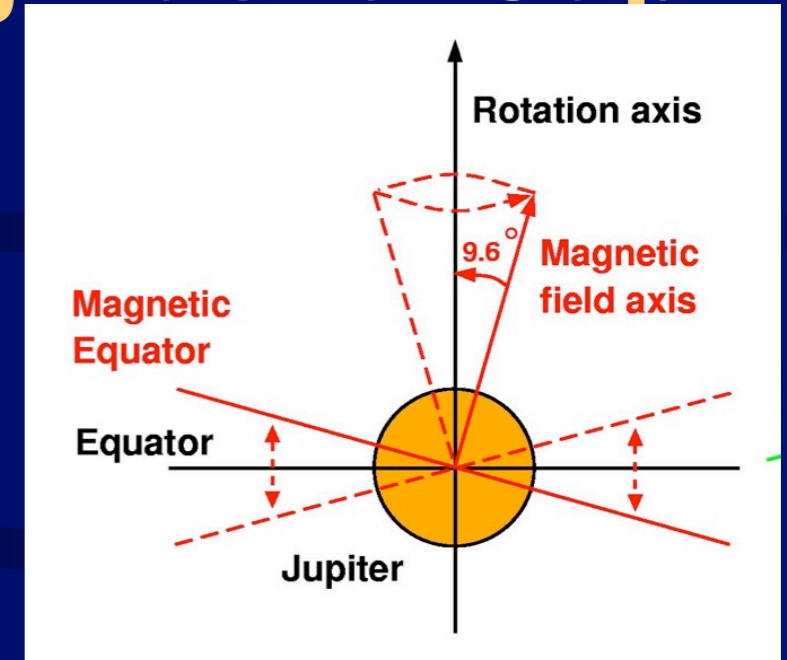


Io, Galileo

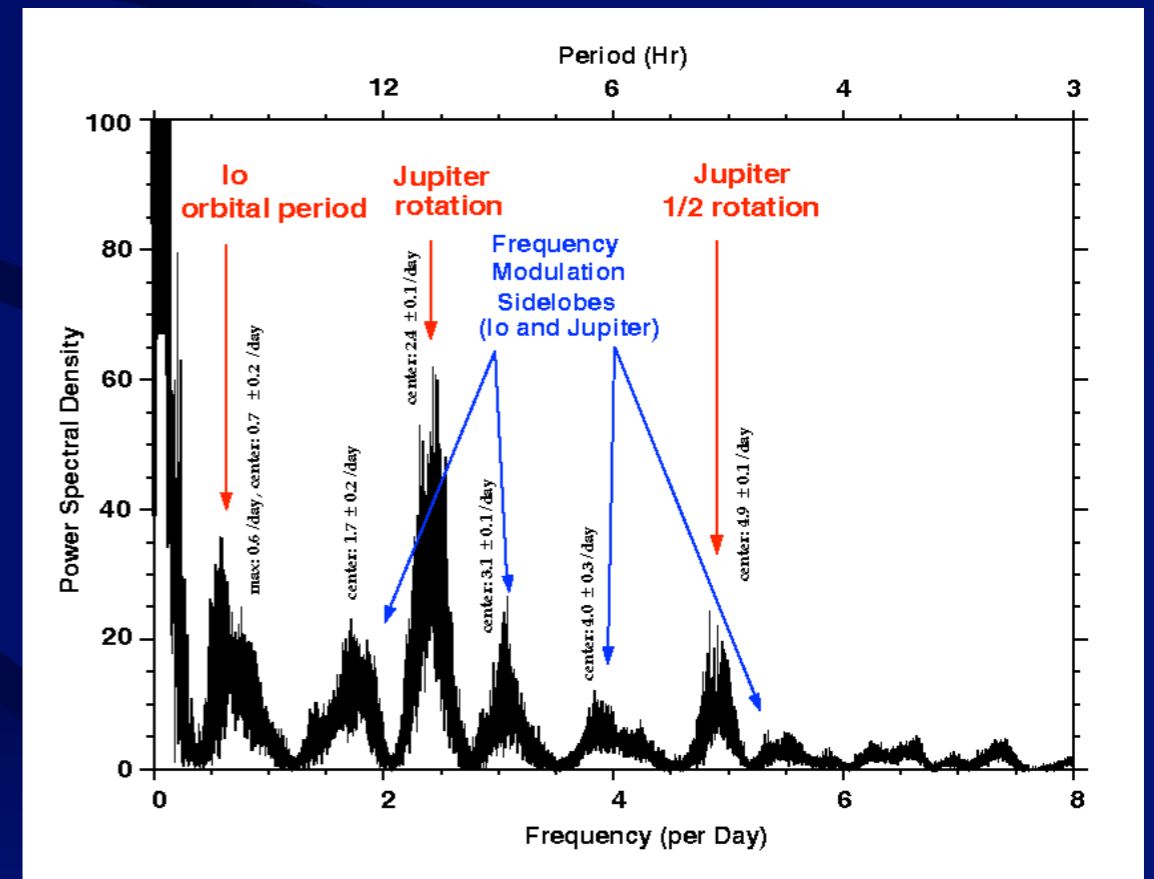


# Electromagnetically Interacting Dust at Jupiter

Dust impact rate correlated with Jupiter's 10h rotation period

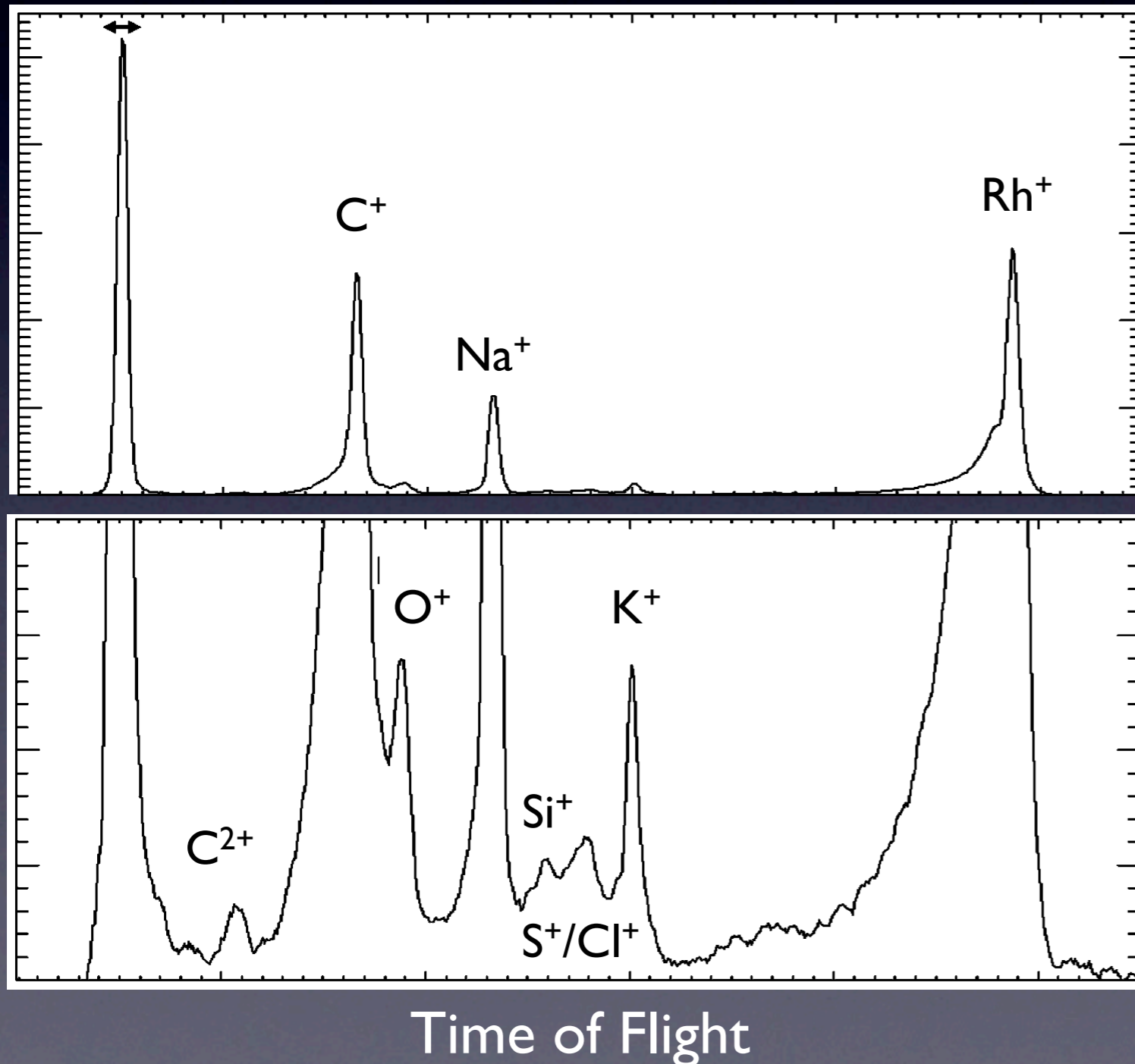


Periodogram of Galileo data





# Composition Of Io's Volcanic Matter



Io Ashes Mostly  
NaCl Crystals

Postberg et al., Icarus, 2006

# Cosmic Dust Analyser (CDA)

## Dust detector on Cassini spacecraft:



- **dust mass/velocity:** impact ionisation detector
- **chemical composition:** time of flight mass spectrometer
- **dust charge/velocity/impact angle:** charge sensitive entrance grids
- **high rate detector (HRD)**



# CDA measurement range

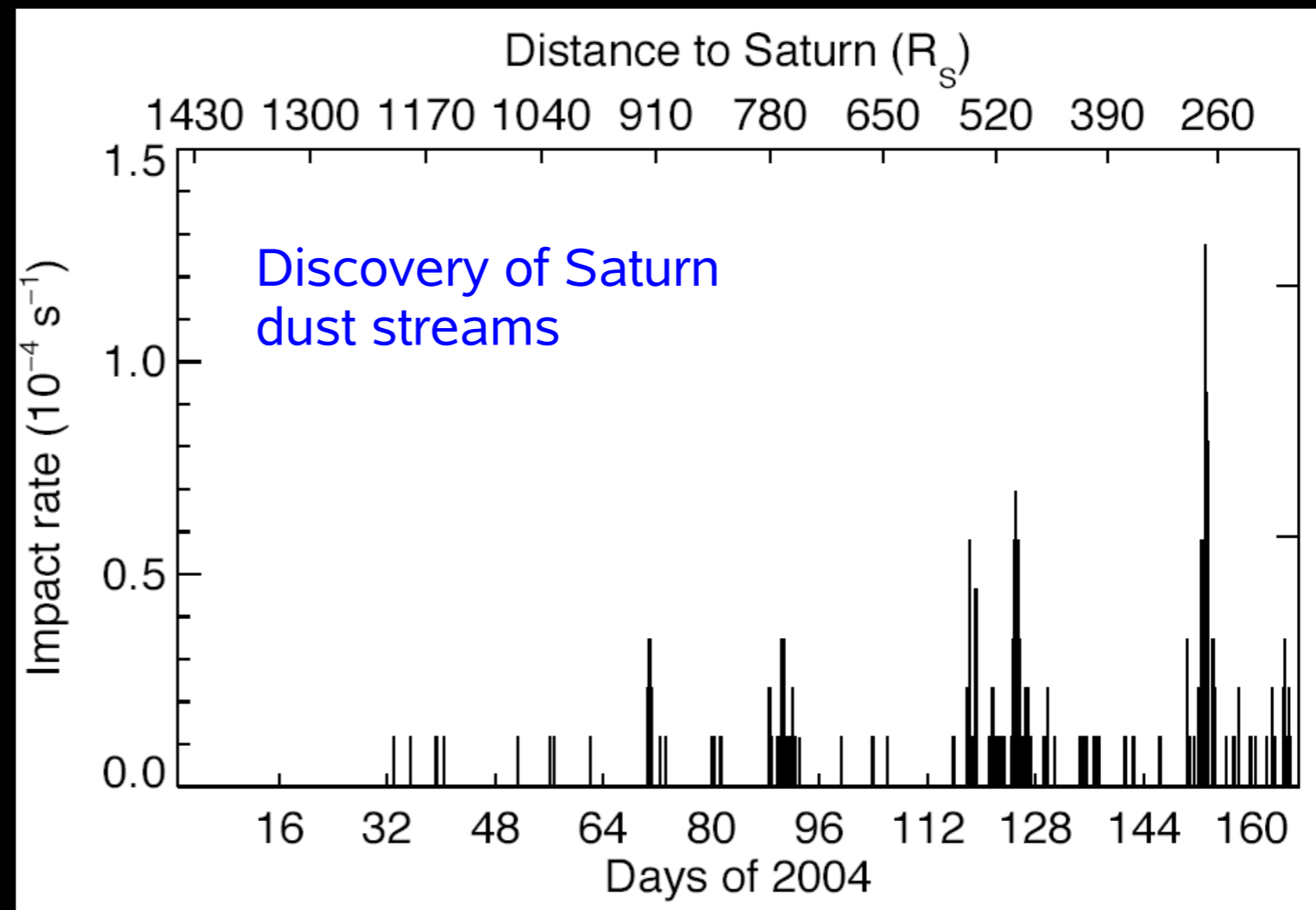
- Sensitive area:  $0.1 \text{ m}^2$
- Dust speed:  $1\text{-}100 \text{ km s}^{-1}$
- Dust mass:  $10^{-15}\text{-}10^{-9} \text{ g (@}20 \text{ km s}^{-1}\text{)}$
- Dust charge:  $10^{-15} - 10^{-13} \text{ C}$
- Dust composition: 20-50 mass resolution
- Impact counting rate:  $1/\text{week}\text{-}10000/\text{s}$   
1000 times more sensitive than optical measurements

CDA finds one particle within one  $\text{km}^3$



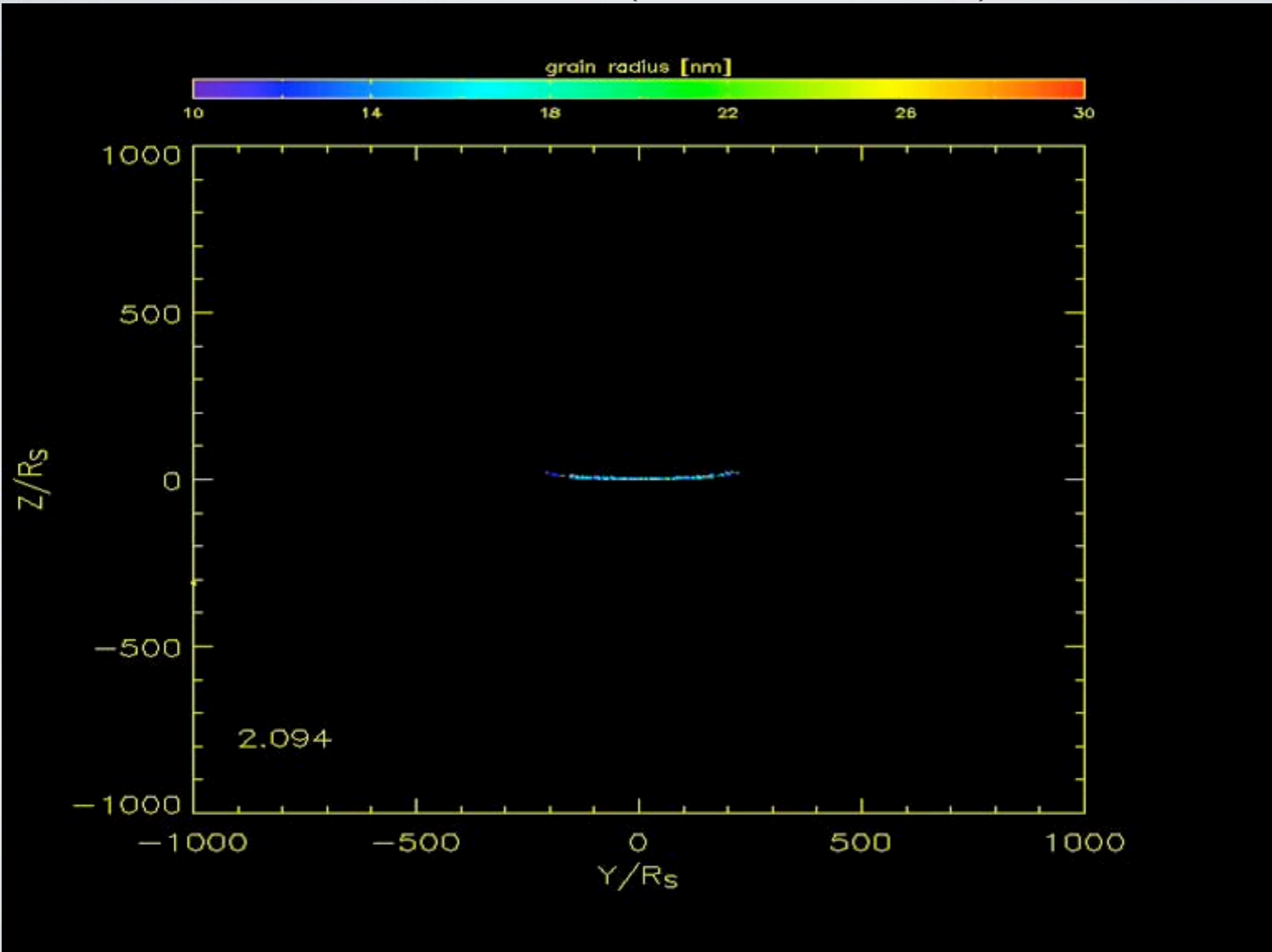
# CDA Science Highlights I (Cruise)

- Streams of nano-dust from Saturn :  
Discovery, composition and dynamics,  
coupling between CIRs/CMEs and dust stream  
dynamics (S. Kempf, Nature)
- Origin of particles  
detected during the  
approach to Saturn  
is the A ring
- Composition of  
these particles:  
silicates



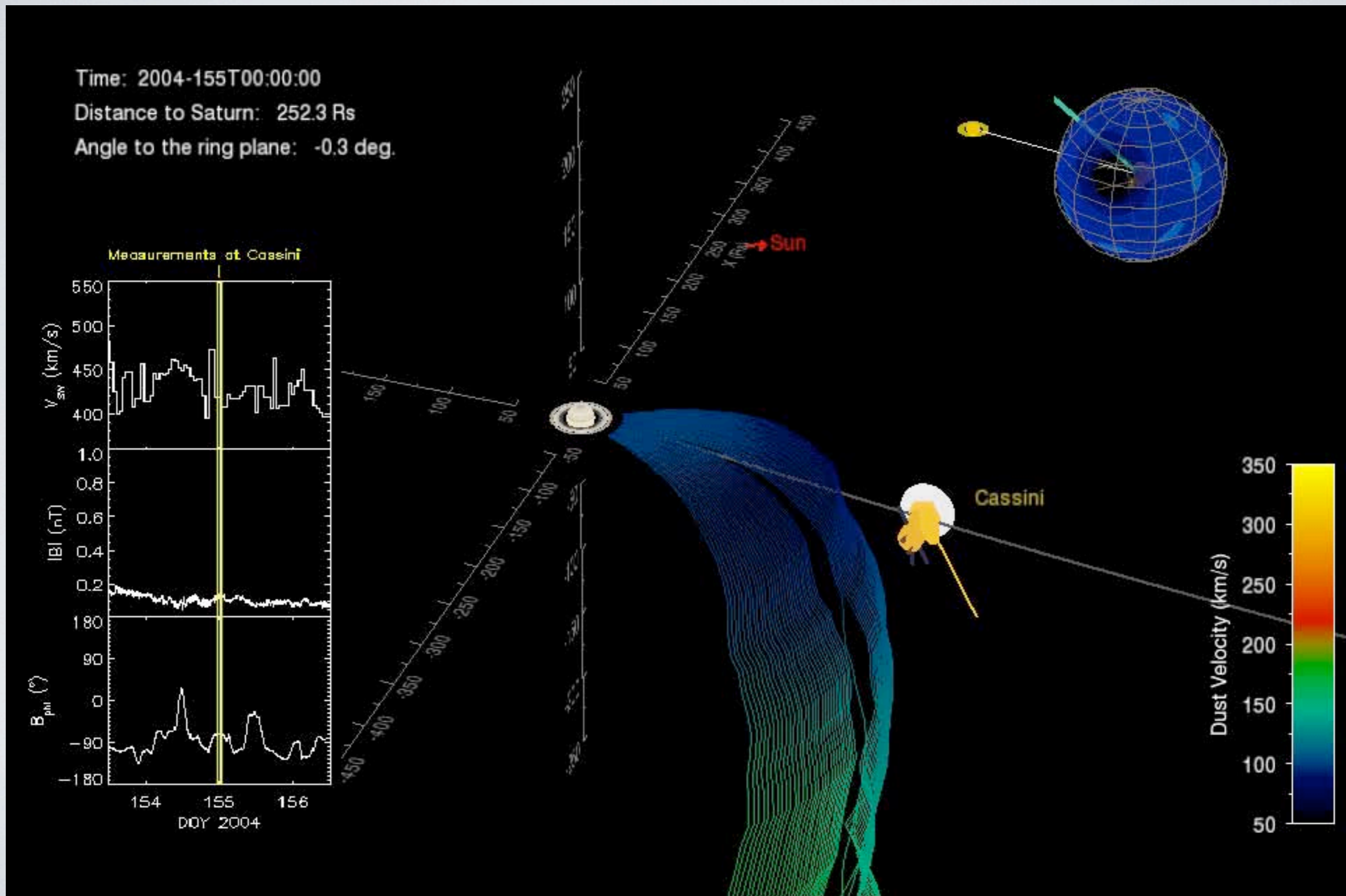


# SIMULATION OF ESCAPING DUST STREAMS FROM SATURN (M. HORANYI)



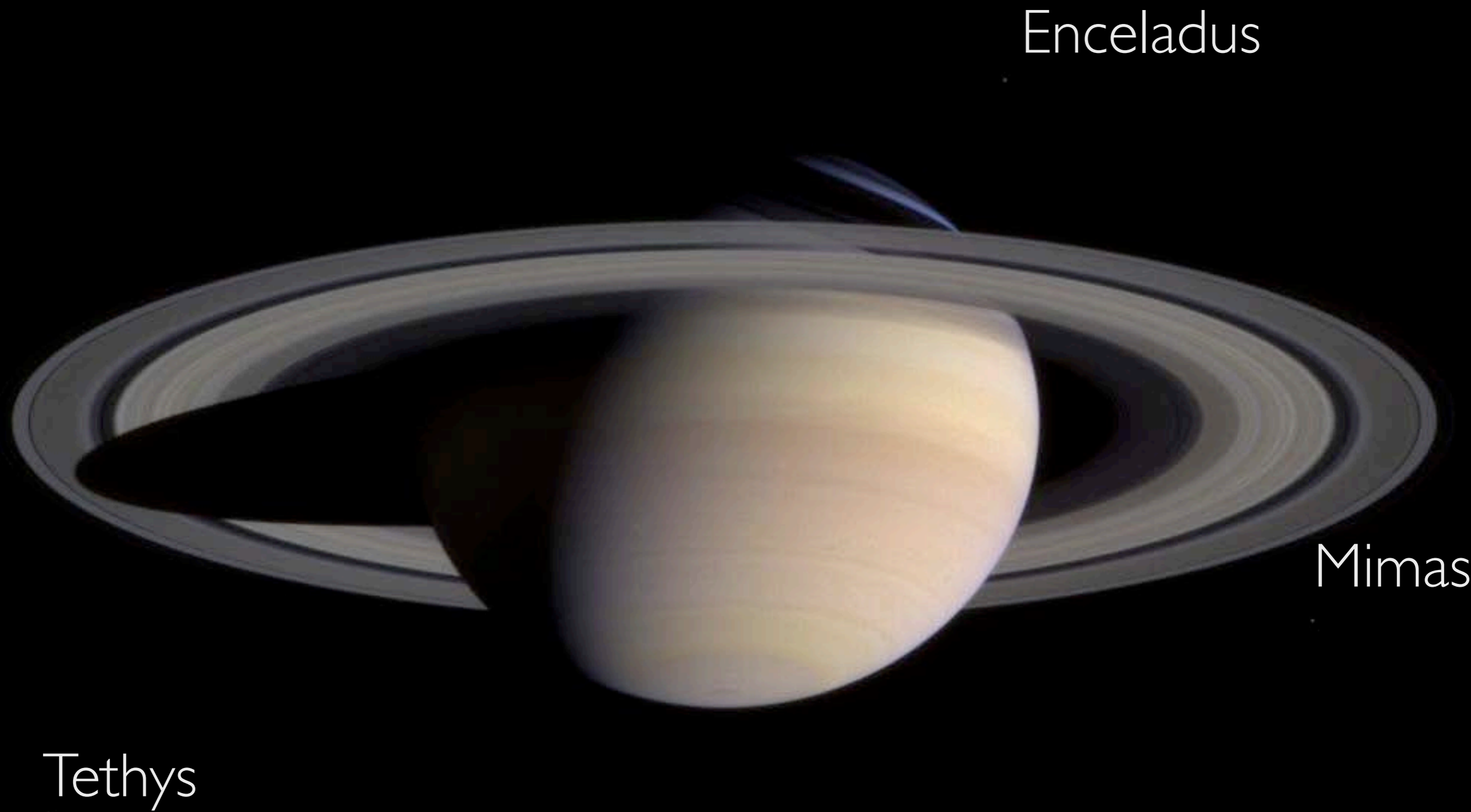
# DUST STREAM MODELING

S. Hsu





# SATURN APPROACH



Enceladus

Mimas

Tethys

# PHOEBE

Flyby : 2004, June 11  
ice-rich moon covered  
with dark material  
bright crater edges

