

Supporting Information for ”Using Tidally-Driven Elastic Strains to Infer Regional Variations in Crustal Thickness at Enceladus”

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Introduction

In S1, we outline our methodology for generating synthetic ‘true’ models of Enceladus’s crust (1.1) and calculating the linear transfer function $\kappa(\boldsymbol{\Omega})$ in Equation 7 from the main text (1.2). In S2, we present the results of our iterative procedure for recovering crustal thickness using for a synthetic crustal model with a mean thickness $\tilde{D} = 50$ km (2.1).

Text S1

S1.1: Synthetic ‘True’ Crustal Thickness Model

To generate ‘true’ crustal thickness models (see Figures 2 and 3 of the main text), we first apply topography $H(\boldsymbol{\Omega})$ to the outer surface of spherically symmetric models.

Note that we can write $H(\boldsymbol{\Omega})$ as a sum over spherical harmonic basis functions scaled by coefficients h_{lm} :

$$H(\boldsymbol{\Omega}) = \sum_{l=0}^{\infty} \sum_{m=-l}^l h_{lm} Y_{lm}(\boldsymbol{\Omega}) \quad (1)$$

We extract h_{lm} in Equation 1 for $l = 2 - 60$ from an updated version of topography at Enceladus using all available Cassini imagery (Park et al., personal communication). Our approach for inferring crustal thickness from strain is agnostic to the details of assumed topography. Details of the topography used in this study are therefore not important and are not intended to promote any particular model for Enceladus's shape. From h_{lm} , we generate components d_{lm}^{true} in Equation 1 of the main text assuming a modified formulation for Airy-type compensation of surface topography (Hemingway & Matsuyama, 2017):

$$d_{lm}^{true} = h_{lm} + h_{lm} \frac{\rho_{ice}}{(\rho_w - \rho_{ice})} \frac{g}{g_{int}} \frac{R^2}{(R - \tilde{D})^2} (l - 1)^{-N} \quad (2)$$

where g_{int} is radial gravitational acceleration at the ice-ocean boundary, ρ_{ice} is the mean density of the ice shell, and ρ_w is the mean density of the ocean (see Table 1 of the main text for assumed parameter values), and N is a dimensionless constant. Equation 2 demonstrates that the amplitude of variations in crustal thickness across l depends on the chosen value of N . As N decreases, the amplitude of variations in crustal thickness at large values of l (i.e., short-wavelengths) increases rapidly. For models with $\tilde{D} = 25$ km, an assumed value of $N < 1.0$ produces negative (i.e., non-physical) crustal thickness near the South and North Poles. We aim to estimate the maximum extent short-wavelength variations in crustal thickness bias inferences of crustal thickness via gradient effects. We therefore generate a model with $N = 1.0$ for this work.

S1.2: Computation of $\kappa(\mathbf{\Omega})$

The quantity $\kappa(\mathbf{\Omega})$ is the linear transfer function which captures the sensitivity of strain fields to the angular position $\mathbf{\Omega}$ of crustal thickness variations in Enceladus's crust. We can approximate the impact of $\kappa(\mathbf{\Omega})$ by applying a high-pass filter G to the ratio of the observed strain field $E^{obs}(\mathbf{\Omega})$ and $E^{Base}(\mathbf{\Omega})$:

$$\kappa(\mathbf{\Omega}) = \frac{E(\mathbf{\Omega})}{E^{Base}(\mathbf{\Omega})} \cdot \exp\left(G \left(\log \frac{E^{Base}(\mathbf{\Omega})}{E(\mathbf{\Omega})} \right)\right) \quad (3)$$

Note that we can write the log-ratio of $E^{obs}(\mathbf{\Omega})$ and $E^{Base}(\mathbf{\Omega})$ as a sum of spherical harmonics scaled by coefficients ν_{lm} :

$$\log \frac{E^{Base}(\mathbf{\Omega})}{E^{obs}(\mathbf{\Omega})} = \sum_{l=0}^{\infty} \sum_{m=-l}^l \nu_{lm} Y_{lm}(\mathbf{\Omega}) \quad (4)$$

