Global structure and heavy ion distribution in Mercury's magnetosphere

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From Mariner 10 and MESSENGER observations, Mercury’s magnetosphere is thought to be a miniature of the Earth’s magnetosphere. While these two magnetospheres have several characteristics in common, some critical differences are also evident. First, there is no atmospheric layer, but only tenuous exosphere. Second, center of dipole field is shifted to northward about 485km, which is equivalent to 0.2 Mercury's radius. Kinetic effects of heavy ions will also be important in Mercury's magnetosphere, because Mercury’s magnetosphere is relatively small compared to the large Larmor radii. Trajectory tracings is one of the dominant methods to estimate the kinetic effect of heavy ions which originate from the exosphere, though the results of the simulation are quite sensitive to the electric and magnetic field. Hence, it is important to provide a realistic field model in the trajectory tracings. In order to construct a large scale structure, we developed a MHD simulation code, and adopted it to the global simulation of Mercury’s magnetosphere. In this study, first we performed several cases of MHD simulation to investigate the interaction between solar wind plasma and offset dipole of Mercury. Solar wind densities are given 35cm⁻³, and velocity for 400km/s which is typical value in the Mercury's orbit. IMF conditions comes from Parker Spiral which has strong Bx and By component at the Mercury's orbit, and fluctuations are added in By and Bz components. In the results of MHD simulations, global configuration of magnetosphere shows strong north-south asymmetry due to dipole offset and IMF-Bx in addition to dawn-dusk asymmetry which comes from IMF-By. IMF Bx also affects to the intensity ratio of north and south cusp pressure, while IMF By component “twist” the cusp region to longitudinal direction. The identification of global structures especially the cusp region is important not only for the understanding of magnetospheric physics itself, but also making a proposal to the observational plan of spacecraft such as Bepi-Colombo. In the presentation, we will also discuss the heavy ion distribution and precipitation on Mercury obtained by trajectory tracings of test particles.

Keywords: Mercury's magnetosphere, MHD simulation
LWA1 Jupiter radio monitoring during the Hisaki observation campaign

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The Long Wavelength Array (LWA) is a low-frequency radio telescope designed to produce high-sensitivity, high-resolution spectra in the frequency range of 10-88 MHz. The Long Wavelength Array Station 1 (LWA1) is the first LWA station completed in April 2011, and is located near the VLA site in New Mexico, USA. LWA1 consists of a 256 element array operating as a single-station telescope. The sensitivity of the LWA1, combined with the low radio frequency interference environment, allows us to observe the fine spectral structure of Jupiter's decametric modulation lanes.

During the Hisaki observation campaign from January 1 to 15 in 2014 we made a series of observations to monitor Jupiter's decametric radio emissions by using LWA1. During this period we used 91 hours of total machine time of LWA1. We selected the LWA1 spectrograph observing mode (time resolution: 40ms, frequency resolution: 20kHz). The total volume size of the collected data was about 117GB.

During this observing period 14 non-Io-related events of Jupiter radio emissions were observed: 7 for the non-Io-A source, 6 for non-Io-B, and 1 for non-Io-C. We developed a system of semi-automatic data analysis in the study of Jupiter's decametric modulation lanes. By using this system we analyzed the 14 non-Io-related Jupiter radio emissions.

By the modulation lane method [Imai et al., 1997, 2002, 2006], the source parameters of the non-Io-related sources were analyzed. The source L-shell parameter in the case of non-Io-related sources is not well known; therefore, we assumed the fixed L-shell value. One non-Io-A event shows the different cone half-angle parameters between two groups of arc structures on the dynamic spectrum. All other non-Io-A events show almost the same value of cone half-angles based on the fixed L-shell value. The results of all non-Io-related data analysis will be discussed.

References:

Keywords: Jupiter radio, decametric emissions, modulation lanes, radio source parameters
Juno observations of Jupiter’s dawnside magnetopause boundary layer

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Using recent observations obtained by particles and fields instrumentation on the Juno spacecraft, we present the properties of Jupiter’s dawnside magnetopause in unprecedented detail. Through magnetic reconnection and viscous mixing (e.g., the Kelvin-Helmholtz instability) processes, Jupiter’s dawnside magnetopause provides a pathway for solar wind plasmas to enter the Jovian magnetosphere. On 14 July 2016, we identify an extended magnetopause boundary layer (MPBL) indicative of significant mass transport across the magnetopause. For this event, minimum variance analysis revealed an open magnetopause with a sunward-tilted boundary normal, indicative of significant magnetospheric compression. Furthermore, we identify ~2 h increases in the total magnetospheric pressure adjacent to two magnetopause crossings. These structures are of an order of magnitude longer duration than typical magnetospheric transits (e.g., plasmoids, reconnection fronts) and may provide evidence of focused energy transport into the magnetosphere via magnetohydrodynamic waves.

