

Starry Plasma Heliophysics Overview II: Plasma Environments - Magnetosphere- Ionosphere Systems at Earth and Beyond

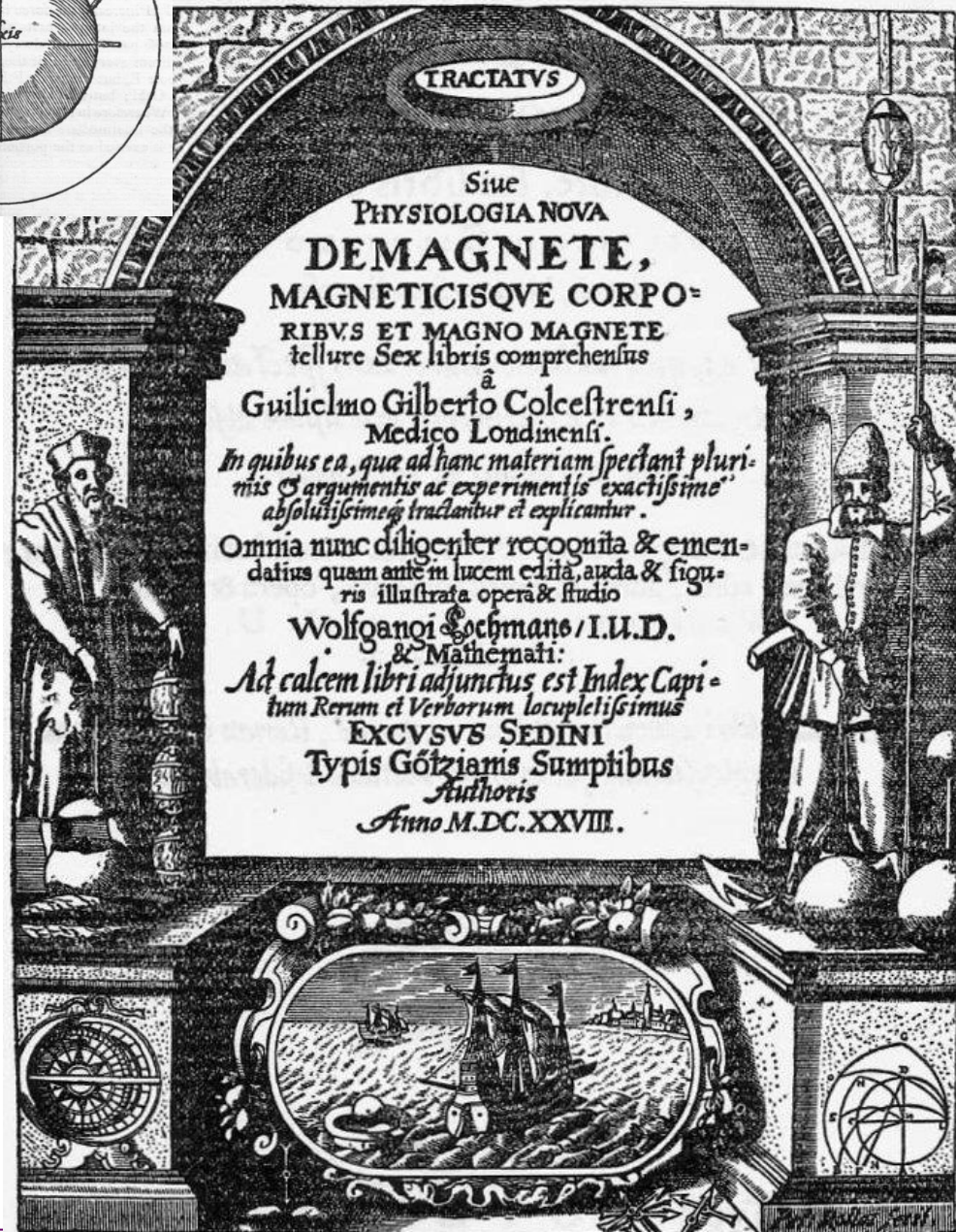
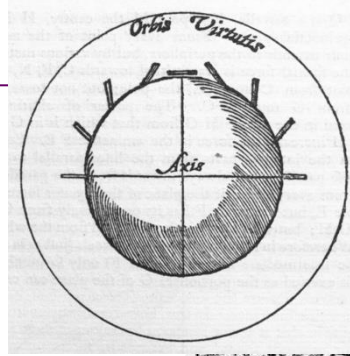


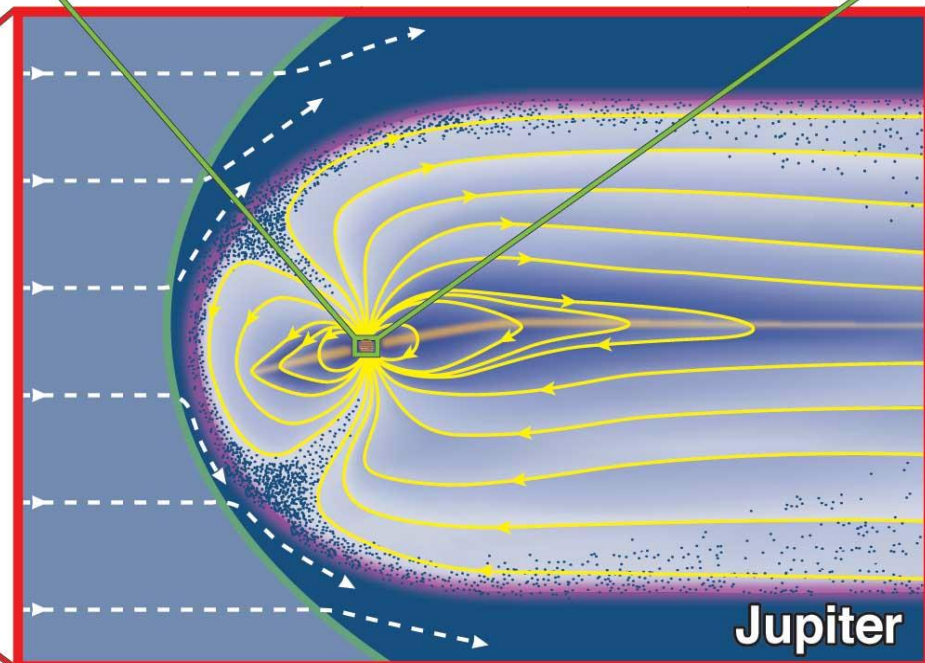
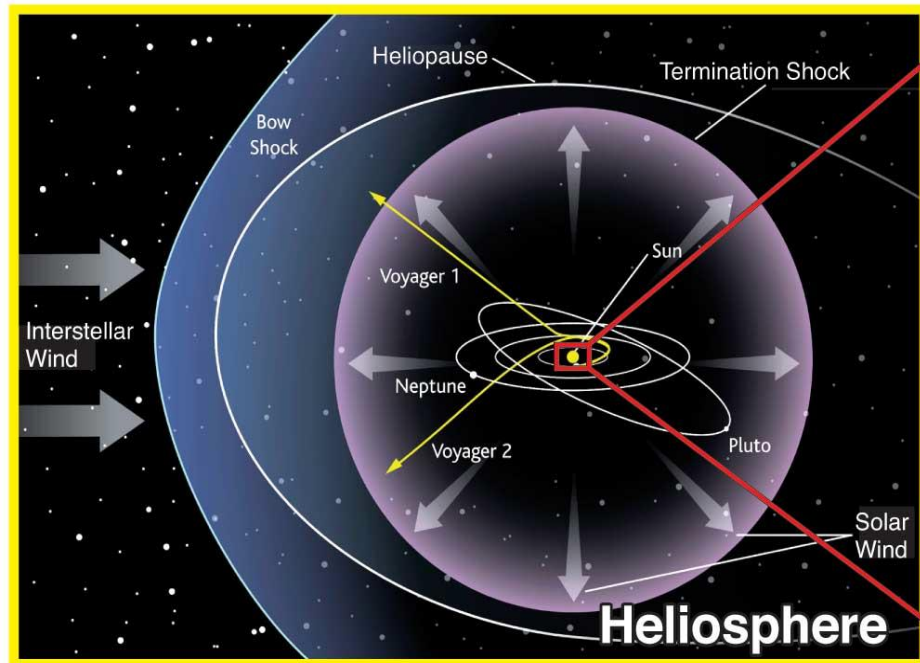
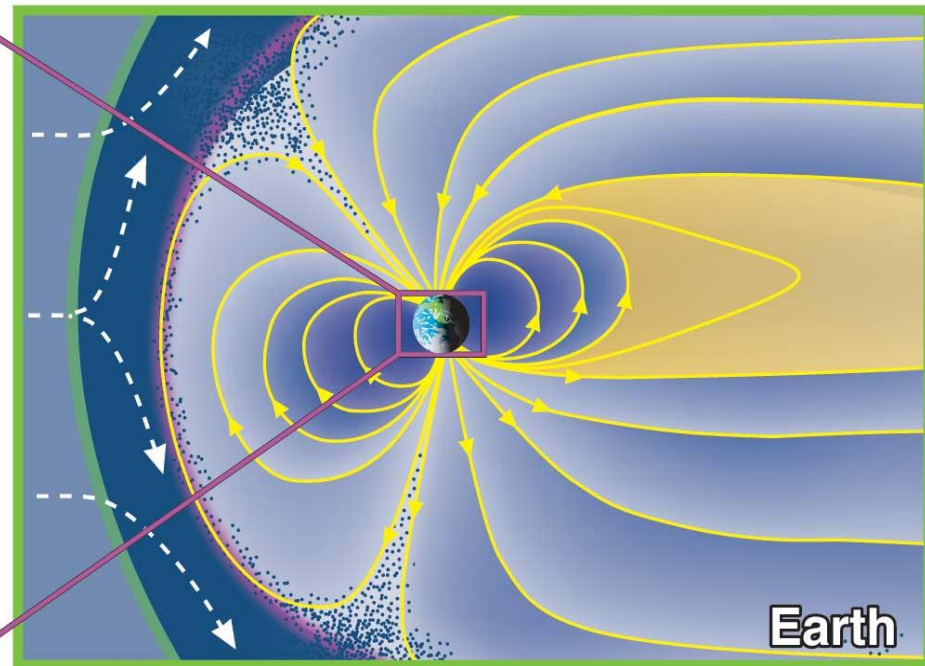
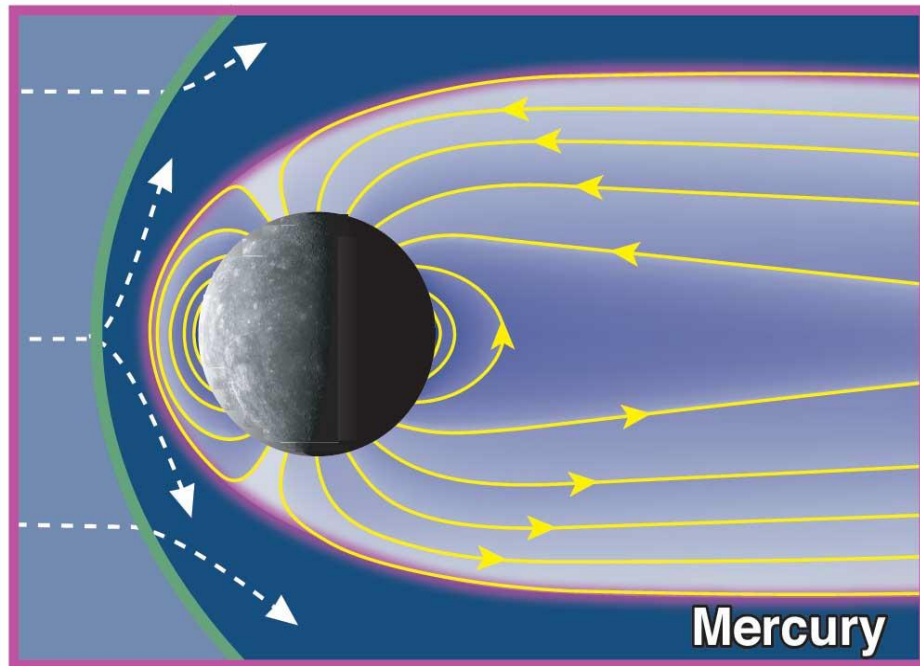
Which topic is your primary interest (probably, at this point in time)?

1. Solar physics – & other stars
2. Heliosphere – solar wind
3. Earth ionosphere/magnetosphere
4. Planetary space physics
5. Hummmm.... not sure – or something else....

De Magnete 1600

William Gilbert
"May the gods
damn all such
sham, pilfered,
distorted works,
which do but
muddle the minds
of students"





Planetary Magnetic Dynamics

What are the 3 main ingredients
for a planetary dynamo?

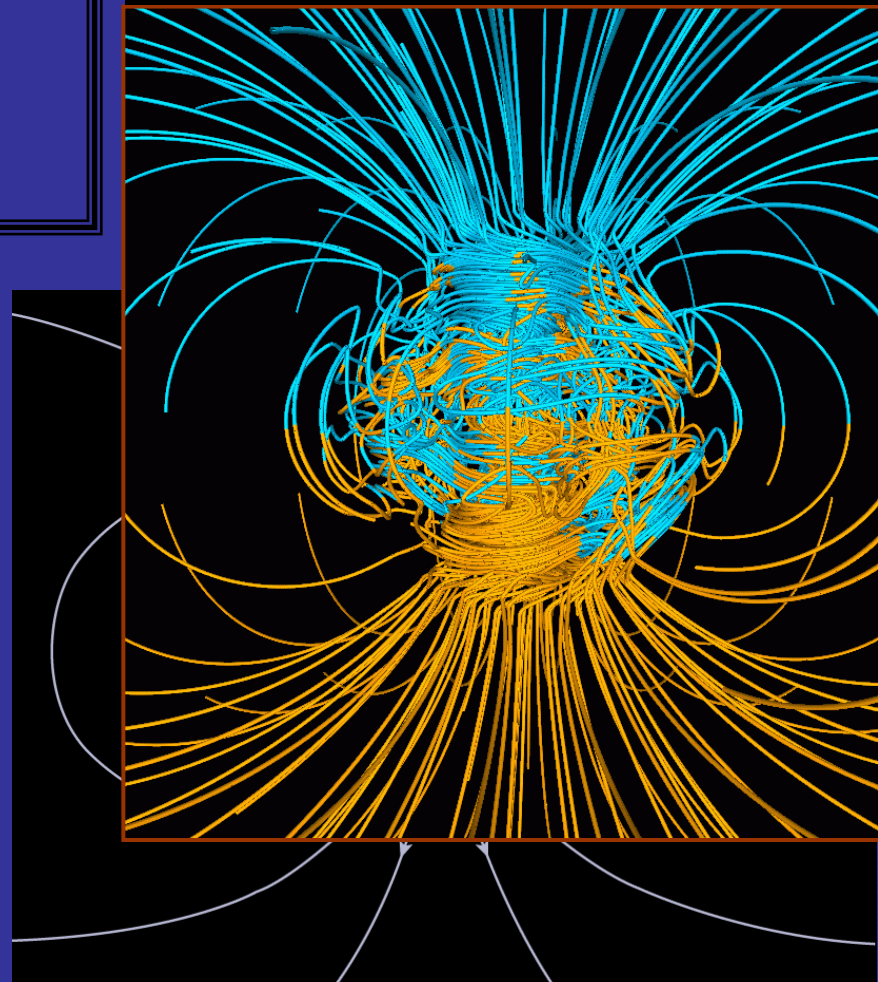
Planetary Dynamos

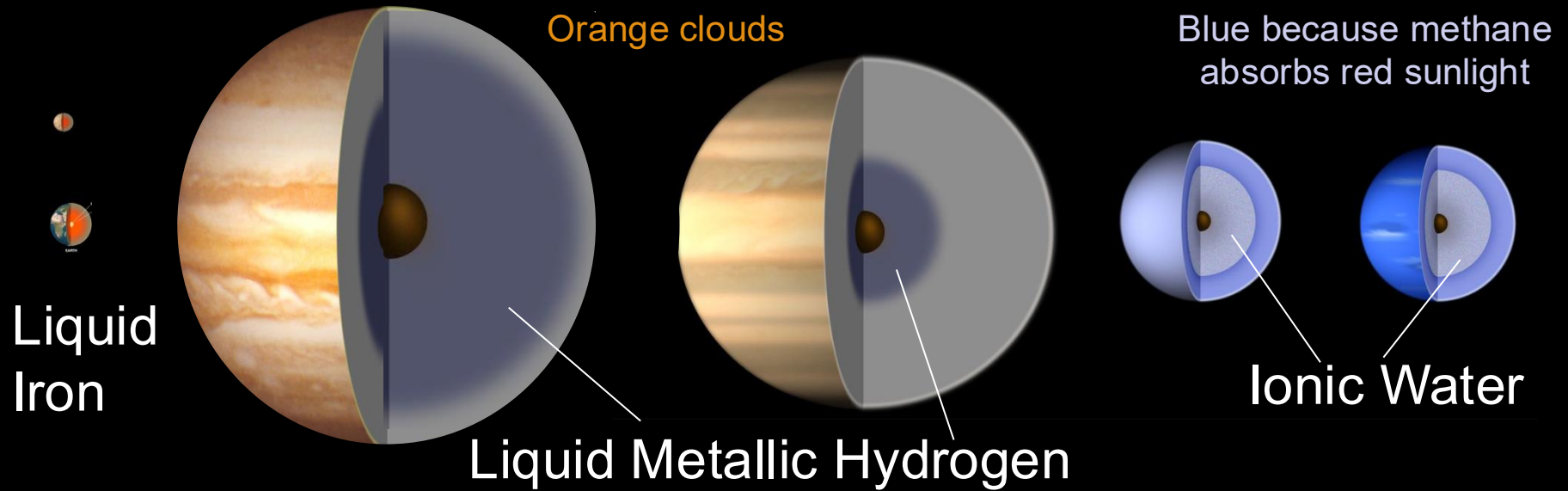
**Volume of electrically
conducting fluid ①
which is convecting ②
and rotating ③**

All planetary objects
probably have enough
rotation - the presence
(or not) of a global
magnetic field tells us
about ① and ②



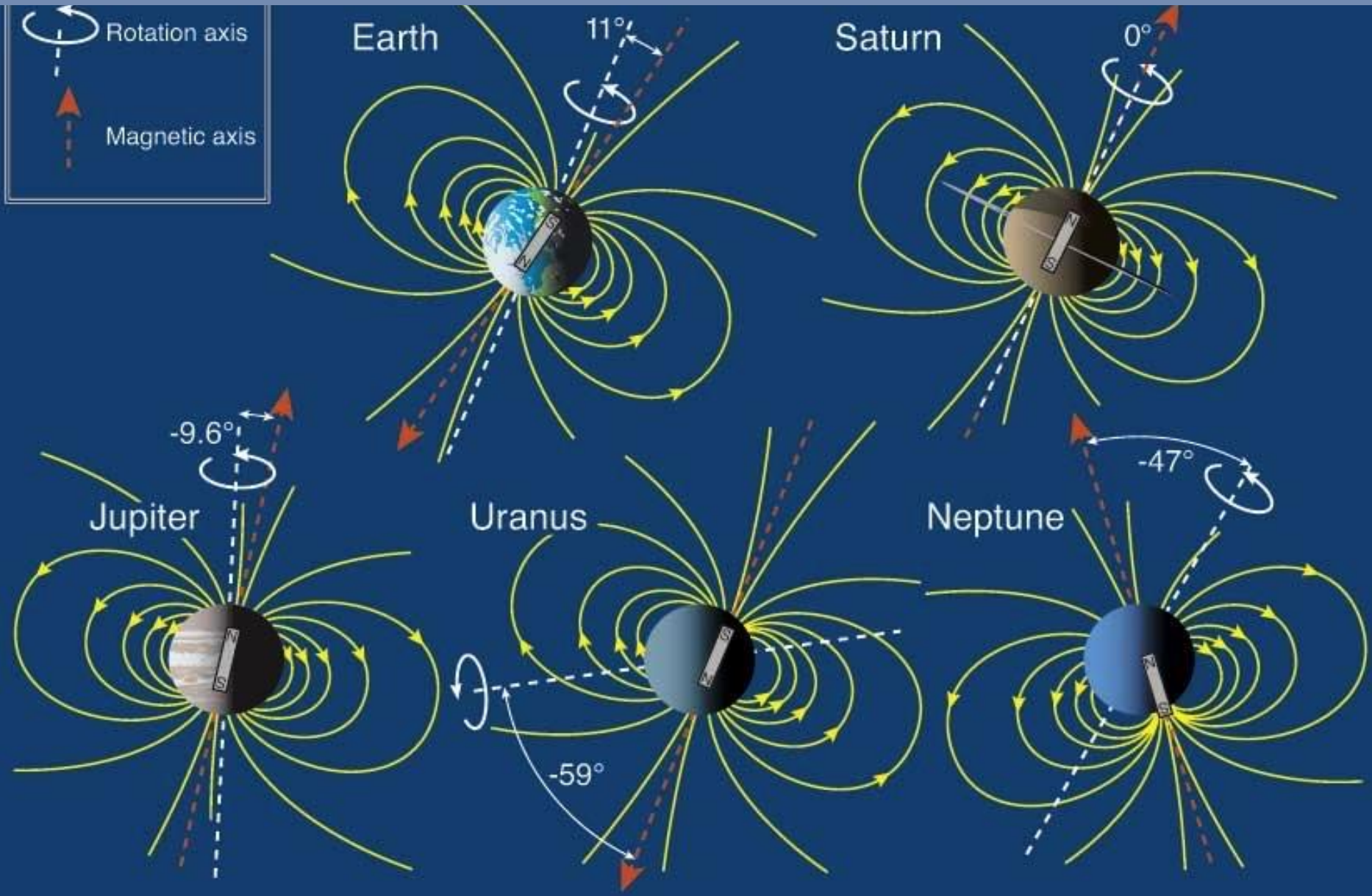
Earth dynamo model -
From Glatzmeier and
Roberts





	Ganymede	Mercury	Earth	Jupiter	Saturn	Uranus	Neptune
R_p/R_E	0.41	0.38	1	11	9.5	4.0	3.9
R_{core}/R_p	0.3	0.6-0.8	0.55	0.9	0.6	0.8	0.8
Magnetic Moment / M_E	5×10^{-4}	5×10^{-4}	1	20,000	600	50	25

Tilts and Obliquities



Offset Tilted Dipole (poor) Approximation

Magnetic Potential

3-D Spherical harmonics

$$\mathbf{B} = -\text{grad } V$$

$$V = R_p \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \sum_{m=0}^n \left(\frac{R_p}{r} \right)^{n+1} P_n^m(\cos \theta) (g_n^m \cos m\lambda + h_n^m \sin m\lambda)$$

coefficients - constants

functions

$$P_0^0(\cos \theta) = 1$$

$$P_1^0(\cos \theta) = \cos \theta$$

$$P_1^1(\cos \theta) = -\sin \theta$$

$$P_2^0(\cos \theta) = \frac{1}{2}(3 \cos^2 \theta - 1)$$

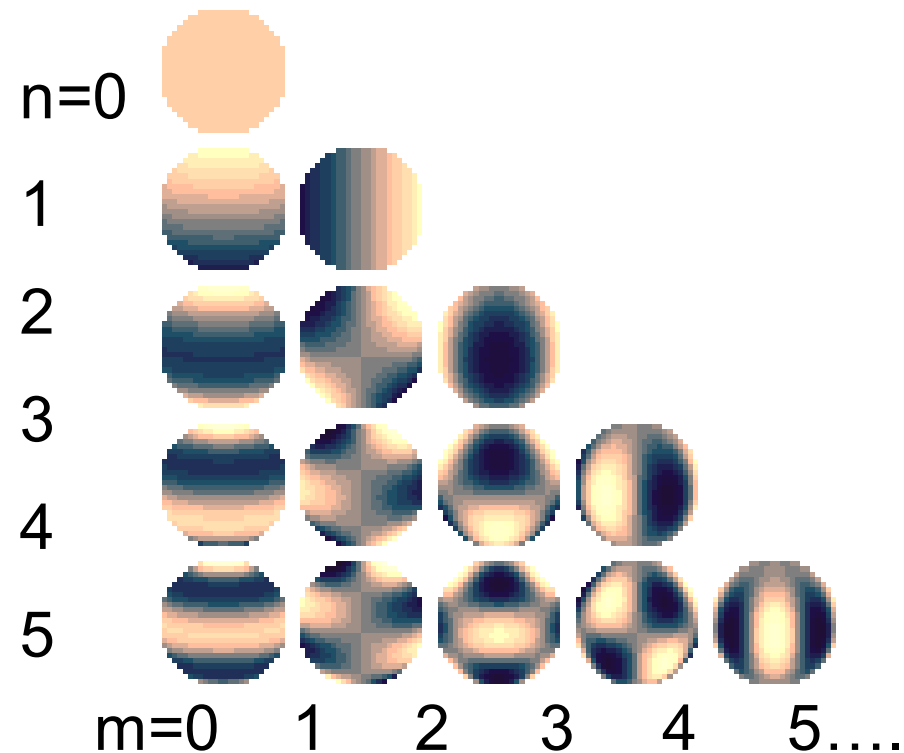
$$P_2^1(\cos \theta) = -3 \cos \theta \sin \theta$$

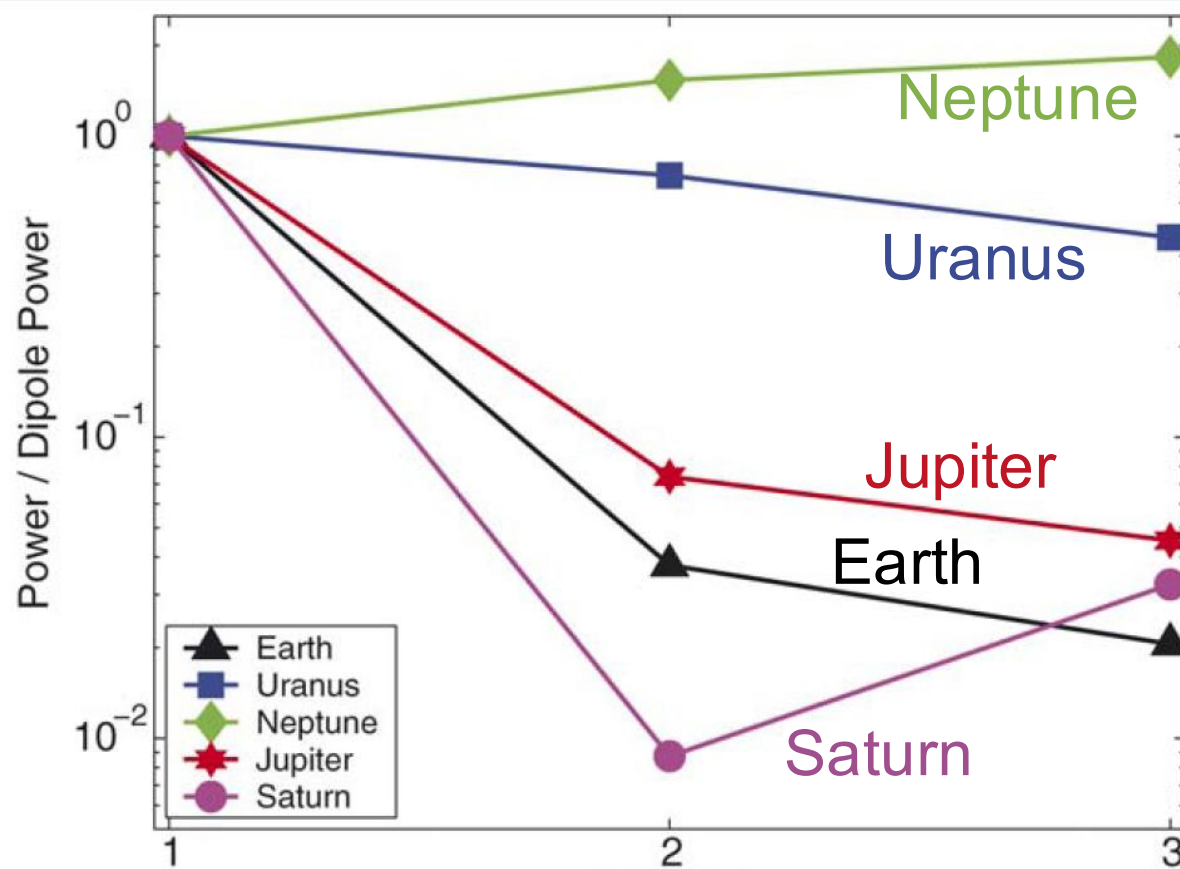
$$P_2^2(\cos \theta) = 3 \sin^2 \theta$$

$$P_3^0(\cos \theta) = \frac{1}{2}(5 \cos^3 \theta - 3 \cos \theta)$$

Dipole

Quadrupole

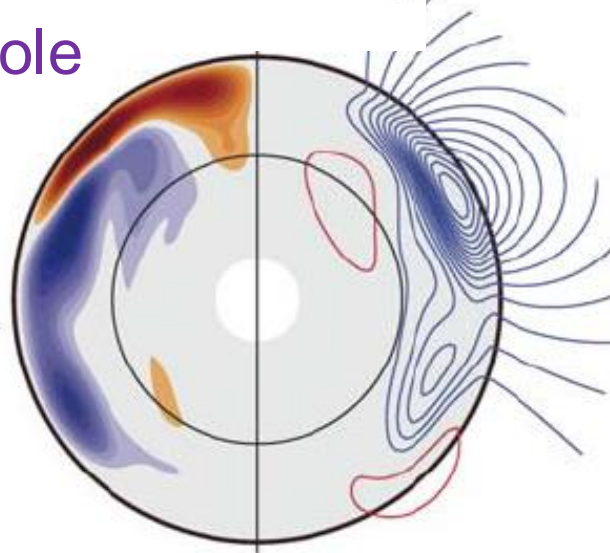
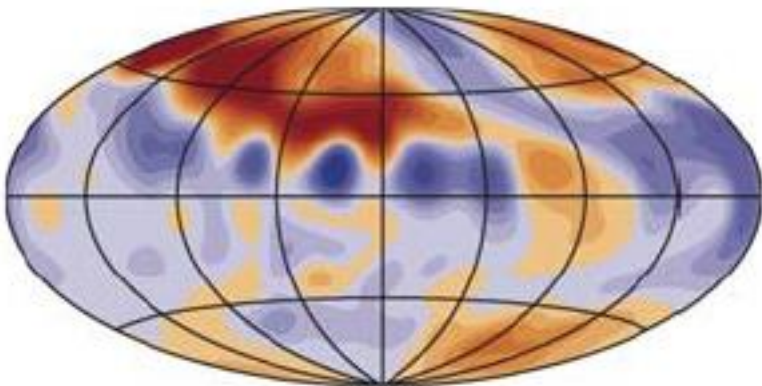




