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Title

**A global system of furrows on Ganymede indicative of their creation in a single impact event**

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1 **Proposed Running Head:** Furrows on Ganymede

2

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9

10

11 **Key Words**

12 Ganymede

13 Impact processes

14 Geological processes

15 Cratering

16

17 **Highlight**

18 ■ We studied the global distribution of ancient tectonic troughs, furrows on

19 Ganymede

20 ■ We found that furrows used to be a global-scale multi-ring structure.

21 ■ If it is impact origin, an 150-km radius impactor is plausible

22

23 **Abstract**

24 Furrows are a concentric system of tectonic troughs, and are the  
25 oldest recognizable surface feature on Ganymede. We analyzed the  
26 distribution of furrows utilizing Voyager and Galileo images and found that  
27 furrows over Ganymede's surface are part of a global concentric circular  
28 structure. If this multi-ring structure is impact origin, this is the largest  
29 impact structure identified so far in the solar system. Deviations of the  
30 shapes of the furrows from the concentricity are small everywhere, which  
31 implies that the relative location of the blocks of the dark terrains over the  
32 entire surface of Ganymede has not changed appreciably even during  
33 formation of the bright terrains. The estimate of the impactor size is difficult,  
34 but an 150km-radius impactor is consistent with the observed properties of  
35 furrows. The furrow-forming impact should have significant effects on the  
36 satellite's geological and internal evolution, which are expected to be  
37 confirmed by future explorations of Jupiter's icy moons, such as the JUICE  
38 (Jupiter Icy moon Explorer) or Europa Clipper mission.

## 39 1. Introduction

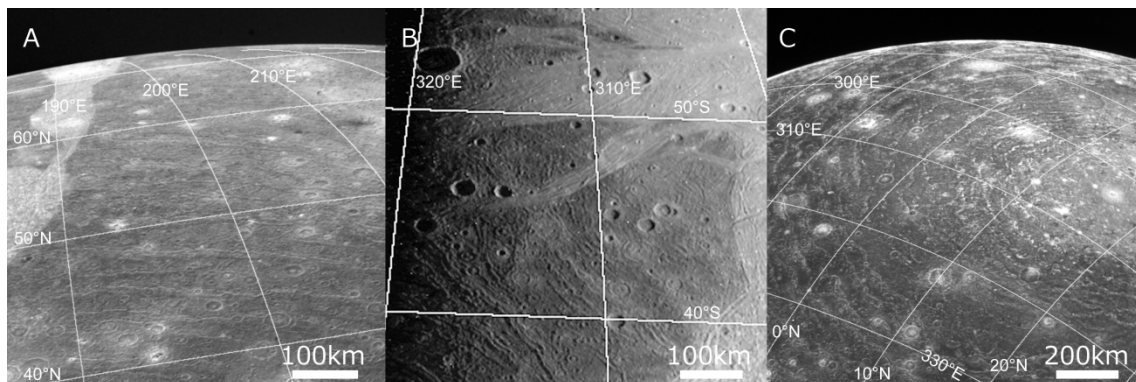
40 Several spacecraft such as Voyager and Galileo spacecraft and  
41 ground-based observations revealed Ganymede's remarkable properties. One  
42 of the most notable surface structures on Ganymede is a concentric system of  
43 tectonic troughs, termed furrows (Fig. 1AB). Furrows exist only on  
44 geologically old terrains, termed dark terrains. The dark terrains, consisting  
45 of 33-34 % of Ganymede's total surface, are heavily cratered and well  
46 preserve many ancient craters, as on Callisto (Frieden and Swindell, 1976;  
47 Pappalardo et al., 2004; Passey and Shoemaker, 1982; Shoemaker and Wolfe,  
48 1982; Smith et al., 1979a; Smith et al., 1979b). Because furrows are crosscut  
49 by any recognizable impact craters exceeding 10 km in diameter, they are  
50 regarded as the oldest recognizable surface features on Ganymede (Passey  
51 and Shoemaker, 1982). The rest of Ganymede's surface, termed bright  
52 terrains, is young terrains that have numerous tectonic features called  
53 grooves and lack furrows.

54 It was proposed that some of the furrows are fragments of multi-ring  
55 impact basin structures similar to the Valhalla or Asgard basins on Callisto  
56 (Fig 1C), which are thought to be formed by collapse of a crater basin when  
57 the excavation depth is comparable to the thickness of the lithosphere of the  
58 satellite (McKinnon and Melosh, 1980; Melosh, 1982; Smith et al., 1979a).  
59 According to Voyager-era studies, the largest one exists across Galileo Regio  
60 and Marius Regio (so-called the Galileo-Marius furrow system) and it has at  
61 least hemispherical scale (Schenk and McKinnon, 1987; Zuber and  
62 Parmentier, 1984). On the other hand, Voyager images did not cover all of

63 the dark terrain blocks, such as Galileo, Perrine, or Nicholson Regio.  
64 Therefore, they do not constrain the scale of Galileo-Marius system. Galileo  
65 images covered the regions not imaged by Voyagers and showed that the  
66 dark terrain is ubiquitously distributed over the surface of Ganymede and  
67 most of them have furrows. However, there are still some areas of dark  
68 terrain that are not sufficiently imaged by either mission. For example, few  
69 furrows have been found in Melotte Regio, which is presumably because the  
70 resolution, illumination, and/or emission of images were not suitable for  
71 detecting furrows yet. Future remote-sensing observations may find many  
72 more furrows in the dark terrains.

73 In the present work, first we reanalyze the distribution of furrows  
74 utilizing both Voyager and Galileo images, and update our knowledge about  
75 the scale of this structure (Section 2). We show that this is a structure not in  
76 a hemispherical scale but in a global scale, and that it would have been  
77 formed by a single large impact. In addition, we estimate the impactor size  
78 based on the model of the scale of furrows and numerical simulation (Section  
79 3). We discuss implications of our findings for the evolution of the satellite in  
80 Section 4, and our conclusions are summarized in Section 5.

81



83 **Fig. 1.** Furrows on Ganymede and the Valhalla ring system on Callisto. (A) A  
84 concentric system of tectonic troughs in Galileo Regio of Ganymede, termed  
85 furrows (C2063641). (B) A parallel system of furrows in Nicholson Regio of  
86 Ganymede (s0401701078), which are one of the furrows newly identified  
87 from the Galileo images. Although this region was imaged by Voyagers, the  
88 lighting and emission angles of the Voyager images were not suitable for  
89 detecting furrows. (C) Valhalla basin on Callisto and its multi-ring system  
90 (C1642151).

91

## 92 **2. The scale of the furrow system**

### 93 **2.1. Previous studies**

94 The Voyager 1 spacecraft has imaged the sub-jovian hemisphere of  
95 Ganymede at a resolution of up to 1.0 km/pixel and Voyager 2 has imaged the  
96 anti-jovian hemisphere at a resolution of up to 500 m/pixel. Utilizing these  
97 images, furrows are identified in Galileo, Marius, Barnard Regio, the  
98 northeastern portion of Perrine Regio, and the eastern portion of Nicholson  
99 Regio (e.g. Schenk and McKinnon, 1987; Zuber and Parmentier, 1984).  
100 Examination of Voyager images shows that the largest furrow system have a  
101 concentric patterns centered at 20°S 180°W across Galileo Regio and Marius  
102 Regio, whose scale is at least hemispherical (Fig. 2A) (Schenk and McKinnon,  
103 1987; Zuber and Parmentier, 1984). Because of poor visibility of Voyager  
104 images for some area, the scale of this furrow system was uncertain.

105 The Galileo spacecraft has imaged many portions at moderate  
106 resolution (~ 0.8-3.6 km/pixel) during the six close encounters (Pappalardo et

107 al., 2004). Galileo has imaged many of the dark terrain not resolved by  
108 Voyagers. The global geologic map of Ganymede, representing a synthesis of  
109 our understanding of Ganymede geology after the conclusion of the Galileo  
110 mission, has been published (Collins et al., 2013). Collins et al. (2013)  
111 mapped newly-identified furrows in far eastern Galileo Regio, western  
112 portion of Perrine Regio, Melotte Regio, the western portion of Nicholson  
113 Regio, and unnamed blocks near Ta-urt craters, although the distribution of  
114 the furrows is not discussed then.

115

## 116 **2.2. Our observation**

117 We utilized Voyager/Galileo images, a global mosaic (U.S. Geological  
118 Survey, 2003), and two previous measurements of furrows (Collins et al.,  
119 2013; Schenk and McKinnon, 1987), and analyzed the distribution of furrows  
120 on Ganymede. We used ISIS3 software produced by the U.S. Geological  
121 Survey for both map projections and radio-metrically calibrations. We did  
122 not add new furrows in this work. We developed azimuthal equidistant  
123 projection maps centered at 20°S 180°W (Fig. 2A), and its exactly opposite  
124 hemisphere (Fig 2B). As shown in Fig. 2A, we confirmed that the  
125 Galileo-Marius furrow system is aligned in concentric circles centered at a  
126 single point, 20°S 180°W. Interestingly, we found that not only furrows in  
127 Galileo and Marius Regio but also ones even on the opposite hemisphere are  
128 aligned in concentric circles centered at the single point. Although previous  
129 works estimated that the system has at least a hemispherical scale (Schenk  
130 and McKinnon, 1987), we noticed that furrows over Ganymede form a global



131 concentric system and Galileo-Marius system is a part of the global system.  
132 In other words, the scale of the Galileo-Marius furrow system is much  
133 greater than previously supposed. Although the dark terrain remained in  
134 only one-third of the current surface, our finding indicates that Ganymede  
135 used to have a global-scale multi-ring system formed by a single event before  
136 the formation of the bright terrain. If these furrows are impact origin, this is  
137 the largest impact structure identified so far in the solar system. In order to  
138 see the deviation of the shapes of the furrows from the concentricity, we  
139 developed an oblique simple cylindrical projection (Fig. 3 and 4). Fig. 3 shows  
140 the dark terrain projected on the oblique simple cylinder, and the vertical  
141 direction indicates the equidistance from the center. Fig. 4 shows clops of  
142 transects of the dark terrains shown in Fig. 3A. Figs. 3 and 4 indicate that  
143 the furrows seem to be aligned in the horizontal direction everywhere.

