

# Hydrocarbons on the Icy Satellites of Saturn

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NASA Ames

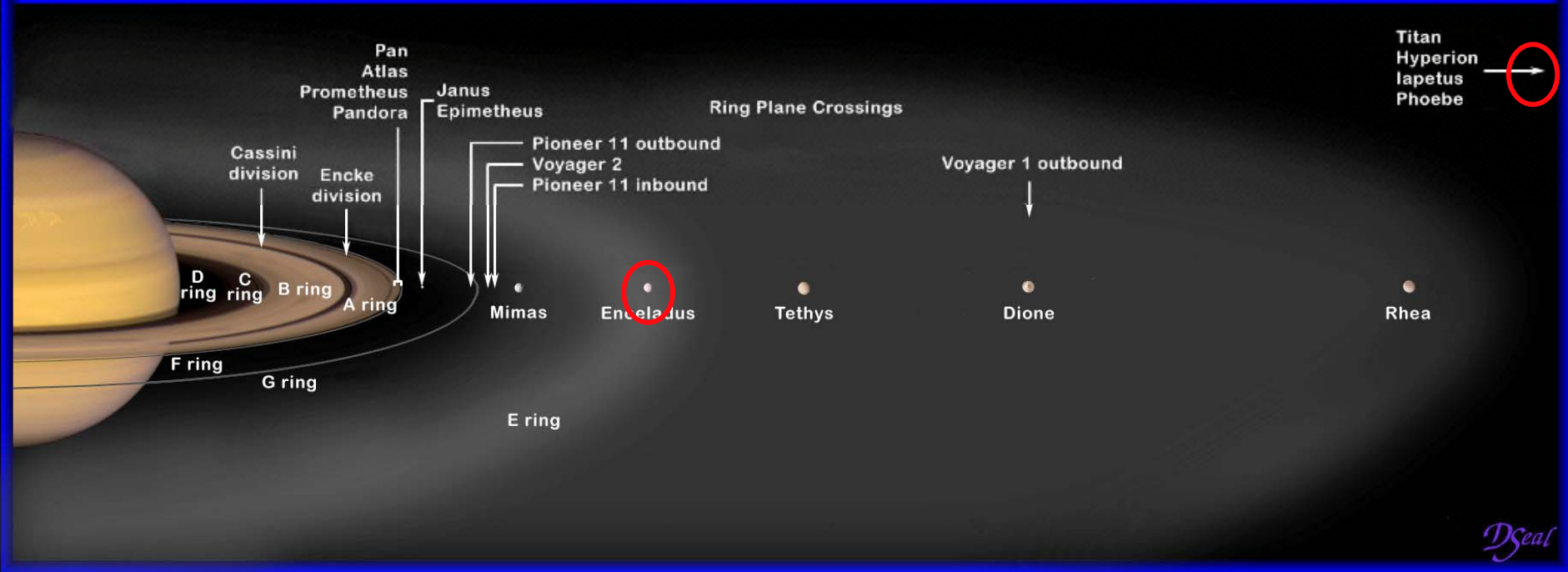
Paris Workshop  
May, 2010



# Saturn's Satellites and Ring Structure



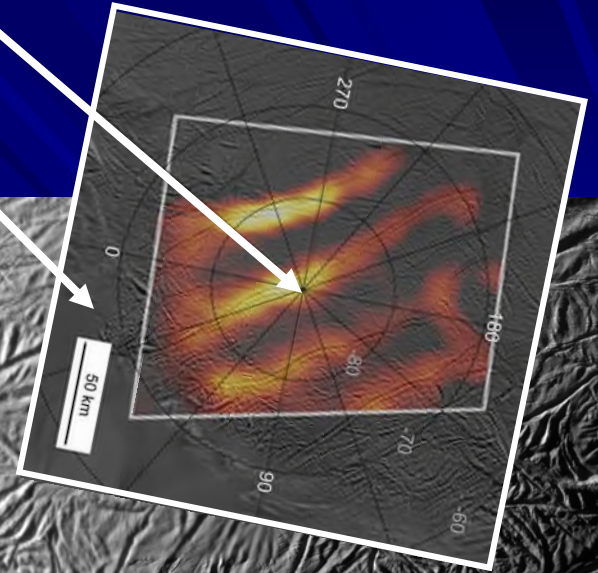
All bodies are to scale except for Pan, Atlas, Telesto, Calyso and Helene, whose sizes have been exaggerated by a factor of 5 to show rough topography.



# Enceladus

$T = 180 \text{ K}$

$T < 72 \text{ K}$

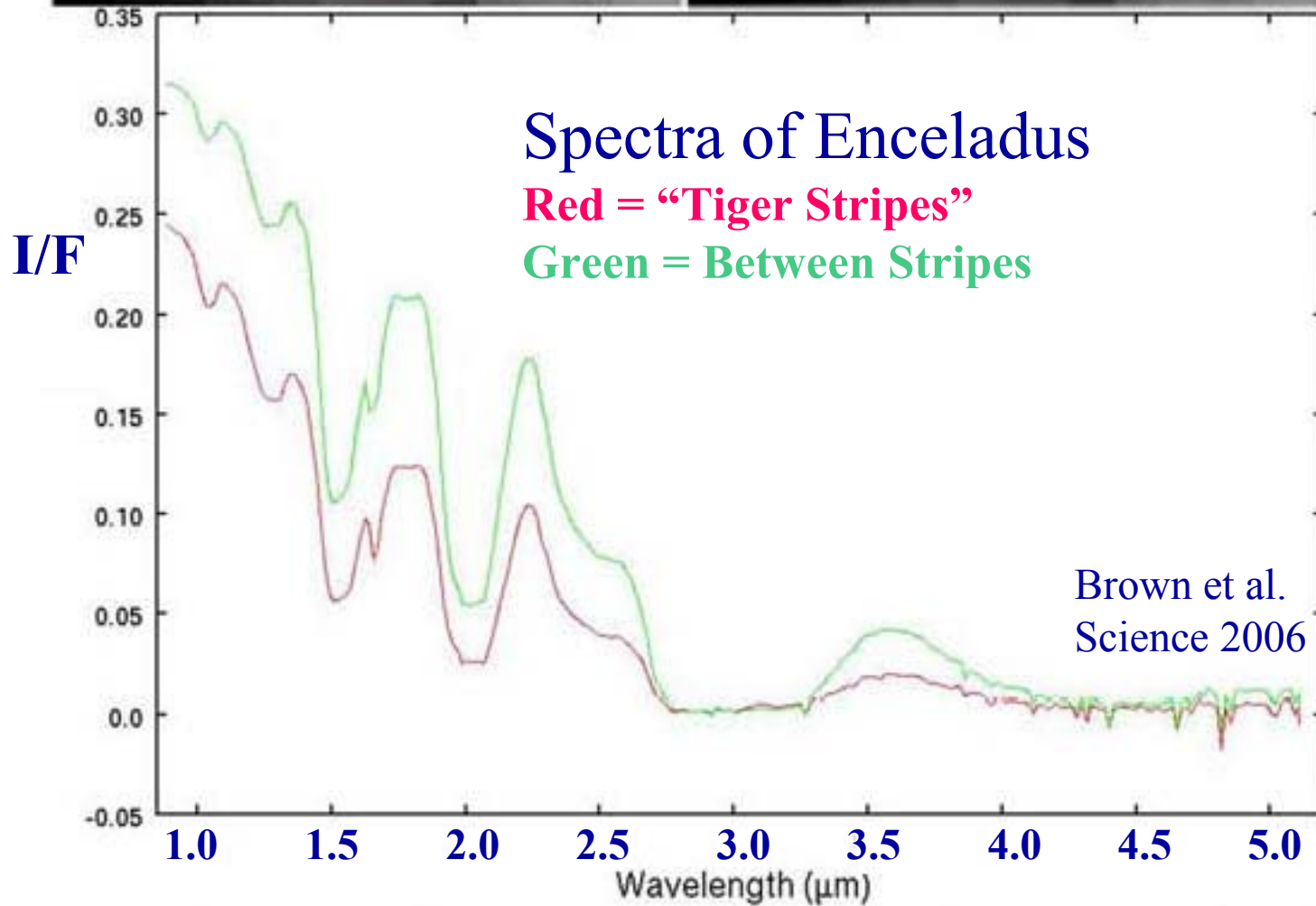
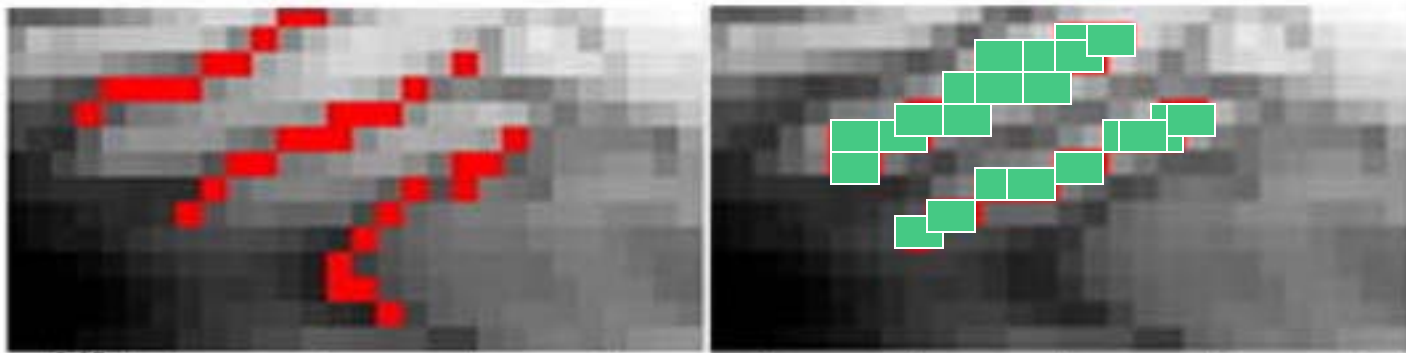


