Planetary Volcanism, Cryovolcanism and Subsurface Ocean



Wei-Ling, Wendy, Tseng Department of Earth Sciences, NTNU, Taiwan

Collaborators: Y.-J. Kuan (NTNU, Taiwan), Sean Hsu (U. of Colorado at Boulder, USA), Y.-L. Chuang (NTNU, Taiwan), S. Charnley (NASA Goddard, USA), Wing Ip (NCU, Taiwan), Ian-Lin Lai (NTNU, Taiwan), Sheng-Yuan Liu, (ASIAA, Taiwan), Hui-Hui Chou (NCU, Taiwan), Baobab Liu (ASIAA, Taiwan)

16 Dec 2022, NCTS Annual Theory Meeting

A Journey from surface to subsurface: How do we know their interior structures?

- Moment of inertia
- Radar sounding
- Geological features
- Seismic waves
- Magnetic fields (intrinsic vs. induced)



Europa

Chaotic regions: disrupted ridges, mottled terrains, domes (Karr et al., 1998)



Outline

- Planetary volcanism
- Planetary cryovolcanism:
- Observed plume activities of Enceladus and its subsurface ocean
- Plume activities on Europa
- Our work:
- Radio observations
- DSMC model the physical processes and structures of water plumes

Enceladus' water jets taken by NASA's Cassini Credit: NASA/JPL/SSI



Planetary volcanism – terrestrial bodies







pyroclastic deposits on Mercury

Venus: Relatively smooth lava plains

Io (Jupiter's satellite): active volcanos

ruption





Volcano plume height~ 300 km

New Horizons images

Enceladus' plume activities discovered by Cassini

Jet Sources:

South polar region/Tiger Stripes



a dynamic atmosphere on Enceladus Credit: Cassini MAG

Credit: Cassini CIRS

Credit: Cassini ISS

Enceladus Plume Composition (neutral gas) Cassini INMS mass spectrum: Waite et al., 2009

Ę



Enceladus: one of the most promising habitable zones in the solar system

heat (tidal) + liquid water + complex organics

the ocean environment in Enceladus?

- Salinity: *less salty than Earth's ocean! (*Postberg+2009)
- hydrothermal processes
- Excess H₂ by water-rock interaction (Waite+2017)
- Homogeneous nucleation of nanometer-sized SiO₂ (Hsu+2015



Observed Europa's outgassing events

(1) HST: atomic O & H aurora emissions => electron-impact dissociation of H₂O (Roth+2014) (2) HST: absorption features of Jupiter's UV continuum during Europa's transit (Sparks+2016;2017; Giono+2020) (3) Galileo magnetic and plasma wave data (Jia+2018; Arnold+2019) (4) Keck: infrared water emissions (S/N~3) (Paganini+2020)

Europa: Not similar to Enceladus' persistent plume activity!





What interests me?

- Study their atmospheres/exospheres (i.e. the sources and losses)
- Monitor their outgassing activities
- Understand the physical processes and structures of the plumes
- Investigate the consequences of outgassing plumes: (1) surface depositions; (2) interactions with the ambient magnetospheres



3-color map of Enceladus: bluer in the south polar region => a deeper accumulation of plume-generated ice particles, or "snow" (credit: P. Schenk)

Long-term monitoring of lo's volcano activity by SMA

- Spatial resolution 0.8" vs. the disk size of Io (1"-1.2") => disk-averaged information (maybe slightly resolved) => total gas output
- spatial & time resolution << ALMA; but we have an access to SMA and fast turnaround; broad bandwidth (simultaneously many SO₂ lines)
- Variability: long-term monitoring + high cadence (~weekly)



SO₂ map (Moullet+2010)

Interaction between lo's volcano plumes and Jupiter's magnetosphere



Credit: Bagenal+2007

Dissociation & Ionization (due to its ambient plasma)

Volcano output (SO₂, NaCl...)

Energization & Transportation in the magnetosphere

Observables: neutral sodium cloud & sulfur ion torus



Sulfur ion emission in the lo plasma torus (from Masato Kagitani in Tohoku university) What we can get about Europa's exosphere and plume from the ALMA observations:

- 1. Chemical composition
- 2. Morphology (i.e., density distribution)
- 3. Column density
- 4. Dynamical information: gas velocity



Tseng+2022: submitted; during revision Direct Simulation Monte Carlo model: Understanding of the physical processes and structures of Europa's water plumes (Tseng et al., 2022)

- Assumption: the supersonic expanding plumes from the subsurface vent (Schmidt+2008)
- Describe the gas plumes with a broad flow regime ranging from close to continuum near surface to free-molecular (i.e., collisionless) condition at high altitudes



Mutual gas collision is considered

DSMC is the dominant numerical algorithm at the kinetic scale



https://slideplayer.com/slide/6639300/

To get the gas number density, velocity and temperature information of the outgassing plume

Case 6 (a) 1e29 #/s 1.0 km/s

Case 6 (b) 1e29 #/s 1.0 km/s

Case 6 (c) 1e29 #/s 1.0 km/s



A parametric-space study of total outgassing rate & initial gas velocity Tseng et al., 2022

Integrated column density & Projection effect: difficult to trace back to the source region on surface!?

Case 6 (a) 1e29 #/s 1.0 km/s



Tseng et al., 2022

Case 6 (b) 1e29 #/s 1.0 km/s

A hybrid model to study surface deposition of icy dust entrained in Europa's plumes

- Trajectory integration of icy dust entrained in Europa's plumes ejected from any source region on its surface
- Forces: Gas drag (from the modeled gas plume) (no feedback on the plume gas dynamics) + Europa's gravity (no Coriolis force) + No dust charging due to magnetospheric plasma impact
- No consideration of dust formation due to vapor refreezing
- Dust information:
- Dust/Gas mass flux ratio: 0.01
- Dust size ranging from 1 nm to 10 um
- Dust size distribution
- Initial dust ejection velocity

$$\langle v_p(r_p) \rangle = v / \left(1 + \frac{r_p}{2r_c}\right)$$

e.g., Schmidt+2008; Quick and Hedmann, 2020



- What we can offer:
- Dusty plume morphology => for remote sensing
- Effects of surface deposition => surface changes & characteristics: albedo, ice structure, ice size, chemical composition.....



NaCl on Europa's surface; Trumbo+2019



Equivalent

width (nm)

A Bridge for Upcoming Space Missions such as ESA JUiCE and NASA Europa Clipper



Thank you for your attention!

Contact: wltseng@ntnu.edu.tw