144 In order to assess the above arguments quantitatively, we  
145 geometrically analyzed the furrow system over Ganymede following the  
146 method of Schenk and McKinnon (1987). The details are described in  
147 Appendix A. As a result, we estimated the geometric center of the furrow  
148 system to be  $21.3^{\circ}\text{S } 179.4^{\circ}\text{W}$  using furrows in Galileo and Marius Regio and  
149  $22.9^{\circ}\text{S } 178.4^{\circ}\text{W}$  using furrows over Ganymede, respectively. These geometric  
150 centers obtained in the present work are consistent with the one obtained by  
151 Schenk and McKinnon (1987). Furthermore, we calculated the deviation  
152 from concentricity of each furrow segment and made its histograms,  
153 assuming the center to be  $21.3^{\circ}\text{S } 179.4^{\circ}\text{W}$  (Fig. 5). The histograms for the  
154 furrow system over Ganymede showed a sharp peak at  $0\text{-}5^{\circ}$  deviation from

155 concentricity, with 85% of the ring segments aligned within 30° of  
156 concentricity (Fig. 5a). According to Schenk and McKinnon (1987), the  
157 histogram for Valhalla ring system showed a sharp peak at 0-10° deviation  
158 from concentricity, with 90% of the ring segments aligned within 30° of  
159 concentricity. Thus, the concentricity of the furrow system over Ganymede  
160 was found to be comparable to that of Valhalla ring system. Note that the  
161 histograms for Ganymede's furrow system did not exclude radial and  
162 sub-radial furrows, but ones for Valhalla ring system done by Schenk and  
163 McKinnon (1987) excluded them. Similar plots for furrows in the opposite  
164 hemisphere (Nicholson, Perrine, and Melotte Regios) also showed a sharp  
165 peak at 0-10° deviation from concentricity, with 90% of the ring segments  
166 aligned within 30° of concentricity (Figs. 5b and 5c). Therefore, the  
167 concentricity of the furrow system over Ganymede is sufficiently small to be  
168 regarded as a single concentric circle system. It has been proposed that  
169 furrows lying partly in Galileo Regio shown in the plate G5 in Fig. 3 (and Fig.  
170 4F) form a distinct small multi-ring system (Prockter et al., 2002). However,  
171 this G5 system is also sufficiently aligned with the global-scale furrow  
172 system (Fig. 5d), and therefore, it is possible that the G5 system could be  
173 regarded as a part of the global-scale furrow system (this does not mean that  
174 the G5 system is not distinct multi-ring system).

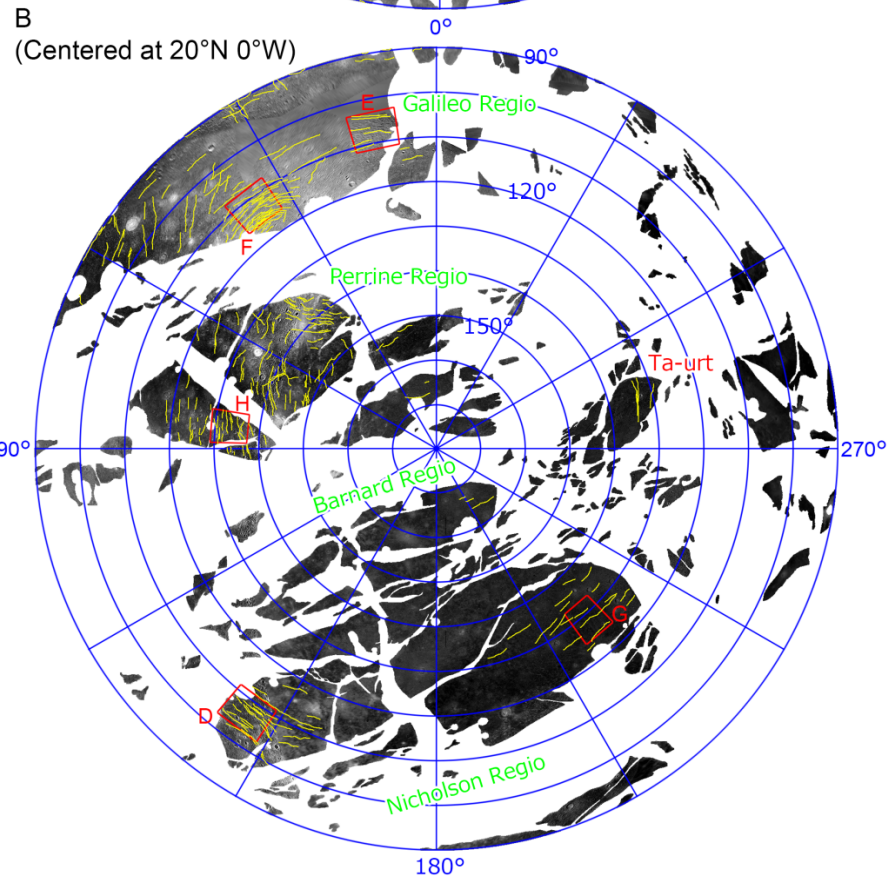
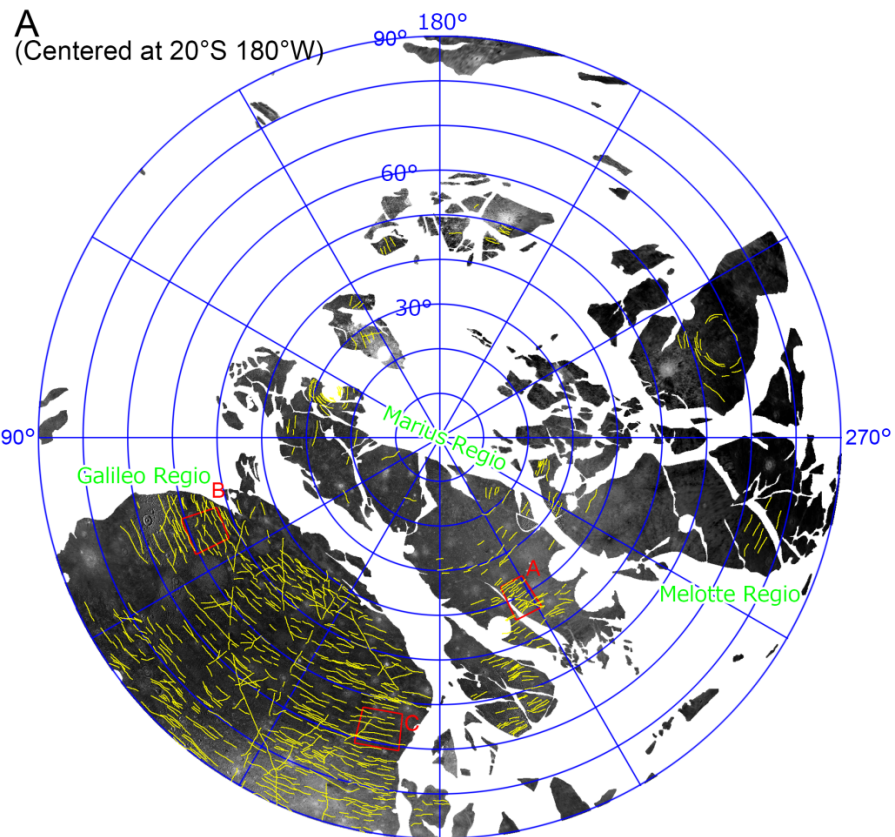
175         It is known that Marius Regio (especially, the region within the  
176 colatitude of 30° from 20°S 180°W) has few furrows (Fig. 6) (Schenk and  
177 McKinnon, 1987; Zuber and Parmentier, 1984). The region within 30 degrees  
178 from the center of the above furrow system ( $r < 1380$  km, where  $r$  is the

179 radial distance from the center on the satellite's surface) may be the  
180 structure corresponding to the central zone without trough or ridge of the  
181 Valhalla basin ( $r < 360$  km). This furrow system extends in Barnard Regio  
182 (the region from the colatitude 163 to 170 degree), which implies that the  
183 furrow system on Ganymede has the extent of  $1380 \text{ km} < r < 7800 \text{ km}$ .  
184 Unlike the Valhalla ring system, the furrow system of Ganymede does not  
185 have either obvious ridged zone or outward-facing normal faults in any dark  
186 terrains, which has been already pointed out by McKinnon and Parmentier  
187 (1986) based on Voyager images, and our update based on Galileo images has  
188 confirmed it again.

189         There is a possibility that a true impact site is not the Marius side  
190 (20°S 180°W) but Barnard side (20°N 0°W). At the moment, we cannot argue  
191 conclusively which side is the true center. That said, furrows on the Marius  
192 side are typically much more obvious than those in the Barnard side. Also, if  
193 the true center is on the Barnard side, the central region without furrows is  
194 too small. Therefore, in this work, we assume that the true center of the  
195 system is on the Marius side.