Multipole
coefficients /
Dipole coefficient
Indicates degree
of complexity

Dipole

Quadrupole



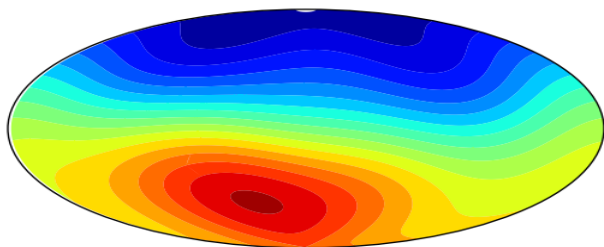
Modeling
Uranus' &
Neptune's non-
dipolar fields
with a thin-shell
dynamo over a
stratified core

Planet	Rcore / Rplanet	B ₀ [μT]	Tilt	Quad / Dipole
Earth	0.55	31	+9.92°	0.04
Jupiter	0.84	428	-9.6°	0.10
Saturn	0.6	21	<-1°	0.02
Uranus	0.7	23	-59°	1.3
Neptune	0.8	14	-47°	2.7

Dipolar

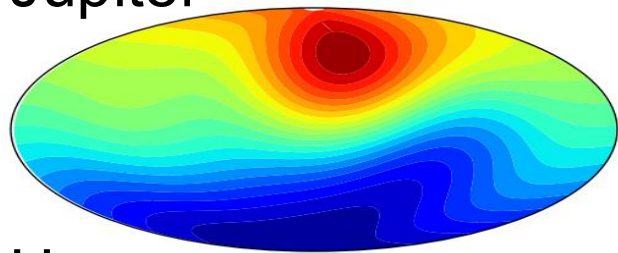
Irregular

Earth

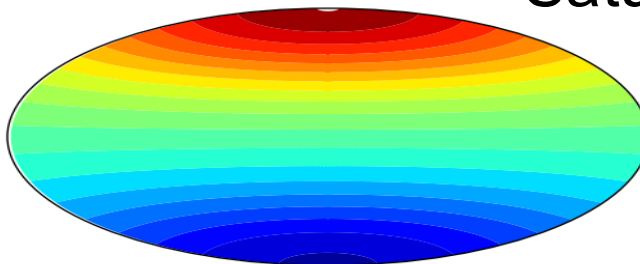


B_{radial} @ surface

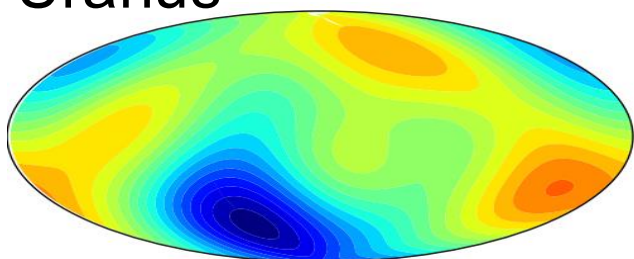
Jupiter



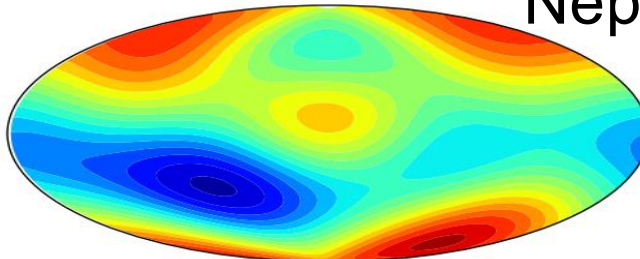
Saturn



Uranus

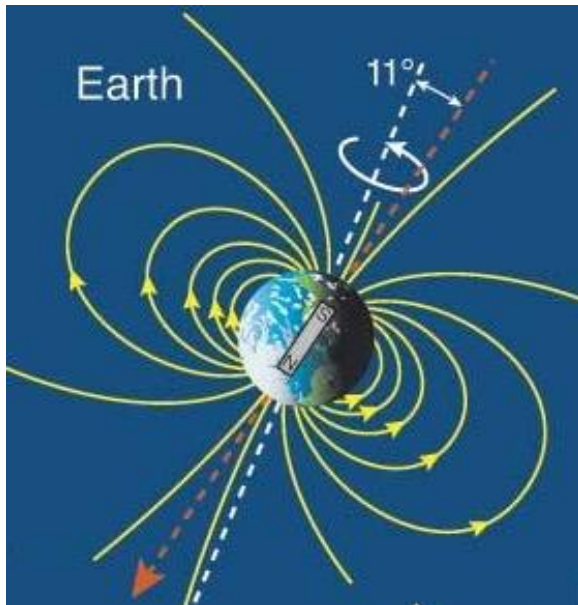


Neptune



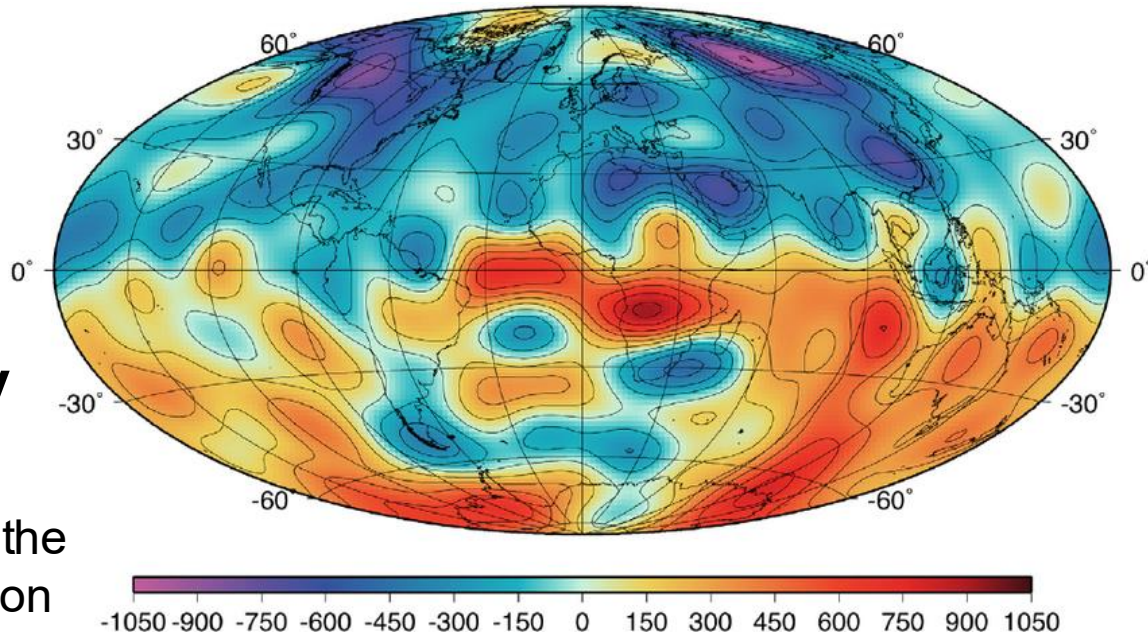
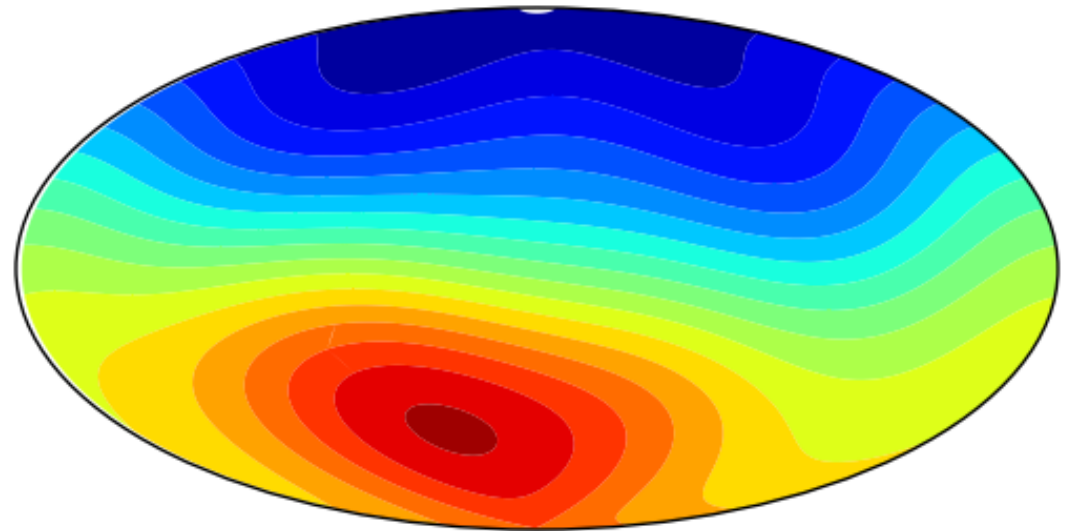
Stanley &
Bloxham 2006

Earth's Magnetic Field



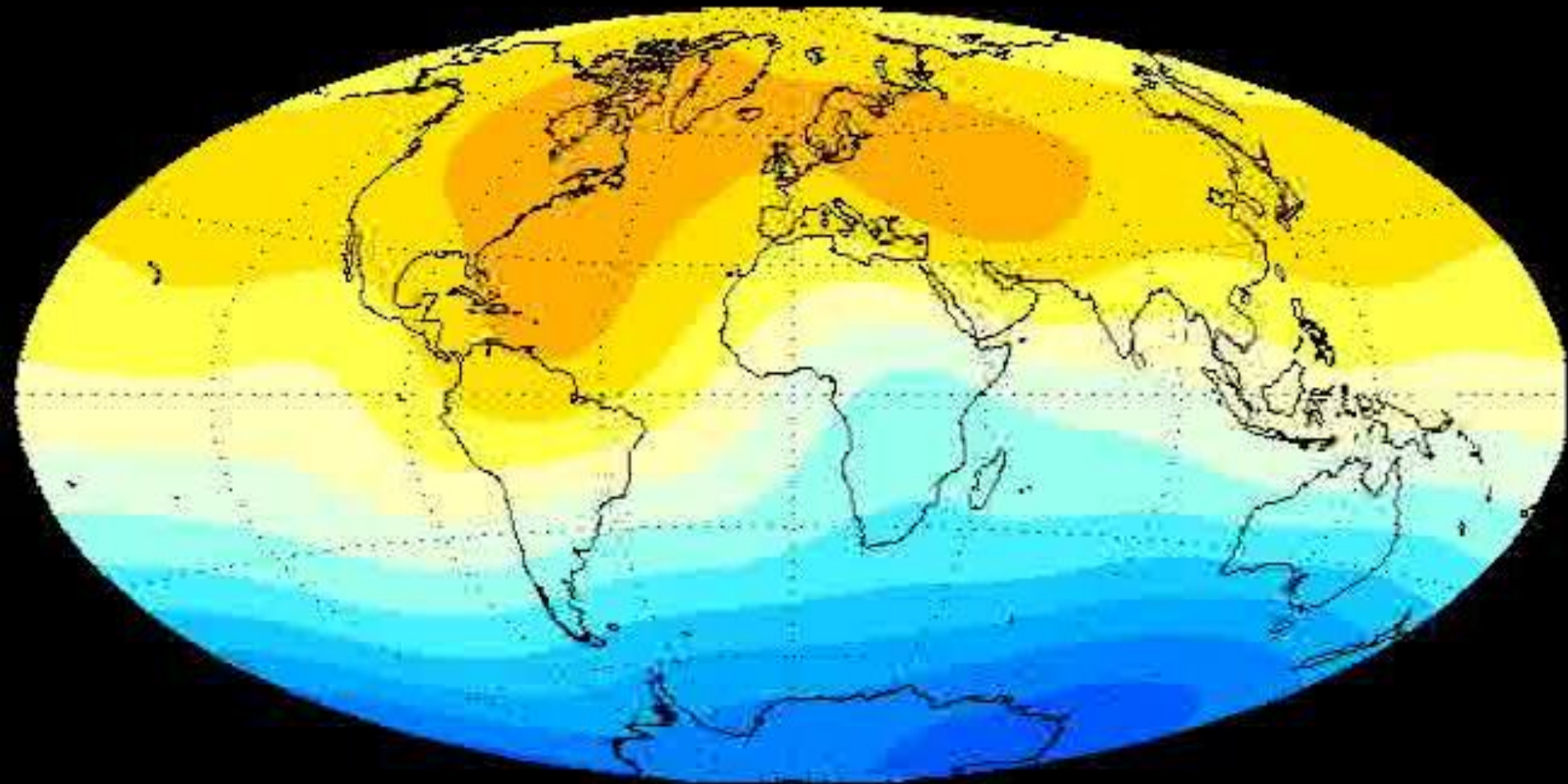
When you look
closer there's
more complexity

Earth's field extrapolated down to the
top of the outer core dynamo region



Br through a reversal

t=1.830E+00 (frame 380)



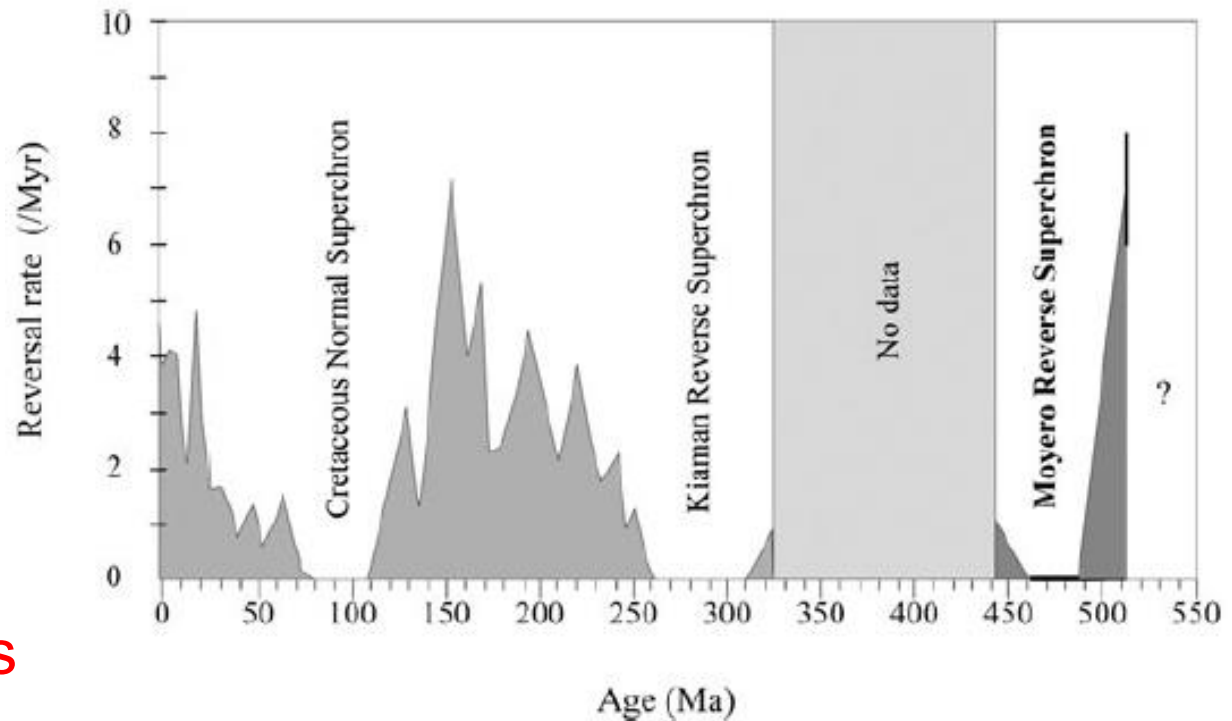
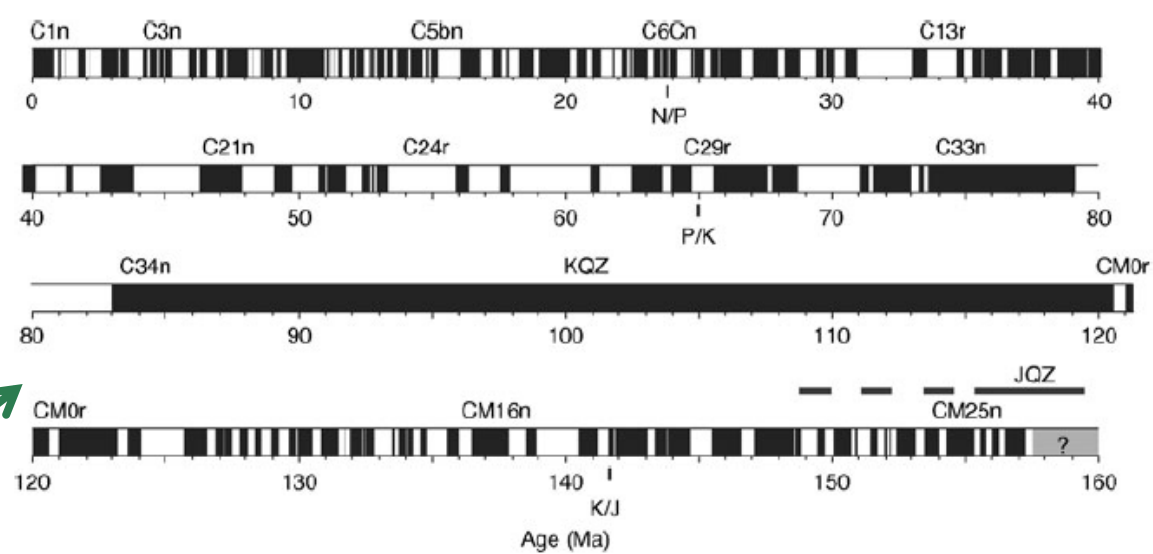
Hulot et al. 2010
Pavlov & Gallet 2005

Polarity reversals:

1. variable in duration and

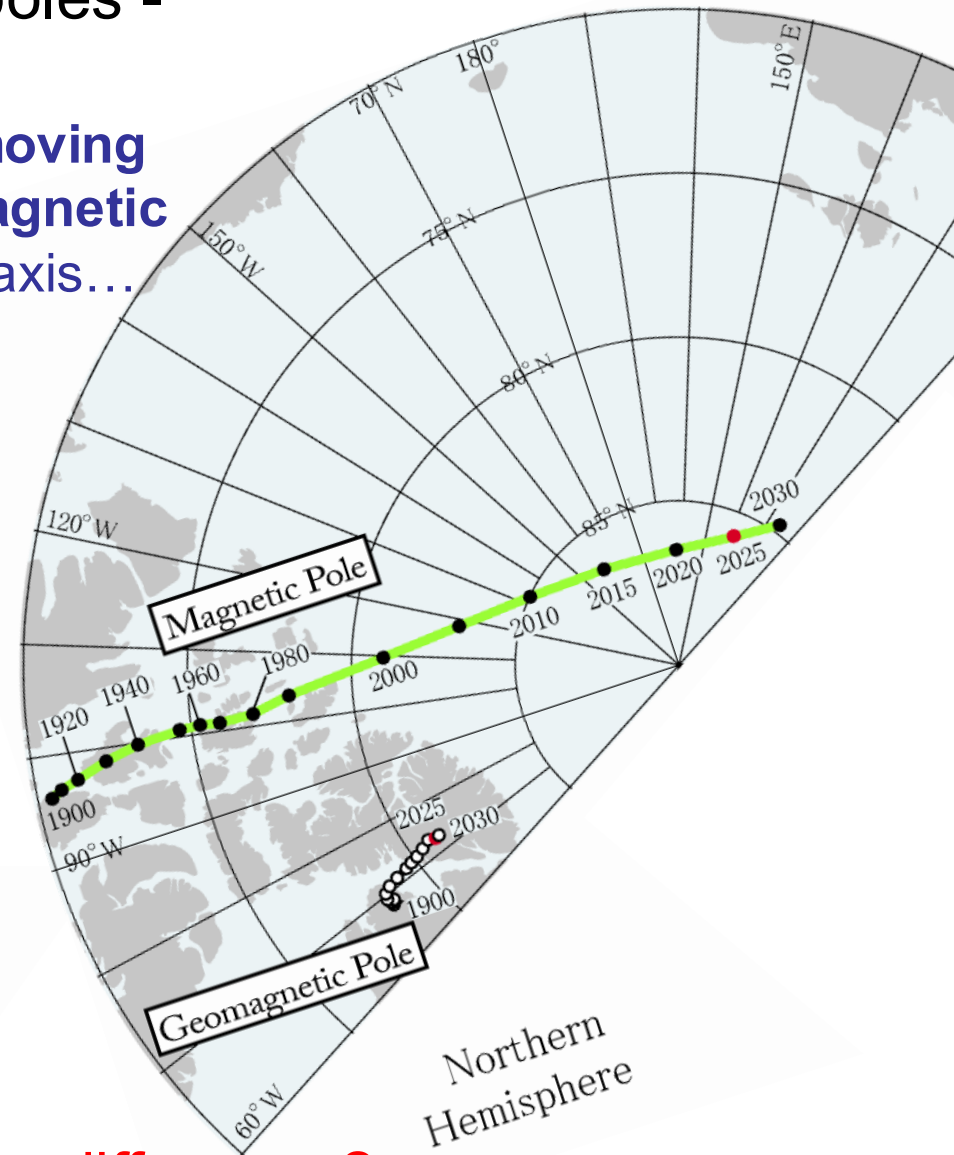
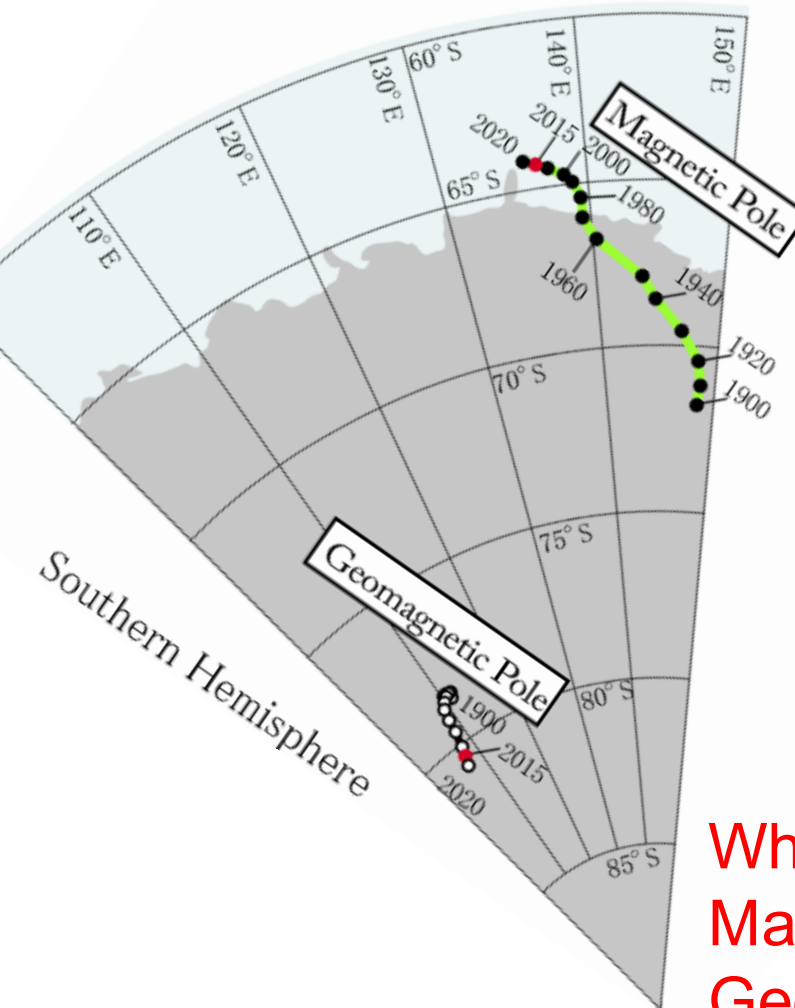
2. rate

rapid rate
 ~ 5/million years
 ~ every 200,000 yrs



Where are the Earth's magnetic poles -
and where are they headed?

Note that the **north magnetic pole** is moving
towards the rotation pole, the **south magnetic pole**
is moving away from the rotation axis...



What's the difference?