“Tiger Stripes”

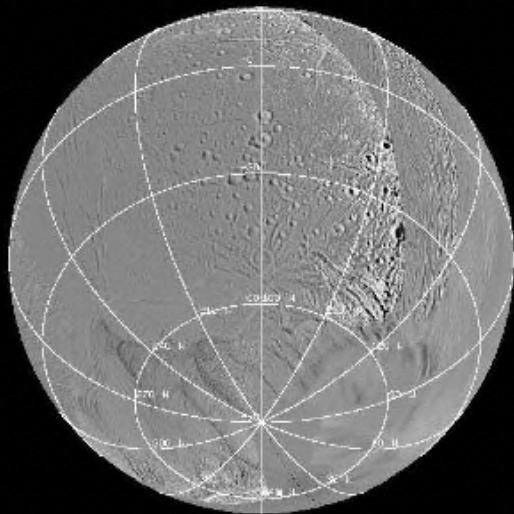
$\sim 80 \text{ km}$

Diameter 500 km

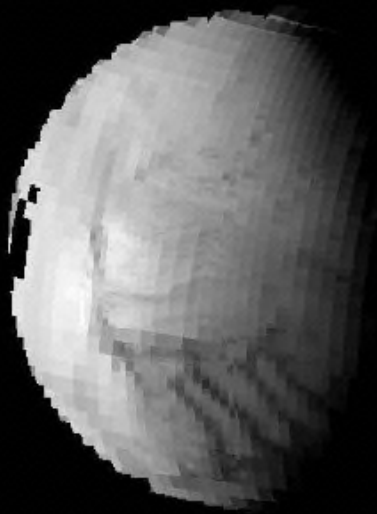
Cassini ISS and CIRS images



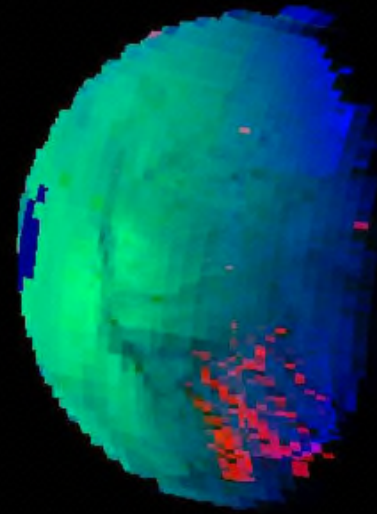
# Spectral Maps of Enceladus



ISS Reference



2.2-micron Reflectance

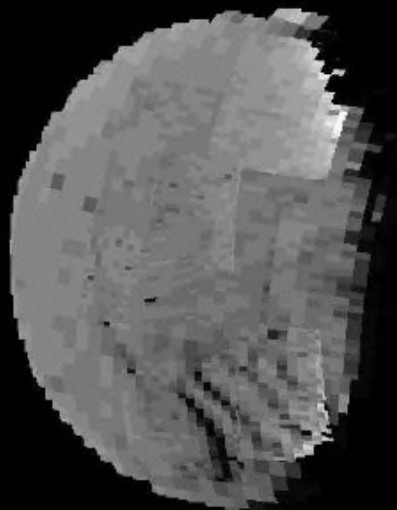


Color composite:

Red = 3.44-micron  
Organics

Green = 2.2-micron  
Reflectance

Blue = Ice Strength  
at 3-microns



3-micron Ice  
Absorption Strength



3.44-micron Organic  
Absorption Strength

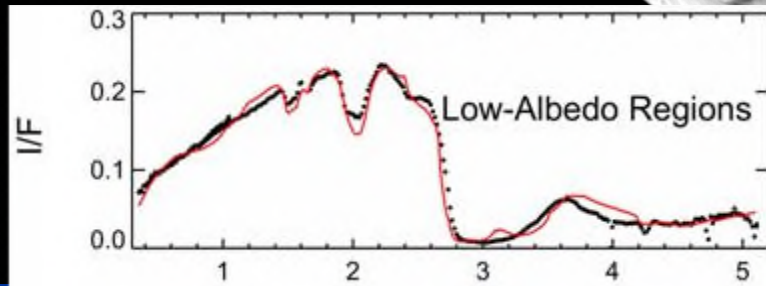
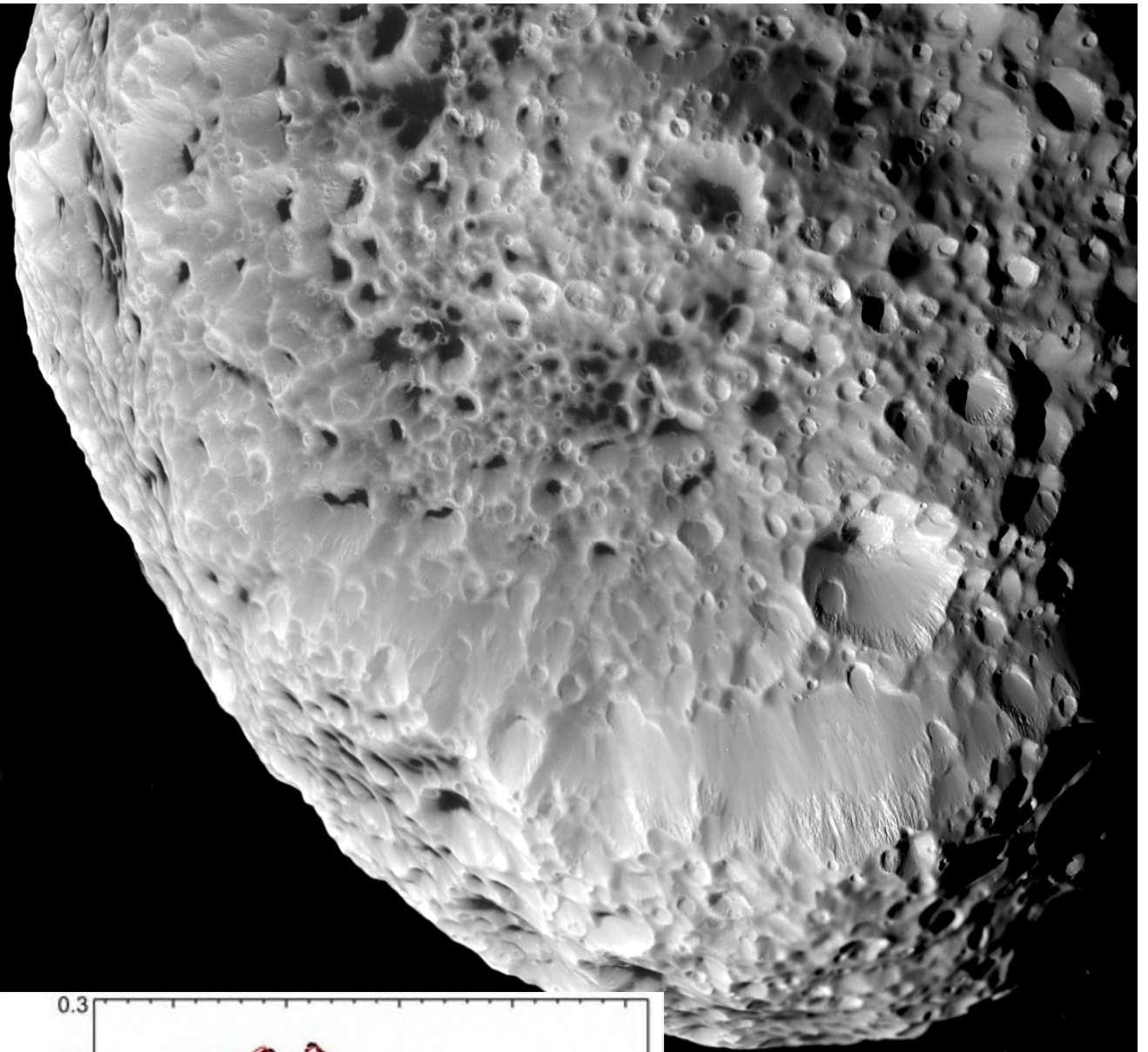
Cassini  
Visual and Infrared  
Mapping Spectrometer

Brown et al.  
Science 2006

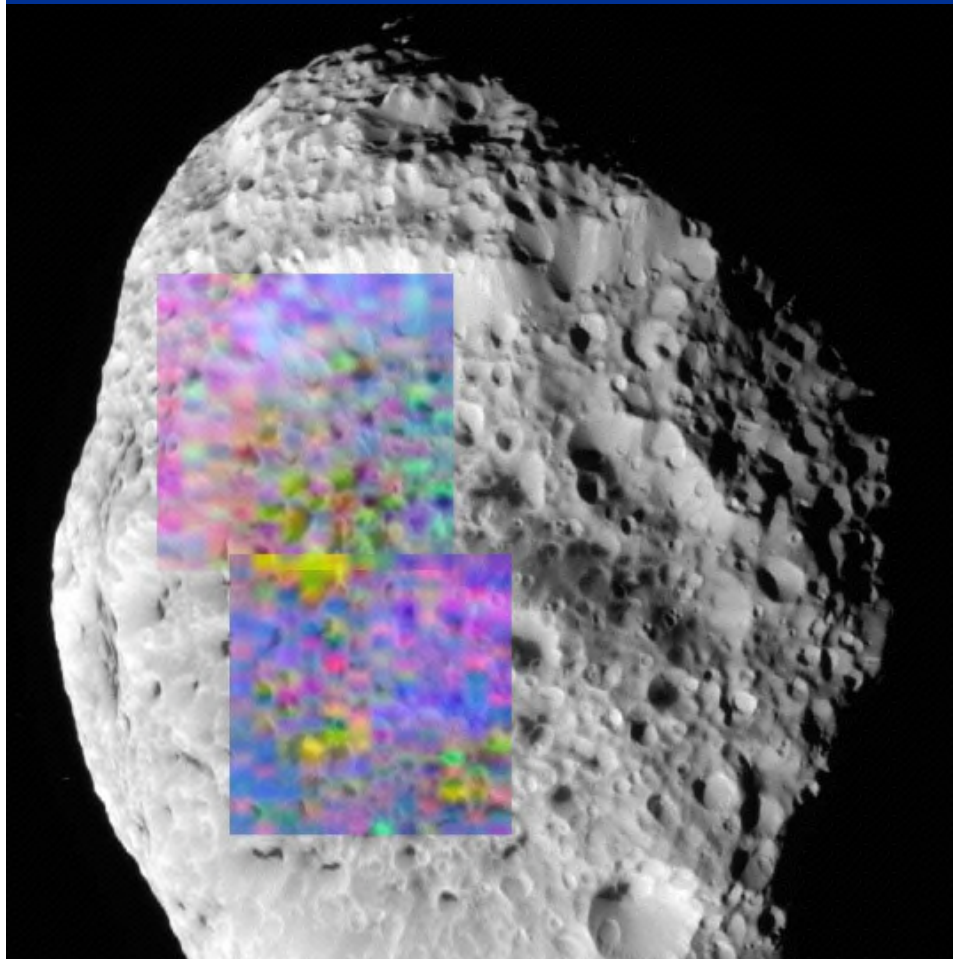
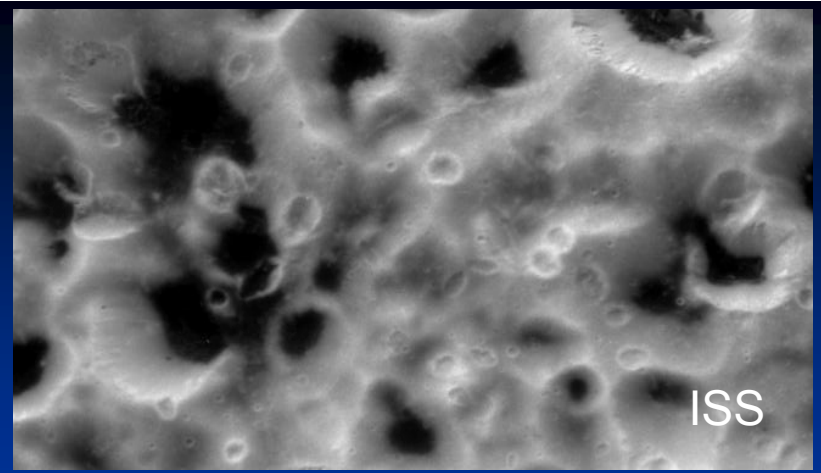
# Dark Material on Hyperion