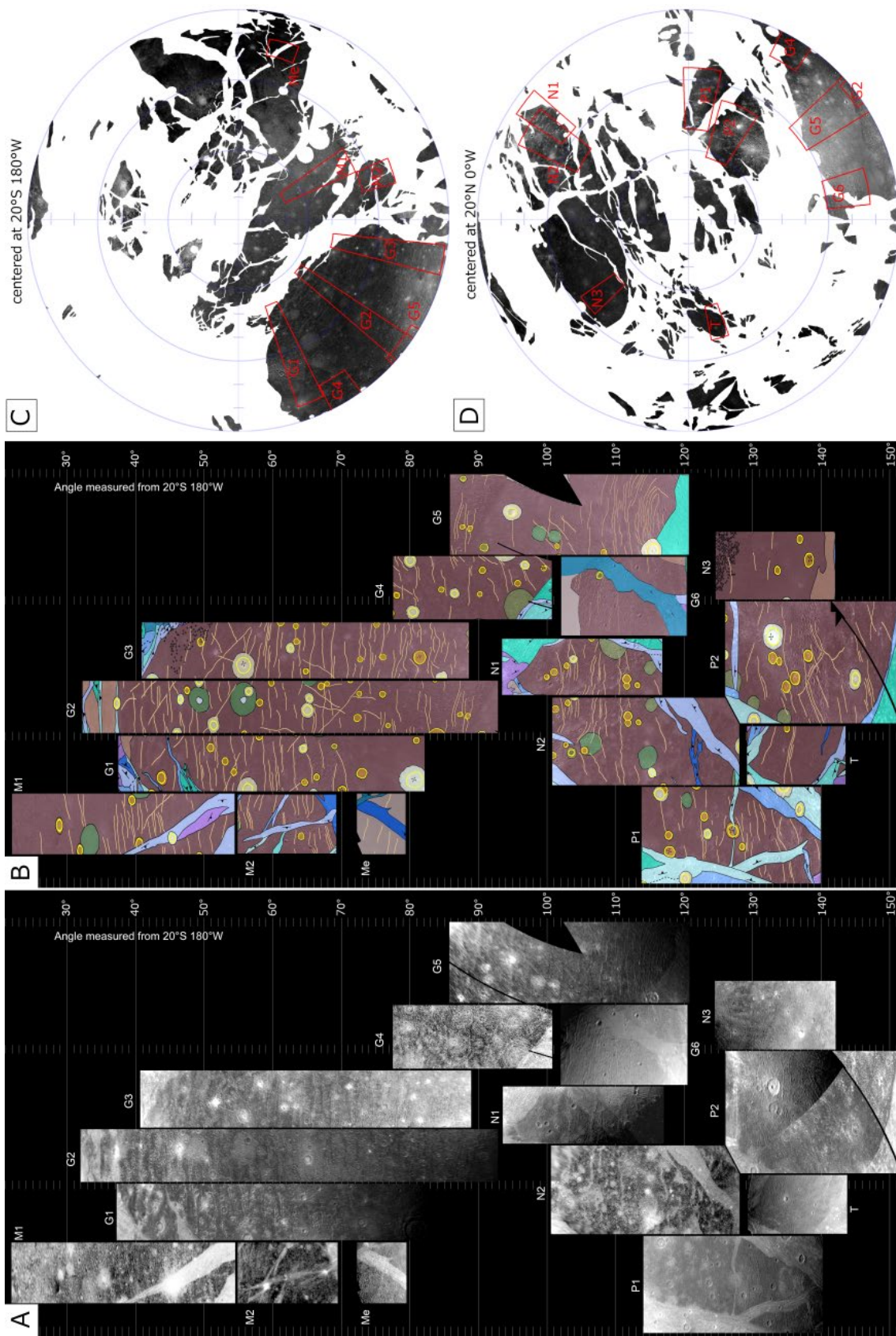
196         This implies that the relative locations of the blocks of the dark  
197 terrains did not change appreciably. Previous work shows that deviations of  
198 the shapes of the furrows in Marius Regio and Galileo Regio from the  
199 concentricity are small, and therefore, lateral movement of each dark terrain  
200 block does not occur between Marius Regio and Galileo Regio (Schenk and  
201 McKinnon, 1987). Our observation indicates that relative locations of each  
202 dark terrain block over the entire surface of Ganymede (not only Marius and

203 Galileo but also Perrine Melotte, Nicholson, and Barnard Regio) have been  
204 unmodified since the formation of the furrows, despite of their great  
205 distances. We verified quantitatively how large lateral movement between  
206 each dark terrain block can be detected by the concentricity of furrows. As an  
207 example, we shifted the western portion of Nicholson Regio (N2 in Fig. 3)  
208 slightly, and examined how the histogram in Fig. 5c changes. Results are  
209 shown in Fig. 7 (see Appendix A). In the case of  $10^\circ$  movement, the majority  
210 of the deviation was within 20 degrees, but the peak positions were slightly  
211 shifted. In the case of  $20^\circ$  movement, the peak positions were shifted or  
212 separated. In the case of  $30^\circ$  movement, the histogram no longer followed a  
213 normal distribution. Note that the original histogram (Fig. 5c) showed a  
214 more ideal normal distribution curve peaked at zero degree than these 15  
215 examples shown in Fig. 7. Therefore, it is likely that the lateral movement of  
216 the relative position between Nicholson and Galileo-Marius system would be  
217 20 degrees at maximum (this corresponds to 920 km on Ganymede).  
218



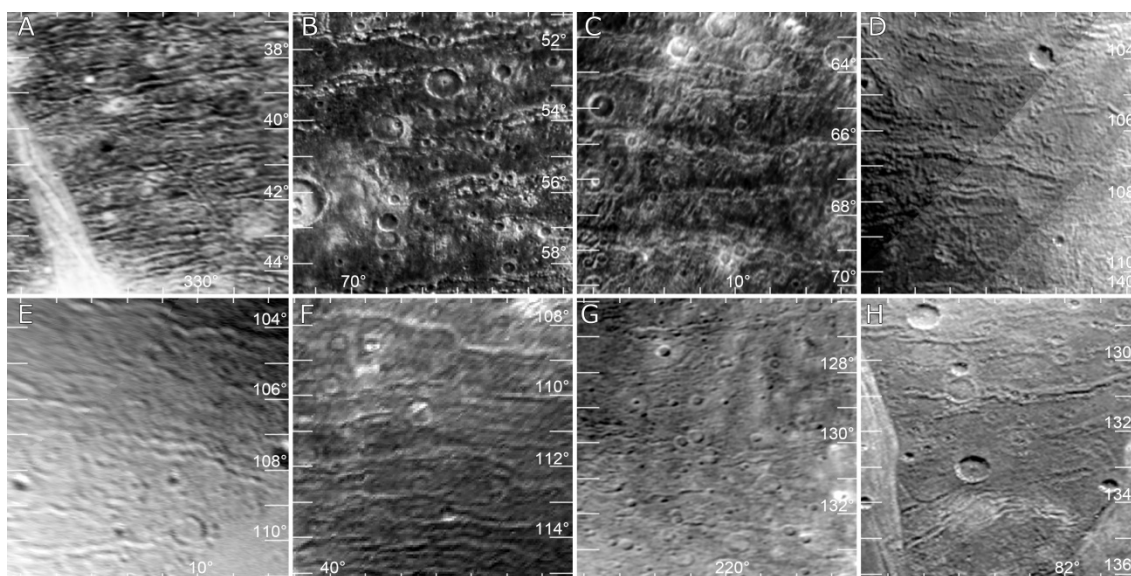
220 **Fig. 2.** Distribution of furrows (yellow lines) projected in azimuthal  
221 equidistant map centered at 20°S 180°W (plate A) and its exactly opposite  
222 point, 20°N, 0°W (plate B). White regions indicate the bright terrains. The  
223 distributions of the dark terrain and furrows are from Collins et al. (2013)  
224 and Schenk and McKinnon (1987). Red rectangles show the location of each  
225 plate in Fig. 4.

226



228 **Fig. 3.** Transects of the dark terrain of Ganymede along a radial direction  
 229 from 20°S 180°W to its antipodal point. Vertical axes in plate (A) and (B)  
 230 represent the colatitude measured from 20°S 180°W. Note that 10° is  
 231 equivalent to 460 km. Maps in (A) and (B) are shown in oblique simple  
 232 cylindrical projection poled at 20°S 180°W. Plate (B) is modified from the  
 233 global geologic map (Collins et al., 2013). Yellow lines and brown areas mean  
 234 the furrows and the dark terrains identified by Collins et al. (2013). The  
 235 location of each transect is shown in (C) and (D), which are the projected on  
 236 the azimuthal equidistant maps centered at 20°S 180°W and its exactly  
 237 opposite point, 20°N 0°W, respectively. The original-sized image of this figure  
 238 is uploaded as supplementary Figure S1.

239

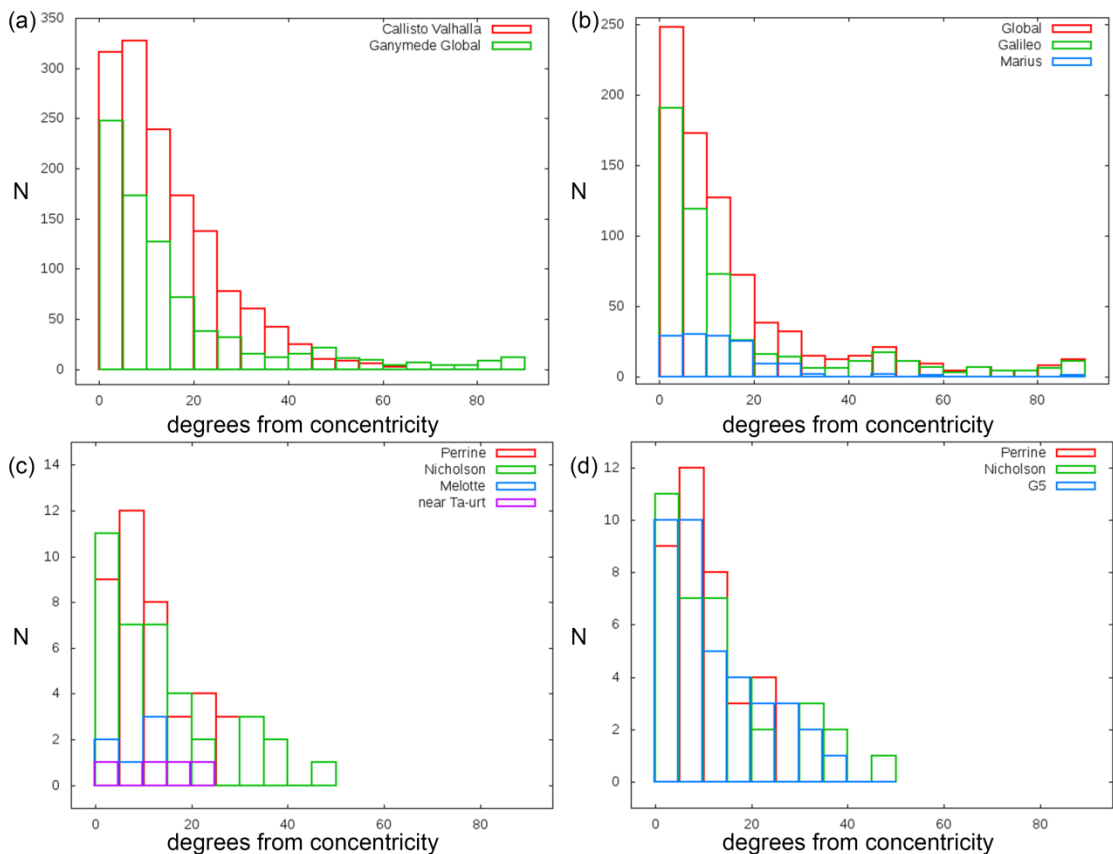


240

241 **Fig. 4.** Close up views of the furrows. Vertical axis represents the colatitude  
 242 measured from 20°S 180°W. The oblique projection is utilized for this image,  
 243 and the horizontal axis represents longitude of the oblique simple cylinder.  
 244 In this figure, the fact that furrows are aligned with the horizontal direction  
 245 means that they are aligned with concentric circles centered at 20°S 180°W.  
 246 These images shows Marius Regio (A), Galileo Regio (B, C, E, F), Nicholson  
 247 Regio (D, G), and Perrine Regio (H), respectively. The detailed locations of  
 248 each plate are shown in red rectangles of Fig. 2. The appearance of the