Magnetic Poles

= where $B = B_r$

Geomagnetic Poles

= best fit dipole



Spacecraft & Payload

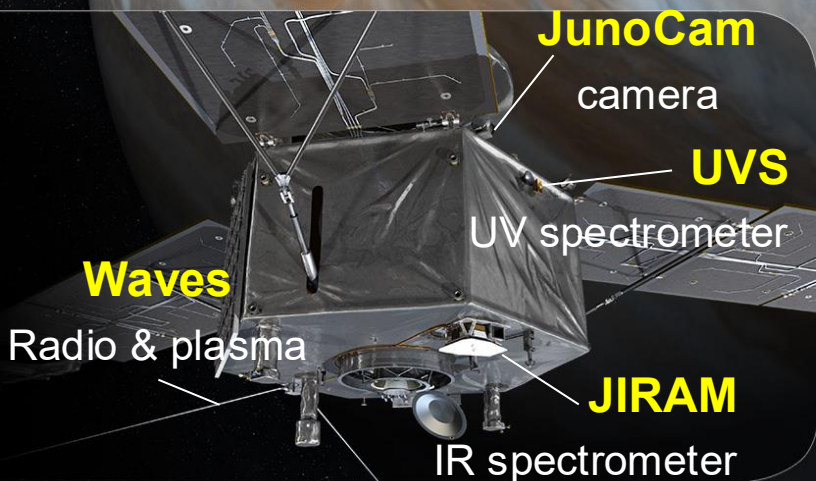
Orbit Insertion
4th July 2016

SPACECRAFT

DIAMETER: 66 feet
20 meters

Power 400 W

Spin period 30 sec



Gravity Science

JEDI

High-energy particles

JADE

Low-energy particles

Magnetometer

MWR

Microwaves





Orbiting Jupiter since 2016

Perijoves 1-85

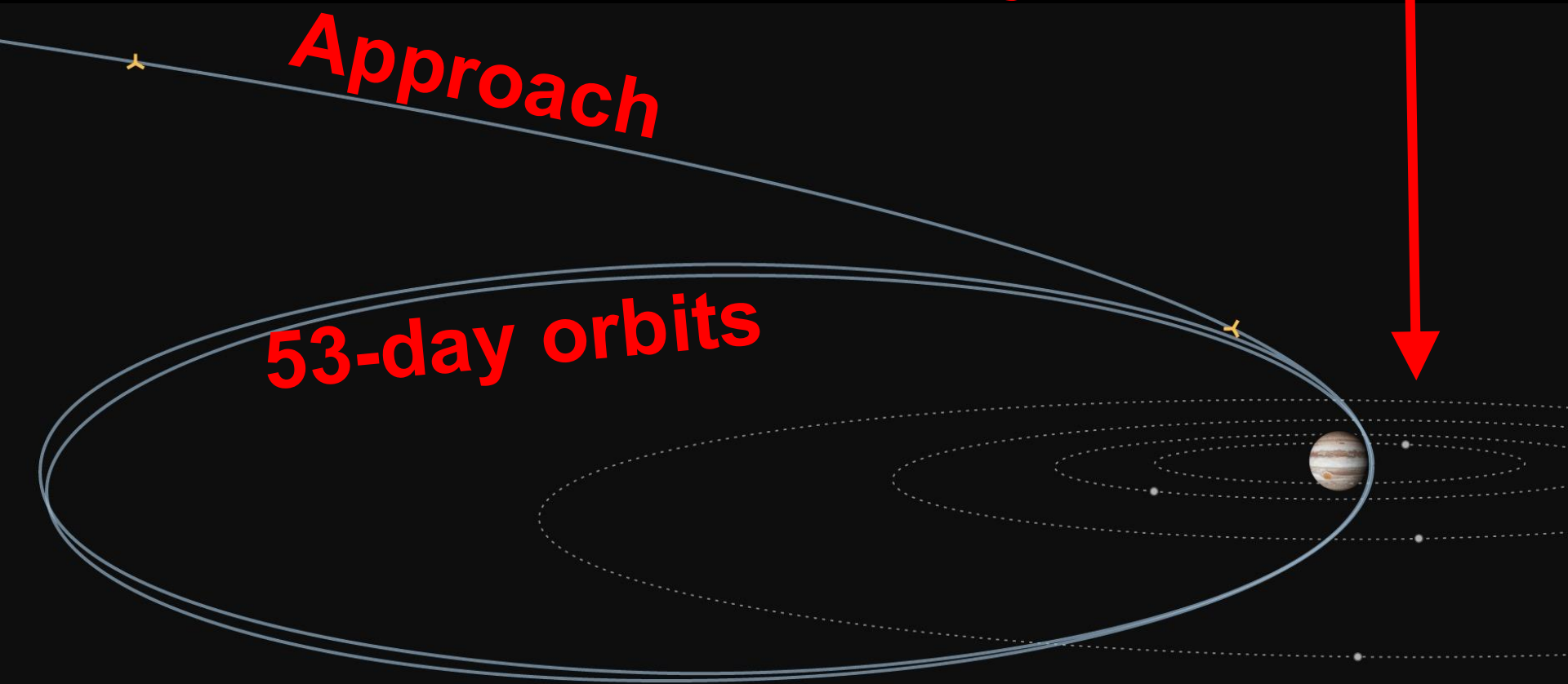
Approach

53-day orbits

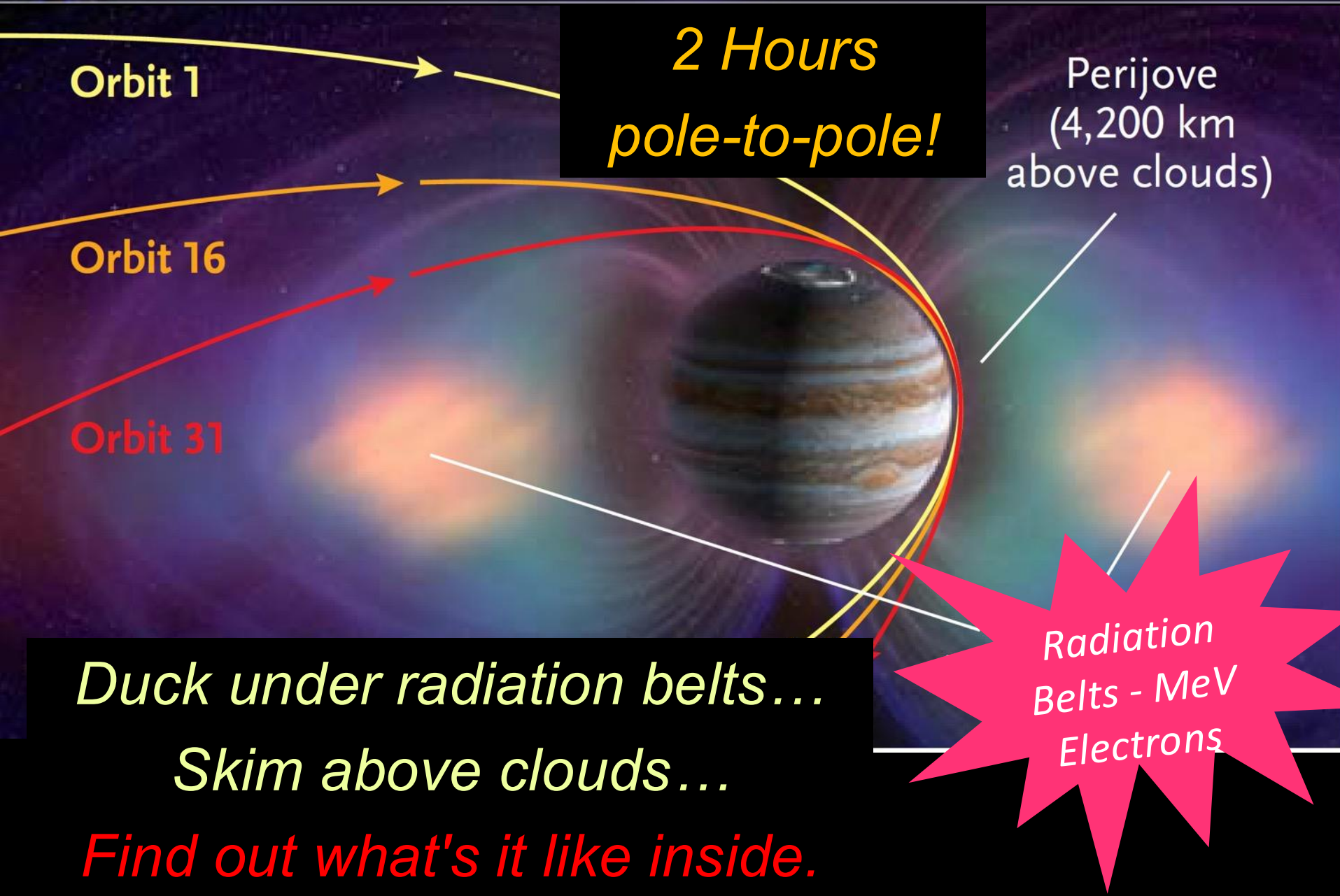


Now 32-day orbits

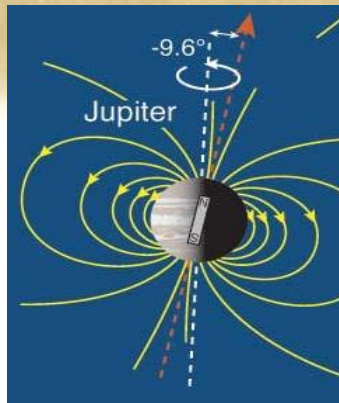
Aug. 2016
– Jul. 2026



The Orbit: Key to Whole Mission

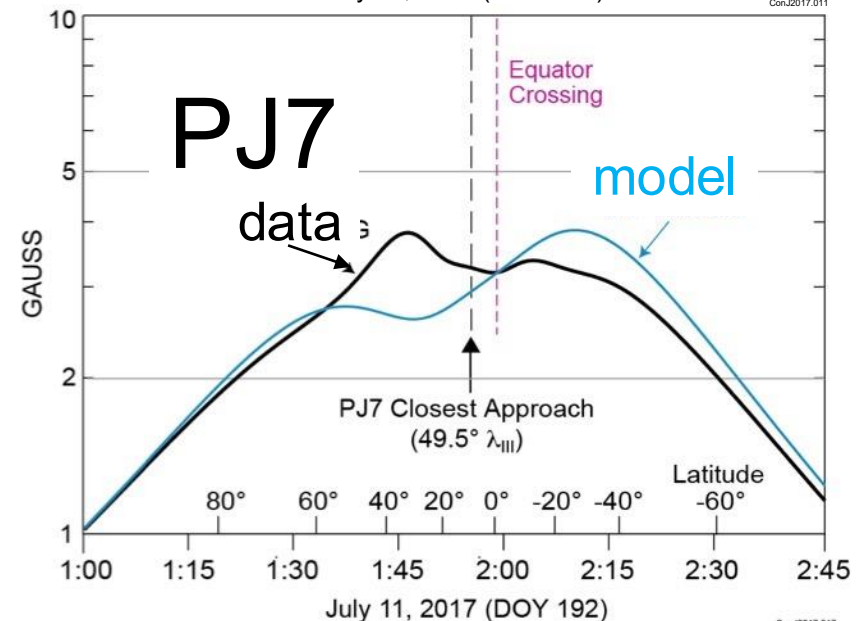
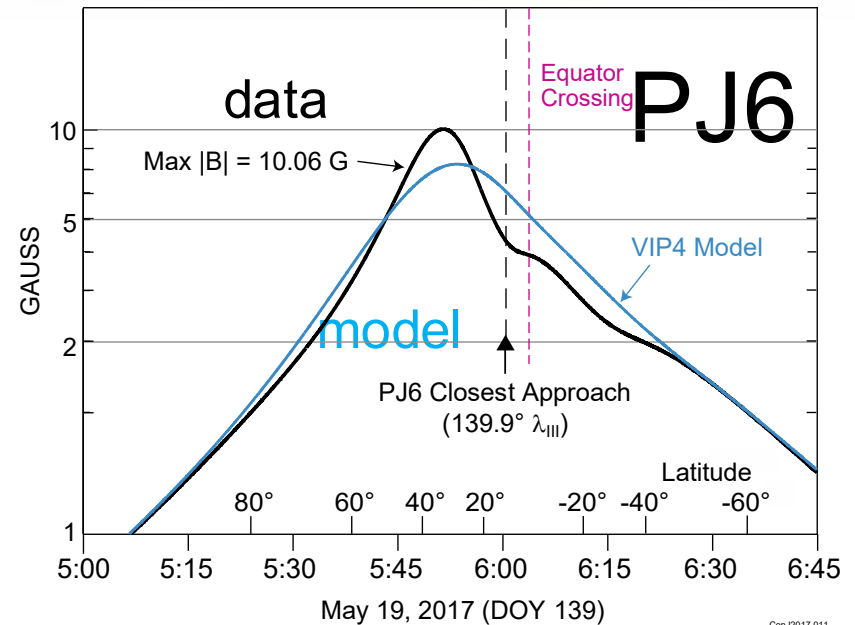


Juno



Jupiter's Magnetic Field

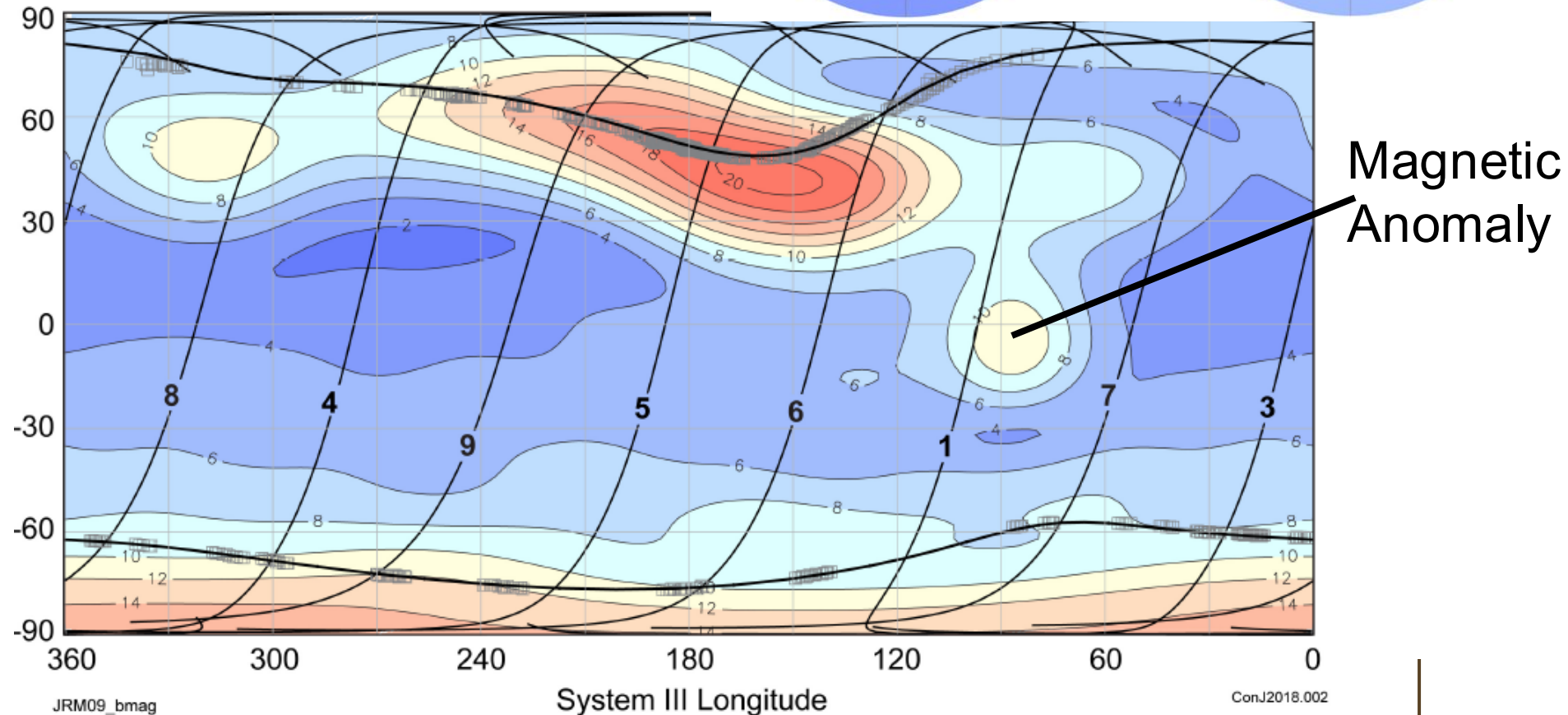
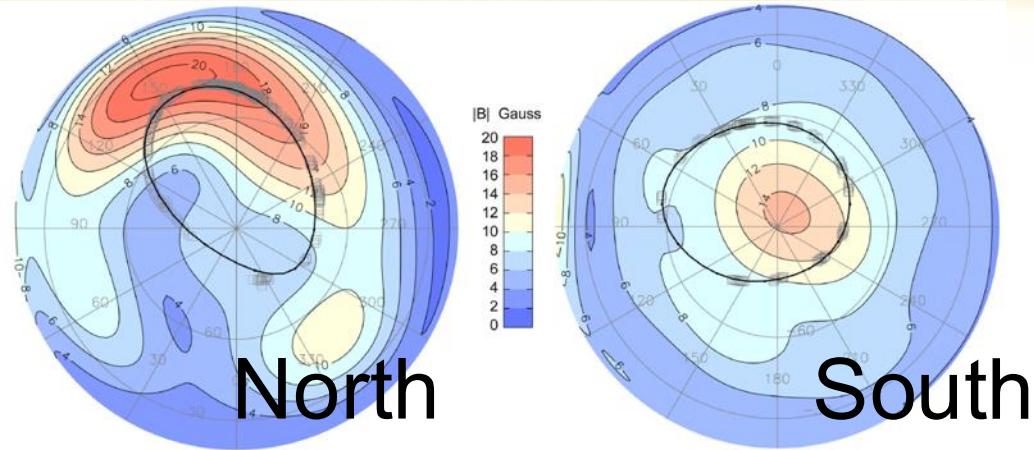
- Juno's first few passes are showing deviations from previous simple models
- Hints that the dynamo region is closer to the surface?



Juno

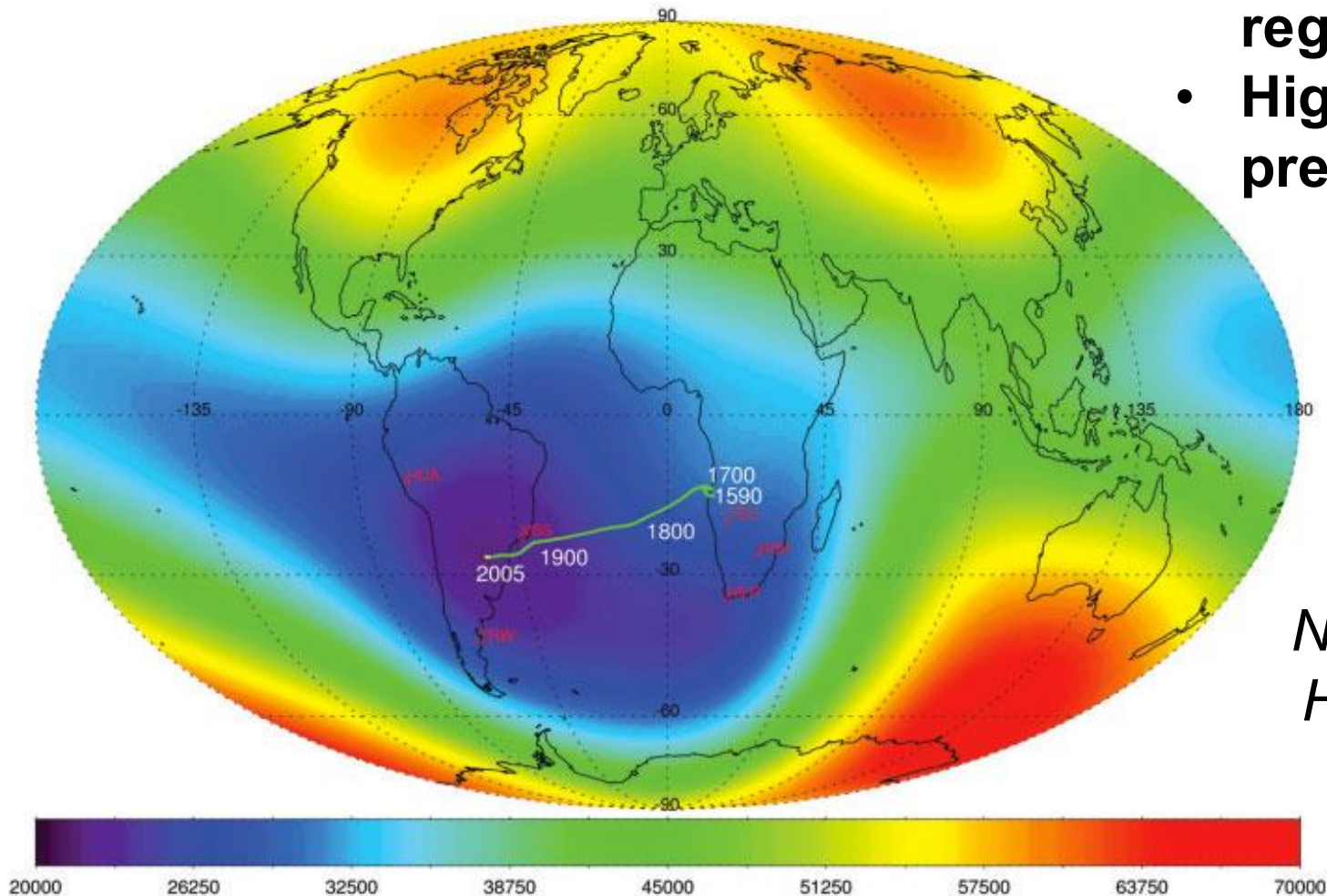
Juno-based magnetic field model

Big N-S
asymmetries!



Earth's South American Anomaly

- **Weak field region**
- **High radiation precipitation**



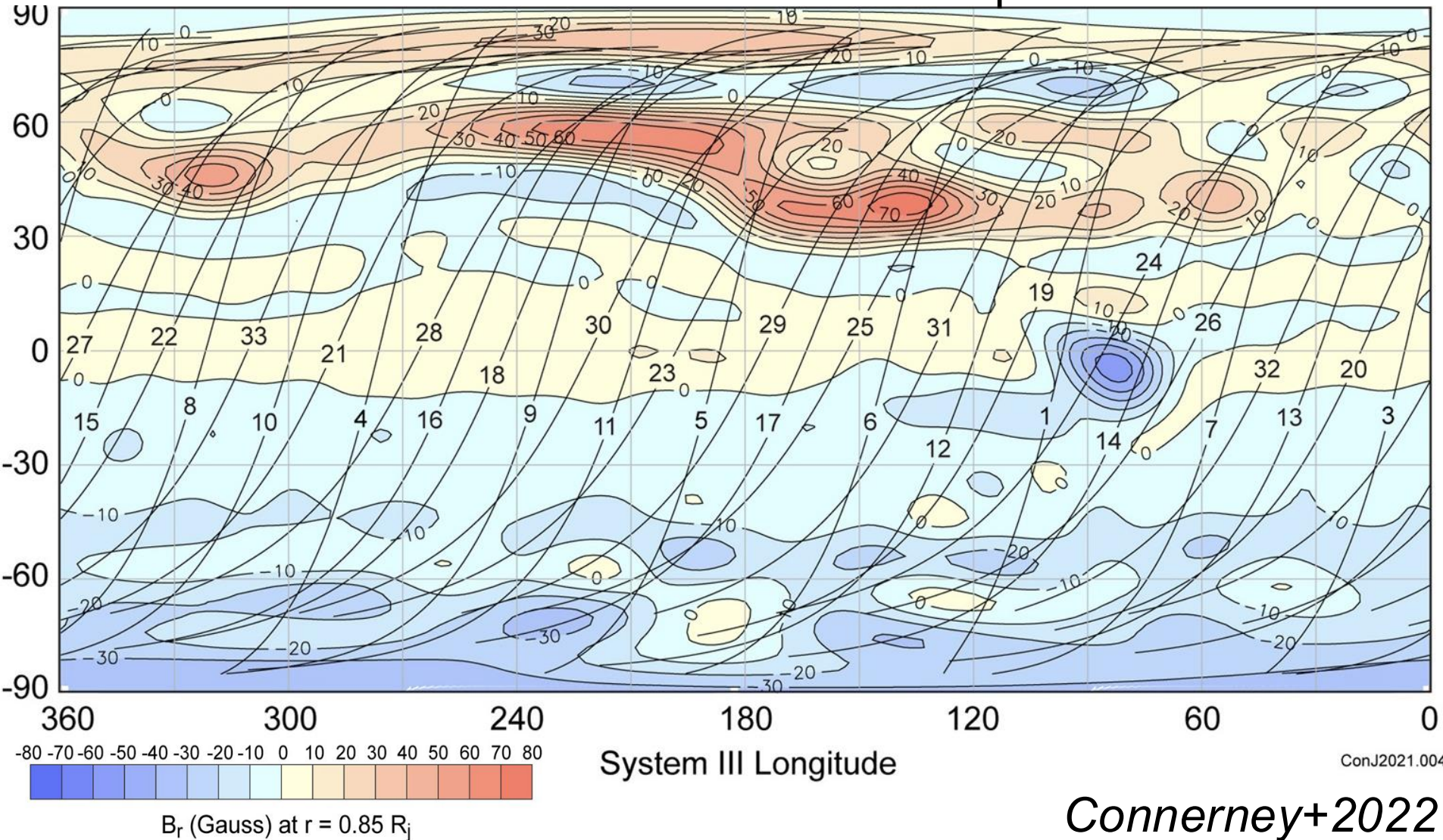
*Nasty place for
Hubble Space
Telescope!*

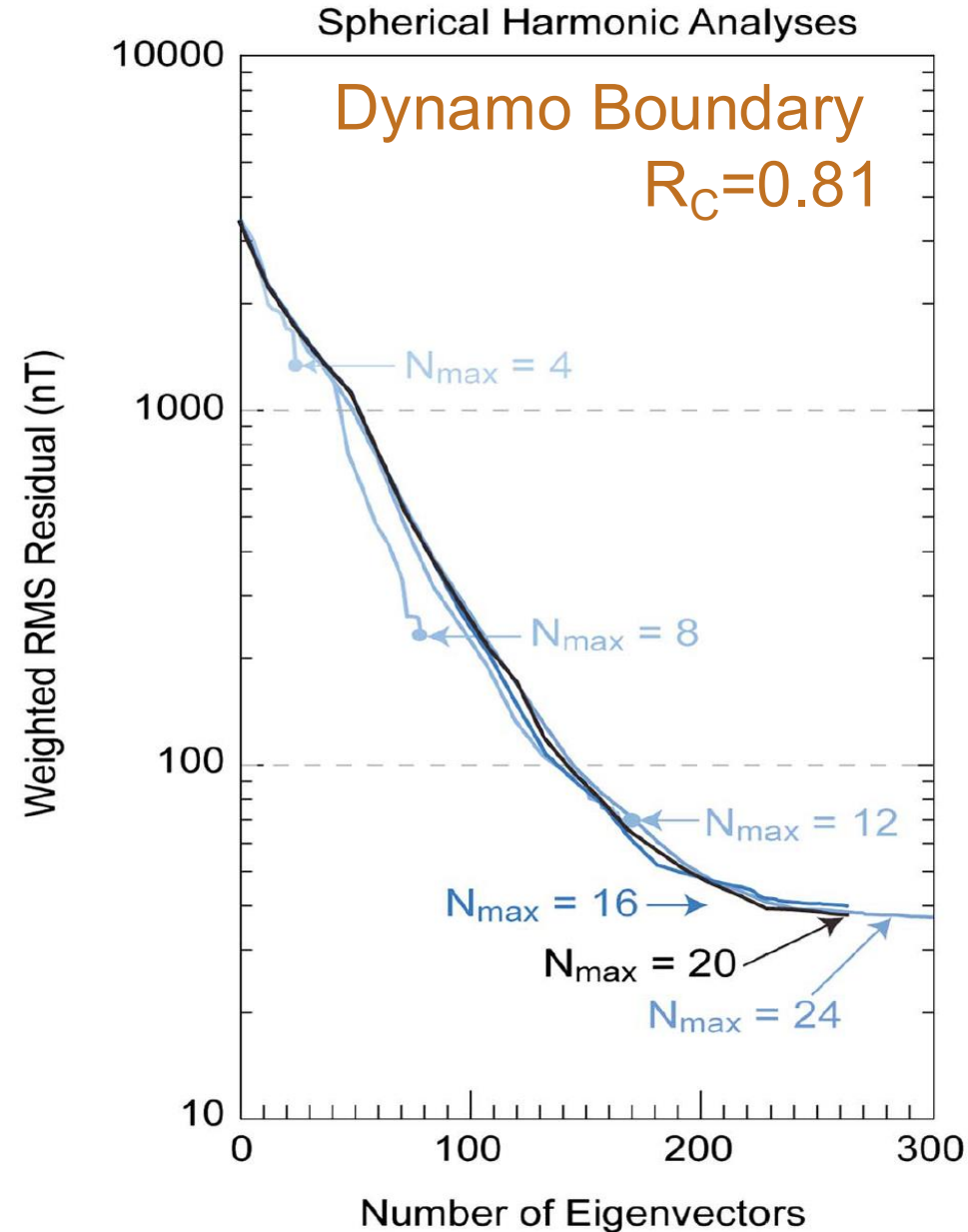
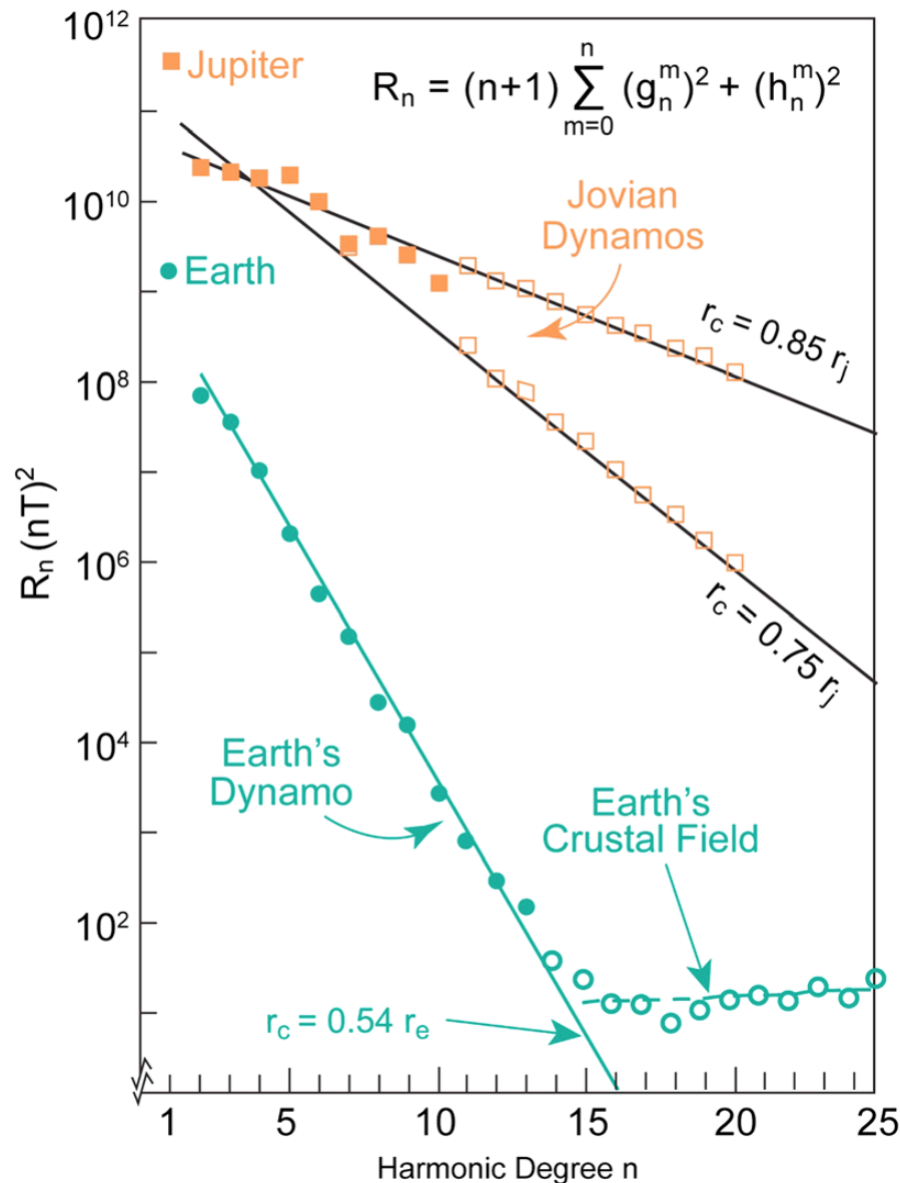


Up close + more orbits -> more detail

- N-S asymmetry
- Secular variation
- Coupled to zonal winds?

