# SO8 First Targeted Enceladus Flyby

# Enceladus: What we know on the eve of EN 003



Bonnie J. Buratti, Rosaly Lopes, and Amanda Hendrix
"The SOST Leadership"
Feb 9, 2005 preview

### Properties of Enceladus

Distance from 238

Saturn (10<sup>3</sup> km)

Period (days) 1.37

Radius (km) 249

i 0

e 0.004

Density (gm/cc) 1.2

Geometric albedo 1.0 (the highest of anything!)

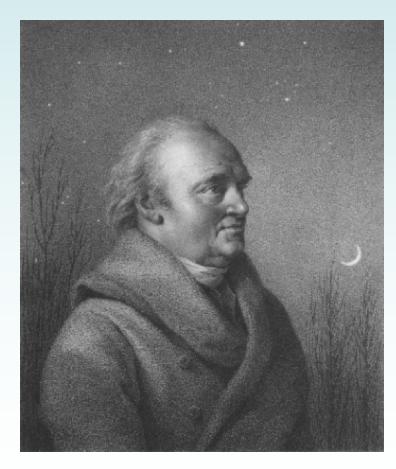
Discovered 1789 (Herschel)

Composition Water ice (R. Clark et al.,1983)

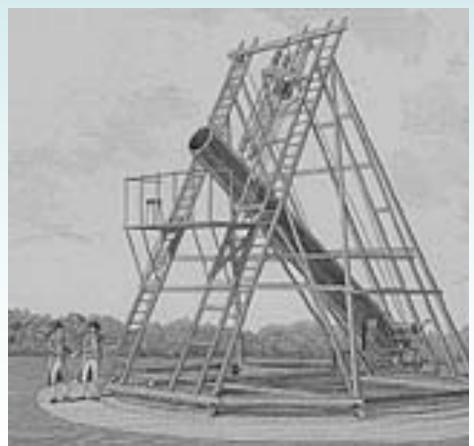
### Outer Planet Satellites in Perspective



### Discovery of Enceladus



William Herschel



Herschel's telescope, built in 1783; Enceladus was discovered during the next ring plane crossing.

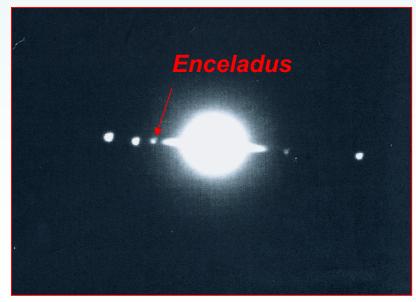
## Enceladus during the last ring plane crossing (1997)

- Ground based studies of Enceladus (and Mimas) are extremely difficult because of scattered light from Saturn.
- Most discoveries prior to Voyager, and between Voyager and Cassini, were made during ring plane crossings

Saturn and its five inner medium sized satellites during RPX (1997) Image obtained on the Palomar 60-inch.



Mimas From Voyager



### **Key Questions**

- 1. What is the composition of the surface? Are ammonia and other volatiles present (ammonia decreases the melting point dramatically: it is the only reasonable way to create liquid in the interior)? Are there any identifiable opaque materials (minerals, organics)?
- 2. Why is Enceladus so bright?
- 3. Is Enceladus currently active? If it is, what is the energy source?
- 4. How did the plains and grooves form? When were they formed (crater counts)? What are the main geological and geophysical processes?

### Key Questions, cont'd

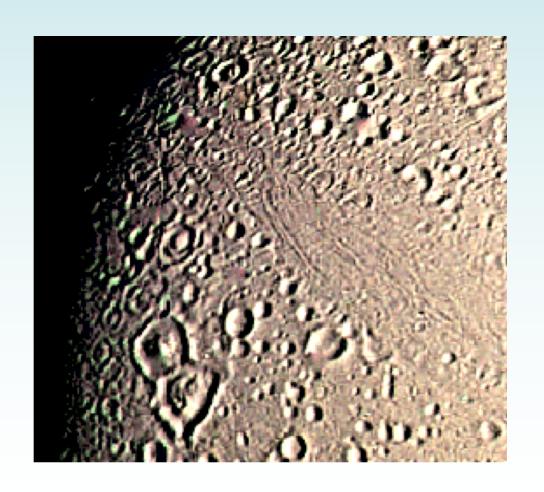
5. What is the relationship between and the E-Ring?

- Enceladus
- 6. What is the particle environment around the satellite?
- 7. What is the satellite's dynamical history? Has its orbit been more eccentric in the past?
- 8. What is the interior structure of Enceladus?

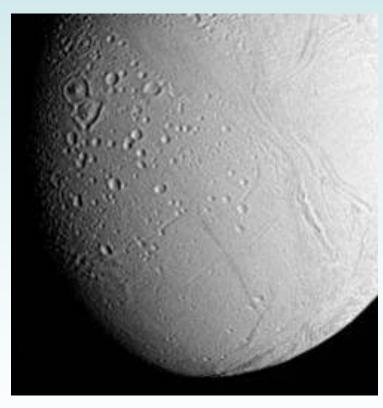
### The geologic history of Enceladus

## Geophysial processes and things to notice:

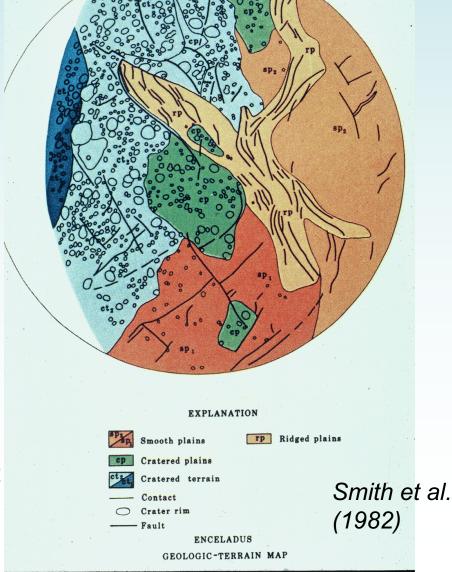
Crater relaxation; large central peaks; subduction (note craters at edge of ridges); extensional faults; crater counts in plains; analogies to Ganymede, Titan, etc.



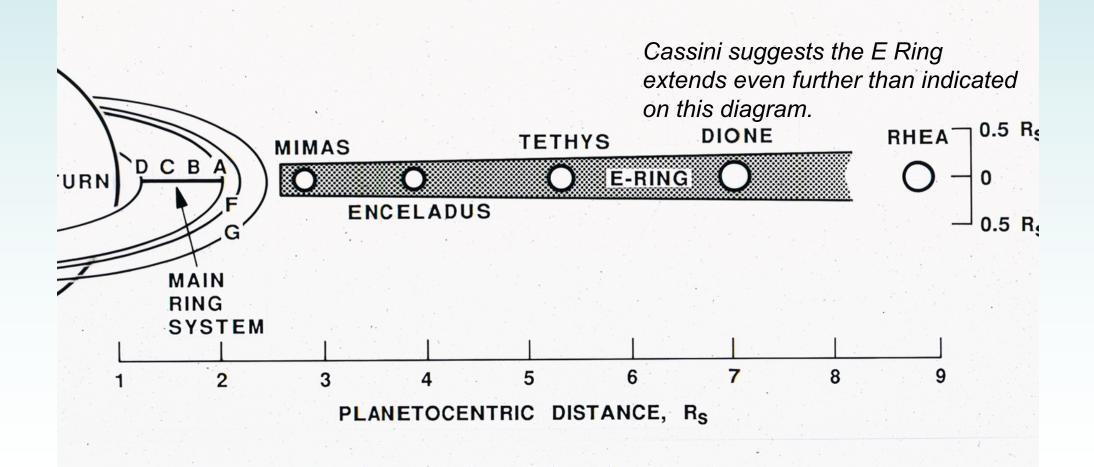
### Geologic terrains of Enceladus and albedo



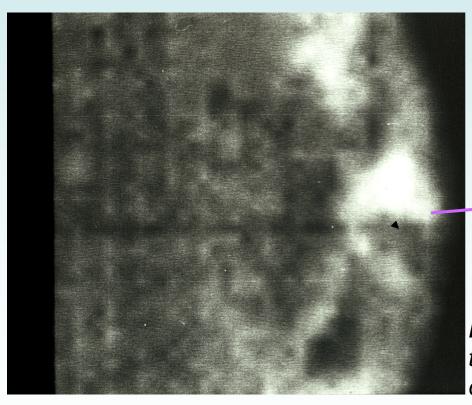
Terrain	Age (BY)	$B_o$
Smooth plains	<0.8	0.82±0.01
Cratered terrain	n ~3.9	0.84±0.02
Ridged plains	<0.8	0.84±0.01
Cratered plains	~3.6	0.84±0.01
		Buratti (1988)

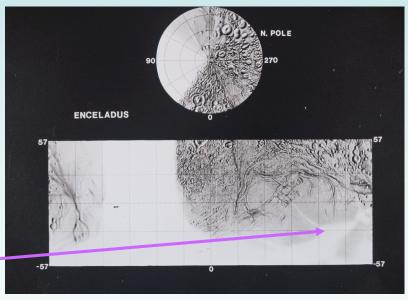


### THE FIVE INNER MEDIUM SIZED SATELLITES OF SATURN



### Enceladus and its environment





Do particles from the E-ring interact with the other satellites (cf. sulfur and sulfur dioxide from lo; exogenic particles on lapetus)?

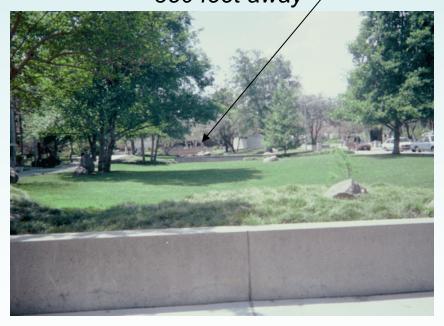
Is the feature above evidence for activity??? Is Enceladus the source of the E Ring?

### Summary of Major Enceladus flybys

Rev	Date	Distance (km)	
003	17 Feb 2005	1200	
004	9 March 2005	500	
005	29 March 2005	64,000	
800	21 May 2005	93,000	
011	14 July 2005	1000	
028	8 Sept 2006	40,000	
032	9 Nov 2006	94,000	
047	28 June 2007	90,000	
050	30 Sept 2007	88,000	
061	12 March 2008	100	
074	30 June 2008	99,000	

(Table is based on the previous reference tour.)