190 m/pixel





# PHOEBE CRATER

80 M/PIXEL



# A COMET LIKE OBJECT



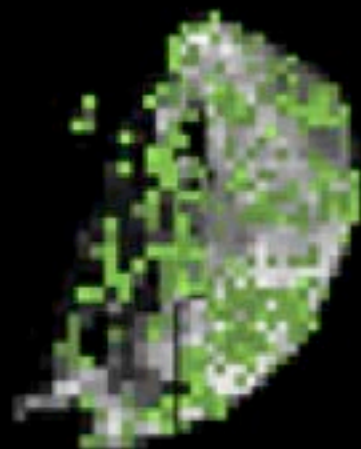
Phoebe  
Imaging  
Mosaic



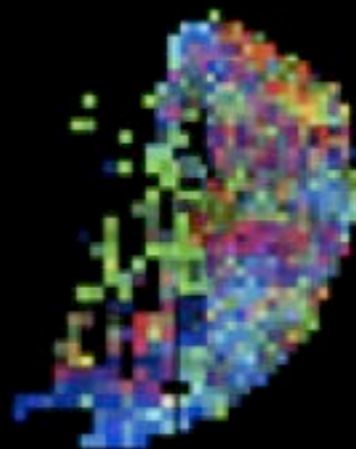
Infrared  
Reflectance



Carbon Dioxide  
Locations



Unidentified  
Material



Ferrous Iron



Unidentified  
Material



Water Ice



CO<sub>2</sub> indicator  
for KuiperBelt  
origin

retrograde  
orbit



# ORBIT INSERTION



# Saturn orbit insertion 2004-183

SOI Burn  
01:12 - 02:49:54

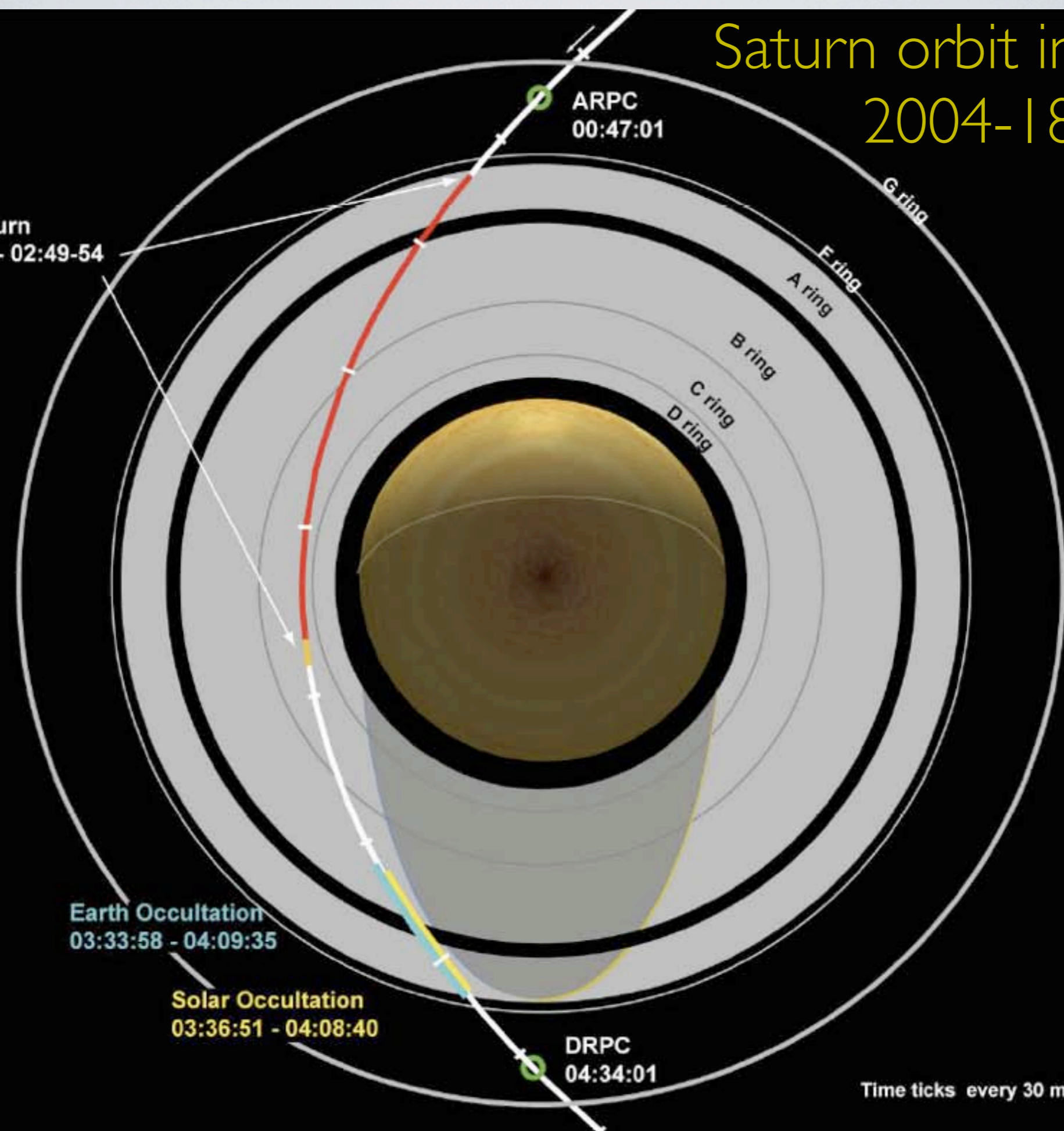
ARPC  
00:47:01

Earth Occultation  
03:33:58 - 04:09:35

Solar Occultation  
03:36:51 - 04:08:40

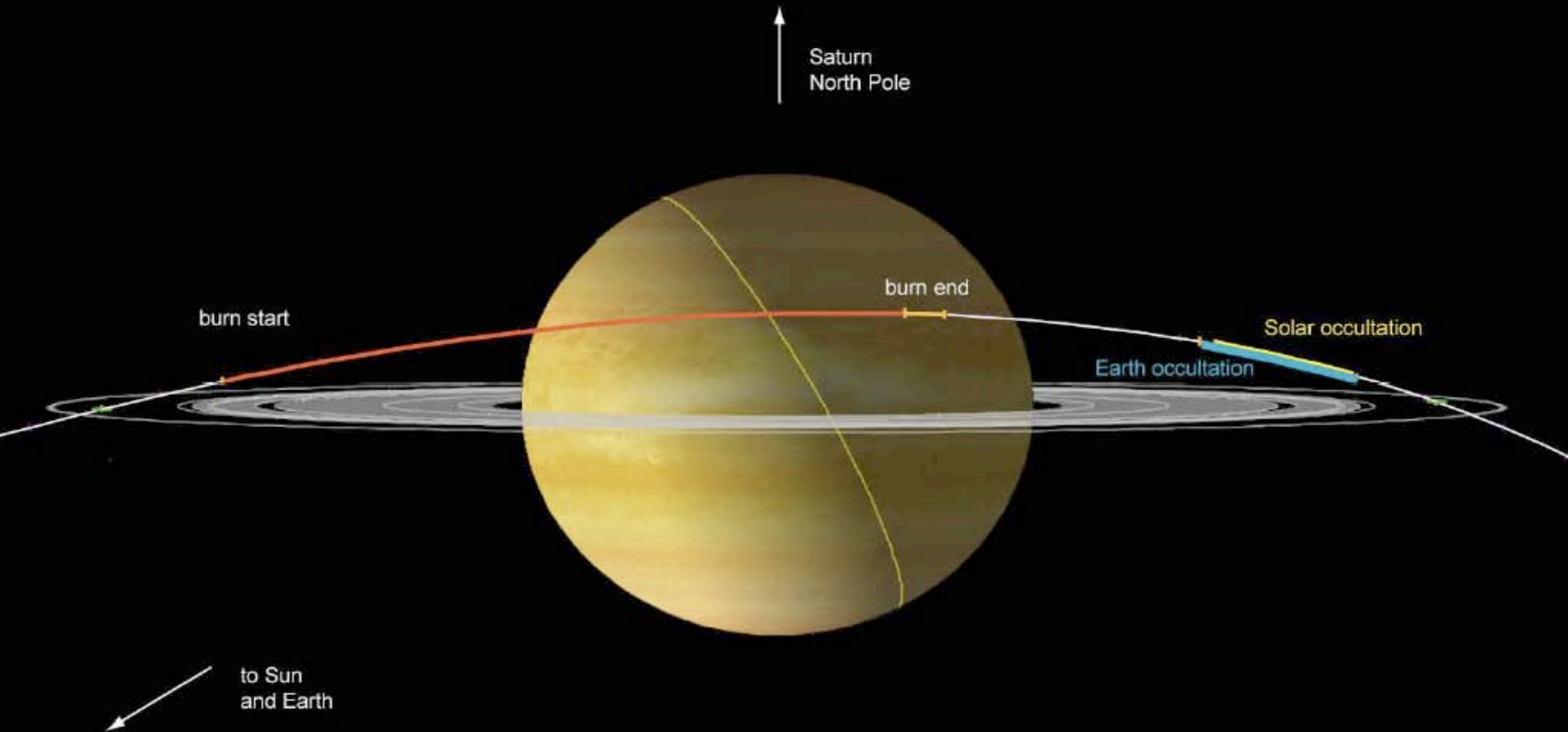
DRPC  
04:34:01

Time ticks every 30 minutes

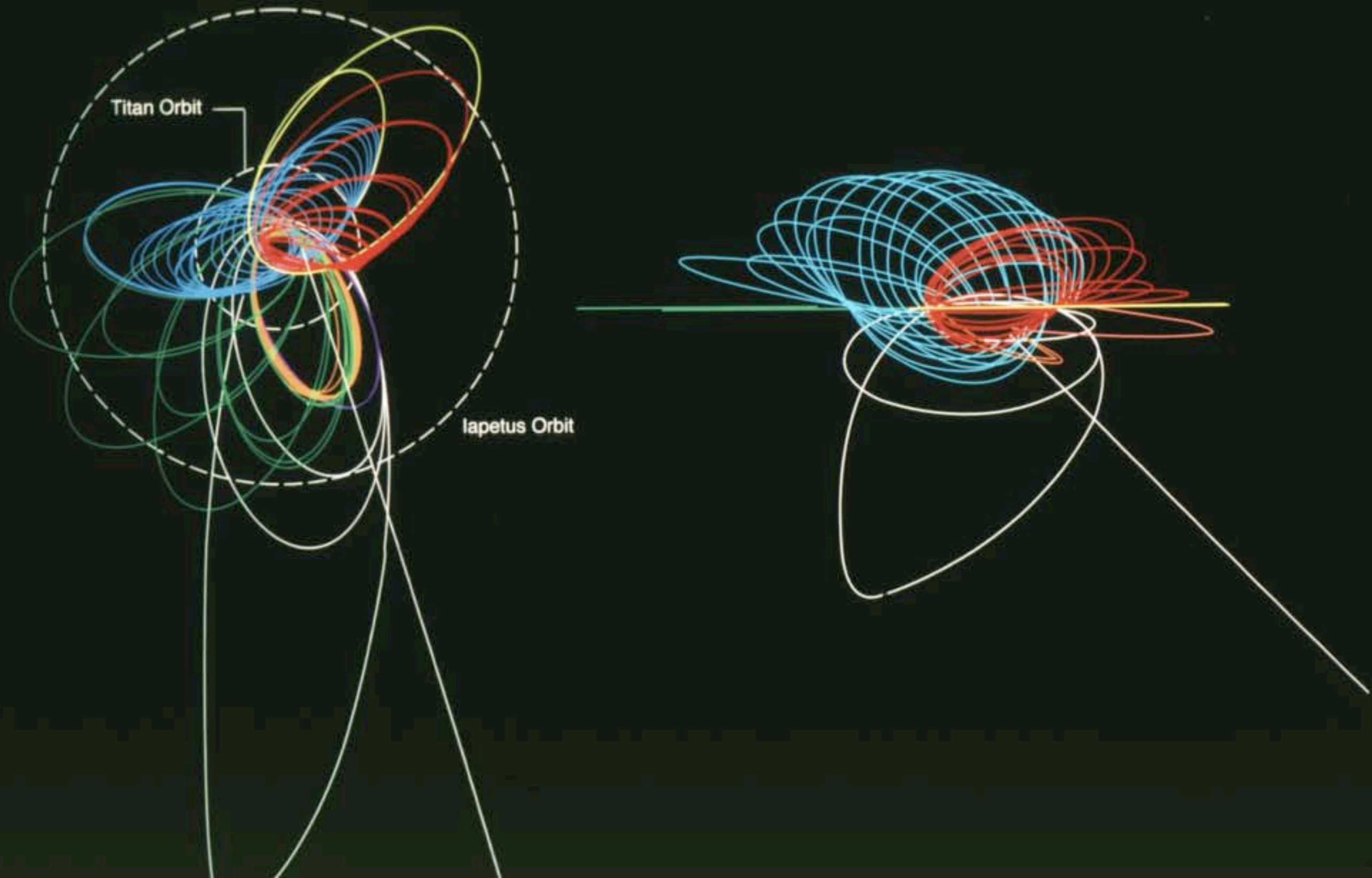




# SATURN ORBIT INSERTION



# Saturn System Tour Trajectory





# Saturn's Atmosphere

A grayscale image of Saturn's atmosphere, showing horizontal cloud bands and a bright equatorial region. The image is oriented vertically, with the top of the planet at the top of the frame. The atmosphere is characterized by distinct horizontal bands of varying brightness, with a prominent bright band near the equator. The overall appearance is that of a thick, layered atmosphere.