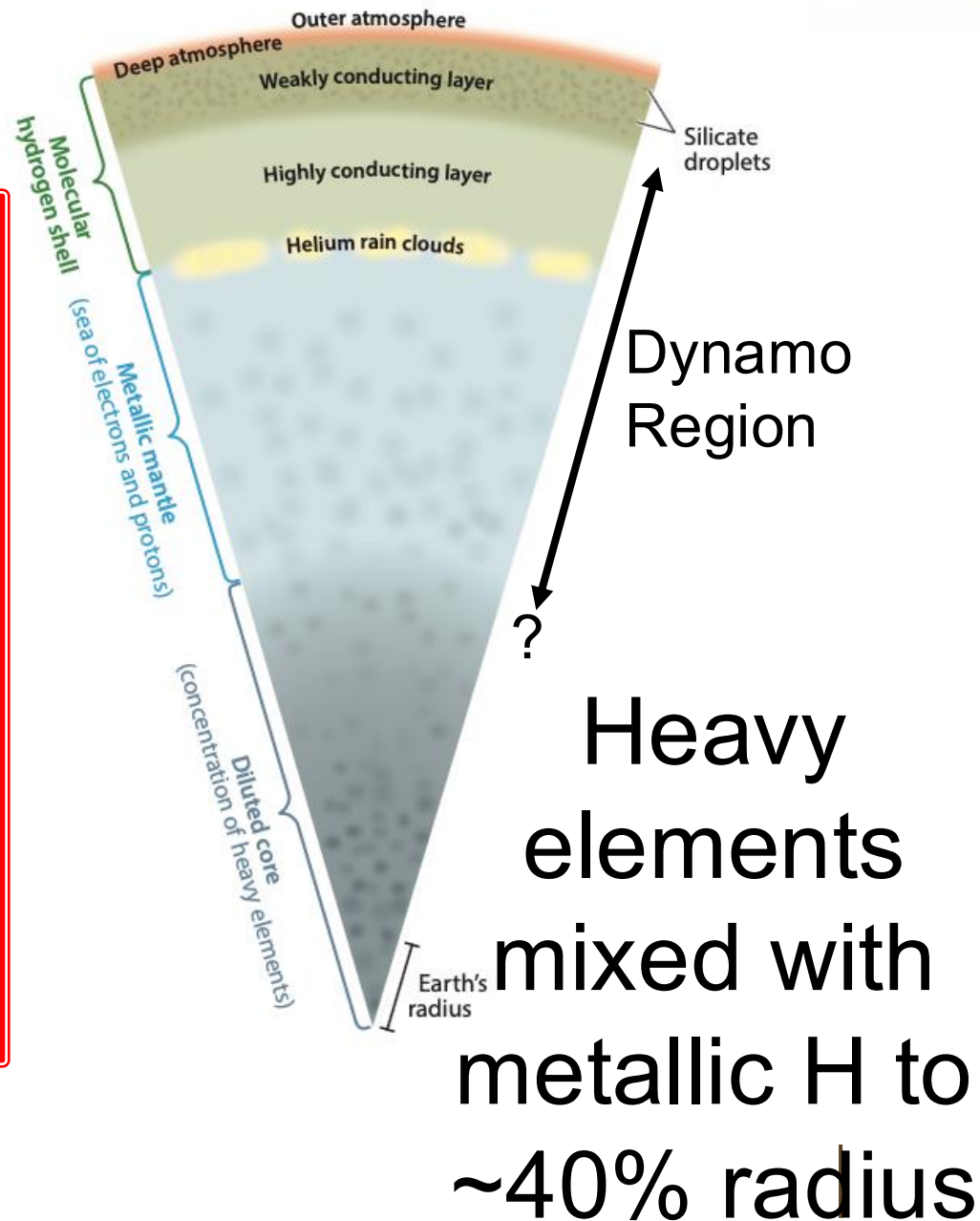
Magnetic Field – JRM033





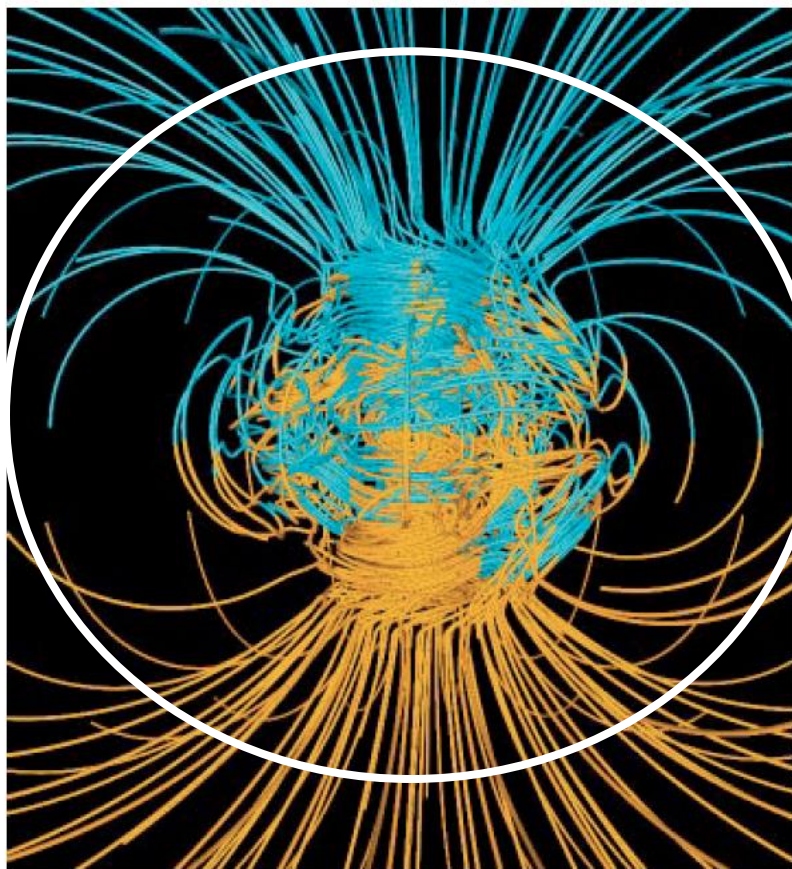
Measured gravity field

- *No distinct core*
- *Heavy elements partially mixed*
- *Helium raining out of outer layer*
- *All boundaries fuzzy?!*



Implications for Dynamo

Earth: Dynamo deep in core – outer field ~dipole



Glatzmeier 2002

Saturn: Deeper core, zonal flows in resistive layer makes symmetric dipolar field

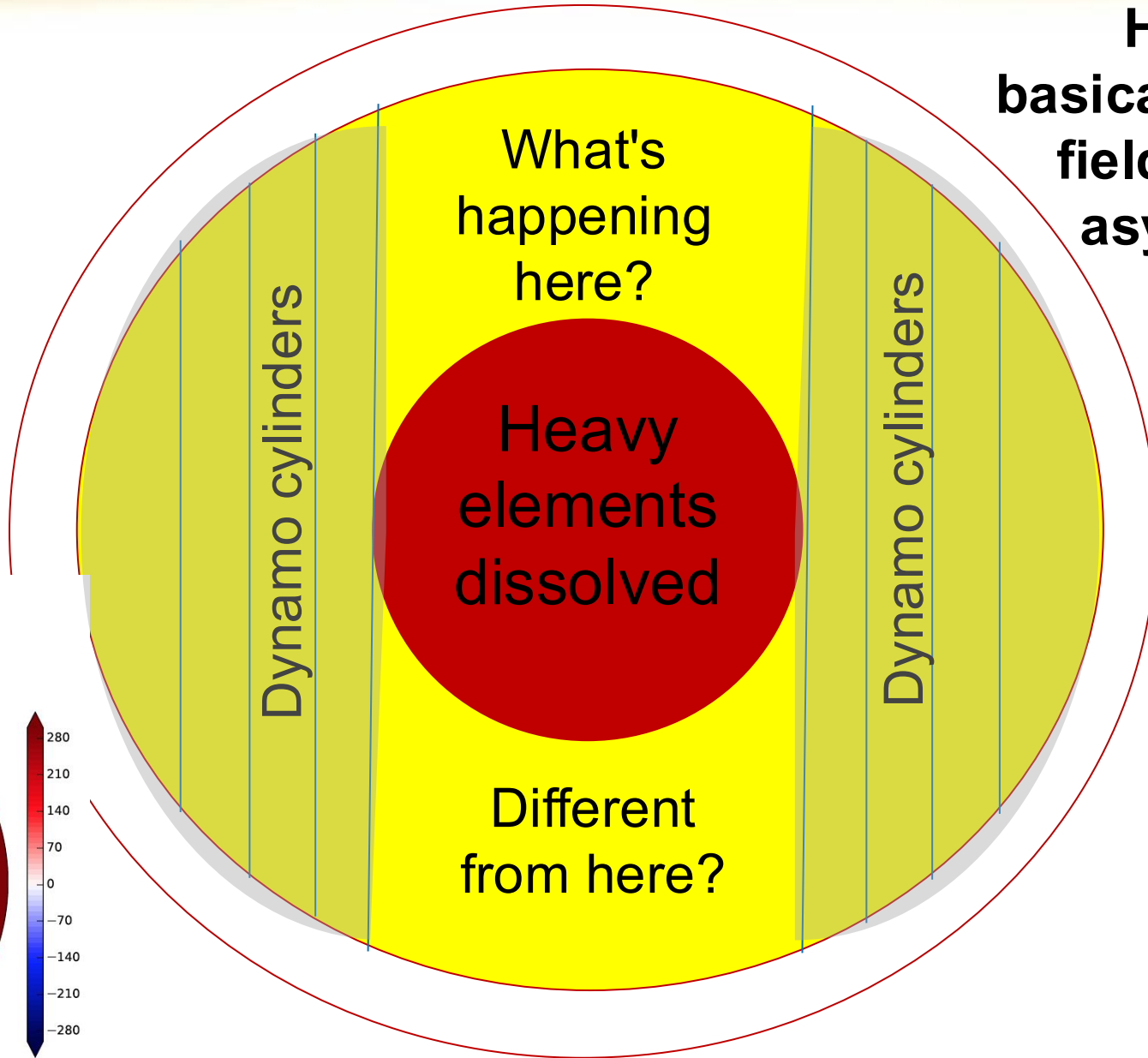


Glatzmeier 2005

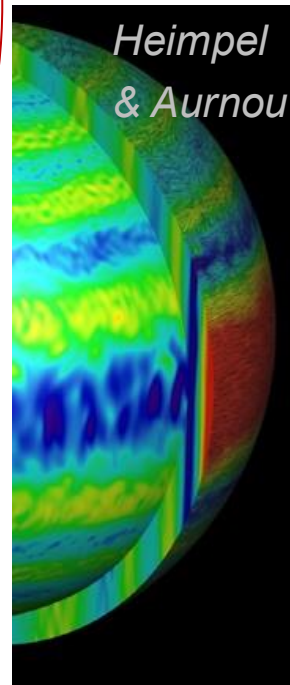
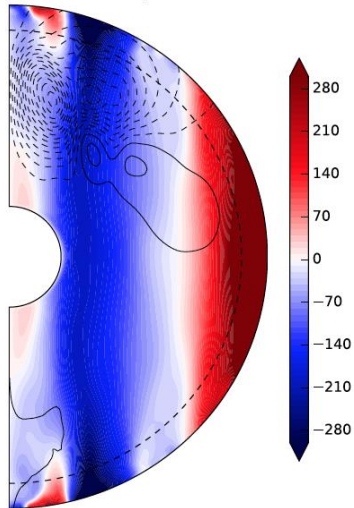
Juno

Implications for Dynamo in Rapid Rotator

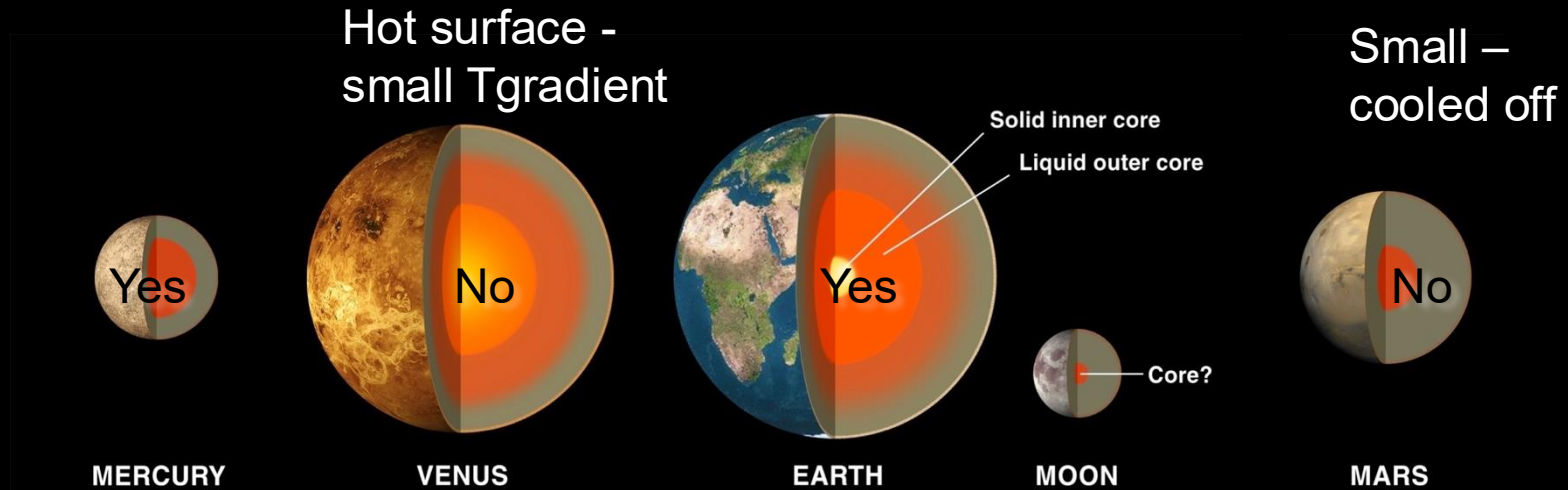
How to get
basically dipole
field with N-S
asymmetry?



*Duarte
et al.
2018*



WHICH HAVE ACTIVE MAGNETIC DYNAMAMOS?



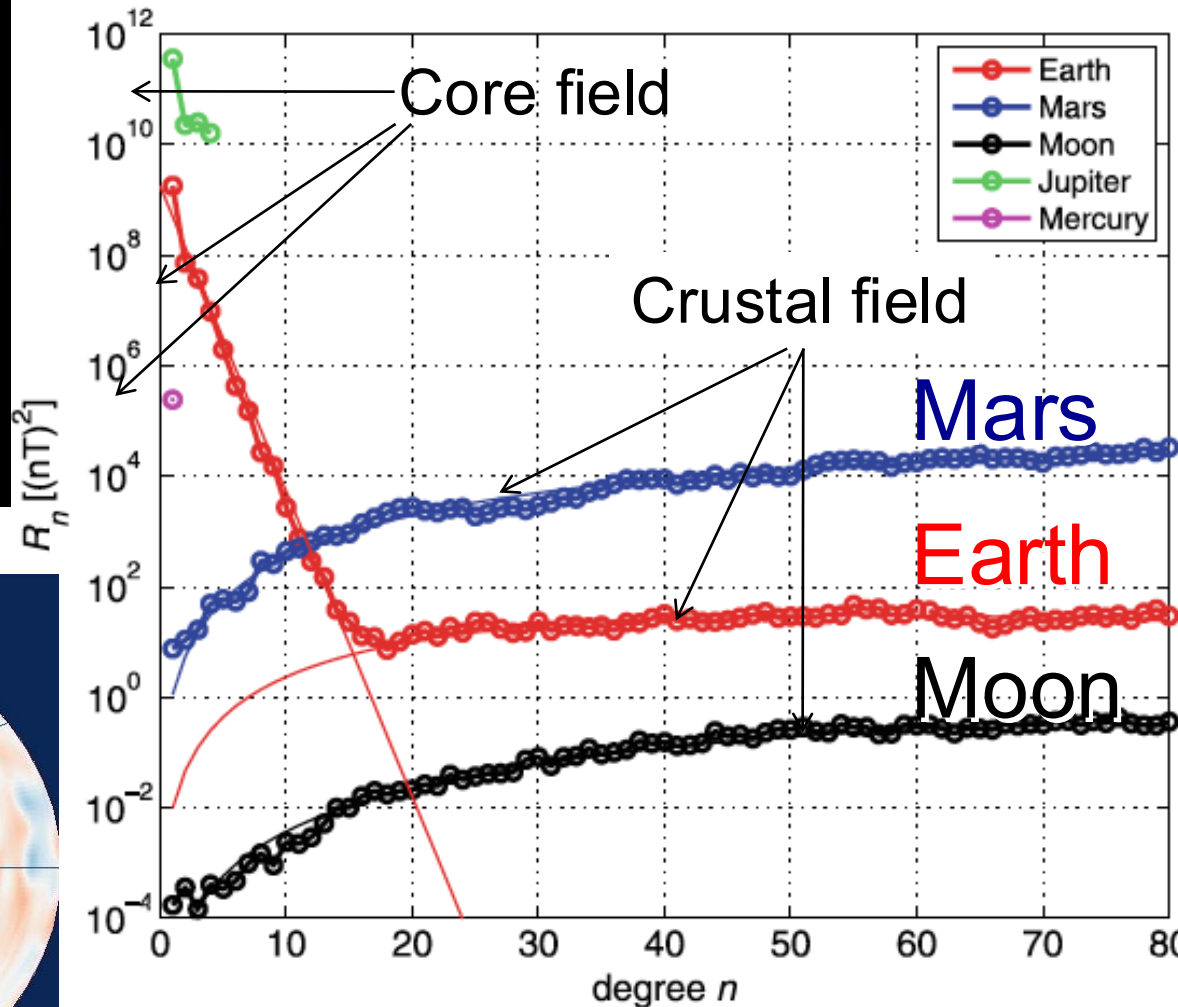
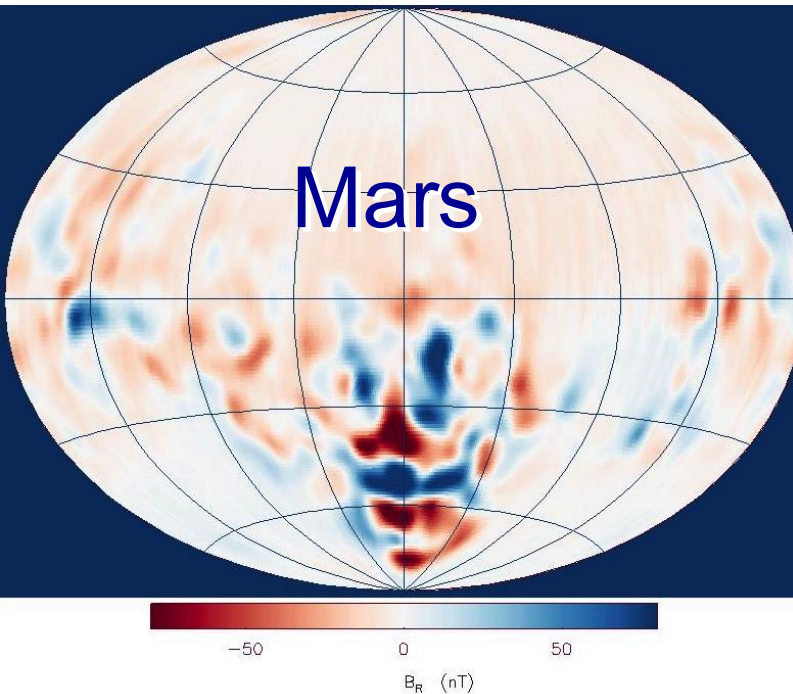
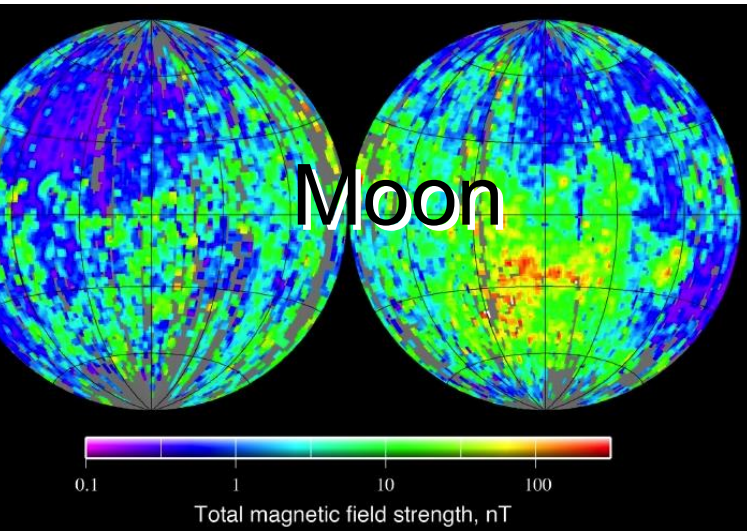
Why Don't Venus or Mars have Dynamos?

- Enough rotation – even for Venus
- Conducting fluid core – probably
- Lack of convection in core?
 1. If....Mantle convection controls heat flow from core. Then....Lack of plate tectonics suggests less efficient cooling of interior and lower heat flux from core
 2. No inner core means no latent heat of solidification and no enhancement of lighter material in the outer core

Need geophysics missions that address interior structure

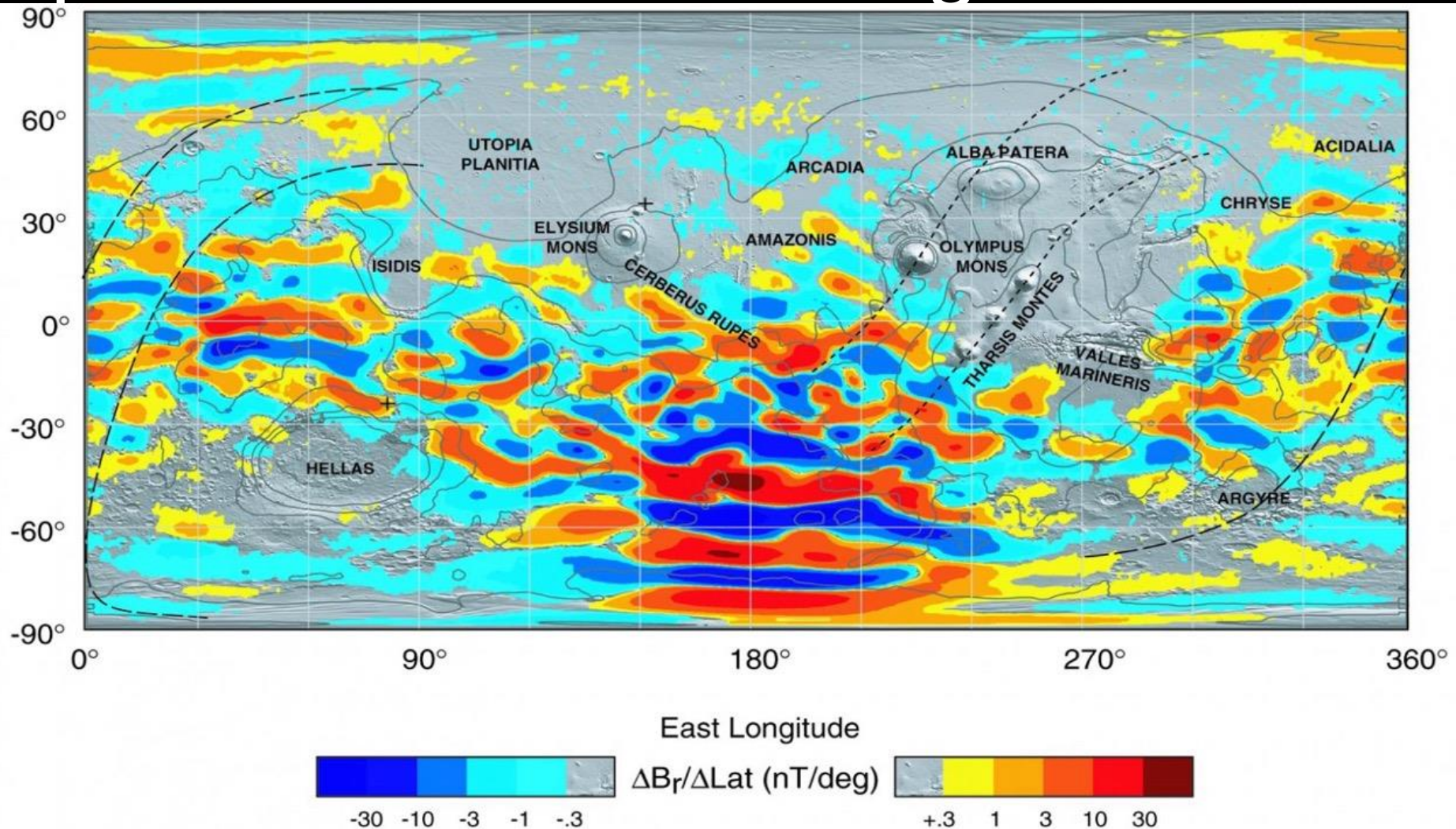
Stevensen 2010

Moon & Mars: All Crustal Remanent Magnetization



- Did Moon ever have dynamo?
- Mars' dynamo died >3.5 BYA.

Mars has strange arrangement of permanent crustal magnetic fields



Connerney, J. E. P. et al., (2005) Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA, 102, No. 42, 14970-14975.