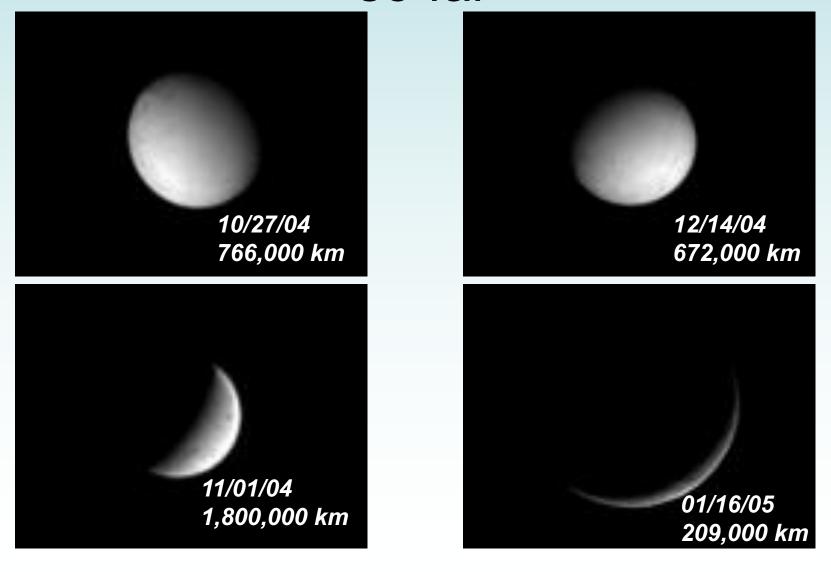
Two people standing about 350 feet away



The closest Voyager flyby was 90,000 km



# Enceladus as seen by Cassini so far



# Enceladus 003 Flyby ISS OBSERVATIONS

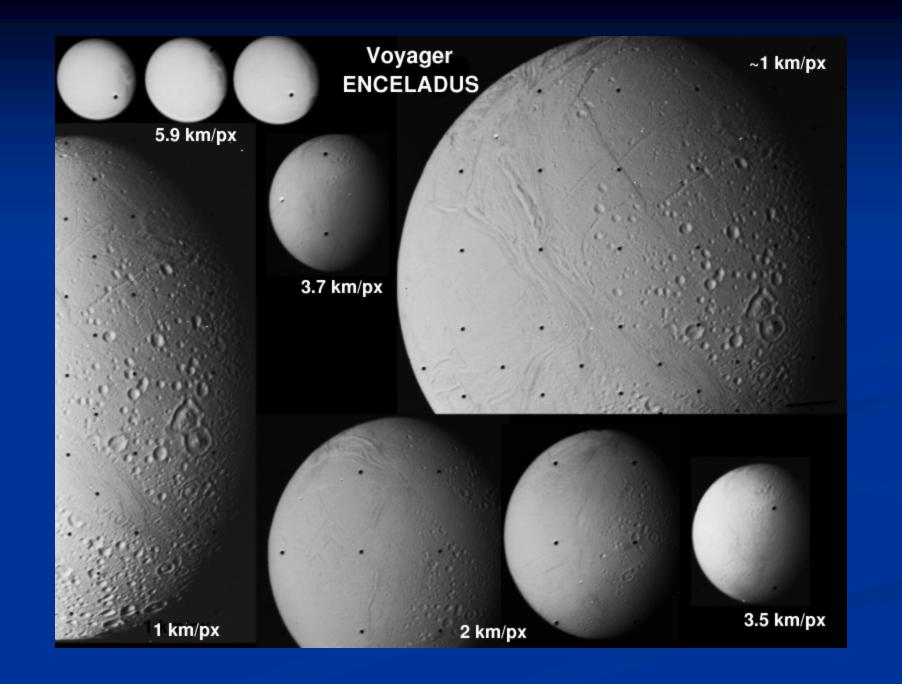
Paul Helfenstein

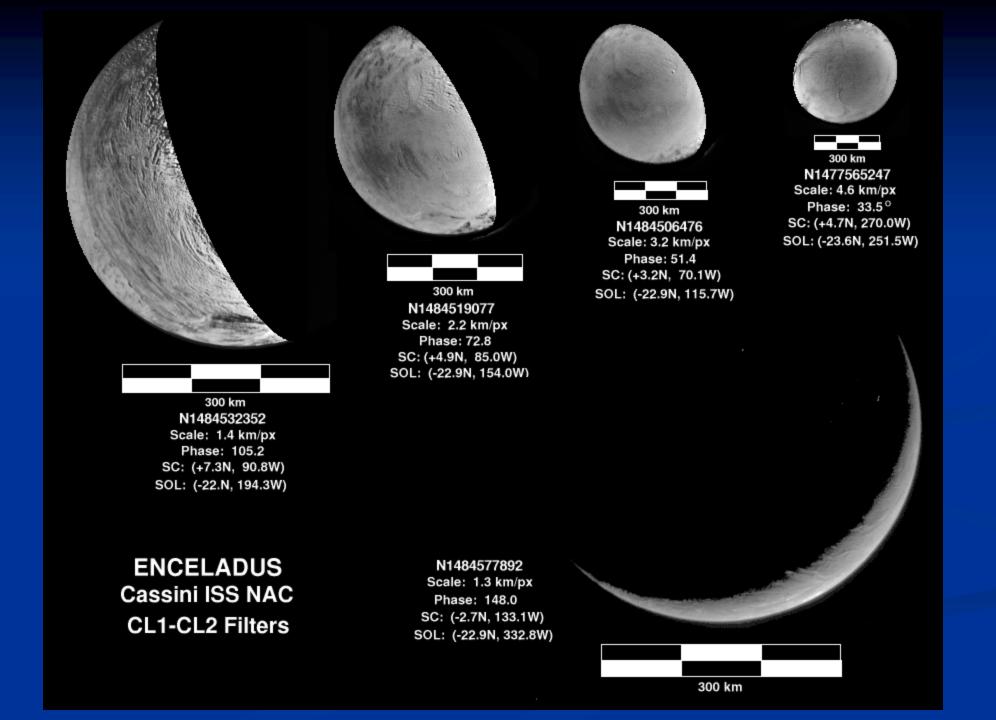
Cornell University

9 February, 2005

### Acknowledgments

- Tilmann Denk (Freie Univ., Berlin)
- Thomas Roatsch (DLR)
- Peter Thomas (Cornell)
- Pam Smith (Cornell)
- Pauline Helfenstein (Cornell)
- Jon Proton (Cornell)
- Emma Birath (CICLOPS)
- Nicole Martin (CICLOPS)
- Ben Knowles (CICLOPS)



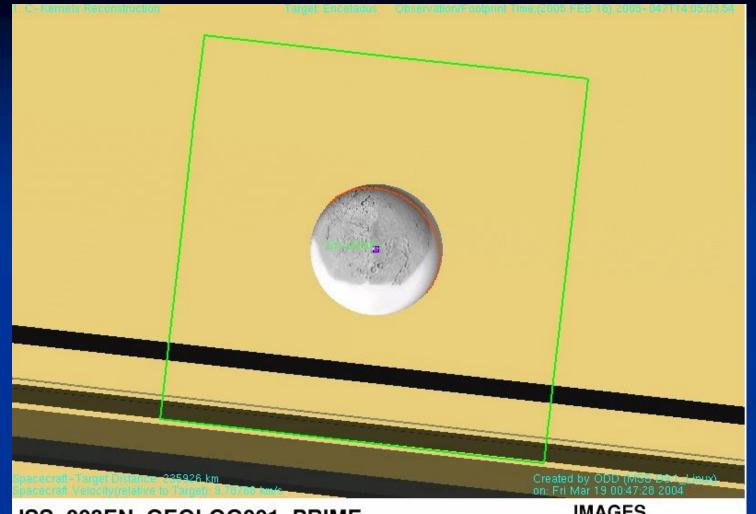


## E3 SCIENCE OBJECTIVES: OBSERVATION NAMING CONVENTION

- Surface Geological Features (GEOLOG, REGMAP)
- Geodesy, Topography, Geomorphology (LIMTOPO, STEREO, MORPH)
- Photometric/Polarization Properties (PHOTOM, HIPHASE, LOPHASE, ZEROPHASE, OPPSURG, PHOTPOL)
- Color Variations (GLOCOL, ROTCOLOR, COLOR, LONPHA)
- Eruptive Plume Searches (PLUME)

# E03 ENCELADUS: ISS REQUESTS

ObsReqID	StartT	Duration	Epoch Reference	<b>EpochDelta</b>
ISS_003EN_GEOLOG001_PRIME	2005-047T13:55:00	000T00:40:00		
ISS_003EN_GEOLOG002_PRIME	2005-047T15:49:00	000T00:40:00		
ISS_003EN_GEOLOG003_PRIME	2005-047T16:29:00	000T00:30:00		
ISS_003EN_LIMTOP004_PRIME	2005-048T02:15:29	000T00:50:00	GMB_E003_Enceladus	-000T01:15:00
ISS_003EN_ENCDUST001_CDA	2005-048T03:05:29	000T00:55:00	GMB_E003_Enceladus	-000T00:25:00
ISS_003EN_PLUME001_PRIME	2005-048T11:30:29	000T01:14:26	GMB_E003_Enceladus	+000T08:00:00
ISS_003EN_094W091PH001_PRIME	2005-049T14:10:00	000T00:25:00		
ISS_003EN_166W096PH001_PRIME	2005-049T20:15:00	000T00:30:00		
ISS_003EN_310W101PH001_PRIME	2005-050T09:01:00	000T00:10:00		
ISS_003EN_022W088PH001_PRIME	2005-050T16:50:00	000T00:25:00		
ISS_003EN_310W090PH001_PRIME	2005-051T18:20:00	000T00:35:00		



#### ISS\_003EN\_GEOLOG001\_PRIME

START: 2005-047T13:55:00 DUR: 00:40:00

ISS\_NAC to Enceladus, +X to NSP

Est. DATA VOL: 25.166 Mb

RANGE: 242953 km Scale: 1.4 km/px

Phase Angle: 27.9

Subspacecraft Point: (-1N, 174W)

#### **IMAGES**

NAC CL1-CL2 (2x2 SUM) NAC CL1-UV3 (2x2 SUM)

NAC CL1-IR1 NAC CL1-IR3

NAC P0-,P60-,P120-GRN



Start: 2005-047T15:49:00 Dur: 00:40:00

ISS\_NAC to Enceladus, +X to NSP

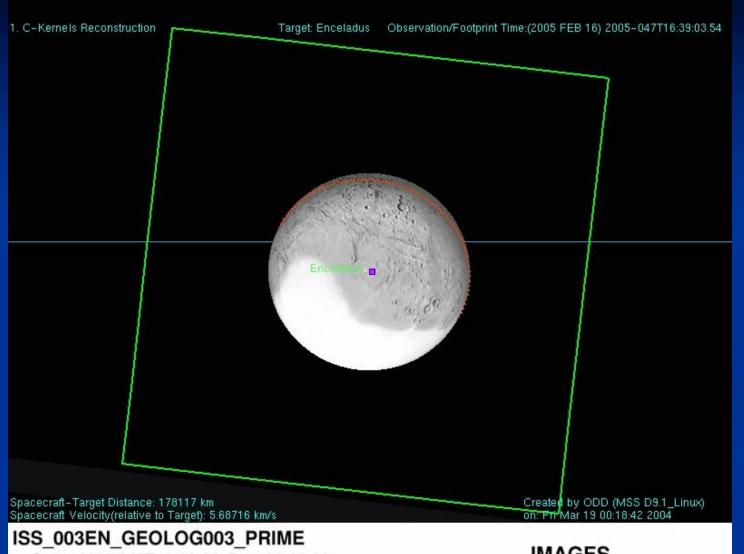
Est. Data Volume: 25.166 Mb

Range: 193639 km Scale: 1.1 km/px

Phase Angle: 23.7

Subspacecraft point: (-1N, 203W)

NAC CL1 IR1 NAC CL1 IR3 NAC P0 , P60 , P120 GRN



Start: 2005-047T16:29:00 Dur: 00:30:00 ISS NAC to Enceladus, +X to NSP

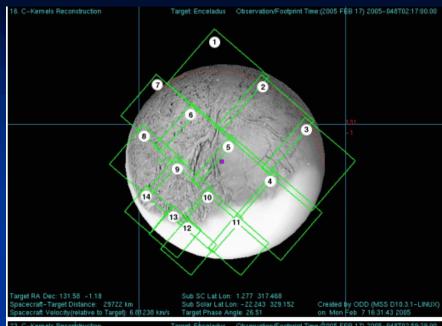
Est. Data Vol.: 25.1658 Mb

Range: 182327 km Scale: 1.3 km/px

Phase Angle: 22.6

Subspacecraft point: (-1N, 214W)

IMAGES
NAC CLR\_UV3
NAC CLR\_IR1
NAC CLR\_IR3
NAC P0\_, P60\_, P120\_GRN



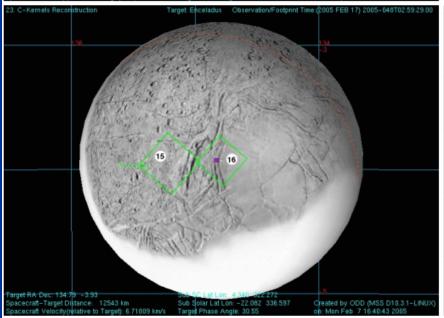
#### ISS 003EN LIMTOP004 PRIME

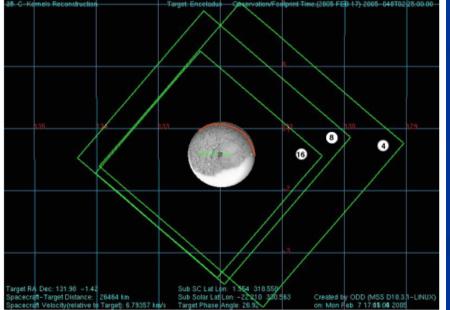
Start: GMB\_E003\_Enceladus -000T01:15:00 ( 2005-048T02:15:29) Dur: 00:50:00 NAC to Enceladus, -X to RA/DEC (198/-47) Est. Data Volume: 88.0804 Mb

Range: 30341 km to 10146 km Scale: 175 m/px to 50 m/px

Phase Angle: 26.4 to 32.1 Subspacecraft Point: (1N, 315W) to (6N, 320W)

_						
F	DWELL	FILTERS		F	DWELL	FILTERS
1	00:02:08	NAC CL1_CL2		9	00:02:05	NAC CL1_CL2
2	00:02:05	NAC CL1_CL2		10	00:02:04	NAC CL1_CL2
3	00:02:04	NAC CL1_CL2		11	00:02:04	NAC CL1_CL2
4	00:02:17	BOT CL1_CL2		12	00:02:31	NAC CL1_CL2
5	00:02:05	NAC CL1_CL2		13	00:02:05	NAC CL1_CL2
6	00:02:25	NAC CL1_CL2		14	00:02:04	NAC CL1_CL2
					NAC CL1_CL2	
17	7 00:02:04	NAC CL1_CL2		15	00:03:06	NAC CL1_UV3
7 00.02.04	NAC CLI_CLZ		13	00.03.00	NAC CL1_GRN	
				NAC CL1_IR3		
8	00:02:35	BOT CL1_CL2		16	00:02:00	NAC CL1_CL2







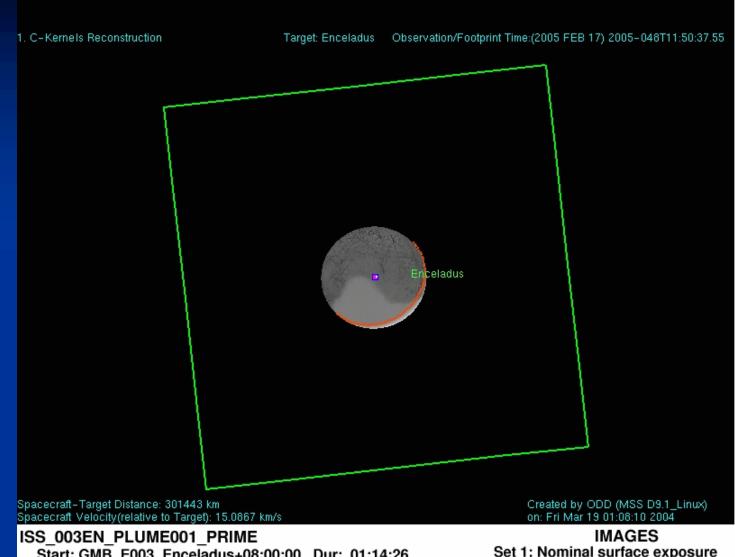
Start: GMB E003 Enceladus-00:25:00 Dur: 00:55:00 NEG\_Y to RA/DEC (263.4, -37.1), NEG\_X to RA/DEC (62.3, -51.0)

Est. Data Volume: 37.75 Mb, Telemetry Mode: S&ER2 Range: 1566 km Scale: 9m/px (NAC), 90m/px (WAC)

Phase Angle: 138.4

Subspacecraft Point: (48N, 203W)