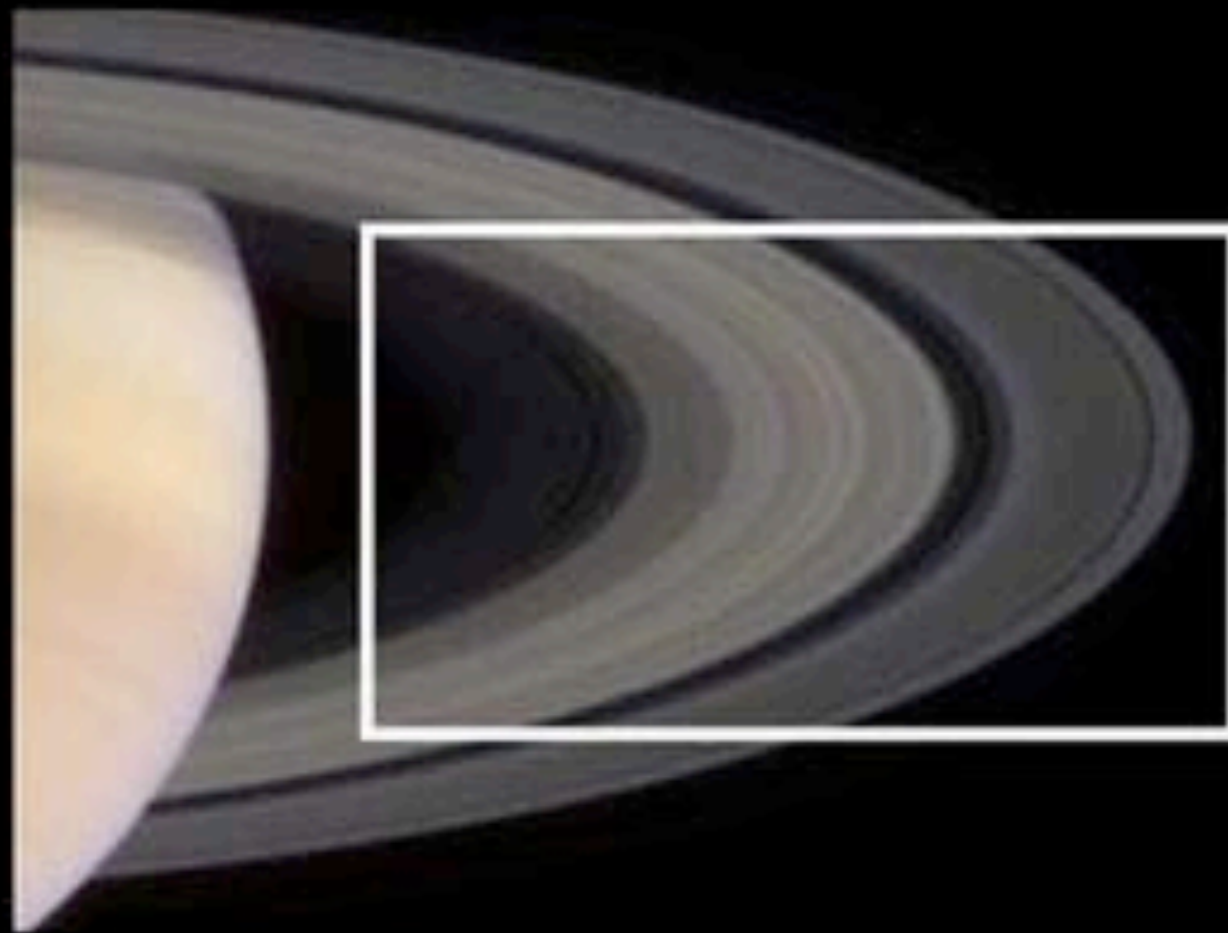
ISS team

near IR ,  
890nm  
14. Dec. 2004  
Distance:  
595,000 km  
Pixel : 32 km

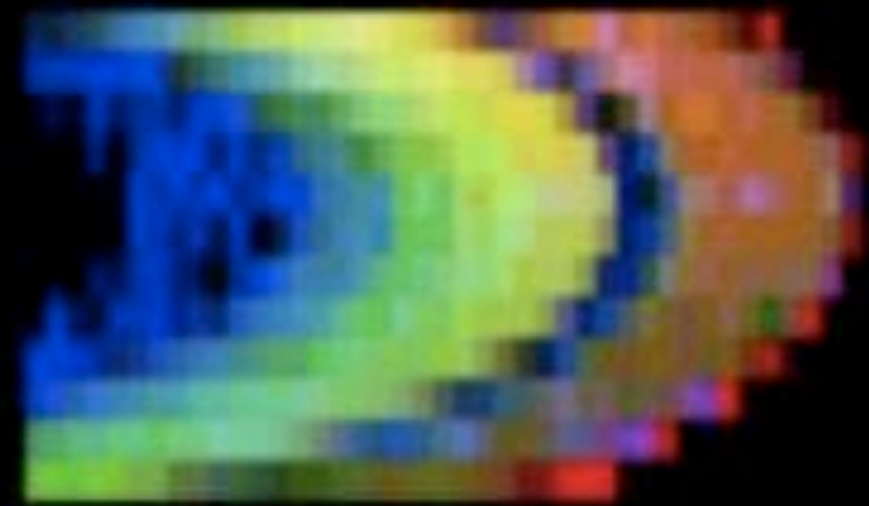


# SIZE DISTRIBUTION OF RING PARTICLES

Cassini Visual and Infrared Mapping Spectrometer



grain-size composite

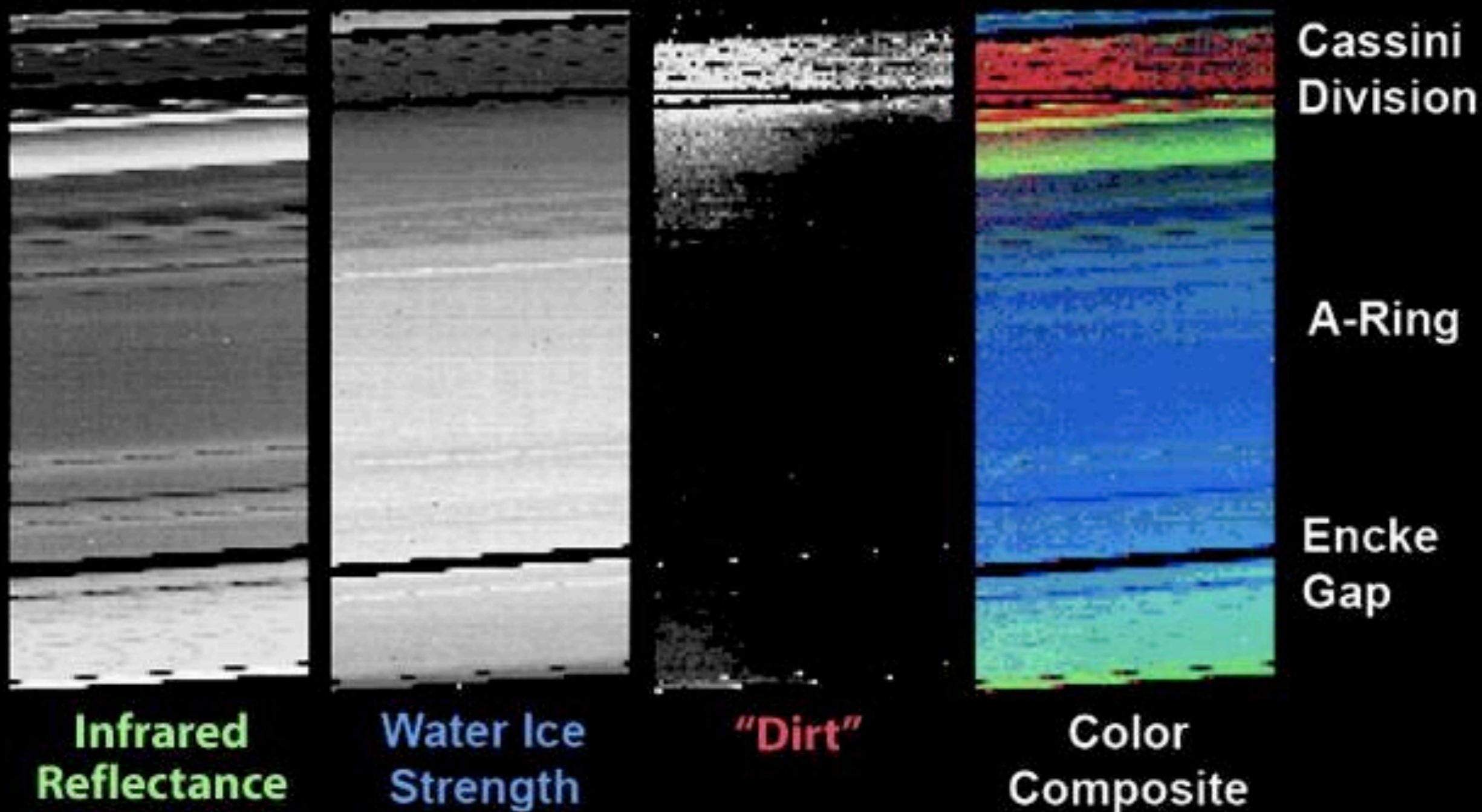


small  large



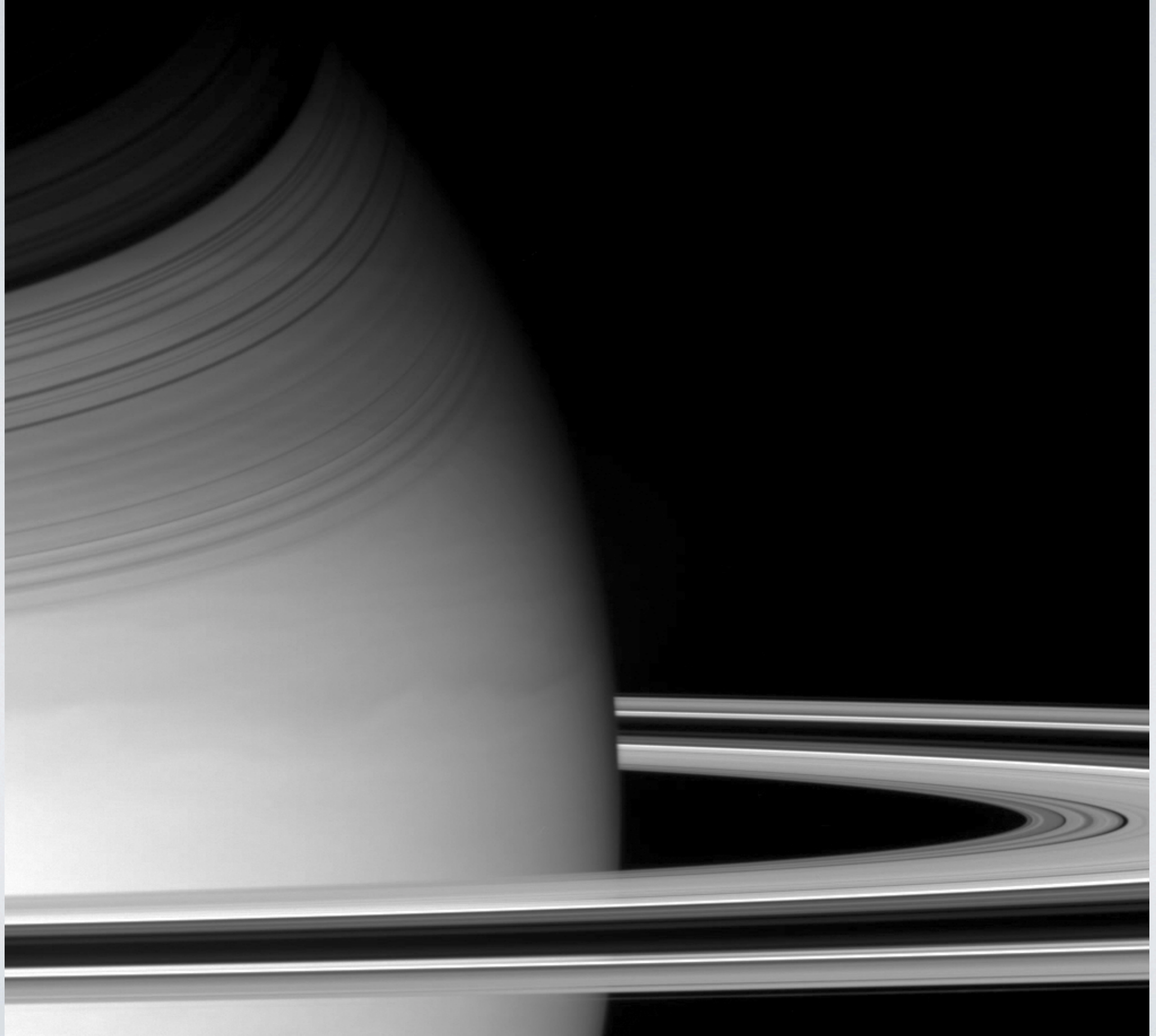
# DIRTY RINGS

inside

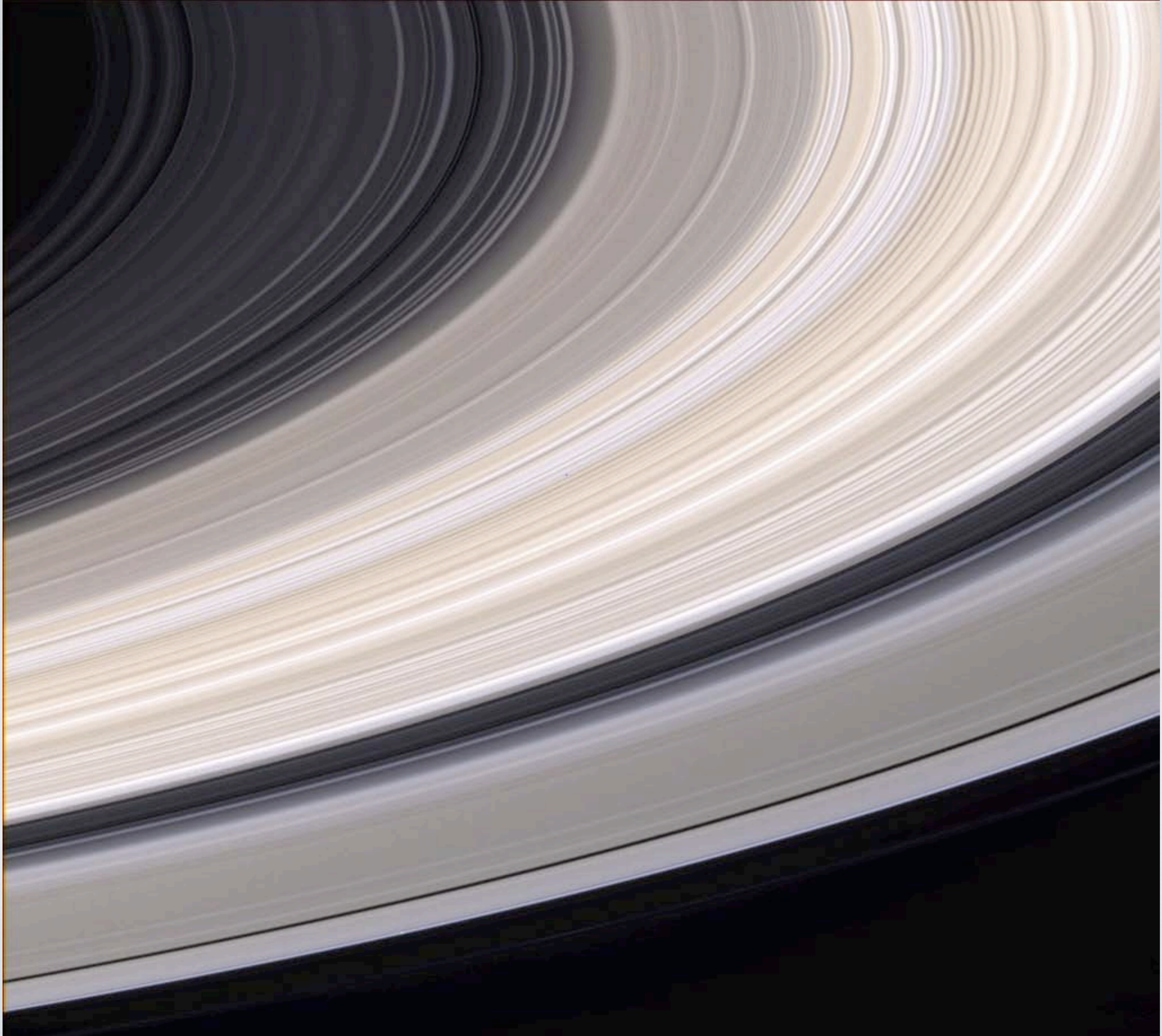






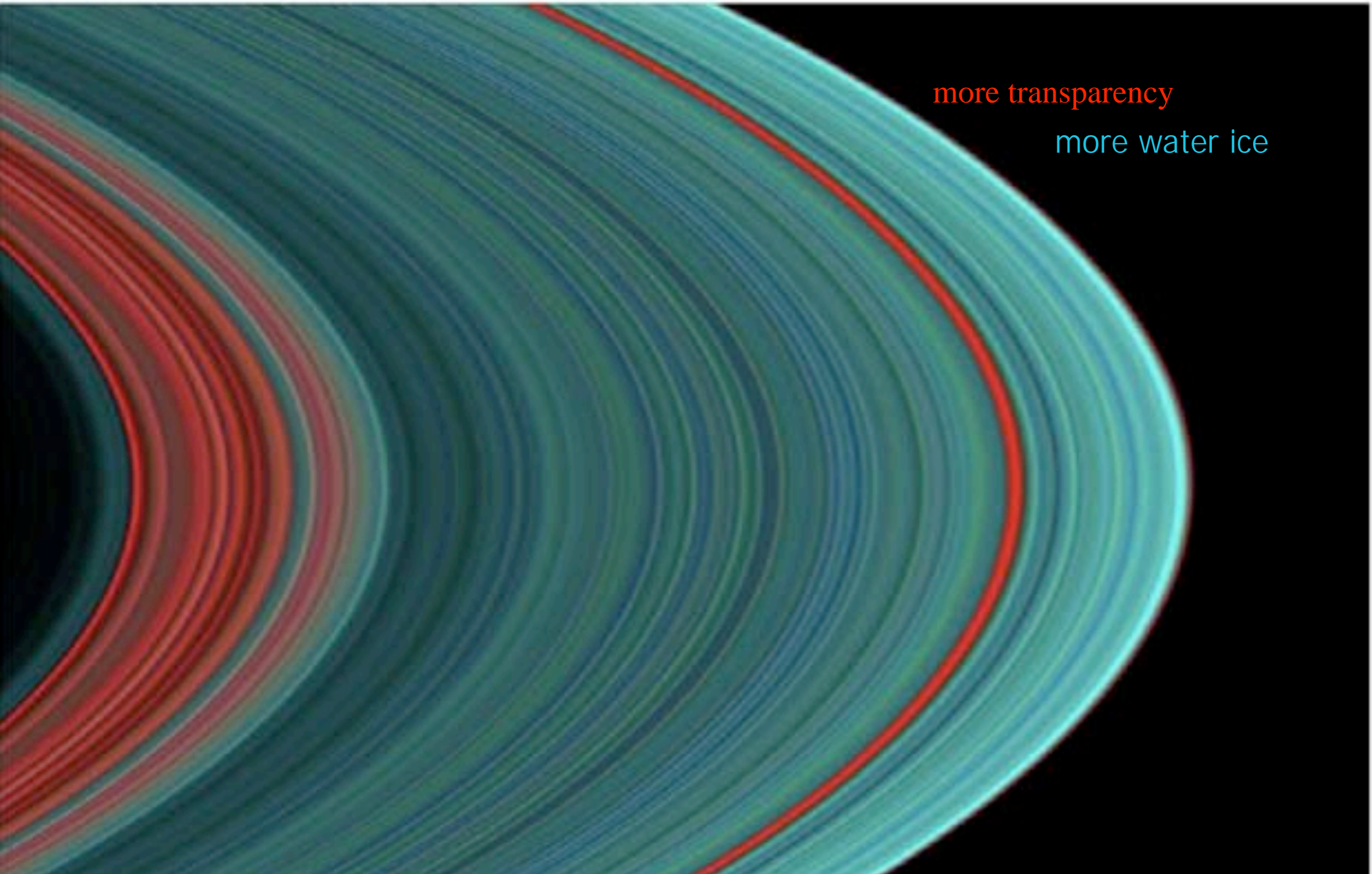








# RINGS IN THE UV





ENCKE GAP IN A  
RING BY THE  
MOON PAN

WAVES THROUGH  
THE RING

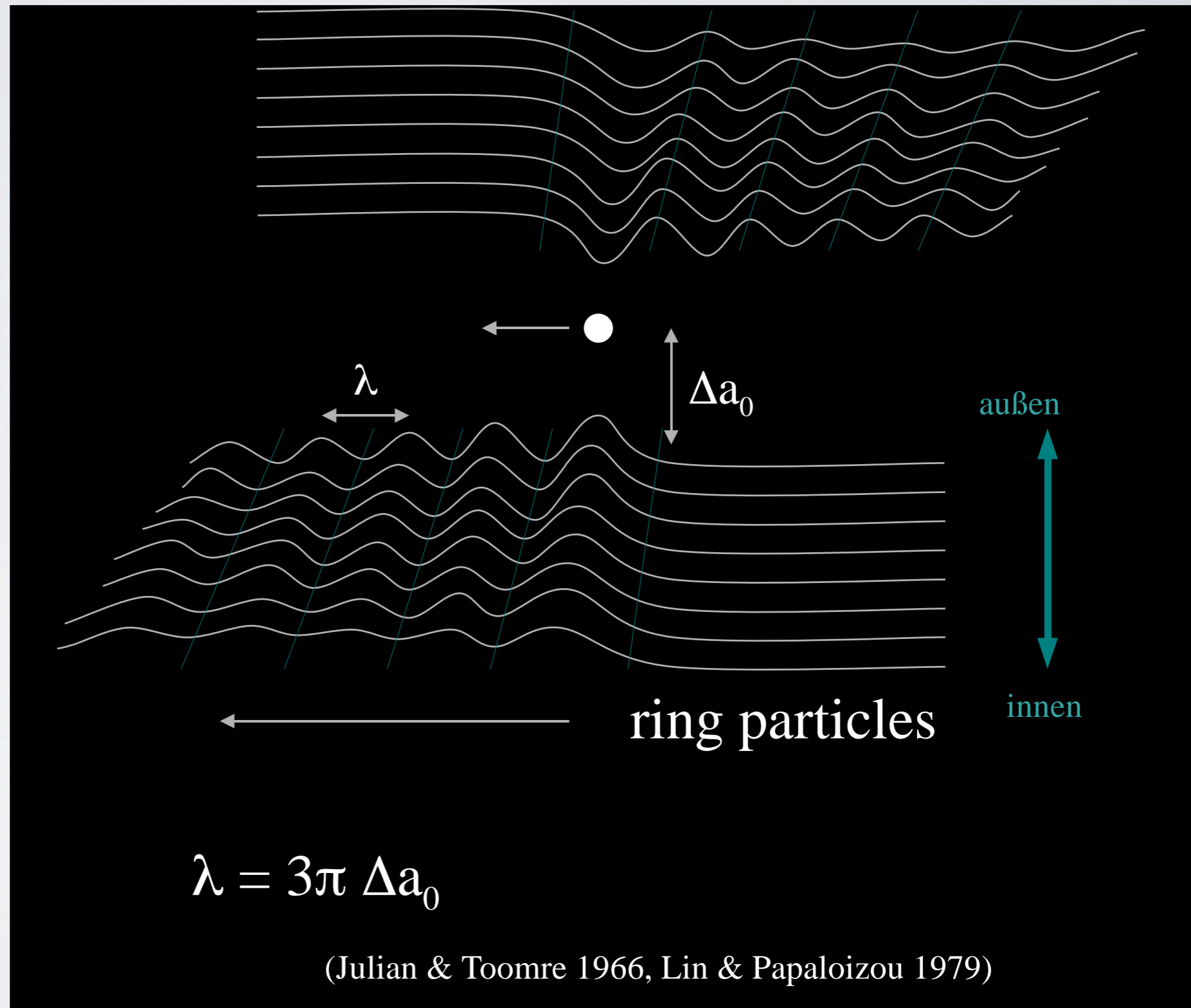
200.000km, 1 km/pixel



# MOON - RING INTERACTION

moon causes  
gap and changes  
eccentricity  
of ring particles

calculation/  
discovery of  
small embedded  
moons by  
analysing  
ring waves



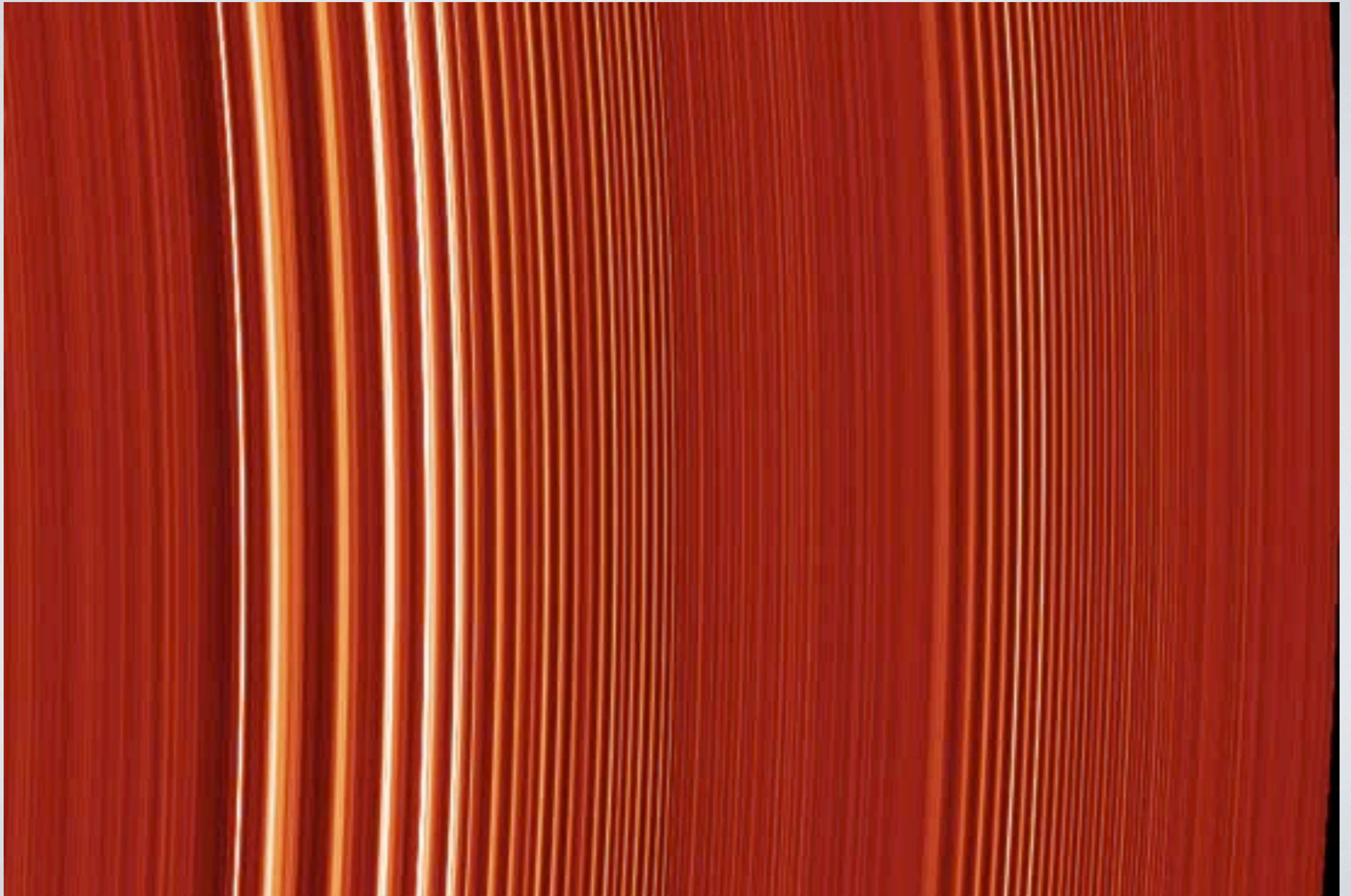


# DENSITY WAVES IN THE RING



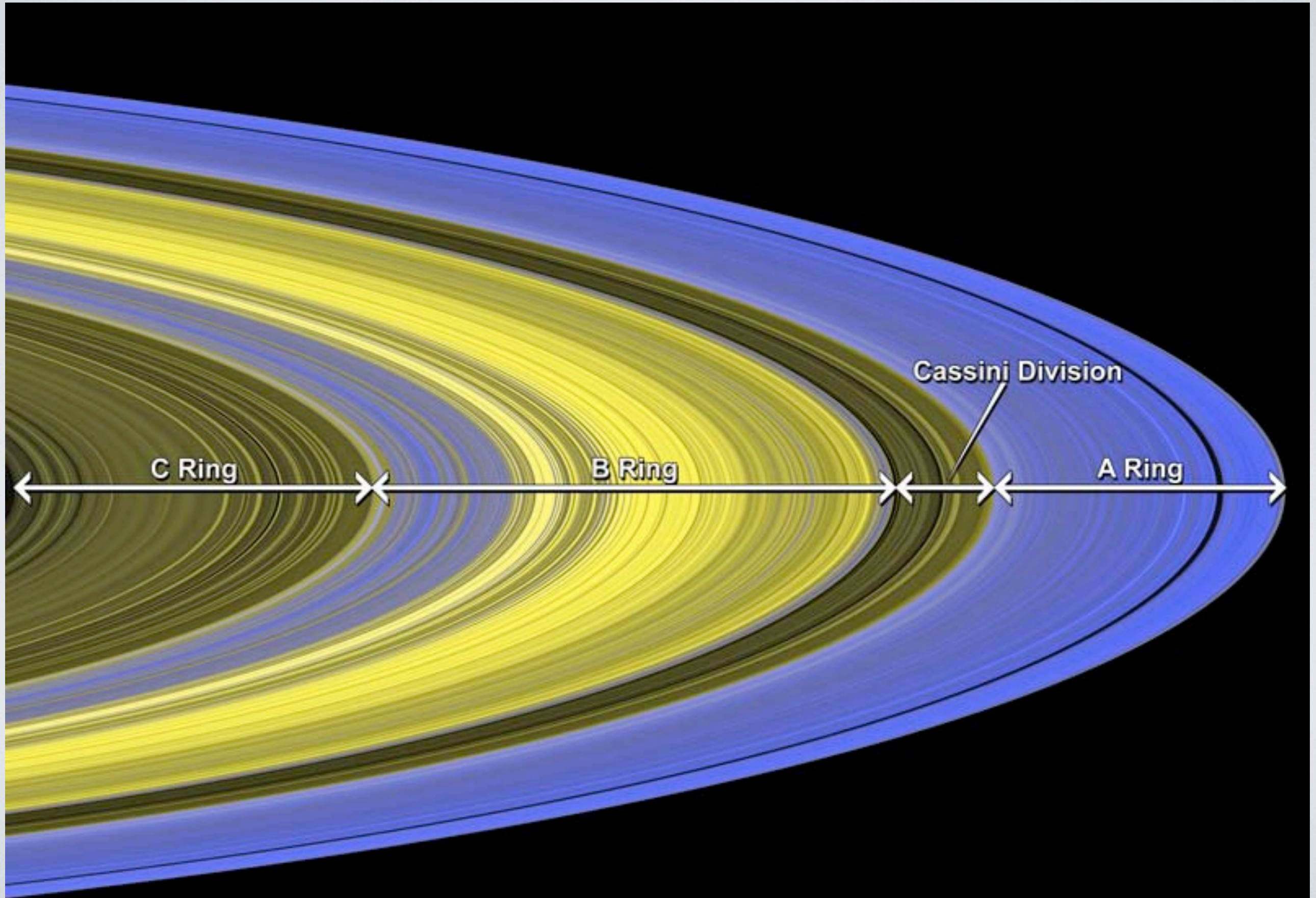


# WAVES IN THE UV



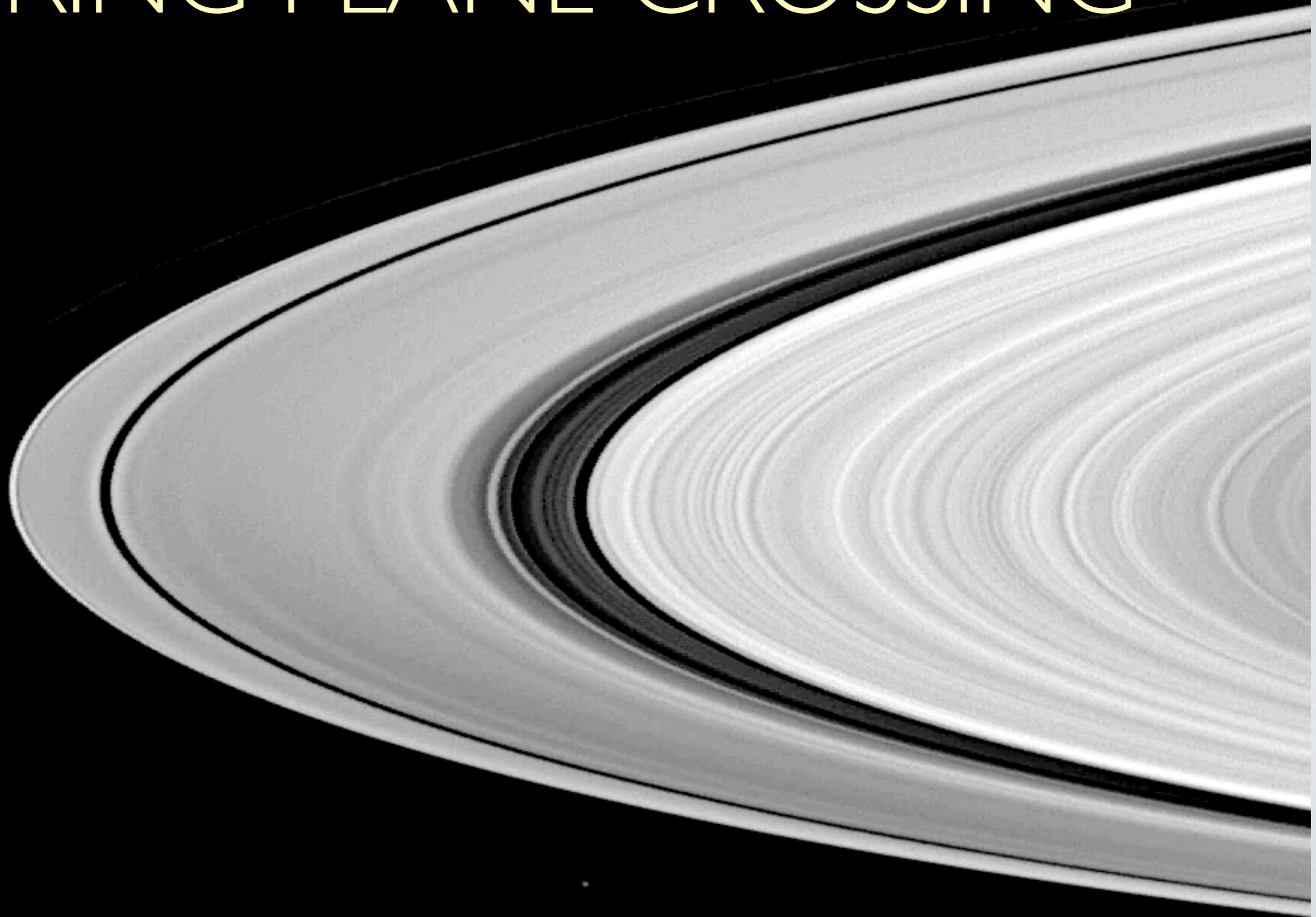


# UV STAR OCCULTATION





# RING PLANE CROSSING



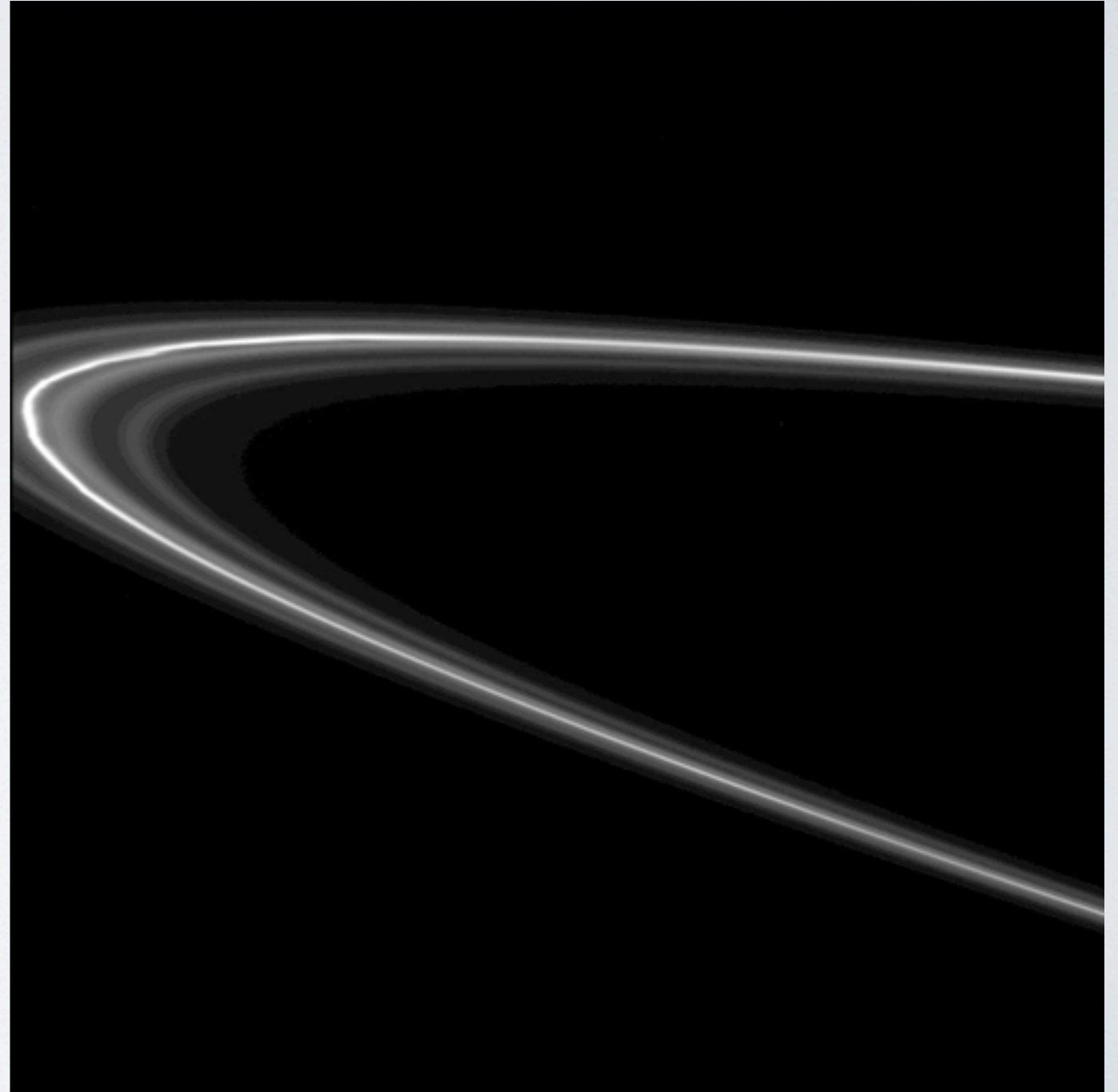
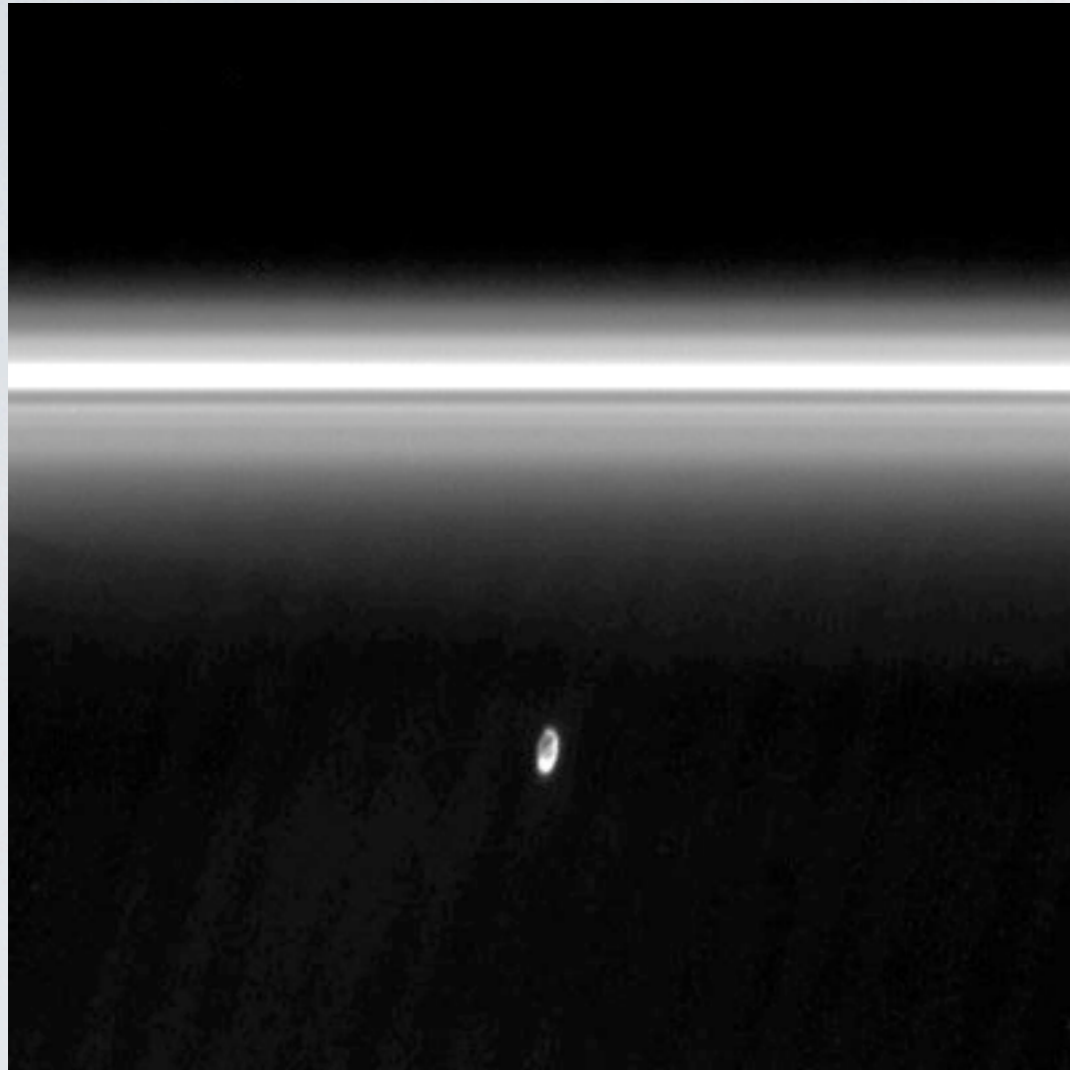


F RING WITH SHEPHERD MOONS  
PROMETEUS AND PANDORA

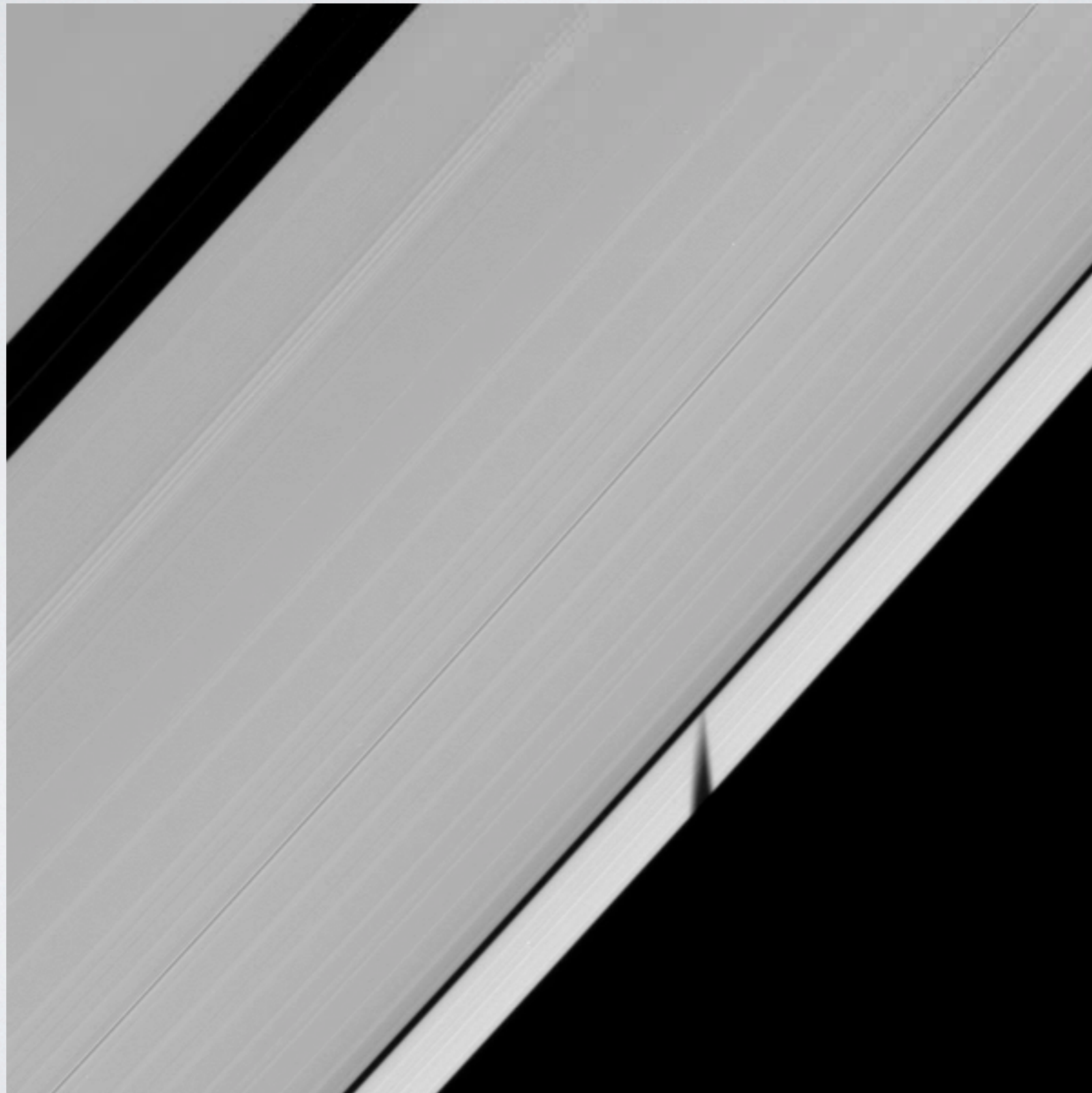


# F RING

SHEPHERD MOON PROMETHEUS (102 KM)

