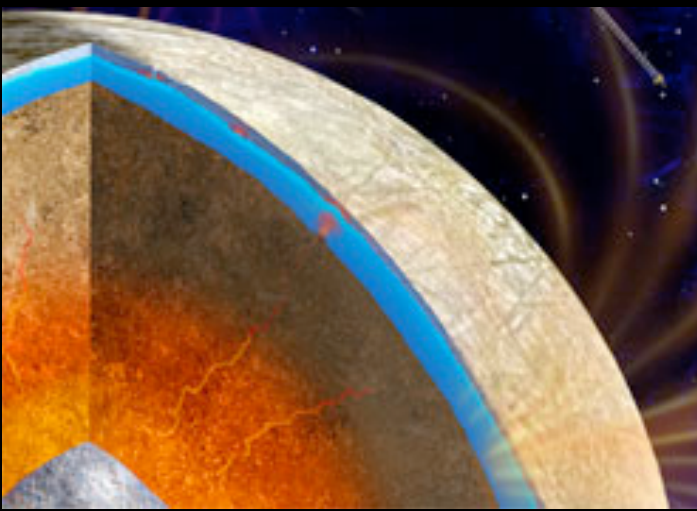


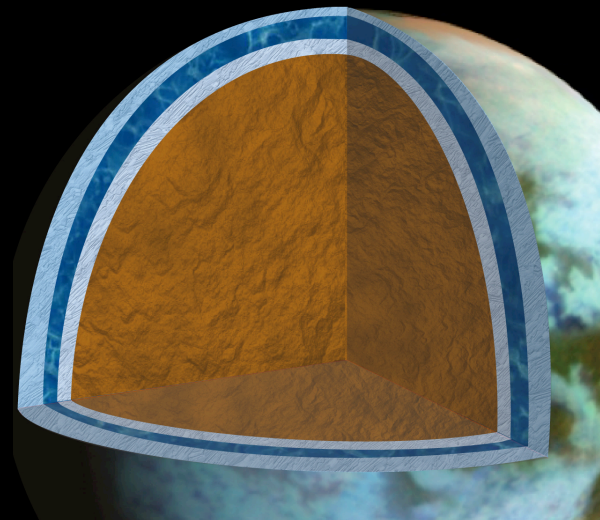
# Geodynamics of icy worlds: Context for water-rock interactions



**Gabriel TOBIE**

*Laboratoire de Planétologie et  
Géodynamique,  
CNRS/ Université de Nantes*

ANR



# Introduction

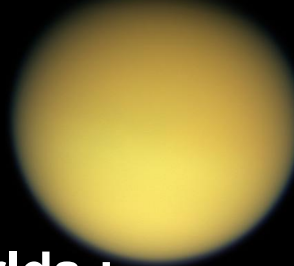
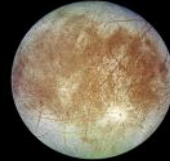
Enceladus

Pluto

Europa

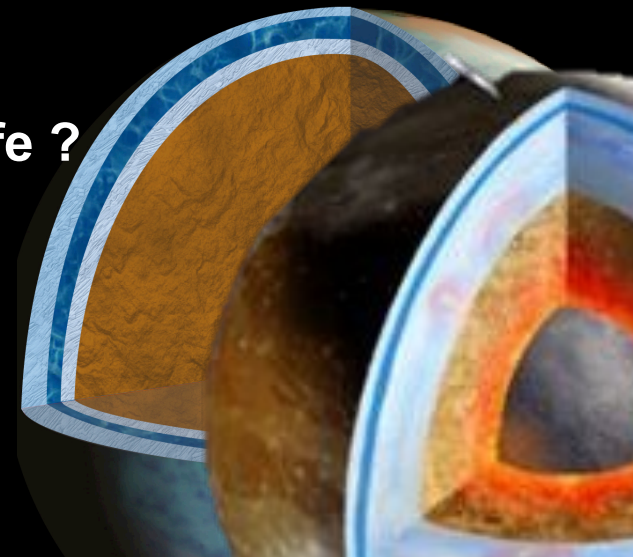
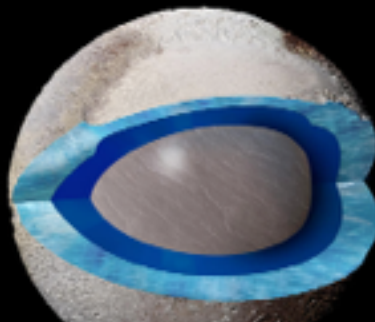
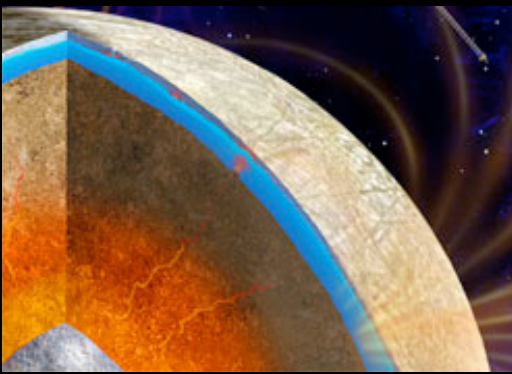
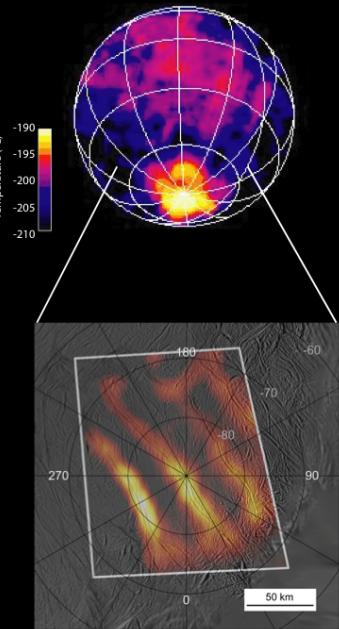
Titan

Ganymede

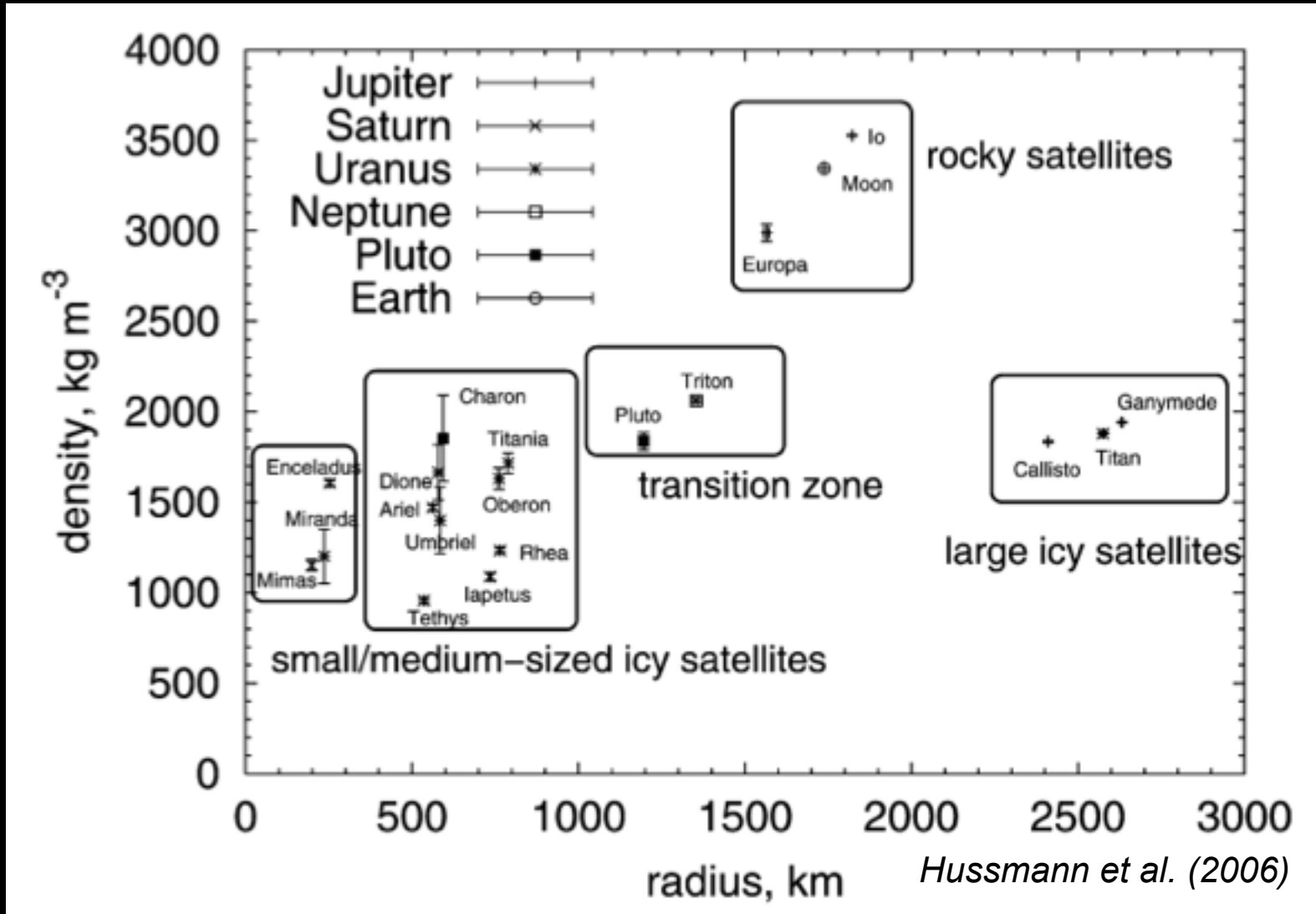


Major questions about icy worlds :

- 1- What are the structure and composition of their water-rich interiors ?
- 2- What are the source of energy that powered their endogenic activities ?
- 3- Are their subsurface oceans suitable for the emergence of life ?



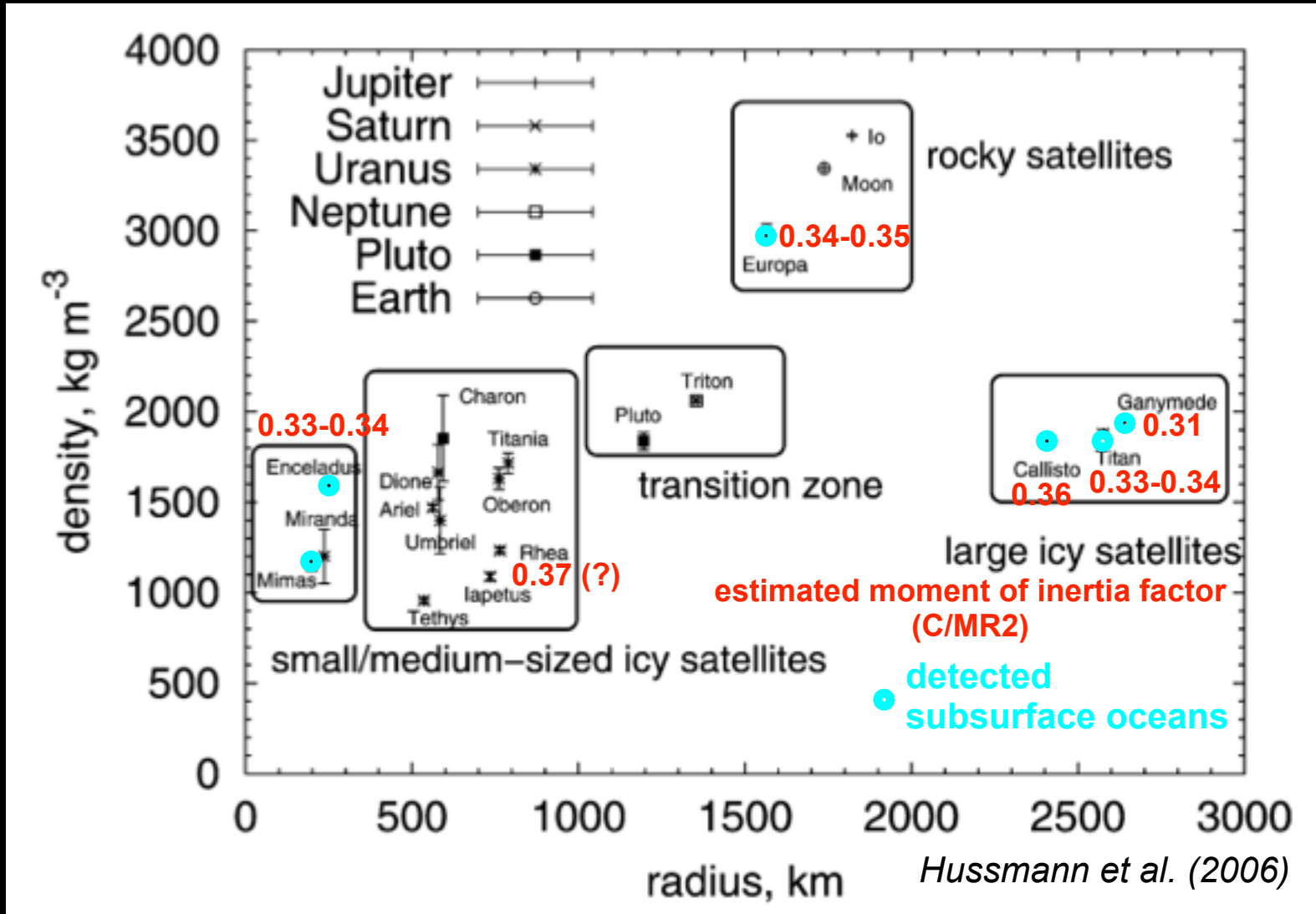
# Observational constraints on icy world interiors



Except for Io, those bodies consist of a mixture of silicate and water ice, with different fraction and degree of differentiation.

