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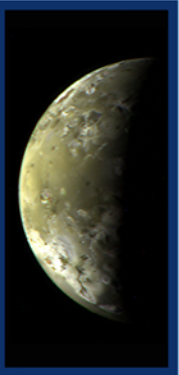
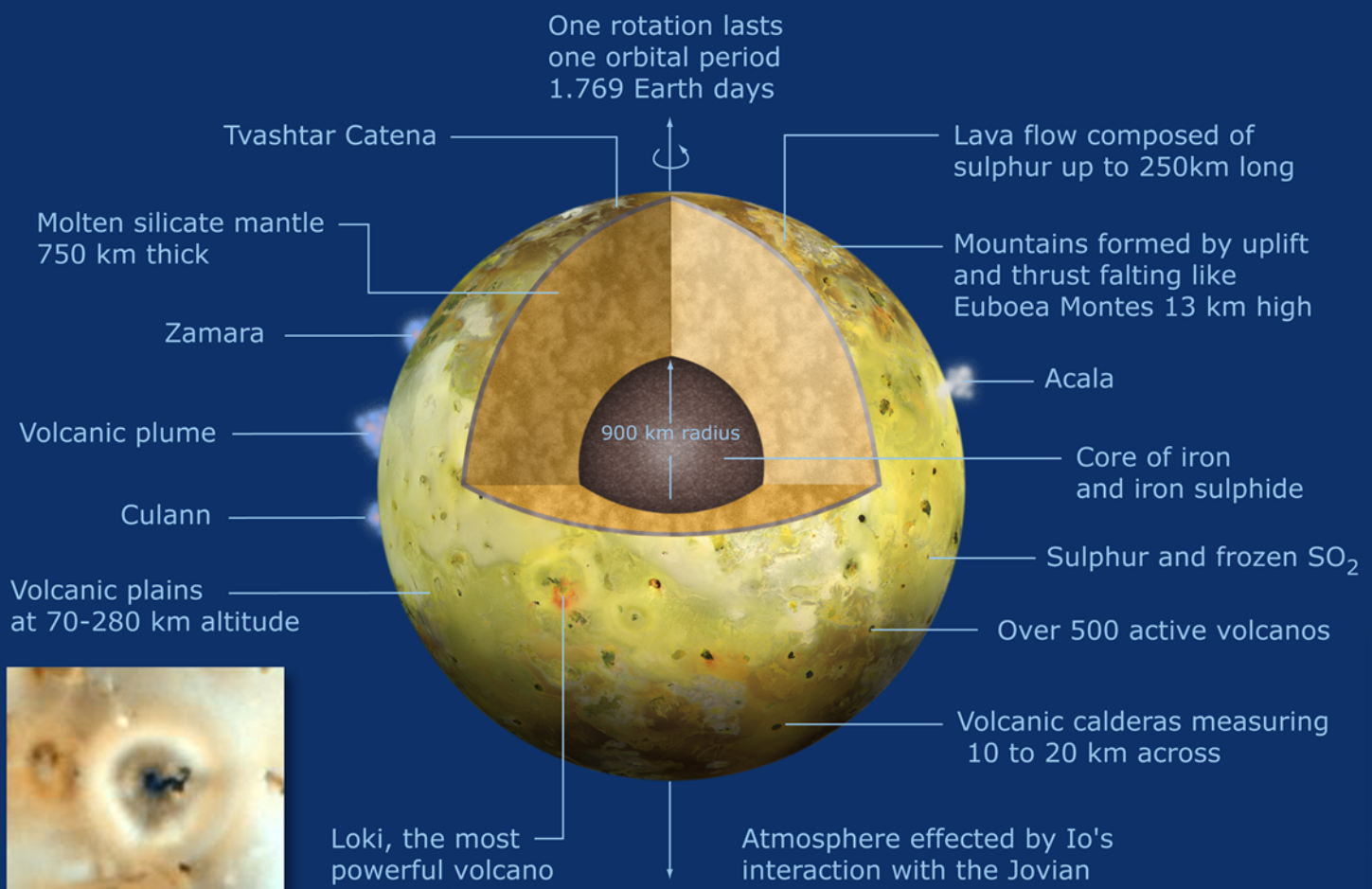
Summary Information Sheet

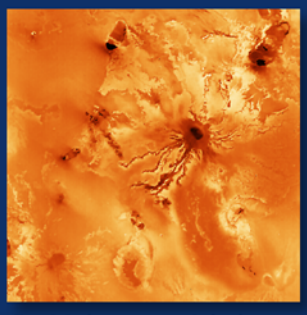
IO

Io is the third largest moon of Jupiter and the innermost of the Galilean satellites. Its surface is covered by deposits from erupting volcanos, lava flows and volcanic vents. They are the result of heat released by tidal forces which squeeze this moon as it moves closer to and further away from Jupiter in its orbit.

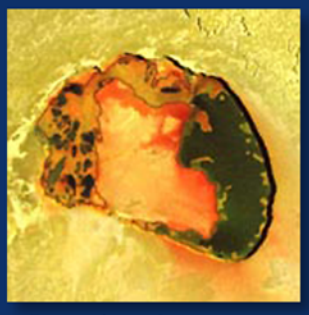




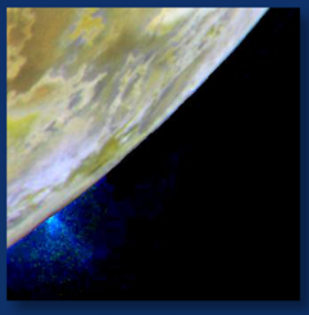
Prometheus



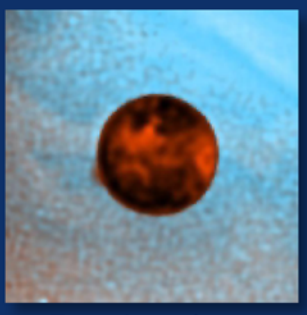
Io Volcano with lava flow: Ra Petera



Io volcanic crater



Eruption



Eruption plume observed by HST

Physical Data — **For comparison**

Property	Io	Moon	Mercury
Dist. from central body	422,000 km	384,000 km	58 million km
Orbital period	1,77 days	27 days 8 hrs	59 days
Equatorial radius	1820 km	1738 km	2240 km
Mass	$4,7 \times 10^{15}$ kg	7.35×10^{22} kg	3.30×10^{23} kg
Density	3530 kg/m^3	3340 kg/m^3	5430 kg/m^3

Images: ESO, ESA, NASA, except otherwise stated[ICEF]

Concept: B. Mackowiak