Eight (8) BOTSIM's CL1\_CL2 One (1) WAC CL1 CL2



Start: GMB E003 Enceladus+08:00:00 Dur: 01:14:26

ISS\_NAC to Enceladus, POS\_X to NSP

Est. Data Volume: 83.886 Mb

Range: 282606km to 349285km Scale: 1.6 km/px to 2.0 km/px

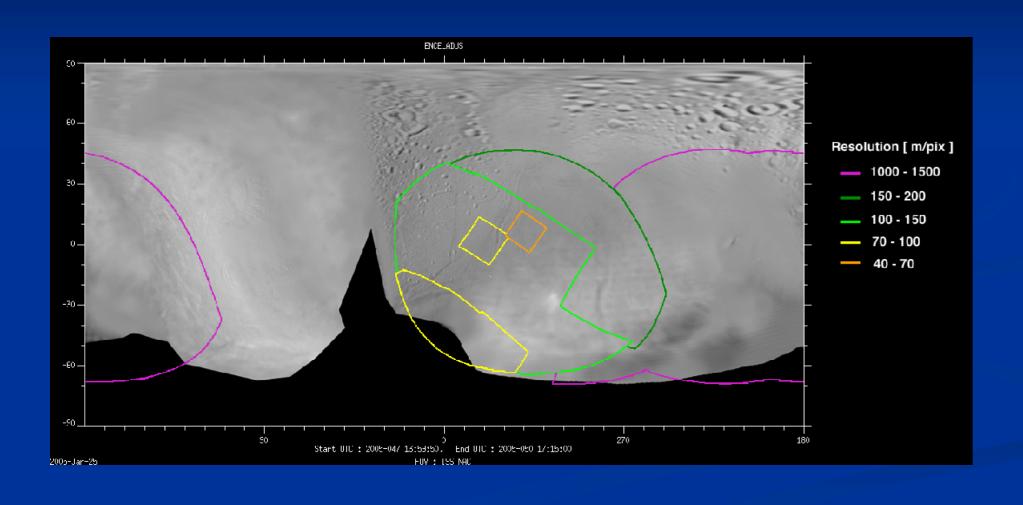
Phase Angle: 153.9 to 152.0

Subspacecraft Point: (1N, 234W) to (1N, 244W)

Set 1: Nominal surface exposure NAC CL1 UV3, CL1 IR1, CL1 IR3 + NAC GRN Polarizers Set 2: Above filters for I/F = 0.005Set 3: Above filters for I/F = 0.05Set 4: Above filters for I/F = 0.10

Set 5: NAC CL1 CL2 (3 frames) 1s, 10s, 100s exposures

### Summary of E3 Flyby Coverage



#### **UVIS Science at Enceladus**

C. J. Hansen, A. Hendrix

9 February 2005

#### **UVIS Science at Enceladus**

C. J. Hansen, A. Hendrix

9 February 2005

### Cassini

**VIMS** 

S08 Enceladus



### VIMS

Visual and Infrared Mapping Spectrometer

- •0.35 to 5.2 microns in 352 wavelengths
- •IFOV: 0.5 x 0.5 mrad (standard)
- High resolution IR: 0.5 x 0.25 mrad
- High resolution VIS: 0.17 x 0.17 mrad
- •Images up to 64 x 64 pixels square.

### VIMS Enceladus Science

Identification of minerals and other materials on the surface.

Mapping the abundance, and grain sizes of surficial materials.

**Grain-Size Mapping** 

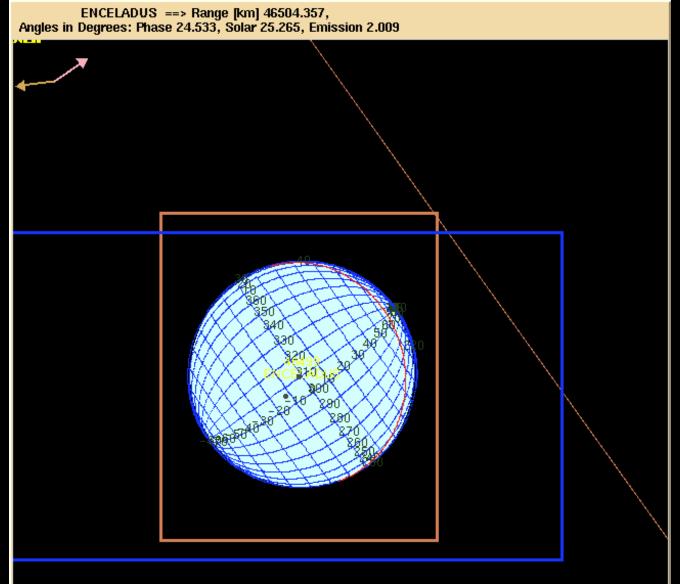
Reflectance from 0.35 to 5.2 microns

**Phase function** 

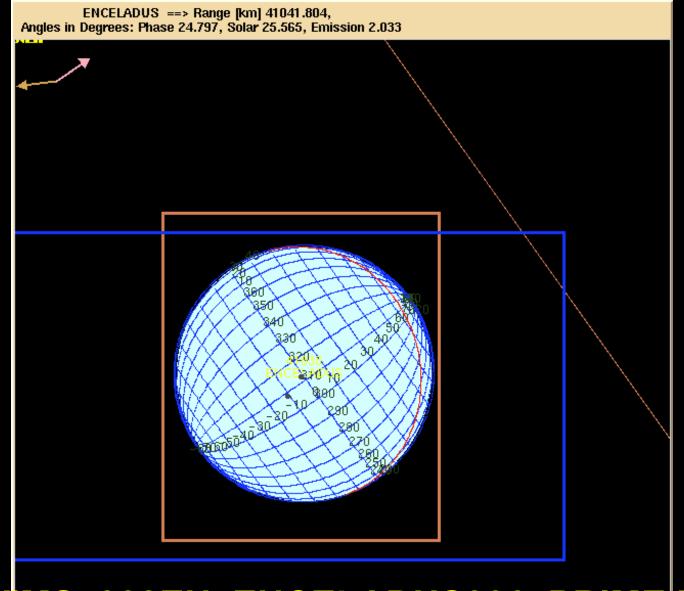
surface microstructure

**Bond albedo** 

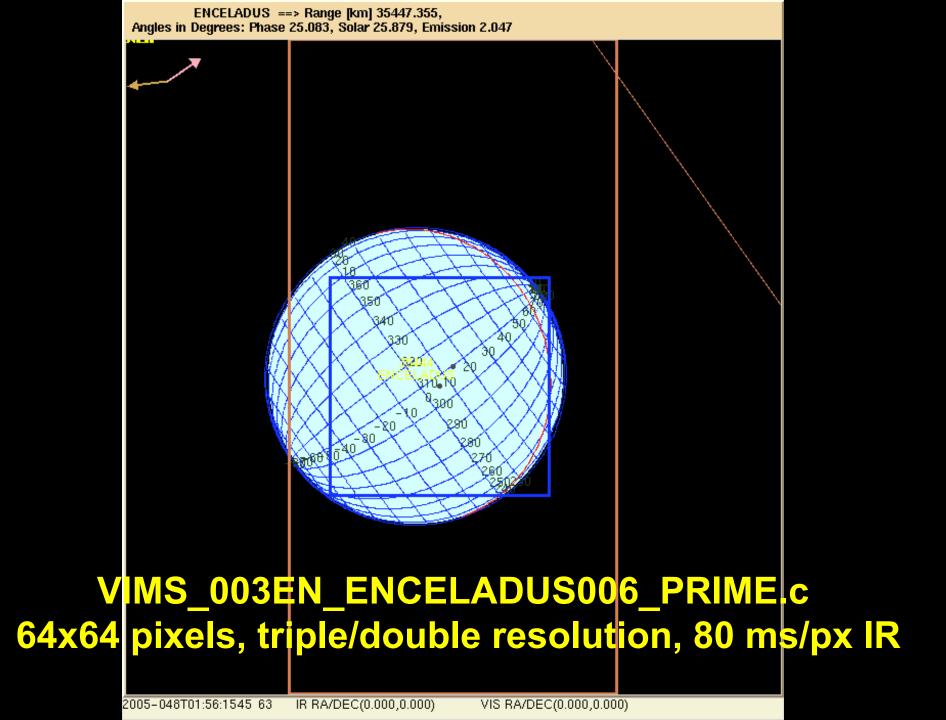
**Temperatures > 120K** 

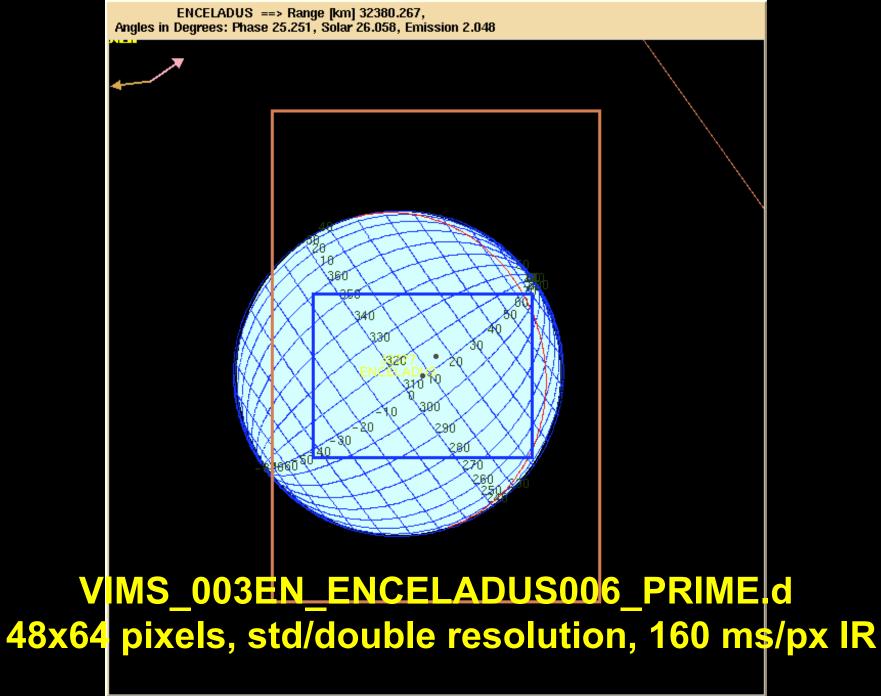


VMS\_003EN\_ENCELADUS006\_PRIME a 32x54 pixels, std/double resolution, 160 ms/px IR



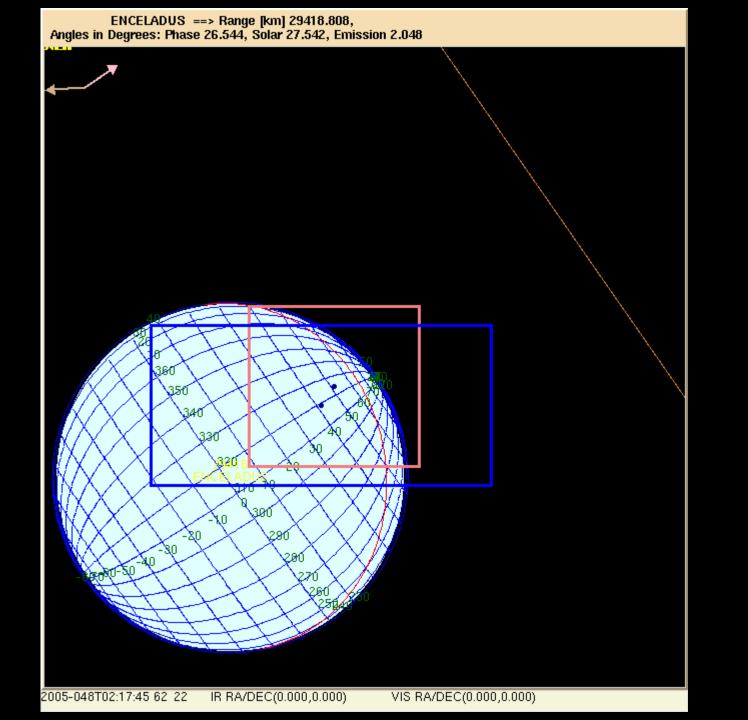
VMS\_003EN\_ENCELADUS006\_PRIME b 32x54 pixels, std/double resolution, 640 ms/px IR