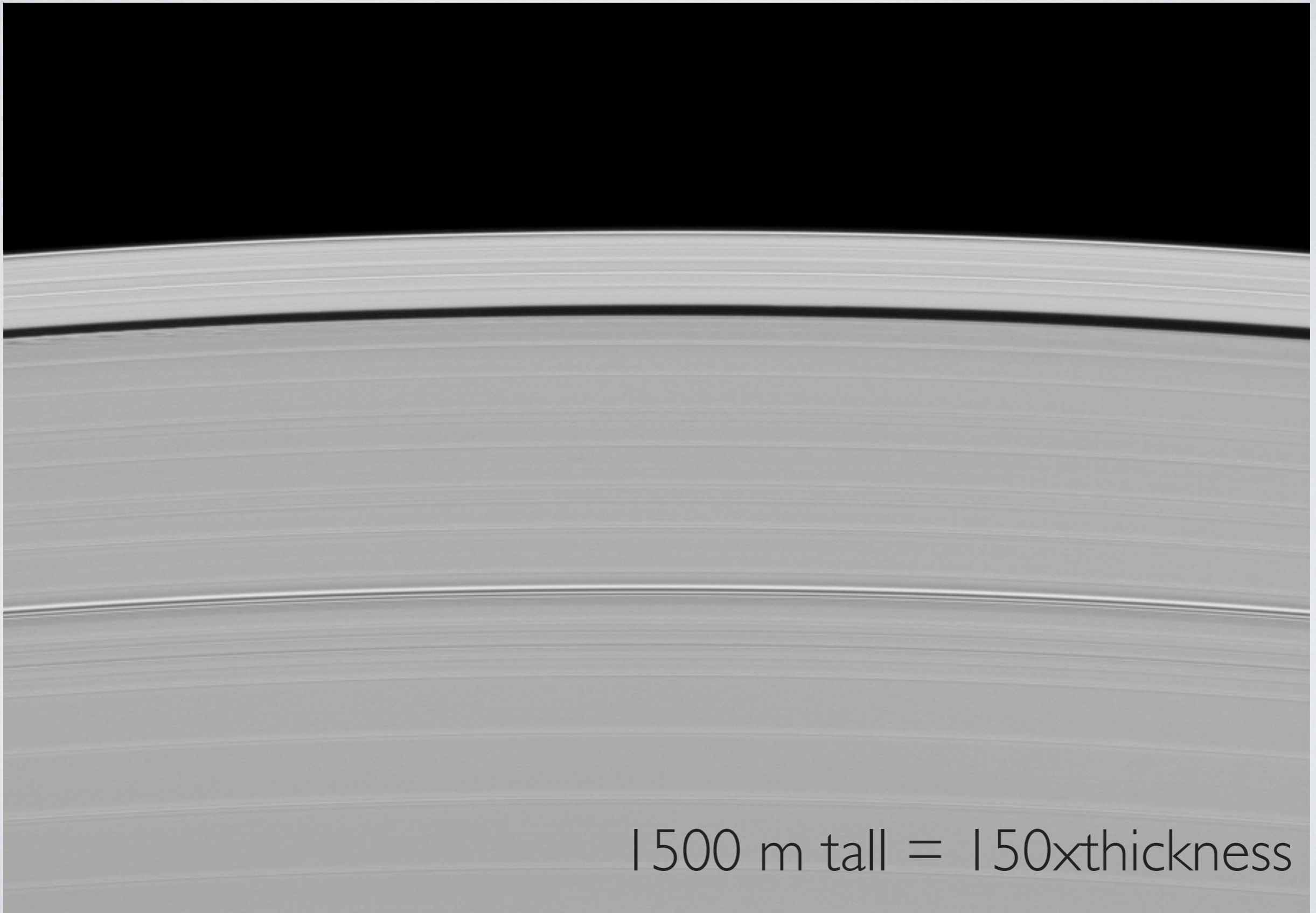


# SHADOW OF EPIMETHEUS

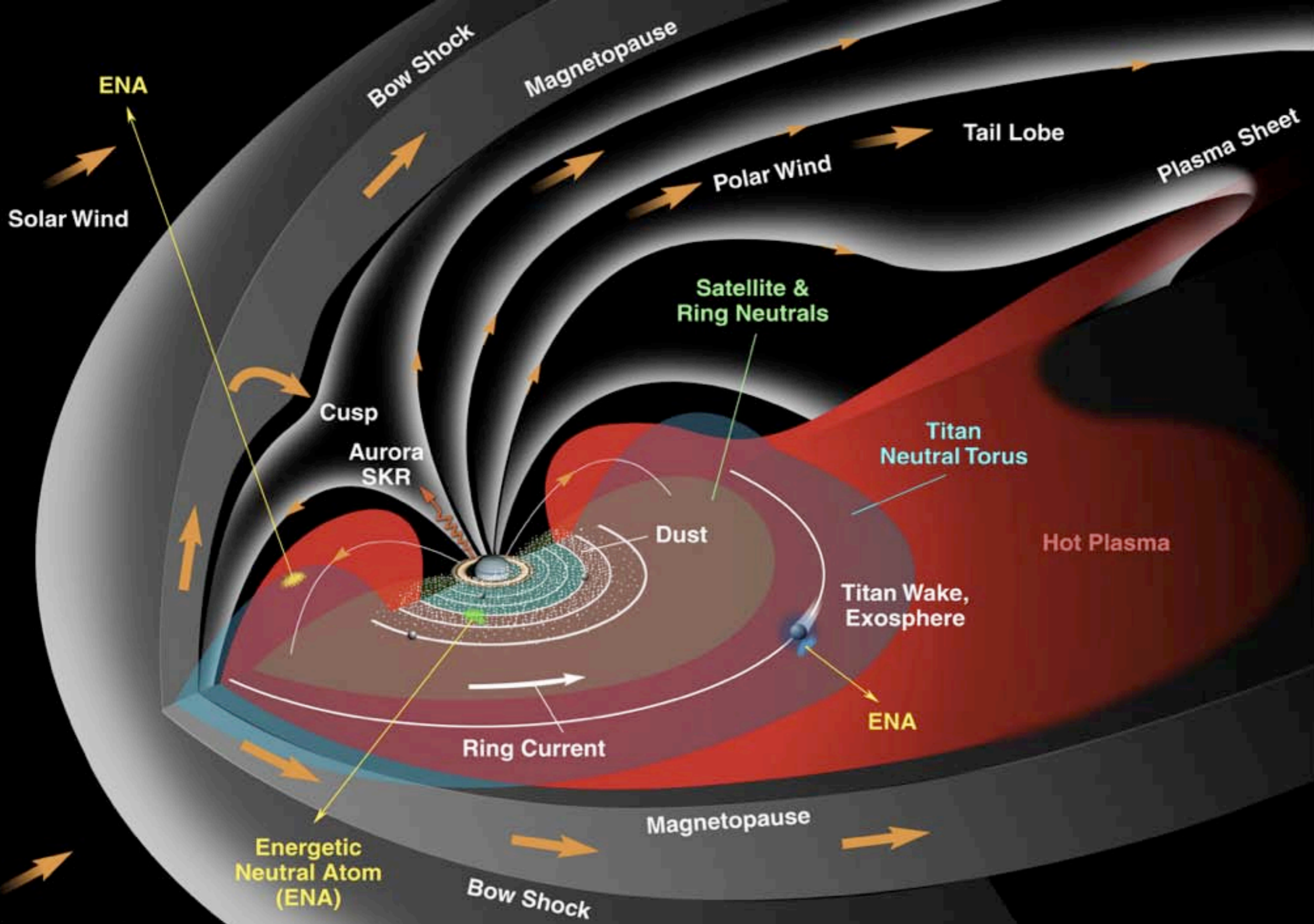




MOON DAPHNIS (8 KM) ON INCLINED ORBIT WITHIN  
THE 42-KILOMETER WIDE KEELER GAP (A RING)



1500 m tall = 150xthickness

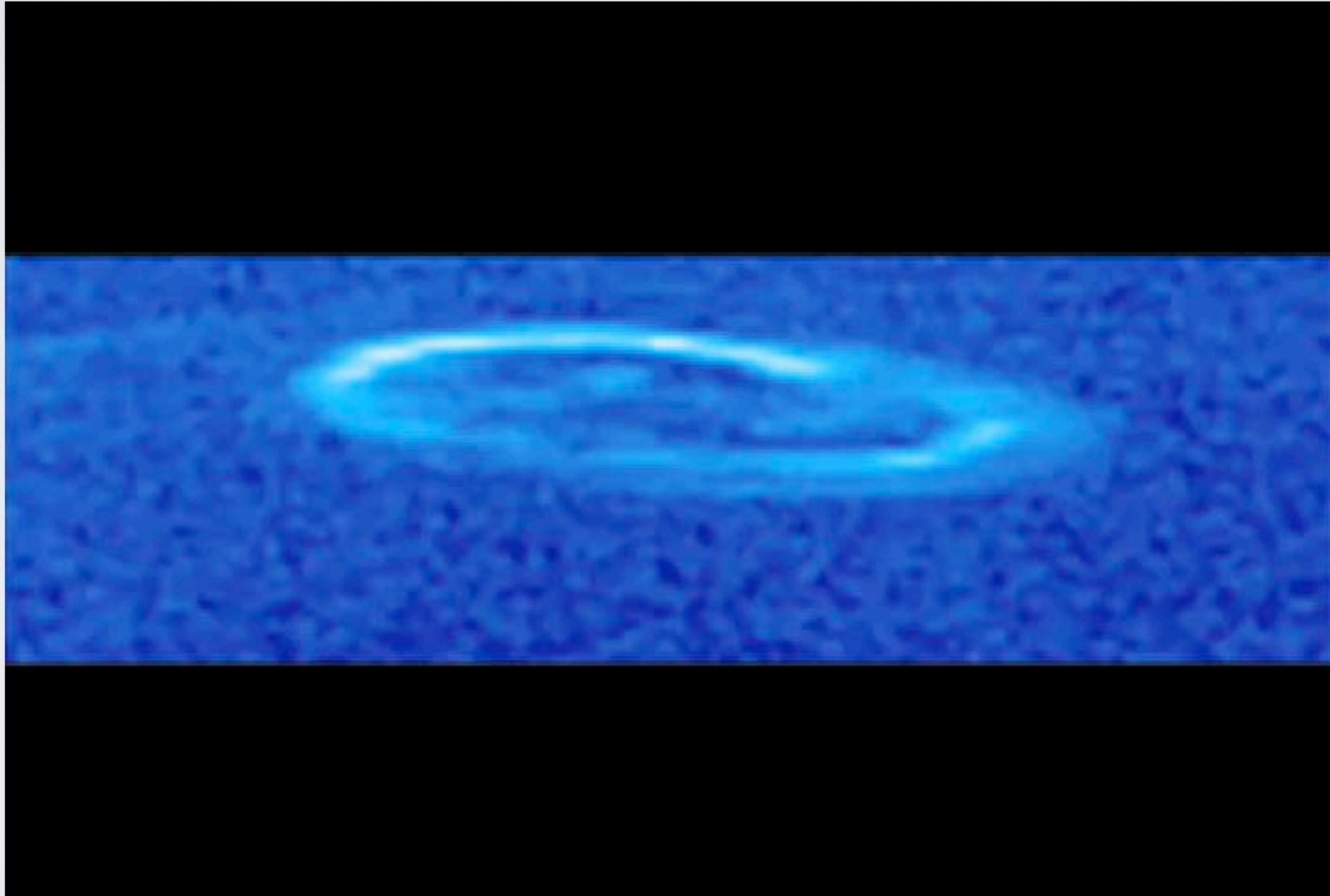


# Saturn's Magnetosphere



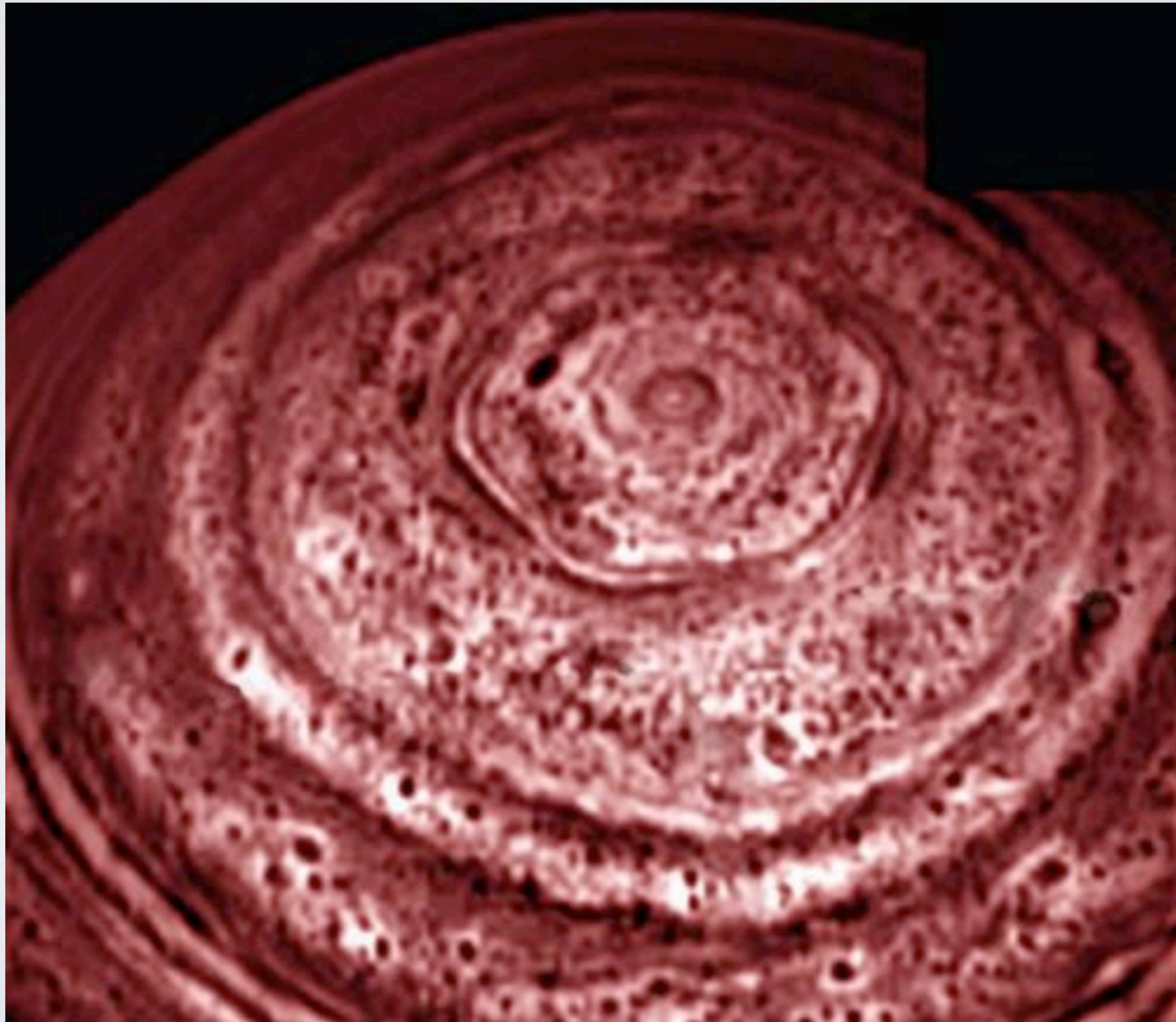
# NEON LASSO

CHARGED PARTICLES STRIKE THE HYDROGEN ATMOSPHERE





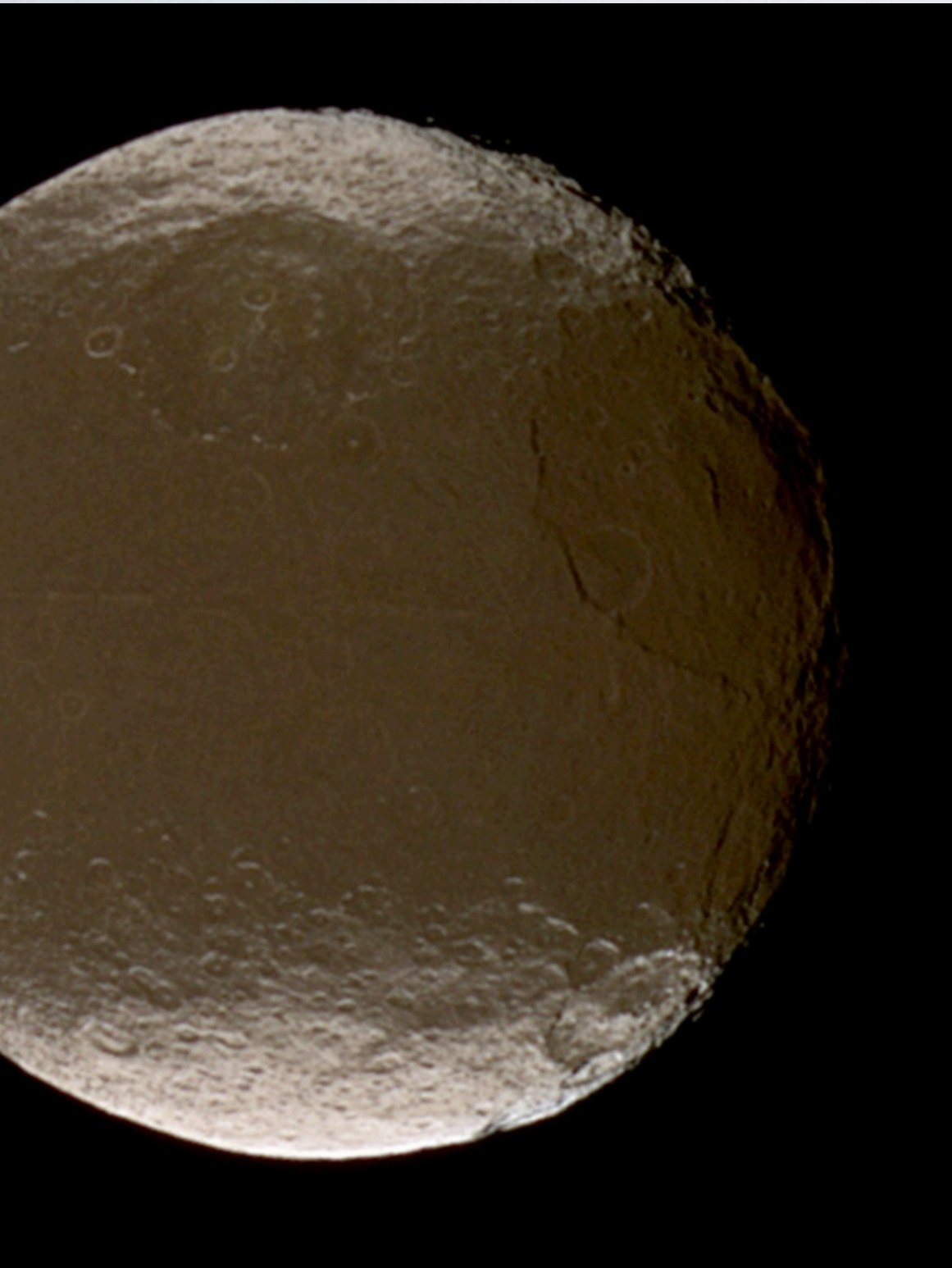
# HEXAGON AT THE POLE





# IAPETUS - DICHOTOMY

EVAPORATION OF WATER ICE ON LEADING SIDE (MICROMETEOROID IMPACTS)









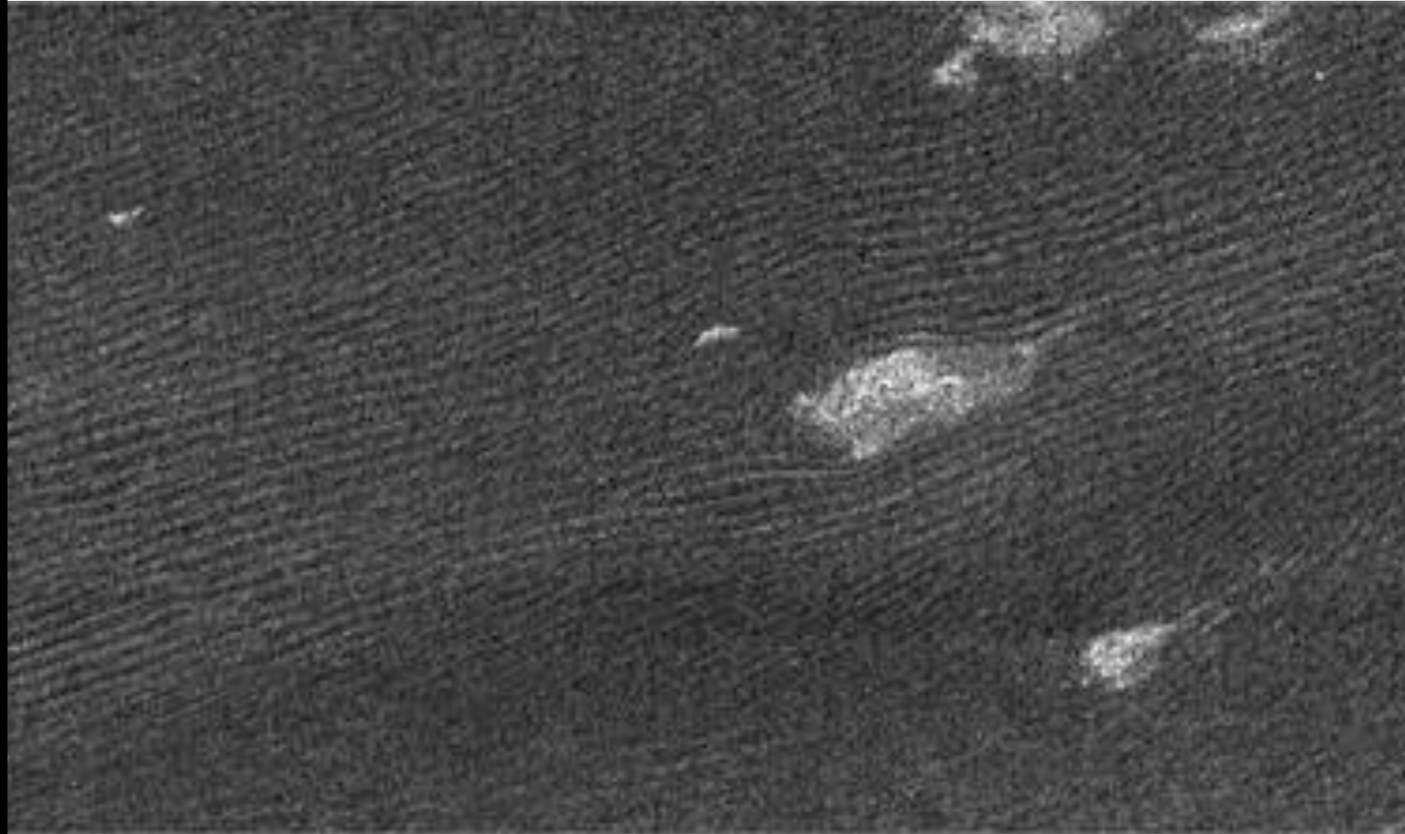
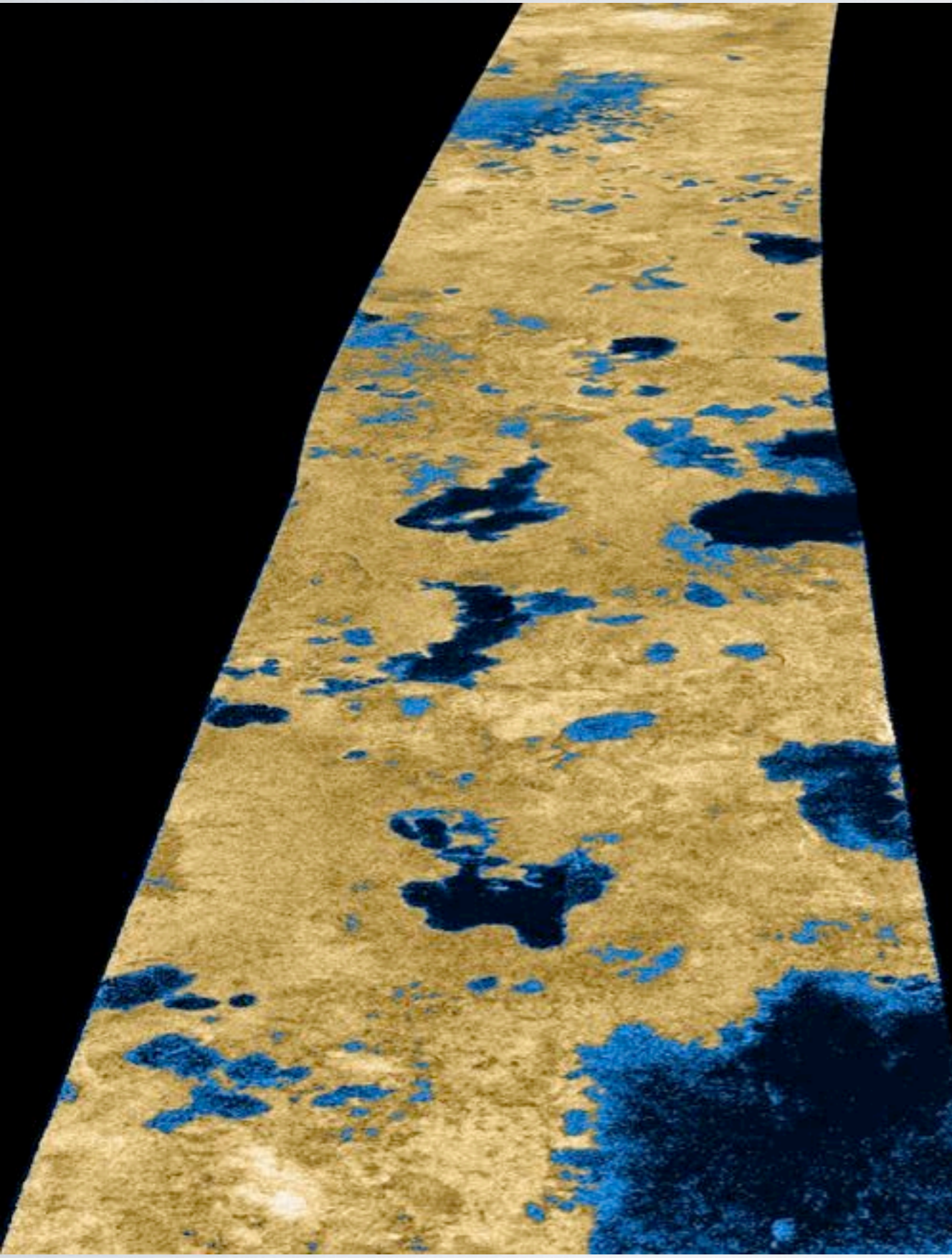
# MANY MANY MORE ...