Because tidal forcing occurs at $l = 2$, we expect that the differential amount of $E(\mathbf{\Omega})$ produced by the location of thickness variations principally affects ν_{2m} and its first few harmonics (i.e., at even spherical harmonic degrees). We therefore designate the action of G in Equation 4 to remove ν_{2m} (and its harmonics) from Equation 3 up to a maximum spherical harmonic degree L'_{max} :

$$\begin{aligned} & G \left(\sum_{l=0}^{\infty} \sum_{m=-l}^l \nu_{lm} Y_{lm}(\mathbf{\Omega}) \right) \\ & \rightarrow \sum_{l=0}^{\infty} \sum_{m=-l}^l \nu'_{lm} Y_{lm}(\mathbf{\Omega}) \quad \text{where} \quad \begin{cases} \nu'_{lm} = 0, & \text{if } l \% 2 = 0 \text{ and } l \leq L'_{max} \\ \nu'_{lm} = \nu_{lm}, & \text{otherwise} \end{cases} \end{aligned} \quad (5)$$

For this work, we set $L'_{max} = 4$; however, we find that our selection of L'_{max} does not significantly impact final results for $L'_{max} = 4 - 10$ following the iterative procedure described in section 3.2 in the main text.

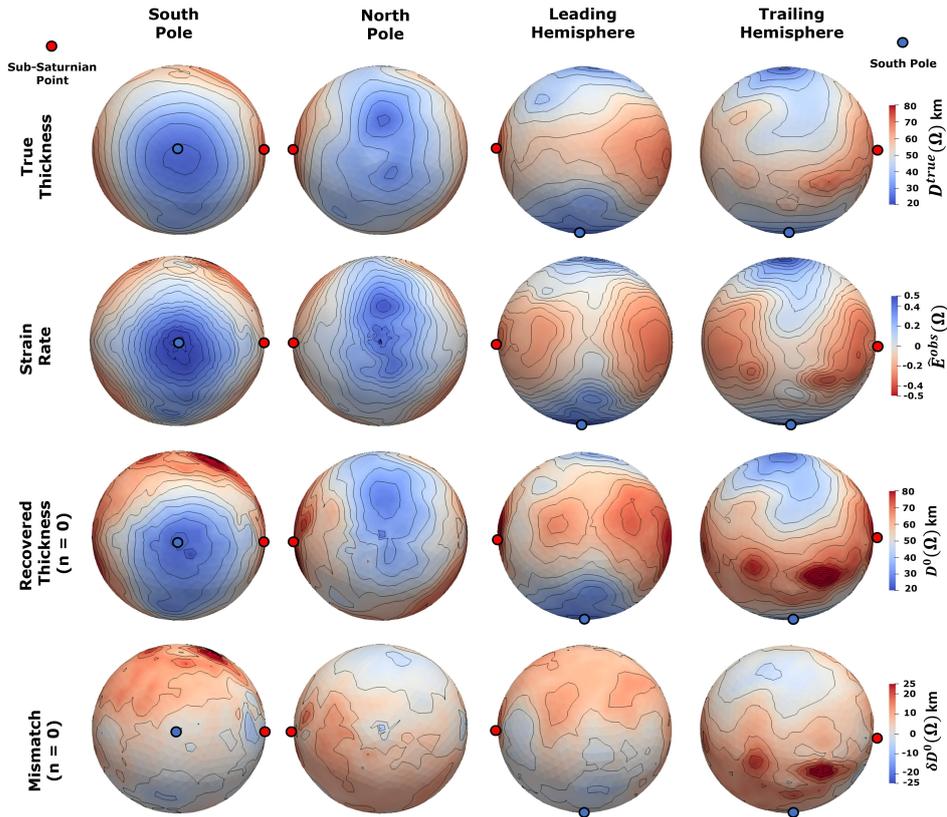


Figure S1. Similar to Figure 2 of the main text except $\tilde{D} = 50$ km for ‘true’ models.