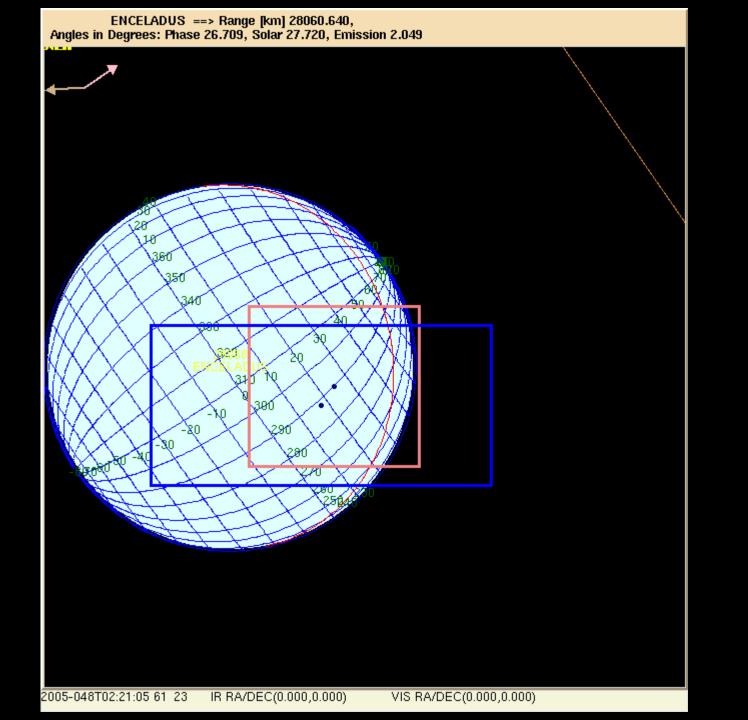


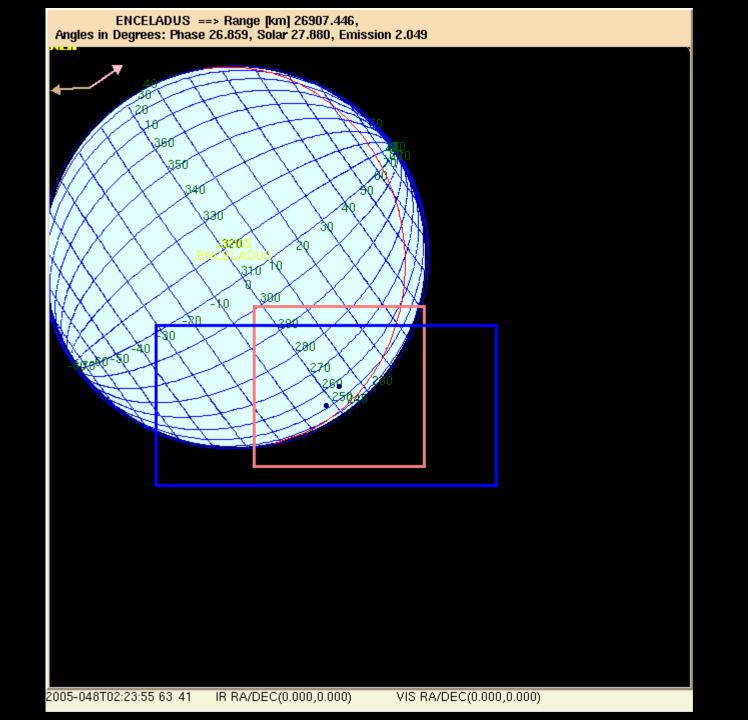


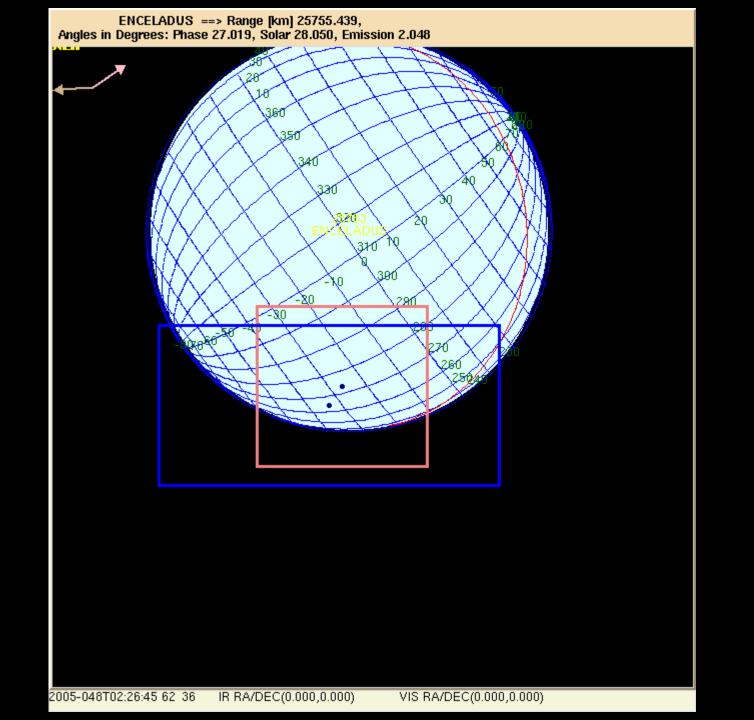
# VIMS ISS Rider up to closest approach 048T2:15

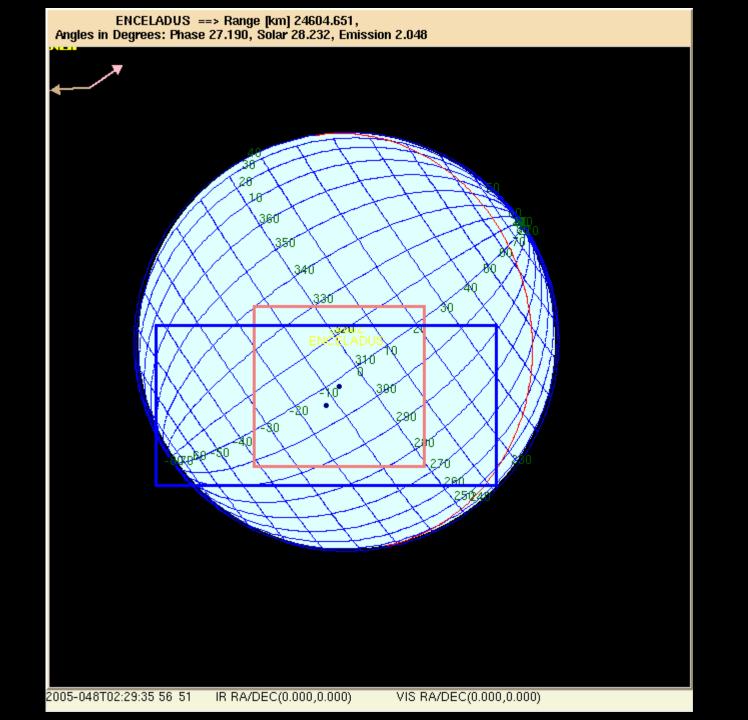
- 16 frames 16x34 pixels (some 22x44, 20x38), all double resolution IR.
- 160 ms /pixel (IR)
- About 9,000 spectra from this observation set.
- Up to 5x10 km pixel IR, 3.6 km/pixel vis