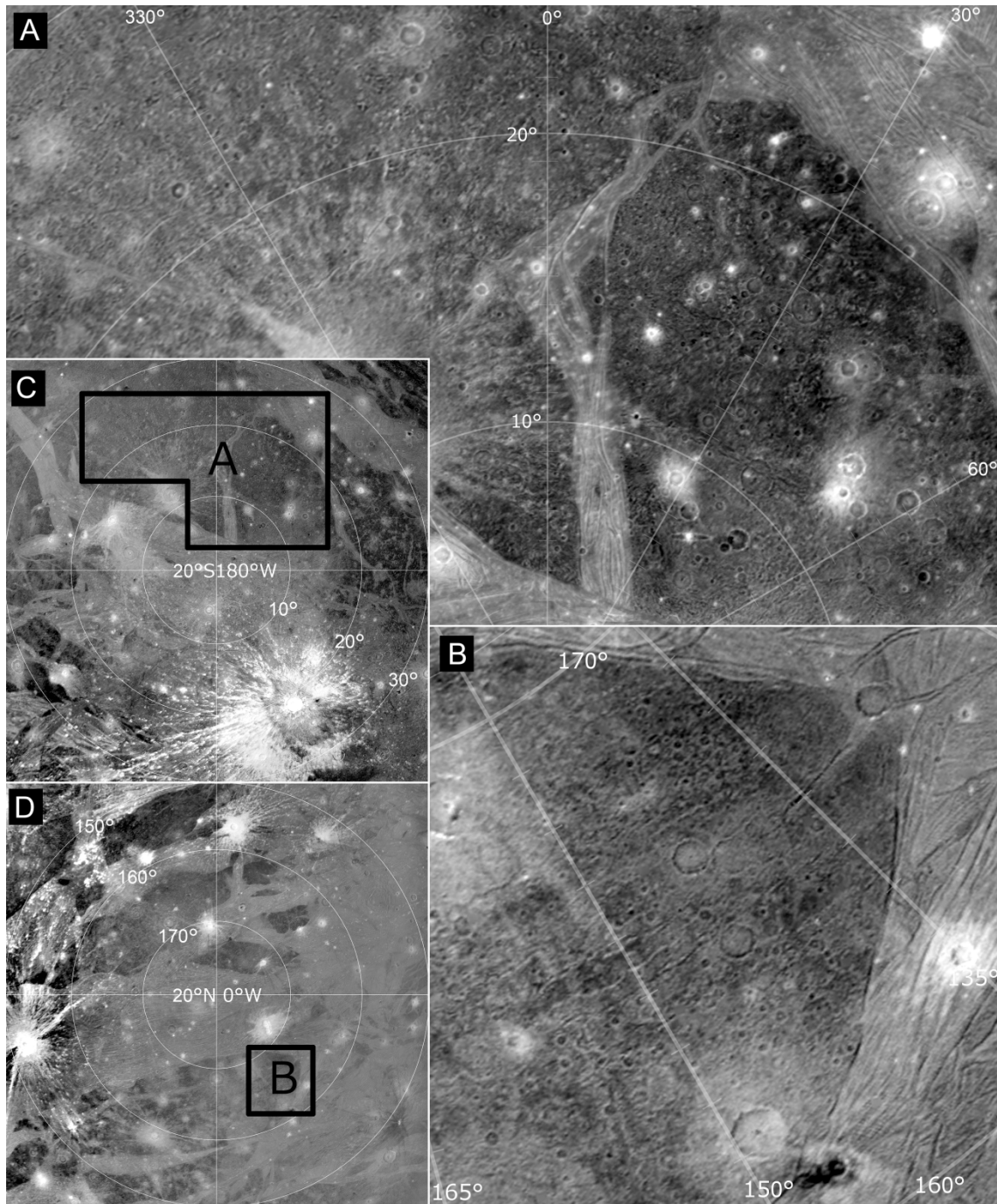


249 furrows in each plate (especially, BCDEFH) is similar to each other despite of  
 250 great difference in their distance, which indicates all have a same origin.  
 251



252  
 253 **Figure 5.** Histograms of the deviation from concentricity (angle of  
 254 intersection between furrow segments and concentric circles centered at  
 255 21.3°S 179.4°W). Vertical axis means the number of furrow segments and  
 256 horizontal axis the degree from concentricity (0° means segments are aligned  
 257 with concentric circles, while 90° means those are radial to them). Histogram  
 258 for (a) Valhalla ring system from Schenk and McKinnon (1987) and  
 259 Ganymede's furrow system over Ganymede from our measurement, (b)  
 260 Ganymede's furrow system over Ganymede, in Galileo Regio, and in Marius

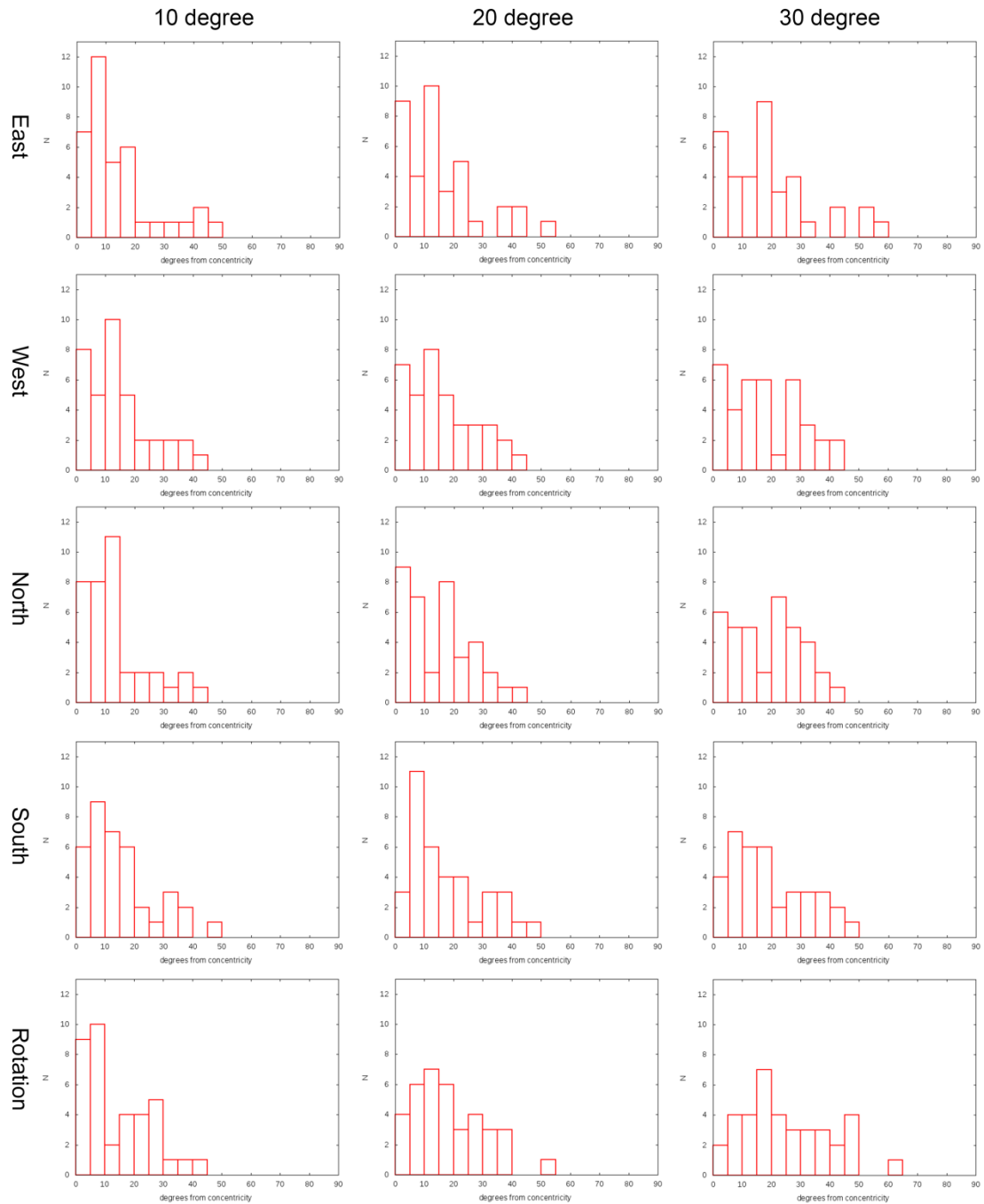
261 Regio, (c) for Perrine, Nicholson, Melotte, and unnamed blocks of the dark  
262 terrains near Ta-urt crater, and (d) for the G5 small multi-ring system. See  
263 also Appendix A.  
264



265  
266 **Fig. 6.** (A) Close up view of the dark terrains near 20°S 180°W (Marius

