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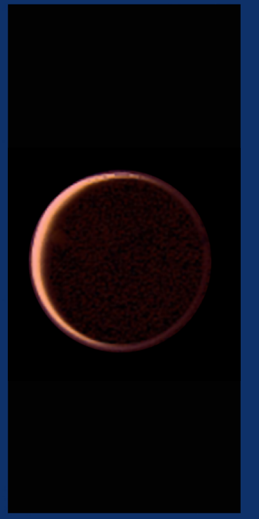


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Summary Information Sheet

TITAN - Moon of Mysteries

Titan is the largest of Saturn's moons. It is the second-largest satellite in the solar system. Much larger than the planets Mercury and Pluto. Titan is the only moon with a substantial atmosphere.



Christiaan Huygens (1629-95)
discoverer of Titan

Mysterious surface with oceans and rivers of liquid methane and hills of solid methane?

Dark surface features with provisional names like "Lying H", "Ball", "Dog", "Dragon's Head"
Bright surface features are ice, black surface features are hydrocarbons?

Atmosphere ~ 200 km thick and reddish.
90% nitrogen with methane, perhaps argon



Saturn with Titan

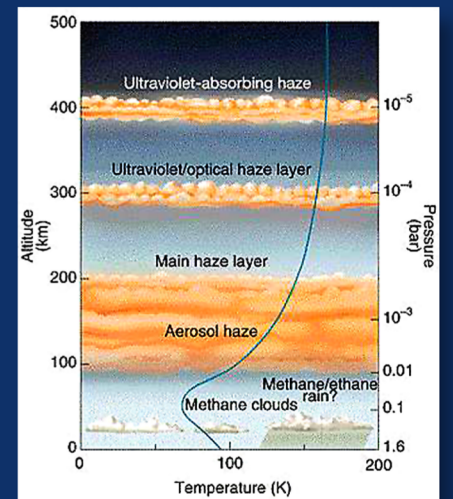
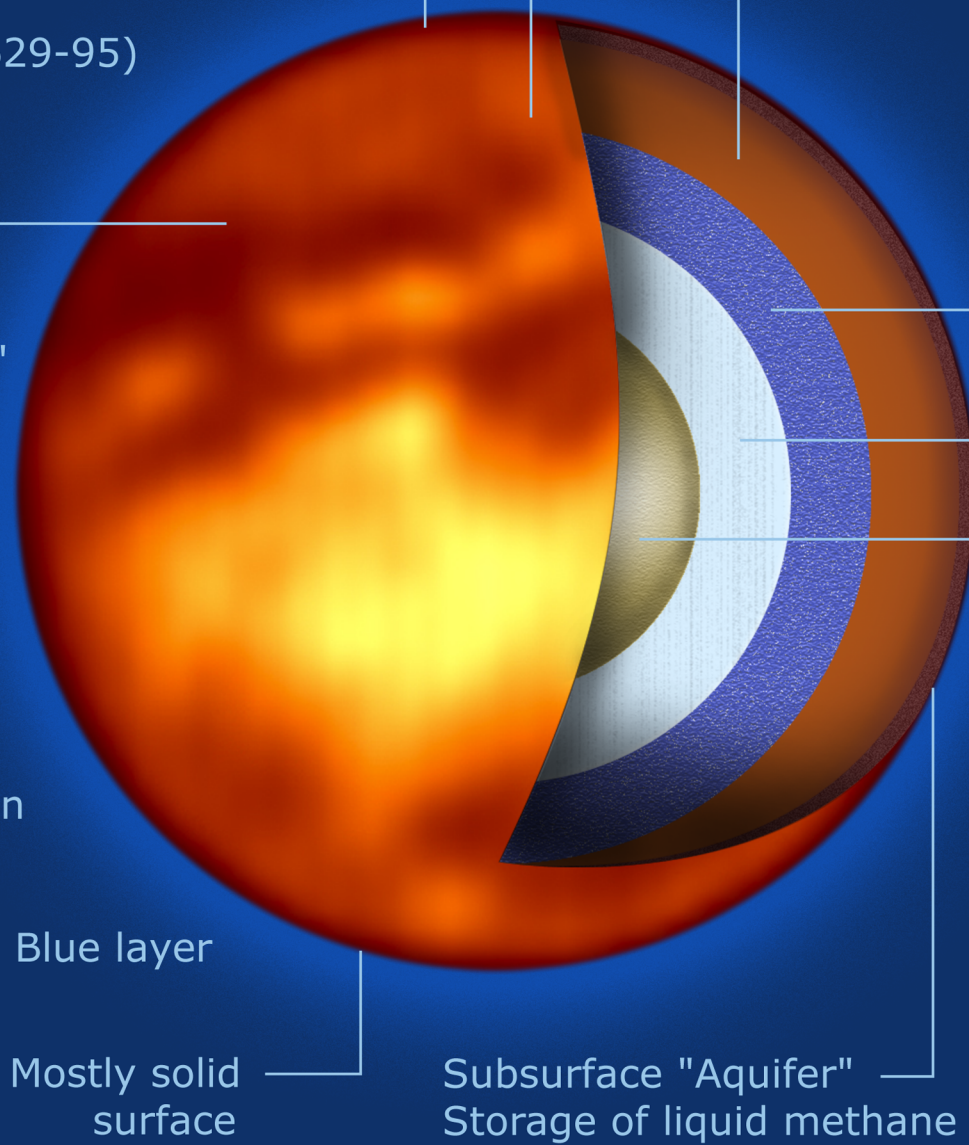
Northern Hemisphere darker and redder