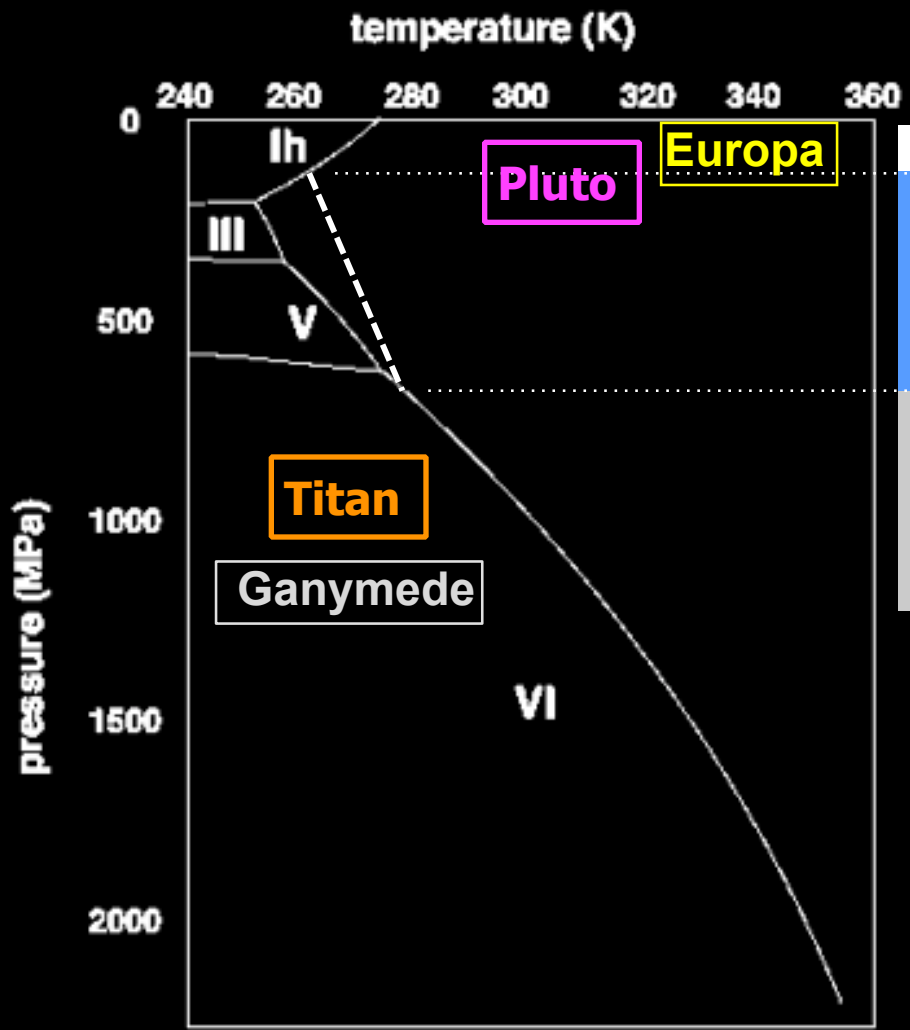


# Observational constraints on icy world interiors



Except for Io, those bodies consist of a mixture of silicate and water ice, with different fraction and degree of differentiation.

# Water phase diagram and hydrosphere structure



**Enceladus**

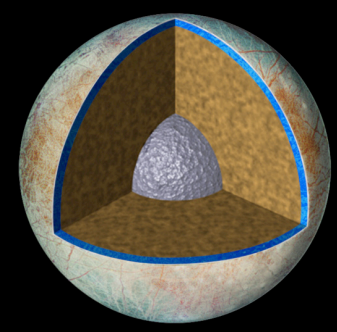
*Ice I*

*Water ocean*

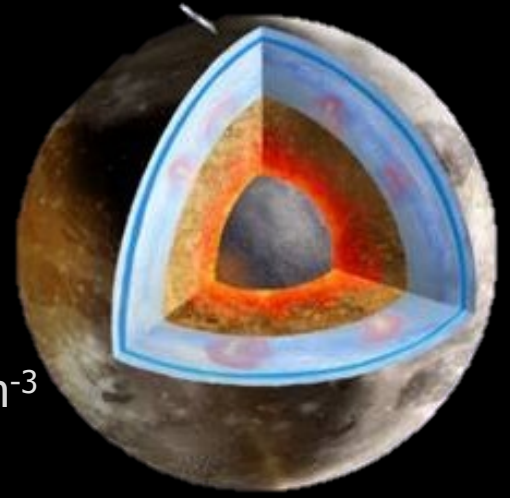
*HP Ice*

$R = 1565 \text{ km}$ ,  
 $\rho = 2970 \text{ kg} \cdot \text{m}^{-3}$   
 $C/MR^2 = 0.347$

**Europa**



**Ganymede**



$R = 2634 \text{ km}$ ,  
 $\rho = 1940 \text{ kg} \cdot \text{m}^{-3}$   
 $C/MR^2 = 0.311$

Rocky core and ocean separated by a thick high-pressure ice mantle.

# Estimated hydrosphere characteristics

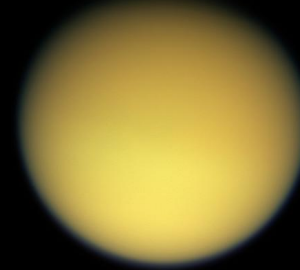
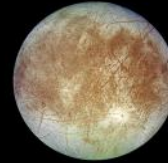
Enceladus

Pluto

Europa

Titan

Ganymede



Radius (km)

252

1188

1561

2575

2641

Ice shell  
thickness (km)

5-35

200-250

10-30

50-70

~100

Ocean volume  
x Earth's)

~0.02

~0.4

~2

~10-12

~10-15

Rock core  
radius (km)

~185

~850

~1400

~2000-2100

~1750-1800

Compositional  
constraints

Na/K-bearing  
salts (icy grains):  
low salinity  
Nano-silica, H<sub>2</sub>:  
hydrotherm. vents  
Libration, topo, gravi:  
Global ocean/thin shell

Possibly  
NH<sub>3</sub>,  
CH<sub>3</sub>OH

Mg-bearing  
salts (surface)  
Mag. induction:  
Moderate salinity

Electric field,  
Tides:  
High salinity;  
Topo/  
Gravi

Mag. induction:  
Low-moderate  
salinity

Confidence

++++

-

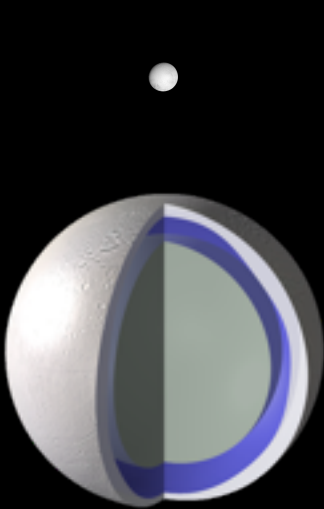
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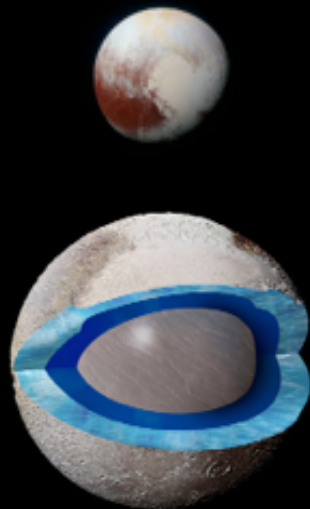
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# Role of size/pressure on the rock core properties

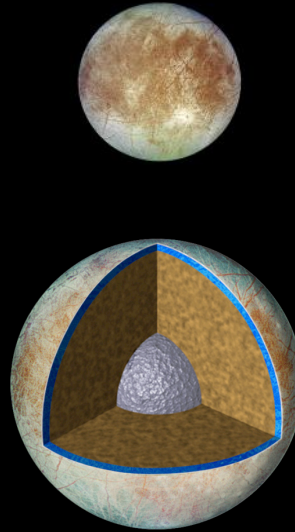
Enceladus



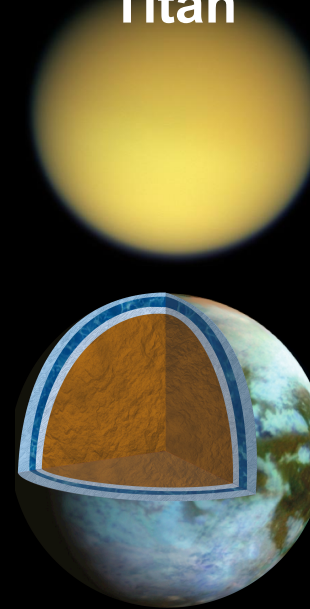
Pluto



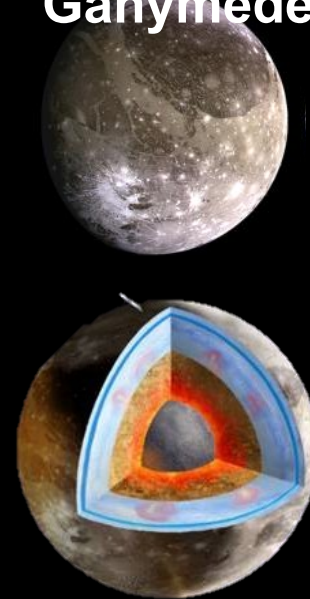
Europa



Titan



Ganymede



Limited compaction  
( $P < 40$  MPa)

Porous core  
(20-30%,  
<500-700 K)

Efficient water  
flow through  
the core

Porosity  
in the outer  
core

Rock core  
mostly  
hydrated  
( $< 1000$  K)

Fractured/porous  
rock crust

Relatively hot  
mantle ( $> 1400$  K)

Iron core  
possible

Hydrated upper  
mantle

Anhydrous rock  
inner core

Iron core  
unlikely

Mostly anhydrous  
rock mantle

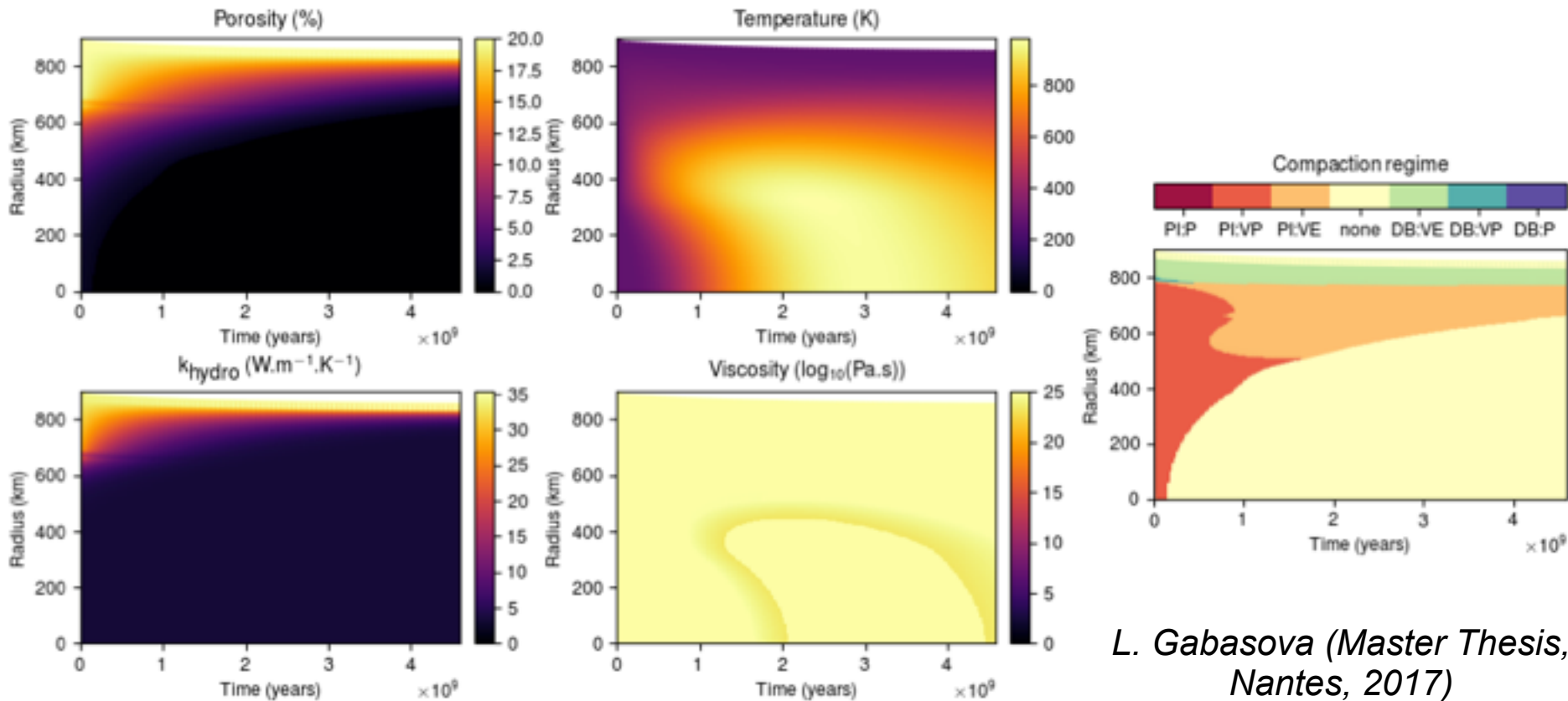
Liquid iron core  
with active  
dynamo





# Evolution of core porosity: the example of Pluto

Nominal: tuff rheology, grain size  $d_s = 5$  mm, initial porosity  $\phi_0 = 0.2$ , viscosity threshold  $\max(\eta_{sil}) = 10^{25}$  Pa.s