267 Regio). (B) That near 20°N 0°W (Barnard Regio). (C) and (D) show the  
 268 locations of (A) and (B).

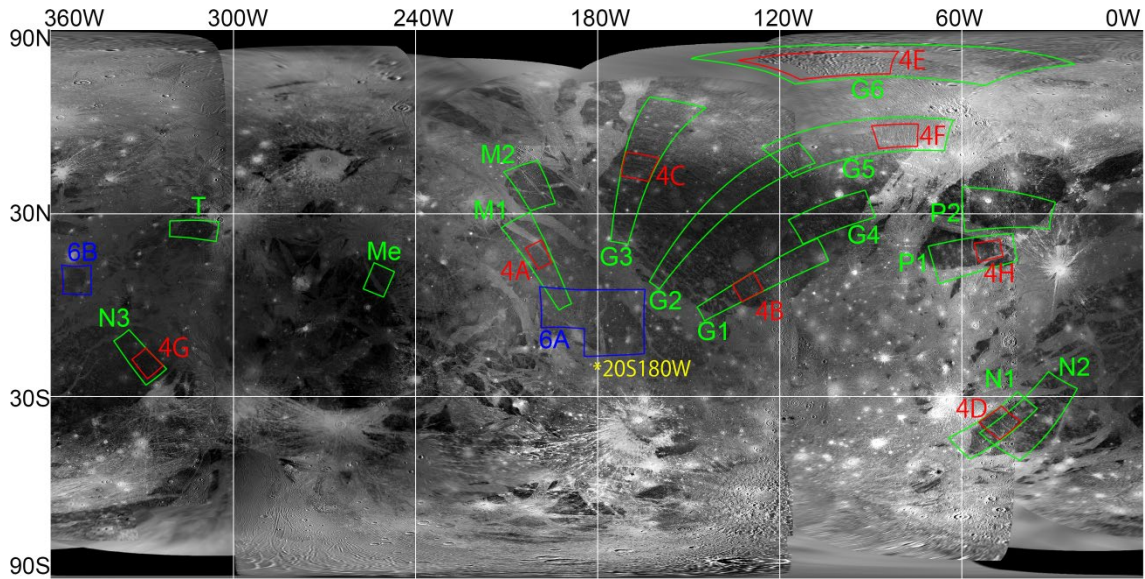
269



270

271 **Figure 7.** The histogram of the deviation from concentricity between furrow  
 272 segments in Nicholson Regio that were moved slightly away from its original

273 location. We show 15 examples: 10°, 20°, and 30° movement toward north,  
 274 south, west, and east and 10°, 20°, and 30° rotation at the current location  
 275 without shift. The original one is shown in Fig. 5c. See also Appendix A.  
 276



277  
 278 **Figure 8.** The location of each plate in Figs. 3 (green), 4 (red), and 6 (blue) in  
 279 simple cylindrical projection map of Ganymede.

280

### 281 3. Impactor size

282 Estimating the size of the furrow-forming impactor (FFI) is  
 283 complicated because of the absence of an identifiable clear rim. Absence of  
 284 clear rim around a seemingly impact-generated structure is not unusual; for  
 285 example, the Valhalla basin or Asgard basin on Callisto, which are thought  
 286 to have been formed by an impact, also lacks such a rim (Schenk, 1995). We  
 287 attempt to estimate the size of FFI based on three considerations: (i)  
 288 Comparison with Valhalla and Asgard basins on Callisto and palimpsests on

289 Ganymede, (ii) a thin plastic lithosphere model and the extent of furrows,  
290 and (iii) numerical simulation.

291

### 292 **3.1. Comparison with Valhalla and Asgard basins on Callisto and** 293 **palimpsests on Ganymede**

294 Valhalla and Asgard are representative multi-ring impact basins on  
295 Callisto. Valhalla basin can be divided into three distinct zones outward from  
296 the center: a central smooth zone ( $r < 360$  km, where  $r$  means the radial  
297 great-circular distance from the center of the basin), an inner ridge and  
298 trough zone ( $360\text{km} < r < 950$  km), and an outer graben zone ( $950$  km  $< r <$   
299  $1900$  km). Asgard has a central smooth zone ( $r < 100$  km), an inner ridge  
300 zone ( $100$  km  $< r < 400\text{km}$ ), and an outer graben zone ( $400\text{km} < r < 940\text{km}$ )  
301 (Greeley et al., 2000; Schenk, 1995). It is known that the crater density in the  
302 central palimpsest and inner ridge zone of the Valhalla basin is 3.5 times  
303 lower than on the adjacent unmodified cratered terrain, while the crater  
304 density in the outer graben zone is intermediate between the inner zones and  
305 unmodified cratered terrain and apparently increasing linearly outward  
306 (Passey and Shoemaker, 1982; Schenk, 1995). The former is due to complete  
307 obliteration and tectonic disruption of the original surface, and the latter due  
308 to obliteration by continuous ejecta blanket (Schenk, 1995). Although these  
309 crater rims collapsed or did not form, these original crater diameters were  
310 estimated to be equivalent to 1000 km for Valhalla and 675 km for Asgard  
311 based on the mapping of ejecta and secondaries (Schenk and Ridolfi, 2002). If  
312 so, we can estimate Valhalla-forming impactor radius to be  $R_{imp} \approx 50$  km,

313 using the simple scaling law shown in Eqs. (5) and (6) in Zahnle et al. (2003),  
314 15 km/s as the impact velocity onto Callisto (Zahnle et al., 2003), 2000 kg/m<sup>3</sup>  
315 as the density of the impactor (equivalent to Ceres or Pluto), and 900 kg/m<sup>3</sup>  
316 as the density of Callisto's crust.

317 A palimpsest is a circular albedo feature around an ancient crater  
318 seen on Ganymede and Callisto (Smith et al., 1979a). Palimpsests on  
319 Ganymede, such as Memphis Facula, can be divided into four distinct zones  
320 outward from the center: the central plains (*cp*) ( $r < 15\%$  of its palimpsest,  
321 where  $r$  means the radial great-circular distance from the center of the  
322 palimpsest), the unoriented massif facies (*umf*) ( $15\% < r < 40\%$ ), the  
323 concentric massif facies (*cmf*) ( $40\% < r < 70\%$ ), and the outer deposits (*od*)  
324 ( $70\% < r < 100\%$ ) (Jones et al. 2003). Beyond the radius of palimpsest, they  
325 reported that secondary craters appear. Jones et al. (2003) interpreted these  
326 zones to be (*cp*) the central plains to be formed from solidified impact melt  
327 and chunks of solid ejecta, (*umf*) a jumbled mass of ejecta located within the  
328 transient cavity, (*cmf*) a zone of ejecta-mantled preexisting crust that has  
329 been stressed and fractured by the palimpsest-producing impact, and (*od*) a  
330 continuous ejecta deposit mantling preexisting terrain. Therefore, Jones et al.  
331 (2003) concluded that the original crater rim is the boundary between the  
332 *umf* and *cmf* ( $r = 40\%$  of the scale of palimpsest).

333 Unfortunately, the Voyager or Galileo images do not show any  
334 reliable examples of secondaries or ejecta blankets that can be related to the  
335 FFI, although some of the craters in the dark terrains on Ganymede may be  
336 secondaries. Therefore, we cannot estimate the crater diameter created by

337 the FFI based on counting secondaries. That said, the fact that the furrows  
 338 are crosscut by all recognizable impact craters may imply that the impact  
 339 event would have reset Ganymede's surface completely. At least, the scale of  
 340 the furrow system is roughly 4 times larger than that of the Valhalla ring  
 341 system; the Valhalla ring system has the extent of  $360 \text{ km} < r < 1900\text{km}$ ,  
 342 while the furrow system on Ganymede has the extent of  $1380 \text{ km} < r <$   
 343  $7800\text{km}$ . If the extent of the furrow system corresponds to the *cmf* of  
 344 Ganymede's palimpsests, the original crater rim would be approximately  
 345  $\sim 1380\text{km}$ . Therefore, the FFI must be much greater than the impactor  
 346 forming Valhalla ( $R_{imp} \approx 50 \text{ km}$ ).

347

### 348 **3.2. A thin plastic lithosphere model and the extent of furrows**

349 The radial extent of Ganymede's furrows ( $r < 7800 \text{ km}$ ) also provides  
 350 an insight into the impactor size. This extent basically depends on the  
 351 thickness and the strength of the satellite's lithosphere (Melosh, 1982). After  
 352 (or as soon as) the formation of crater cavity, concentric faulting zone would  
 353 be formed by tectonics induced by the inward flow of the asthenosphere  
 354 (Melosh, 1982). We note that it is difficult to examine furrow formation itself  
 355 by impact simulation due to lack of resolution. Instead, we here utilized a  
 356 simple physical model known as a thin plastic lithosphere model (Melosh,  
 357 1982). Based on the model, the extent of faulting zone is a function of a single  
 358 dimensionless strength parameter,

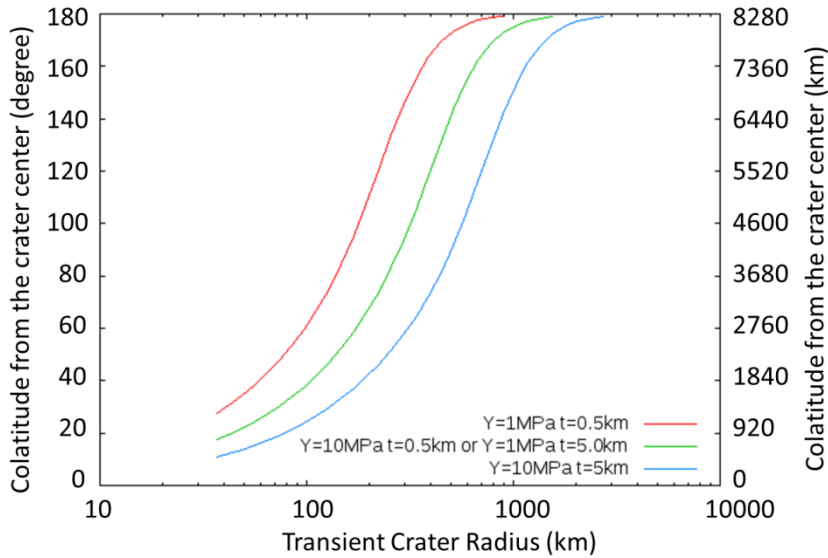
$$359 \quad \gamma = \frac{\sqrt{3}Sa}{2Yt},$$

