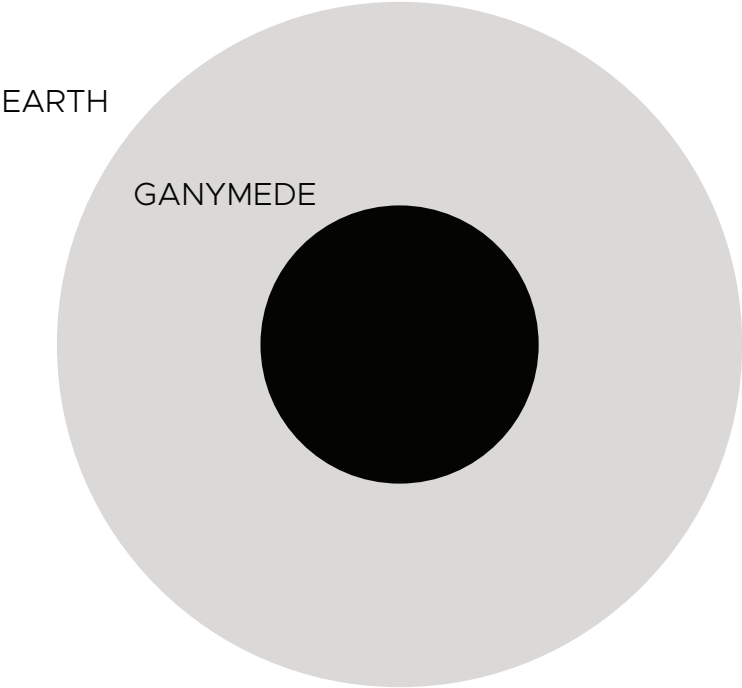


The Galilean moons—the four largest moons of Jupiter—are shown in their correct order of distance from Jupiter, and their correct relative orbital distances. The sizes of the bodies are greatly exaggerated relative to the orbital distances.

GANYMEDE is the largest moon in our solar system and the only moon with its own magnetic field. The magnetic field causes auroras, which are ribbons of glowing, electrified gas, in regions circling the moon’s north and south poles. Ganymede has large, bright regions of ridges and grooves that slice across older, darker terrains. These grooved regions are a clue that the moon experienced dramatic upheavals in the distant past. Scientists have also found strong evidence of an underground ocean on Ganymede.

Ganymede is named for a boy who was made cupbearer for the ancient Greek gods by Zeus—Jupiter to the Romans.



Ganymede is 0.41x (or 41%) the size of Earth

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