*L. Gabasova (Master Thesis, Nantes, 2017)*

- Water-rock interactions controlled by compaction timescale.
- Elevated primordial porosity ( $>20\%$ ) may be preserved in the outer part of the core during billions of year.

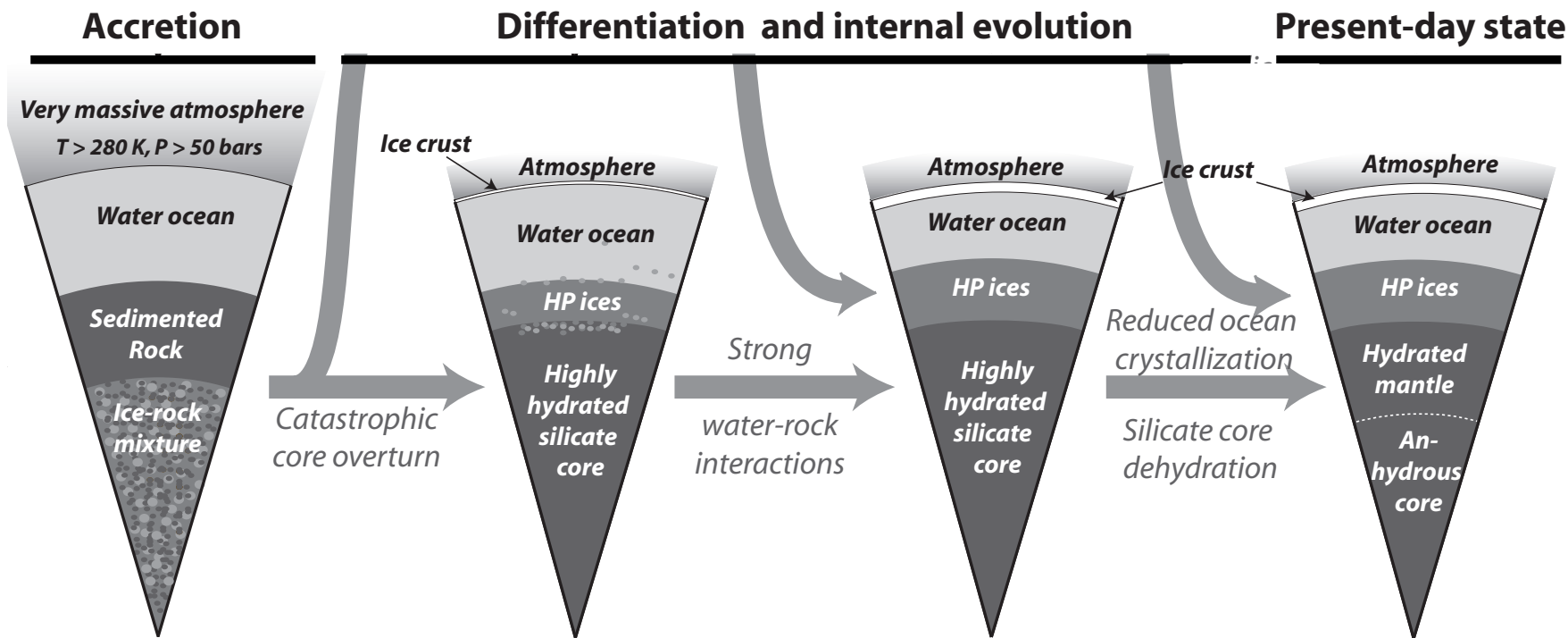


# Ice-water-rock segregation: The example of Titan

Progressive warming and water extraction  
from the deep rock-rich interior

$T > 300 \text{ K}$

$T > 900 \text{ K}$

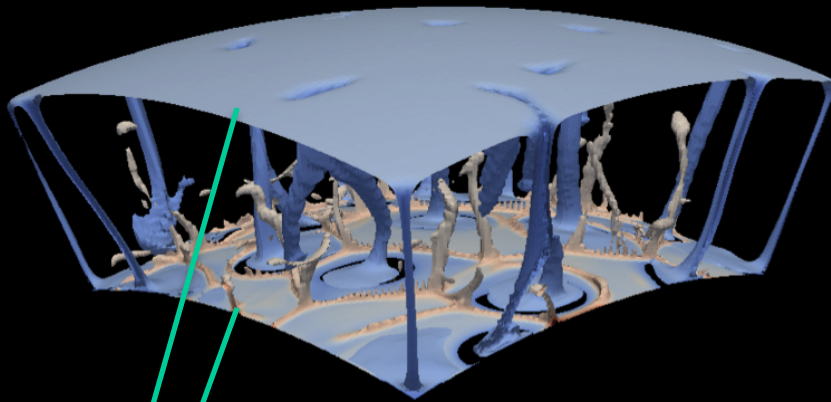


Tobie et al. (2013)

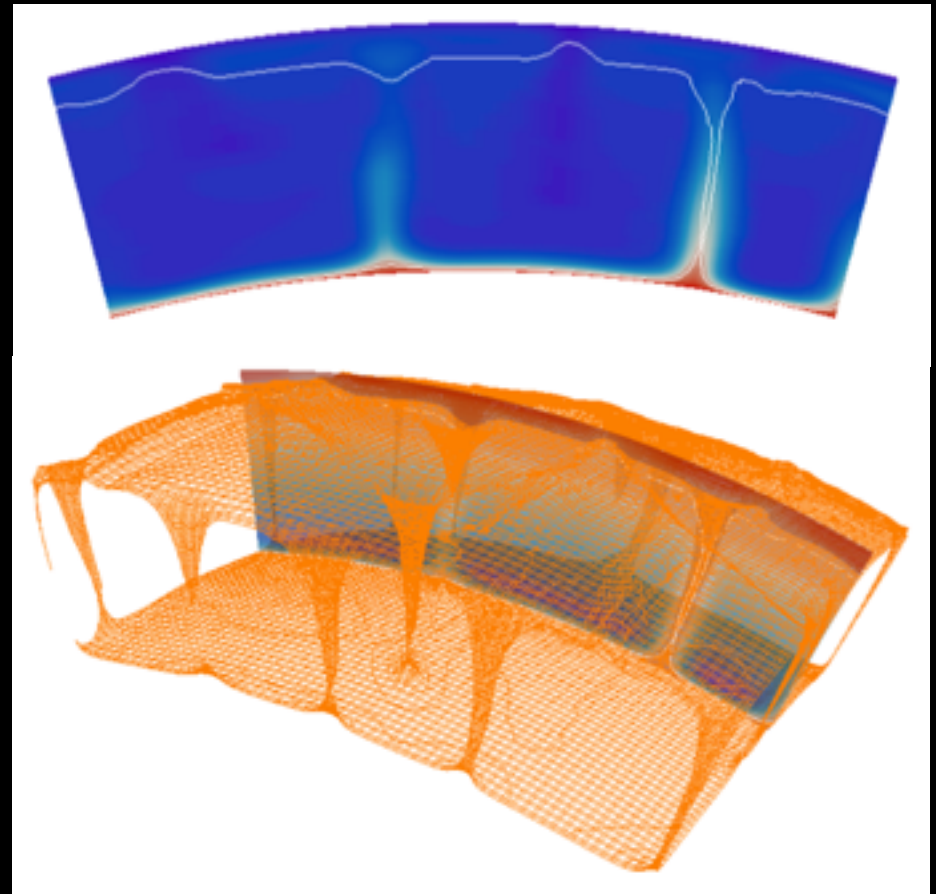
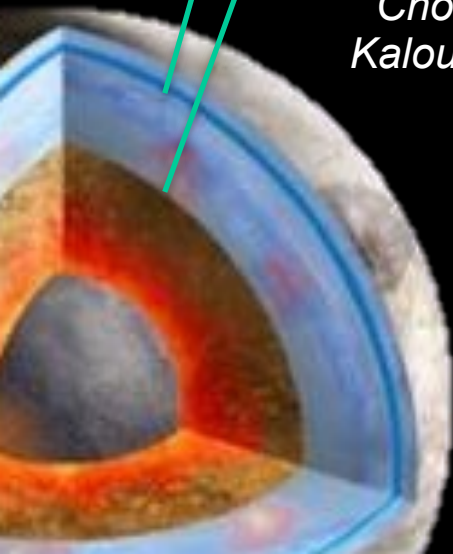
- Large-scale melting, strong but brief water-rock interaction (0.5-1 Gyr)
- Water-rock interactions induced by core dehydration, possibly until present (Castillo-Rogez and Lunine 2010)

# Water-rock interactions at the base of the HP ice mantle

2D/3D modeling of  
thermal convection in  
the HP ice mantle



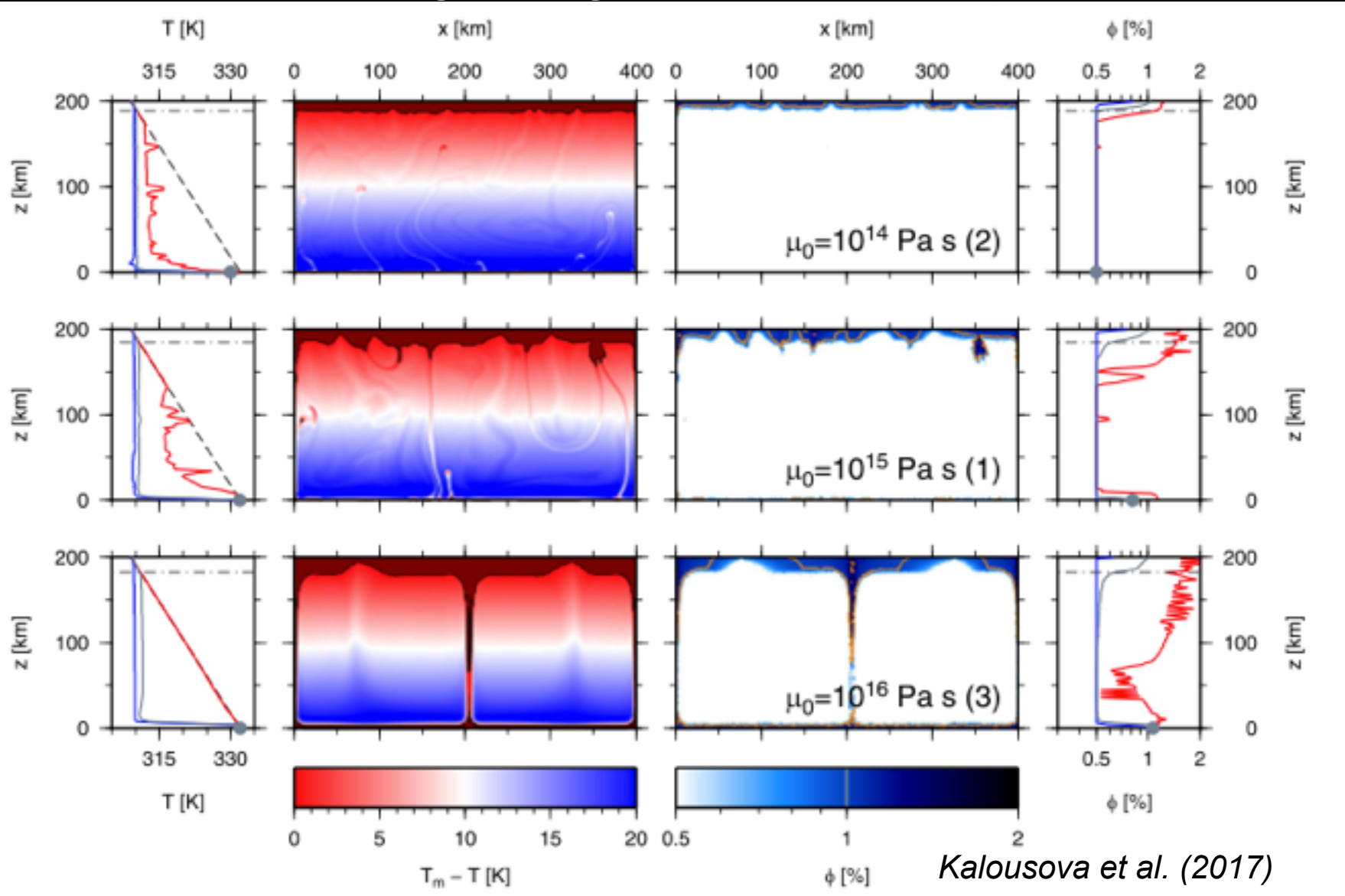
*Choblet et al., (2017)*  
*Kalousova et al., (2017)*