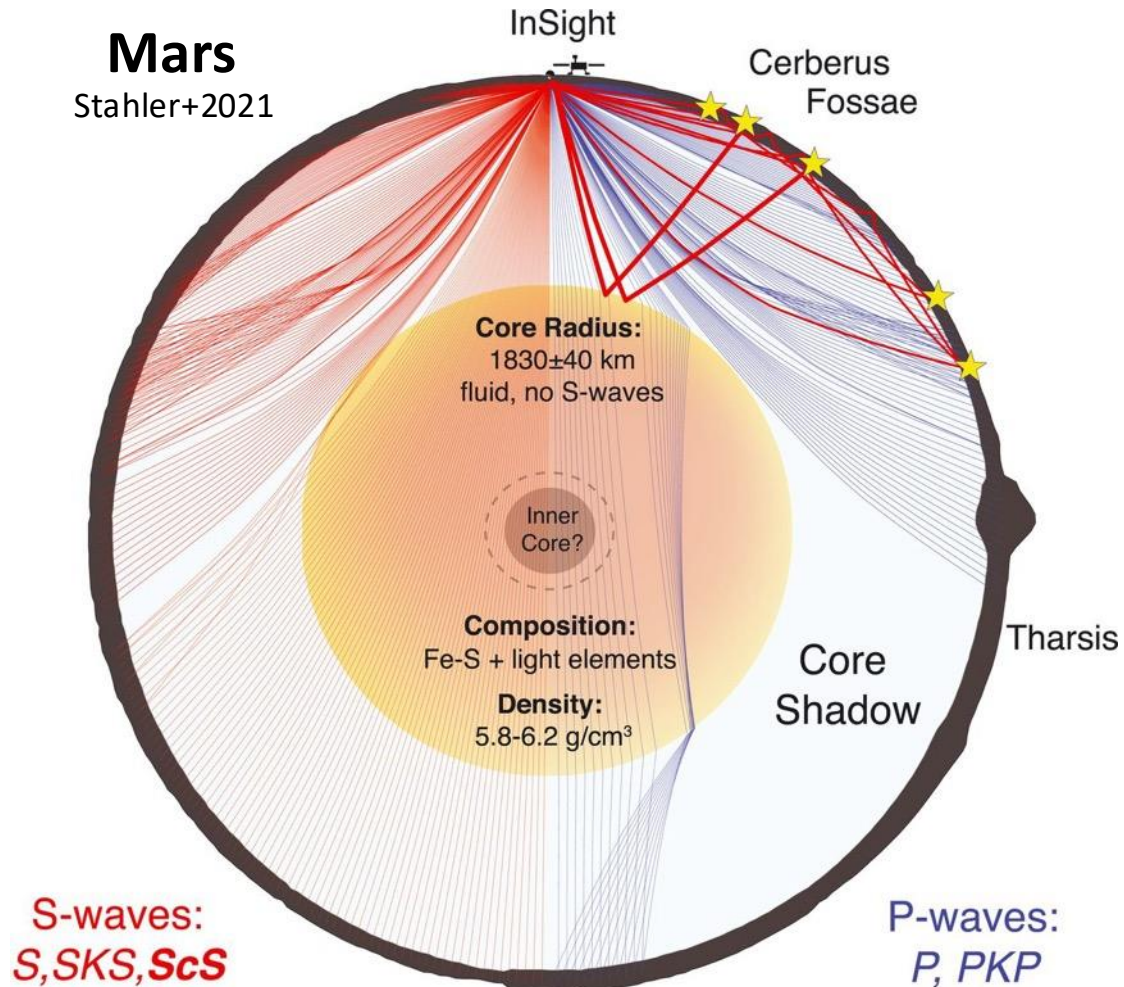
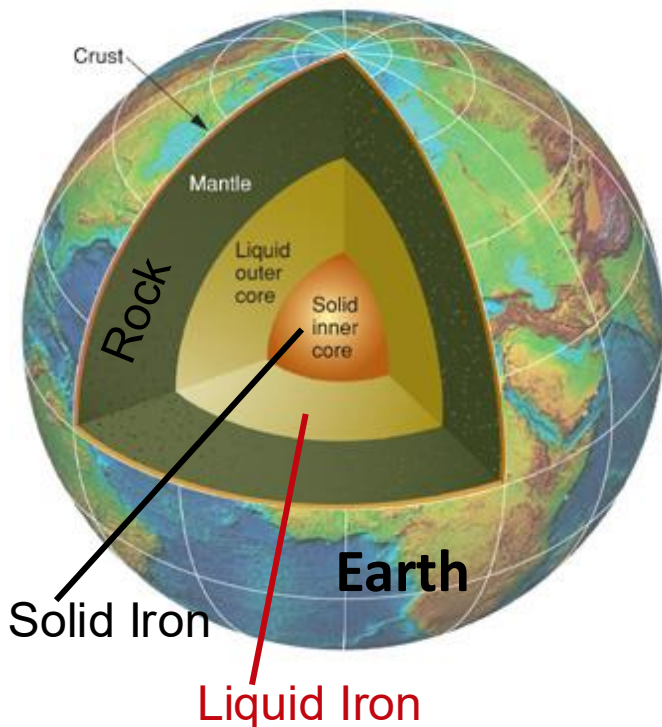
R1599_1pub

Magnetic dynamo stopped ~3 billion years ago

Why no dipole at Mars and Venus?

At Mars and Venus, the liquid core is wrapped in a stagnant mantle:

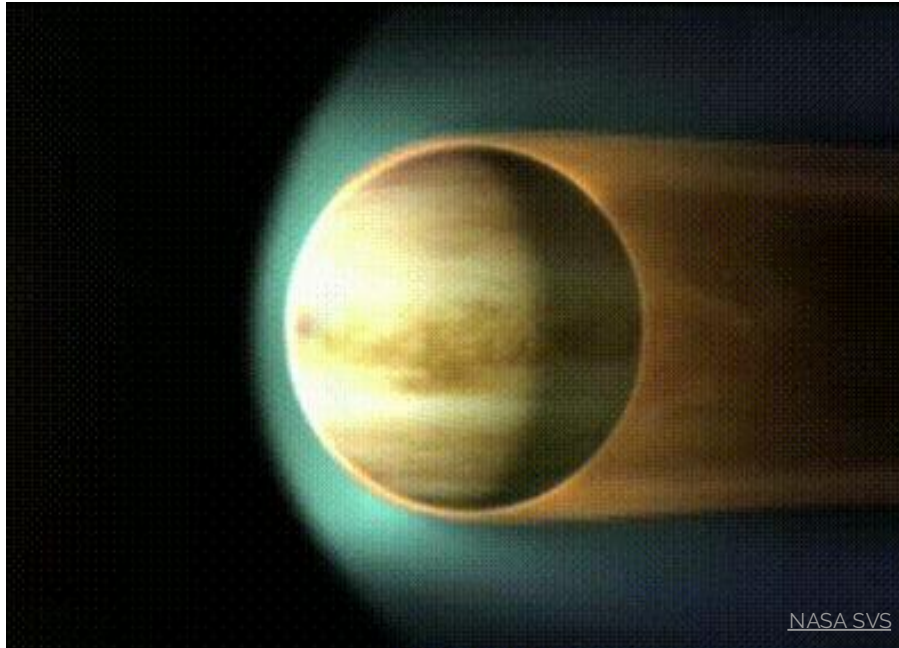
- no plate tectonics
- no mantle convection
- no magnetic field
- still not fully understood



OK – Mars is small and cooled off quickly.
But Venus?? Same size as Earth!

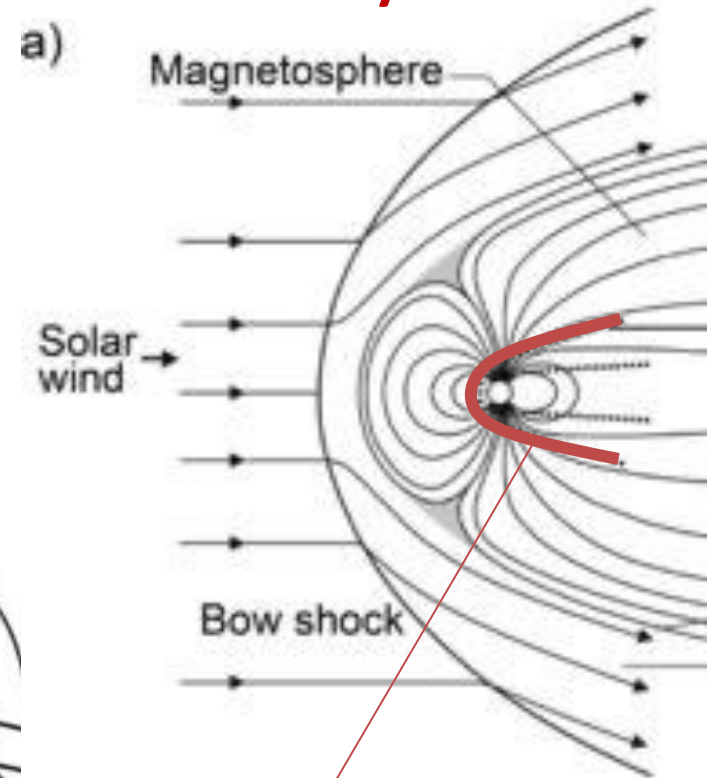
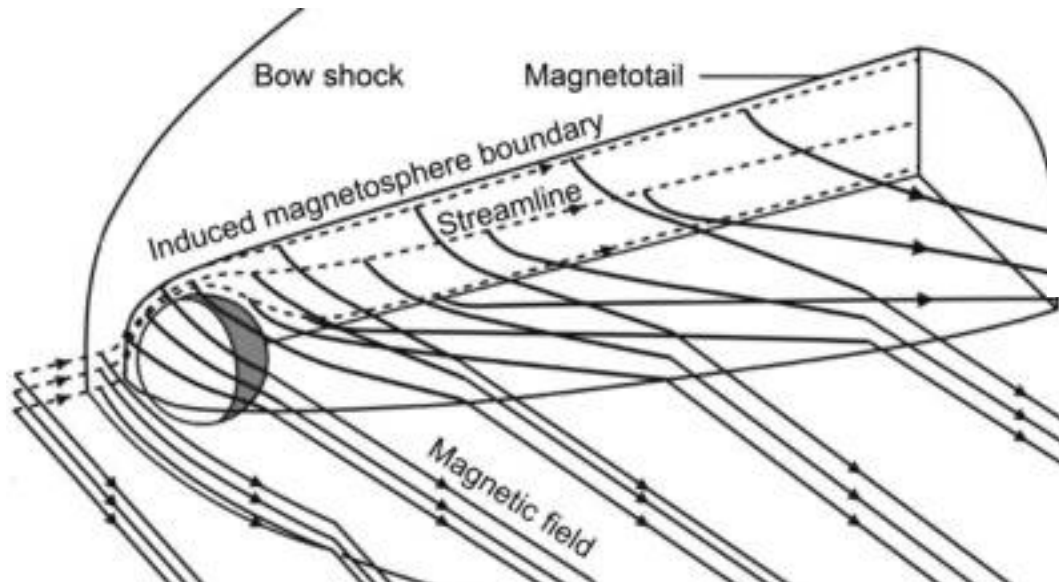
Induced Magnetospheres

Mars & Venus: Induced Magnetospheres



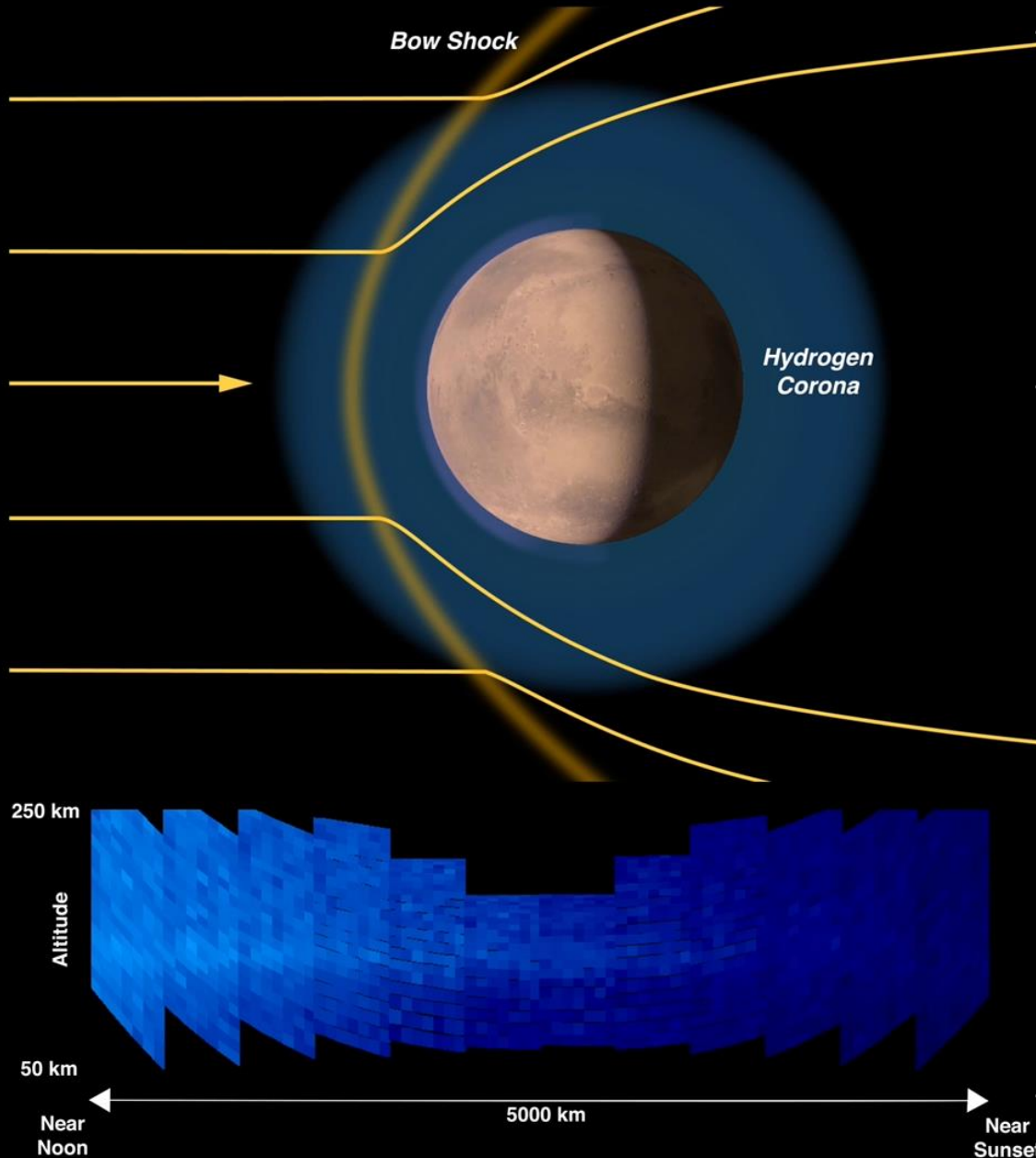
Earth vs. Venus

– Why so different??

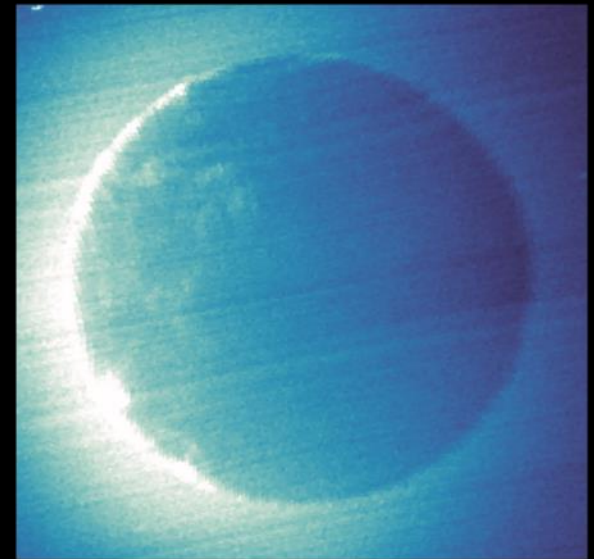


Venus bow shock

Proton Aurora: Mars' most common aurora

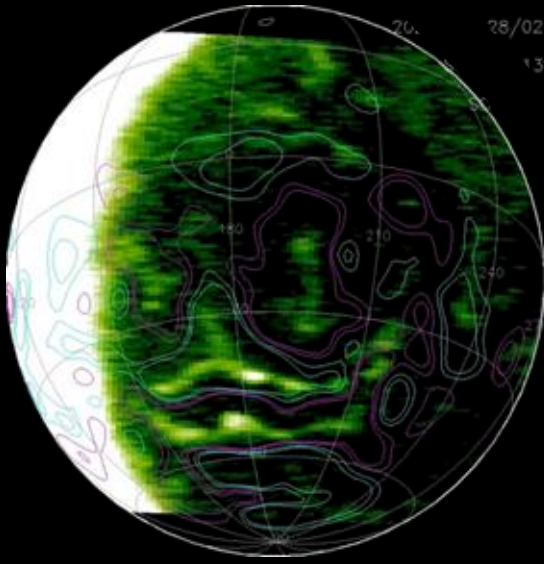


- Penetrating particles are neutralized by charge exchange, which allows them to pass through the bowshock and emit
- Patchy – varying solar wind structures



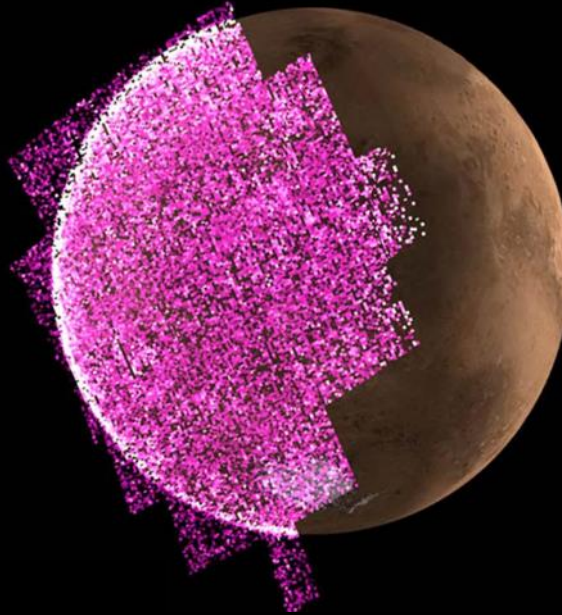
- Likely to occur on Venus, but never been observed

Three Types of Aurora on Mars

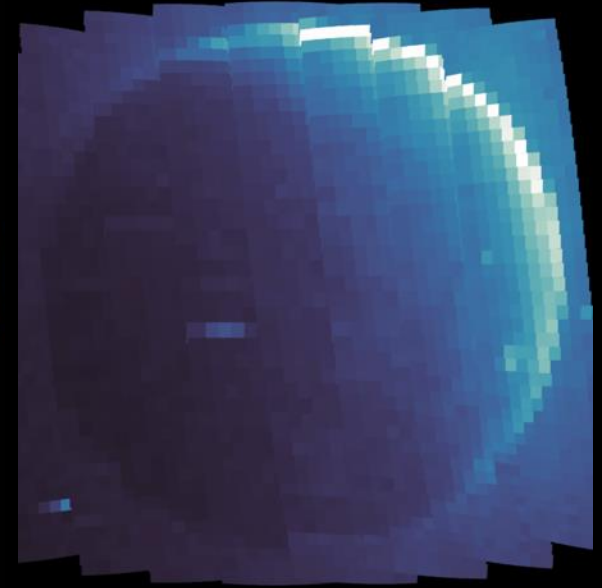


Fast electrons

power emissions in discrete patterns in and around Mars crustal magnetic fields



Solar Energetic Particles, both protons and electrons, can engulf the entire planet in diffuse aurora



Solar wind

protons impact Mars' upper atmosphere, and cause emission across the dayside

O and H glowing in ultraviolet

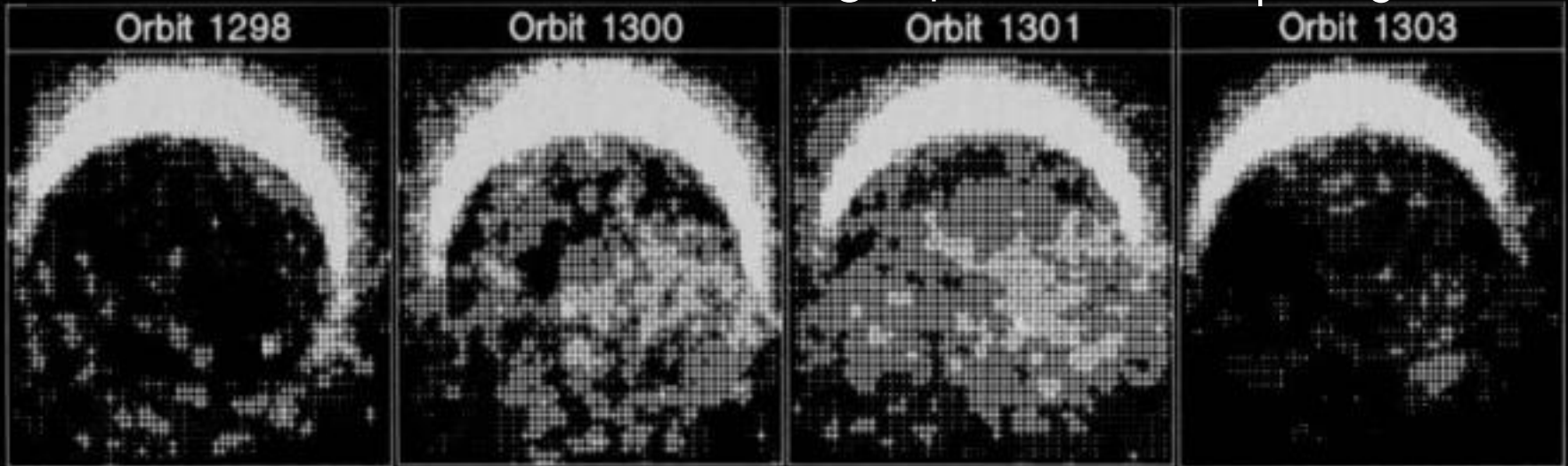
Venus: Aurora waiting to be discovered

Sun-Venus interaction **should** produce aurora similar to those seen at Mars outside the crustal fields

- Pioneer Venus made point observations from a spinning spacecraft, limiting temporal and spatial resolution
- **Since 80s - No mission has adequately observed aurora at Venus**

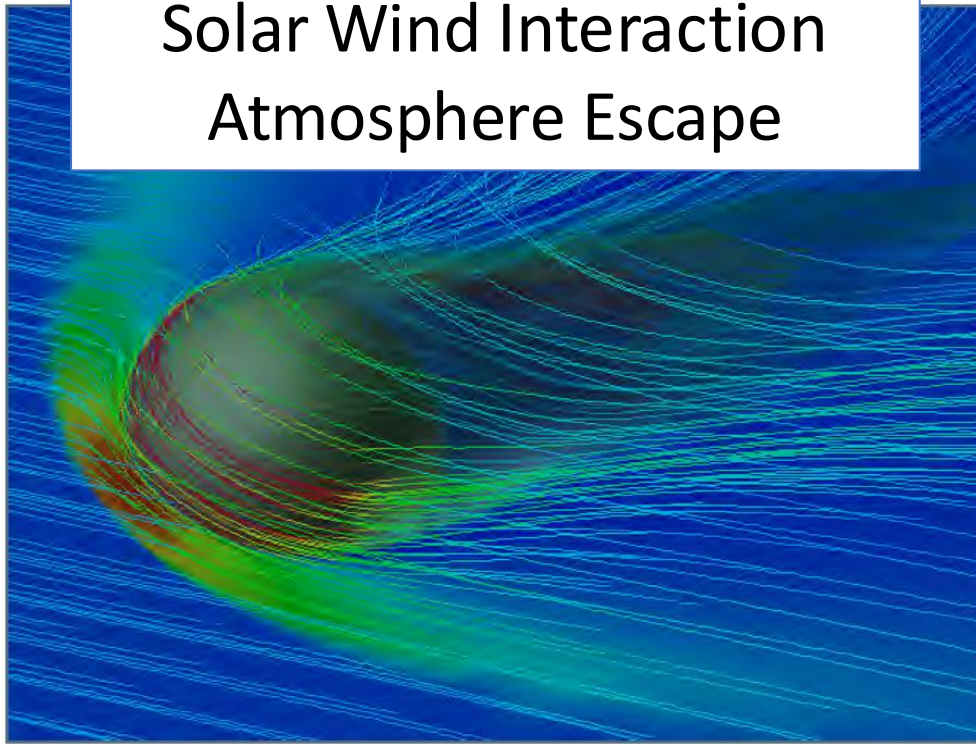
Pioneer Venus UV Aurora 130.4 nm

Phillips+1986

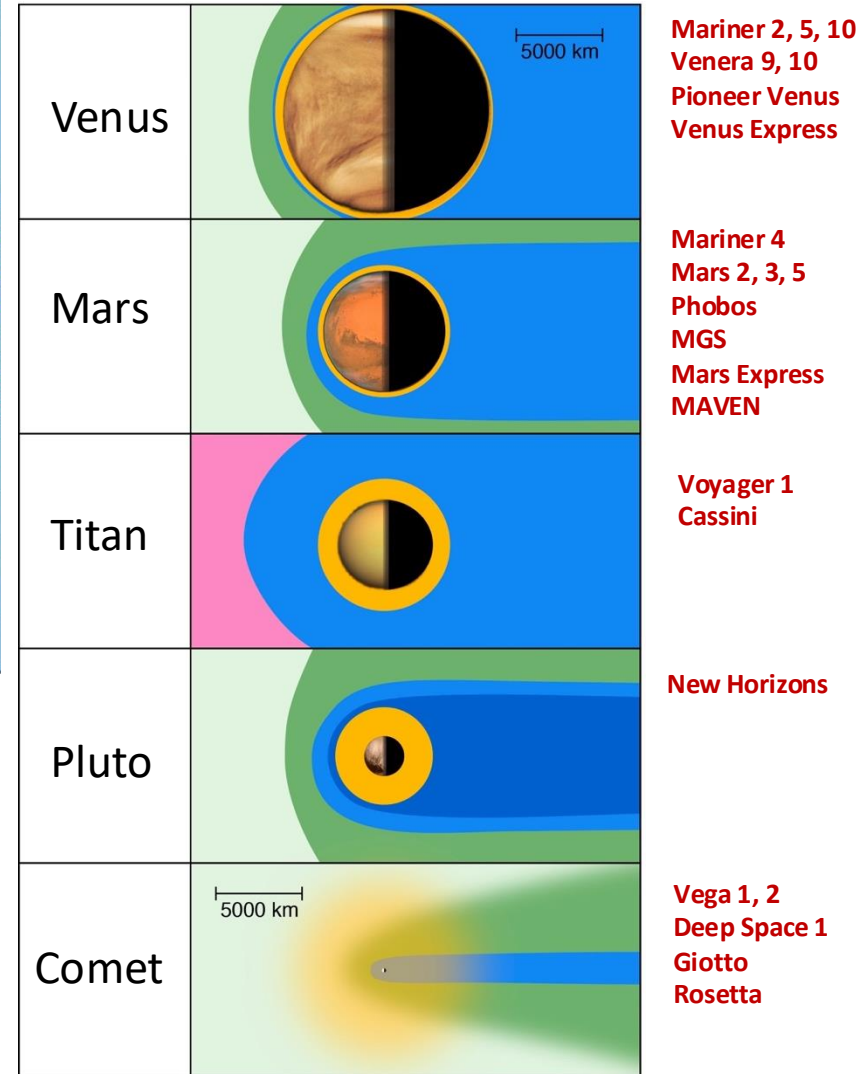


Need a mission to Venus to measure aurora!!