Keywords: juno, jupiter, magnetosphere
Synergetic mission of simultaneous observations toward bow-shaped structures induced by atmospheric gravity wave on Venus with ALMA and Venus Climate Orbiter "Akatsuki"

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For understanding of the origin of short-term changes of the CO mixing ratio in the Venusian middle atmosphere observed by our ground based millimeter wave band 10m Telescope, SPART, it is essential to study the link between the atmospheric chemistry and dynamics in Venus. In December 9, 2015, the longwave infrared (LIR; 10 μm) band camera on board Venus Climate Orbiter “Akatsuki”, which traces the temperature of the cloud tops, discovered the mysterious steady bow-shaped structures induced by atmospheric gravity waves on Venus. It is expected that the observations of the distributions of atmospheric minor constituents driven by the gravity waves/bow-shaped structures provide us important information about the link.

In November 20 and December 1, 2016 we carried out the synergetic observations with Atacama Large Millimeter/submillimeter Array (ALMA) and Akatsuki toward the western highland of Aphrodite terra where the next events of large stationary atmospheric gravity waves would be expected. The LIR camera of Akatsuki succeeded to shoot the images continuously at the perihelion. ALMA executed the observations of CO and \(^{13}\)CO at 200 GHz band (Band 6) and CO, \(^{13}\)CO, HDO, SO, and SO\(_2\) at 300 GHz band (Band 7). ALMA in Cycle 4 consists of fifty 12m antenna arrays and Atacama compact arrays (twelve 7m antenna arrays and four 12m single dish antennas) to obtain a good coverage of the uv plane. The spatial resolutions for the Band 7 and Band 6 under the C40-4 antenna configuration during the observing period are 0.43 and 0.63 arcsec, respectively.

The Voigt line shapes of the spectral lines obtained by ALMA give us the information about vertical distributions of the minor constituents in the middle atmosphere of Venus. The wind velocity at the lower thermosphere of Venus is also derived from the Doppler shift of the spectral lines. On the other hand, by using the infrared and ultra-violet band cameras of Akatsuki the information about the dynamics and chemistry in the cloud region and troposphere are obtained. The highly resolved time-dependent 3D data obtained simultaneously by ALMA and Akatsuki give us a unique opportunity to standardize and connect our understandings of atmospheric dynamics and chemical reaction networks in the middle and lower atmospheres via \(\text{H}_2\text{SO}_4\cdot\text{H}_2\text{O}\) clouds. In this conference, we will present the current status of the synergetic mission with ALMA and Akatsuki.

Keywords: Atacama Large Millimeter/submillimeter Array (ALMA), Venus Climate Orbiter "AKATSUKI", Venus, Atmospheric Gravity Wave, SPART Telescope, Planetary Atmosphere
Search of CH4 on Mars by SOFIA/EXES

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Discovery of CH4 in the Martian atmosphere has led to much discussion since it could be a signature of biological/geological activities on Mars. However, the presence of CH4 and its temporal and spatial variations are still under discussion. We performed sensitive measurements of Martian CH4 by using the Echelon-Cross-Echelle Spectrograph (EXES) onboard the Stratospheric Observatory for Infrared Astronomy (SOFIA) on 16 March 2016, which corresponds to summer (Ls = 123.2°) in the northern hemisphere on Mars. The high altitude of SOFIA telescope (~13.7 km) enables us to significantly reduce the effects of terrestrial atmosphere, and the high spectral resolution of EXES (R~90,000) enables us to detect the intrinsically narrow lines of Martian CH4 at the 7.5 μm band. Mars disk was spatially resolved into 3 x 3 areas, none of the observed region showed the unambiguous detections of CH4. The upper limits on the CH4 volume mixing ratio ranges from 1 to 6 ppb.

Keywords: Mars, Methane, SOFIA

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Toward development of a radiative transfer model for a planetary atmosphere general circulation model

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A lot of exoplanets have been discovered since late 1990s. One of the interesting open questions on those exoplanets is its surface environment and circulation structure. Exoplanets would have a wide variety of surface environment and circulation, since discovered exoplanets have a variety of orbital parameters, and composition and mass of atmospheres which may be significantly different from those of planets in solar system.

In order to investigate surface environment and circulation structure on exoplanets, the most important and difficult point is calculation of radiative transfer in its atmospheres. One of the difficulties to calculate accurate radiation field is to perform integration over wavenumber accurately. In the Earth's climate studies, many radiation models use the correlated k-distribution method to decrease calculation cost. As for a study of exoplanetary climate, we have to implement the k-distribution method for a wide variety of atmospheric composition and mass.

In order to investigate diversity of surface environment and circulation structure of exoplanetary atmospheres, we are trying to develop a radiative transfer model which can be used in atmospheric circulation models for various planetary atmospheres. In this study, as a first step, we are developing a longwave radiative transfer model for the Earth's atmosphere.