360 where  $\gamma$  is dimensionless strength parameter,  $Y$  is the strength of lithosphere,  
 361  $a$  is the transient crater radius,  $t$  is the thickness of lithosphere, and  $S$  is the  
 362 constant equal to  $(0.05 - 0.1)\rho g d$ , where  $\rho=900 \text{ kg/m}^3$  is the crustal density,  
 363  $g=1.428 \text{ m/s}^2$  is the gravitational acceleration at the surface of Ganymede,  
 364 and  $d$  is the crater depth. Larger dimensionless strength parameter (i.e.  
 365 larger  $\gamma$ ) means thinner or weaker lithosphere, which causes a greater extent  
 366 of faulting zone, while smaller dimensionless strength parameter (i.e.  
 367 smaller  $\gamma$ ) means thicker or more rigid lithosphere, which forms a compact  
 368 faulting zone. Following the study for Valhalla (Melosh, 1982), we assume  $Y$   
 369  $= 1 - 10 \text{ MPa}$ ,  $S=0.075\rho g d$ , and  $d=a/5$ . According to geomorphological  
 370 analyses of furrows (Nimmo and Pappalardo, 2004), an effective elastic  
 371 thickness is  $\sim 0.5 \text{ km}$  and a brittle - ductile transition depth is  $\sim 2$  to  $\sim 3 \text{ km}$ .  
 372 Thus, we assume  $t= 0.5 - 5 \text{ km}$ . Here we examine three cases: thin weak  
 373 lithosphere model ( $t=0.5\text{km}$ ,  $Y=1\text{MPa}$ ), moderate thickness or weakness  
 374 lithosphere ( $t=0.5\text{km}$ ,  $Y=10\text{MPa}$ , or  $t=5\text{km}$ ,  $Y=1\text{MPa}$ ), and thick rigid  
 375 lithosphere ( $t=5\text{km}$ ,  $Y=10\text{MPa}$ ). Following the model shown in appendix A in  
 376 Melosh (1982), we calculate the extent of faulting zone as a function of  
 377 transient crater radius and results are shown in Fig. 9. A transient crater  
 378 with a radius of  $a = 800\text{km}$  (this can be generated by  $R_{imp} = 150 \text{ km}$ ) can  
 379 result in a global-scale faulting zone even in the case of the thick and rigid  
 380 lithosphere. Similarly, if we assume the thin weak lithosphere, a transient  
 381 crater with  $a > 300\text{km}$  is sufficient to form a global-scale faulting zone. This  
 382 radius roughly corresponds to  $R_{imp} = 50 \text{ km}$  (equivalent to an impactor  
 383 forming Valhalla).



384

385



386

387 **Fig. 9.** The extent of faulting zone induced by a given transient crater radius.

388 Vertical axis means the distance from the crater center (in degree or

389 kilometer). Here we assume three cases: thin weak lithosphere with  $Y=1\text{MPa}$

390  $t = 0.5\text{km}$ , moderate (thick weak or thin rigid) lithosphere with  $Y=1\text{MPa}$   $t=$

391  $5\text{km}$  (or  $Y=10\text{MPa}$   $t=0.5\text{km}$ ), and thick rigid lithosphere with  $Y=10\text{MPa}$   $t =$

392  $5\text{km}$ .

393

### 394 3.3. Numerical Simulation

395 Instead of aiming at reproducing the furrows themselves, we carried

396 out numerical impact simulation by using shock-physics code iSALE

397 (Amsden et al., 1980; Collins et al., 2004; Wünnemann et al., 2006) to

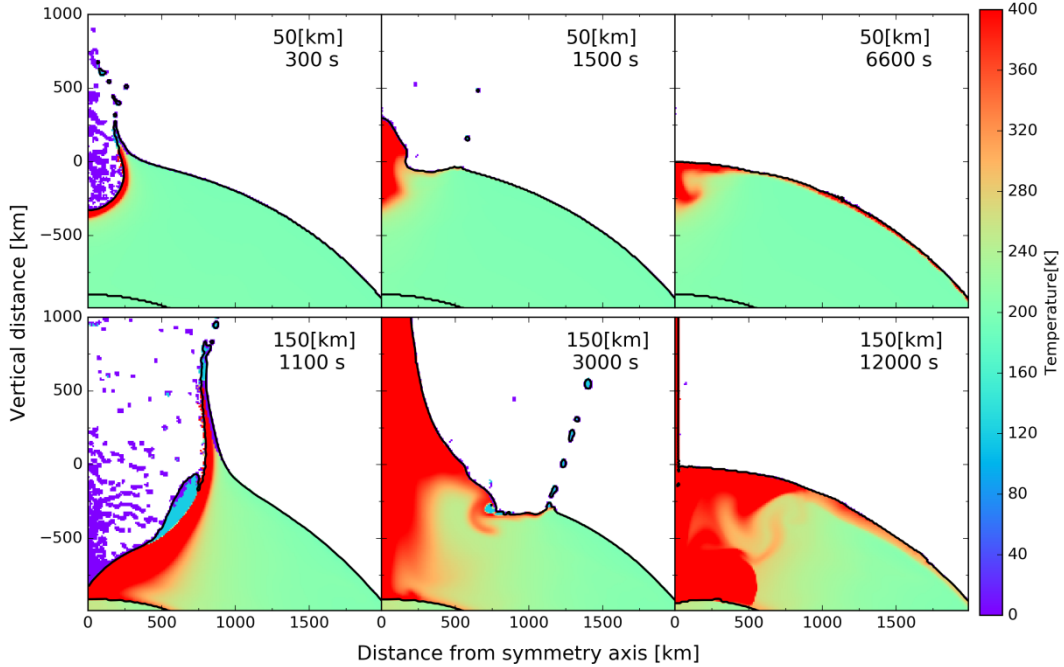
398 estimate the size of the impactor that can reproduce the scale of the central

399 melt pool formed by the impact. We assume an icy impactor with a radius

400 ( $R_{imp}$ ) of 150 km or 50km and compare the results of both cases. The detail  
401 description for the numerical simulation is given in Appendix B. We found  
402 that an impactor with  $R_{imp} = 50$  km generates a transient crater with a  
403 radius of 300km and a depth of 250 km, while an impactor with  $R_{imp} = 150$   
404 km generates one with a radius of 800km and a depth of 1000 km (Fig. 10).  
405 In either case, materials around the impact site become fluidized and any  
406 recognizable surface structures such as rims do not form, which is consistent  
407 with the properties of the global-scale furrow system. In this simulation, an  
408 outward flow from the impact site is generated after the collapse of the  
409 central uplift and resurfaces the area around the impact site. In the case of  
410  $R_{imp} = 150$  km, at least the hemispheric region centered at the impact site is  
411 modified. On the other hand, an impact with  $R_{imp} = 50$  km would be  
412 insufficient for global resurfacing.

413         A numerical simulation to model a Valhalla-like basin using iSALE  
414 (Johnson et al., 2013) shows that an impactor with a radius of 50 km can  
415 generate a melt pool with a radius of 300 km on Callisto, and it was proposed  
416 that the melt pool would be originated from the central bright zone without  
417 ridge or trough. Similarly, our simulation shows that an impactor with  $R_{imp} =$   
418 150 km can generate a melt pool with a radius of 1000km (here we define a  
419 melt pool by a region that experienced a temperature higher than 300K).  
420 This agrees with the observed size of the furrow-free central region of Marius  
421 Regio. On the other hand, an impactor with  $R_{imp} = 50$  km generates a small  
422 melt pool with a radius of 500 km.

423



425

426 **Fig. 10.** Time series of simulations of head-on impacts between an impactor and Ganymede. Upper panels show the case of an impactor with a radius of  
 427 50 km (see also Movie 1 and 2), and bottom panels show the case of 150 km  
 428 (Movie 3 and 4).

430

### 431 3.4. Summary

432

433

434

435

436

437

A thin plastic lithosphere model and the extent of furrows show that an impactor with  $R_{imp} > 50$  km is able to form a global-scale faulting zone if Ganymede's lithosphere used to be thin and weak, while  $R_{imp} = 150$  km forms a global-scale faulting zone even in the case of rigid thick lithosphere. Our numerical simulation utilizing iSALE indicates that  $R_{imp} = 150$  km would resurface at least the hemispheric region around its impact site, while  $R_{imp} =$

438 50 km would resurface locally around the impact site. The former is  
439 consistent with the view that the furrows are crosscut by any recognizable  
440 impact craters, while the latter needs another mechanism to explain the  
441 reset of Ganymede's surface. Furthermore, an impactor with  $R_{imp} = 150$  km  
442 can generate a melt pool with a radius of 1000km, which could explain  
443 furrow-free central region of Marius Regio. Taken all together, we conclude  
444 that an impactor with a radius of 150 km is consistent with current  
445 properties of the global-scale furrow system. At least, it should be  
446 significantly greater than 50 km in radius.

447

#### 448 **4. Discussion and Implication**

449 If furrows are created by an impact, this large impact should have  
450 affected the geology of Ganymede significantly. It is known that the crater  
451 density in most heavily cratered terrains of Ganymede is slightly lower than  
452 that of Callisto (Strom et al., 1981). Such old craters are considered to be  
453 formed during the Late Heavy Bombardment (LHB, 4.1~3.8 Ga), according  
454 to the so-called Nice model (Gomes et al., 2005). Perhaps, the FFI would have  
455 taken place during the LHB, would have reset the crater age of Ganymede,  
456 and would be responsible for the difference in the crater densities between  
457 Ganymede and Callisto.

458 Our numerical impact simulation for the case of  $R_{imp} = 150$  km ( $R_{imp}$   
459 =50 km) demonstrates the generation of a large melt region with a radius of  
460 ~1000 km (~500 km). This large melt region would allow the dense material  
461 to gravitationally segregate, which generate positive gravity anomaly such

462 as mass concentrations seen on the lunar impact basins. Therefore, we  
463 predict that, if our view is correct, positive gravity anomaly with a radius of  
464  $\sim 1000$  km when  $R_{imp} = 150$  km (or a radius of  $\sim 500$  km when  $R_{imp} = 50$  km)  
465 should exist around  $20^{\circ}\text{S}$   $180^{\circ}\text{W}$ . This can be tested by future geodetic  
466 observations of Ganymede such as the JUICE (Jupiter Icy moon Explorer) or  
467 Europa Clipper mission. Interestingly, Ganymede is locked in synchronous  
468 rotation and the center of the furrow system coincides with the anti-Jovian  
469 longitude ( $180^{\circ}\text{W}$ ). This is consistent with the existence of large mass  
470 anomaly created by the FFI. Also, detailed examination of the topography  
471 may find the existence of the circular or radial structure associated with an  
472 impact basin, rim crests, or ejecta. At the same time, the question if this  
473 furrow system is really impact origin could be also tested by the future  
474 geodetic observations. For example, it is proposed that the furrow system can  
475 be formed by another mechanism, such as mantle convection (Casacchia and  
476 Strom, 1984).