Titan lakes  
Titan dunes  
Rhea ring  
Radiation belts  
MAPS in-situ results

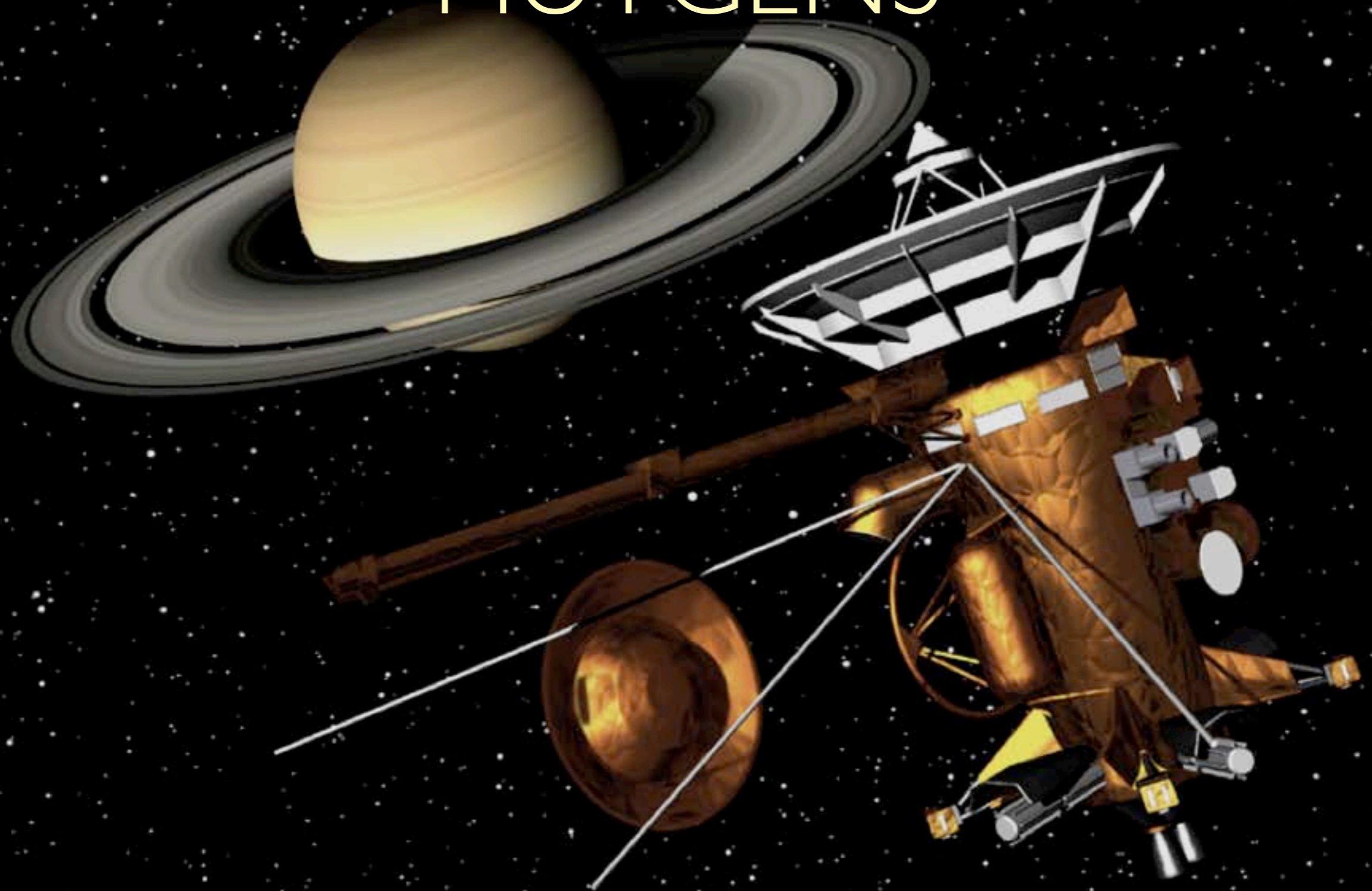


# LAKES AND DUNES - TITAN



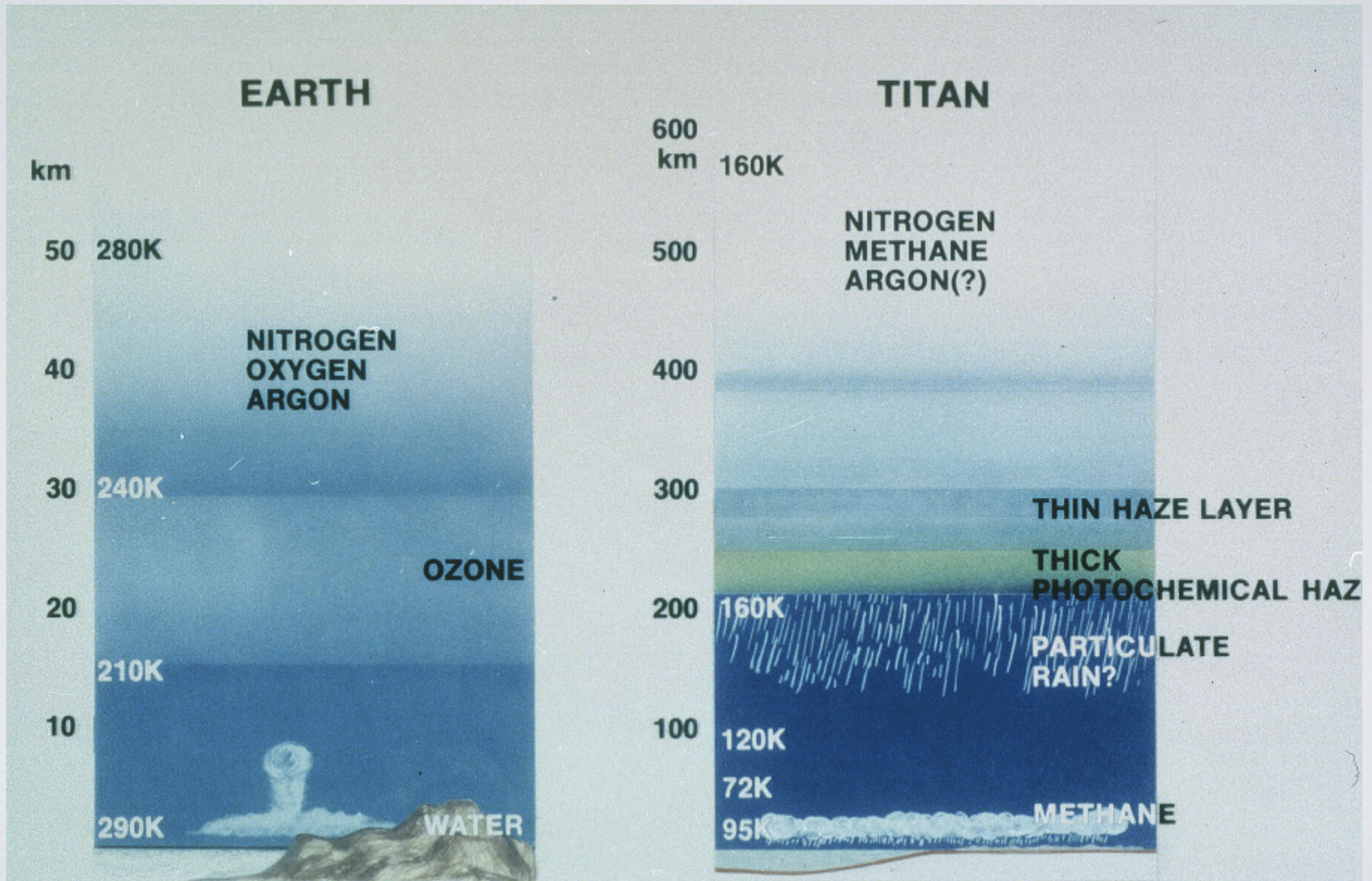


# HUYGENS



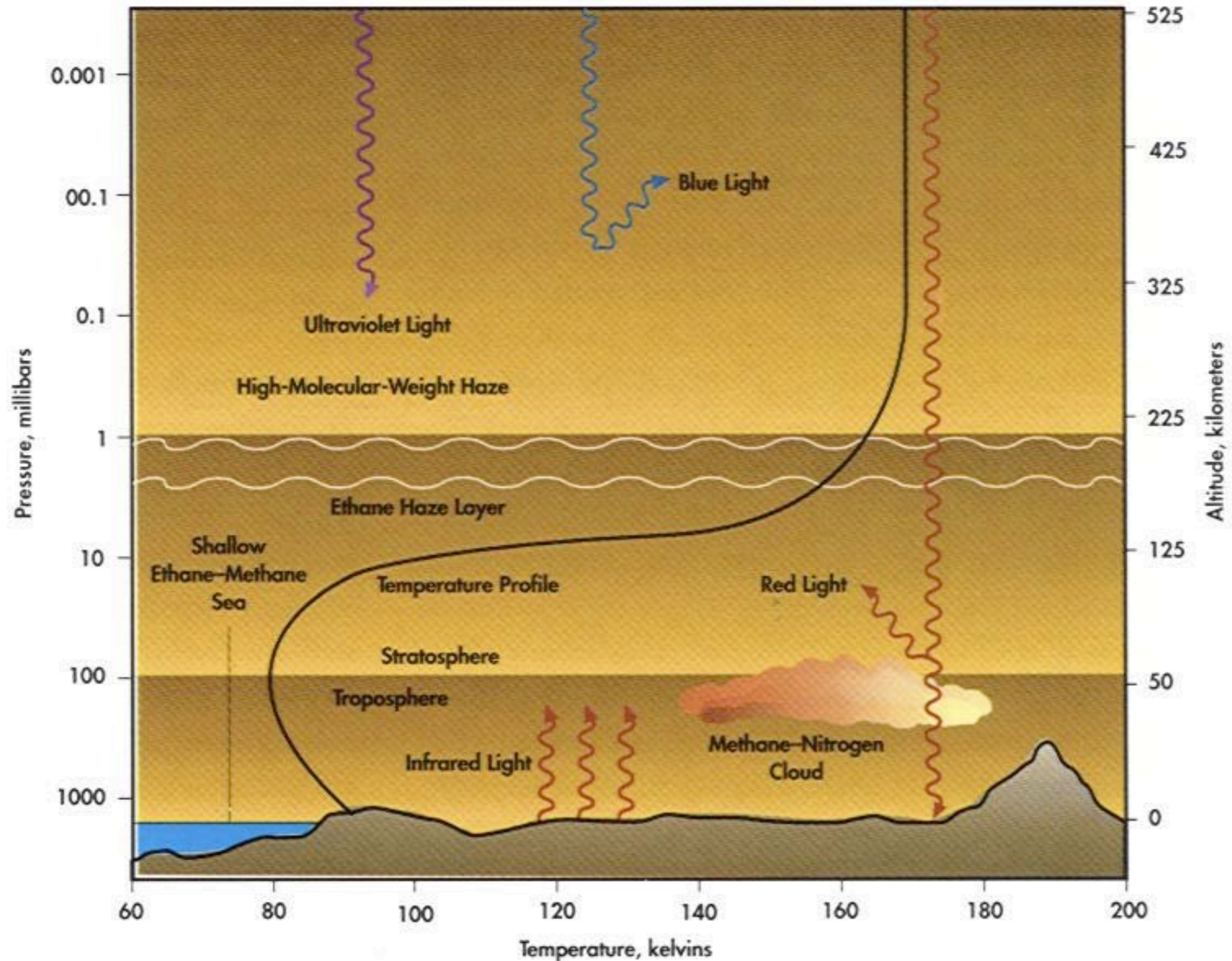


# COMPARE EARTH - TITAN





# MODEL OF TITAN'S ATMOSPHERE





# HUYGENS PROBE (ESA)

Titan atmosphere,  
winds, composition,  
temp., pressures,...

Separation - 25. dec 2004

Titan atms entry: 14. Jan 2005

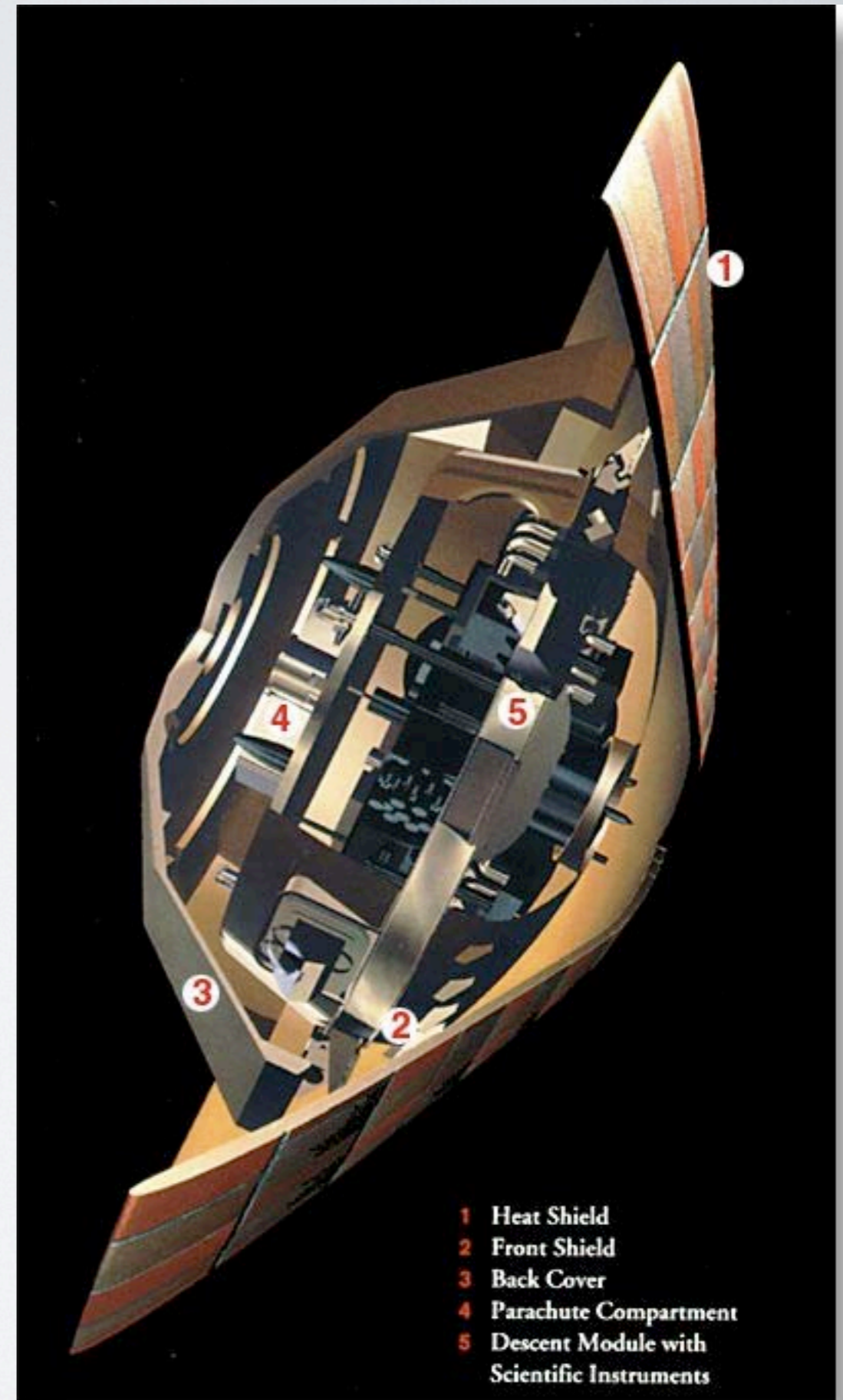
entry angle :  $65^{\circ}$  (+/-  $3^{\circ}$ )

entry speed : 6.1 km/s

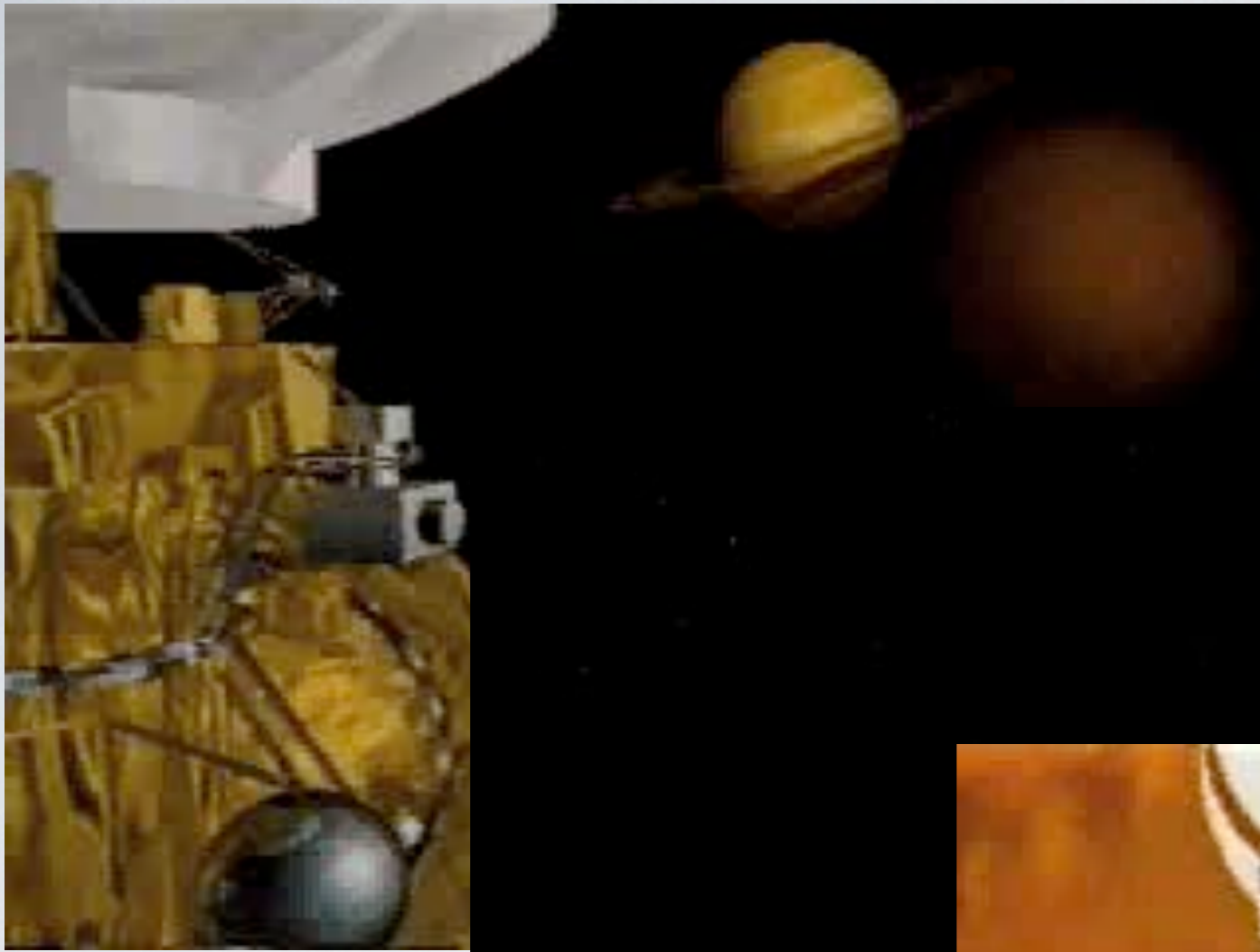
peak deceleration : 10-19 g

peak heating : 500-1500 kW/m<sup>2</sup>

descent time : 2:30 h



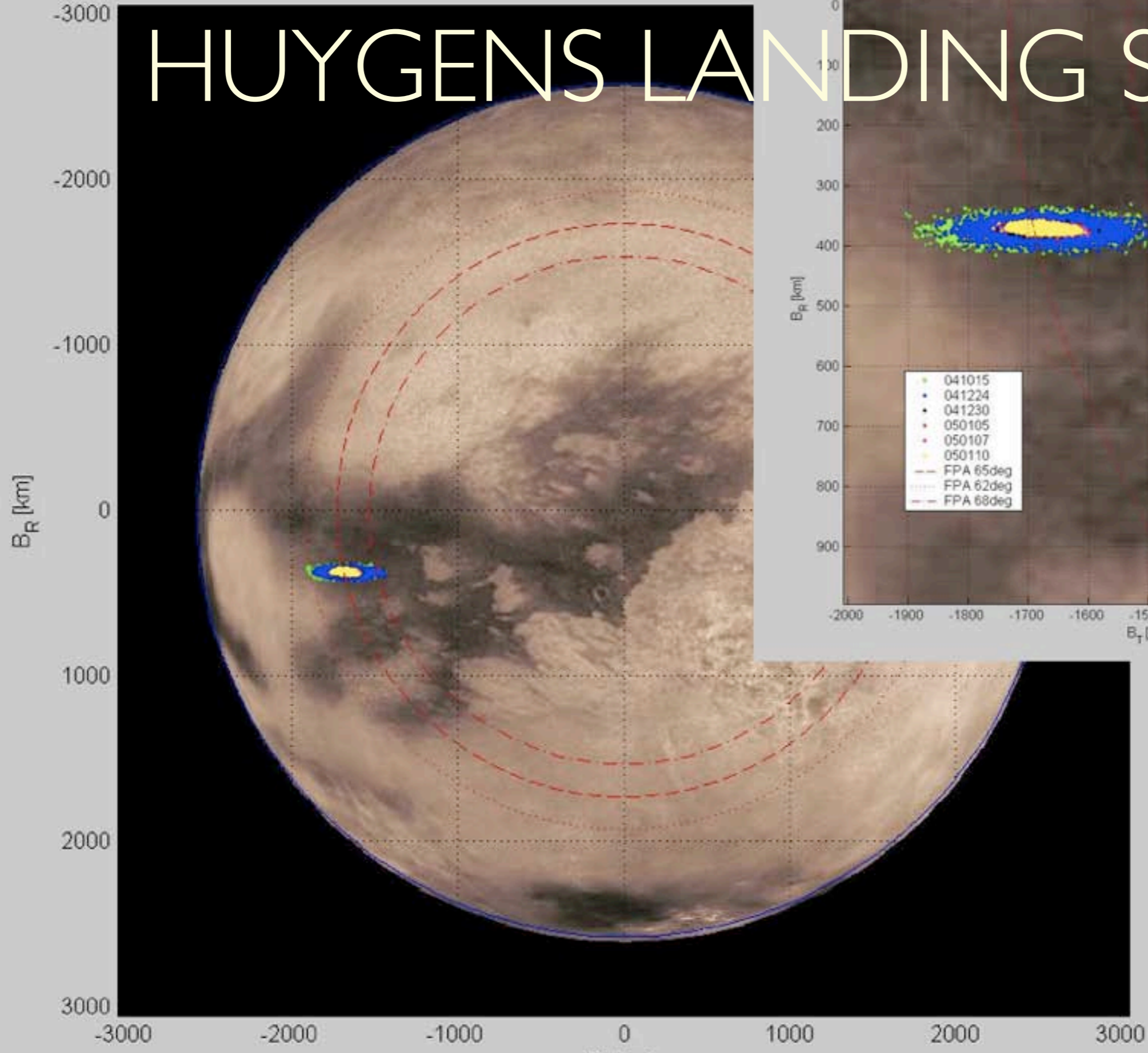




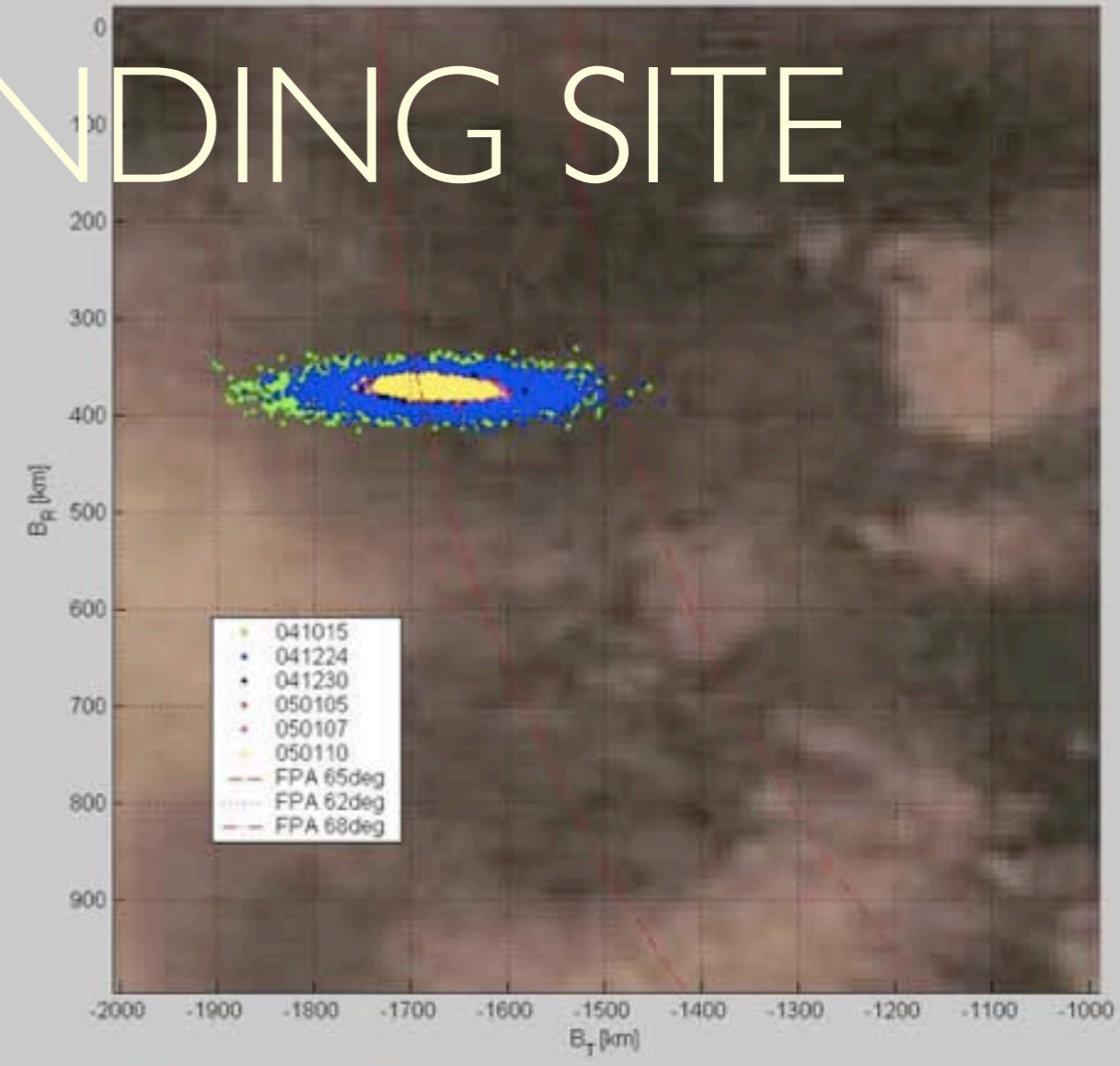


# HUYGENS LANDING SITE

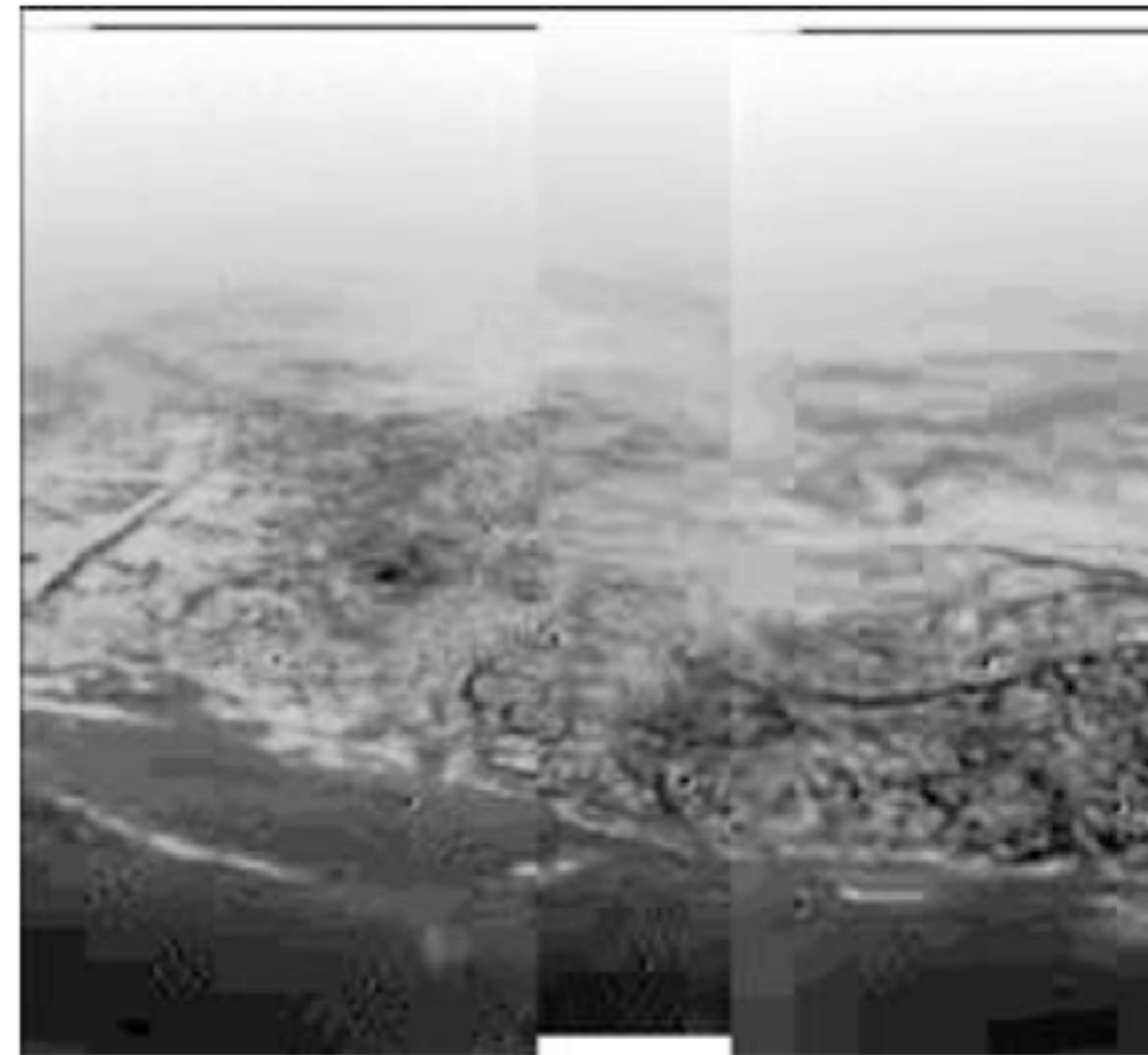
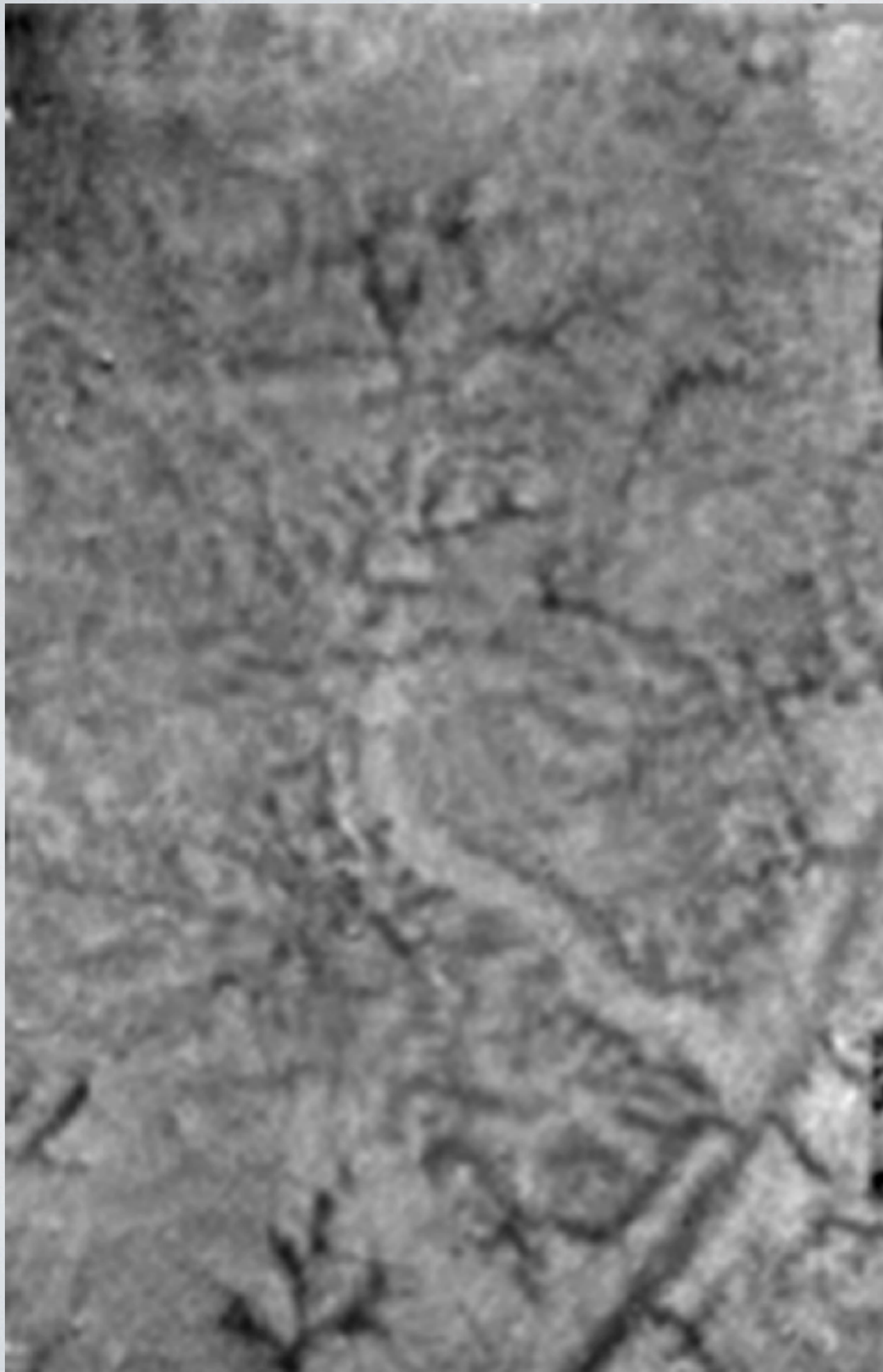
MONTECARLO ANALYSIS : Probe B-p