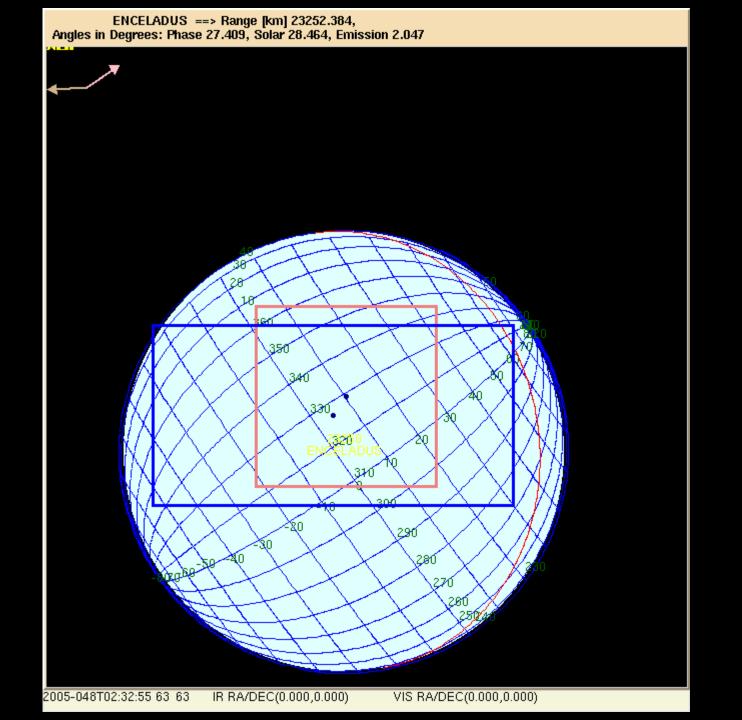


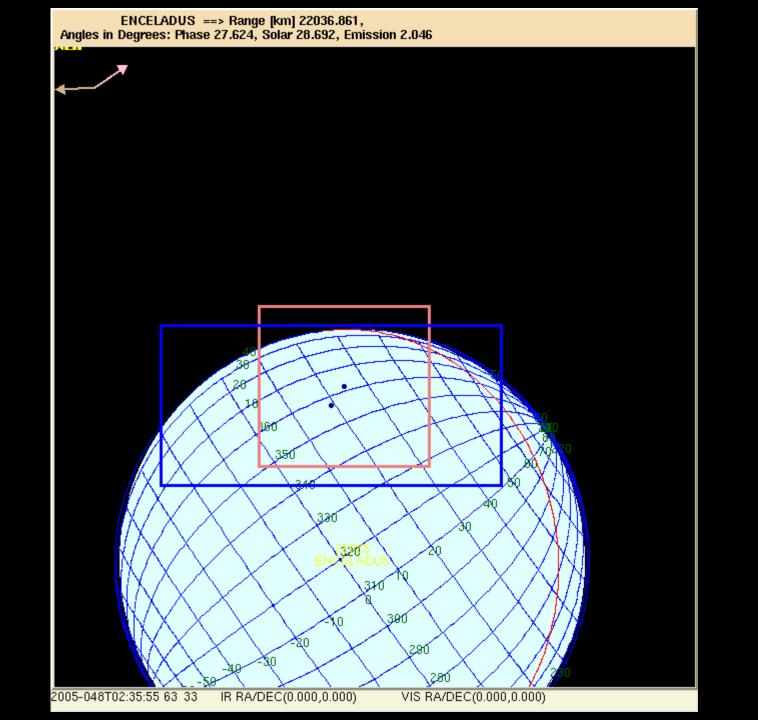


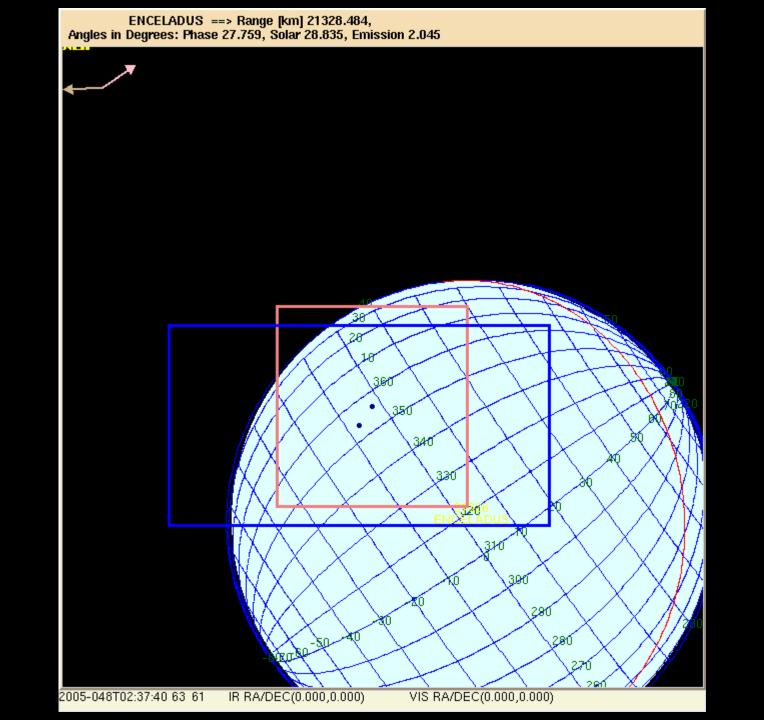


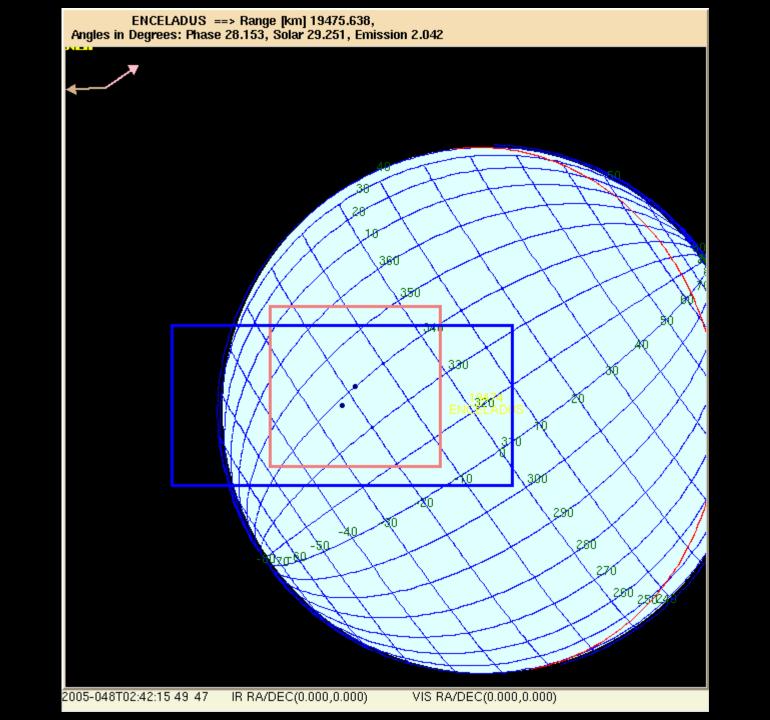


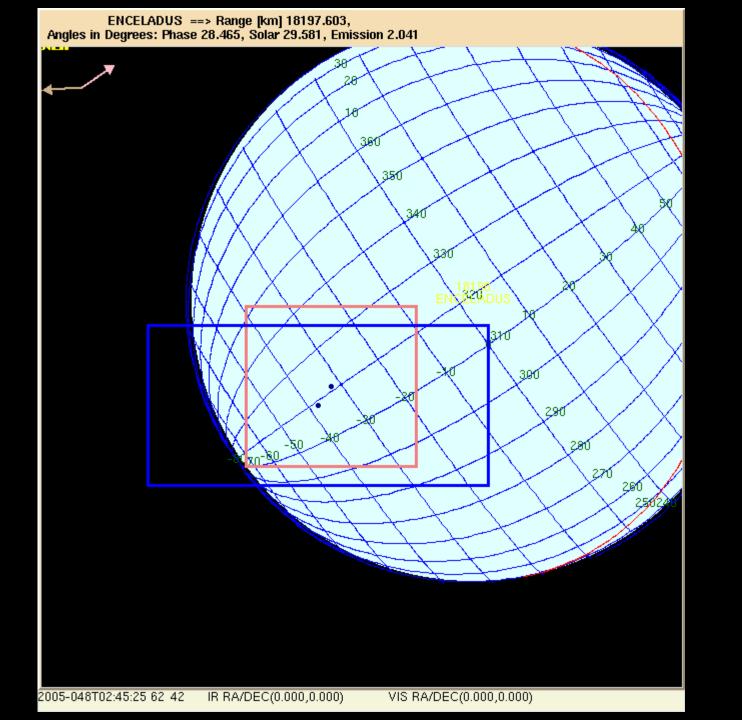


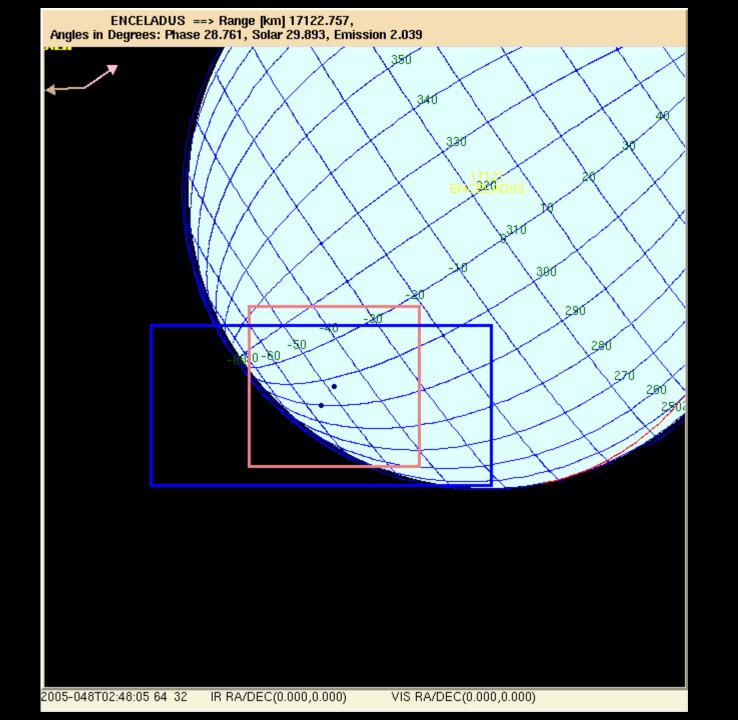


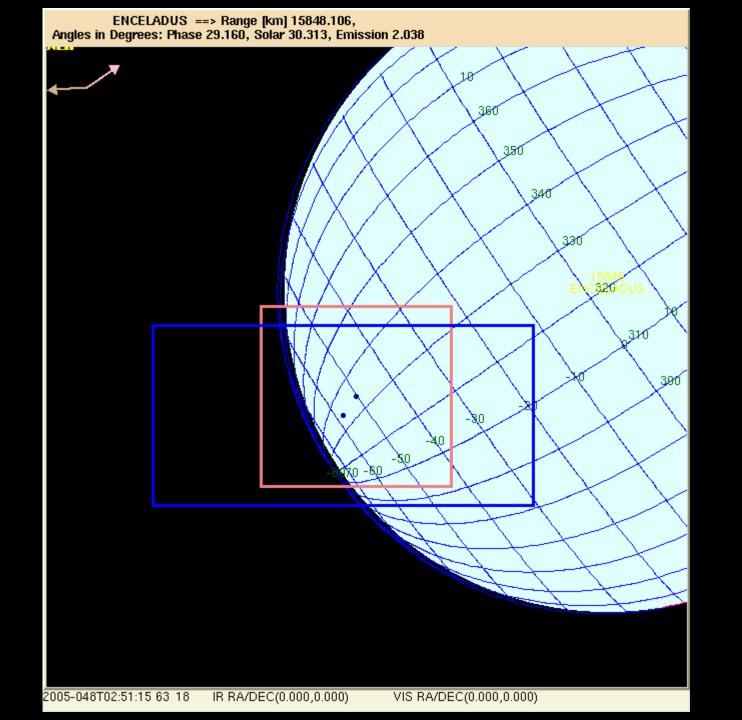


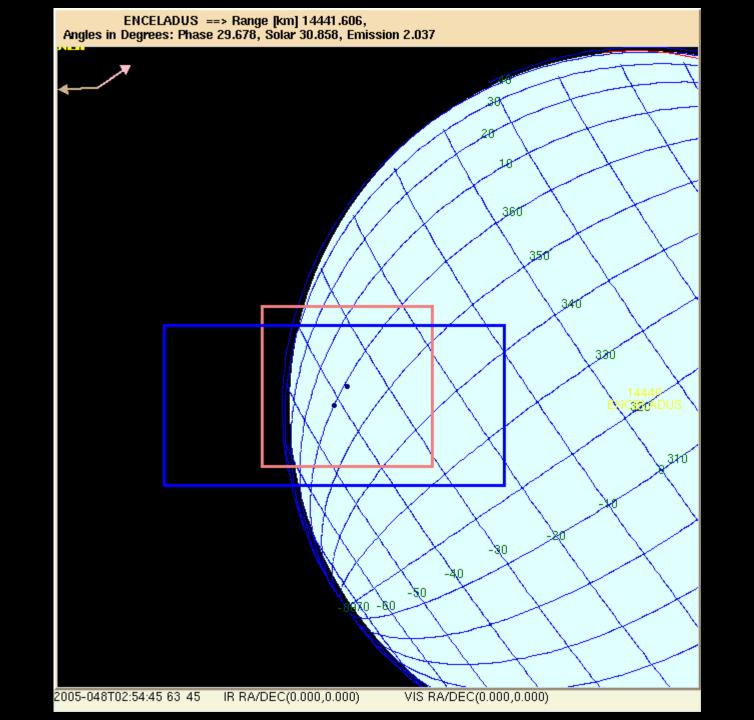


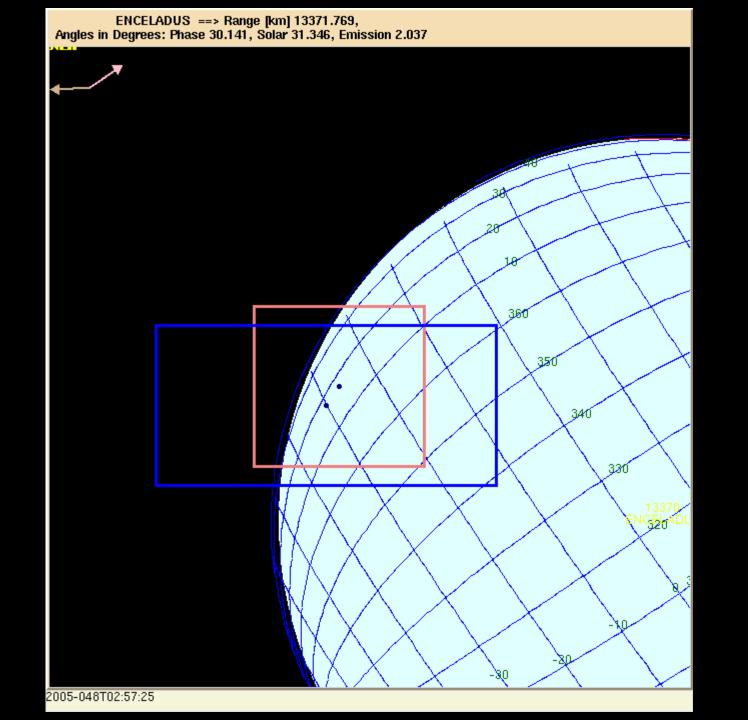


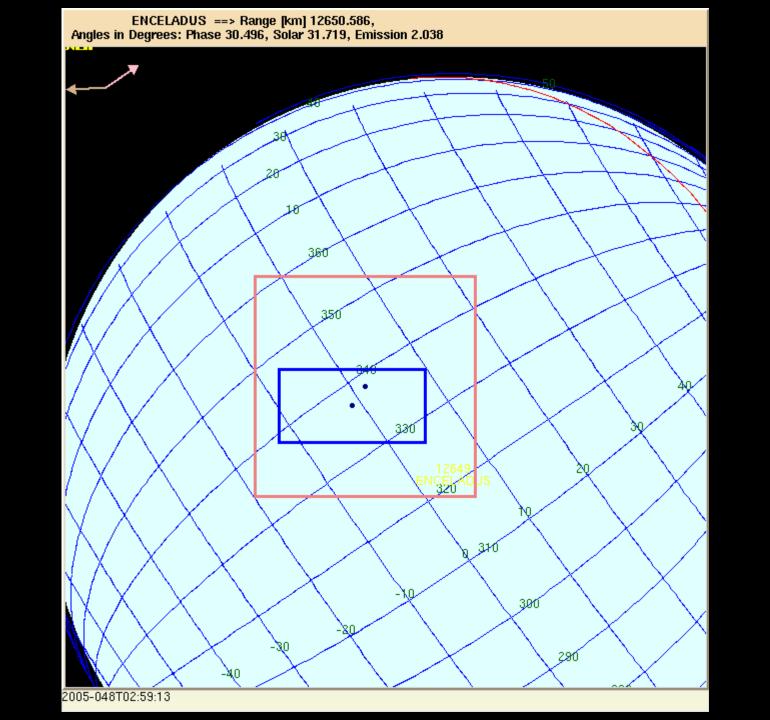


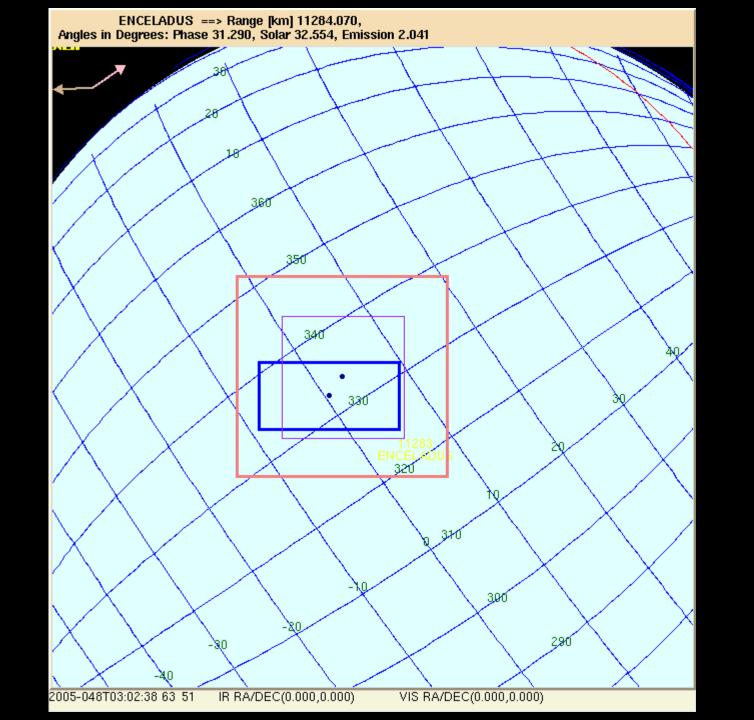












#### CIRS Enceladus Preview: Rev 3

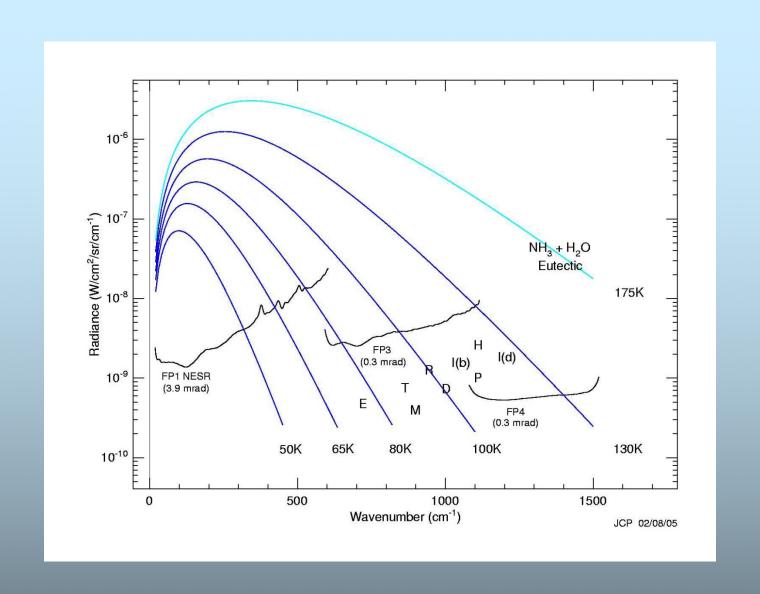
(2005-047T13:55 to 2005-048T12:45)

J. Pearl, J. Spencer, M. Segura 9 Feb. 2005

#### CIRS Objectives for 003EN

- Map surface temperature; determine thermal inertia.
- If active sources are present, determine spatial distribution and energy output.
- Search for spectral signatures on surface and in plumes to determine composition.

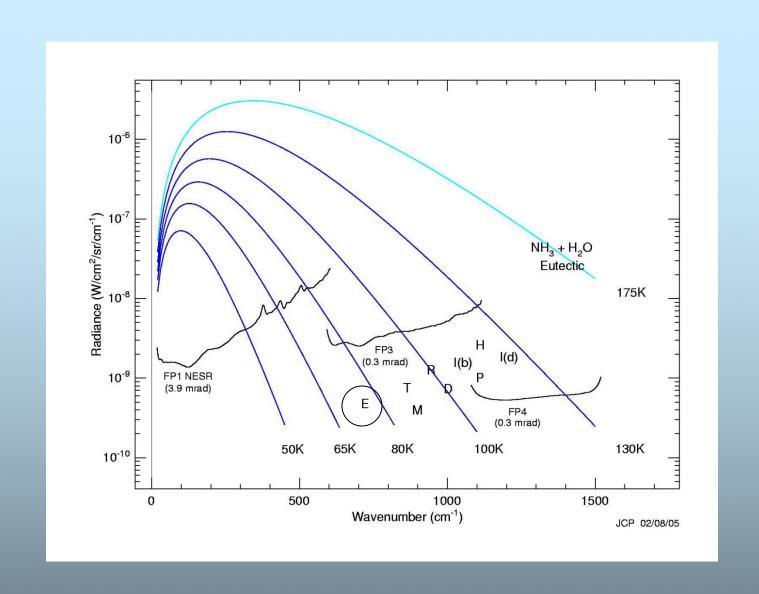
## CIRS Detection Capabilities



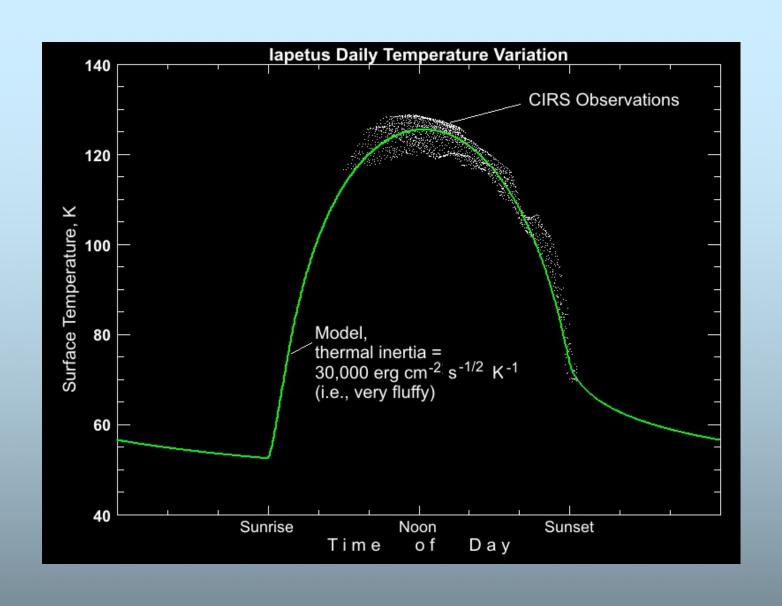
#### Cold Enceladus

- Enceladus is highly reflective, and therefore absorbs little solar energy.
- As a consequence, Enceladus is the coldest of the Saturnian satellites, never warmer than 75K at noon.