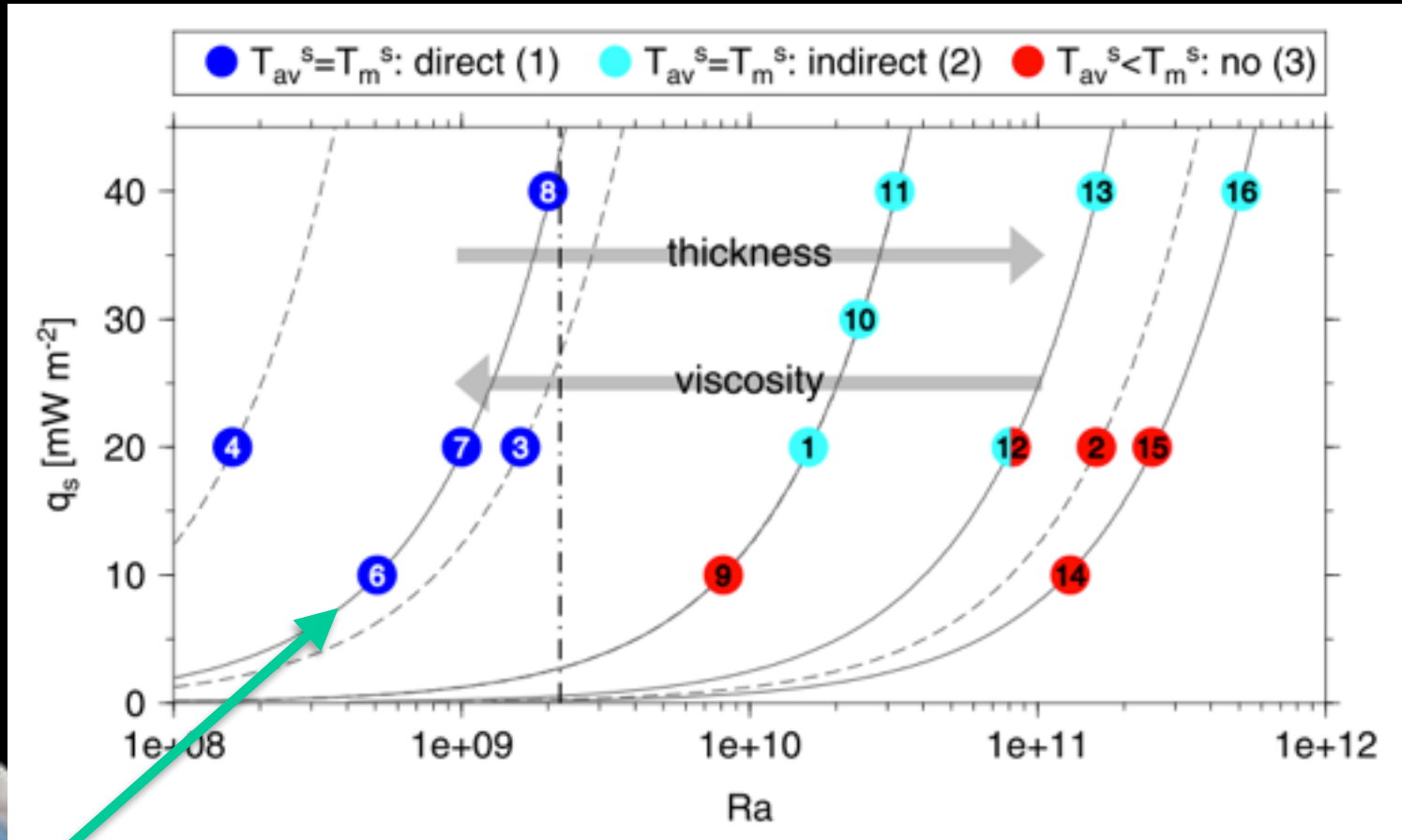
- > Efficient heat and mass transfer through the HP ice mantle through melt generation and extraction
  - > Ice melting in hot plumes and the base of the layer
  - > HP ice mantle does not preclude water-rock interactions

# Water-rock interactions at the base of the HP ice mantle

2D modeling of thermal convection in the HP ice mantle including water generation and transport



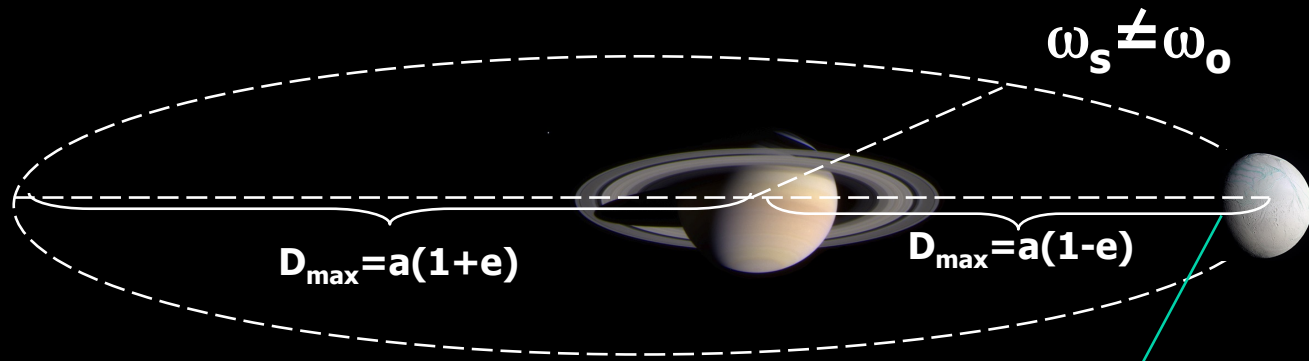
# Water-rock interactions at the base of the HP ice mantle



*Kalousova et al. (2017)*

- > Ice melting in hot plumes and the base of the HP ice mantle depending on the vigor of convection (viscosity-mantle thickness)
- > water-rock interactions at the base of the ice shell may be important during the early stage of evolution of **Ganymede** and possibly until present for **Titan**

# Tidal dissipation as a heat engine for icy worlds



Periodic fluctuation of tidal potential  
(to the first order in eccentricity)

$$V_T(r, \theta, \phi, t) = \frac{3GM_J R_s^2}{2a^3} \left( \frac{r}{R_s} \right)^2 [T_* + T_0 + T_1 + T_2]$$

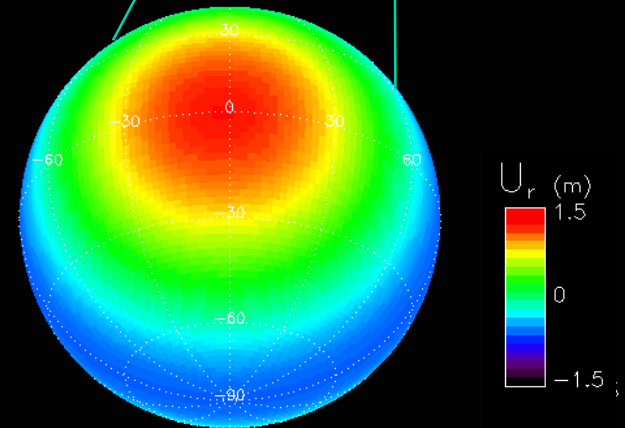
**flattening**       $T_* = \frac{1}{6}(1 - 3 \cos^2 \theta)$

**elongation/alignment**       $T_0 = \frac{1}{2} \sin^2 \theta \cos(2\phi + 2bt)$

**flattening**       $T_1 = \frac{e}{2}(1 - 3 \cos^2 \theta) \cos(nt)$

**elongation/alignment**       $T_2 = \frac{e}{2} \sin^2 \theta [3 \cos(2\phi) \cos(nt) + 4 \sin(2\phi) \sin(nt)]$

Sotin et al. Europa after *Galileo*



Radial displacement  
due to tidal forcing

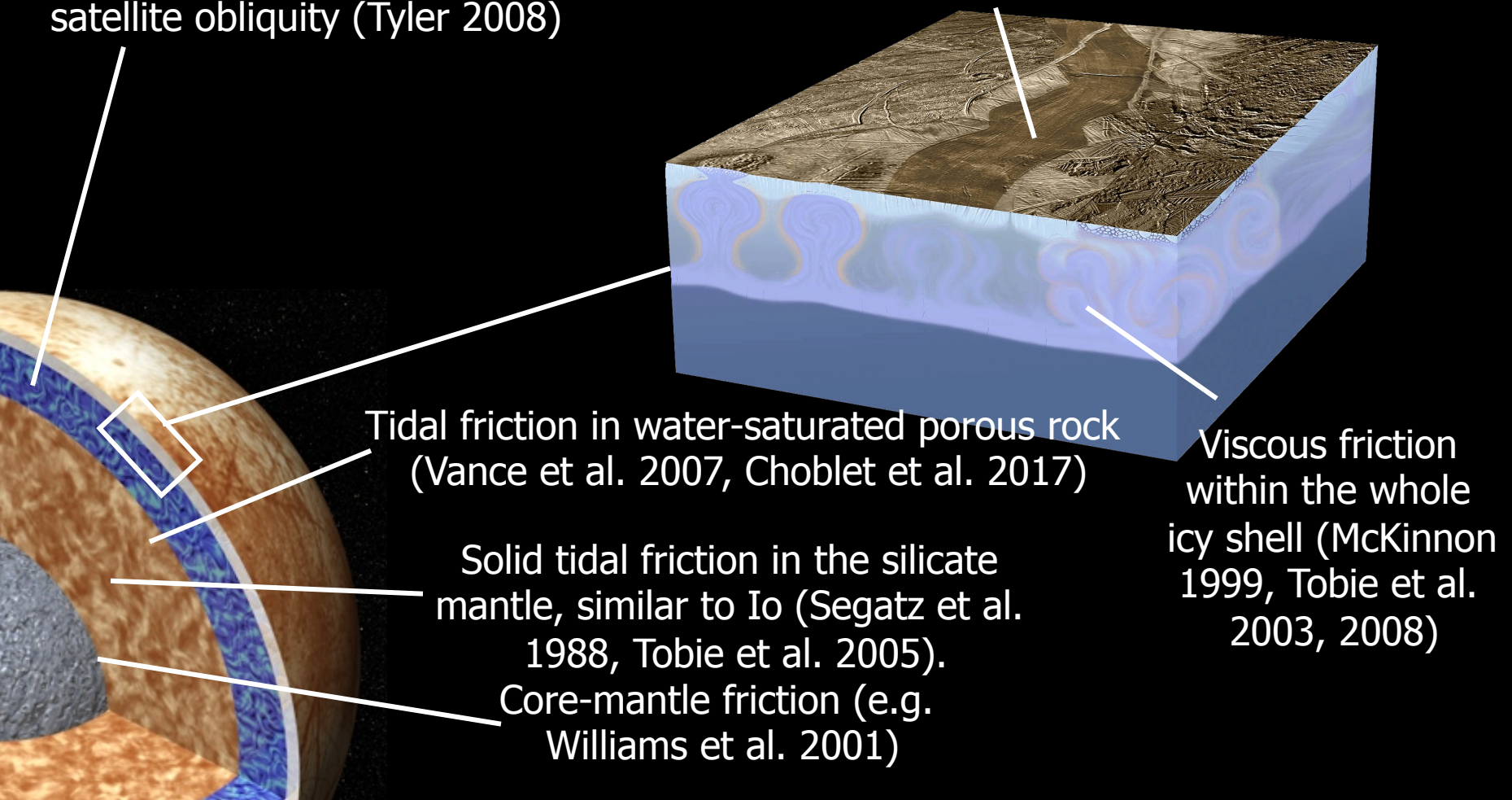
> periodic deformation of the satellite > internal friction > tidal heating

