

Scientific objectives of TOPS: Dynamics of planetary aurorae / Io and Io plasma tours

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TOPS (Telescope Observatory for Planets on small-Satellite) is an earth-orbiting small-satellite viewing planetary atmospheres and plasma environment around them. Ultraviolet and visible telescopes onboard TOPS will take images in the 100nm-1000nm wave length range, and provide continuous and long-term observations of dynamic system of planetary atmospheres and magnetospheres. Imaging observation of planetary aurorae seen in Jupiter, Saturn, and Venus, and volcanic gas emissions of Io are science targets of TOPS and presented in this presentation.