360×280×225 km

Density 0.6 g/cm<sup>3</sup>



Spectrum model with  
H<sub>2</sub>O ice and tholin



## Hyperion Composition Map

Color code:

Blue = H<sub>2</sub>O band depth

Red = CO<sub>2</sub> band depth

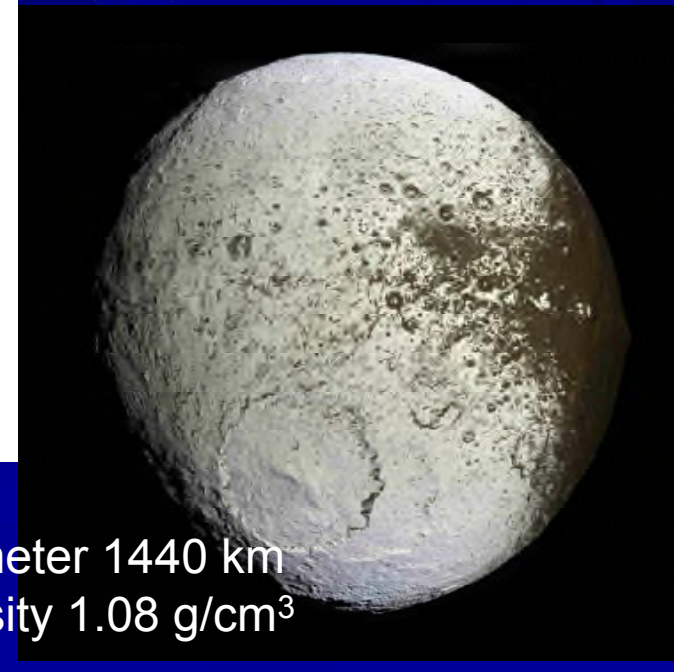
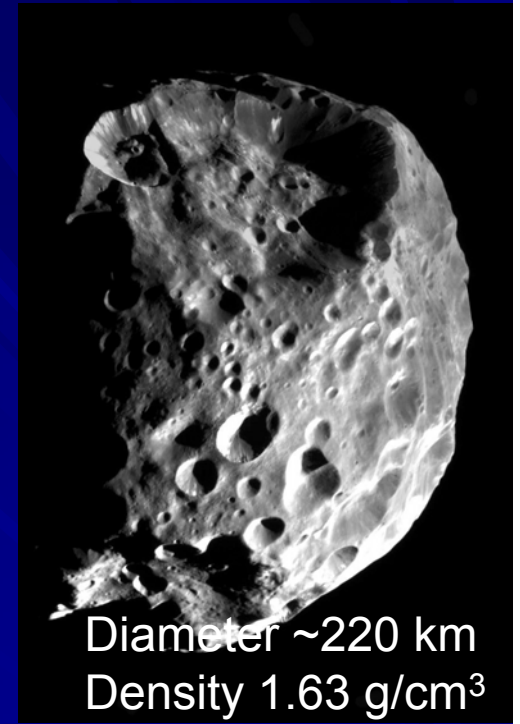
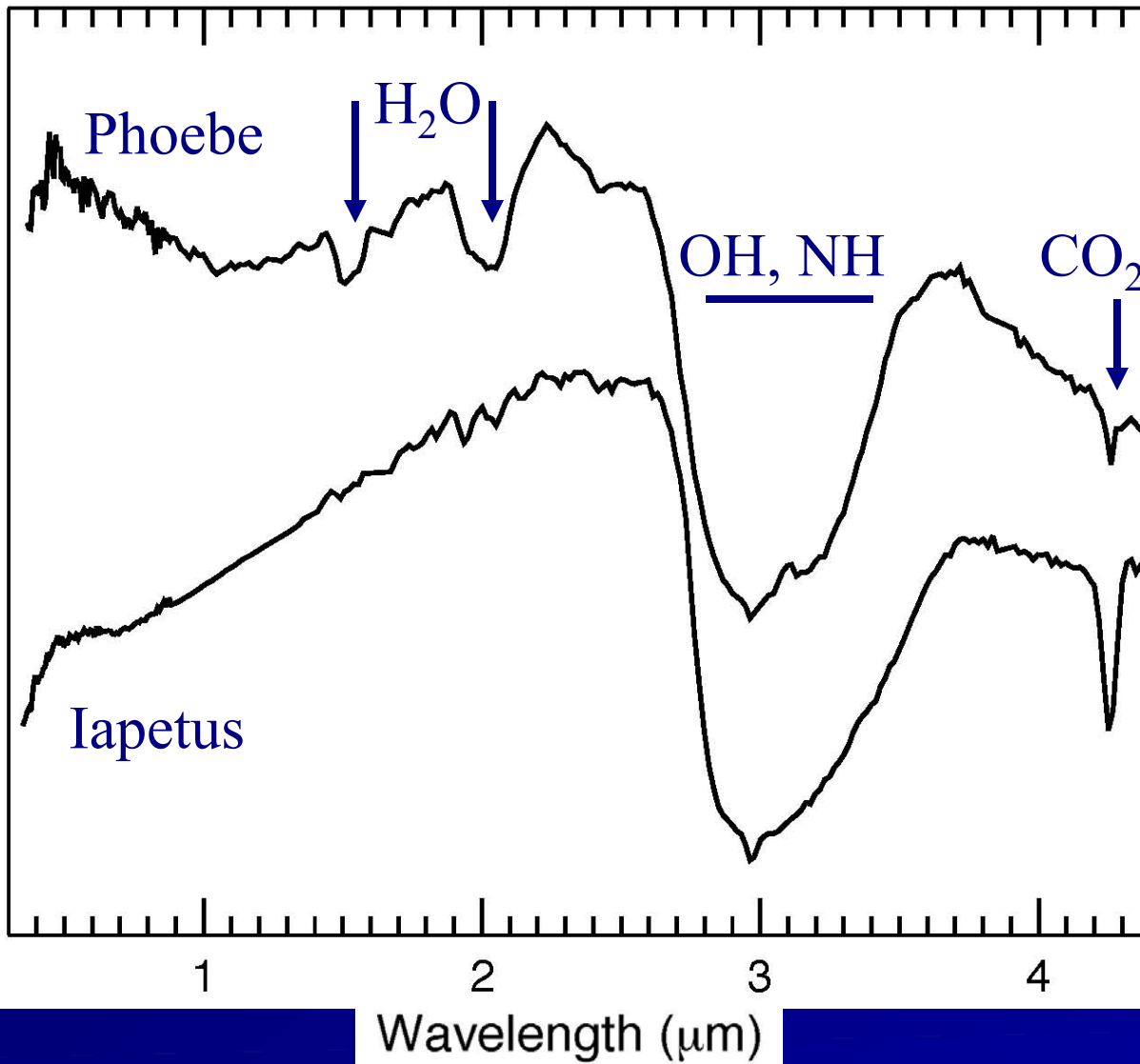
Green = 2.42 μm band