In developing a radiation model for atmospheric circulation models, a line-by-line model is developed, first. Then, we develop a radiation model based on correlated k-distribution method. In developing the correlated k-distribution model, the line-by-line model is used as a reference. The line-by-line calculation is performed with Voigt line profile calculated with Humlicek (1982) method. Gas absorption line parameters are obtained from HITRAN2012 (Rothman et al., 2013). Continuum absorption is considered by the use of the MT_CKD model (Mlawer et al., 2012). The line-by-line model is validated based on ICRCCM longwave radiation model intercomparison of Ellingson et al. (1991). In developing our longwave correlated k-distribution model, we set number and wavenumber ranges of bands and number of bins as the same as those of RRTM (Mlawer et al., 2012), which is a well-developed Earth’s atmosphere radiation model. The developed correlated k-distribution model is validated by comparing flux and heating rate with those by our line-by-line model. In the presentation, details of the developed line-by-line model and the correlated k-distribution model will be presented. We will show some calculated results for the Earth’s atmosphere, too.

Keywords: Planetary atmosphere, Radiative transfer, Earth
Global distribution of gravity waves activity in Mars' lower thermosphere derived from MAVEN/IUVS stellar occultations and analyzed using two Martian General Circulation Models

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Small-scale gravity waves (GWs) are recognized as an important part of the terrestrial climate system. They affect the dynamics, composition, and thermal structure of the terrestrial middle atmosphere and thermosphere. On Mars, most of information about GWs at altitudes 0-40 km has been obtained with radio occultation techniques and temperature profiles by MCS/MRO, while GW activity in the upper atmosphere was quantified using aerobraking measurements. Since previous studies did not establish a correlation between the GW activity in the lower and upper atmosphere, questions about thermospheric sources of the perturbations still remain to be addressed. Since October 2014, comprehensive studies of the Martian atmosphere have been performed with NASA's Mars Atmosphere EvolutioN (MAVEN) mission. In-situ measurement of the upper atmosphere, down to 130 km, revealed substantial wave structures in ions and neutrals. Wave structures have also been detected by remote sensing with Imaging Ultraviolet Spectrograph (IUVS) at altitudes between 30 and 150 km. IUVS measurement provide opportunities for investigating possible links between GWs in the Martian troposphere and thermosphere.

In this paper, we use the IUVS stellar occultation measurements to characterize a global distribution of GW activity in the lower thermosphere. We focus on the data obtained between March 2015 and March 2016. Two comprehensive general circulation models (MGCMs), a GWs resolving MGCM and the Max Planck Institute MGCM incorporating a state-of-the-art GW parameterization have been used to interpret the observations. The main results of this study are as follows.

(1) The observed perturbations demonstrate GW signatures with vertical wavelengths of 10-20 km and amplitudes of up to 10 % of the mean temperature (~13 K) and 15-20 % of the mean density.

(2) The observed wave potential energy in the lower thermosphere has larger values at middle latitudes. This is contrary to the distribution of GW activity in the lower thermosphere, whose maximum is located in low latitudes, but is consistent with simulations using the two MGCMs.

(3) Our MGCM simulations demonstrate that the background winds play a major role in vertical propagation of GWs generated in the lower atmosphere, which can explain the latitudinal distribution of the GW activity. High-resolution as well as parameterization GW simulations demonstrate a consistent picture of GW-induced temperature perturbations.

(4) The observed perturbations in the lower thermosphere are most likely caused by GWs of tropospheric origin penetrated from below.

We must emphasize that the spatial coverage of the existing MAVEN/IUVS occultation data is still poor to unambiguously establish the global distribution of the GW activity in the lower thermosphere. This should be a subject of further observations. However, the presented data, at least, do not contradict the model
predictions pointing to the lower atmospheric origin of these waves.

Keywords: Mars, gravity wave, thermosphere, MAVEN
MAVEN/NGIMS observations and full-particle DSMC modeling of gravity waves in the Martian upper thermosphere

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Global distribution and parameter dependences of gravity wave activity in the Martian upper thermosphere have been analyzed using density profiles obtained by the Neutral Gas Ion Mass Spectrometer (NGIMS) onboard the MAVEN spacecraft. The average amplitude of gravity waves around the Martian exobase is ~10% on the dayside and ~20% on the nightside, which is about two and ten times larger than those on Venus and in the low latitude region of Earth, respectively. The amplitudes are inversely proportional to the background atmospheric temperature, suggesting saturation due to convective instability in the Martian upper thermosphere. After removing the dependence on the background temperature, dependences of the average amplitude on the geographic latitude and longitude and solar wind parameters are found to be not larger than a few percent. These results suggest that the amplitudes of gravity waves are mainly determined by convective breaking/saturation in the upper thermosphere on Mars, unlike those on Venus and Earth. We have also performed numerical simulations of propagation, saturation, and dissipation processes of gravity waves in the Martian upper thermosphere using a full-particle Direct Simulation Monte-Carlo (DSMC) model. The modeling results are compared to the NGIMS observations with a particular emphasis on the vertical profiles of the wave amplitudes and their day-night variations to constrain the vertical and horizontal wavelengths of the observed waves.