250 km - methane, water (and ice?)

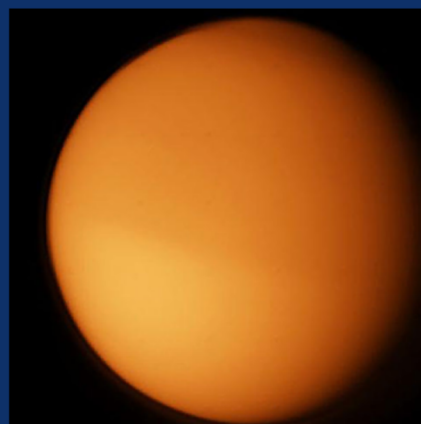
200 km - ammonium, water ocean

250 km - ammonium, water ice

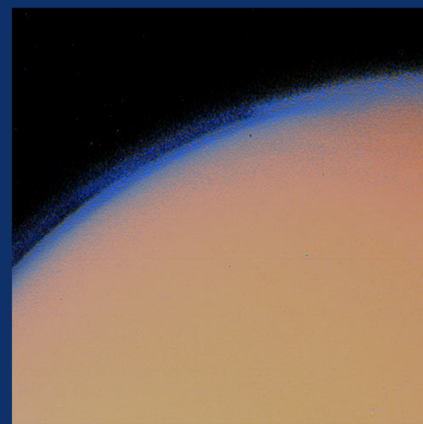
Rocky Core ~ 1900 km



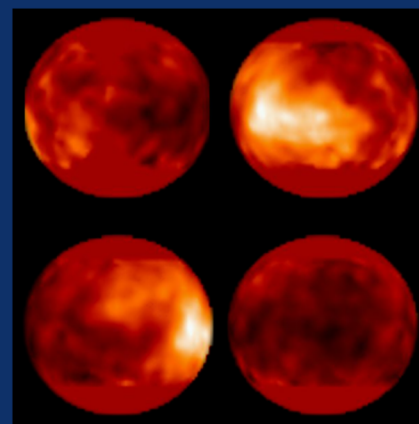
Titan's Atmosphere



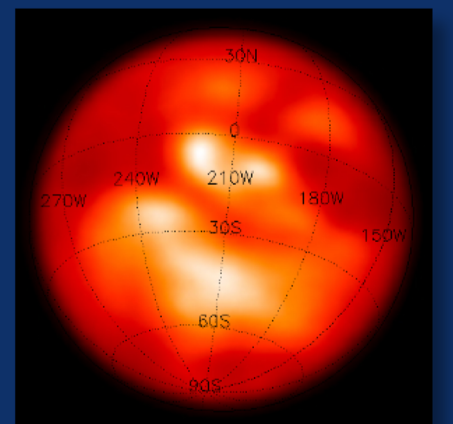
Titan seen with Voyager



Titan's limb



Titan seen with HST



Titan seen with the VLT

Physical Data

Property
Distance from central body
Rotation period
Equatorial radius
Mass
Density

Titan
1,221,7800 km
15,95 days
2575 km
1.35×10^{23} kg
1881 kg/m ³

For comparison

Moon
384,000 km
27 days 8 hrs
1738 km
7.35×10^{22} kg
3340 kg/m ³

Mercury
58 million km
59 days
2240 km
3.30×10^{23} kg
5430 kg/m ³