Yellow = CO<sub>2</sub> + 2.42 μm

Magenta = H<sub>2</sub>O + CO<sub>2</sub>

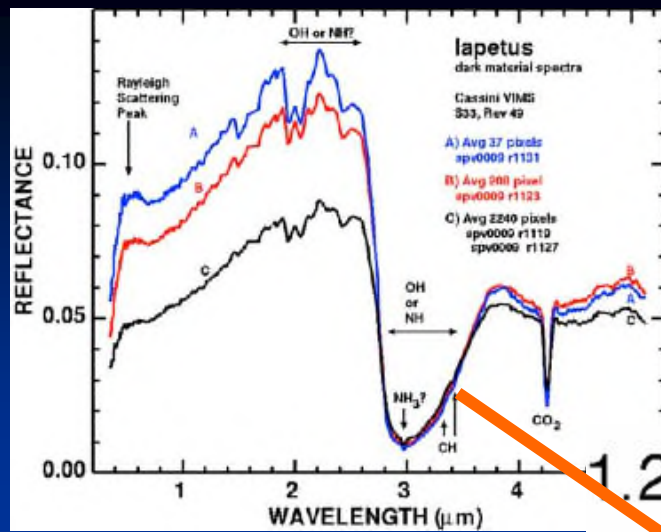
Cruikshank et al. 2007. Nature 448, 54.