Keywords: Gravity waves, Upper thermosphere, Mars
Solar energetic electron penetration into the Martian upper atmosphere observed by MAVEN

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Discovery of diffuse aurora at Mars caused by the SEP (solar energetic particle) electrons [Schneider et al., Science, 2015] sheds a new light on the high-energy particle environment at Mars. Since Mars has no global intrinsic magnetic field, direct interaction between the solar wind and Martian upper atmosphere results in the draping of the interplanetary magnetic field (IMF) around Mars and forms the induced magnetosphere. The diffuse aurora observation in the northern hemisphere, where the crustal field is absent, indicates penetration of the high-energy electrons of \( \sim 100 \) keV down to the altitudes around 70 km most likely along the draped IMF around the planet. However, to what extent the draped magnetic field configuration around Mars controls the SEP electron penetration to the atmosphere is far from understood.

In this study, we investigated three SEP events observed by MAVEN from December 2014 to March 2015. The pitch angle (PA) distributions of the high-energy (30-210 keV) electrons observed in the Martian ionosphere are analyzed in details. In order to achieve a good coverage in the 2-D (PA-energy) phase space, data obtained during a SEP event is accumulated and binned. Using the elevation angle of the local magnetic field, we also sorted the data so as to investigate the SEP electron loss below the MAVEN periapsis (\( \sim 150 \) km altitude). The obtained PA distributions in the ionosphere are compared with the distributions of the source electrons in the magnetosheath. The results show that the field-aligned component is pronounced for the penetrating electrons and it does not significantly depend on the initial PA distributions in the magnetosheath. The observation also indicates that the highest energy of the SEP electrons lost into the Martian atmosphere depends on the magnetic field configuration draped around the planet. During the aurora event reported by Schneider et al. [2015], electrons with energy less than \( \sim 130 \) keV were lost into the atmosphere. These SEP observations thus support the scenario that the solar energetic electrons penetrate into the ionosphere along the draped magnetic field and the altitude to which they can penetrate depends on the magnetic field configuration.

Keywords: SEP, aurora, Mars, CME, MAVEN
Planetary Space Weather Services for the Europlanet 2020 Research Infrastructure

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Under Horizon 2020, the Europlanet 2020 Research Infrastructure (EPN2020-RI, http://www.europlanet-2020-ri.eu) includes an entirely new Virtual Access Service, “Planetary Space Weather Services” (PSWS) that will extend the concepts of space weather and space situational awareness to other planets in our Solar System and in particular to spacecraft that voyage through it. PSWS will provide at the end of 2017 12 services distributed over 4 different service domains – 1) Prediction, 2) Detection, 3) Modelling, 4) Alerts. These services include 1.1) A 1D MHD solar wind prediction tool, 1.2) Extensions of a Propagation Tool, 1.3) A meteor showers prediction tool, 1.4) A cometary tail crossing prediction tool, 2.1) Detection of lunar impacts, 2.2) Detection of giant planet fireballs, 2.3) Detection of cometary tail events, 3.1) A Transplanet model of magnetosphere-ionosphere coupling, 3.2) A model of the Mars radiation environment, 3.3) A model of giant planet magnetodisc, 3.4) A model of Jupiter’s thermosphere, 4) A VO-event based alert system. We will detail in the present paper some of these services with a particular emphasis on those already operational at the time of the presentation.

The proposed Planetary Space Weather Services will be accessible to the research community, amateur astronomers as well as to industrial partners planning for space missions dedicated in particular to the following key planetary environments: Mars, in support of ESA’s ExoMars missions; comets, building on the success of the ESA Rosetta mission; and outer planets, in preparation for the ESA JUpiter ICy moon Explorer (JUICE). These services will also be augmented by the future Solar Orbiter and BepiColombo observations. This new facility will not only have an impact on planetary space missions but will also allow the hardness of spacecraft and their components to be evaluated under variety of known conditions, particularly radiation conditions, extending their known flight-worthiness for terrestrial applications. Europlanet 2020 RI has received funding from the European Union’s Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme under grant agreement No 654208.