## CIRS Detection Capabilities



# Thermal Inertia (Iapetus)

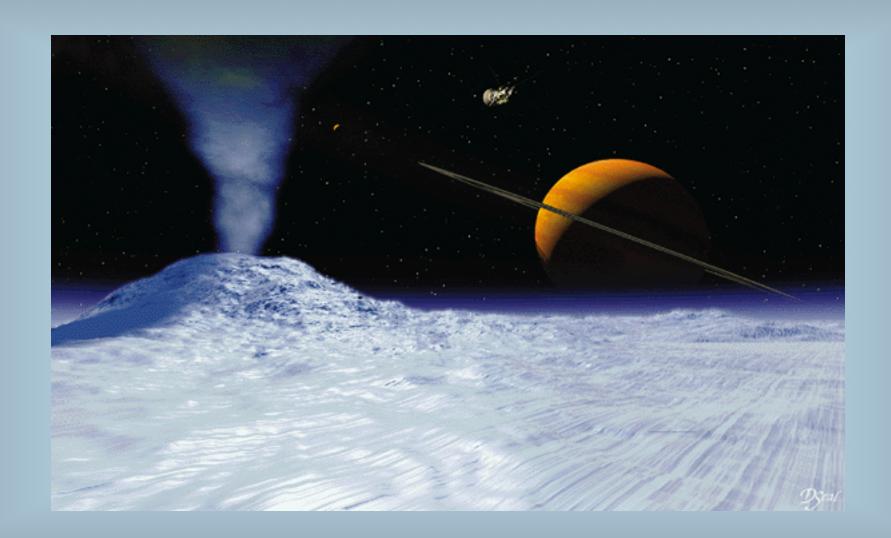


## Enceladus: Source of the E-Ring?

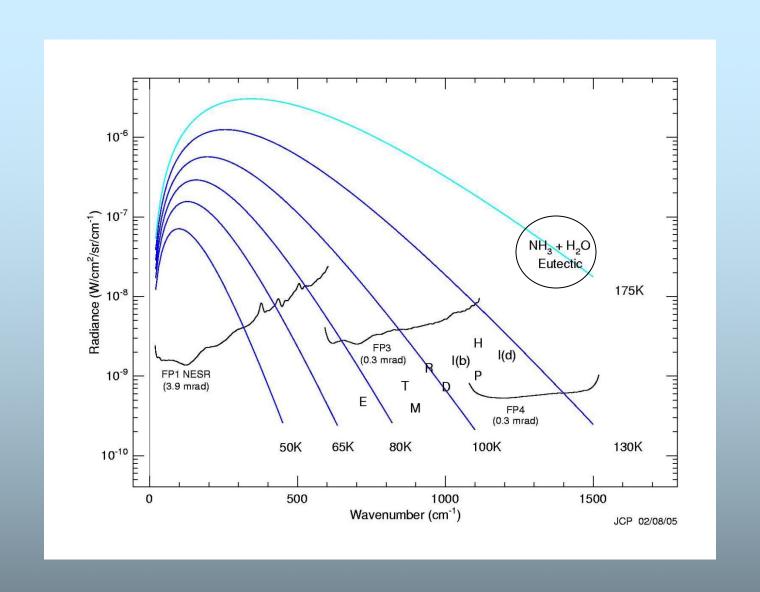
- Self-sustaining? Impacts, and confinement of particles by gravitational and electrostatic forces, maintain the ring.
- Endogenic? Eruptive activity provides ring material.

#### And if Enceladus IS Active?

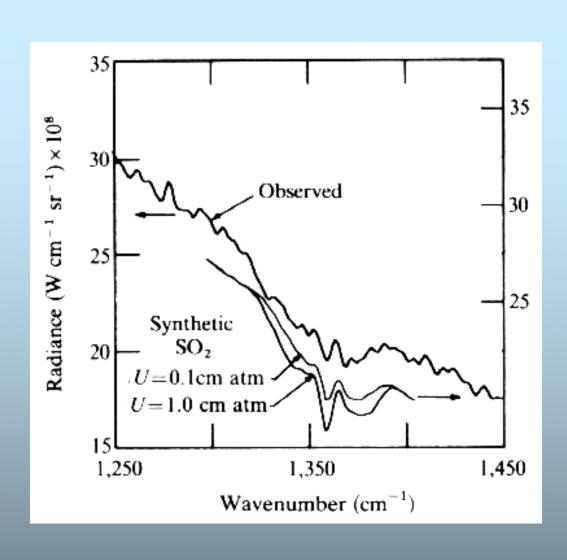
- Effusive ammonia-water solution may flood like "hot lava."
- Violently erupting ammonia-water solution may produce plumes, particles for E-ring.



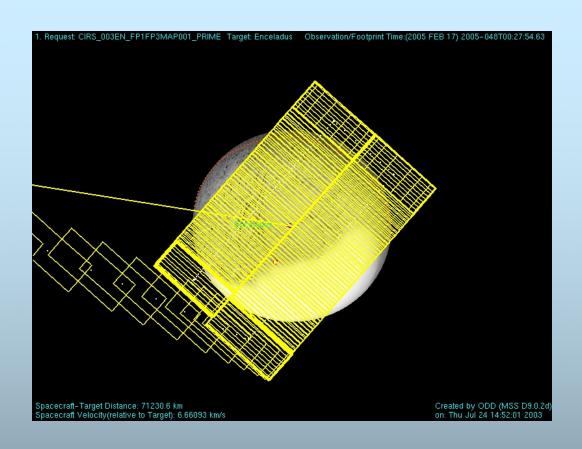
## CIRS Detection Capabilities



#### Detecting Loki's Plume on Io



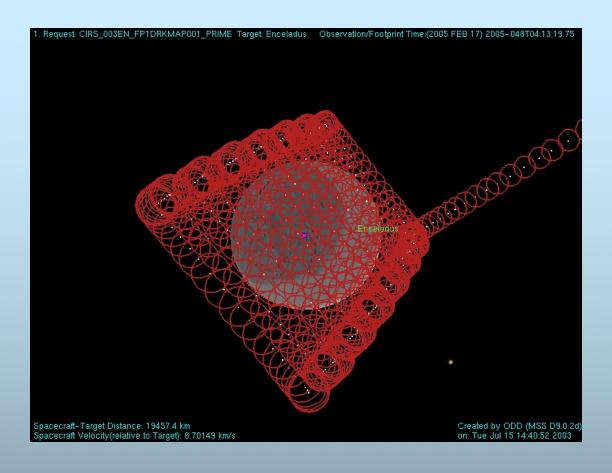
# CIRS\_003EN\_FP1FP3MAP001



Duration=01:15 AD=6-10 mrad Sub S/C=(0, 305), LT=11.0 φ=24°

Disk map to search for "hot spots"

## CIRS 003EN FP1DRKMAP001



Duration=01:00 AD=43-14 mrad Sub S/C=(0, 164), LT=01:00 φ=160°

Disk map for thermal inertia determination; search for passive thermal anomalies.

## Summary: CIRS

- Map surface temperature; determine thermal inertia.
- If active sources are present, determine spatial distribution and energy output.
- Search for spectral signatures on surface and in plumes to determine composition.



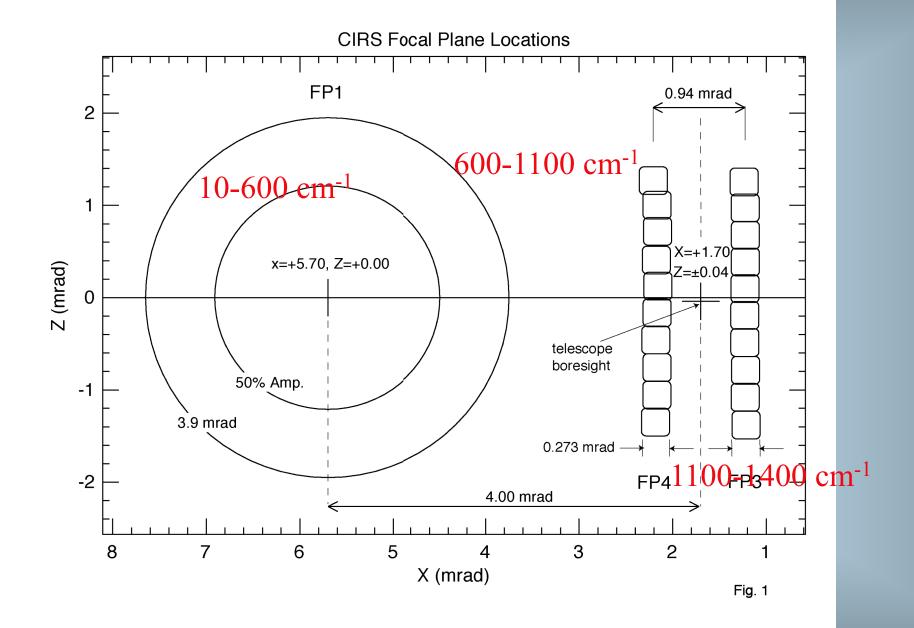


Table 1: CIRS Instrument Characteristics

Telescope Diameter (cm):	50.8				
Interferometers:	Far-IR	1	Mid-IR		
Type:	Polarizing		Michelson		
Spectral range (cm <sup>-1</sup> ):	10 - 600	·	600 -1400		
Spectral range (µm):	17 - 1000		7 - 17		
Spectral resolution (cm <sup>-1</sup> ):	0.5 to 15.5	l	0.5 to 15.5		
Integration time (sec):	2 to 50		2 to 50		
FOCAL PLANES:	<u>FP1</u>		<u>FP3</u>	<u>FP4</u>	
Spectral range(cm <sup>-1</sup> )	10 - 600		600 - 1100	1100 - 1400	
Detectors	Thermopile	1	PC HgCdTe	PV HgCdTe	
Pixels	$2^*$		1 x 10	1 X 10	
Pixel FOV (mrad)	3.9	l	0.273	0.273	
Peak D*(cm Hz <sup>1/2</sup> W <sup>-1</sup> )	$4 \times 10^9$		$2 \times 10^{10}$	$5 \times 10^{11}$	
Data Telemetry Rate (kbs)					
Instrument Temperature (K)					
Focal Planes 3 & 4 Temperature (K)					
ÑÑÑÑÑÑ					

<sup>\*</sup> Single FOV, two polarizations

# Preview of Cassini RADAR Observations of Enceladus

Steve Ostro

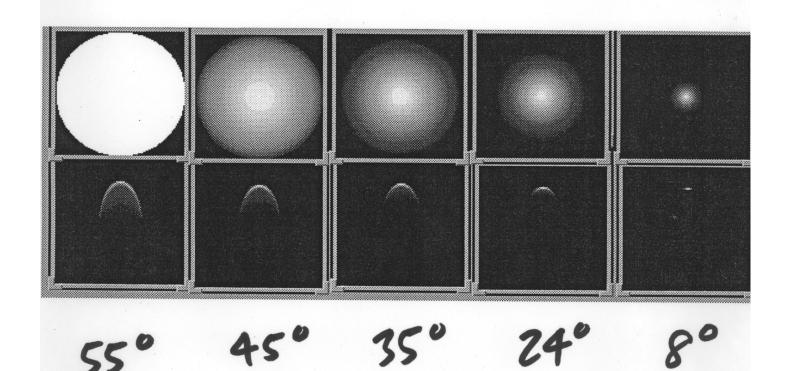
(for the Cassini RADAR Science and Instrument Operations Teams)