## Cassini VIMS spectra of Phoebe and Iapetus

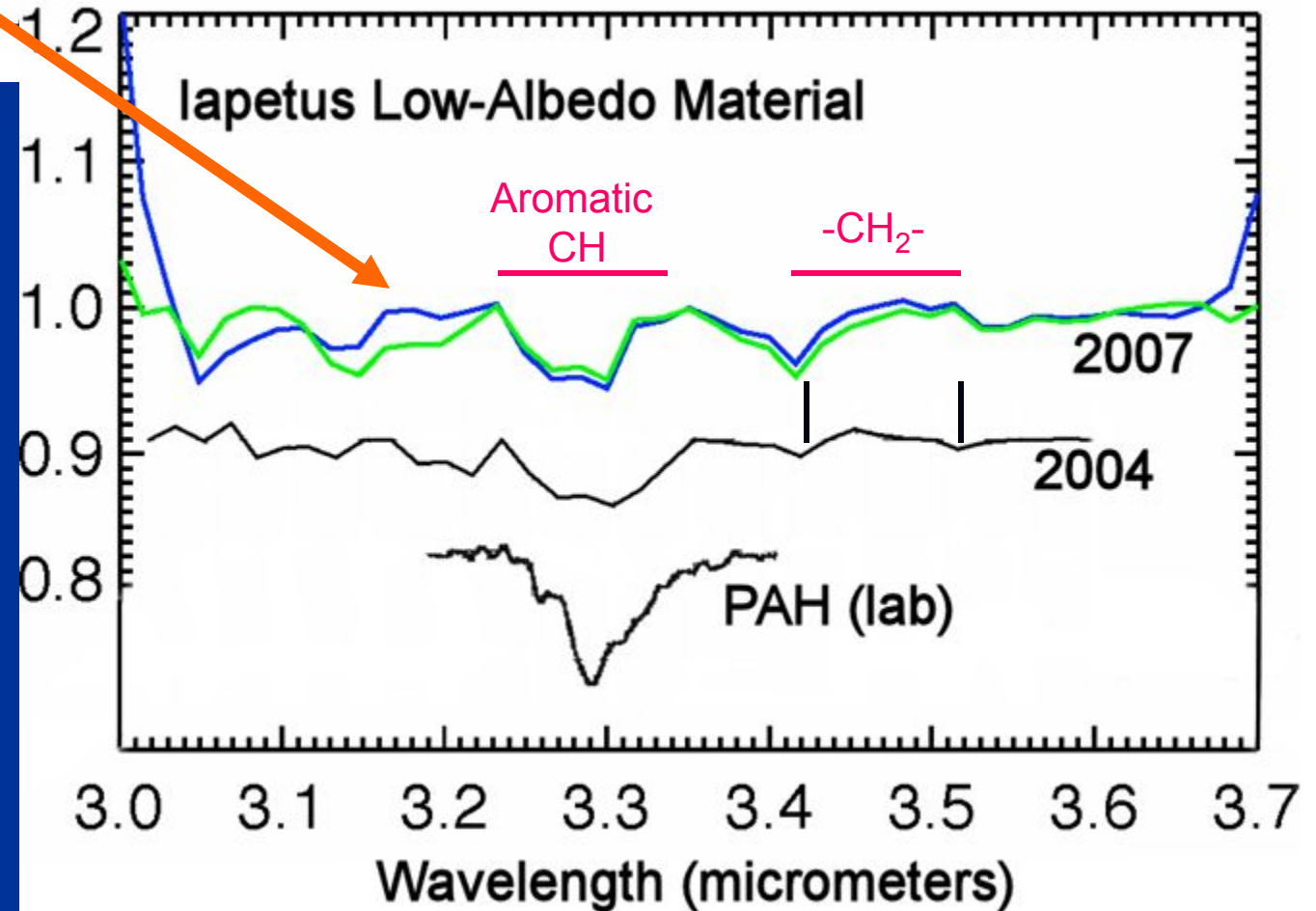


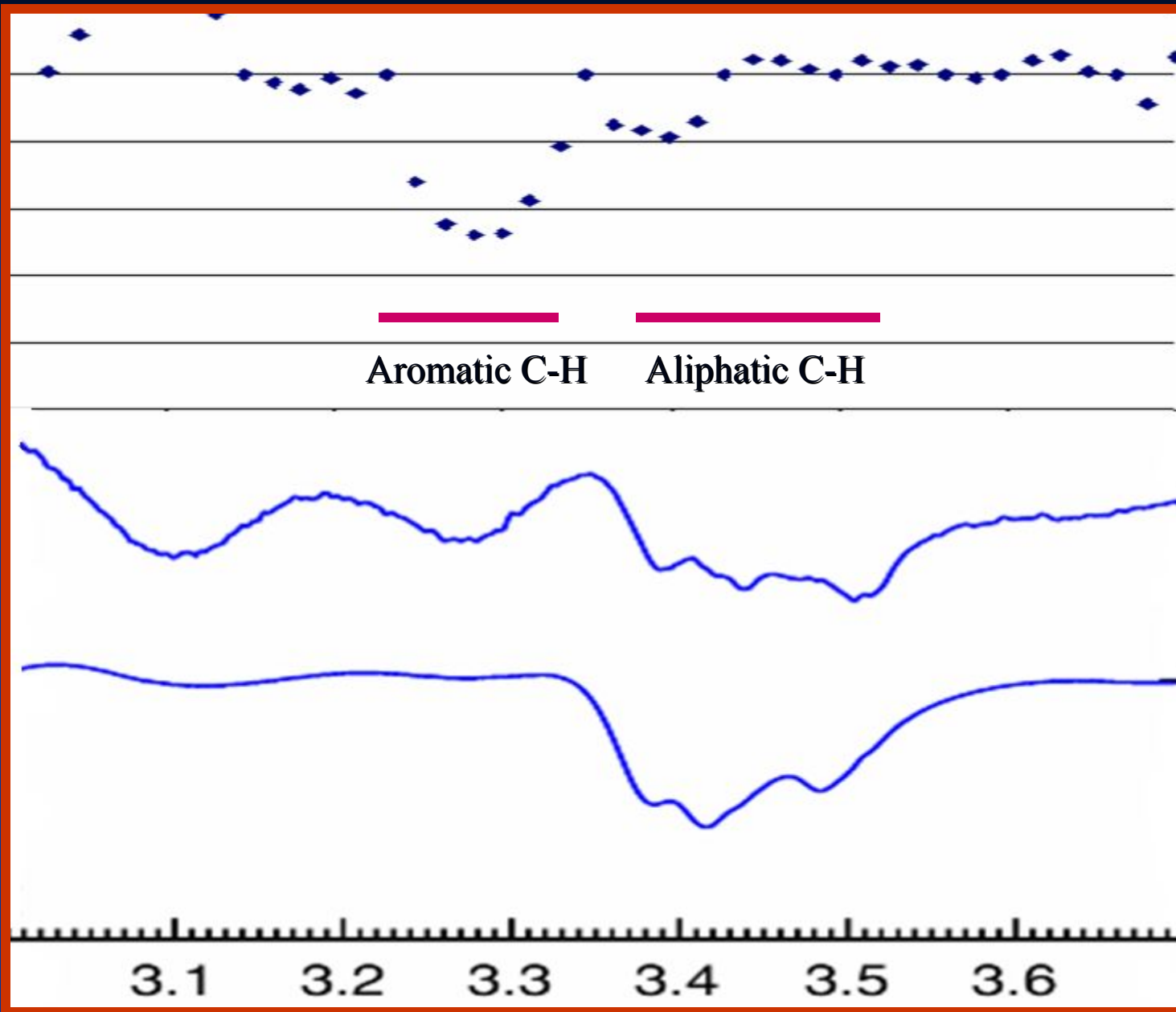


# VIMS Spectral Study of Iapetus



Organic solids  
on Iapetus.  
Cruikshank et al.  
*Icarus* 2008





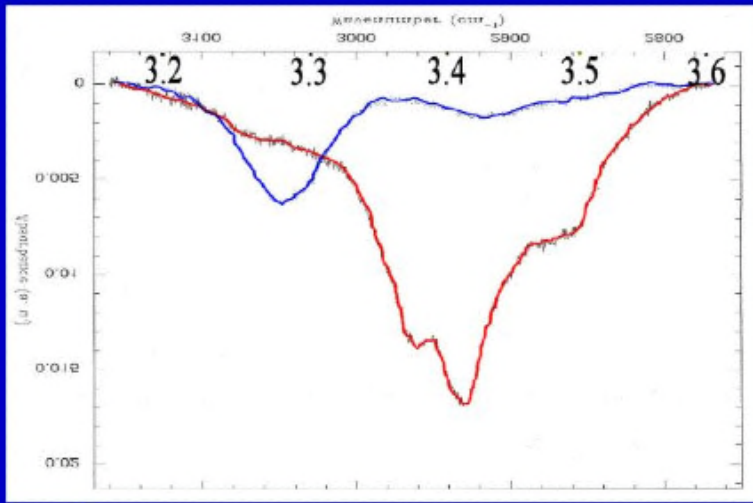
Iapetus  
Low-Albedo  
Material

Tagish Lake  
IOM

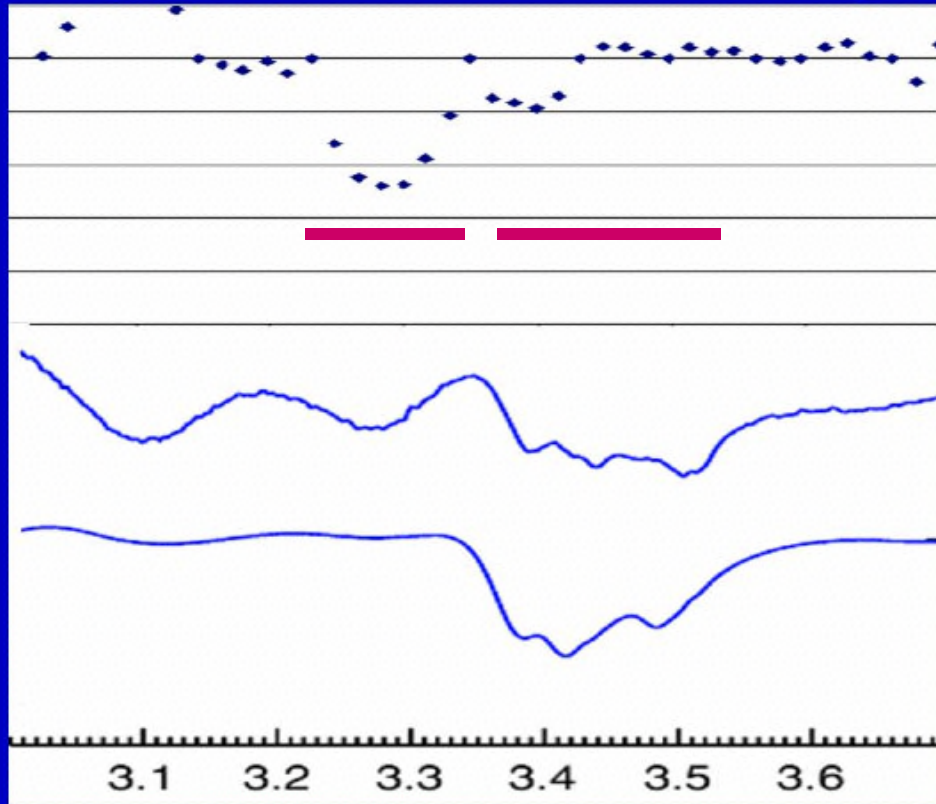
Murchison  
IOM

Meteorite  
transmission  
data from  
C. Alexander  
& G. Cody

Wavelength  $\mu\text{m}$



Hydrogenated Amorphous Carbon (Mennella et al.)