Keywords: Planets, Space Weather, Services
Polarimetry of exoplanets using T60/DIPOL-2 at the Haleakala observatory

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Many exoplanets have been found since the first discovery of exoplanet in 1995, and observation methods have been developed so far. In this study we particularly focus on polarimetry of the exoplanets. Light scattered at exoplanetary atmosphere is polarized with a periodic variation of its revolution. Thus, we expect to obtain exoplanetary orbital element and exoplanetary atmosphere information from phase, amplitude, wavelength dependence of polarization. The measurement of exoplanetary polarization is characterized by photon noise limited, which enable us to observe with a small-sized telescope. Since 2000, several groups attempted to detect the polarimetry of exoplanets. Some groups suggested that the polarization degree less than 10^-4 exists, however other groups reported that there is no significant variation in exoplanetary polarization. In this study, we purpose to establish the measurement method of exoplanetary polarization using DIPOL-2 installed on the Tohoku 60 cm telescope (T60) at Haleakala, Hawaii, and also aim to develop the data analysis method which is required to estimate the exoplanetary polarization very accurately.

DIPOL-2 observation data involve exoplanetary polarization as well as instrumental polarization. Thus, we need to subtract the instrumental polarization precisely from the observed data. In case that the instrumental polarization is too large compared with exoplanetary polarization, it might be impossible to detect exoplanet polarization. To verify the stability of instrumental polarization, we carried out two kinds of observations of non-polarized standard stars as follows. One is the observation of 44 non-polarized standard stars, and the other is the continuous observation of a non-polarized standard star HD142373. Observations of 44 non-polarized standard stars were performed on 90 nights during the period from May 2015 to October 2016. From the useful dataset for 39 stars, we estimated Stokes Q and U of instrumental polarization are 1.20 x 10^-5 and 2.63 x 10^-6, respectively. From continuous observation of a non-polarized standard star HD142373 in August 2016, we also estimated the lower limits of variabilities in Stokes Q (sigma_Q) and U (sigma_U) of the instrumental polarization as 1.0 x 10^-5 and 8.8 x 10^-6, respectively. These variabilities in instrumental polarization defines the estimation limit of exoplanetary polarization.

On the exoplanetary observation, we first estimated the expected amplitude of stokes parameter and observation S/N based on previously known parameters of exoplanet, such as the distance between exoplanet and main star, and brightness of main star. From this estimation, we selected three target exoplanets, HD189733 b, τ Boo b, υ And b.

From the data analysis of HD189733 b, we could not obtain significant periodic variation in stokes parameters obtained in past observation by Berdyugina et al. [2011]. Standard deviations in observed stokes parameters were close to the those of instrumental polarization, and therefore it seems further accurate observation is required to evaluate the polarization parameters for HD18933 b. On exoplanet τ Boo b and υ And b, the standard deviation in observed data was larger than expected estimation errors including photon shot noise and uncertainty of instrumental polarization (Stokes Q=65%, and Stokes U=128% for τ Boo b, and Stokes Q=20%, and Stokes U=39% for υ And b). Therefore, we conclude that the data should show exoplanetary polarization although any significant orbital phase dependence in exoplanetary polarization was not seen. This may be due to insufficient accuracy of estimated instrumental polarization parameters, and thus we suggest further accurate calibration of instrumental polarization and its dependence on telescope environment, such as temperature, air pressure, viewing
angle and seasonal dependence, should be needed in future study.

Keywords: exoplanet, polarization, Haleakala
PIC simulation on the plasma environment of a weakly magnetized small body with heavy ion emission

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The objectives of this study is to study the plasma environment of a weakly magnetized small body with heavy ion emission immersed in the solar wind by performing three-dimensional particle simulation. The BepiColombo Mercury mission will observe various plasma phenomena occurring in the small-scale magnetosphere of Mercury. Based on the previous observations, it is reported that the intrinsic magnetic field of Mercury is weak and the magnetic dipole moment is approximately 1/2000 of that of the Earth, which causes a small magnetosphere whose size is 1/20 of that of the Earth. In addition, Mercury owns no ionosphere but an exosphere. The small magnetosphere has a large proportion of Mercury’s body and the structures of magnetospheric regions, particularly at the dayside and in the cusp region, may have spatial scale almost equal to the ion Larmor radius of the solar wind. In such a situation, it is important to consider the plasma kinetics in the analysis of plasma phenomena in the association with the small-scale magnetosphere. In this study, we started investigating the kinetic phenomena in the small magnetosphere by performing full particle simulations. In the simulation model, we have a small body with a small magnetic dipole moment immersed in a plasma flow representing the solar wind. In the vicinity of the surface of the small body, we keep emitting heavy ions as well as photoelectrons. We define L as the distance between the dipole center and a position where the solar wind dynamic pressure balances the magnetic pressure at the dayside. In this study, we set the ratio of the ion Larmor radius to L is between unity and 0.1. In Mercury case, the ratio will be 0.01 which implies the ion Larmor radius is 1/100 smaller than L. However, as stated earlier, it is highly possible that the kinetic effect can play an important role for the dayside physics. Therefore, we emphasize the kinetic effect by adopting larger ion Larmor radius in the simulation. Other important parameters in the simulation are the ratio of the body’s radius to L, the density, and the velocity of the heavy ions and photoelectrons emitted from the surface. In the preliminary simulation results, we could confirm the fundamental physics in the small magnetosphere such as the formation of a small-scale magnetosphere with asymmetric density profile between the dawn and dusk regions, circular current around the body in the magnetic equator and the electric field enhancement near the surface due to the charge separation between heavy ions and photoelectrons emitted from the surface. We would like to investigate the dependency of these phenomena on the parameters stated above. We are also interested in the formation of exoionosphere which can be represented by the spatial distribution of the heavy ions.