Solar Wind Interaction Atmosphere Escape



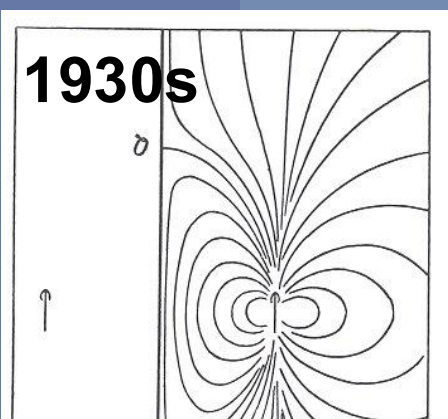
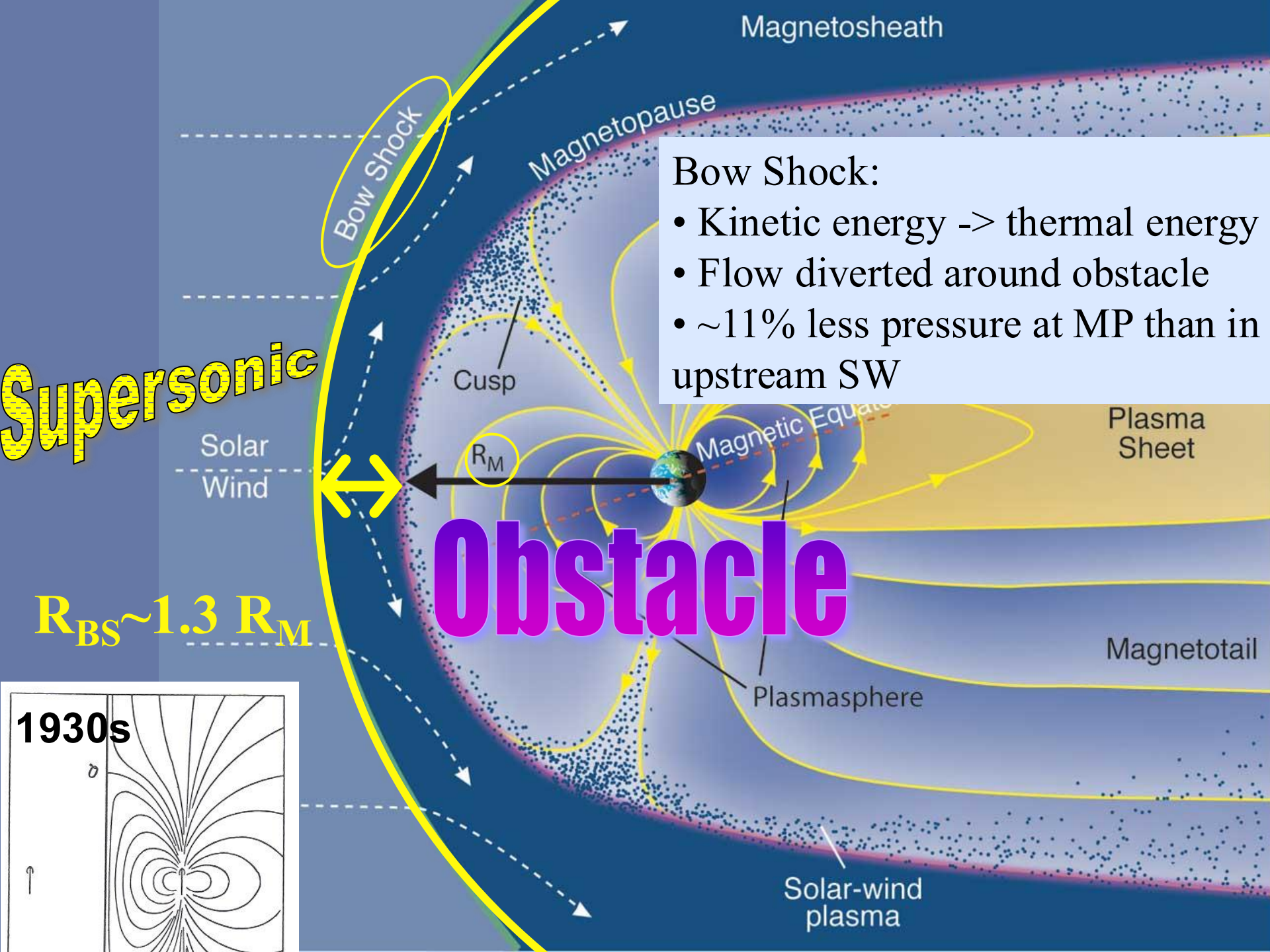
- Ionization of outer atmosphere
- Plasma-atmosphere interaction
- Similar scale!
- Similar loss! few kg/s
- Comets up to ton/s



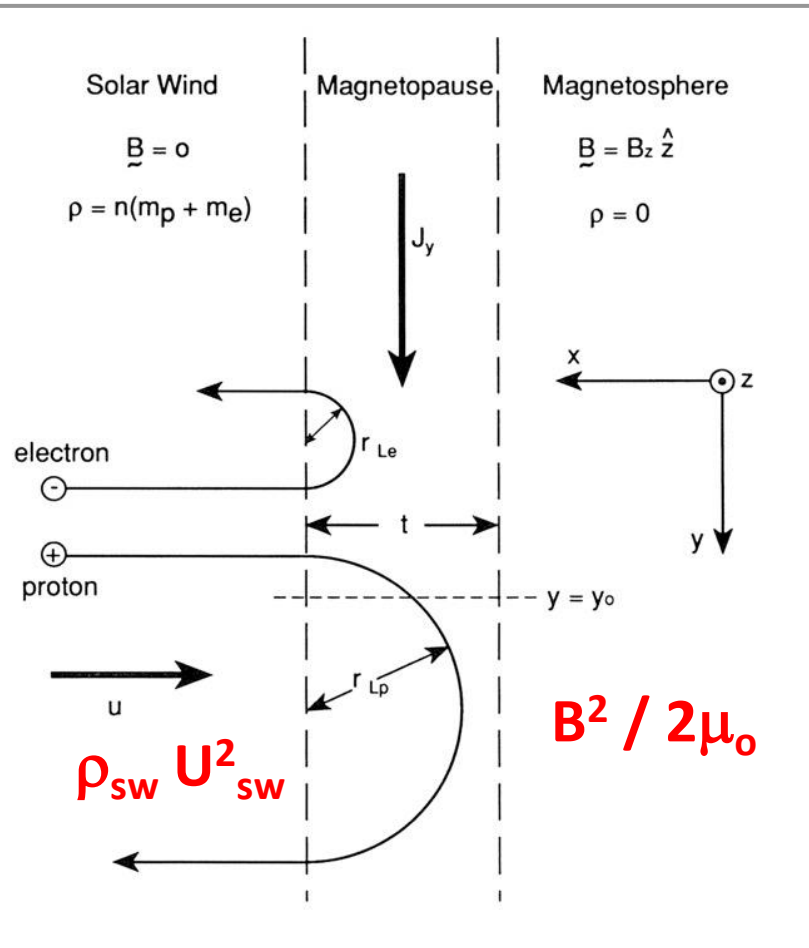
Magnetosphere Sizes

Why do planetary magnetospheres have a bow shock?

What happens to the solar wind at the bow shock?

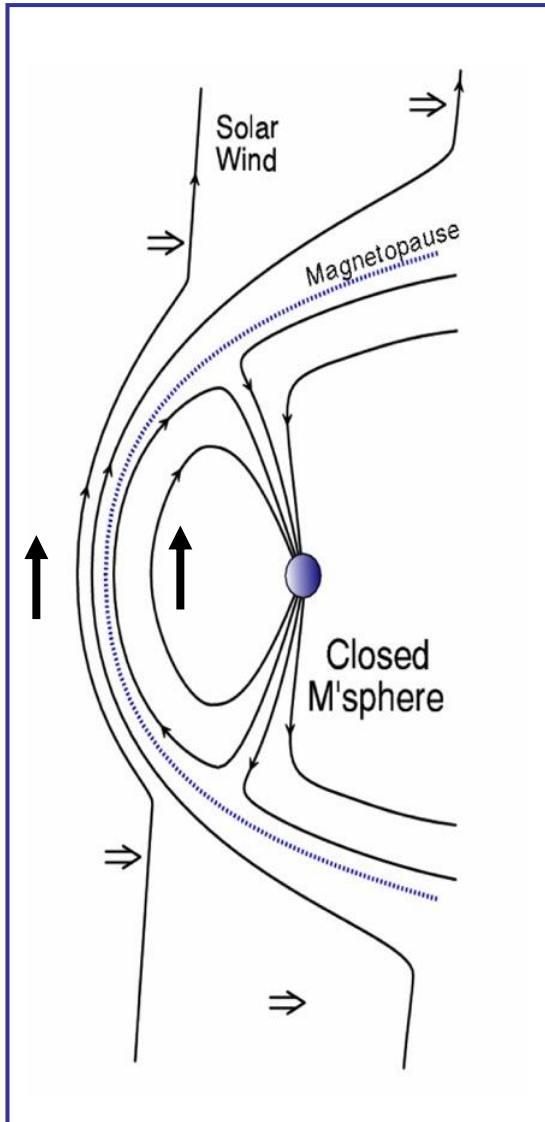


Chapman-Ferraro Current

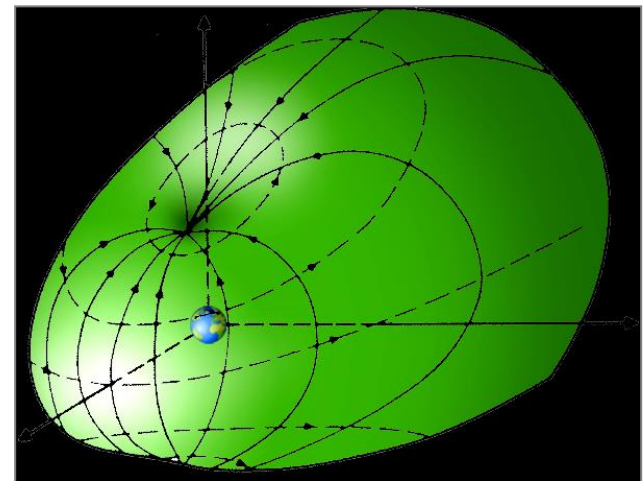
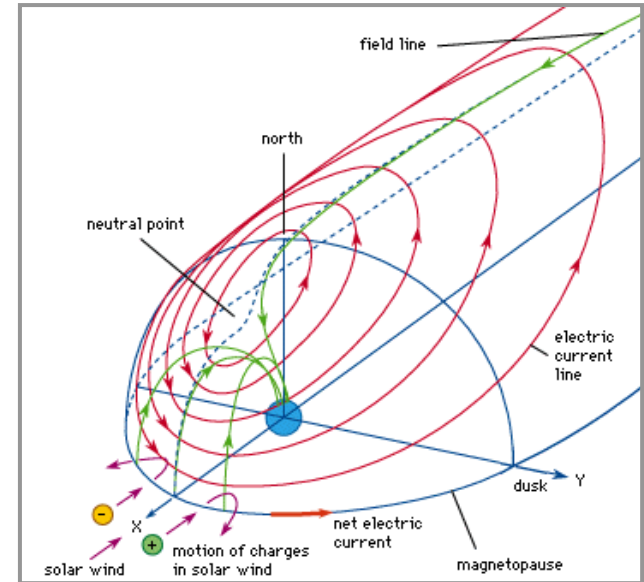


- Internal magnetic field pressure $B^2 / 2\mu_o$
- Balances the solar wind dynamic pressure $\rho_{sw} U_{sw}^2$
- Assumes northward Interplanetary Magnetic Field – IMF
- Chapman-Ferraro current must provide $\mathbf{j} \times \mathbf{B}$ force integrated across magnetopause

Chapman-Ferraro Current



- Creates closed magnetosphere
- Limits size of magnetosphere
- Current pattern over the whole magnetopause.



$$B_{\text{dipole}} = B_o (R_p/r)^3$$

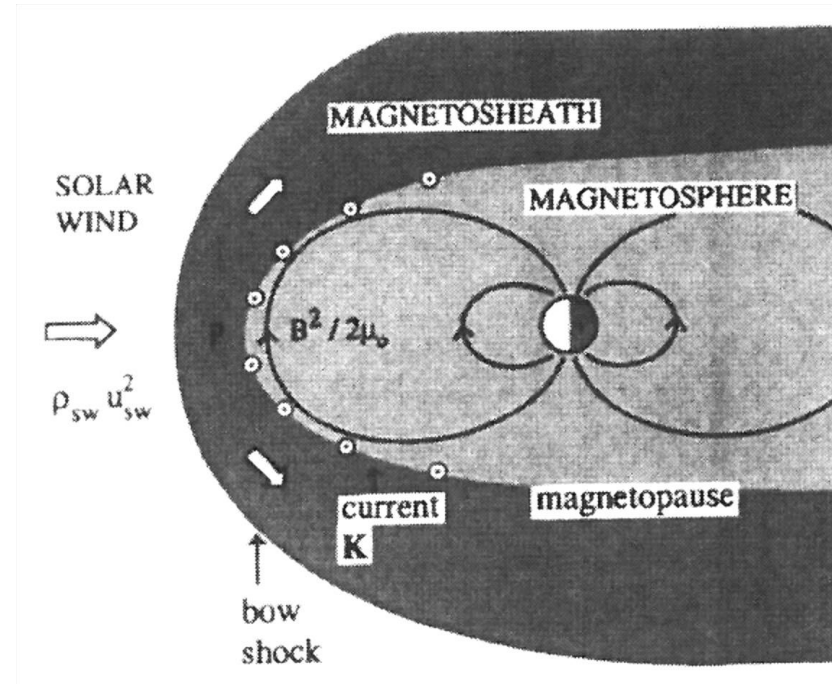
SW ram pressure $\Leftrightarrow$
internal magnetic field pressure

$$\rho_{\text{sw}} U_{\text{sw}}^2 = B^2 / 2\mu_o = B_o^2 (R_p/r)^6 / 2\mu_o$$

BUT what about currents at the magnetopause? $\rightarrow 2B_{\text{dipole}}$

$$\rho_{\text{sw}} U_{\text{sw}}^2 = (2B_o)^2 (R_p/r)^6 / 2\mu_o$$

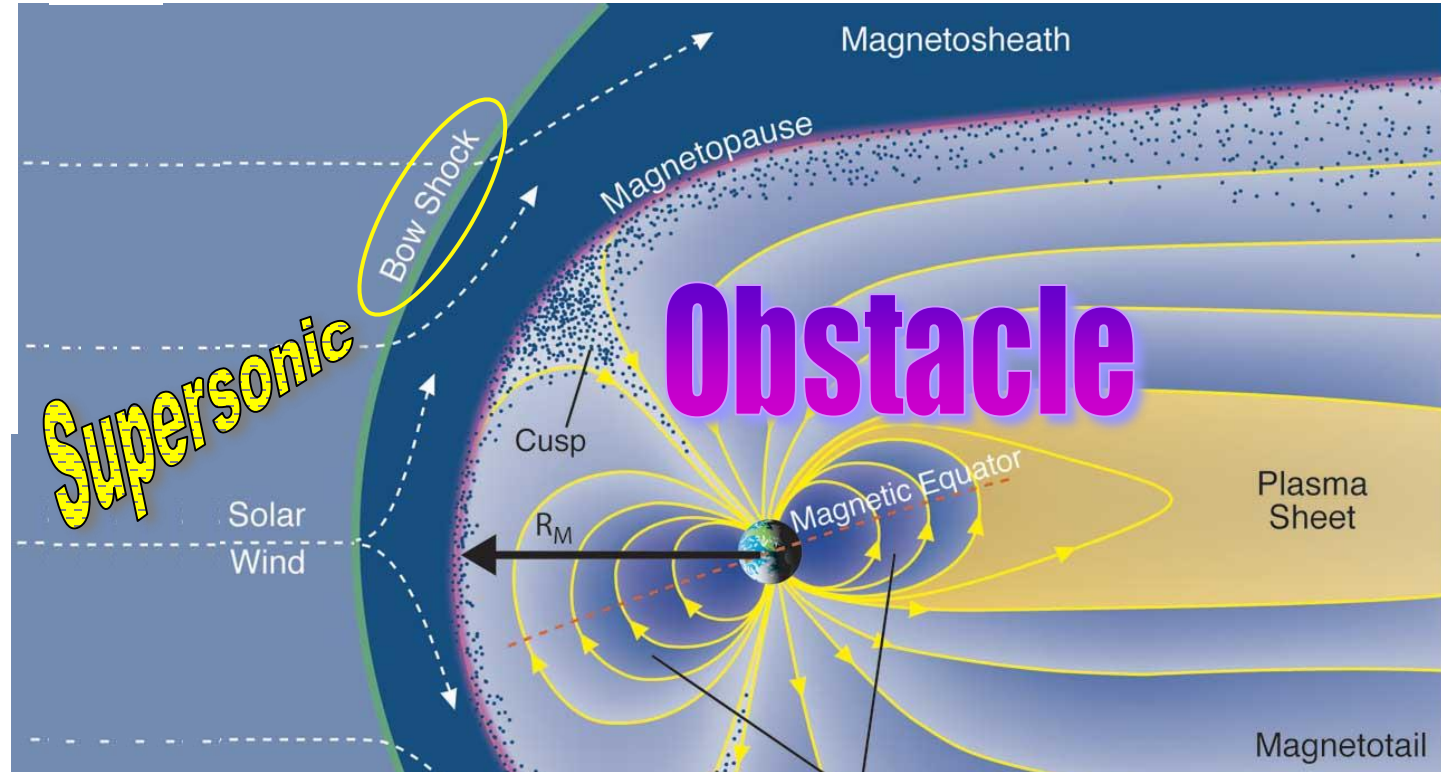
Solve for $r \Rightarrow R_{\text{MP}}$



$$R_{\text{MP}} / R_{\text{planet}} = 2^{1/3} [B_o^2 / 2\mu_o \rho_{\text{sw}} U_{\text{sw}}^2]^{1/6}$$

Dipole Magnetic Field in Solar Wind

Chapman-Ferraro Distance



SW Ram Pressure $\longleftrightarrow$ Magnetic Pressure

$$R_{MP} / R_{planet} \sim 1.2 \left[B_o^2 / 2 \mu_o \rho_{sw} V_{sw}^2 \right]^{1/6}$$

$$R_{CF}/R_p \sim 1.2 \{ \mathbf{B}_o^2 / (2 \mu_o \rho_{sw} U_{sw}^2) \}^{1/6}$$

Quick chat with your neighbors....

1. How does ρ_{sw} vary with distance D from Sun?
2. How does U_{sw} vary with distance D from Sun?
3. How does $\{1/\rho_{sw} U_{sw}^2\}^{1/6}$ vary with distance?
4. Move Earth from 1 AU to 8 AU – How big is the magnetosphere?

$$R_{CF}/R_p \sim 1.2 \{ \mathbf{B}_o^2 / (2 \mu_o \rho_{sw} U_{sw}^2) \}^{1/6}$$

Quick chat with your neighbors....

1. How does ρ_{sw} vary with distance D from Sun?

$\sim 1/D^2$

2. How does U_{sw} vary with distance D from Sun?

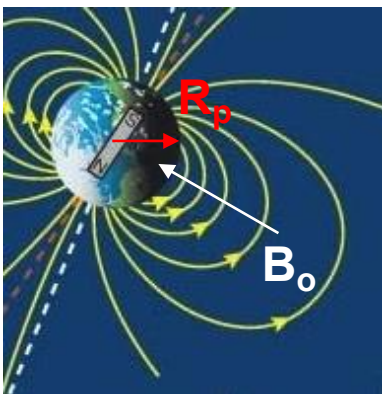
$\sim \text{constant}$

3. How does $\{1/\rho_{sw} U_{sw}^2\}^{1/6}$ vary with distance?

$\{1/D^2\}^{1/6} \sim D^{1/3}$

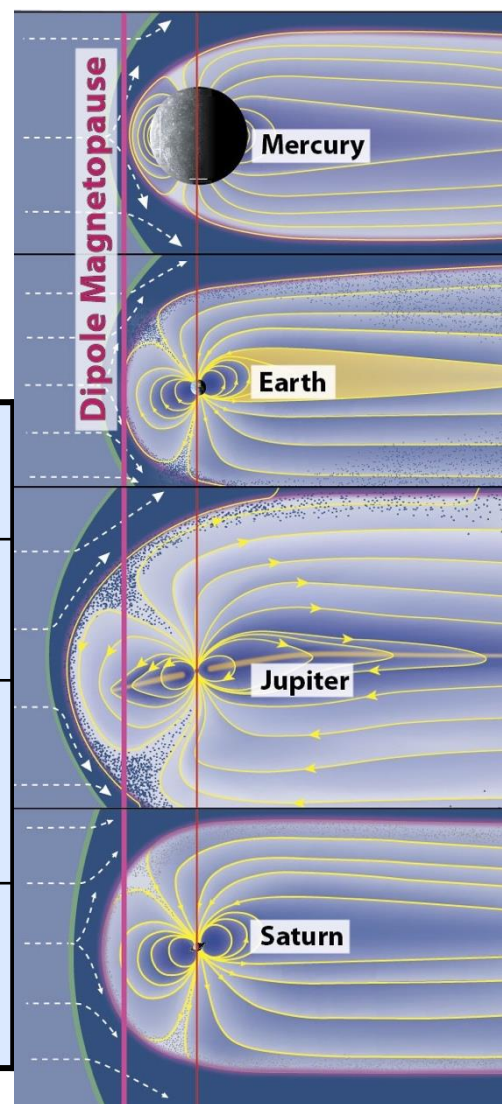
4. Move Earth from 1 AU to 8 AU – How big is the magnetosphere?

$\times 2$

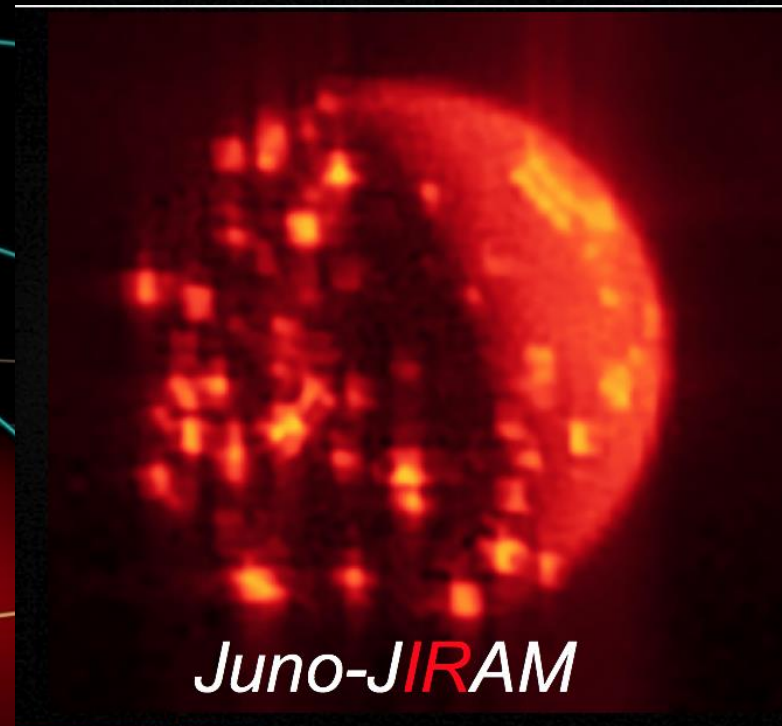
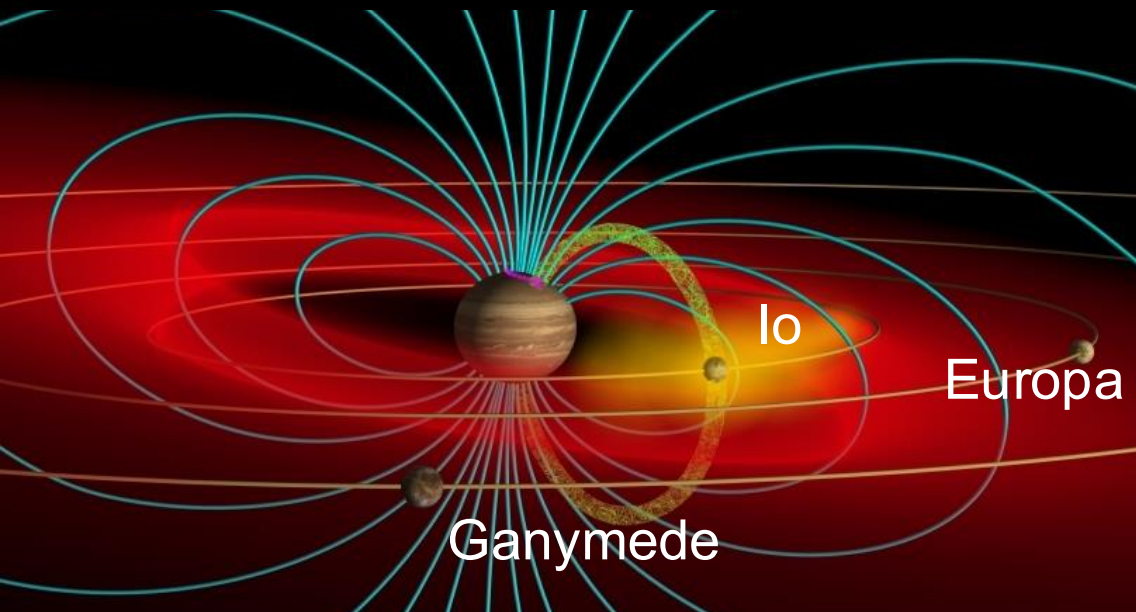


$$R_{CF}/R_p \sim 1.4 \{B_o^2 / 2 \mu_o \rho_{sw} V_{sw}^2\}^{1/6}$$

	Mercury	Earth	Jupiter	Saturn	Uranus	Neptune
B_o surface μT	0.3 μT	31 μT	430 μT	22 μT	23 μT	14 μT
R_{CF} Calculated	1.4 R_M	10 R_E	46 R_J	20 R_S	25 R_U	24 R_N
R_M Observed	1.4-1.6 R_M	8-12 R_E	63-92 R_J	22-27 R_S	18 R_U	23-26 R_N