# Tidal dissipation as a heat engine for icy worlds

## Possible tidal friction mechanisms in icy world interiors

Dissipation of resonant large-amplitude Rossby waves due to satellite obliquity (Tyler 2008)

Enhanced viscous friction related to tidal motions along faults (Nimmo and Gaidos 2002, Nimmo et al. 2007, Behoukova et al. 2017)

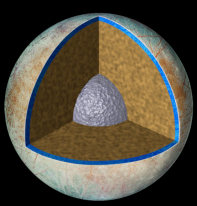


Tidal friction in water-saturated porous rock (Vance et al. 2007, Choblet et al. 2017)

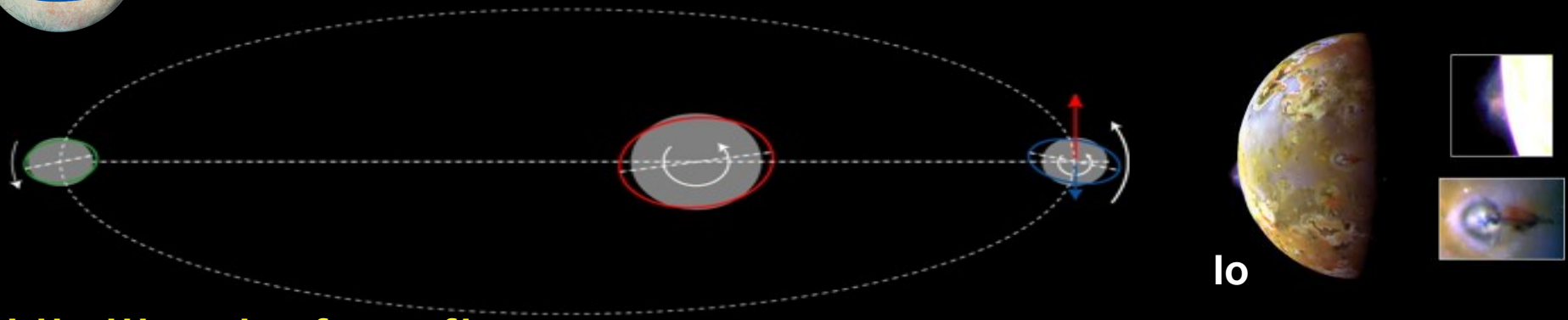
Solid tidal friction in the silicate mantle, similar to Io (Segatz et al. 1988, Tobie et al. 2005).

Core-mantle friction (e.g. Williams et al. 2001)

Viscous friction within the whole icy shell (McKinnon 1999, Tobie et al. 2003, 2008)



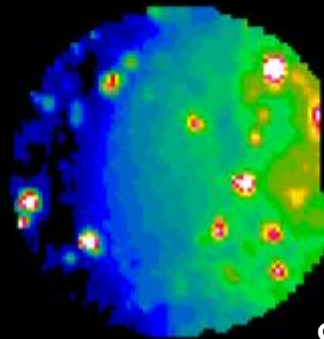
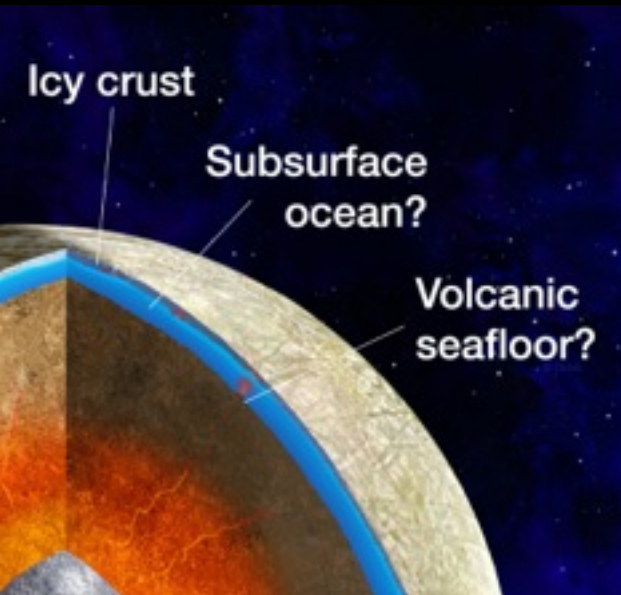
# Maximal tidal heating in Europa's rocky core



Likelihood of seafloor volcanic activities ?

Heat production by tidal friction in the rocky core ?

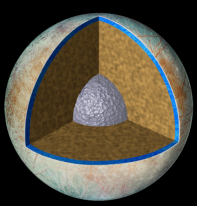
$$\dot{E}_{glob} = -\frac{21}{2} \text{Im}(k_2) \frac{(\omega R_s)^5}{G} e^2$$



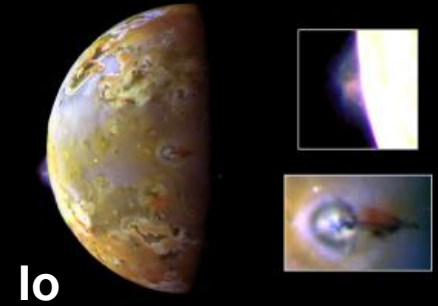
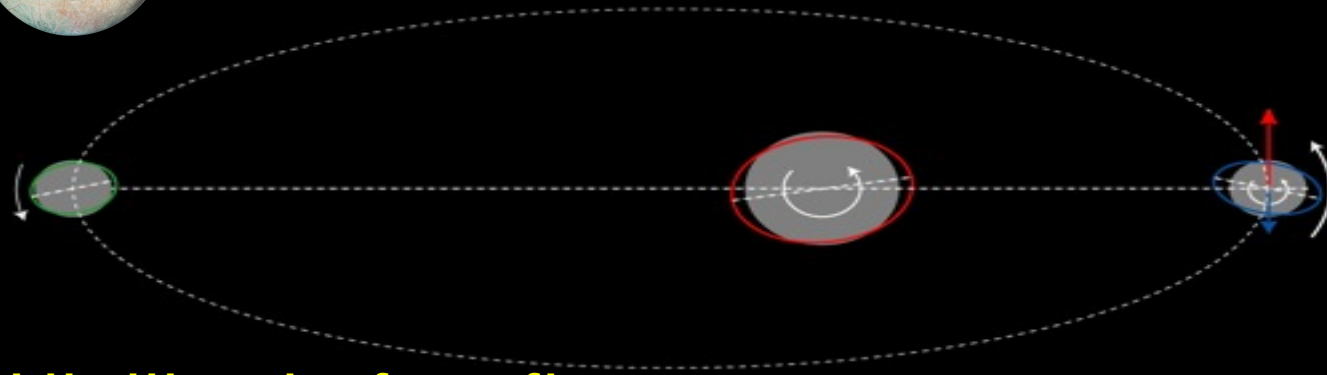
Global dissipation on Io estimated from thermal IR flux :  $\sim 100$  TW ( $> 100$  x radiogenic power )

Scaling to Europa:  $(P_I/P_E)^5 \times (R_E/R_I)^5 \times (e_E/e_I)^2 \times 100$  TW  
 $\sim 9$  TW ( $> 10$  x radiogenic power)  
 assuming  $\text{Im}(k_2)$  constant between Io and Europa



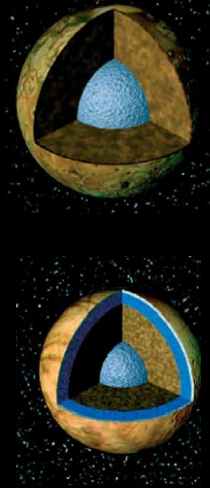
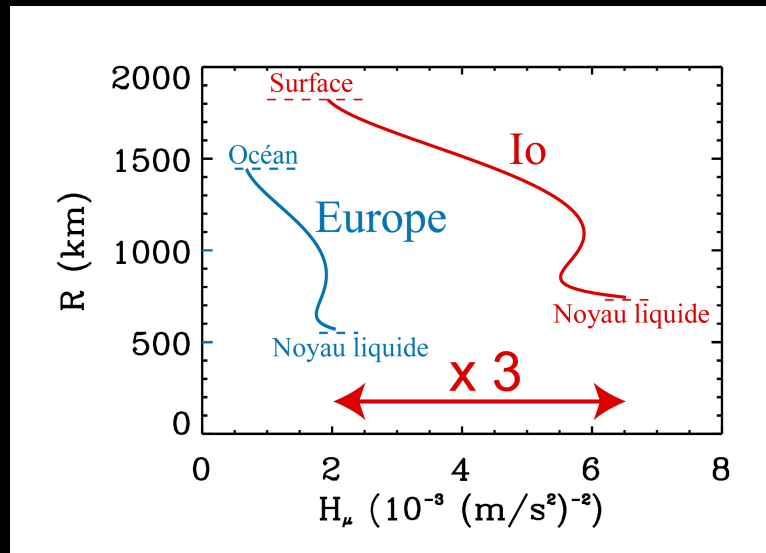
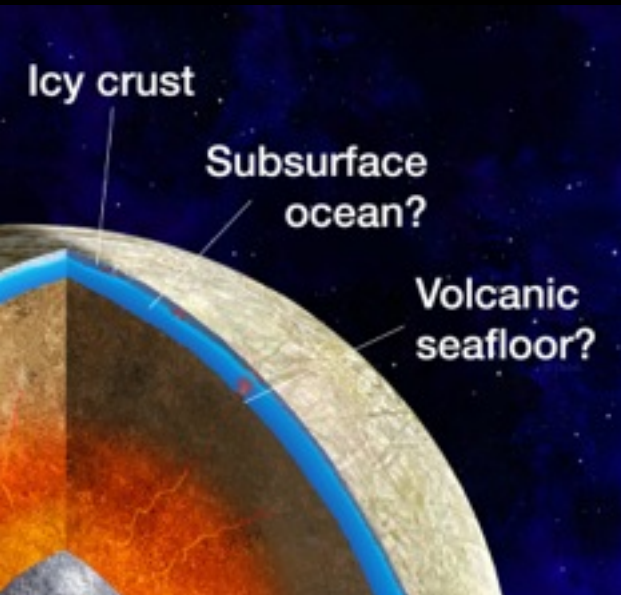


# Maximal tidal heating in Europa's rocky core



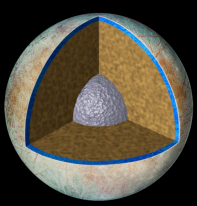
Likelihood of seafloor volcanic activities ?

Heat production by tidal friction in the rocky core ?

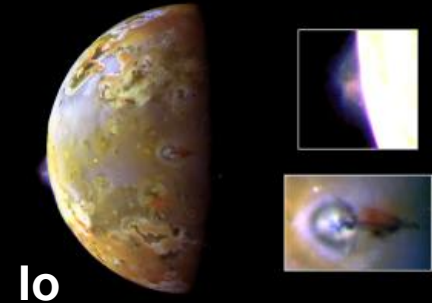
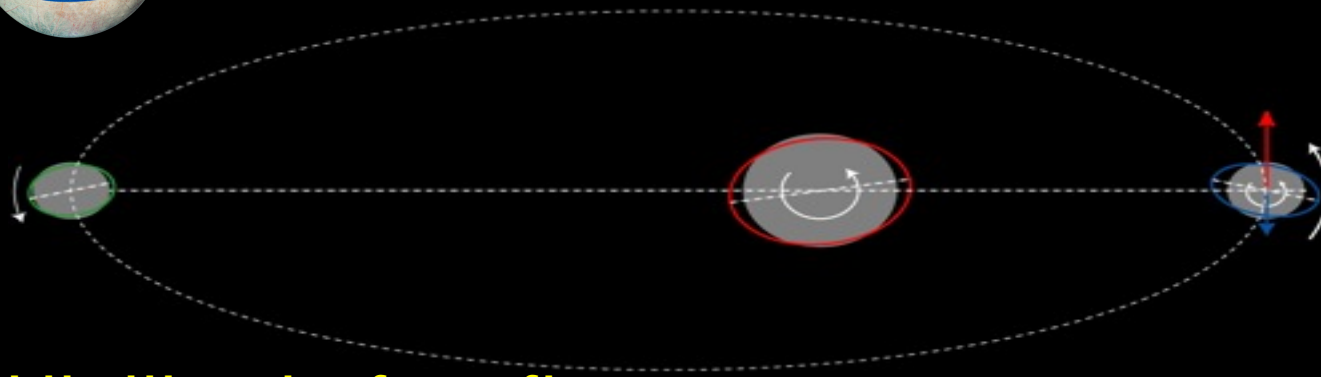