Text S2

S2.1: Results for model with $\tilde{D} = 50$ km

We reproduce Figures 2, 3, and 4 (i.e., Figures S1, S2, and S3) using for a synthetic crustal model with a mean thickness $\tilde{D} = 50$ km.

References

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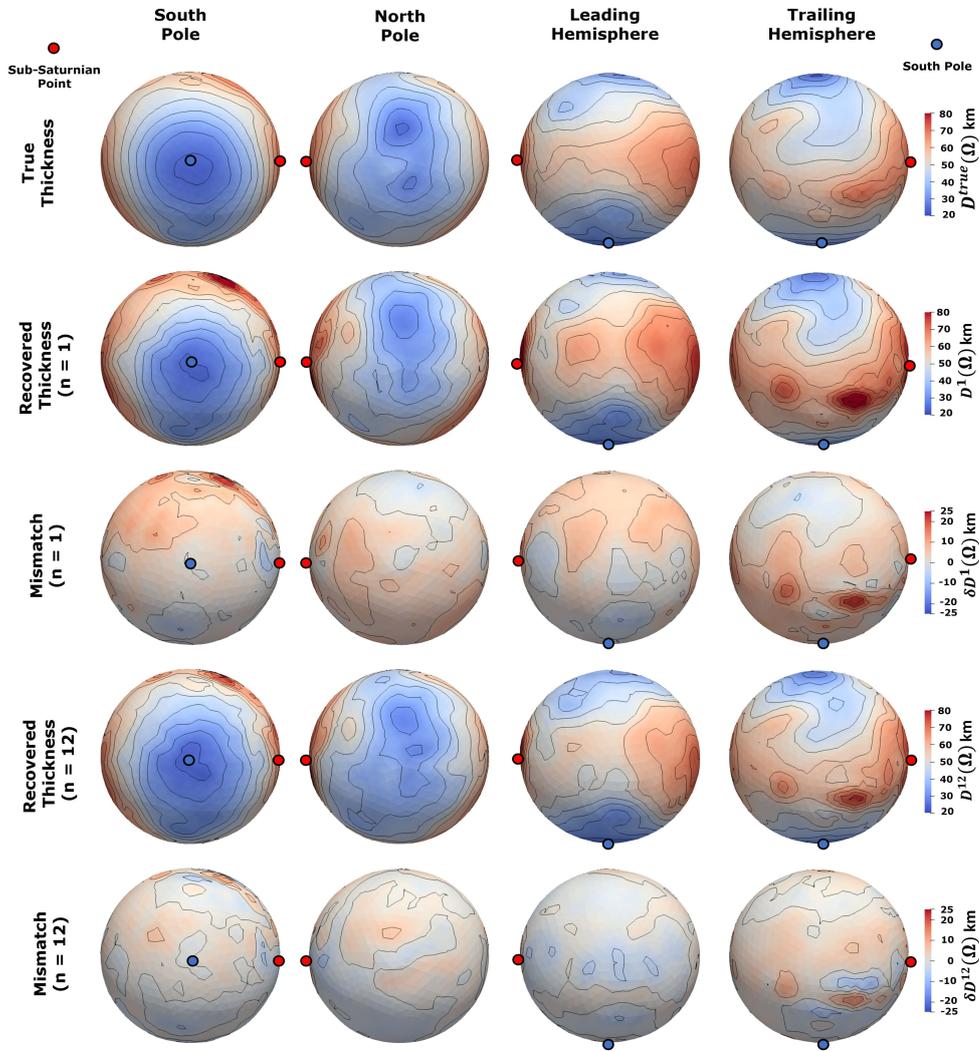


Figure S2. Similar to Figure 3 of the main text except $\tilde{D} = 50$ km for ‘true’ models