Iapetus  
Low-Albedo  
Material

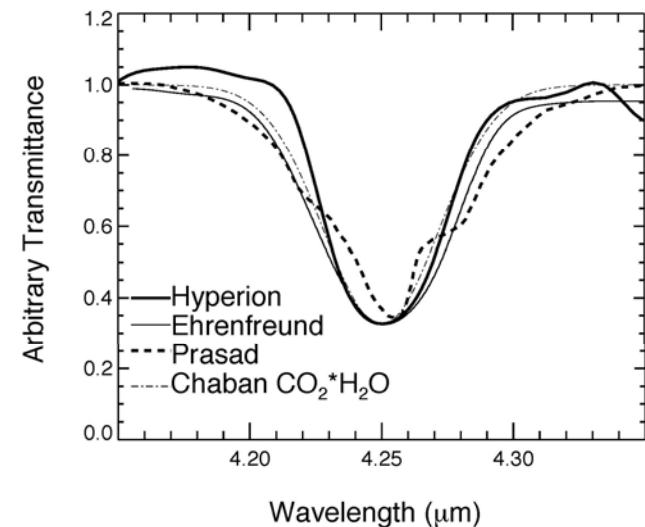
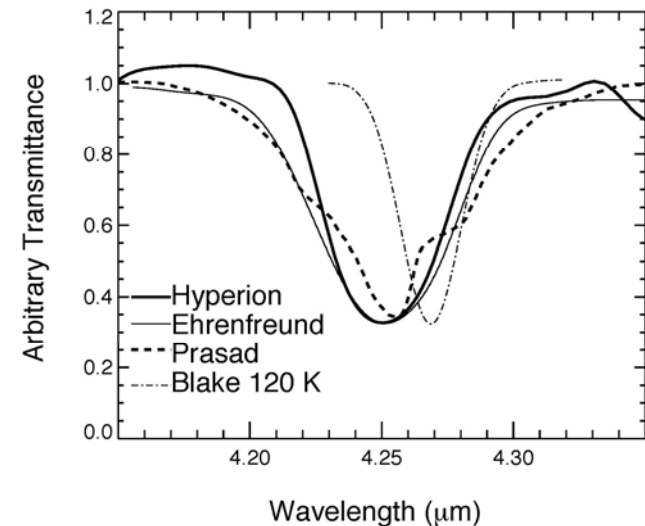
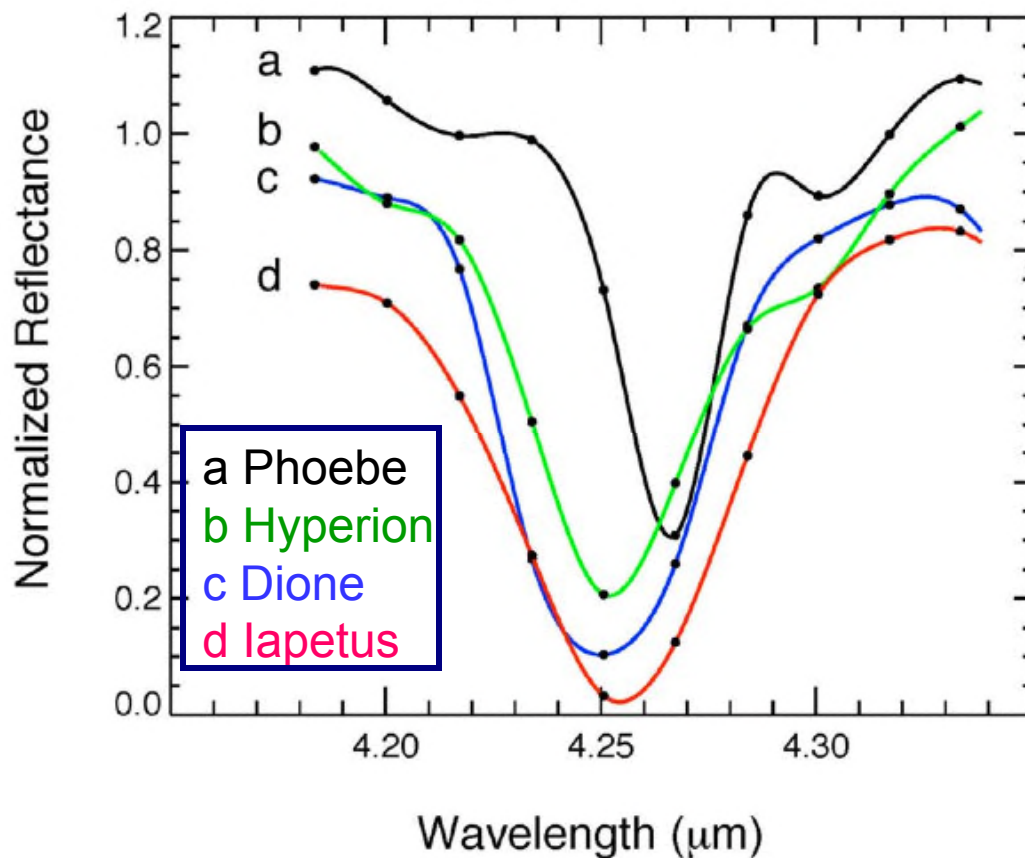
Tagish Lake  
IOM

Murchison  
IOM

Wavelength  $\mu\text{m}$

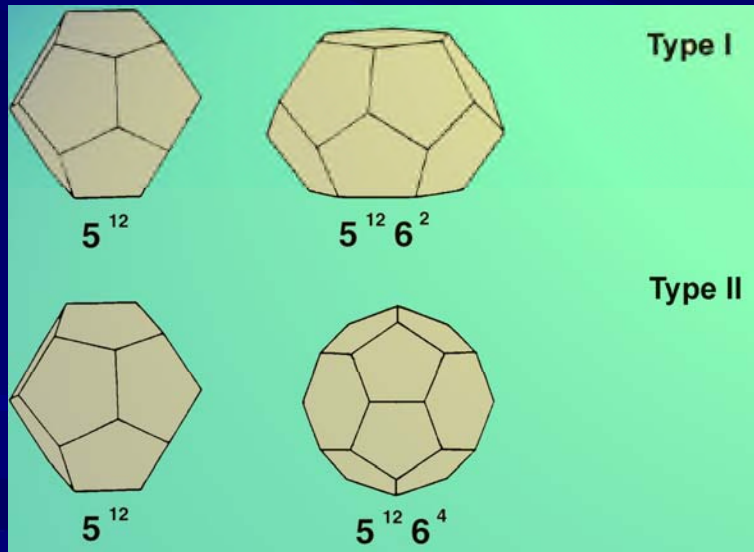
# Varieties of CO<sub>2</sub> on Saturn's Satellites— Variations in $\nu_3$

Compared to pure CO<sub>2</sub> ice at  $\lambda = 4.628 \mu\text{m}$ , CO<sub>2</sub> is shifted to shorter wavelengths and the band is broadened. Phoebe's CO<sub>2</sub> is not shifted.