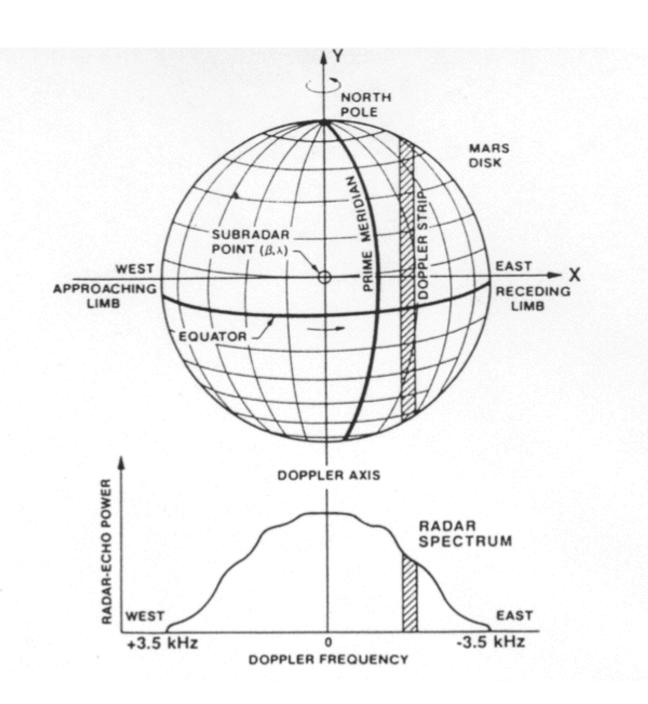
JPL, Feb. 9, 2005

## The RADAR Instrument

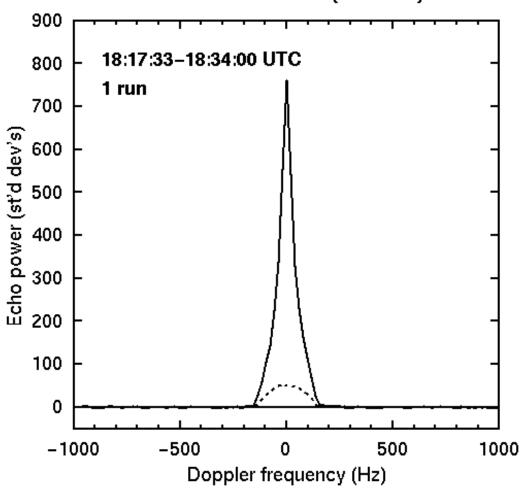
- 13.78 GHz
- 2.176 cm
- 46 watts
- "SL" polarization

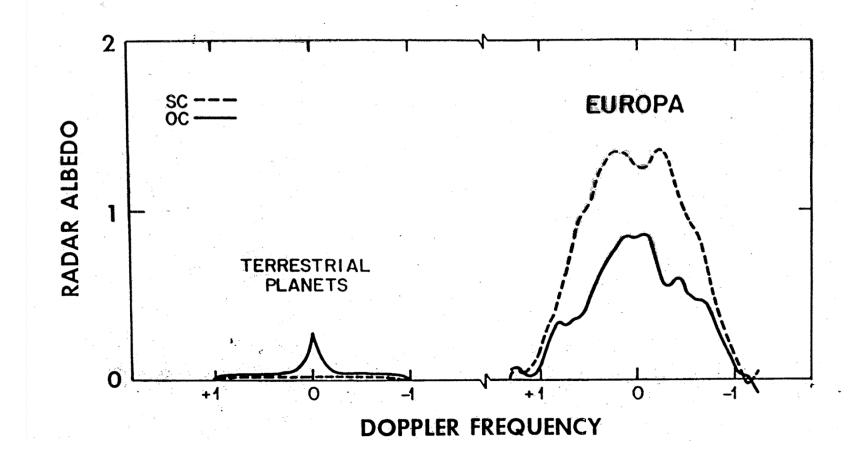
m=1 2 4 10 100



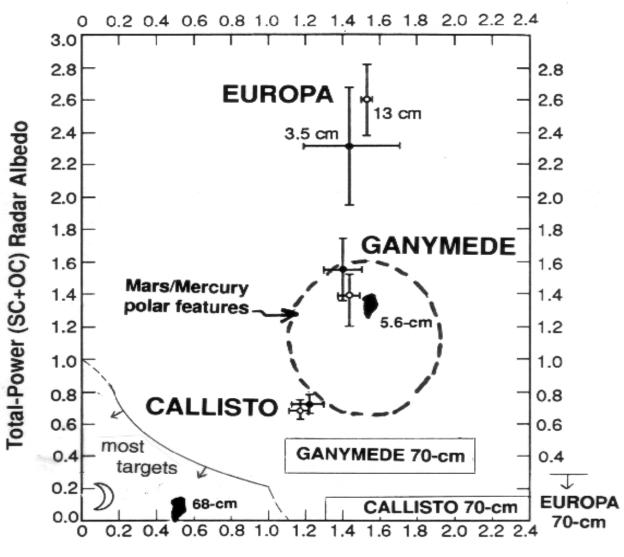


#### GOLDSTONE RADAR DETECTION OF MERCURY 1999 DECEMBER 3 (DOY 337)





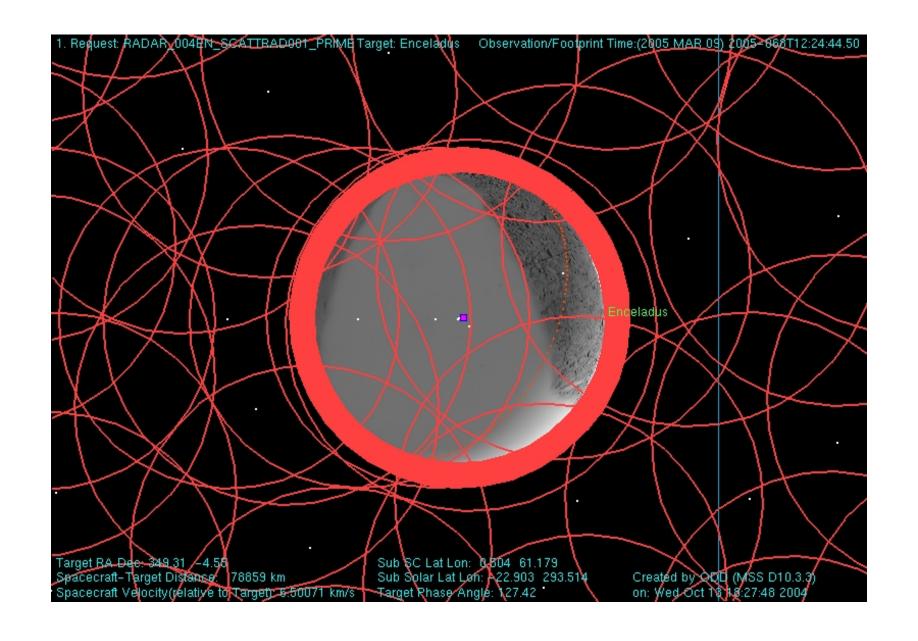
#### RADAR PROPERTIES

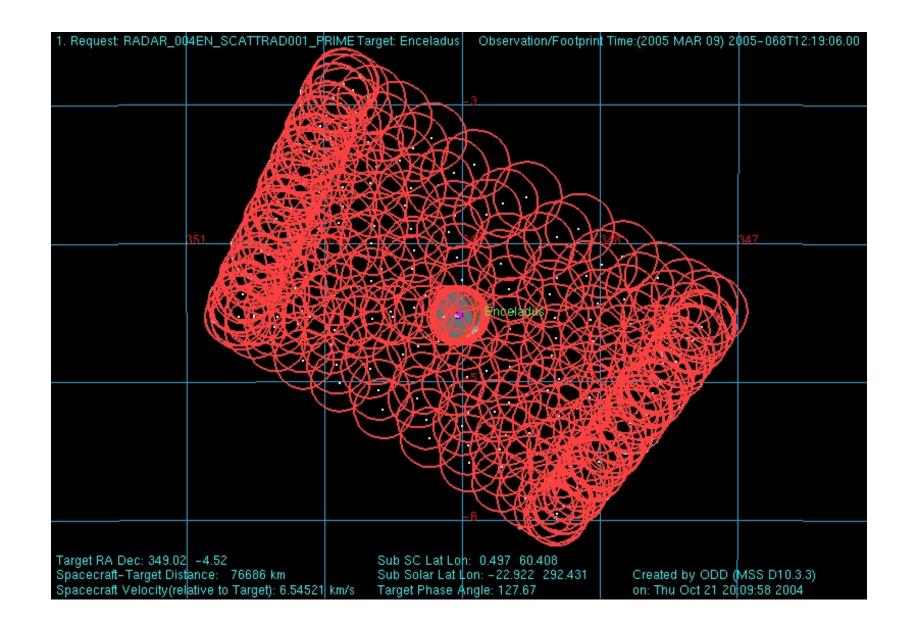


Circular Polarization Ratio,  $\mu_c = SC/OC$ 

Total-Power	r Radar Albedos		
2.30	Europa		
1.55	Ganymede		
1.32	Rhea (Black and Campbell 200	94, <i>BAAS</i> <b>36</b> , 1123)	
0.72	Callisto		
0.28		PHOEBE	
0.22	Titan	<b>PHOEBE</b>	
0.17	<b>Iapetus trailing</b>	<b>PHOEBE</b>	
0.17	<b>NEA</b> average and S MBAs	<b>PHOEBE</b>	
0.16	C MBAs	<b>PHOEBE</b>	
0.14		<b>PHOEBE</b>	
0.13	<b>Iapetus leading</b>		
0.13	smooth ice sphere w/ 30% ammonia		
0.09	<b>BGFPD MBAs</b>		
0.08	Moon		
0.08	smooth ice sphere		
0.06	comets		
0.04	smooth sphere of complex org	ganics	

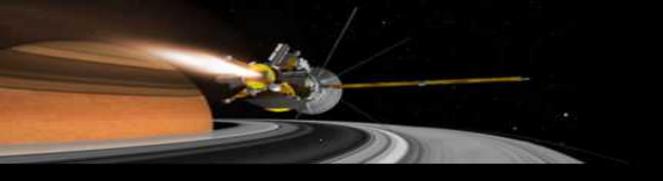
	ENC3	I	ENC4	
Date	2005 Feb 17	2005 Mar 9		
E.Long, Lat	150,0 to 126,0	300,0 to 283,0		
Start-Stop	08:30 to 11:30 UT	15:00 to 23:45		
	(C/A +5:00 to +8:00)	(C/A +3:00 to +5:00)		
Radiometry Duration	150 minutes	84 minutes		
Scatterometry Dur'n	40 minutes	36 minutes		
		c	d	e
		10 min	17 min	9 min
Detection Time	3 min	2 min	3 min	4 min
Distance, km	153,000	76,000	80,000	86,000
Beam/Diameter	2.0	1.0	1.0	1.1
Strategy (target-center stare)	tone	chirp	tone	tone





# Cassini RADAR Observations of "Icy Satellites"

```
Rhea
Enceladus
Dione
            5 (first failed)
Mimas
            4 (first failed)
            3 (first was successful)
Iapetus
Tethys
Hyperion
Phoebe
              (successful)
           30
```



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# CDA @ Enceladus 3: Science overview

Sascha Kempf

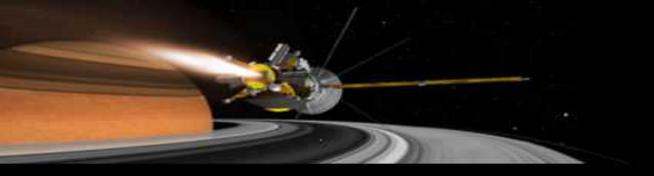
MPI für Kernphysik, Heidelberg, Germany



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# Scientific Background

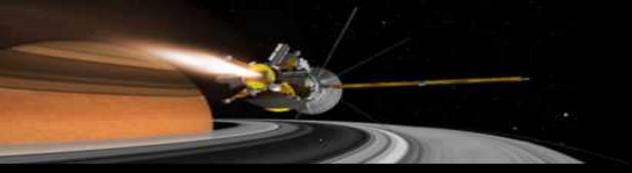
- Enceladus is thought to be the main source of the E ring
  - ring particles produced by impact ejection:
    - micrometeoroids striking moon surface produce secondary dust particles
    - a few escape from the moon's gravity and replenish the ring (Horanyi et al., 1992)
    - mass distribution of fresh dust differs significantly from ring particle mass distribution



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# Objectives

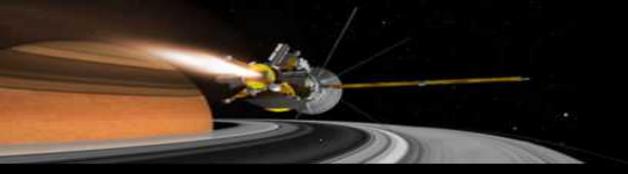
- determine dust production rate of Enceladus
- determine mass distribution of fresh dust
- constrain source of primary meteoroid flux:
  - E ring itself
  - interplanetary particles
  - other
- elemental characterisation of Enceladus' surface



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## Main idea

- most of the freshly produced dust remains gravitationally bound, i.e. is captured inside Enceladus' Hill sphere
- dust flux inside Hill sphere will be enhanced
- mass distribution measured inside Hill sphere is initial mass distribution of the ring

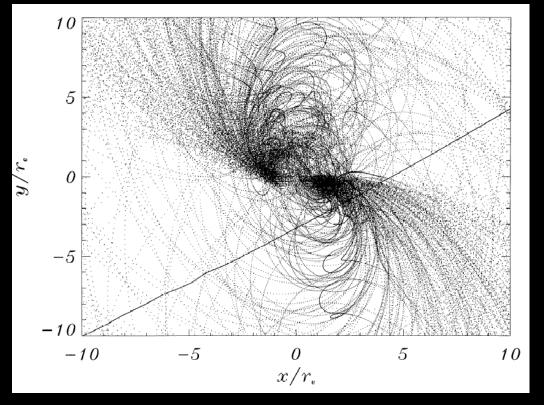


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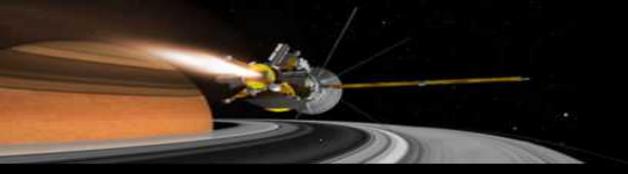
# Spatial distribution of fresh dust

Spahn et al., JGR, 1999

- particles are released preferably into Saturn/ anti-Saturn direction
- peak rate after Enceladus c/a

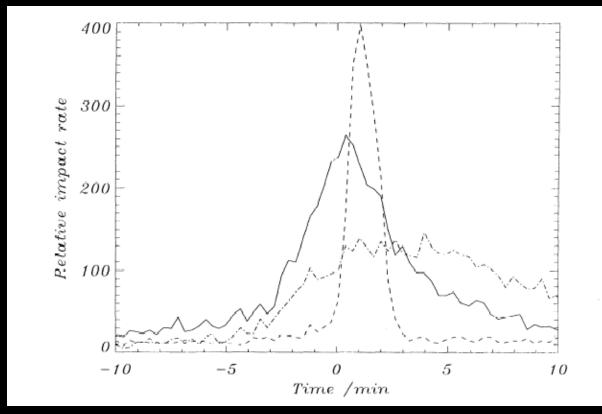


Simulation of "old" E4 flyby



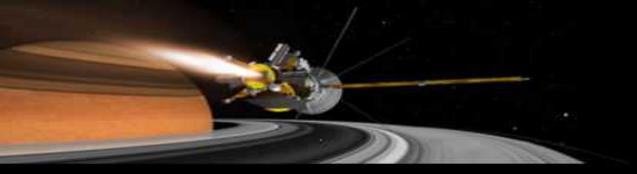
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# Determination of impactor source



Spahn et al., JGR, 1999

- rate as function of time constraints impactor source:
  - solid: isotropic
  - broken: E ring
  - dashed-dot: interplanetary



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## Caveat!