*Jupiter's magnetic field
extends beyond 4 big moons*



Io ejects 1 ton/s volcanic gases
Mega-Amp currents couple Io to Jupiter

Small Magnetospheres

Mercury

Mariner 10

MESSENGER

In solar wind

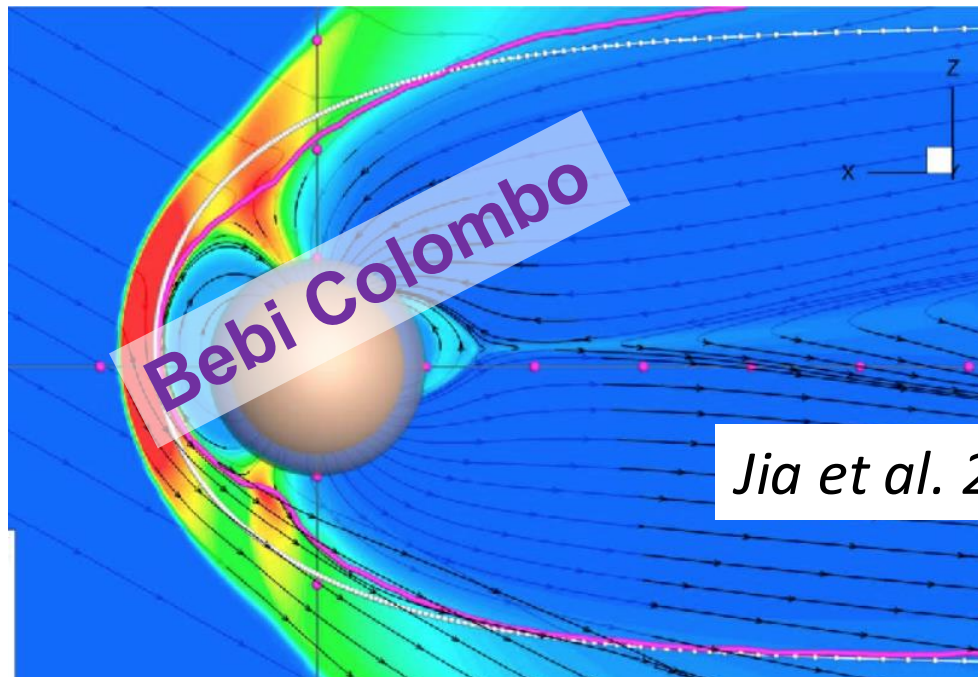
No atmosphere

Ganymede

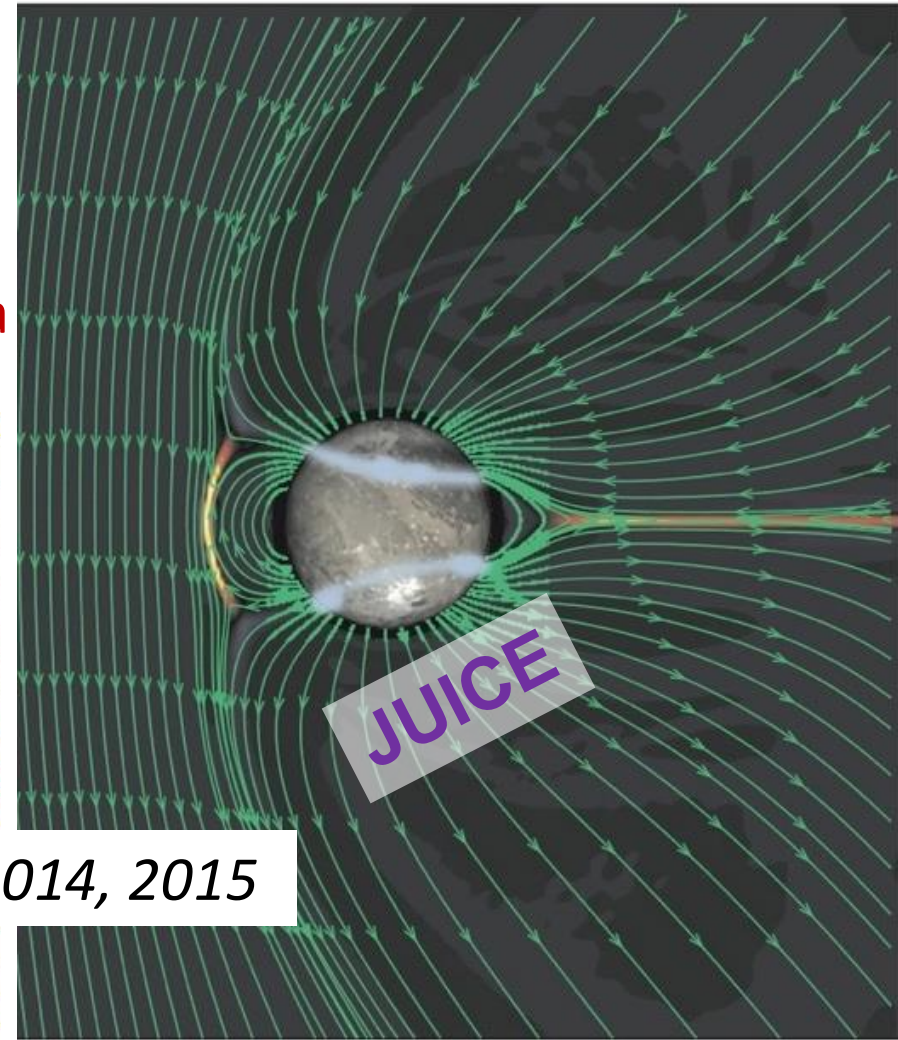
Galileo

In Jupiter m'sphere

Atmospheric aurora



Jia et al. 2014, 2015



$B_{\text{surface}} \sim 1/100 \text{ Earth}$

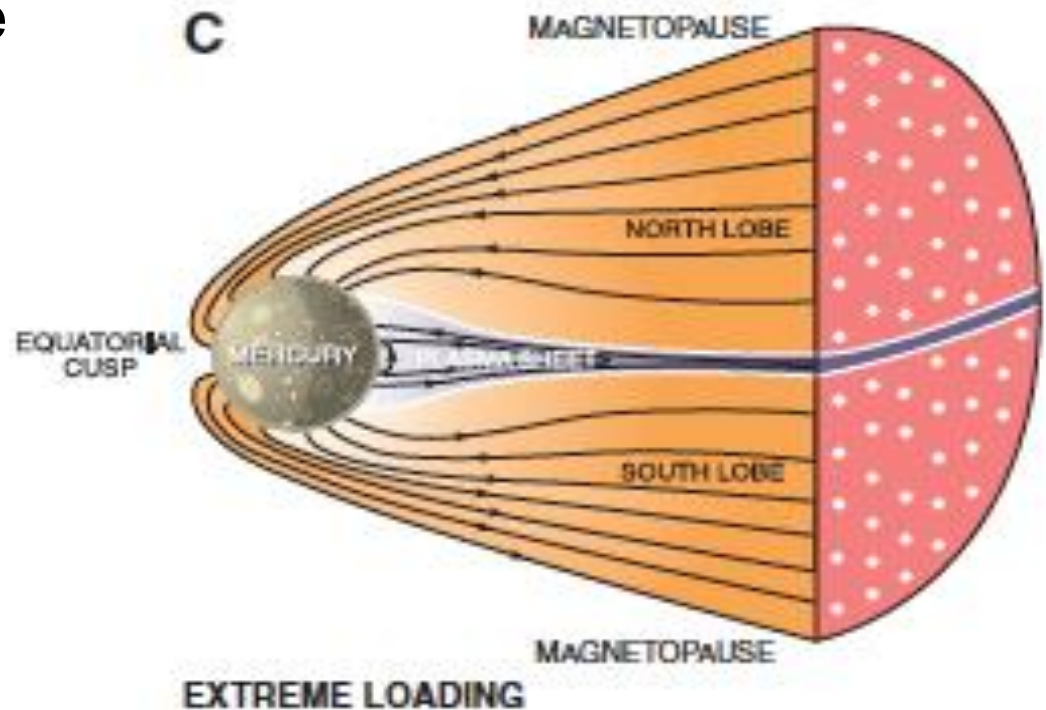
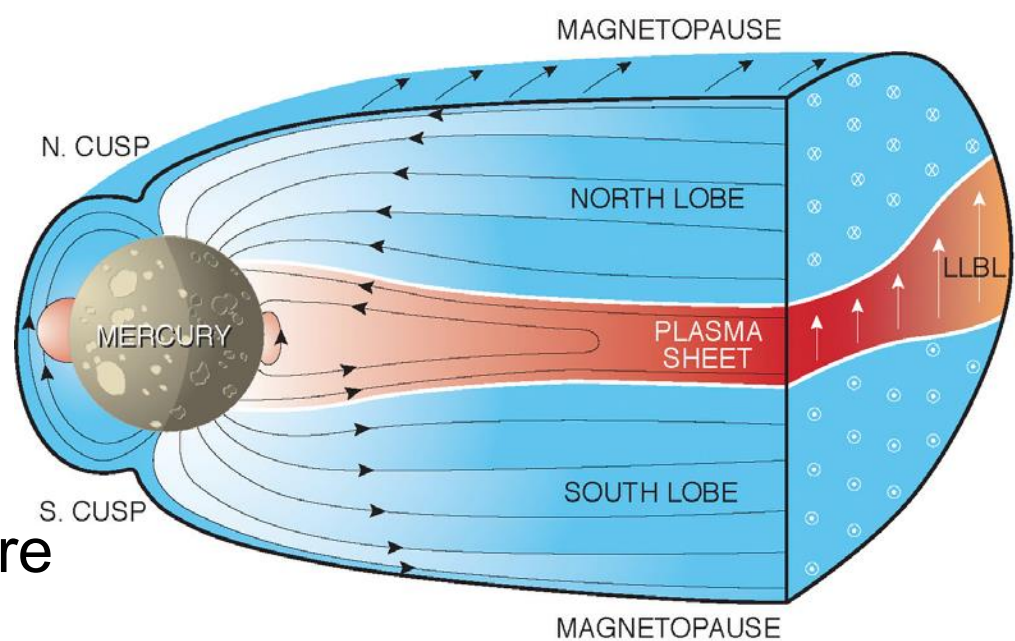


Earth Diameter

Mercury

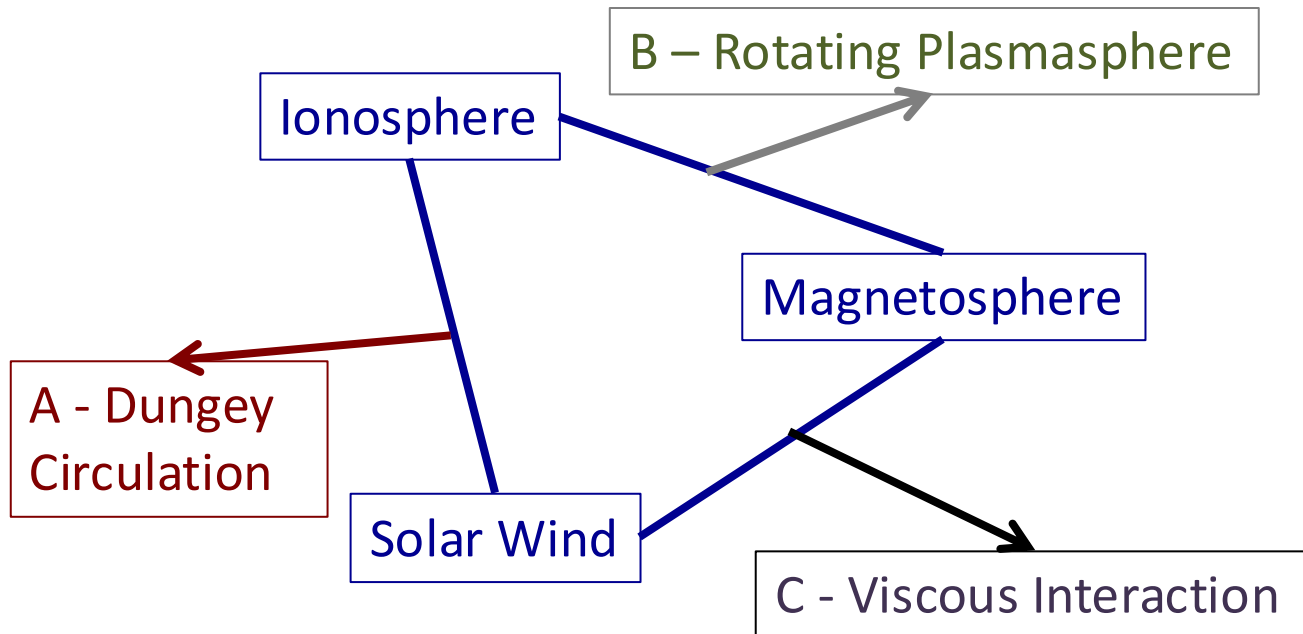
- Small magnetosphere
- No atmosphere/ionosphere
- Currently close via crust
- Very rapid Dungey cycle
- Sputtered Na^+ escape

Extreme solar
wind conditions ->
exposed planet

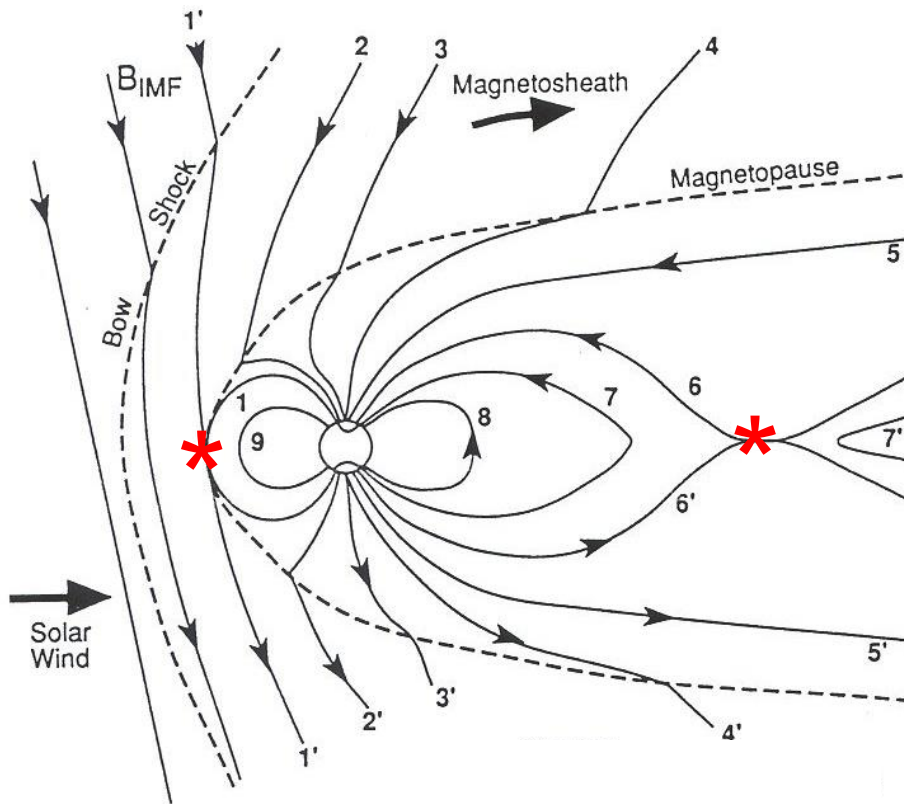


Dynamics

Which Form of Coupling Dominates -> Controls Dynamics



Earth



Ionosphere

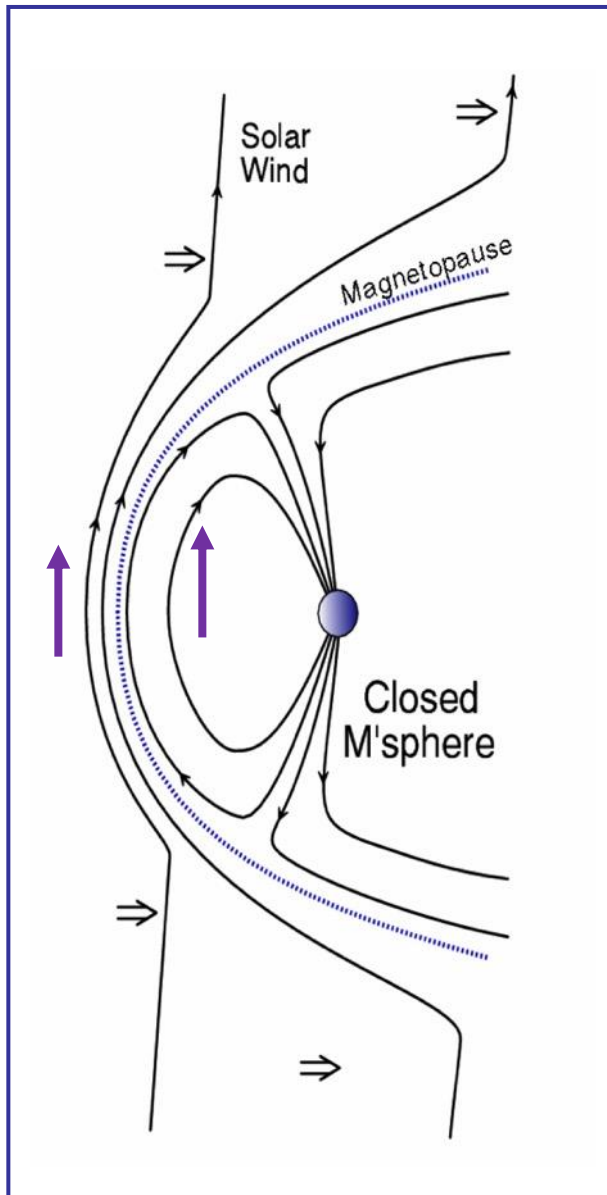
Magnetosphere

A - Dungey
Circulation

Solar Wind

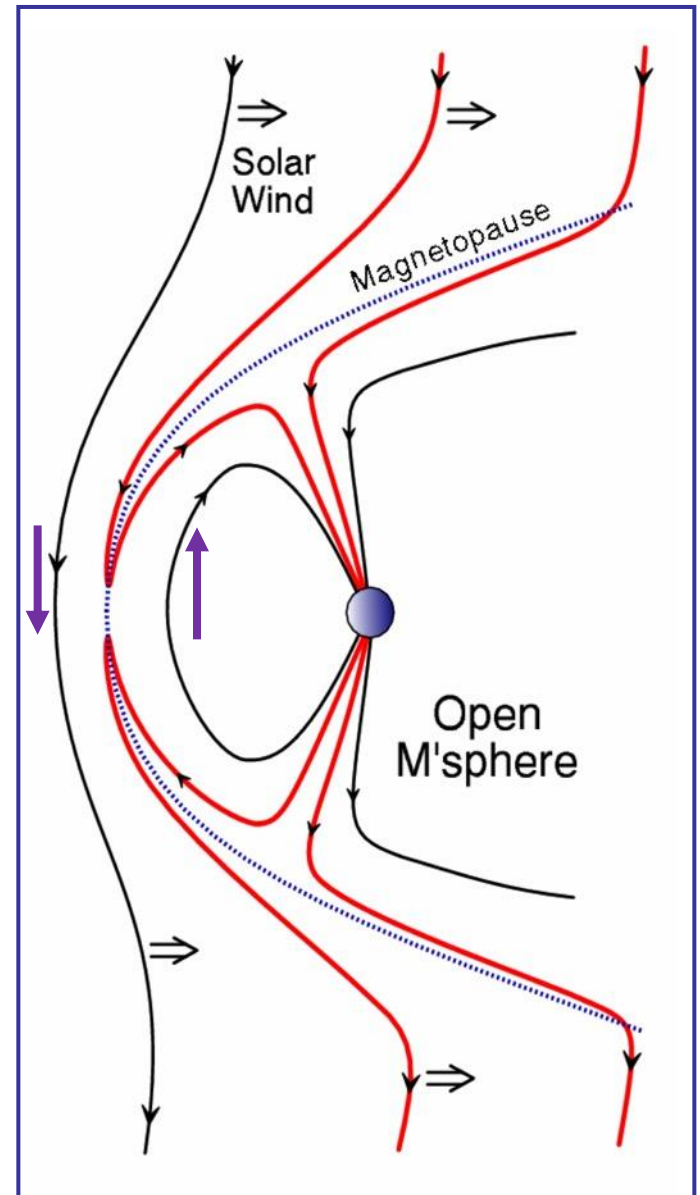
* Reconnection-Driven
Global Circulation

Open Magnetosphere



Now flip
Interplanetary
Magnetic Field
direction

Reconnection
→

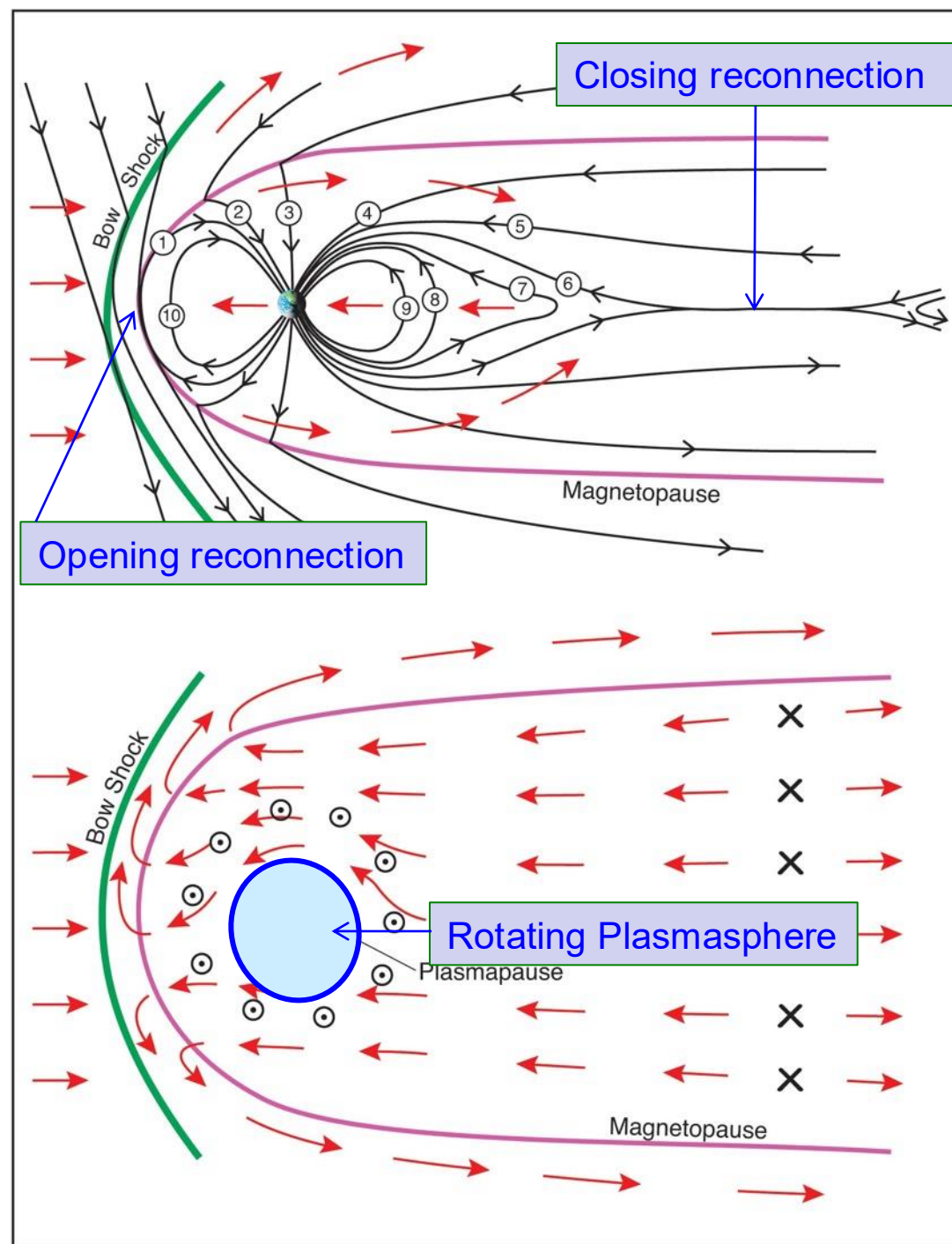


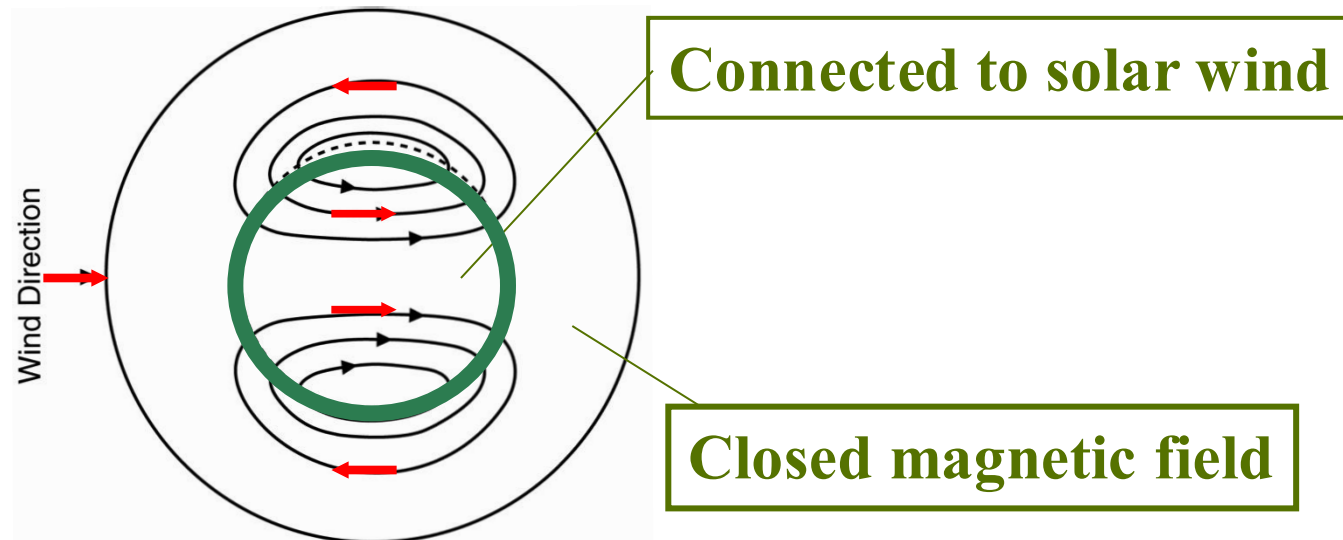
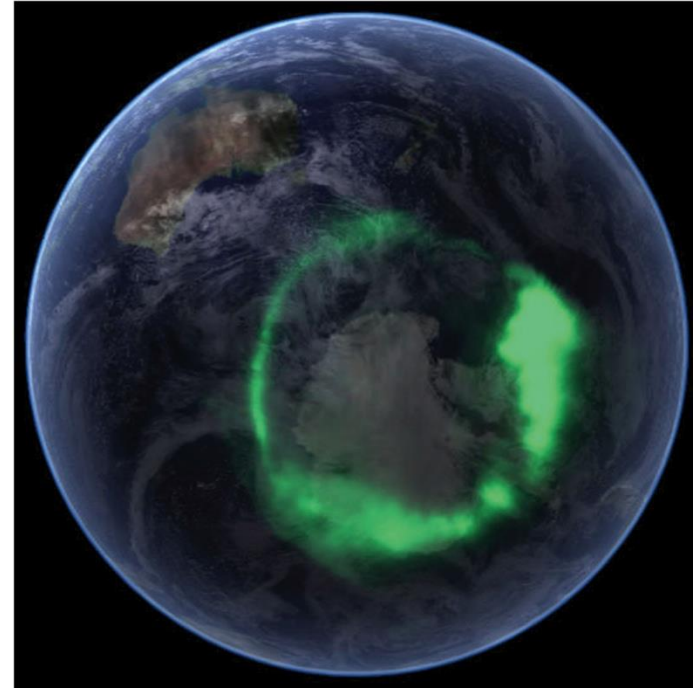
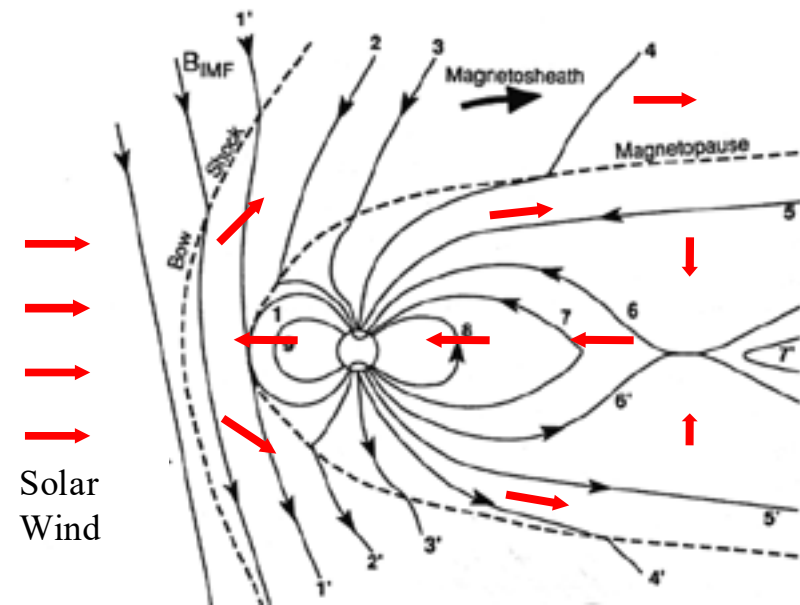
Dungey Cycle

Dynamics at Earth driven by the solar wind coupling the Sun's magnetic field to the Earth's field

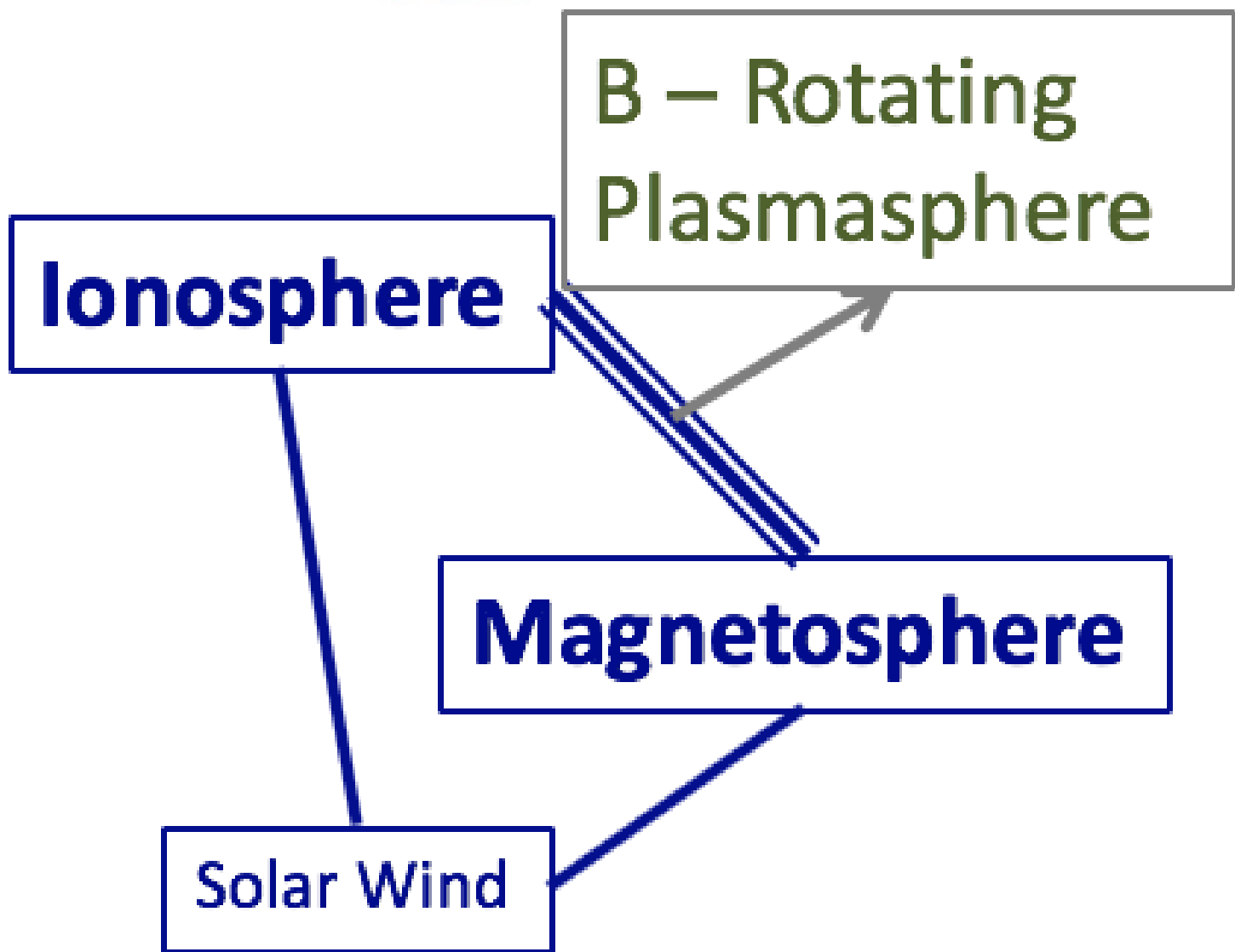
- Variable opening & closing rates
- Must be equal over time to conserve magnetic flux