MONTECARLO ANALYSIS : Probe B-plane ellipse



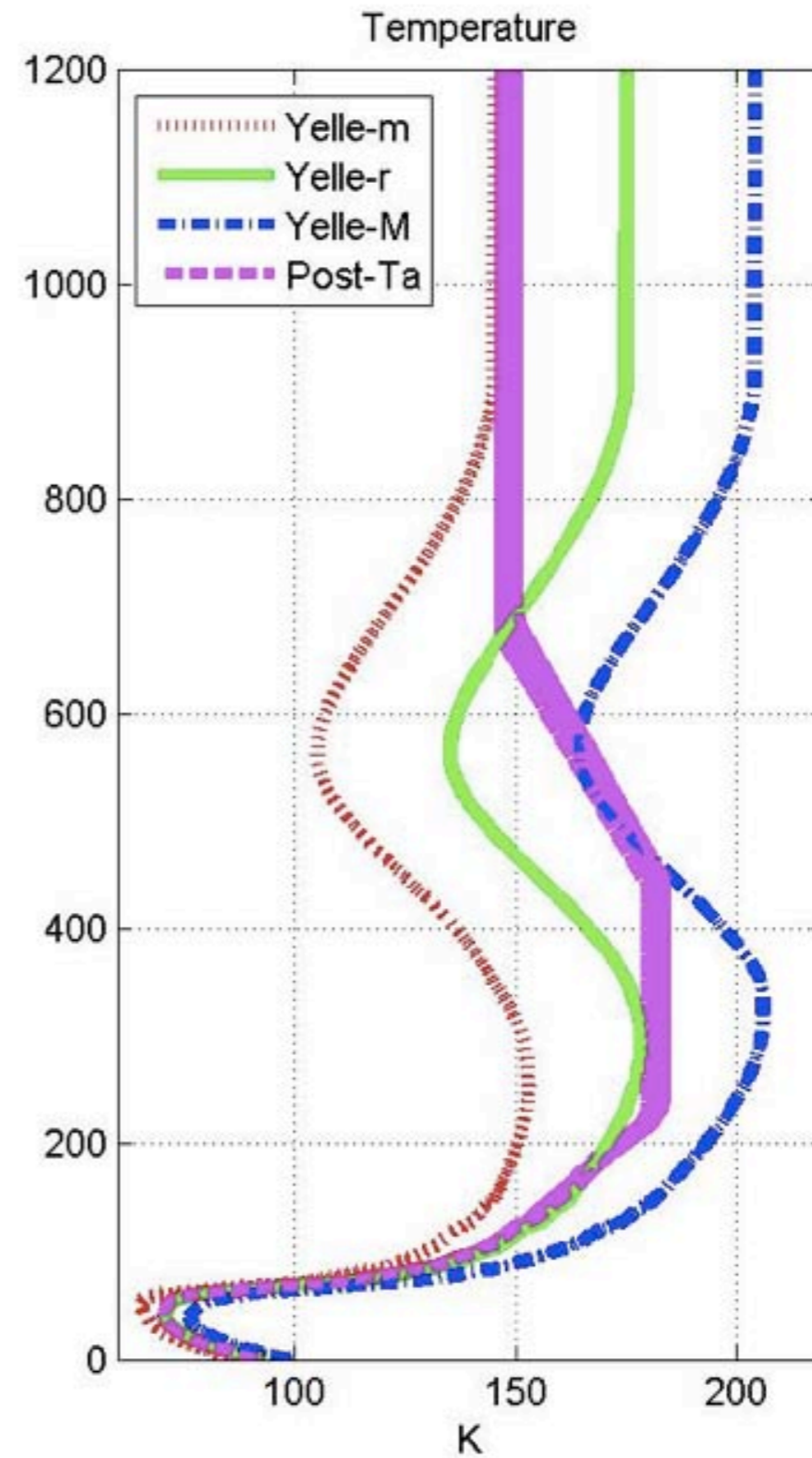
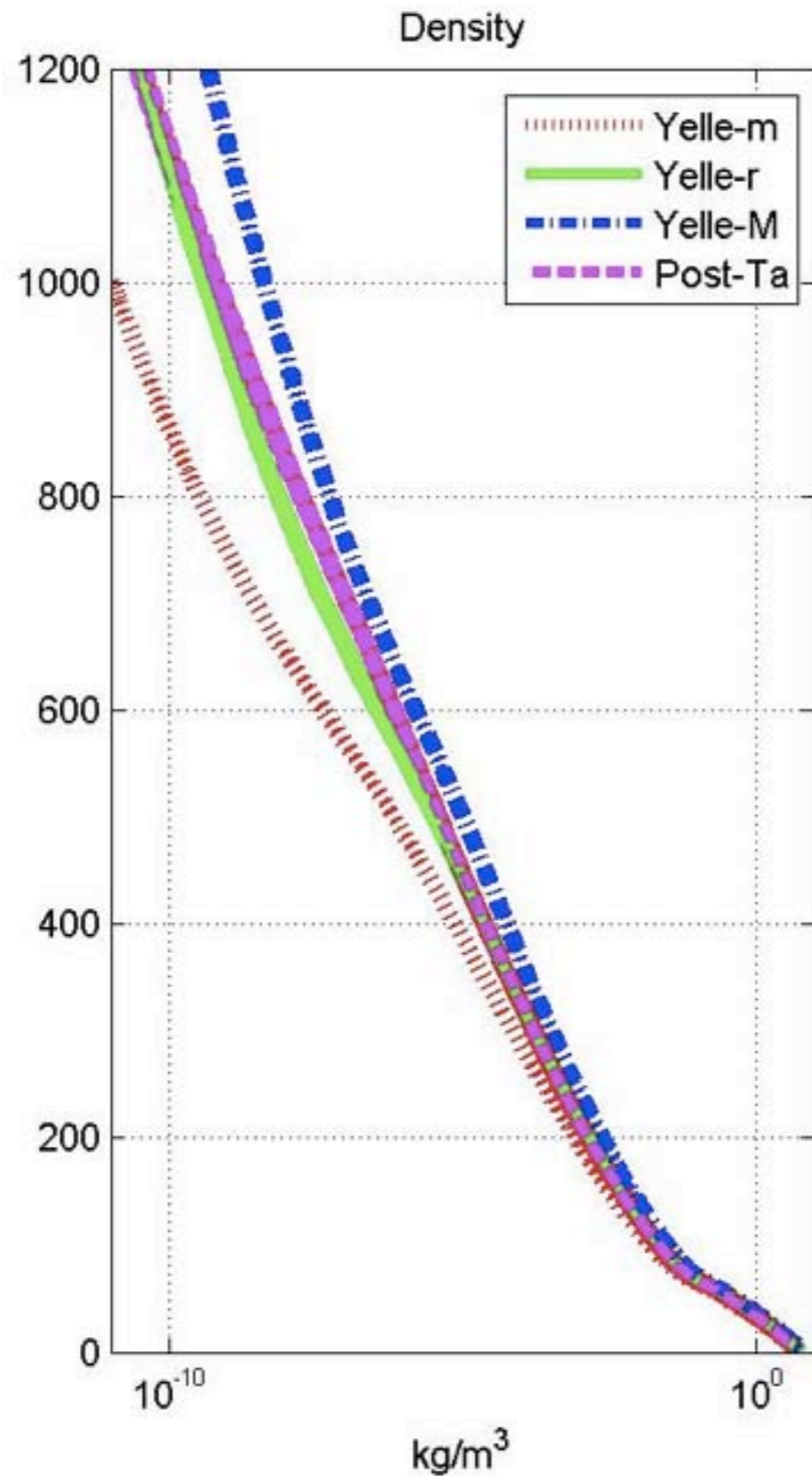




METHANE  
SOURCES?



# PREDICTION AND MEASUREMENTS OF TITAN'S ATMOSPHERE : GOOD AGREEMENT

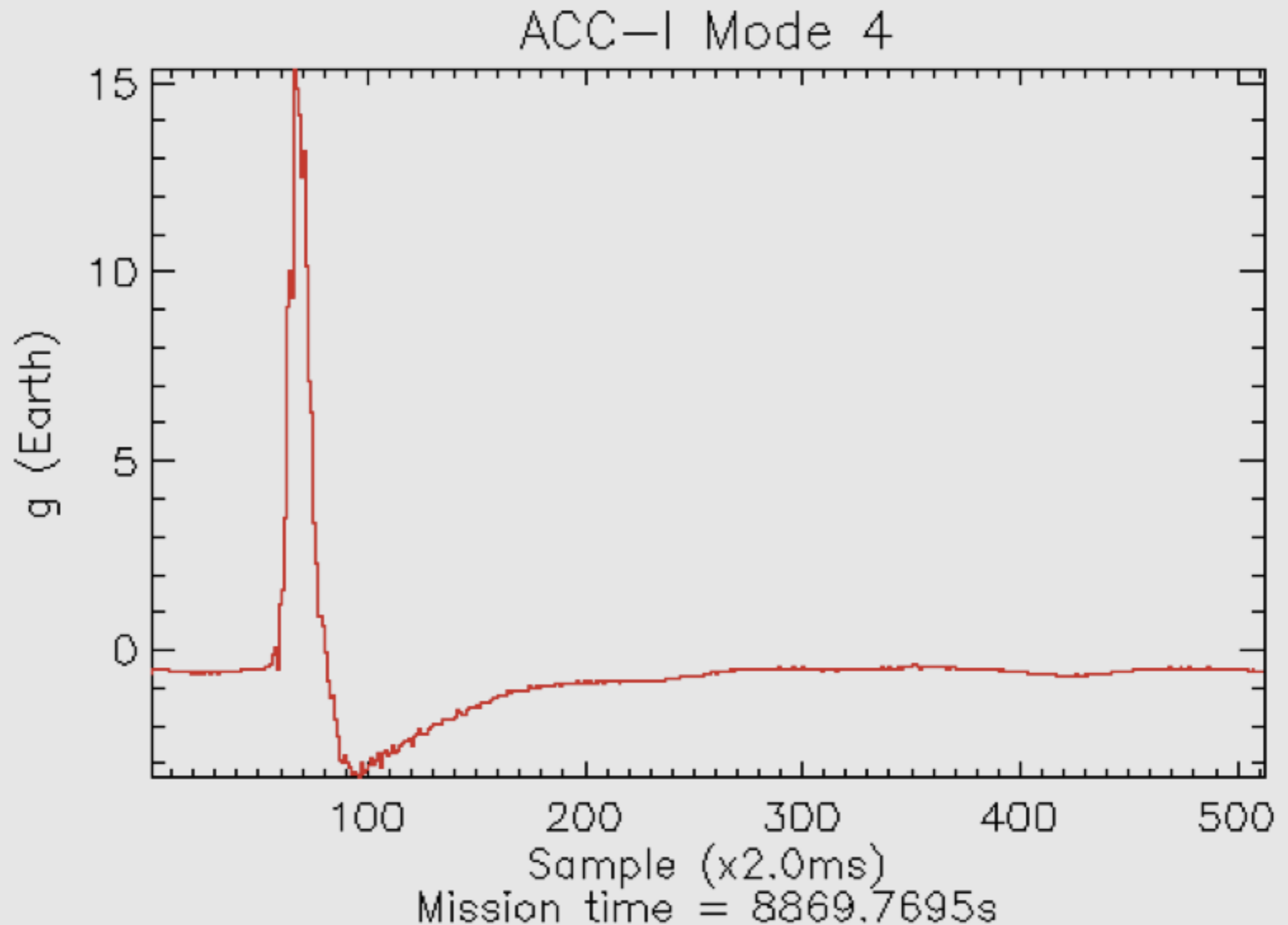






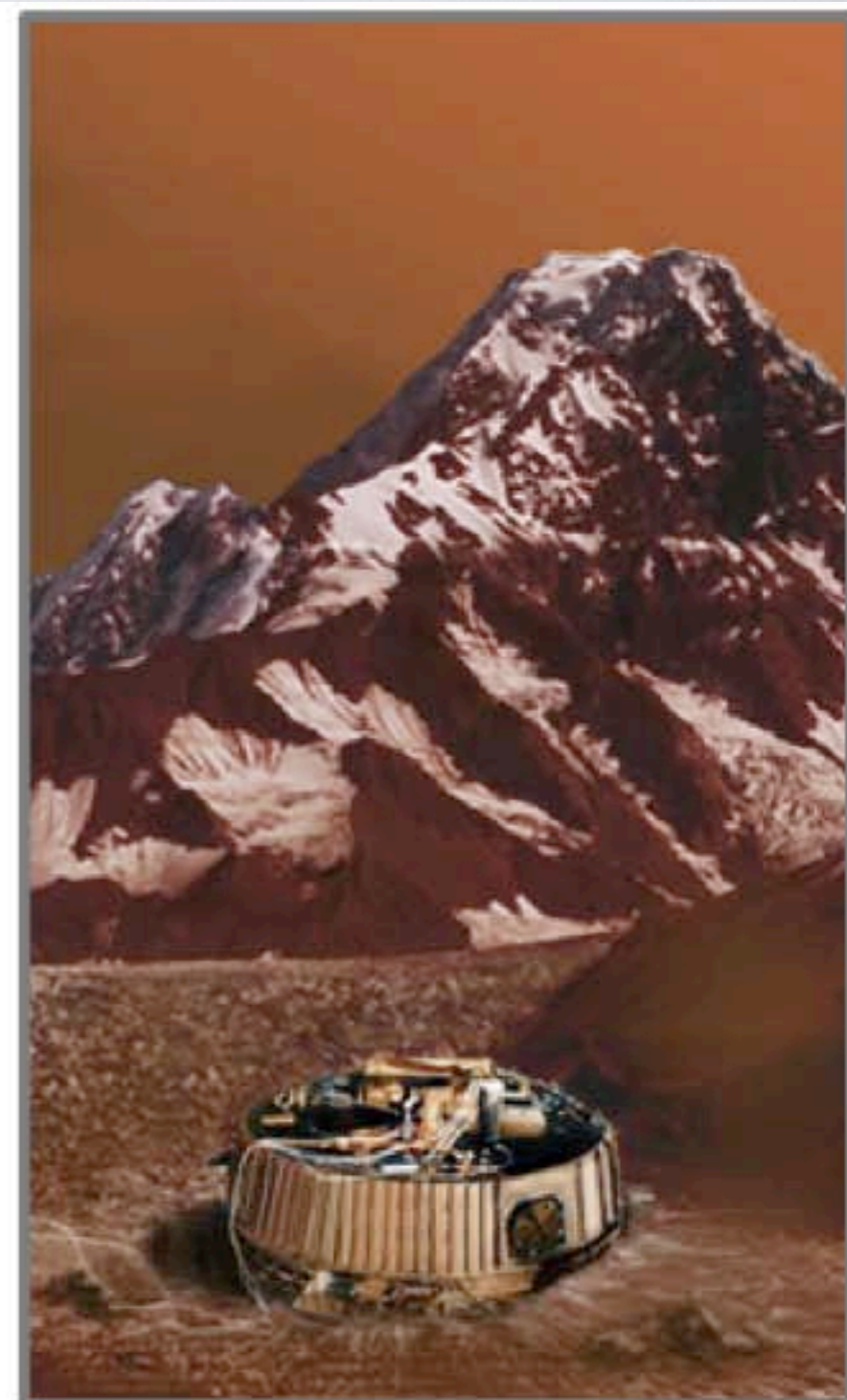


# ACCELEROMETER AT LANDING





# HUYGENS LANDING SCENARIOS





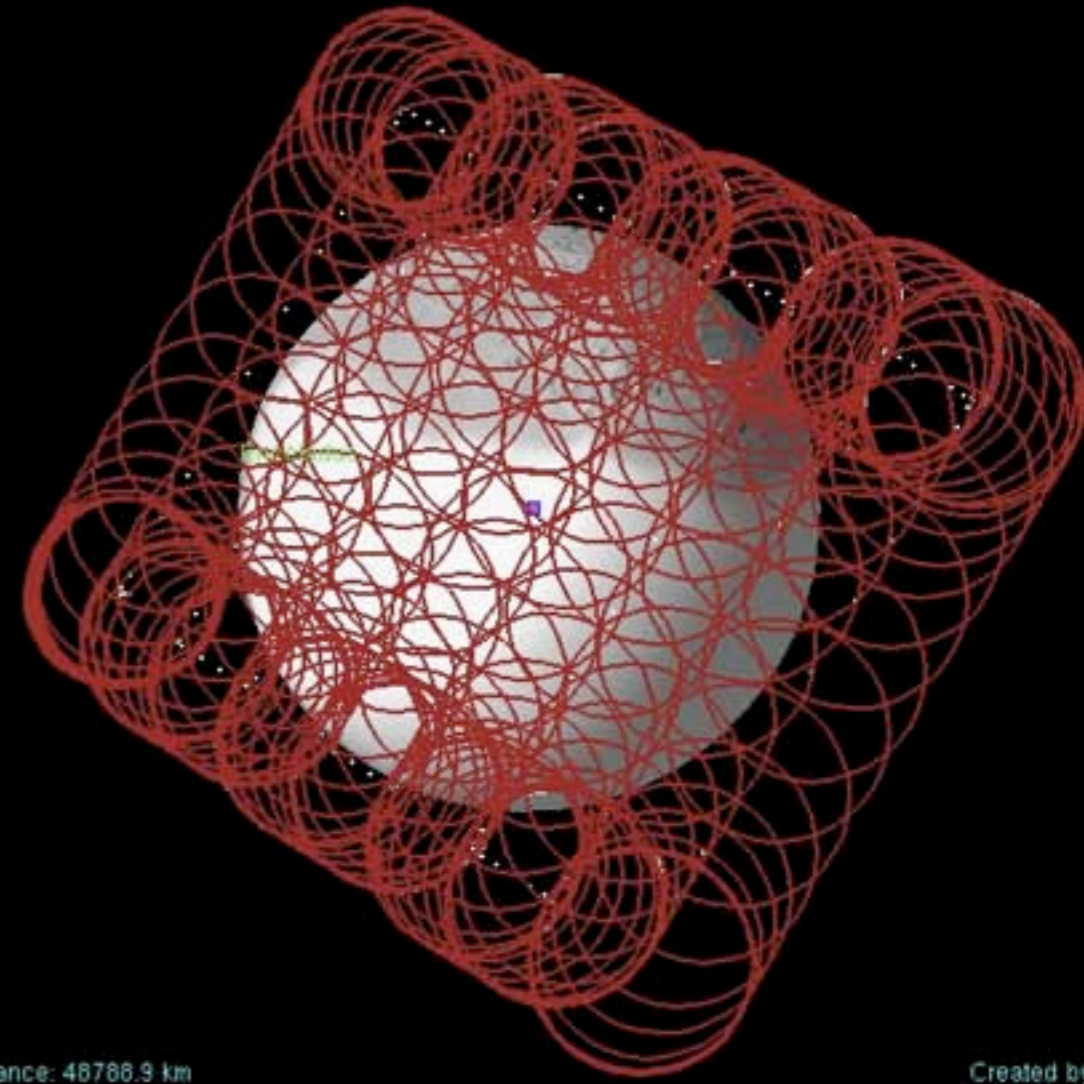
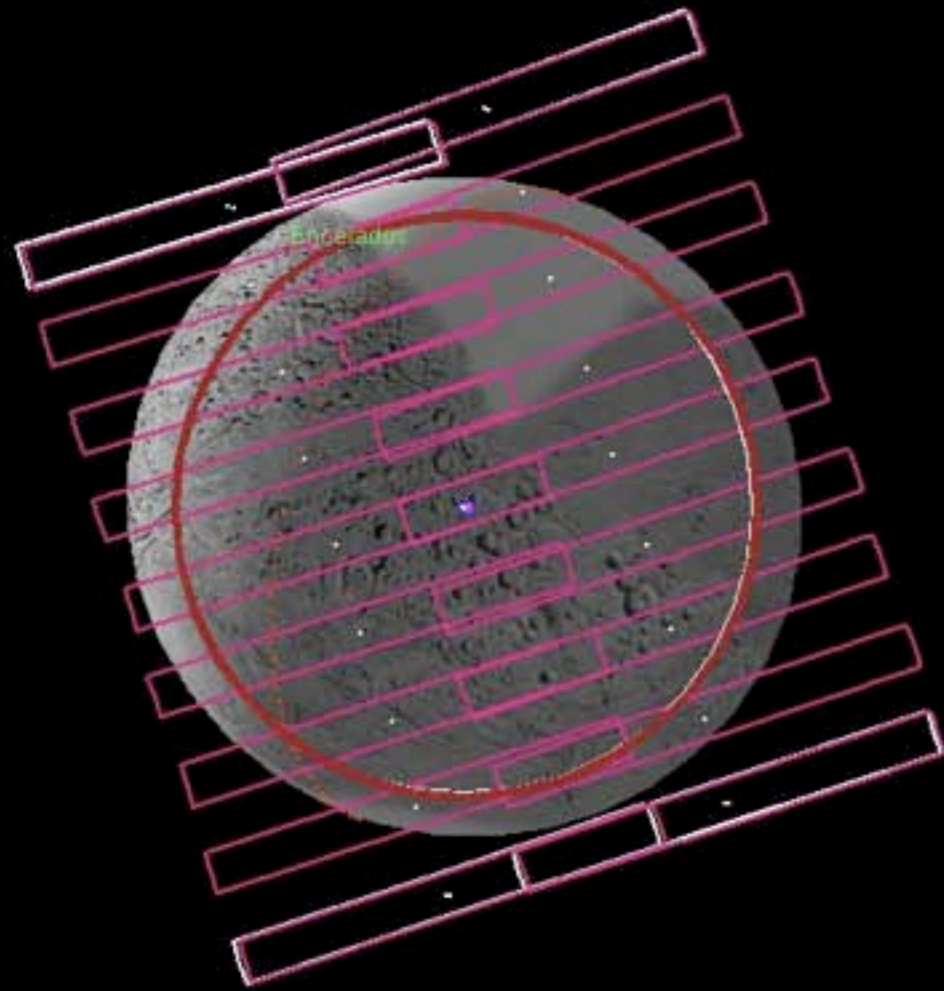
# TITAN SURFACE PREDICTION AND REALITY





# SCIENCE PLANNING ! EXAMPLE : CIRS

Request: CIRS\_008EN\_HTSPT31KM161\_PRIME Target: Enceladus Observation/Footprint Time:(2005 MAY 21) 2005-  
1. Request: CIRS\_011EN\_FP1GLOBAL020\_PRIME Target: Enceladus Observation/Footprint Time:(2005 JUL 14) 2005-



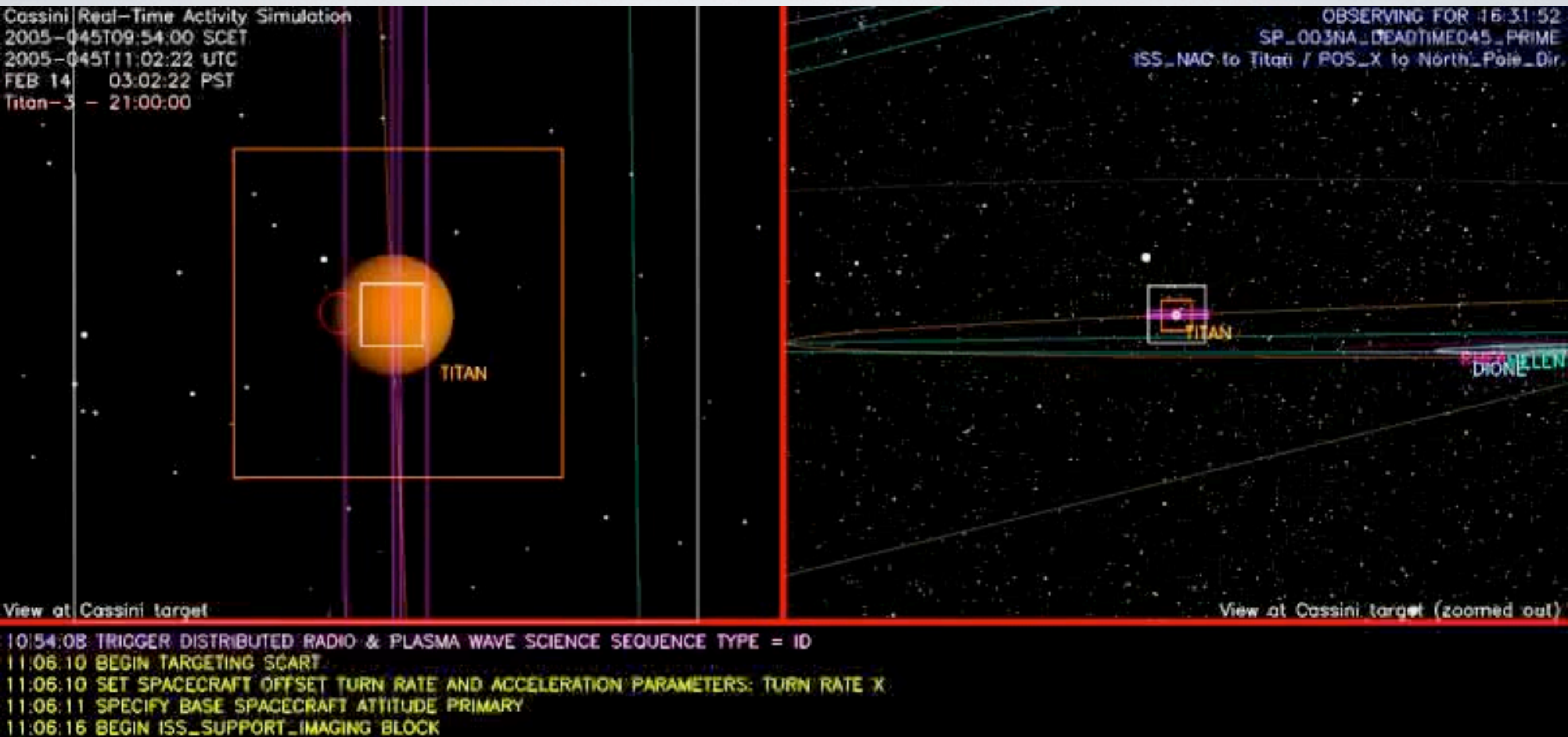
Spacecraft-Target Distance: 108058 km  
Spacecraft Velocity(relative to Target): 8.35946 km/s

Spacecraft-Target Distance: 48786.9 km  
Spacecraft Velocity(relative to Target): 8.25699 km/s  
Created by ODD (MSS D9.0.2d)  
on: Thu Jul 24 15:58:44 2003