Keywords: plasma particle simulation, weakly magnetized planet, Mercury's magnetosphere, exosphere
Reconsideration of the relation between Jupiter's auroral radio activities and Io's volcanic variations

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It has been discussed for a long time how the logenic heavy plasma affects to Jupiter's magnetic activities. Kronberg et al. (JGR, 2007) proposed a conceptual model for periodic magnetospheric variations by assuming that magnetospheric reconfigurations are caused by ion mass loading from the internal plasma sources. This proposal implies that enhancement of logenic plasma enhances internal magnetic variations. On the other hand, Shay and Swisdak (PRL, 2004) indicated that magnetotail reconnection rate is reduced when heavy ions (O+) are contained larger. This idea implies the opposite response of Jupiter's magnetosphere to plasma enhancement.

Tohoku University has conducted campaign-base optical observations for logenic gas around the opposition period of Jupiter since 1999. From the observations, significant variations of logenic gas have been identified several times in 1999, 2003, 2007 and 2015 (Nozawa et al., JGR, 2004; Yoneda et al., GRL, 2010; GRL, 2013; Icarus, 2015). These phenomena give good opportunities to examine how magnetospheric activities respond to the logenic plasma enhancement.

We have analyzed Jupiter's auroral radio emission in hectometer to decameter wave ranges by using the WIND/WAVES data to investigate relation between Jupiter's magnetospheric variations and Io's volcanic events. So far, a negative correlation was reported for the event in 2007 (Yoneda et al., GRL, 2013), while we suggested a positive correlation for the recent event in 2015. To clarify more precise characteristic of the mutual relation, we have extended the analysis for the other volcanic events by evaluating variations of the emission power. In the presentation, we will show the results and reconsider causalities for the variability of magnetospheric response to Io's volcanic variations.

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Keywords: Jupiter, radio emission, Io volcanic activity
Pitch angle scattering due to elastic collisions between magnetospheric keV electrons and neutral H$_2$O molecules originated from Enceladus

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The observations of injected plasmas in the inner magnetosphere suggest that these particles do not survive very long time due to the neutral cloud originated from Enceladus [e.g., Paranicas et al., 2007; 2008]. These neutrals in the inner magnetosphere play the dominant role in a loss process of energetic electrons and ions [e.g., Paranicas et al., 2007; Sittler et al., 2008]. However, little has been reported on a quantitative study of the electron loss process due to electron-neutral collisions. In this study, we focus on the elastic collisional loss process with neutrals. Conducting one dimensional test-particle simulation, Tadokoro et al. [2014] examined the time variations of equatorial pitch angle distribution and electrons within loss cone through 1 keV electron pitch angle scattering due to electron-H$_2$O elastic collisions around Enceladus when the electron flux tube passes the region of the dense H$_2$O molecules in the vicinity of Enceladus (~380 sec). The result showed that the electrons of 11.4 % are lost in ~380 sec. Next remaining issue is loss rate of electrons with other energy. In this study, we show a preliminary result of the loss rate of electrons with 500eV-50keV. We also show the comparison of the loss rate between the high H$_2$O density region (in the vicinity of Enceladus) and the low H$_2$O density region (in the Enceladus torus).

Keywords: Saturn, Enceladus, Pitch angle scattering
DSMC simulations of internal gravity waves propagating and dissipating in the Martian upper thermosphere and exosphere

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The effects of internal gravity wave propagation and dissipation in the Martian upper thermosphere and exosphere on the density, circulation, and temperature of the background atmosphere have been studied using a multi-species Direct Simulation Monte Carlo (DSMC) model of Terada et al. (2016). This paper shows results of local simulations of a vertically propagating gravity wave mode in the Martian dayside upper thermosphere and exosphere under the conditions of the observation period of the Mars Atmosphere and Volatile EvolutioN (MAVEN) satellite. The results reveal that gravity waves which produce wave-like density perturbations around the exobase observed by Neutral Gas Ion Mass Spectrometer (NGIMS) instrument onboard the MAVEN satellite [e.g. Yigit et al., 2015; Terada et al., 2017] must have a vertical wavelength of at least 200 km, if they are propagated from the lower and middle atmosphere. We also find that a gravity wave harmonic with a 200 km vertical wavelength significantly heats and accelerates the upper thermosphere and the exosphere, increasing the mixing ratio of CO₂ above 150 km. The calculated horizontal acceleration rate is ~1200 m/s/sol, and the calculated heating rate is ~100 K/sol. The calculated rate of increase in CO₂ mixing ratio is ~80 %/sol around the ionopause, which can probably cause an increase in the escape flux ratios of CO₂⁺/O⁺ and O₂⁺/O⁺.