Owing to the decoupling effect of liquid water, Europa's mantle is less sensitive to tidal deformation.

$$\text{Im}(k_2)_e < 3 \times \text{Im}(k_2)_i \rightarrow \text{Global dissipation} < 3 \text{ TW}.$$



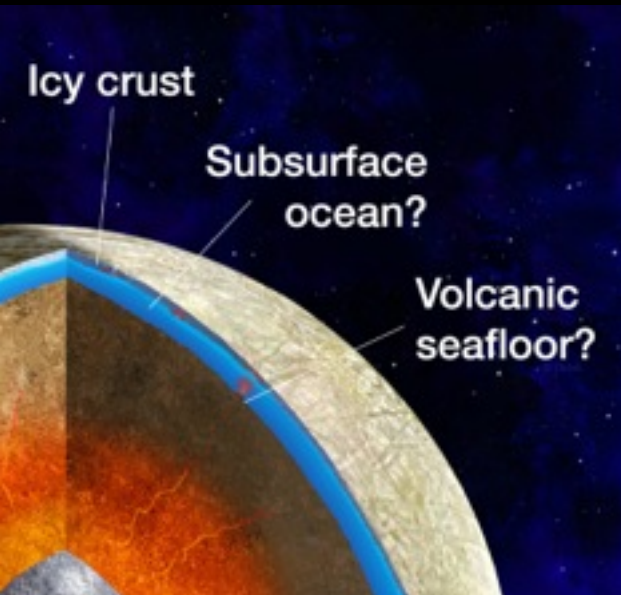
# Maximal tidal heating in Europa's rocky core



**Likelihood of seafloor volcanic activities ?**

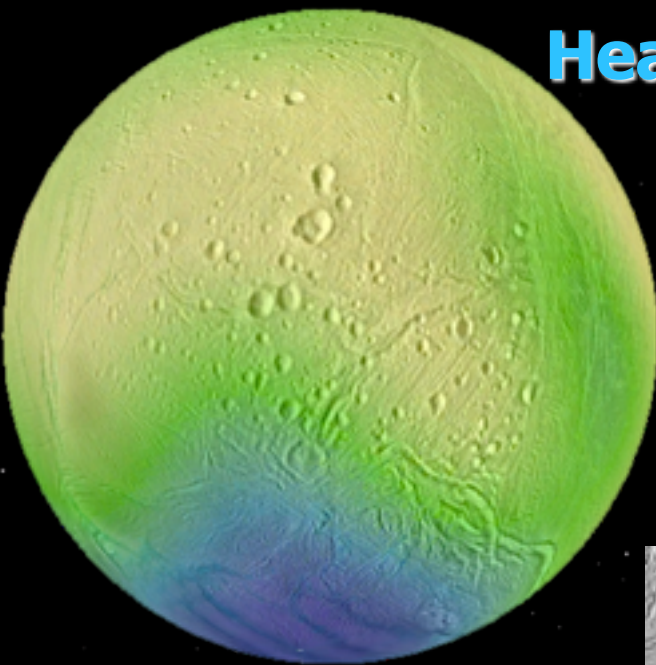
**Heat production by tidal friction in the rocky core ?**

**Silicate volcanism similar to Io > very unlikely**  
Global dissipation similar to Io would require a very hot interior, even hotter than on Io.

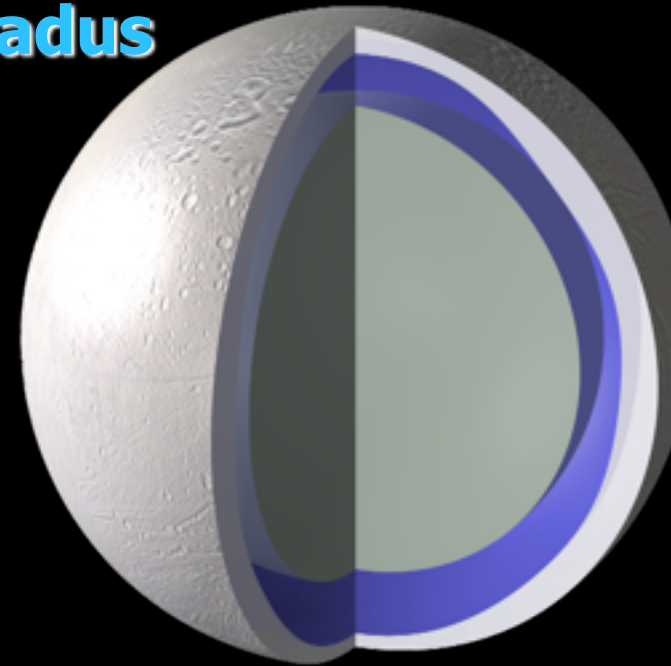


**Moderate volcanism > likely, especially in the past** when both radiogenic heating and tidal dissipation were high  
total available power: up to 5 TW  
mean heat flux :  $\sim 100-200 \text{ mW.m}^{-2}$   
similar to heat flow near mid-oceanic ridges on Earth

# Heat budget of Enceladus

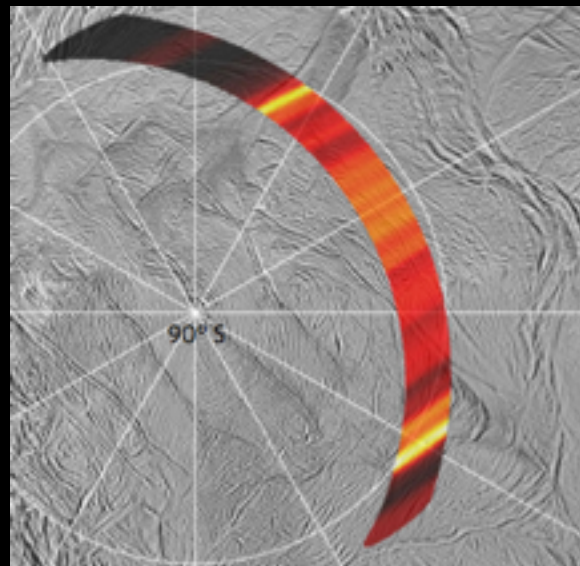


Global ocean underneath an ice shell with thickness of 20-25 km on average from libration data  
*Thomas et al. (2016)*



Ice shell possibly as thin as 2-4 km at the south pole from gravi-topo analysis

*Cadek et al. (2016),  
Beuthe et al. (2017),  
Hemingway et al. (2017)*



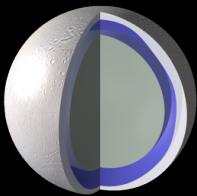
*Hemingway et al. (2017)*

Abnormally high heat flux at the south pole, possibly as high as 1 W/m<sup>2</sup> (> 10 x Earth's average heat flux)

*Le Gall et al. (2017)*

**25-30 GW required to explain the present-day thermal state of Enceladus (> 10 x radiogenic power)**

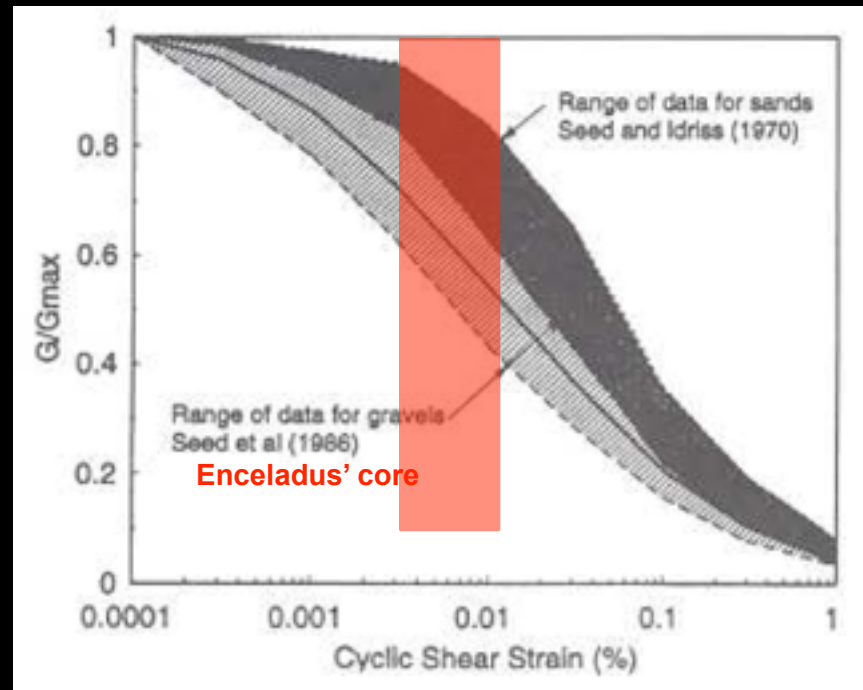
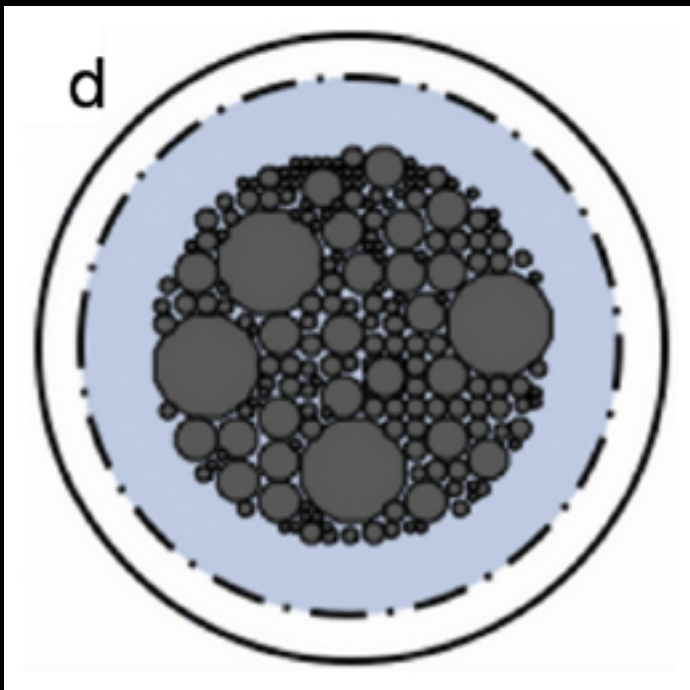
**Dissipation processes in Enceladus' interior ?**



# Tidal heat production in the unconsolidated water-saturated core

Porosity in the core estimated between 20-30% based on Cassini's gravity data (*less et al. 2014*)

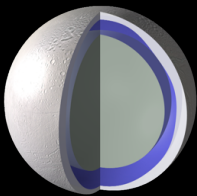
Strong decrease of effective shear modulus for cyclic strain exceeding  $\sim 0.01\%$



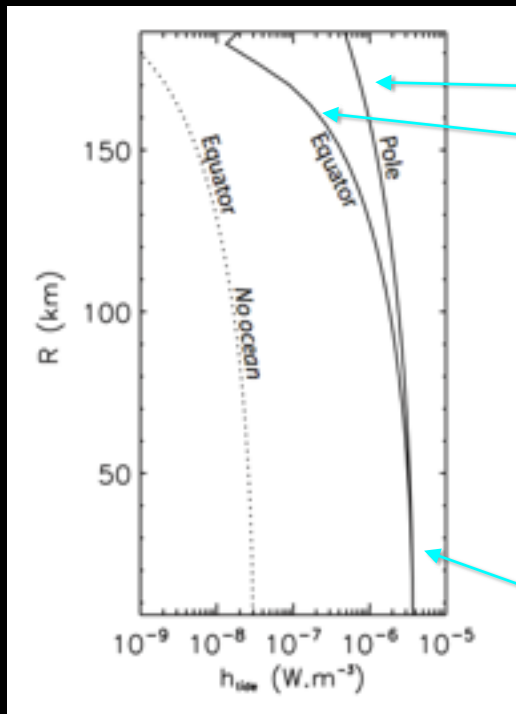
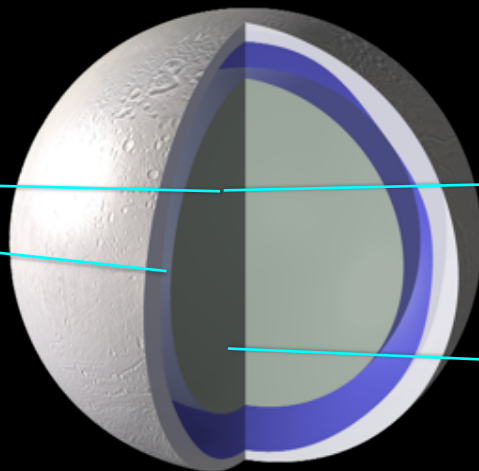
The core may be considered as a mixture of water-saturated sands and gravels.