Created by ODD  
on: Thu Jul 24 15:58:44 2003

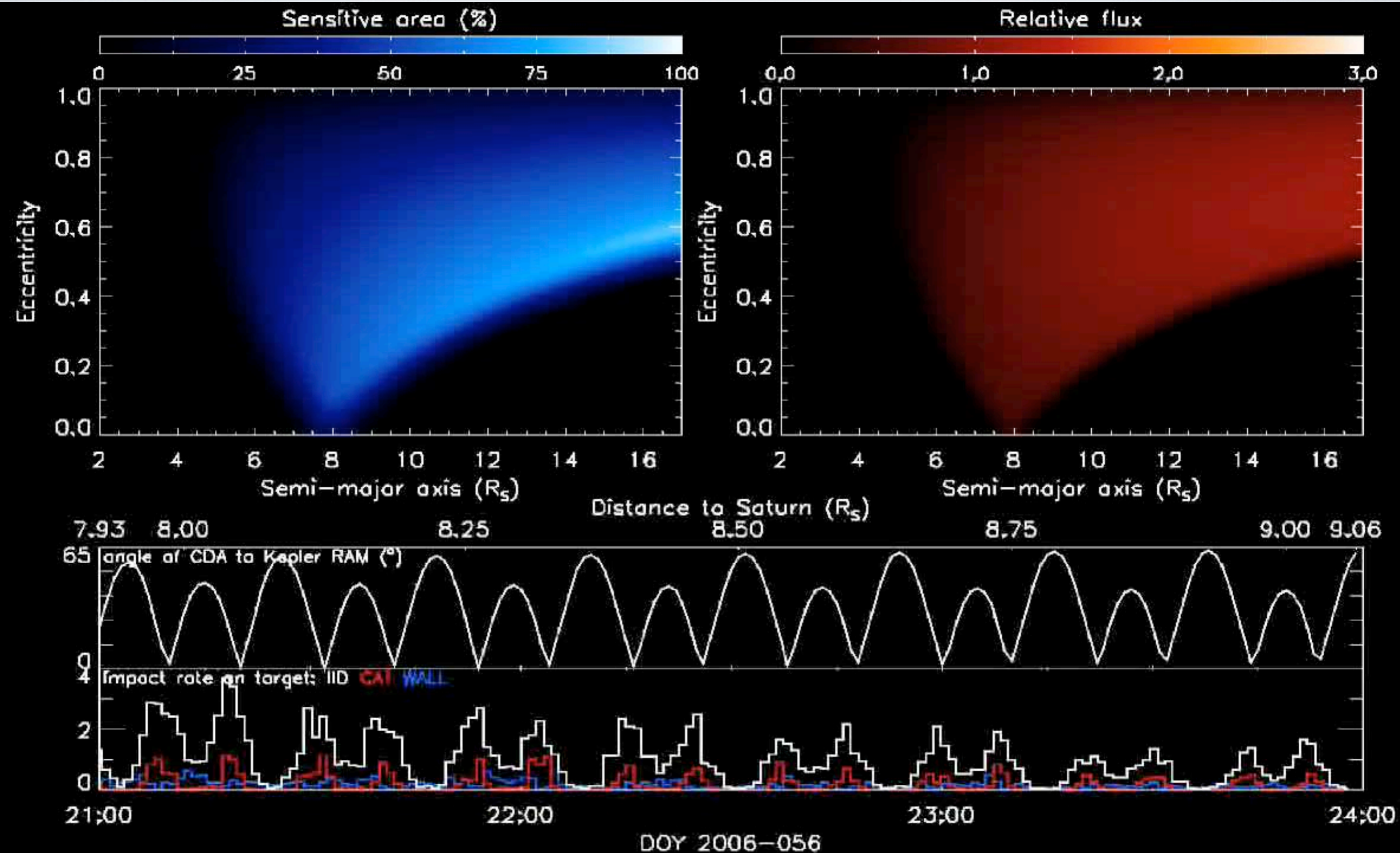


# OBSERVATION PLANNING



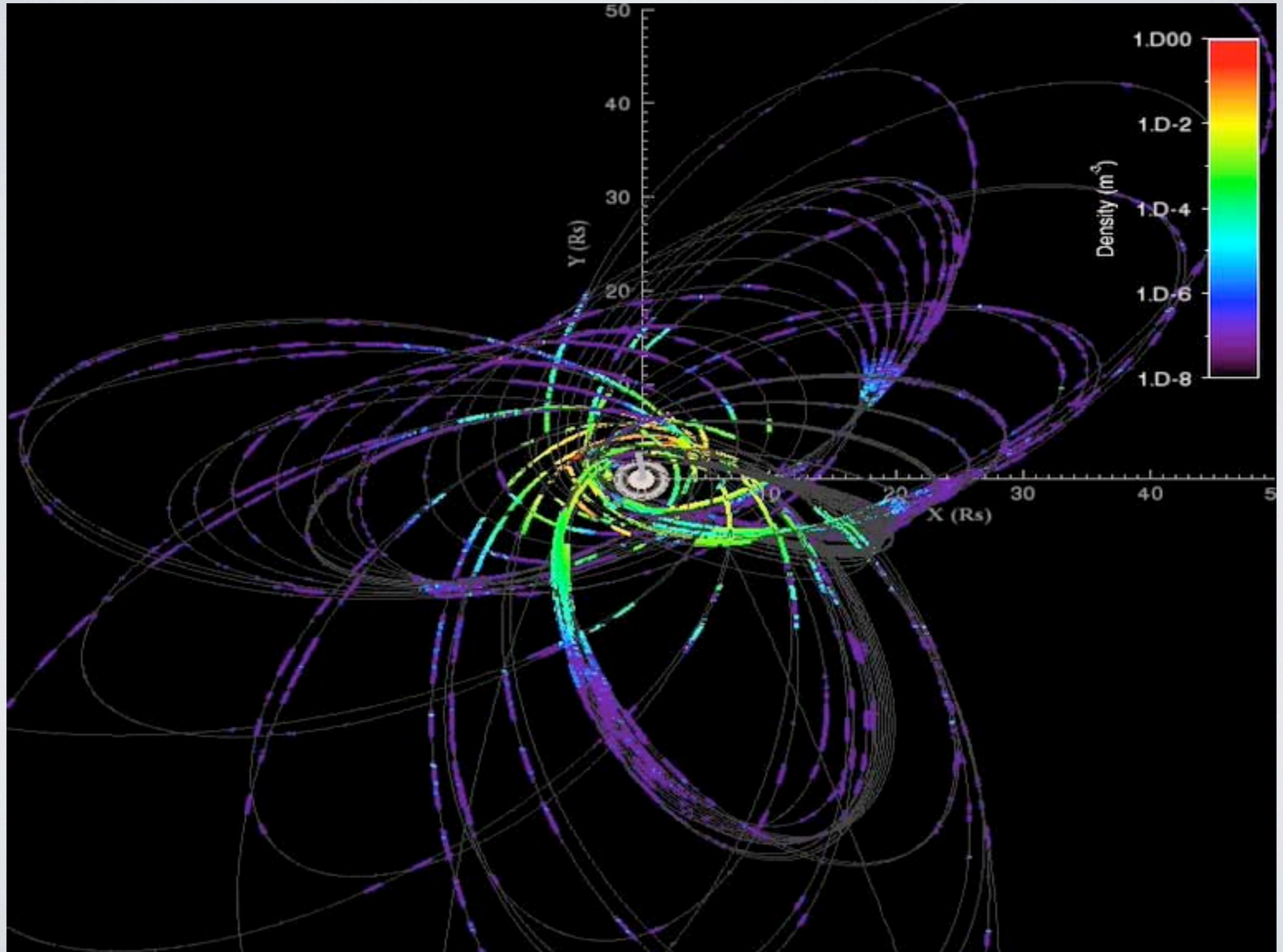


# ROCKING CASSINI: DUST DYNAMICS





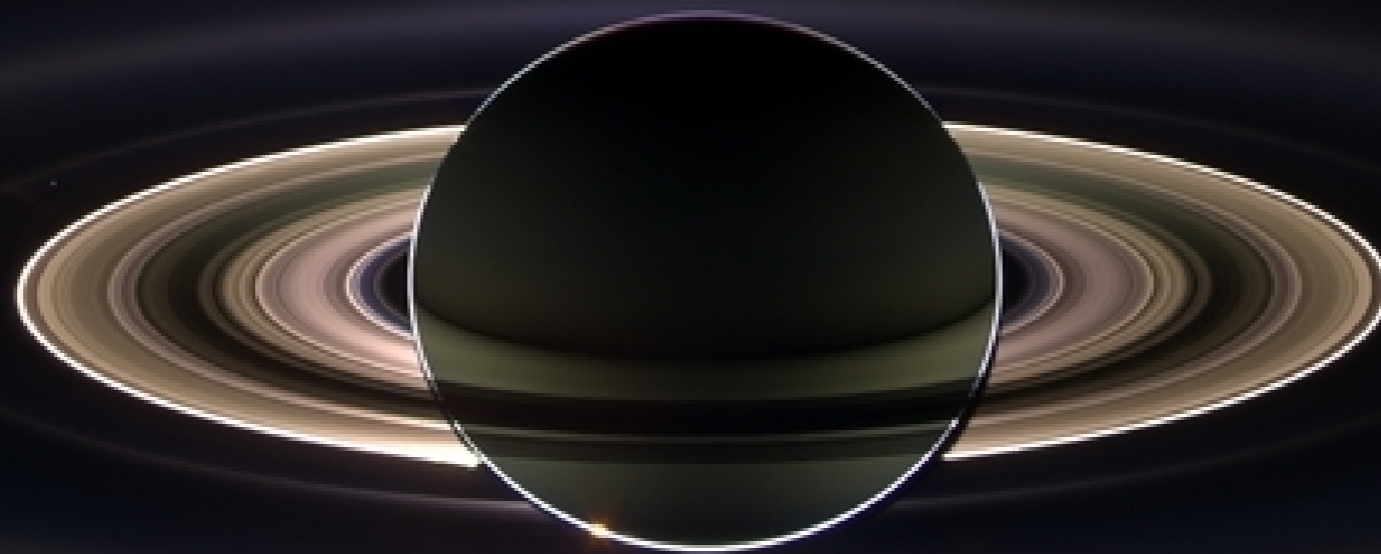
# DUST DENSITY





Comparison : Optical measurements

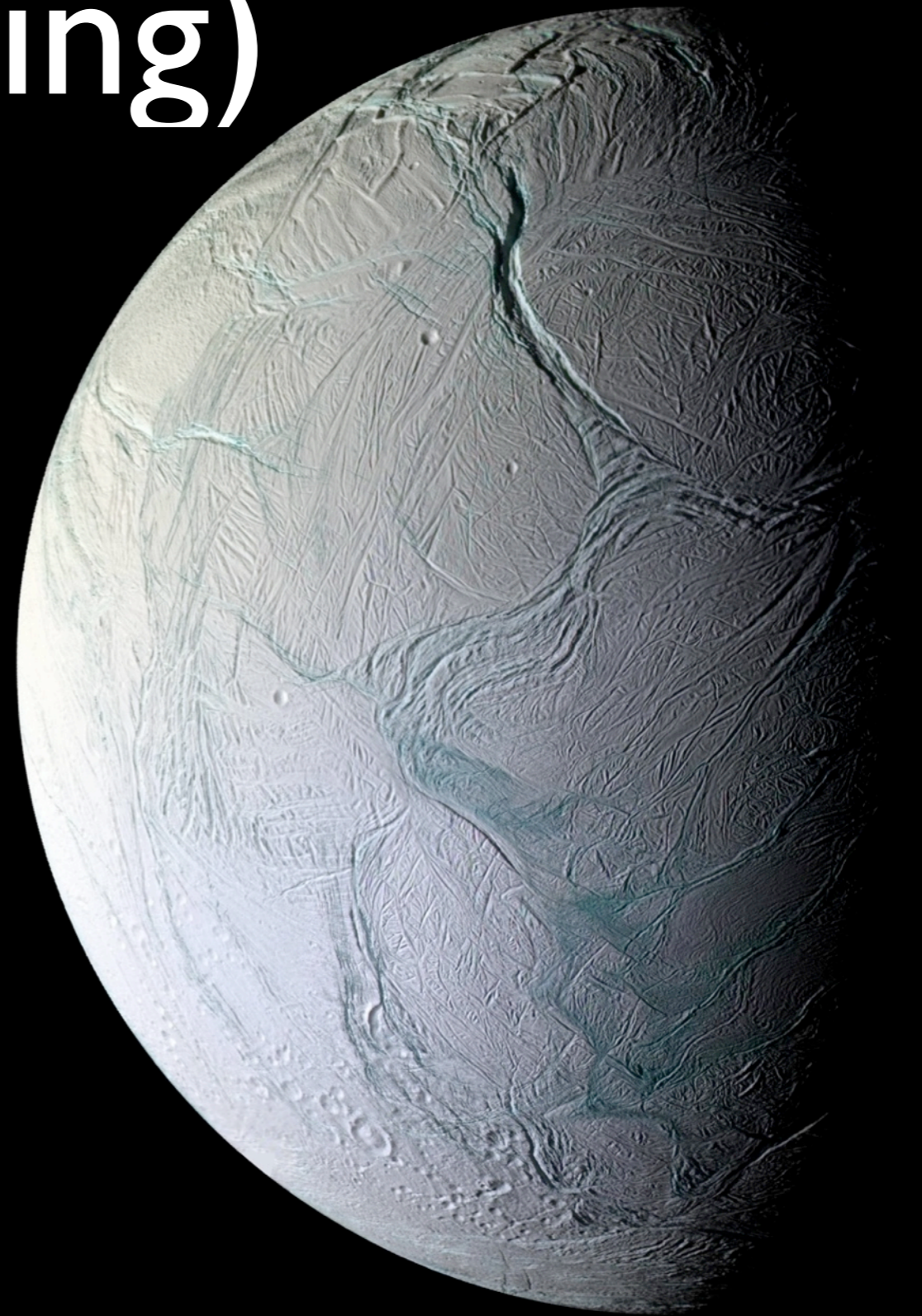
# The E-Ring



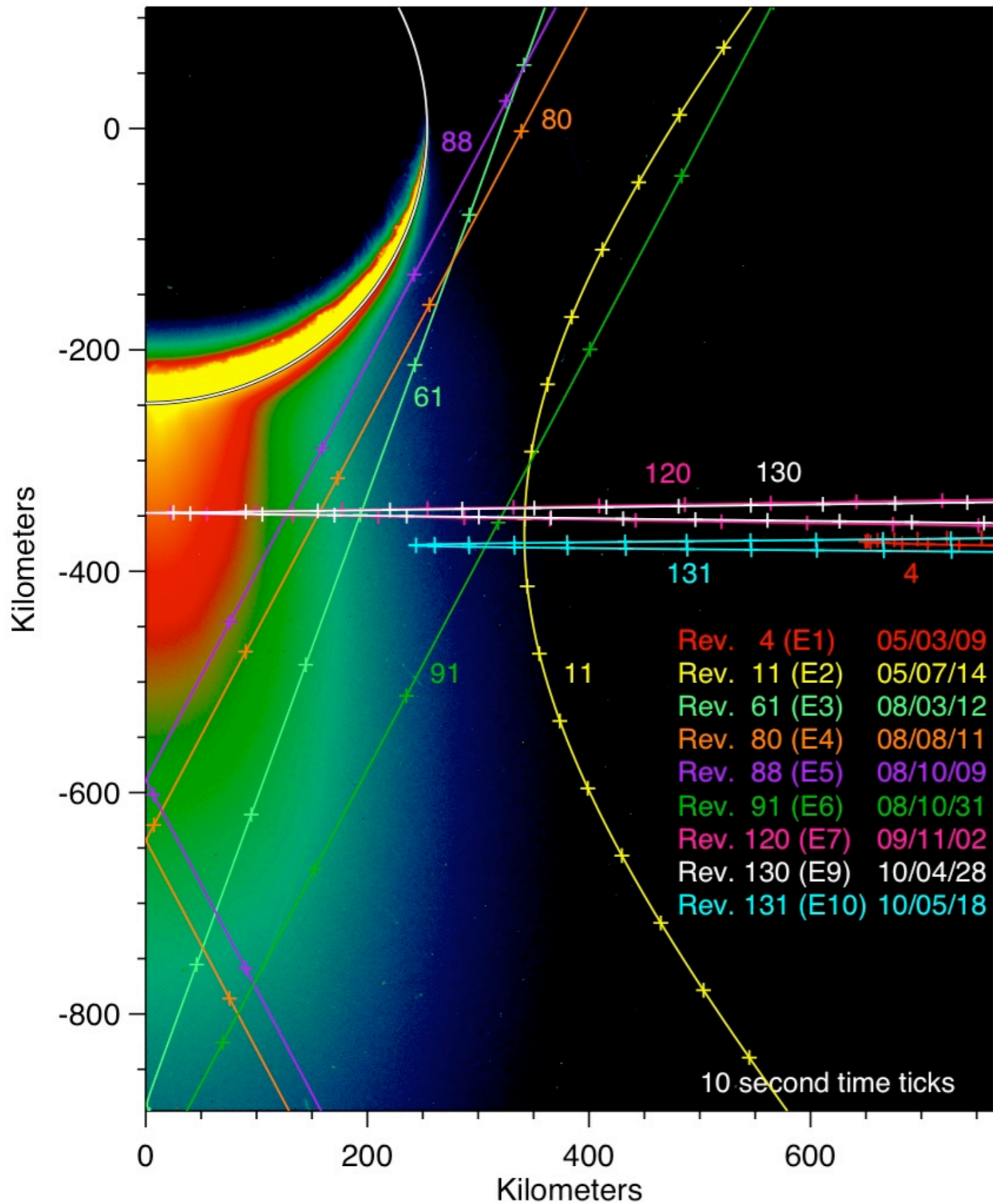


# Enceladus : Source of ice grains (E ring)

- Size: 499 km
- Density:  $1600 \text{ kg/m}^3$
- 70 km Ice Crust on Rocky Core





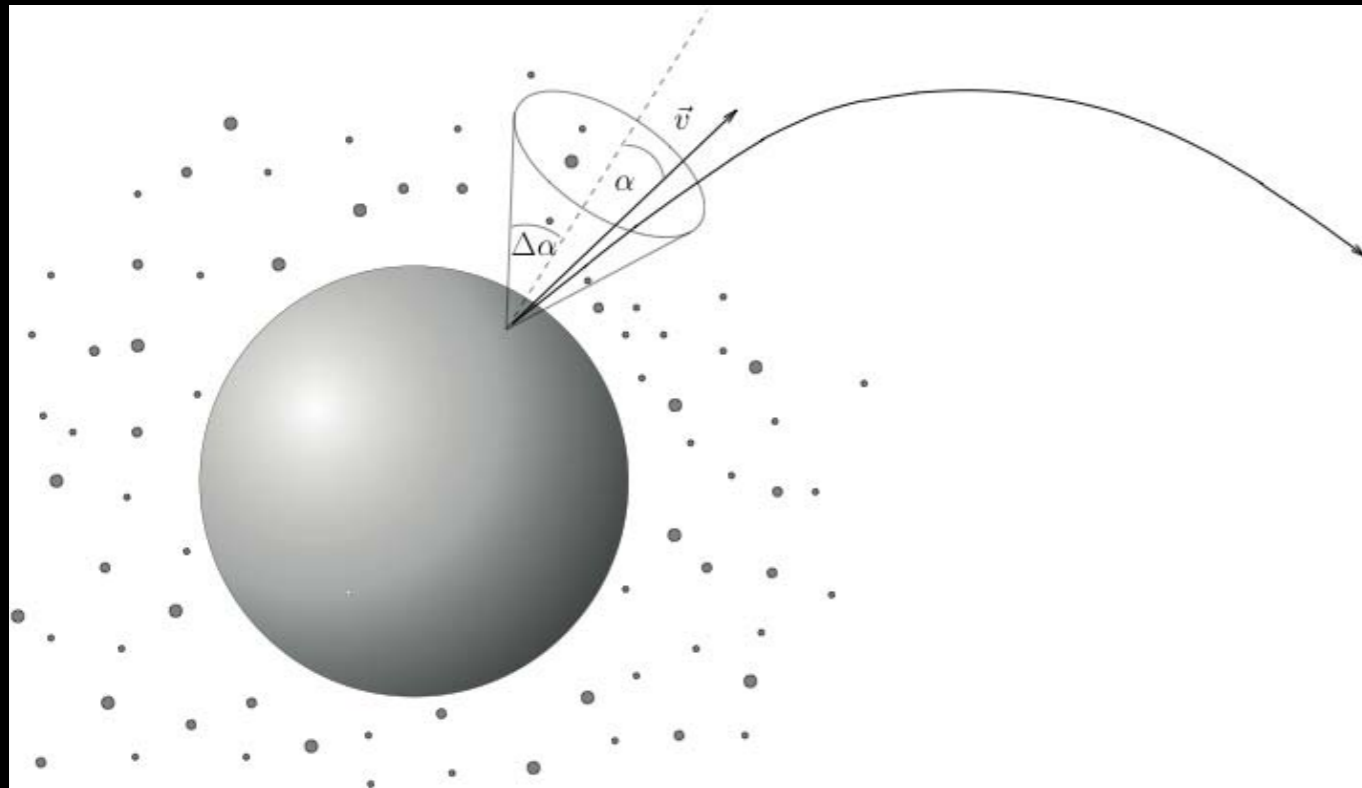


# ENCELADUS FLYBY PLANNING



# Ejecta Production

## Meteoroid Impacts Splash up Ejecta



Sremcevic et al., Icarus, 2005

**Mass Yield  $\sim 4000$**

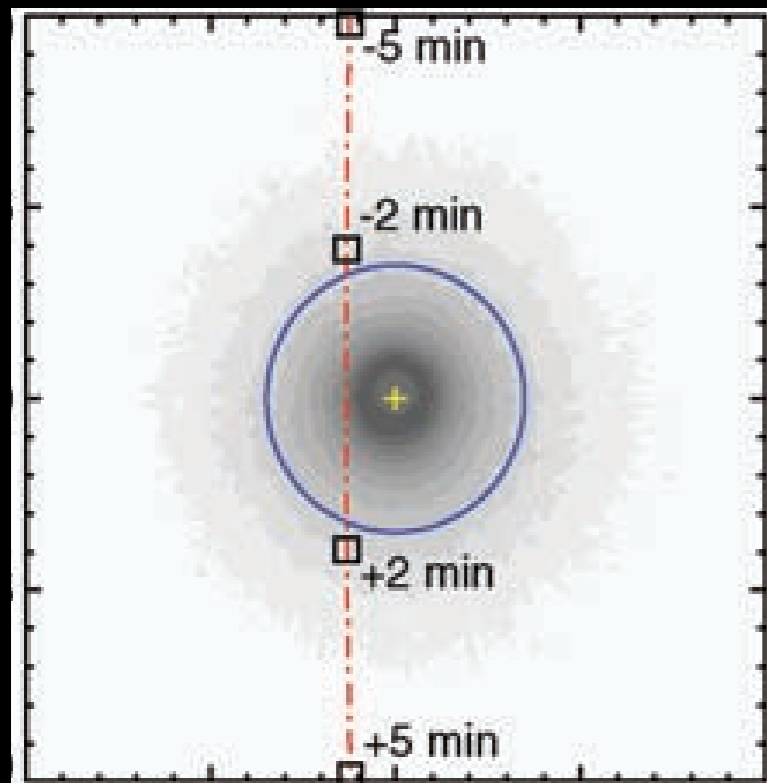
Koschny & Grün, Icarus, 2001; Krivov et al., Icarus, 2003

- Gravitationally Bound Ejecta Populate Cloud
- Some Ejecta Escape:
  - Feed Rings
  - Mass Loss Mechanism