References

Keywords: Gravity waves, Upper thermosphere, Mars
Dense cold ion outflow observed in the Martian induced magnetotail by MAVEN

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Geological studies have suggested that Mars had a warm climate and liquid water on surface about 4 billion years ago. Now, Mars has a cold surface temperature and little water on surface. Escape of greenhouse gases such as CO₂ to space is considered as the plausible reason to cause the drastic climate change. On one hand, mechanisms enabled the large amount of the CO₂ loss is far from understood. The planetary ion escape through interaction between the solar wind and the Martian upper atmosphere is one of the candidate mechanisms to achieve the atmospheric escape. To understand atmospheric loss from Mars, MAVEN (Mars Atmosphere Volatile EvolutioN) has observed the ion escape from Mars as well as space environment around Mars since November 2014. In this study, we investigate detailed characteristics of a dense cold ion outflow event observed in the Martian induced magnetotail based on the MAVEN observations.

From 14:55 to 15:35 UT on December 4, 2014, MAVEN traversed the wake region and observed cold ions in the induced magnetotail of Mars. Around 15:01 UT, it crossed the current sheet from the dusk-southern to dawn-northern quadrants of the magnetotail. The former (latter) corresponds to the downward (upward) electric field (E) hemisphere in the MSE (Mars-Sun-Electric field) coordinates, since the direction of the solar wind electric field was directed roughly to Z axis of the MSO coordinates. In the wake region, the negative spacecraft charging enable us to detect ambient cold ions. The observation shows a clear asymmetry both in the cold ion density and composition against the current sheet crossing: In the southern downward-E hemisphere, the density is high (>100 1/cc) and heavy ion rich, where the main component is O₂+ with O₂+/O+ ratio of ~2.6. However, in the northern upward-E hemisphere, the heavy ion density drops more than 1 order of magnitude and proton becomes the main component. It should be noted that the high heavy ion density was observed also at high altitudes (>2000km).

At the time of the cold dense heavy ion observation, the strong crustal magnetic fields located on the dayside of Mars. Therefore, the MAVEN observed the cold dense heavy ion outflow in the magnetotail region which corresponds to the downward-E hemisphere as well as most likely the downstream of the mini-magnetosphere formed by interaction between the solar wind and the strong crustal magnetic fields. The result might mean that the combination of the mini-magnetosphere and the downward-E hemisphere facilitates the cold ion escape from Mars. We also tried to precisely estimate the number density of CO₂+ ions by eliminating the O₂+ contamination using a fitting method based on the data from The Supra-Thermal And Thermal Ion Composition (STATIC) instrument onboard MAVEN. The preliminary result of the CO₂+ density estimation will be shown.

Keywords: Mars, Atmospheric escape, MAVEN
Variations of ion escape from the past to present at Mars

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The present Mars has thin atmosphere consisting mainly of CO₂ and does not have liquid water at the surface. The recent space missions gave some evidences for existence of liquid water in the past Mars. It suggests that Mars have experienced atmospheric loss from the past through present. One of the important mechanisms of atmospheric escape is the ion loss. The ion escape is largely controlled by the magnetic configuration, solar wind and solar XUV (X-ray and extreme ultraviolet) irradiances. Terada et al. (2009) showed that the ion escape rate was at most five orders of magnitude higher under the past active solar condition than under the present ones.

The magnetic field is also an important factor in determining the ion escape rate. The present Mars does not have intrinsic global magnetic field, but is leaving the magnetism in its crust, which is known as the crustal magnetic field. The existence of crustal field suggests that Mars had a global magnetic field of interior origin in the past and the different escape mechanism from the present. The magnitude was perhaps about 0.1 G which is corresponding to the strength of the present magnetic field of the Earth's surface (Curtis and Ness, 1988).

We present the ion escape rates calculated by different magnetic configurations and solar conditions, and compare the results with the Terada et al. (2009) ones. The three-dimension and multi-species magnetohydrodynamics (MHD) modeling are used for the simulation. We will discuss the variation of escape rate due to the differences of magnitude of magnetic field, solar XUV irradiances, and solar wind density.