*Rollins et al. (1998)*

**Anelastic properties of such granular materials classically describe from the effective shear modulus and dissipation function.**

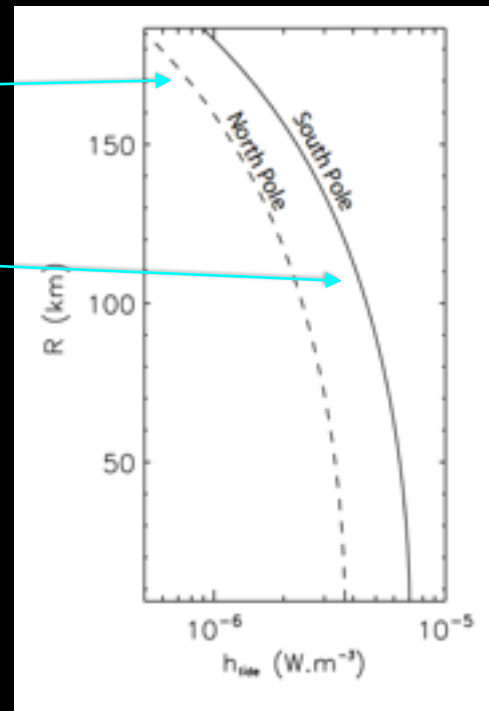
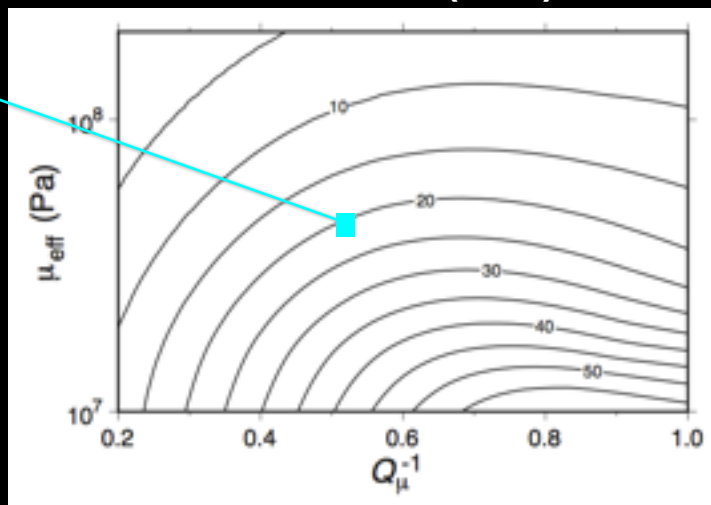


# Tidal heat production in the unconsolidated water-saturated core



Tidal heating profile at the pole and the equator

Global heat production in the core (GW)

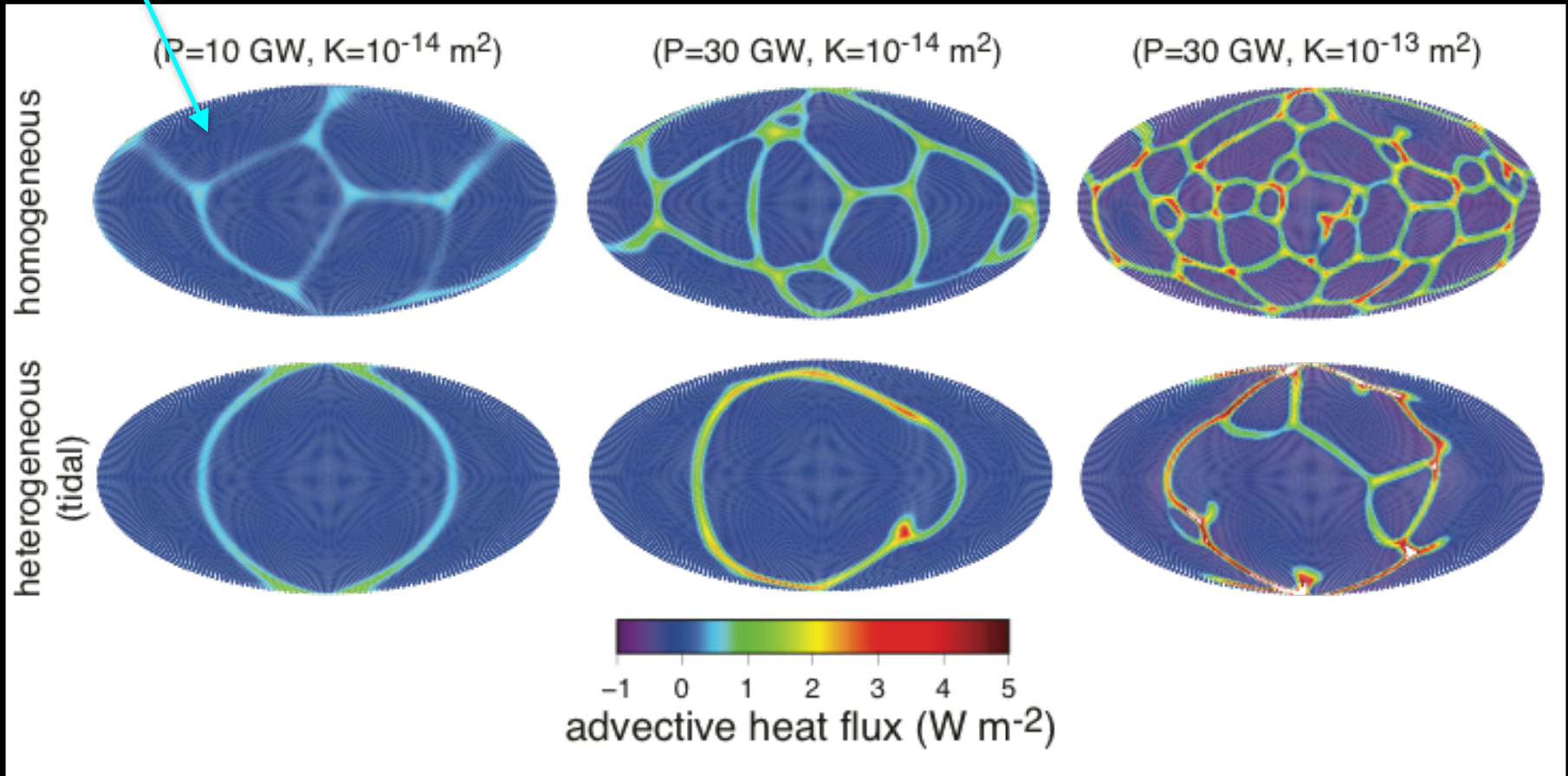


Increase of tidal heating at the south pole due to thinner and more deformable ice shell

Choblet *al.* (2017)

# Water flow in the tidally-heated porous core of Enceladus

Porous flow of liquid water in a 3D spherical model

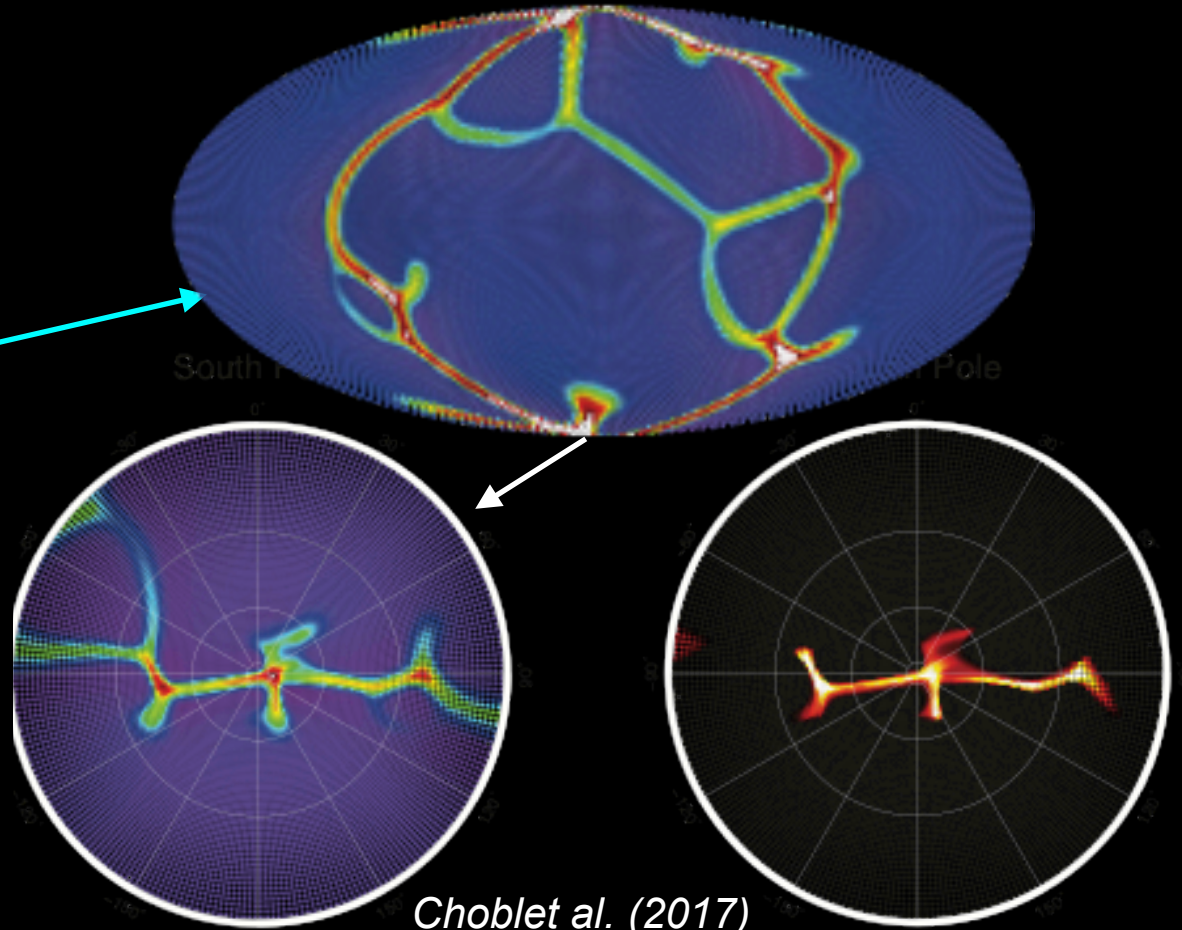
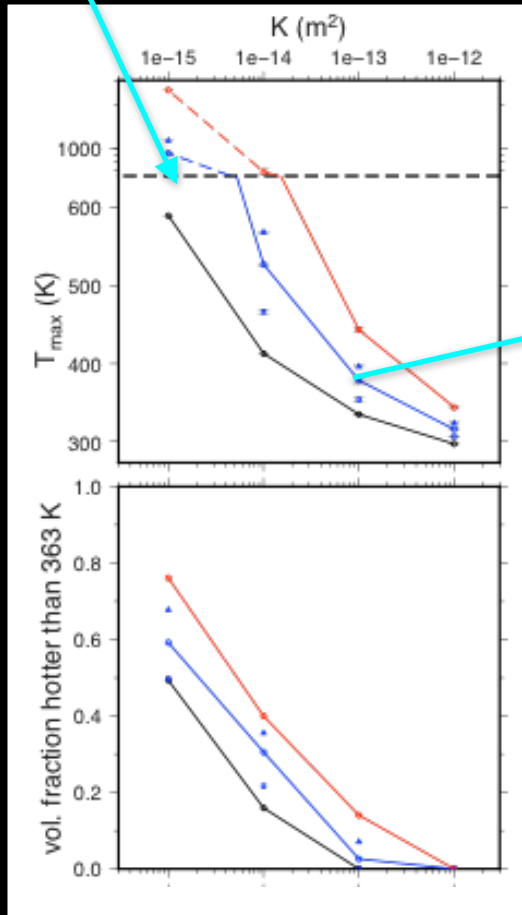


Heat released by narrow upwelling of hot water ( $> 100 \text{ }^\circ\text{C}$ ) concentrated to the poles and trailing/leading meridians where maximal dissipation occurs.