477         The radius of the FFI is still uncertain and it may be smaller or  
478 greater than our estimate. If the FFI was twice as large as our estimate, it  
479 would have melted about half the volume of Ganymede. The accumulated  
480 dense material (iron or silicate) in the large melt region would form a large  
481 negatively buoyant mass at the bottom of the pool that stresses the  
482 underlying material and rapidly sink toward the satellite's center. This  
483 segregation can trigger the whole body differentiation (Tonks and Melosh,  
484 1992). In contrast, Callisto does not have evidence of such large impact  
485 events. This scenario may explain the so-called Ganymede-Callisto

486 dichotomy; Ganymede is fully differentiated while Callisto's differentiation is  
487 incomplete, despite of the similarity between Ganymede and Callisto in size  
488 and composition (Schubert et al., 2004). Note that it is proposed that  
489 Ganymede's differentiation are created by slight advantage of (i) radioactive  
490 decay and/or (ii) tidal heating, because the silicate mass fraction of  
491 Ganymede is a little larger than that of Callisto, and Ganymede is closer to  
492 the planet than Callisto (e.g. Schubert et al., 2004). Also, it is proposed that  
493 numerous impacts during the late heavy bombardment have been  
494 sufficiently energetic to lead to differentiation in Ganymede (Barr and  
495 Canup, 2010).

496         Although our present work demonstrated for the first time that the  
497 furrow system of Ganymede was likely created by a single large impact  
498 during LHB, it is highly desirable to derive further constraints on the origin  
499 of the furrow system from more detailed observations in addition to the  
500 geomorphological study done in the present work.

501

## 502 **5. Conclusion**

503         We found that almost all of the furrows over Ganymede are aligned  
504 in concentric circles centered at 20°S 180°W and the histogram of the degree  
505 of concentricity for furrows over Ganymede shows a sharp peak at 0-5°  
506 deviation from concentricity, with 85% of the ring segments aligned within  
507 30° of concentricity. This indicates that the scale of the furrow system  
508 (so-called the Galileo Marius furrow system) on Ganymede is much greater  
509 than previously supposed, and that Ganymede used to have a global-scale

510 multi-ring impact structure formed by a single impact event. The  
511 concentricity of the furrow system seems to suggest that a lateral movement  
512 between each dark terrain block is small or not occurred over the entire  
513 surface of Ganymede even during the formation of the bright terrains,  
514 although the surface of Ganymede has been tectonically modified  
515 significantly during formation of the bright terrains. The estimate of the  
516 impactor size is difficult, but an 150km-radius impactor is consistent with  
517 the properties of the furrow system, even though this estimate includes some  
518 uncertainty. If the above estimate is correct, we predict that Ganymede has  
519 positive gravity anomaly with a radius of  $\sim 1000$  km around  $20^\circ\text{S}$   $180^\circ\text{W}$ .  
520 These could be tested by future observations, such as JUICE or Europa  
521 Clipper mission.

522

## 523 **Appendix A. Measurements of furrow system**

524 We measured the geometric center of furrows and the deviation from  
525 concentricity of each furrow segment. Our measurement of Ganymede's  
526 furrow system is almost the same as the method of Schenk and McKinnon  
527 (1987). The geometric center of the furrow system was estimated by  
528 minimizing the sum of the residuals:

$$529 \sum_i (R_a - R_b)_i^2, \text{ (A1)}$$

530 where  $R_a$  and  $R_b$  were the great-circular distance between the endpoints of  
531 the  $i$ th furrow segment and the geometric center of the furrow system. In  
532 this paper, although the length of each furrow segment varies widely, we did  
533 not adopt weighting in each length. The deviation from concentricity of each

534 furrow segment (angle of intersection between furrow segments and  
535 concentric circles) was defined by

$$536 \sin^{-1} \left( \frac{R_a - R_b}{A} \right), \text{ (A2)}$$

537 where  $A$  was the length of each furrow segment (i.e. great-circular distance  
538 between  $R_a$  and  $R_b$ ).

539 We obtained  $R_a$ ,  $R_b$ , and  $A$  from furrow segments determined by  
540 Ganymede's global geologic map (Collins et al., 2013). Collins et al. (2013)  
541 identified 906 furrow segments over Ganymede: 532 in Galileo Regio, 161 in  
542 Marius, 25 in Melotte, 37 in Nicholson, 128 in Perrine, 4 in unnamed block of  
543 the dark terrain near Ta-urt crater, and 19 in the rest of Ganymede. Other  
544 than the system centered at 20°S 180°W, some distinct furrow systems exist  
545 on the dark terrains, for example, small multi-ring structures centered at  
546 28°S 155°W (Marius Regio), 25°S 255°W (Melotte Regio), or 56°N 46°W  
547 (Perrine Regio) (e.g. Collins et al., 2013; Schenk and McKinnon, 1987). When  
548 we calculated the geometric center, we excluded furrows of these small  
549 multi-ring systems. As a result, we obtained the center of the furrow system  
550 to be 21.3°S 179.4°W based on furrow segments in Galileo and Marius Regio.  
551 Then, we excluded radial furrows (i.e. furrows whose deviation from  
552 concentricity is greater than 20°). These geometric centers obtained in the  
553 present work are consistent with the one obtained by Schenk and McKinnon  
554 (1987), 20.7°S 179.2°W. Similarly, using furrow segments over Ganymede  
555 (including Galileo, Marius, Melotte, Nicholson, Perrine Regios, and unnamed  
556 block of the dark terrain near Ta-urt crater), we obtained the center of the  
557 furrow system to be 22.9°S 178.4°W.



558           Furthermore, we calculated the deviation from concentricity of each  
559 furrow segment and made its histograms, assuming the center to be 21.3°S  
560 179.4°W (Fig. 5). Note that, even if we used any of the above three centers,  
561 the histograms hardly changed. In Fig. 7, we excluded the three small  
562 multi-ring structures in Marius, Melotte, and Perrine Regios but excluded  
563 neither radial furrow systems nor the G5 multi-ring furrow system (furrows  
564 lying partly in Galileo Regio shown in G5 in Fig. 3 and Fig. 4F). Histograms  
565 for the G5 furrow system was shown in Fig. 5d. In Fig. 5a, as a comparison,  
566 we added the case of Valhalla ring system on Callisto obtained by Schenk  
567 and McKinnon (1987). Note that Schenk and McKinnon (1987) excluded  
568 radial ring segments from this histogram, and therefore it did not include  
569 ring segments with large deviation. Histogram for Perrine Regio was made  
570 from furrows in southern block of Perrine Regio shown in P1 in Fig. 3 and  
571 Fig. 4H, because northern block of Perrine Regio includes many  
572 largely-sinuuous furrows, which are probably a part of the distinct multi-ring  
573 structure.

574           Next, we attempt to verify quantitatively how large lateral  
575 movement between each dark terrain block can be detected by the  
576 concentricity of furrows. As an example, we shift the western portion of  
577 Nicholson Regio (approximately 40°S 40°W, N2 in Fig. 3) slightly, and see  
578 how the histogram in Fig. 5c changes. The movement of the rigid block on a  
579 spherical surface can be described as a rotation about a fixed axis known as  
580 an Euler pole. The change of the histograms after the movement largely  
581 depends on the location of the pole. For example, if the Euler pole of the

582 movement of Nicholson Regio is  $20^{\circ}\text{S } 180^{\circ}\text{W}$ , the histogram of the deviation  
583 does not change at all. In this section, we tested 15 simple cases:  $10^{\circ}$ ,  $20^{\circ}$ ,  
584 and  $30^{\circ}$  movement toward north, south, west, and east and  $10^{\circ}$ ,  $20^{\circ}$ , and  $30^{\circ}$   
585 right-hand thread rotation at current location without shift. When moving  
586 Nicholson toward north, we assumed the Euler pole of the rotation to be  $0^{\circ}\text{N}$   
587  $130^{\circ}\text{W}$ . When rotating Nicholson without shift, we assumed the Euler pole of  
588 the rotation to be  $40^{\circ}\text{S } 40^{\circ}\text{W}$ . Then, Rodriguez's rotation formula was used to  
589 calculate these movements. The operation that all of furrows are moved by  
590 the formula is actually equal to one that the geometric center of  $21.3^{\circ}\text{S}$   
591  $179.4^{\circ}\text{W}$  is moved by the inverse formula. Therefore, we calculated angle of  
592 intersection between furrow segments at current location and the concentric  
593 circles centered at the center that was moved inversely. The results were  
594 shown in Fig. 7.

595

## 596 **Appendix B. Numerical Method**

597 We use the iSALE-2D shock physics code (Wünnemann et al., 2006),  
598 which is an extension of the SALE hydrocode (Amsden et al., 1980). To  
599 simulate hypervelocity impact processes in solid materials, SALE was  
600 modified to include an elasto-plastic constitutive model, fragmentation  
601 models, various equations of state, and multiple materials (Ivanov et al.,  
602 1997; Melosh et al., 1992). More recent improvements include a modified  
603 strength model (Collins et al., 2004), a porosity compaction model (Collins et  
604 al., 2011; Wünnemann et al., 2006) and a dilatancy model (Collins, 2014).