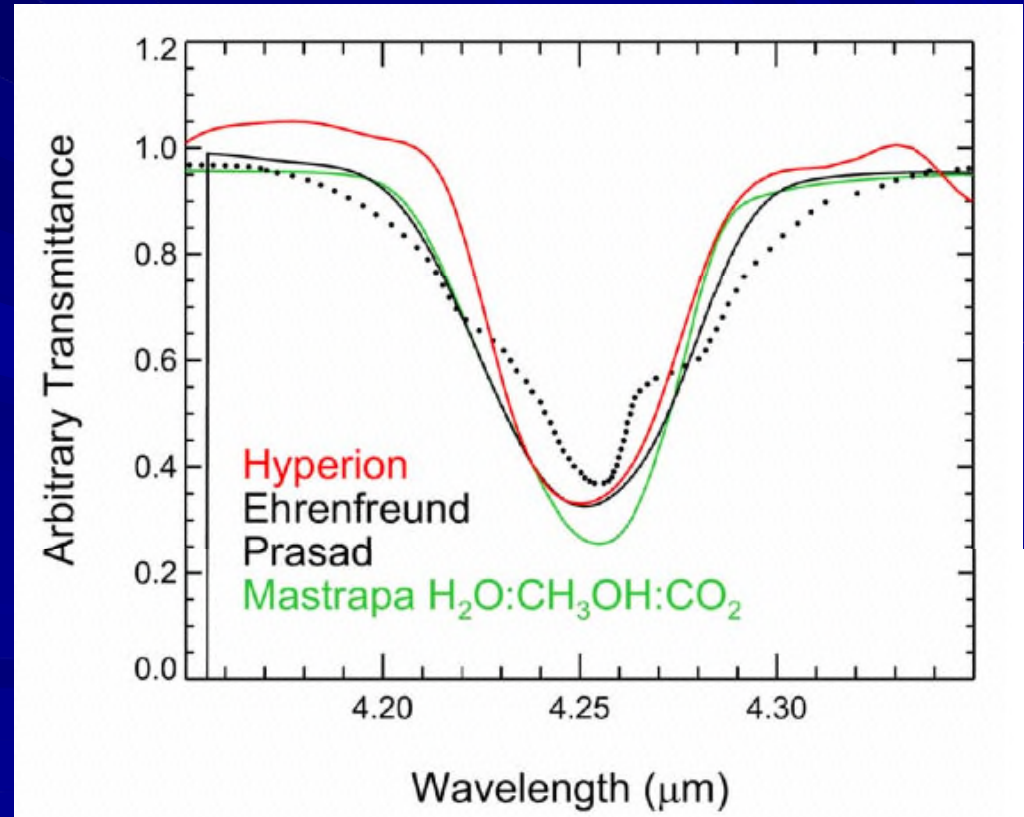


Hyperion conclusion: Wavelength and band shape matched with Prasad clathrate, Ehrenfreund & Mastrapa/Sandford 1:1:1 mixtures, and Chaban et al.  $\text{CO}_2 \cdot 2\text{H}_2\text{O}$  calculations.

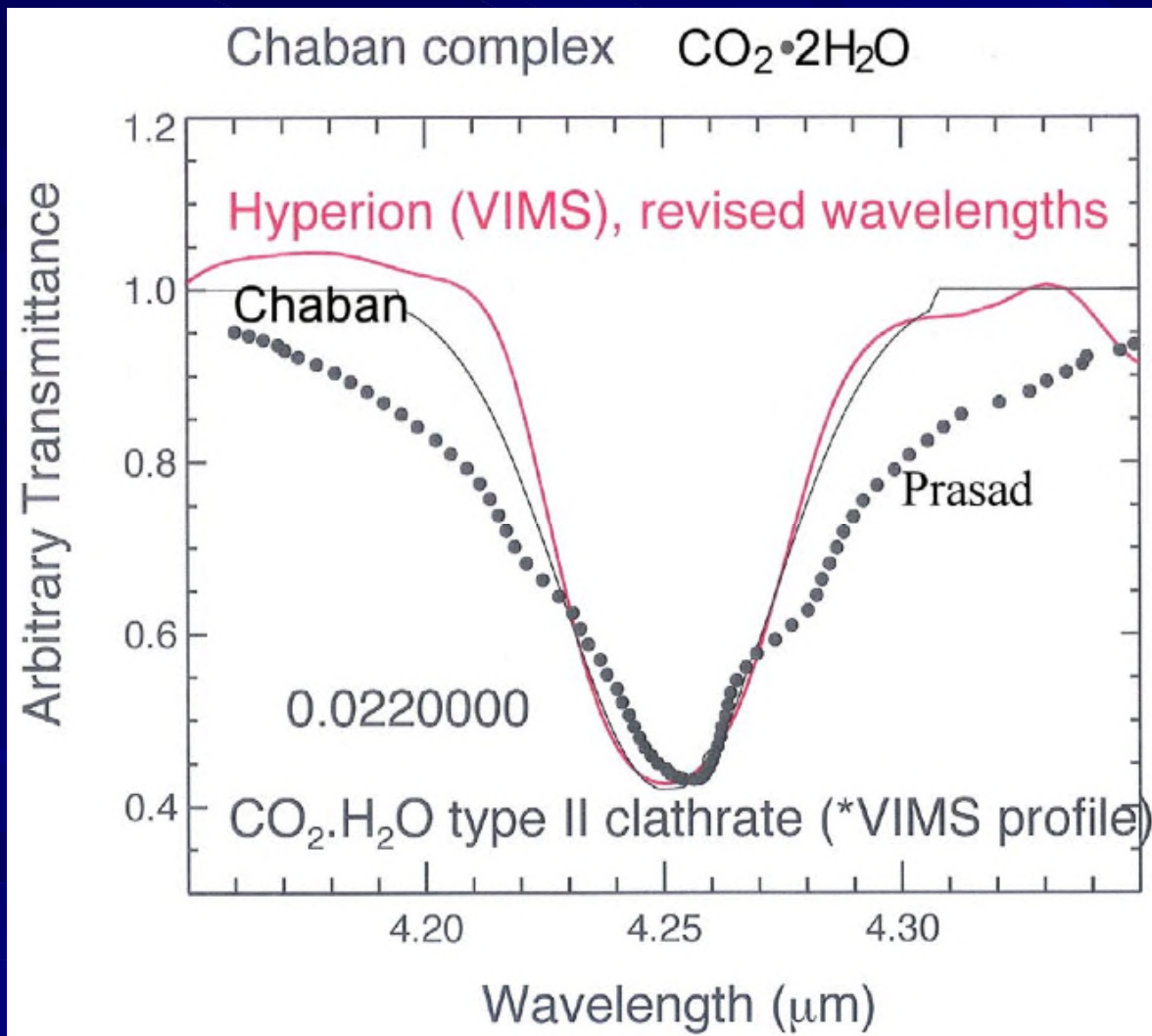
$\Rightarrow \text{CO}_2$  is complexed with  $\text{H}_2\text{O}$  and/or other molecules



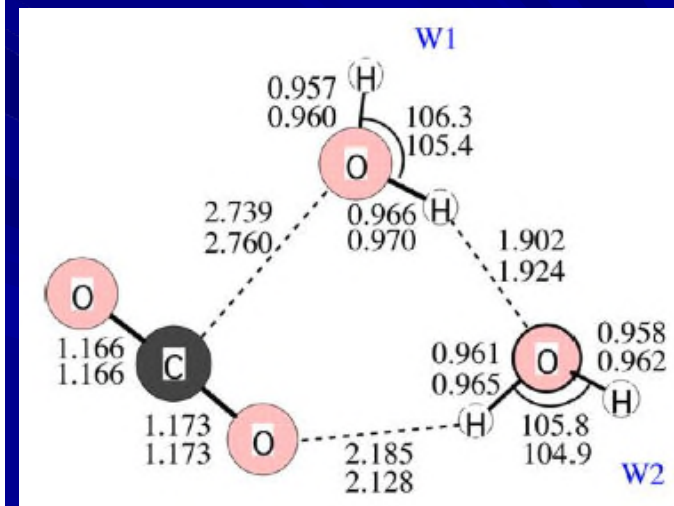
Lab spectra needed for clathrates with verified structure



# Chaban theoretical spectrum



The *ab initio* calculation of one  $\text{CO}_2$  with two  $\text{H}_2\text{O}$  molecules (plotted as a Gaussian with the VIMS resolution element) fits the Hyperion data well.



Calculations with two levels of molecular theory.  
Chaban et al. 2007, *Icarus*

# Laboratory Work

- Optical constants in extended wavelength regions
  - Ices in different phases, organic solids (synthetic and natural)
- Ice mixtures--spectroscopy
  - Matrix isolated hydrocarbons and nitriles
  - Clathrates and other complexes
  - Other mixtures
- Organic solids
  - Analysis and optical constants for complex macromolecular carbonaceous materials (synthetic tholins, meteoritic organic materials (soluble and insoluble))
- Nanoscale metal particles
  - Optical and scattering properties
- Special circumstances
  - Irradiated materials and mixtures
  - Irradiated ice and organic solids mixtures
  - Surface reactions on ice grains

The End