*Choblet et al. (2017)*

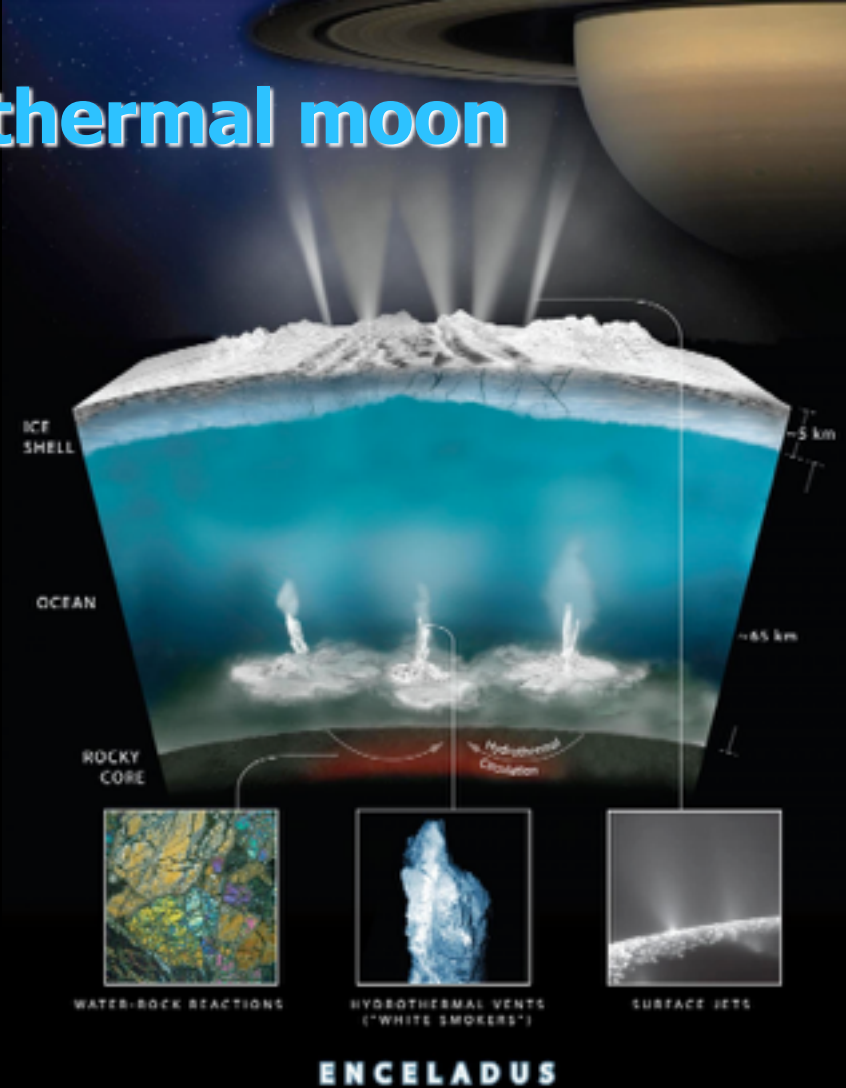
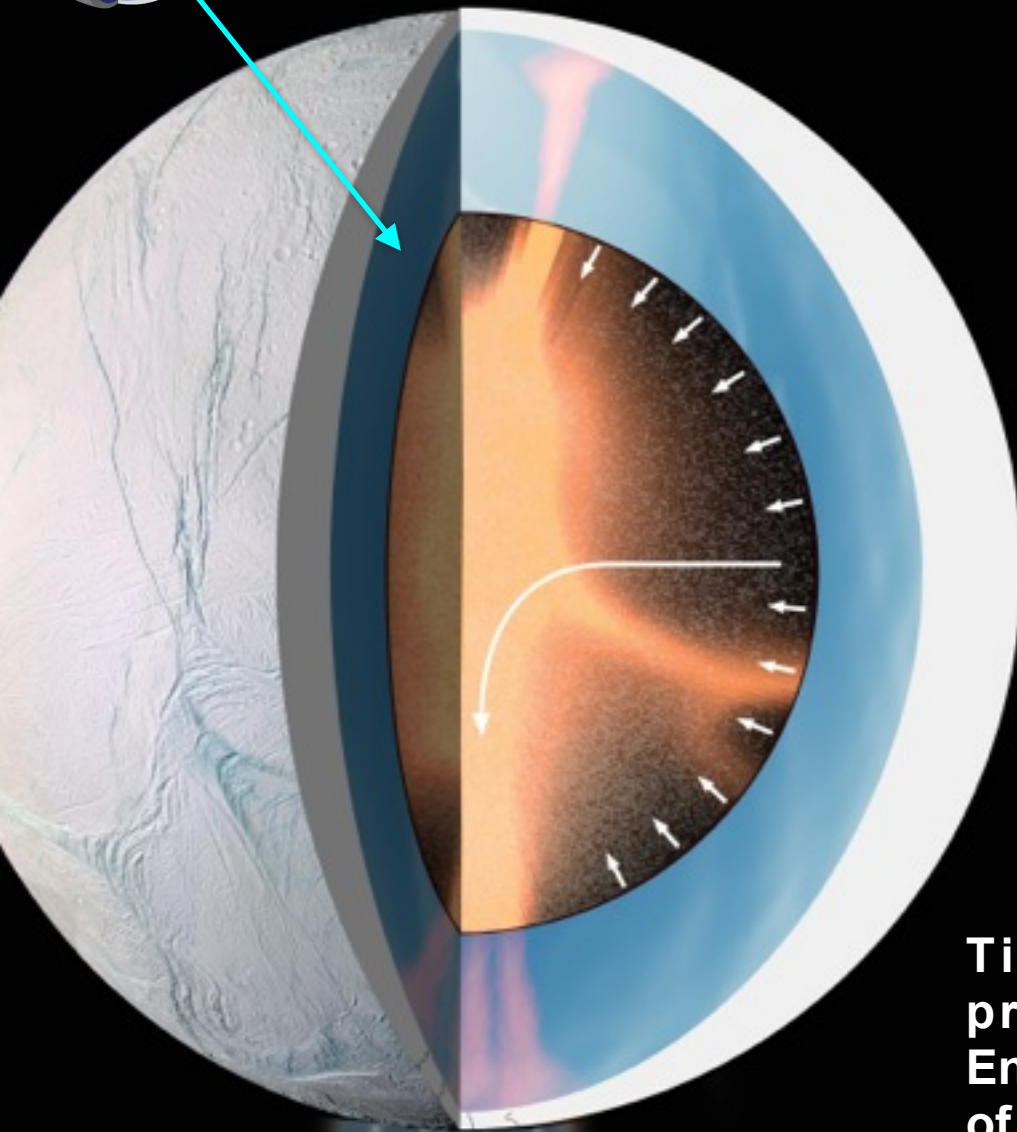
# Water flow in the tidally-heated porous core of Enceladus

## Porous flow of liquid water in a 3D spherical model



- Temperature higher than 363 K observed in localized regions, for core permeability ranging between  $10^{-14}$  and  $10^{-13} m^{-2}$ .
- Most of the power released in a few hotspots ( $> 100$  °C,  $> 5 W.m^{-2}$ ).

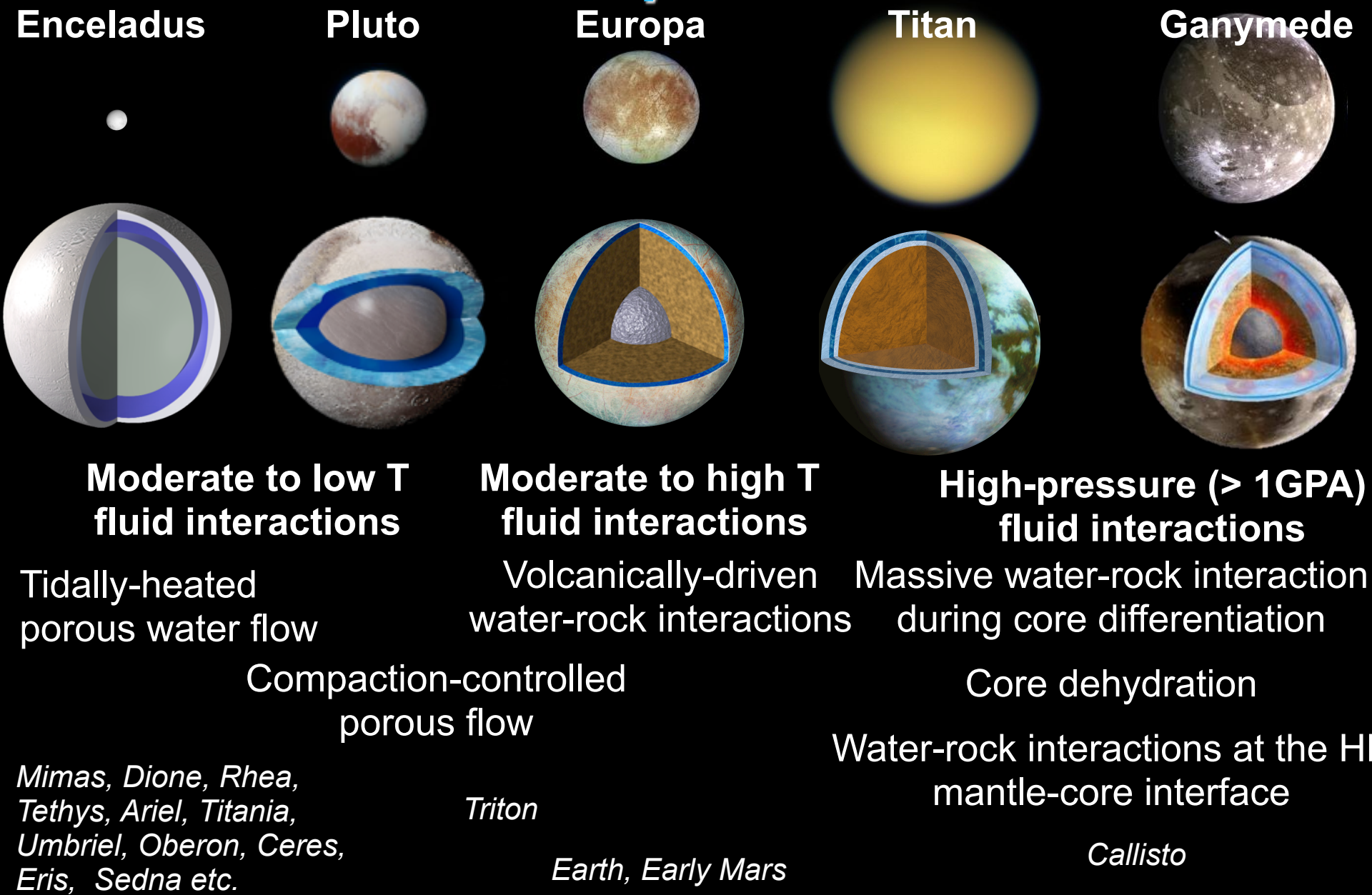
# Enceladus: the hydrothermal moon

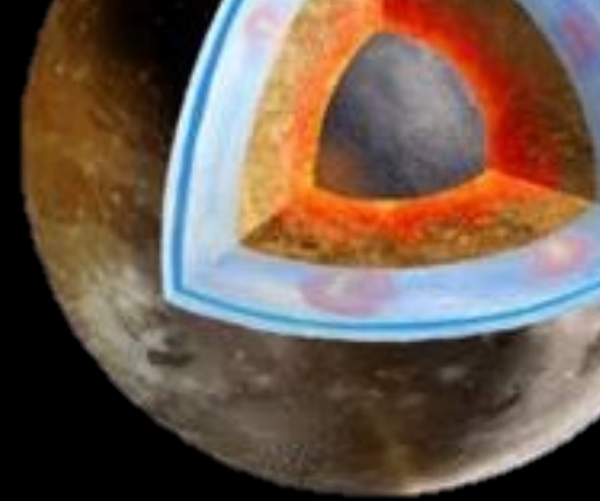
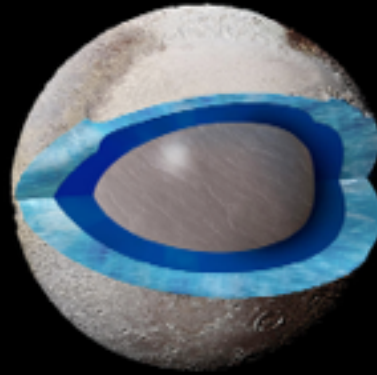
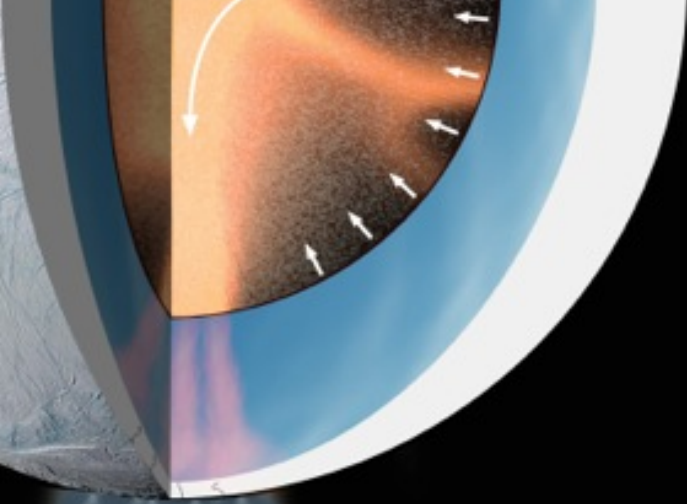


Tidally-controlled hydrothermal processes in the entire core of Enceladus consistent with the detection of nano-silica and of native hydrogen (Hsu et al. 2015, Waite et al. 2017).



# Geodynamical context for water-rock interactions: A synthesis





**Thank you for your  
attention**