605 We employ the two-dimensional cylindrical coordinate system and

606 perform head-on impact simulations between Ganymede and an impactor.  
607 We assume that Ganymede is differentiated into an icy mantle and a rocky  
608 core. Its radius and the thickness of the icy mantle are fixed at 2600 km and  
609 900 km, respectively (Schubert et al., 2004). We performed simulations with  
610 several different sizes of the core, and confirmed that the size of the melt pool  
611 does not change significantly. For example, Figure A1 shows the temperature  
612 distribution in a coreless Ganymede after the impact. The size of the melt  
613 pool was roughly 1000 km, which was consistent with the differentiated  
614 Ganymede case (Fig.10). The impactor is assumed to be composed of ice, and  
615 its impact velocity is fixed at 20 km/s (Zahnle et al., 2003). We assume an  
616 impactor radius ( $R_{\text{imp}}$ ) to be 50 km or 150 km and compare the results of both  
617 cases. Following previous works, we use the Tillotson equation of state for ice  
618 (Tillotson, 1962) and ANEOS equation of state for dunite (Thompson and  
619 Lauson, 1974). The strength and damage model parameters for ice and  
620 dunite are listed in Table A1, whose values are used by previous works  
621 (Johnson et al., 2016a; Johnson et al., 2016b; Senft and Stewart, 2008). We  
622 assume the temperature of the surface and icy mantle of the target to be 120  
623 K and 200-210 K, respectively (Nimmo and Pappalardo, 2004; Schubert et al.,  
624 2004). We assume the temperature of the impactor to be equal to the surface  
625 of Ganymede, 120 K. We also consider the effect of acoustics fluidization  
626 using results obtained by impact simulations (Bray et al., 2014). We assume  
627 that the angle of impact is perpendicular to the horizon. Note that an oblique  
628 impact cannot be simulated in iSALE-2D. Most of grid-based hydrodynamic  
629 codes cannot treat the undifferentiated body with the mixture of rock and ice,

630 and therefore, ice/ice impacts have been used to simulate impacts onto  
 631 undifferentiated bodies. This assumption has been considered to be  
 632 reasonable because rock particles hardly influence the ice EOS when the size  
 633 of the rock particle embedded in the ice is small (e.g. Bar and Canup, 2011).

634 Since we aim to evaluate the size of a melt pool after the impact in  
 635 this impact simulation, we perform numerical integration for a period of time  
 636 that is sufficiently long for the impact site to become stabilized. When  $R_{\text{imp}} =$   
 637 50 km, the required simulation period is  $T = 5000 - 10000$  s, while it is  
 638  $T = 10000 - 15000$  s when  $R_{\text{imp}} = 150$  km. In order to examine the extent of ejecta  
 639 blankets, we carry out impact simulation using large computational domain  
 640 of  $7800 \text{ km} \times 13000 \text{ km}$ , whose spatial cell size is 10 km. The iSALE-2D  
 641 supports two types of gravity field model: central gravity and self-gravity.  
 642 The central gravity model can calculate spatially varying gravity field, which  
 643 is independent of time. On the other hand, the gravity field by the  
 644 self-gravity model is calculated from mutual gravity between the  
 645 computational cells, and is updated periodically (Davison et al., 2012). In  
 646 this study, the temporal variation of the gravity field can be assumed to be  
 647 small because the target deformation due to the impact is small. Thus, we  
 648 apply the central gravity model. Indeed, although we also carried out impact  
 649 simulations using the self-gravity model, outcomes were almost the same as  
 650 the case of the central gravity model (Fig. A2).

651

652 **Table A1. iSALE material parameters**

Description	Ice	Dunite
Poisson's ratio	0.33 <sup>*1</sup>	0.25 <sup>*5</sup>

Thermal softening	1.84 <sup>*1</sup>	1.1 <sup>*5</sup>
Melting temperature (K)	273.15 <sup>*1</sup>	1373 <sup>*5</sup>
Simon A parameter (Pa)	-----	1.52×10 <sup>9</sup> <sup>*5</sup>
Simon C parameter	-----	4.05 <sup>*5</sup>
Strength model	ICE <sup>*2</sup>	ROCK <sup>*5</sup>
Cohesion (undamaged) (Pa)	1.64×10 <sup>7</sup> <sup>*1</sup>	5.07×10 <sup>6</sup> <sup>*5</sup>
Coefficient of internal friction (undamaged)	6.54 <sup>*1</sup>	1.58 <sup>*5</sup>
Limiting strength at high pressure (Pa)	1.47×10 <sup>8</sup> <sup>*1</sup>	3.26×10 <sup>9</sup> <sup>*5</sup>
Cohesion (damaged) (Pa)	10 <sup>4</sup> <sup>*1</sup>	10 <sup>4</sup> <sup>*5</sup>
Coefficient of internal friction (damaged)	0.55 <sup>*1</sup>	0.63 <sup>*5</sup>
Limiting strength at high pressure (Pa)	1.47×10 <sup>8</sup> <sup>*1</sup>	3.26×10 <sup>9</sup> <sup>*5</sup>
Damage model	COLLINS <sup>*6</sup>	COLLINS <sup>*6</sup>
Brittle ductile transition (Pa)	6.89×10 <sup>8</sup> <sup>*1</sup>	1.23×10 <sup>9</sup> <sup>*5</sup>
Brittle plastic transition (Pa)	6.99×10 <sup>8</sup> <sup>*1</sup>	2.35×10 <sup>9</sup> <sup>*5</sup>
Tensile strength (Pa)	1.7×10 <sup>5</sup> <sup>*1</sup>	10 <sup>7</sup> <sup>*5</sup>
Acoustic fluidization model	Block <sup>*3</sup>	-----
Acoustic fluidization viscosity constant	0.553 ( $R_{imp}=50\text{km}$ ) 0.785 ( $R_{imp}=150\text{km}$ ) <sup>*4</sup>	-----
Acoustic fluidization decay time constant	45.1 ( $R_{imp}=50\text{km}$ ) 24.9 ( $R_{imp}=150\text{km}$ ) <sup>*4</sup>	-----

653 \*1 (Johnson et al., 2016b; Senft and Stewart, 2008)

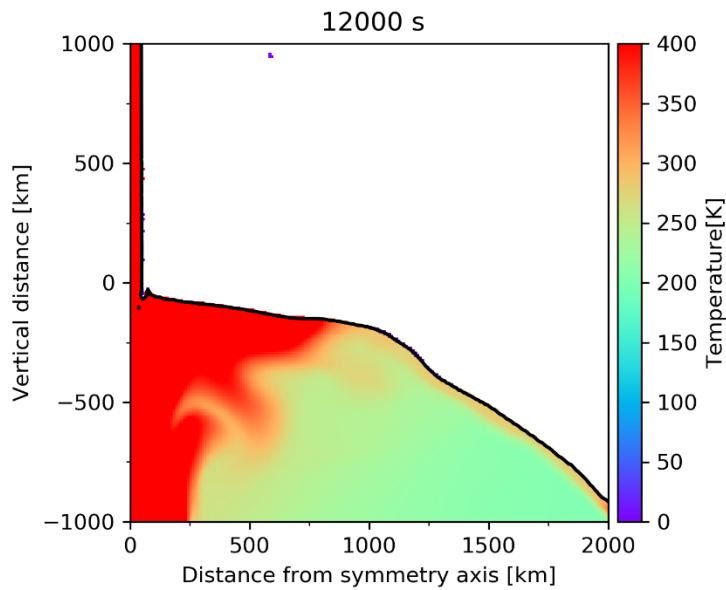
654 \*2 (Collins et al., 2016)

655 \*3 (Ivanov and Kostuchenko, 1997)

656 \*4 (Bray et al., 2014)

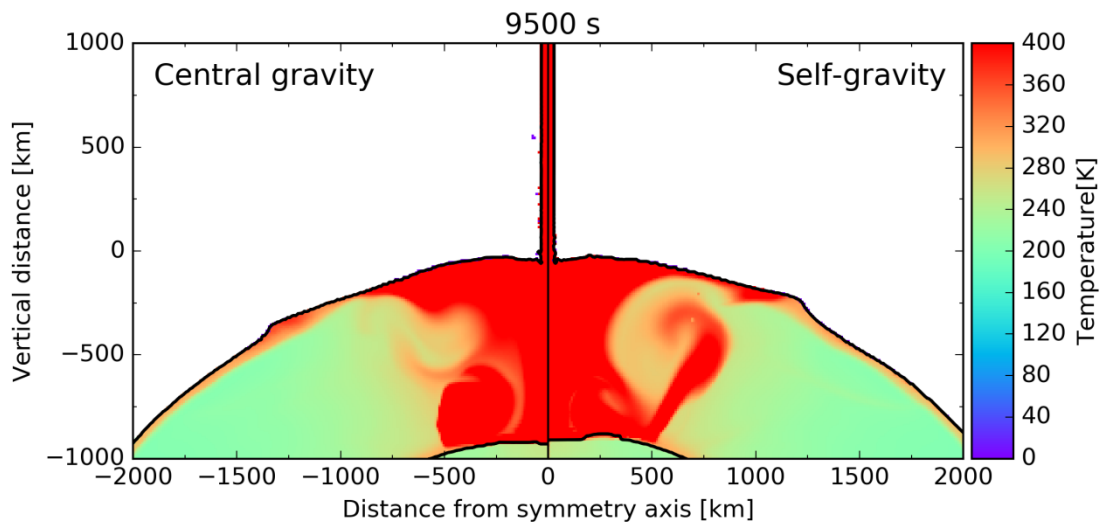
657 \*5 (Johnson et al., 2016a)

658 \*6 (Collins et al., 2004)



659

660 **Figure A1.** The size of melt pool for the case of coreless Ganymede.



661

662 **Figure A2.** The size of melt pool on central gravity model (left) and  
 663 self-gravity model (right) in the case of  $R_{\text{imp}}=150$  km (see also Movie 5).

664

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666

667

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673 Wünnemann, Boris Ivanov, H. Jay Melosh, Dirk Elbeshausen, and Thomas  
674 Davison.

675

### 676 **Supporting information**

677 There are one supplementary figure and five movies. Captions for Figure S1  
678 and Movies are listed below.

679 Figure S1. The original-sized image of Fig. 3.

680 Movie 1. The animation of upper panels of Fig. 10.

681 Movie 2. The entire of Ganymede of Movie 1.

682 Movie 3. The animation of bottom panels of Fig. 10.

683 Movie 4. The entire of Ganymede of Movie 3.

684 Movie 5. The animation of Figure A2.

685

686

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