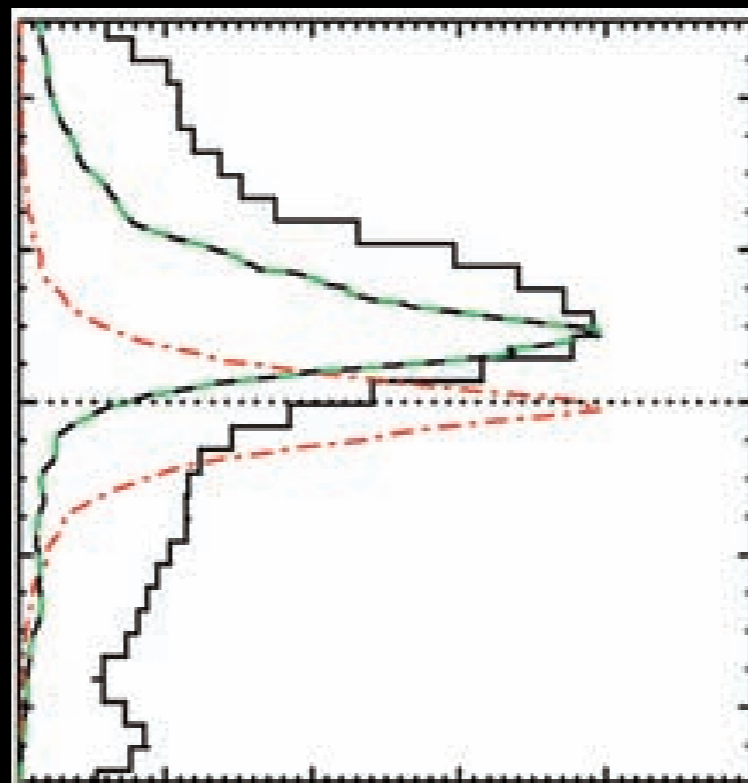


# Discovery (MAG, INMS, CDA): South Pole Ice Geysers

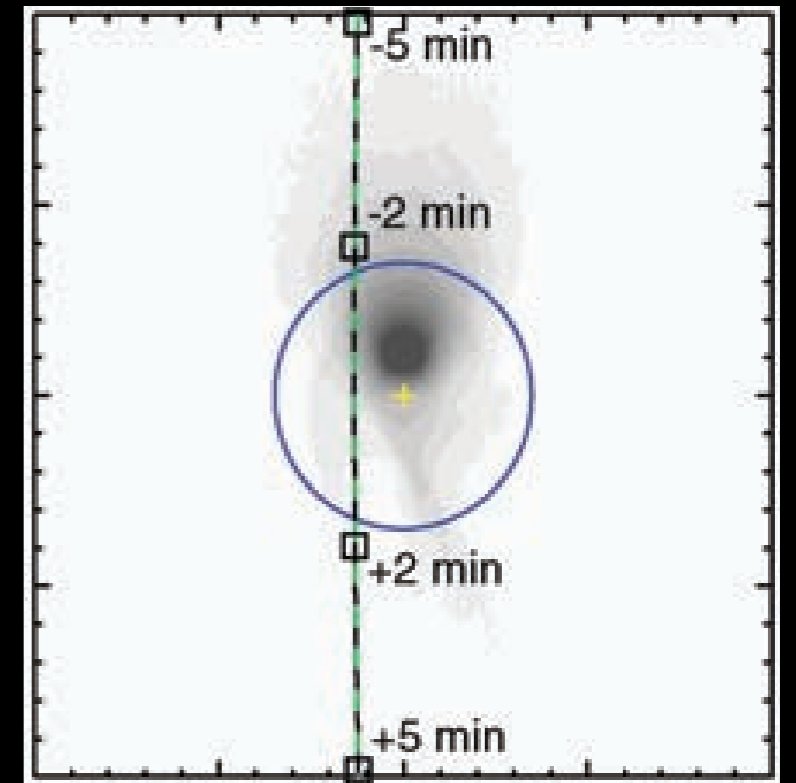
Dust Cloud



Dust Data



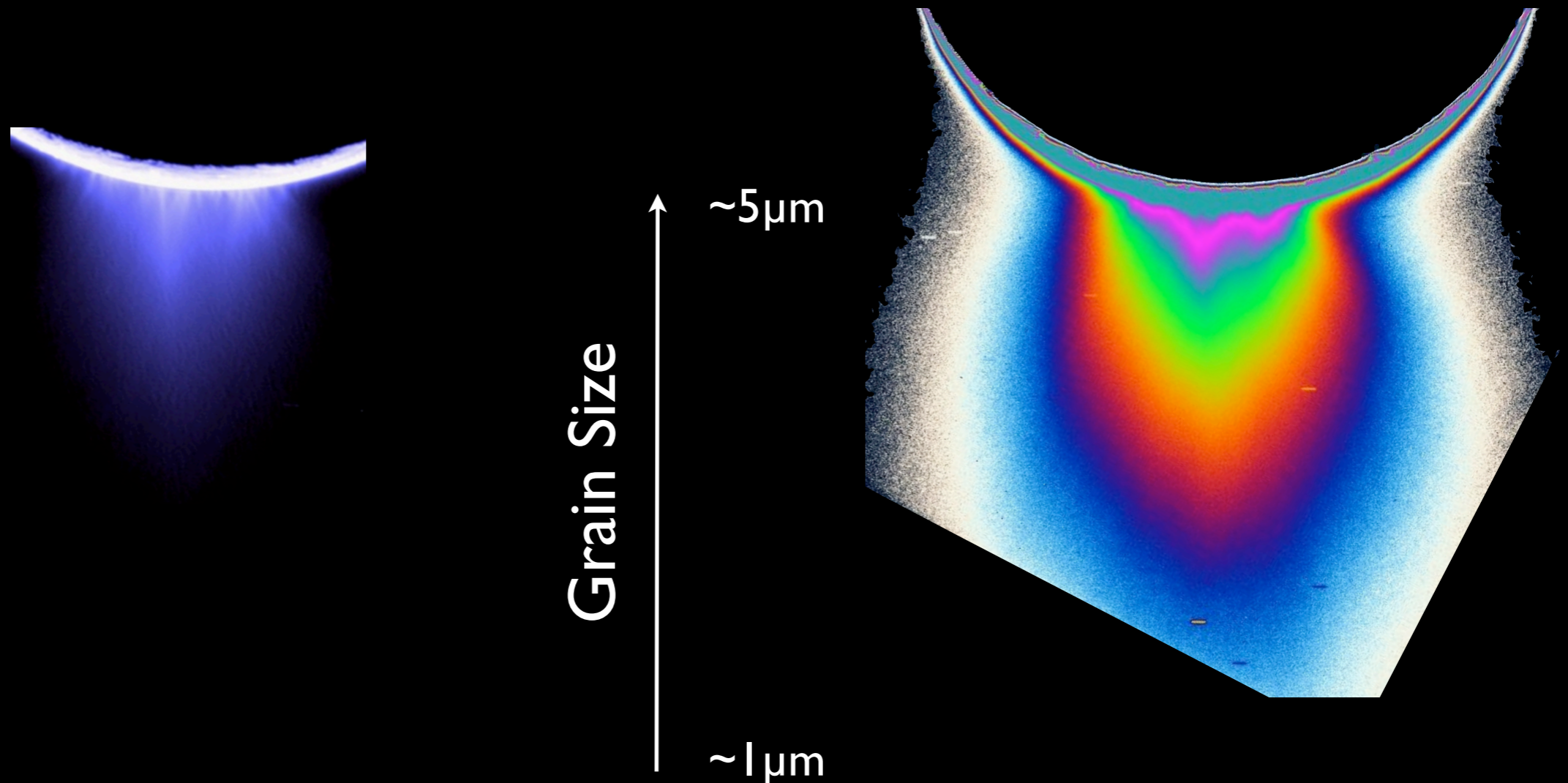
Dust Plume



Spahn et al., Science, 311, 2006

peak rate not at closest  
approach

# Geyser Grains Slower Than Escape Speed

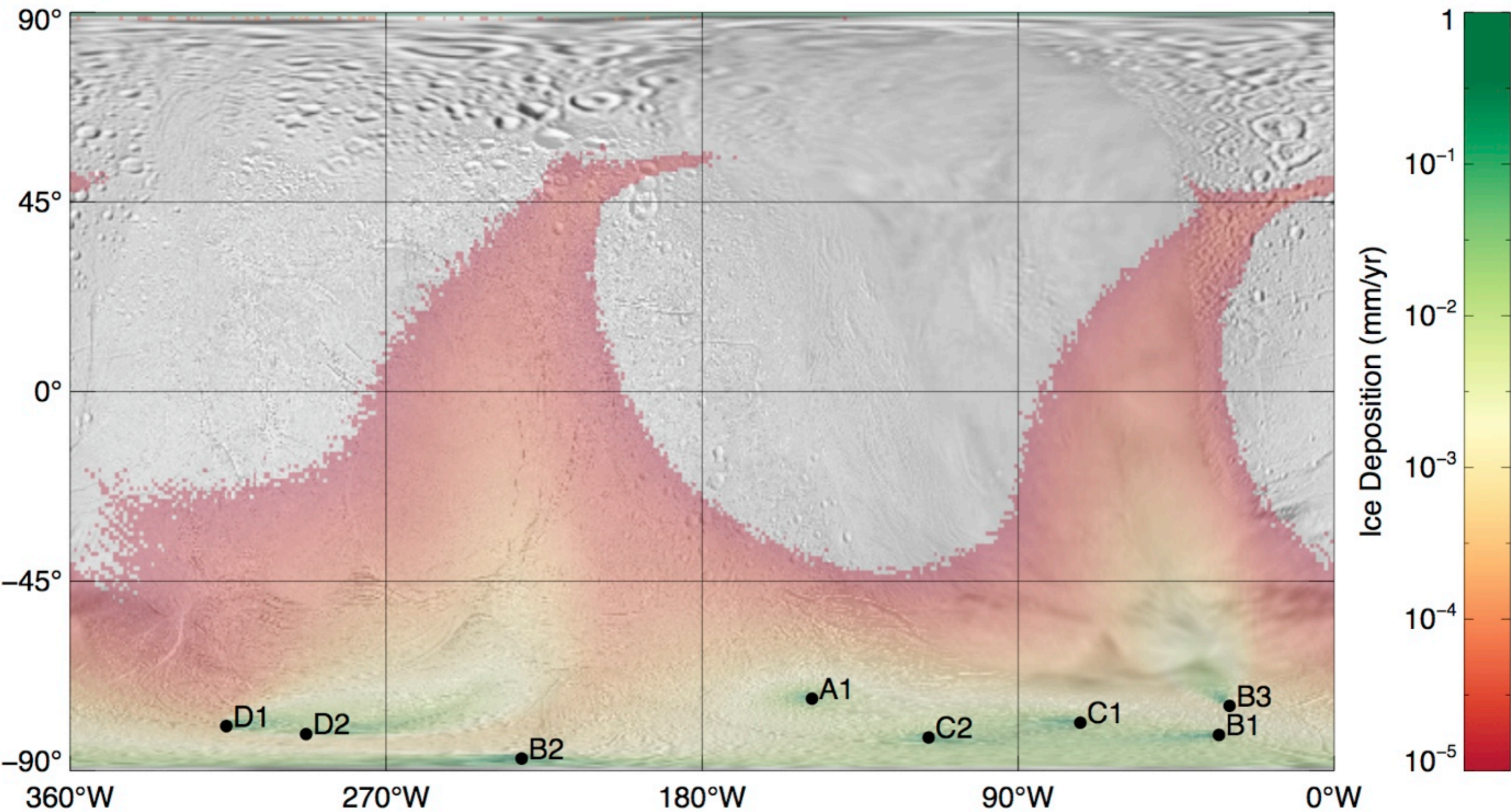


Hill Radius ~ 950 km

Escape Speed ~ 207 m/s

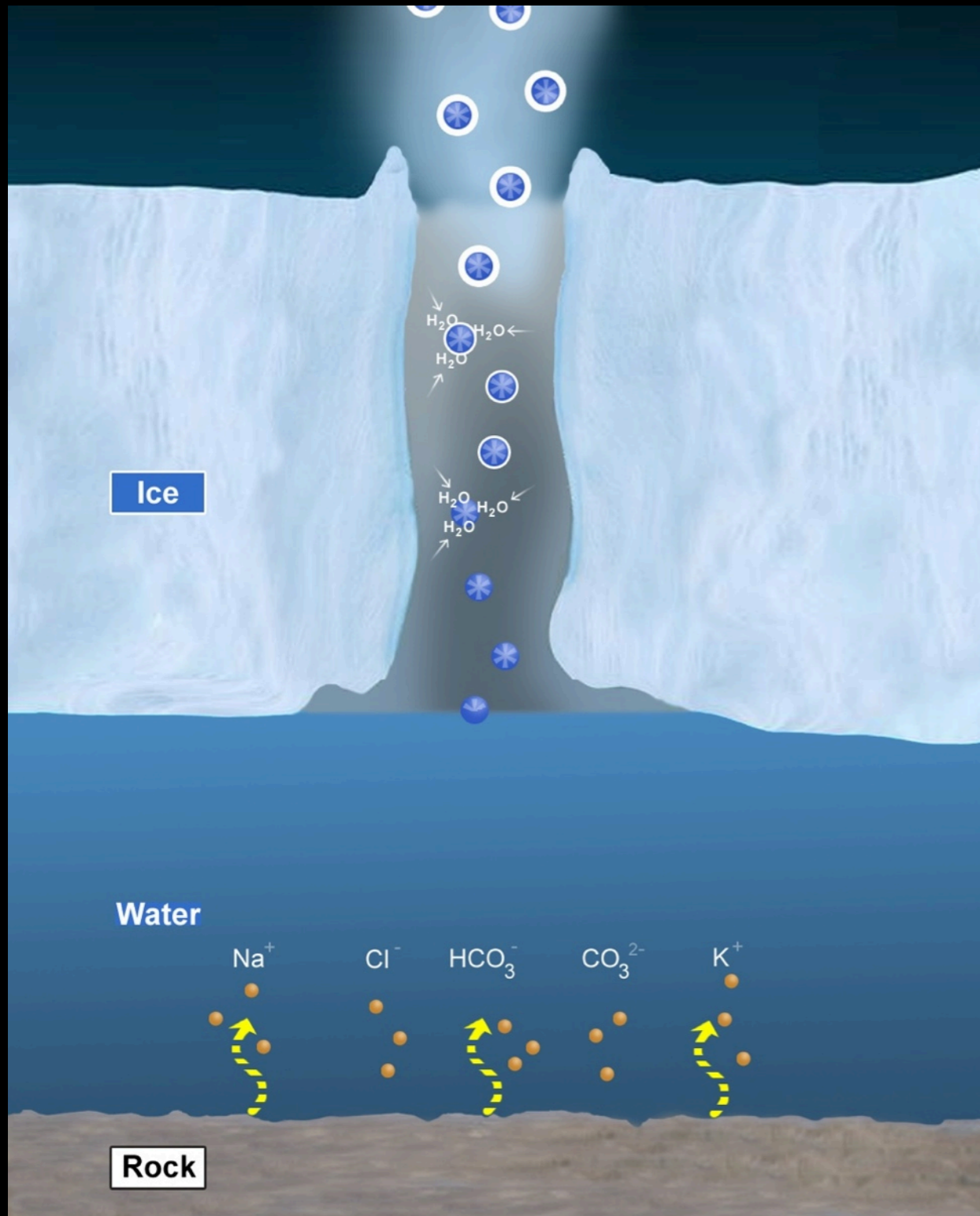


# Snow on Enceladus !



Salty icy grains : Direct Evidence for Subsurface Liquid Water Reservoir

# Water + Rocky Core



Water Dissolves Akali Salts

Zolotov, Geophys. Res. Lett., 34, 2007



Ice Grains Should be Salty!



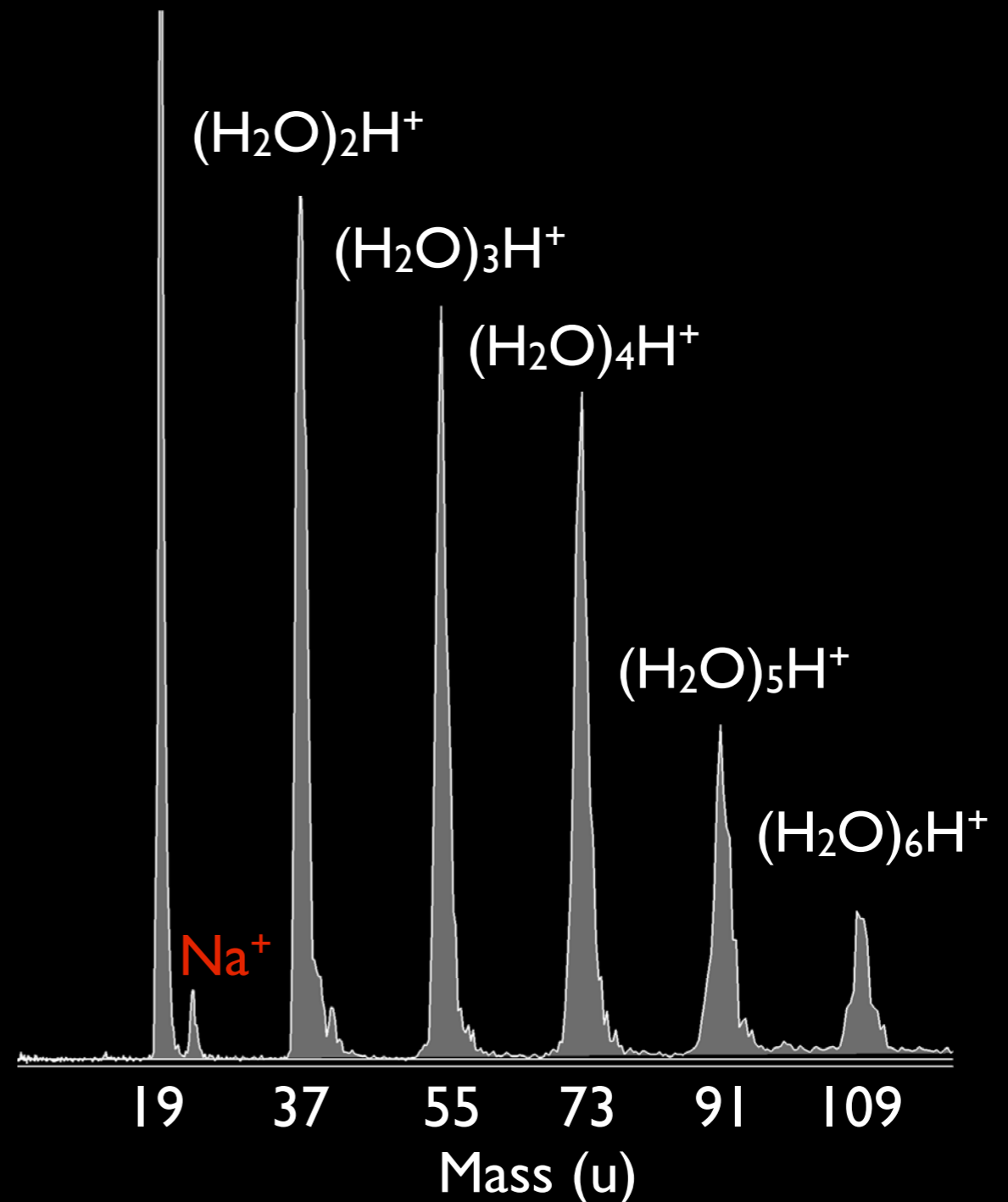
# Dust Composition

Cassini Dust Detector CDA



Geyser Water Ice Grain

$(\text{H}_2\text{O})\text{H}^+$



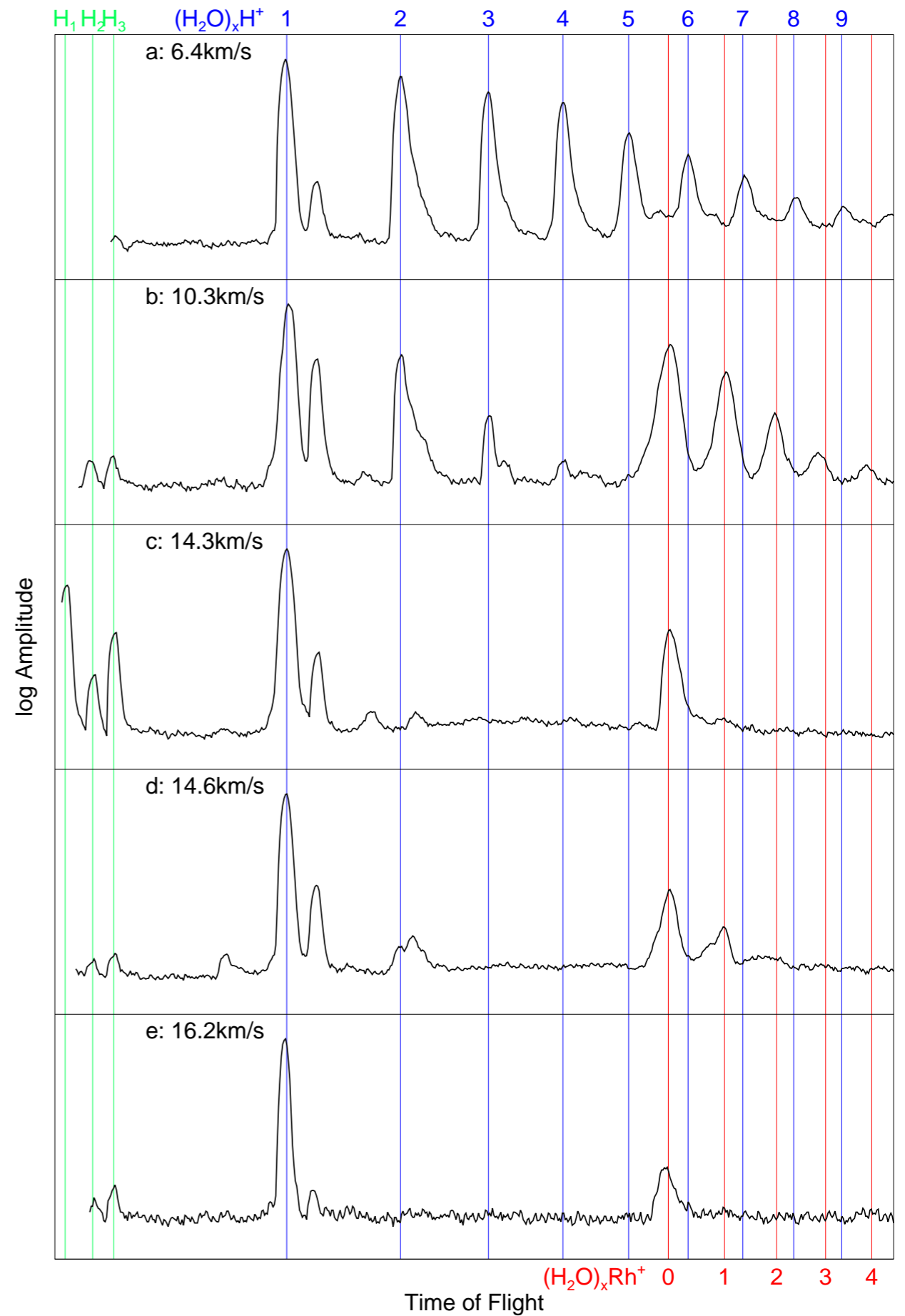
# TOF Mass spectra (Cassini-CDA)

< 6 km/s

Cluster length

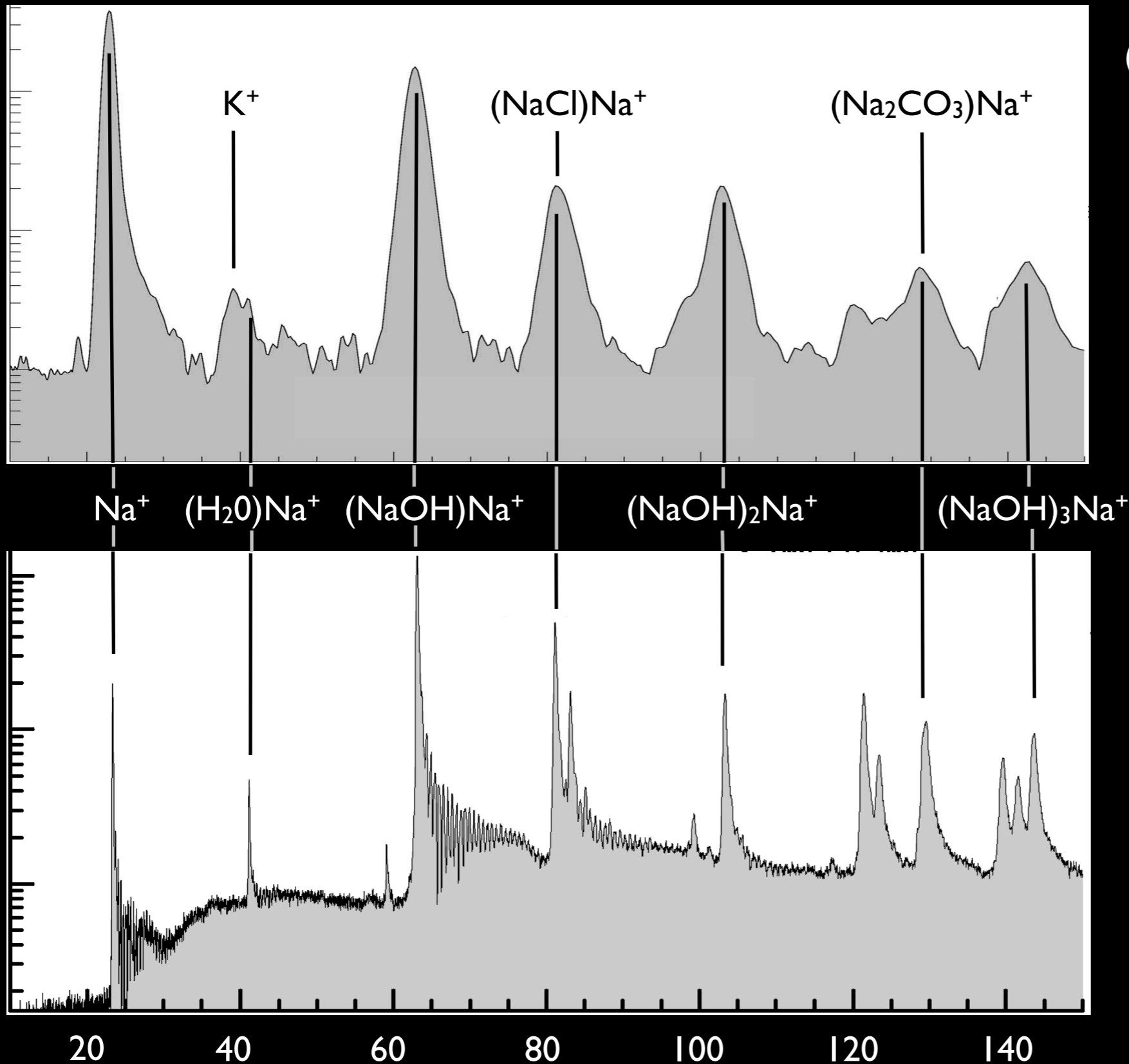


16 km/s





# Salty Ice Grains - measured in E ring



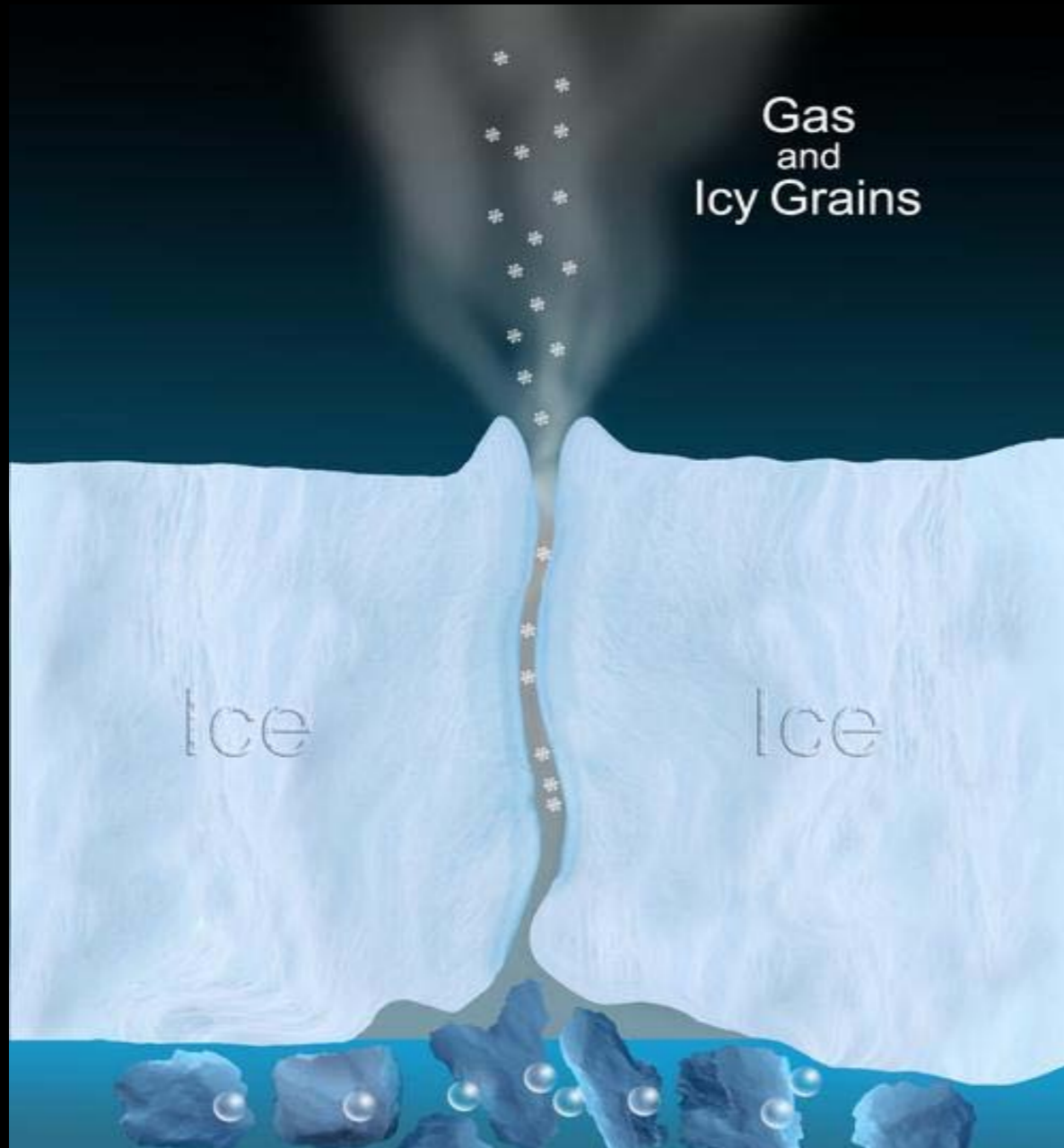
Co-Added CDA  
Spectrum:

Salt-rich Geyser  
Ice Grains  
(6%)

Lab Spectrum:

Laser Dispersion  
of Salt Water

# Results from Dust Measurements: Enceladus Ocean



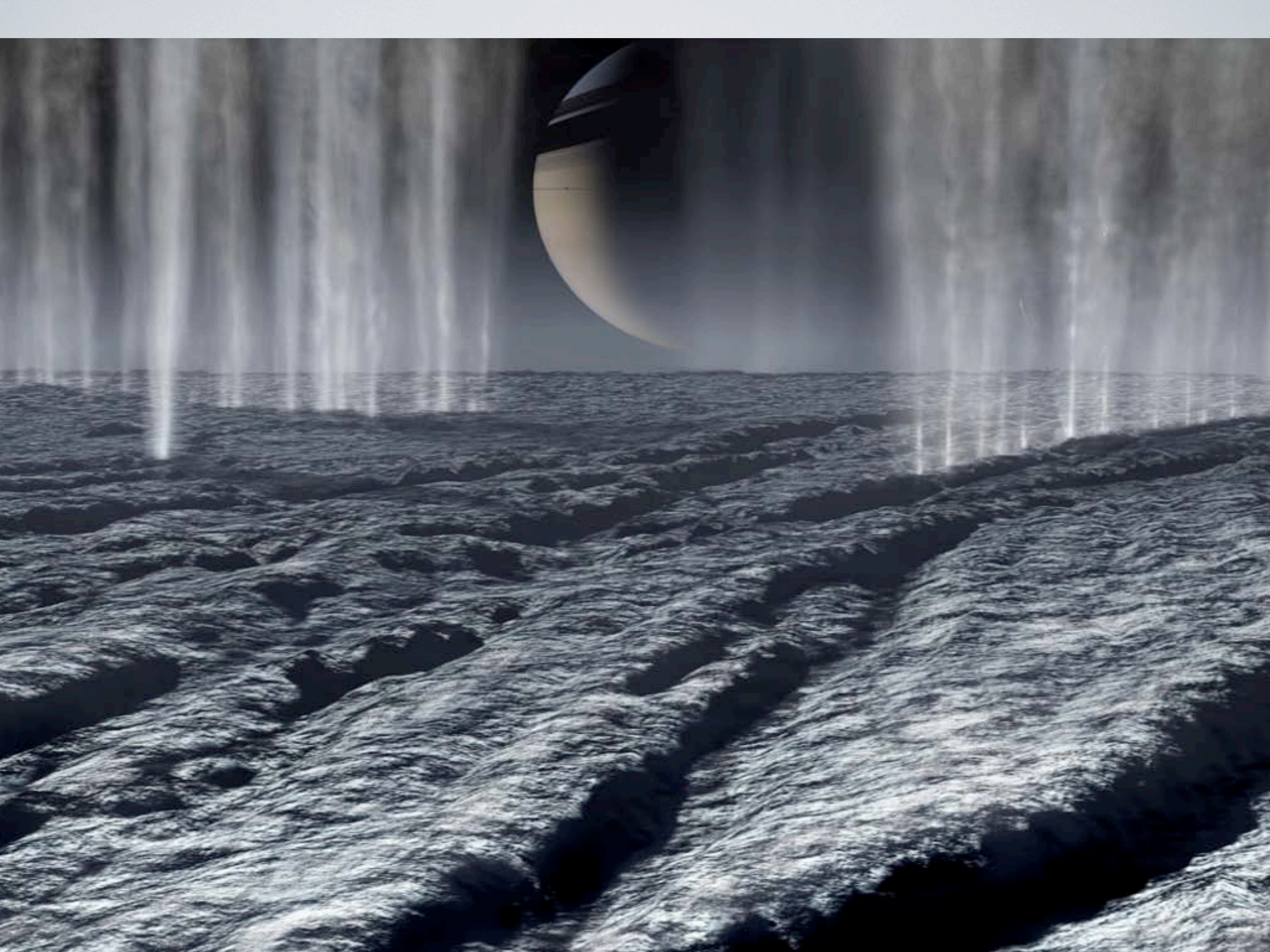
„Soda“ Ocean

Rich in Carbonates

pH ~ 9

Salinity ~ 1% (Earth 1..4%)



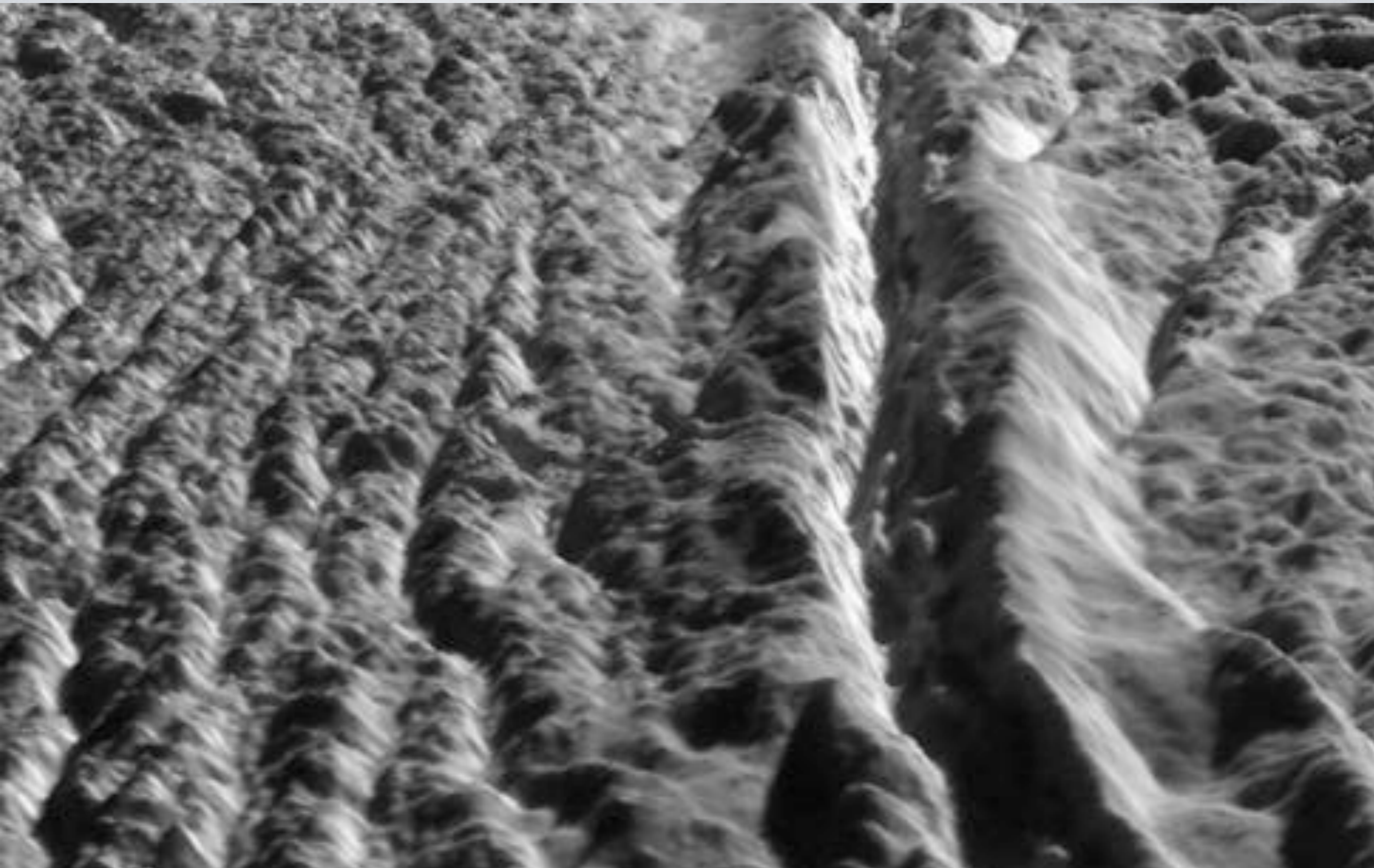








ARTISTS WERE ALMOST RIGHT



# ENCELADUS REALITY

thanks to: NASA/JPL

S. Kempf, G. Moragas-Klostermeyer

F. Postberg, E. Grün, M. Burton, M. Roy

S. Hsu, H. Krüger, M. Horanyi, U. Beckmann, P. Strub,

N. Altobelli, V. Sterken, J. Schmidt, F. Spahn, ...

Cassini-CDA project grant by DLR