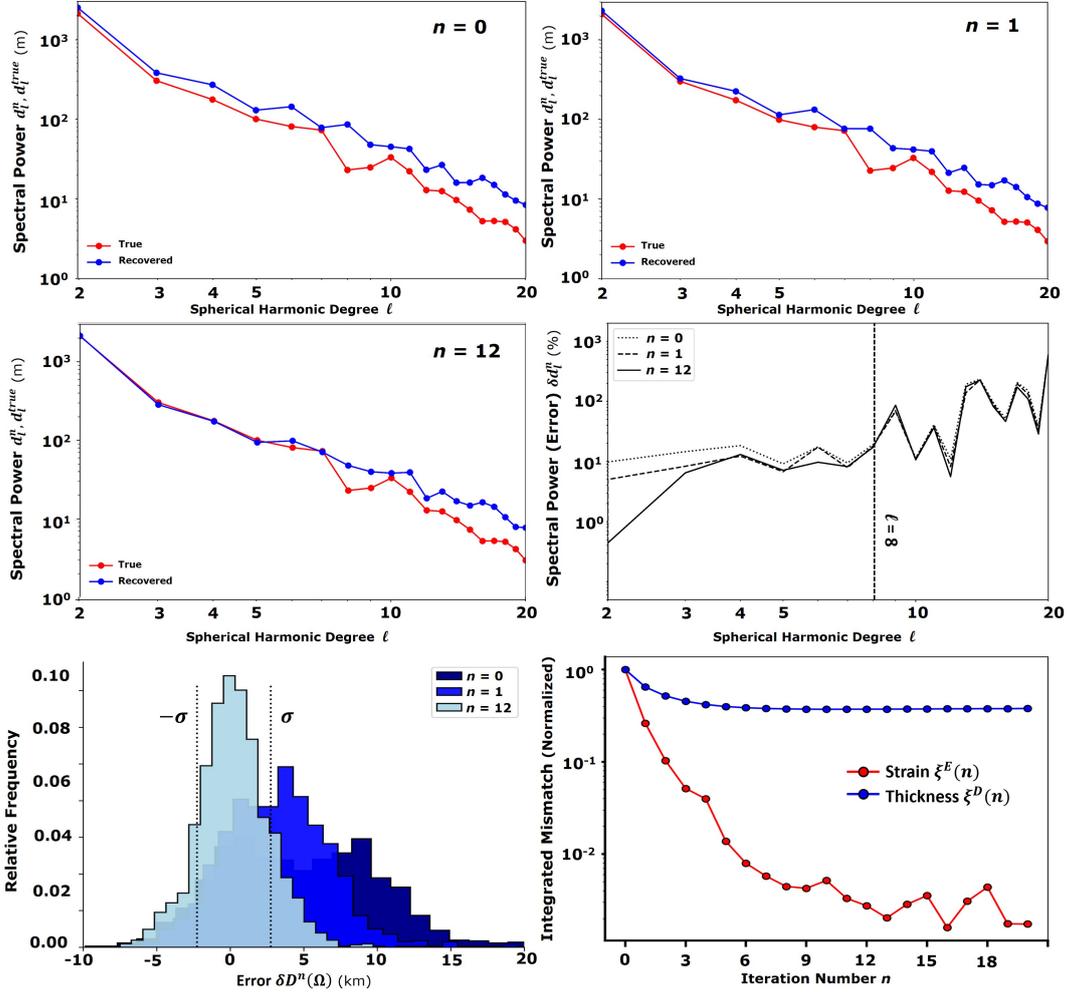


Figure S3. Similar to Figure 4 of the main text except $\tilde{D} = 50$ km for ‘true’ models and lower right panel shows the cost function and integrated thickness mismatch (normalized relative to the maximum value) for iterations $n = 0 - 20$. Vertical dash-dot line at $l = 8$ marked for reference in center right panel.

Table S1. Assumed values for parameters used throughout this work. Parameter values extracted from Schenk et al., (2018); Iess et al., (2014); and Souček et al., (2016).

Parameter	Value	Units
R	252.1	km
\tilde{D}	25.0	km
G	3.3	GPa
μ	8.6	GPa
ρ_{ice}	925	kg/m ³
ρ_w	1007	kg/m ³
g	0.113	m/s ²
g_{int}	0.120	m/s ²
e	0.0047	N/A
ω	$5.307 \cdot 10^{-5}$	s ⁻¹

P. (2014). The gravity field and interior structure of Enceladus. *Science*, *344*(6179). doi: 10.1126/science.1250551

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