- E3 flyby is by no means optimal to meet our scientific objectives:
  - Cassini does not traverse through Hill sphere
  - pointing before Enceladus c/a not appropriate for observing bound dust
  - we did not perform enough measurements during ring plane crossings to understand the instrument performance in a dust-rich environment sufficiently

## **Enceladus Science Objectives**

- UVIS Icy Satellite Science Objectives are to Investigate
- Surface age and evolution
- Surface composition and chemistry
- Tenuous atmospheres / exospheres

## Surface Age and Evolution

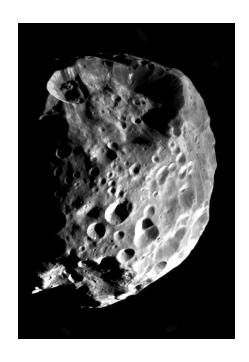
#### General

- The surface albedo of Saturn's icy satellites is affected by radiation and surface chemistry, and thus will vary with the amount of time a surface unit has been exposed to the magnetosphere's radiation and high energy particles. Leading / trailing side asymmetries are expected.
  - Also determined by nature of interactions (e.g. Ganymede radiation exposure affected by its own internal magnetic field)
- Moderate to high resolution global maps of the satellites orbiting in Saturn's magnetosphere will be used to analyze surface exposure, thus age. These global maps will be compared to Iapetus, Phoebe and Hyperion, which all orbit outside the magnetosphere.
- Surface microstructure will be investigated via the phase function. For example Voyager results on the albedo, color and photometric function properties of Enceladus show a degree of uniformity, regardless of surface age, that suggests the possibility of a thin ubiquitous layer of geologically fresh frost.

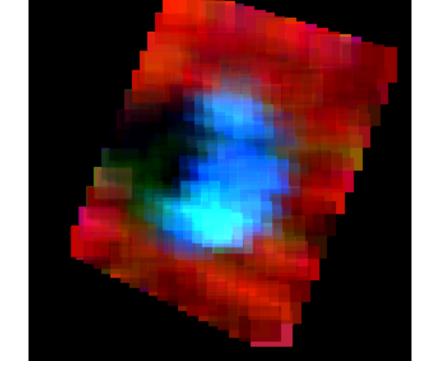
#### Enceladus

- Images of Enceladus suggest an extreme level of surface modification regionally. Regions of very young and very old terrain will be compared. UVIS uv albedo maps will be produced. We will look for uv albedo differences that correlate to geologic ages derived from the imaging data.
- Albedo and phase function should give us insight into Enceladus' interaction with Saturn's E ring.

#### **Example: Phoebe UV Albedo Map**



Similar geometry



Time: C/A-01:22

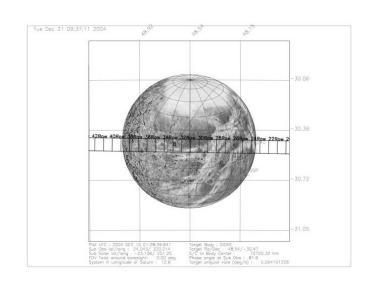
Range: 31,300 km

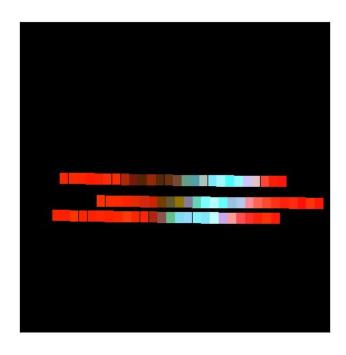
Phase angle: 83°

Lat/Long: 21°S, 349°W

Blue/green=reflected solar Red=background Ly-α (IPH)

## **Dione REGMAP**





## **Surface Composition and Chemistry**

#### General

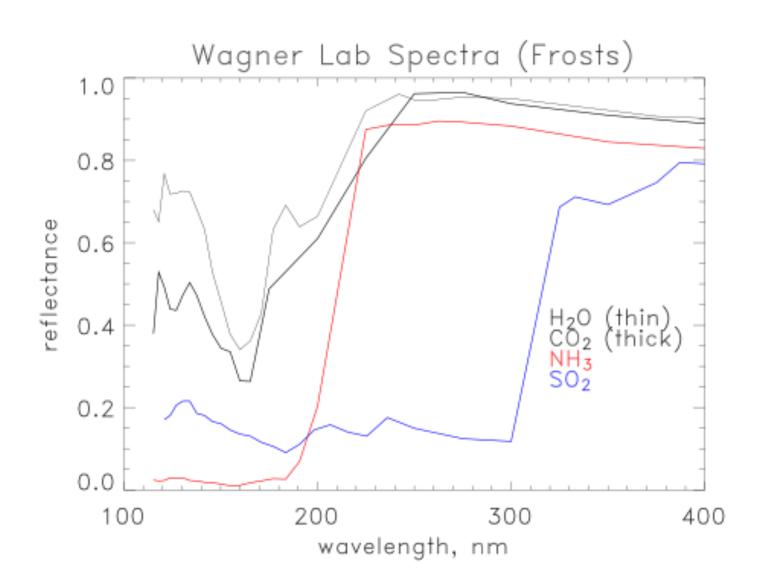
- Investigation of photolysis and radiolysis of water ice is currently a very active area of research, propelled by recent Galileo results, earth-based observations and laboratory work. UV radiation dissociates H<sub>2</sub>O producing H, OH, H<sub>2</sub>, O, and O<sub>2</sub>. H and H<sub>2</sub> are quickly lost to thermal escape.
  - Surface composition and the existence of an atmosphere are affected by sputtering processes. Hydrogen peroxide was identified in the surface ice of Europa. Condensed O<sub>2</sub> has been detected at Ganymede. Spectral absorption suggestive of ozone has been detected by the Galileo UVS on Ganymede, and by HST on Ganymede, Rhea, and Dione. (Note however that these features are at longer uv wavelengths than the UVIS FUV channel.)
  - Cassini offers the opportunity to compare a suite of icy satellites even further from the sun than Jupiter's moons, in a different magnetospheric environment. Being able to compare surface ice oxygen chemistry at a variety of temperatures and radiation environments will help to investigate the process of evolution of surface composition.
- Theoretical and laboratory spectra of various ices are available (e.g. J. Wagner, G. Hansen, S. Warren) and can be compared to UVIS data to map surface composition. Water ice has been detected on all Saturnian satellites we will show how the amount, distribution, and grain size varies.

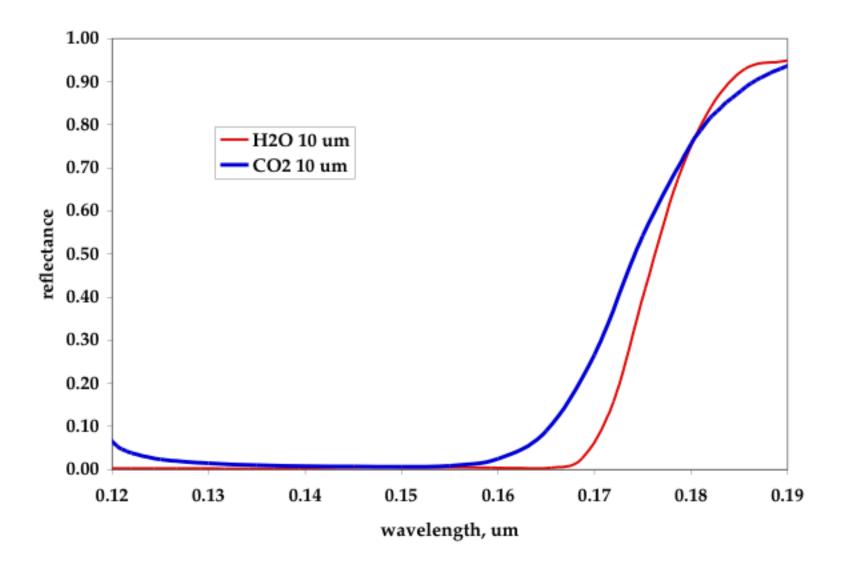
#### Enceladus

- Enceladus is known to have a predominantly water-ice surface. The water spectrum has a distinct upturn at FUV wavelengths, at a wavelength determined by the ice grain size. Predominant grain size will give us insight into surface modification processes.
- UVIS reflectance spectra are at shorter wavelengths than the Galileo UVS so we will be searching for somewhat different constituents. UVIS spectra may show evidence of CO<sub>2</sub>, ammonia, or other interesting species.

## **UV Spectra of Candidate Materials**

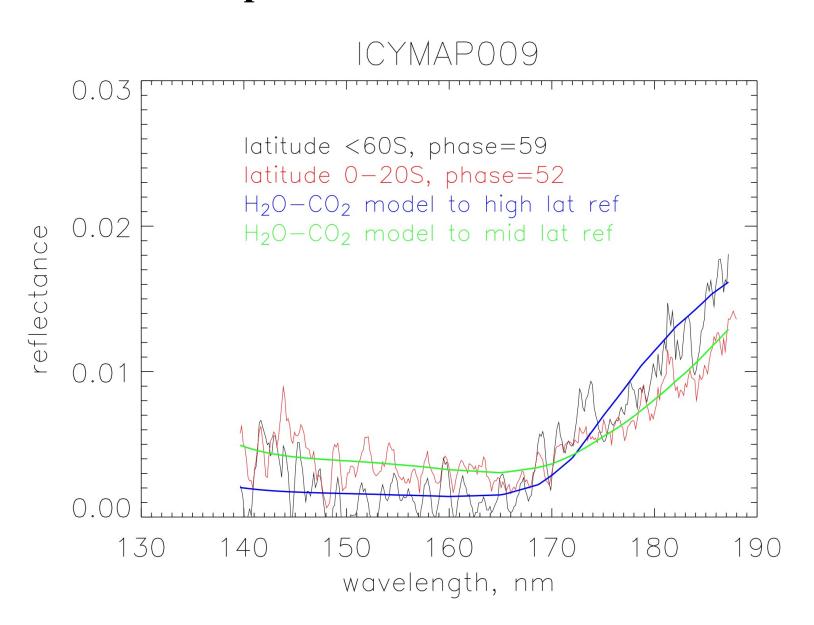
(Wagner, Hapke, Wells, 1987)



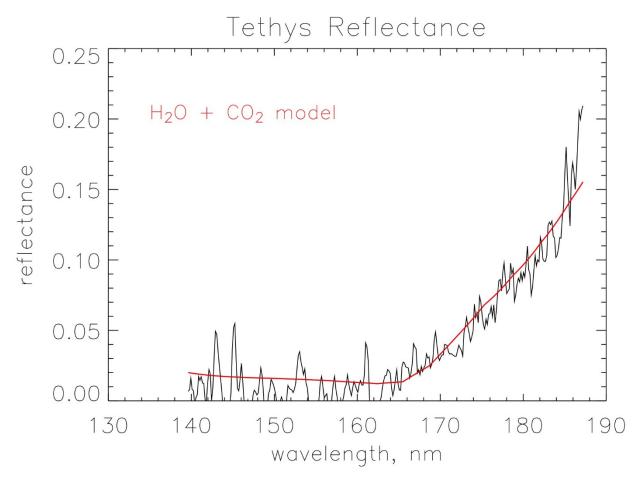


data from Gary Hansen

### Phoebe's spectral variations with latitude



#### Tethys is ~10x brighter than Phoebe at similar phase angle



Need much more H<sub>2</sub>O, less dark material to fit this Tethys spectrum, compared to Phoebe

#### **Tenuous Atmospheres / Exospheres**

#### General

Molecules are sputtered and sublimated from the surfaces of the icy satellites. Molecules sputtered from the surface are a source of neutrals in and influencing the magnetosphere. Determination of atmospheric density, and source and loss rates of atmospheric molecules feeds into models of the magnetospheric interaction. By determining the composition of these exospheres we may determine surface composition. Of particular interest are trace constituents such as NH<sub>3</sub>. For example, an ammonia-water ice composition has been proposed to explain the young geology on Enceladus. The existence of an atmosphere may be indicative of active surface processes, such as the volcanoes on Io or the geysers on Triton (sputtering models indicate that only Rhea has the potential to retain a sputtered atmosphere, thus detection of an atmosphere will lead us to suspect eruptive activity).

#### Enceladus

- Enceladus' position at the peak of Saturn's E ring has always been a "smoking gun" as a potential source of the E ring. Its regionally young geology is also a tantalizing reason to link potential active geologic phenomena to the E ring. Sputtering is not a likely source for a detectable oxygen atmosphere theoretical yields suggest that this process is not sufficient to be an important source of volatiles.
- The UVIS stellar occultation will be analyzed for absorption features that could show the existence of a tenuous atmosphere, which would then be a strong indicator of eruptive activity
- UVIS spectra will be examined for emission features such as 130.4 and 135.6 nm (atomic and molecular oxygen), 149.3 nm (atomic nitrogen), etc.

## **Example: Europa Oxygen Features**