References

Keywords: Mars, Ion escape, Atmospheric escape
Observation project of the Martian atmosphere by THz-band heterodyne spectroscopic remote sensing with Mars micro-satellite/landers


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Recently the possible source of Methane on Mars discovered with the NASA’s infrared telescope and Curiosity rover is hot issue for discussion. In 2010 the heterodyne instrument for the far infrared band on board Herschel space observatory revealed that molecular oxygen may increase at the lower atmosphere of Mars. For understanding of the behaviors of biomarkers on exoplanets, it is crucial to reveal the related chemical reaction networks of the Martian atmosphere as well as the presence or absence of life as sources of these species.

Currently the team in department of aeronautics and astronautics, the University of Tokyo is planning to launch Mars micro-satellites and landers. We have plans to install 0.4 and 0.7 THz band heterodyne spectroscopic systems on the micro-satellites and landers for the simultaneous remote sensing of the minor constituents such as O2, H2O, O3, and their isotopes related to oxidation reaction networks of the Martian atmosphere. Grand-based telescopes on the earth cannot observe these species on Mars because of the strong absorption of the earth’s atmosphere.

For the frontend and backend Schottky barrier diode mixer detectors implemented with frequency multiplying local oscillators (Virginia diode Inc.) and high-resolution chirp transform spectrometers (1 GHz bandwidth) developed in Max Planck Institutes will be equipped, respectively. The equivalent system noise temperature is about 4000 K, which enables us to observe the spectral lines of above species with high signal-to-noise ratio according to the radiative transfer model. In case of a Mars landing mission with look-up observations so-called standard chopper wheel method is not applicable for spectral calibration. Therefore we will prepare the frequency tunable local oscillators for frequency switching mode and two blackbody calibrators with different temperatures. Planetary protection of the system is also an important task. In this conference the current status of this mission will be reported.

Keywords: Terahertz, Micro-satellite/lander, Planetary Atmosphere, Heterodyne Remote Sensing, Biomarker, Mars
Study of THz-band heterodyne spectroscopy system on board Mars micro-satellite/lander

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Recently the heterodyne instrument for the far infrared band on board Herschel space observatory revealed that molecular oxygen in the Martian atmosphere may increase at the lower atmosphere. The NASA’s infrared telescope and rover, Curiosity have also discovered the concentration of Methane on Mars. For understanding of the sources of these species, it is crucial to reveal the chemical reaction network of the Martian atmosphere as well as the presence or absence of life. We have just started to study the development of 0.4 and 0.7 THz band heterodyne spectroscopic systems for the remote sensing of the minor constituents such as O₂, H₂O, O₃, CO, and their isotopes in the Martian atmosphere. At present we are planning to install this THz system on the Mars micro-satellite/lander under consideration by Nakasuka group of the University of Tokyo. For the frontend Schottky barrier diode mixer devices implemented with frequency multiplying local oscillators (Virginia diode Inc.) are used. For the backend high-resolution chirp transform spectrometers (1 GHz bandwidth) developed in Max Planck Institutes will be utilized. Due to the budget limitations of the weight, space, and electric power, it’s vital to optimize the thermal and structural design and components of the system. The candidate landing sites in the low latitude plains range in temperature from 190 - 280 K according to the Mars Climate Database. With this in mind thermo-fluid simulations of the system were performed for the thermal design. In this conference we present the spectral lines expected to be observed at the landing sites on Mars and the preliminary design studies of the THz band heterodyne system.

Keywords: Mars, Micro-satellite/lander, THz-band remote sensing, Planetary atmosphere, Heterodyne spectroscopy
Observation plan of Venus cloud tops with new developed fiber IFU

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Venus is covered with thick clouds made of sulfuric acid on the whole planet, and in visible light it has poor features like ping-pong balls. On the other hand, in ultraviolet light of the wavelength from 200 to 500 nm, it has clear features showing high speed wind blowing so called "super rotation". From 200 nm to 320 nm, absorption can be well explained by SO2 existence, but absorber have not yet identified at wavelengths longer than 320 nm. Although previous observations were carried out by using only one band with a center wavelength of 365 nm, it may be possible to clarify the nature and number of this unknown absorber by comparing the difference of the spatial structure between different wavelengths. Ultraviolet camera (UVI) mounted on Akatsuki has continued to take two different band images with wavelengths of 283 nm and 365 nm, and there are clear spatial structure difference in two bands. Since the band width of UVI is about 15 nm, it is not possible to know what kind of change is occurring between two wavelengths of UVI. The purpose of this study is to clear that from what wavelength the difference exists.

We are developing a spectrum imaging instrument using fiber array. Spectrum imaging can take several images of different wavelength at same time, and it is suitable for studying the unknown UV absorber of Venus. We thought a new manufacturing method of a fiber array with several hundred of fiber with diameter of ~100 μm, and improvement has been added to the method for practical use.

In this presentation, we will report 1) the new method of tracing each fiber in the fiber array, 2) performance of our instrument and 3) plan to observation of Venus using the fiber array are designed for Haleakala 60-cm.

Keywords: Fiber integral field units, Ultraviolet observation, Venus atmosphere