Plasmapause = boundary between corotation and convection





Polar view



$$\mathbf{V}_{co} \sim \boldsymbol{\Omega} \times \mathbf{R}$$

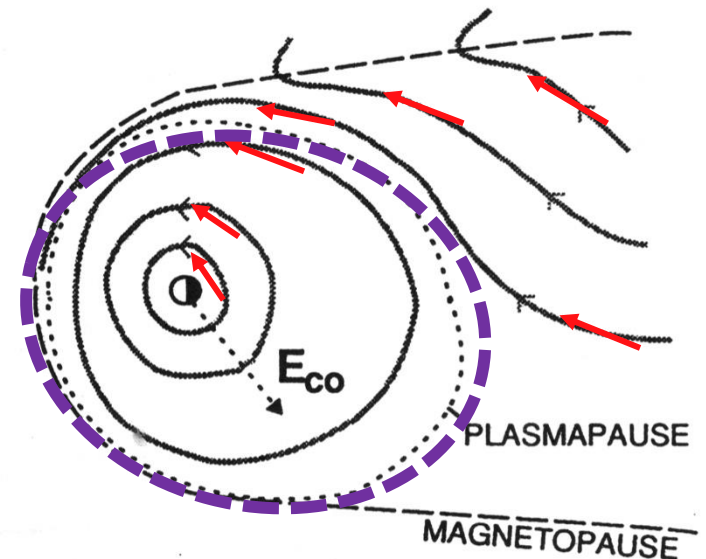
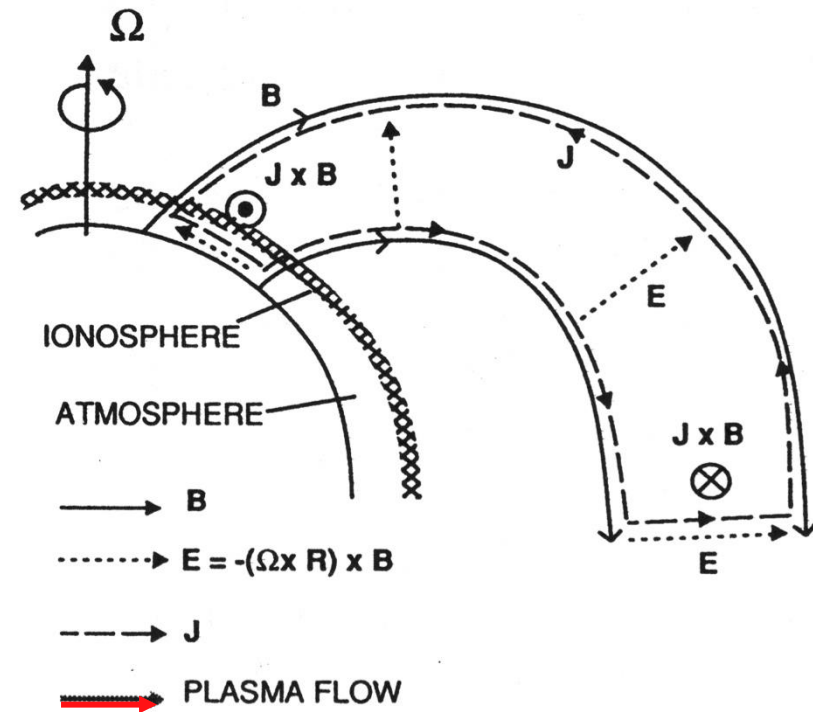
$$\mathbf{V}_{convection}$$

$$\sim \zeta V_{SW} (R/R_{MP})^3$$

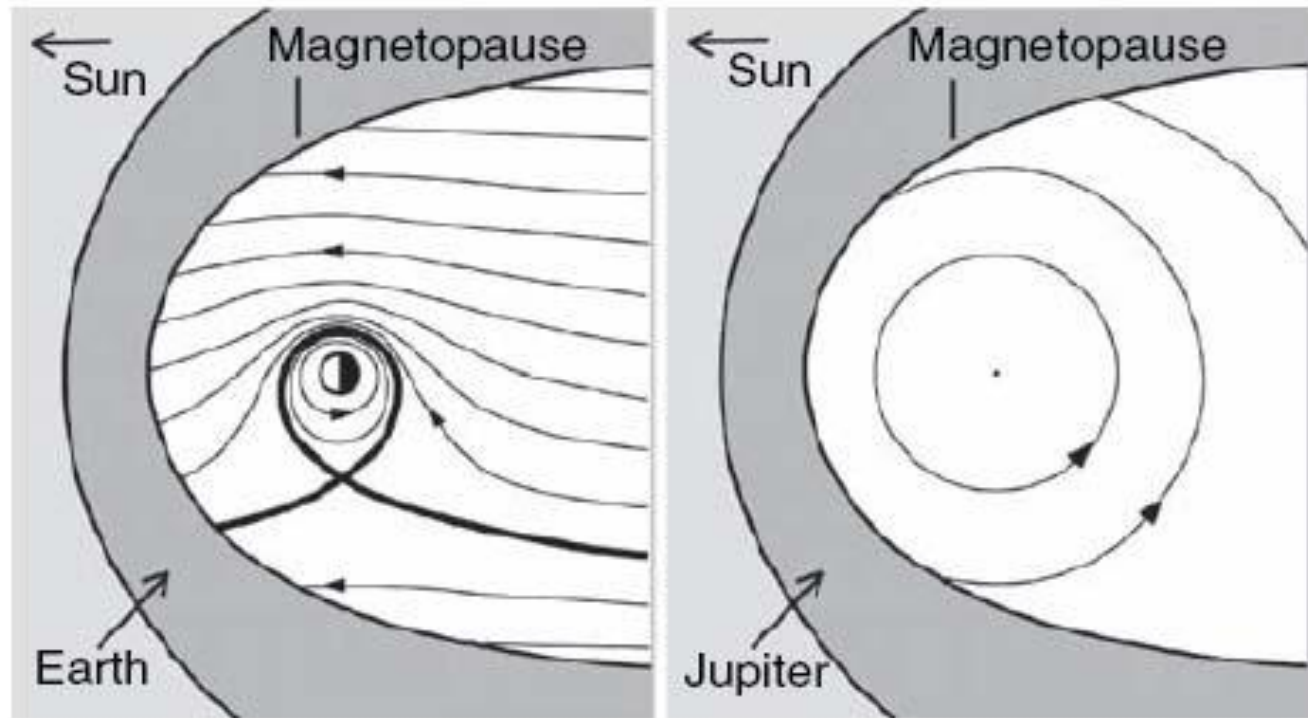
Fraction of planetary magnetosphere that is rotation dominated....

- increases with planetary spin
- increases with field strength
- decreases with solar wind strength

(a) COROTATION



Solar-wind vs. Rotation-dominated magnetospheres



$$R_{\text{plasmaopause}} / R_{\text{Planet}} = \begin{matrix} 6.7 & 350 \end{matrix}$$

Assumptions:

1. Planet's rotation perfectly coupled to magnetosphere
2. (Large-scale) Reconnection drives solar wind interaction

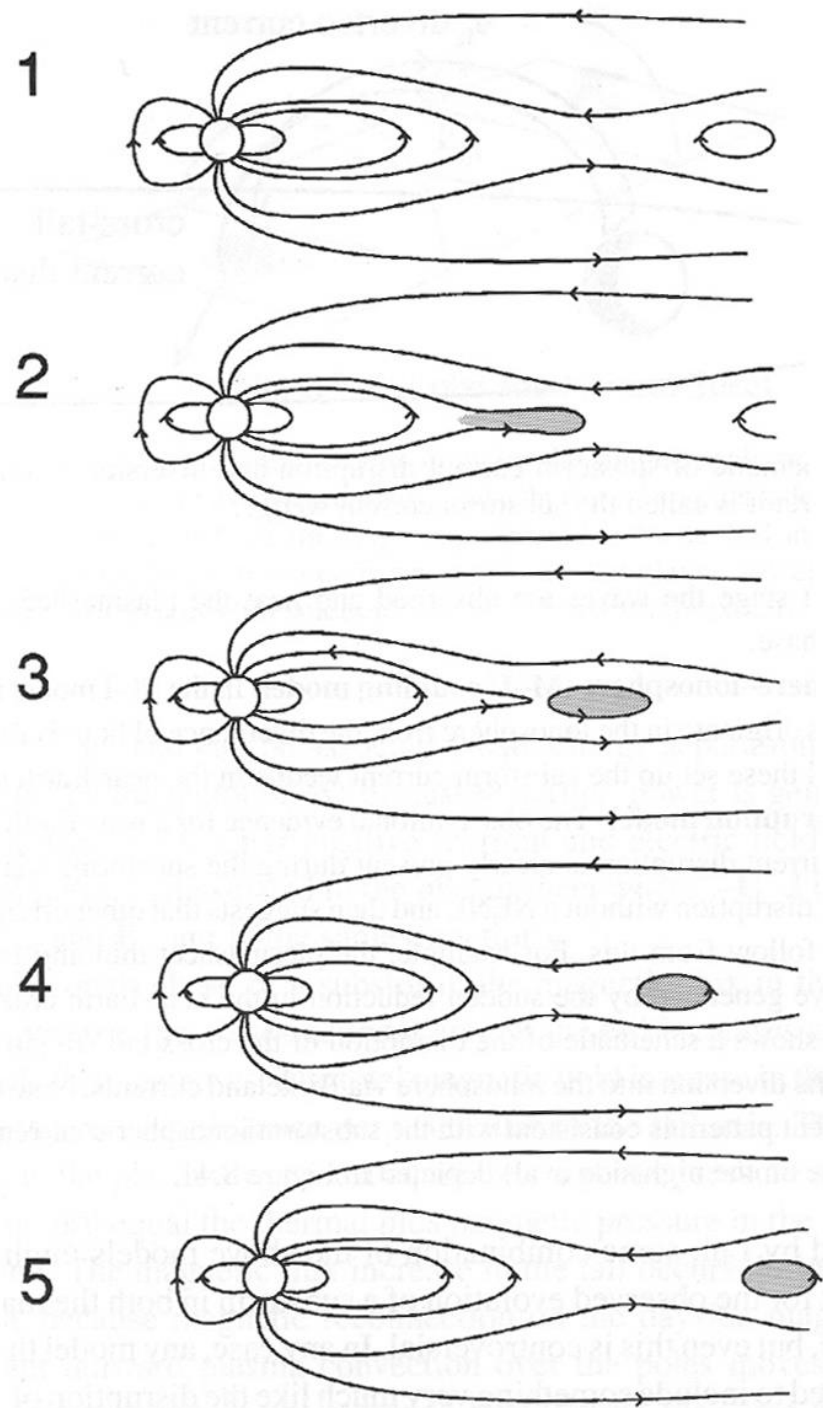
Dynamics

Dayside magnetopause

- Response to B_{SW} direction
- Solar wind ram pressure

Tail Reconnection

- Depends on recent history of dayside reconnection and state of plasmasheet



Earth

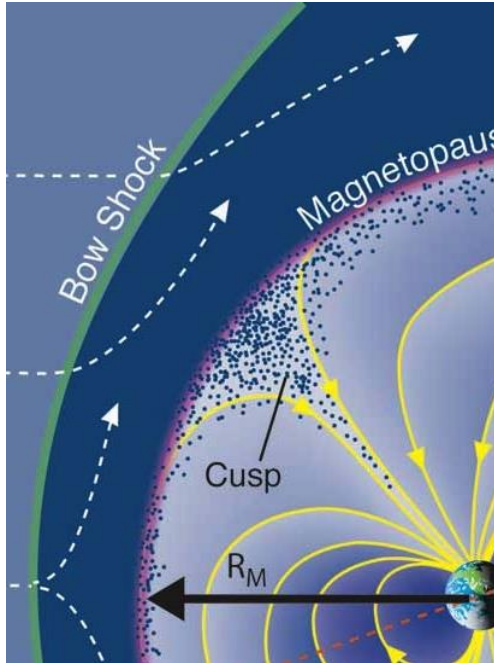
vs.

Jupiter

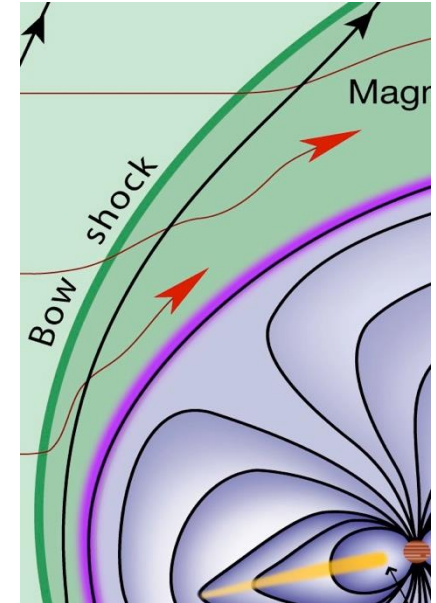
Calculate Transit Time

Time for Solar
Wind to Flow
Nose-Terminator

$$V_{\text{solar wind}} \\ \sim 400 \text{ km/s}$$



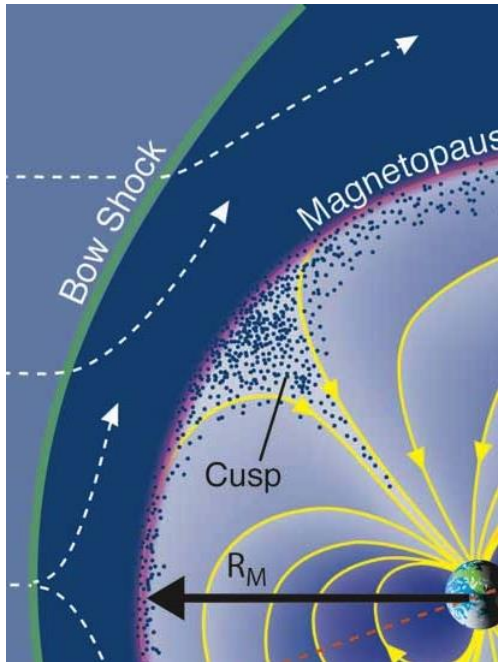
MP $\sim 10 R_E$
1 $R_E \sim 6400 \text{ km}$



MP $\sim 100 R_J$
1 $R_J \sim 72000 \text{ km}$

Earth vs. Jupiter

10 R_E < 3 minutes



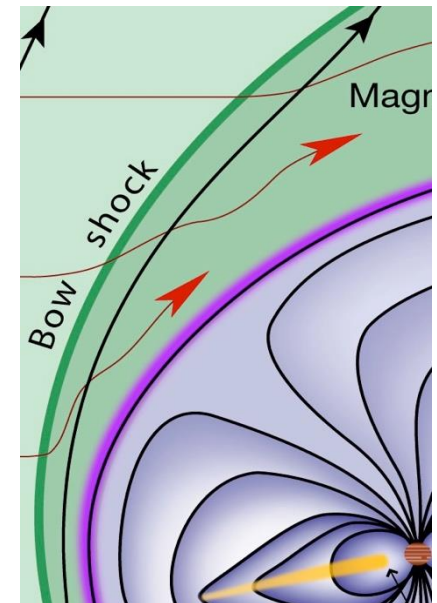
Bob McPherron
Margy Kivelson

Time for Solar
Wind to Flow
Nose-Terminator

$V_{\text{solar wind}}$
 $\sim 400 \text{ km/s}$

Probability of B_{IMF} staying
 $B_z > 0$ or $B_z < 0$
(i.e. N or S)
for 5 hours is $\sim 10^{-3}$

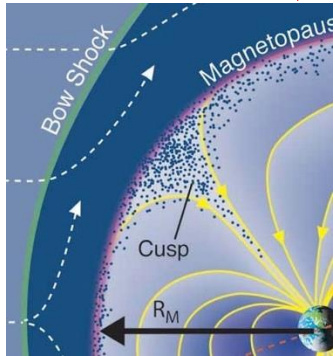
100 R_J
 $\sim 5 \text{ hours}$



McComas &
Bagenal 2007

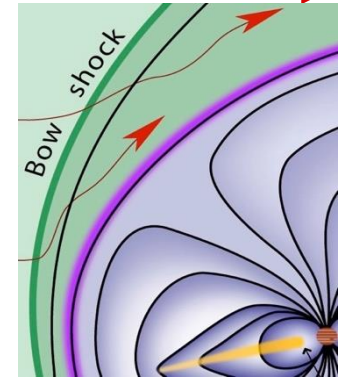
Earth vs. Jupiter

10 R_E < 3 minutes

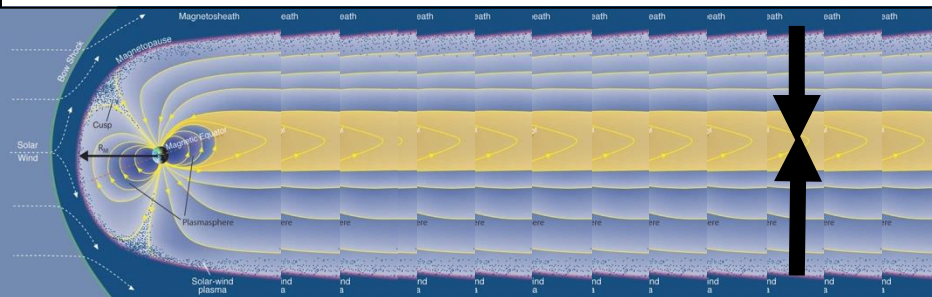


Time for Solar Wind to
Flow Nose-Terminator
 $V_{\text{solar wind}} \sim 400 \text{ km/s}$

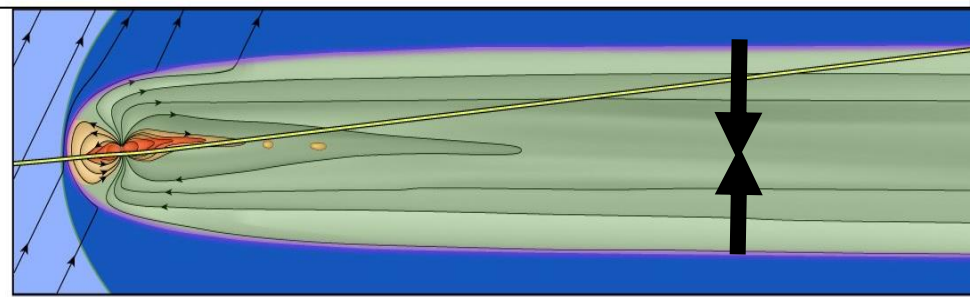
100 R_J $\sim$ 5 hours



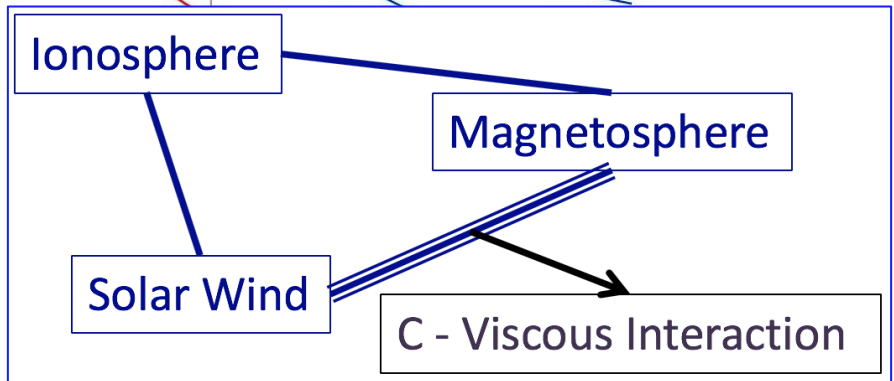
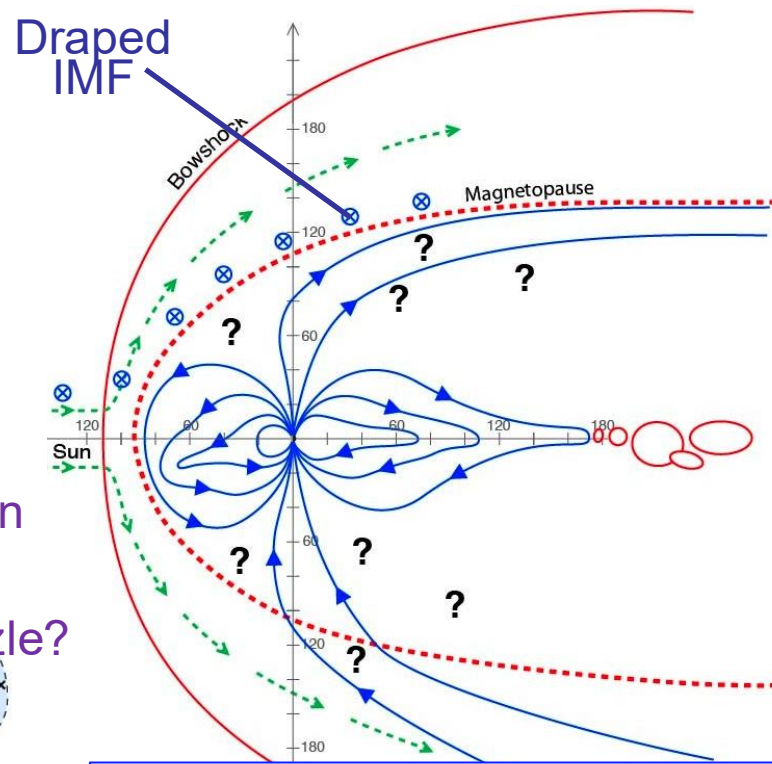
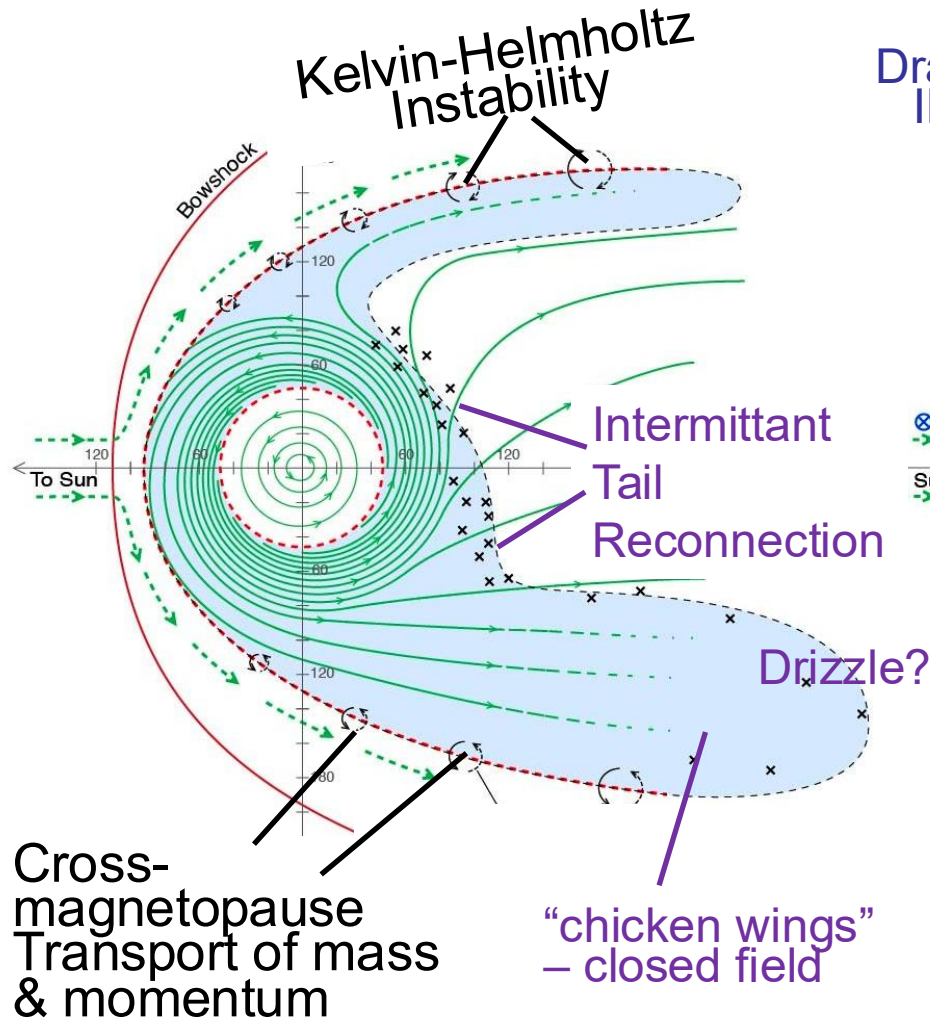
10% reconnection efficiency $\rightarrow$ equatorward drift $\sim 40 \text{ km/s}$



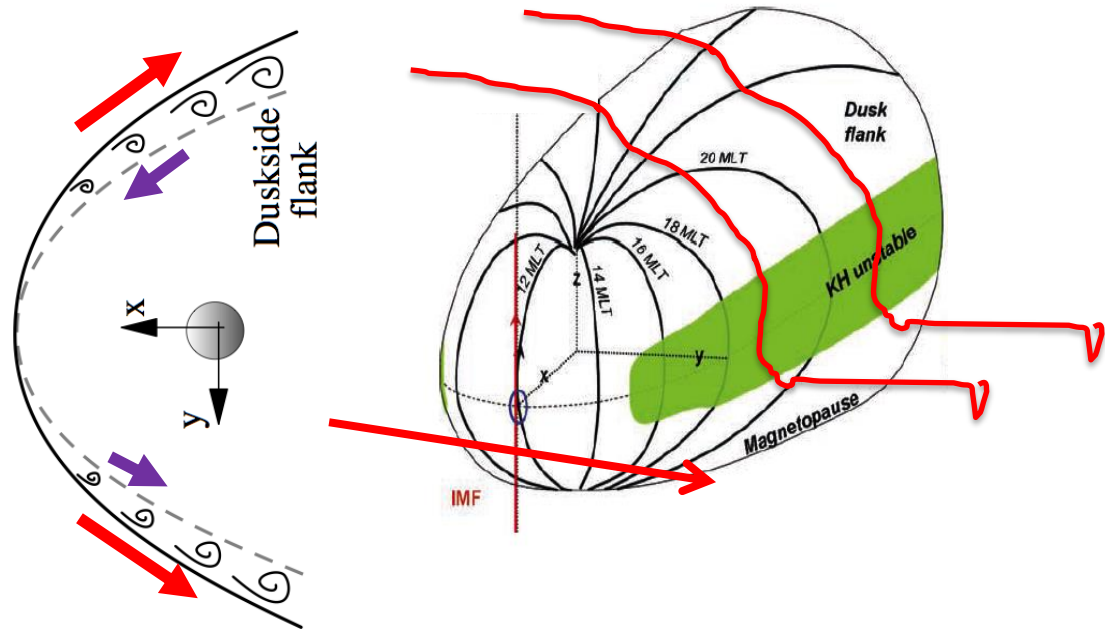
$15 R_E \div 40 \text{ km/s}$
 $= 40 \text{ mins}$



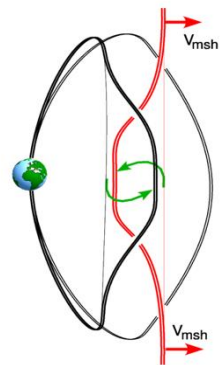
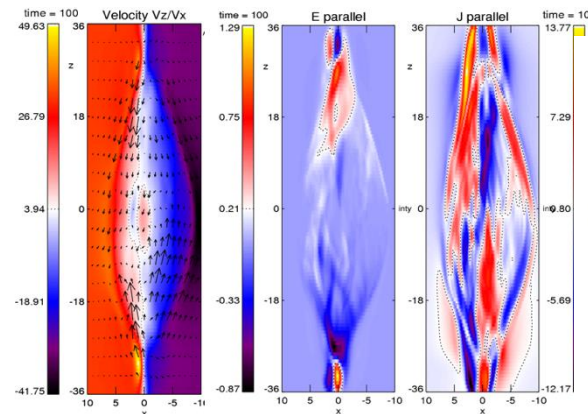
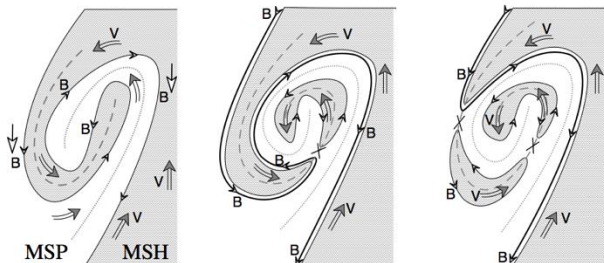
$150\text{-}200 R_J \div 40 \text{ km/s}$
 $= 75\text{-}100 \text{ hours}$



- Not open Dungey cycle
- Viscous interaction
- Shear instabilities
- Small-scale, intermittent reconnection
- Boundary layers



“Candy wrapper”

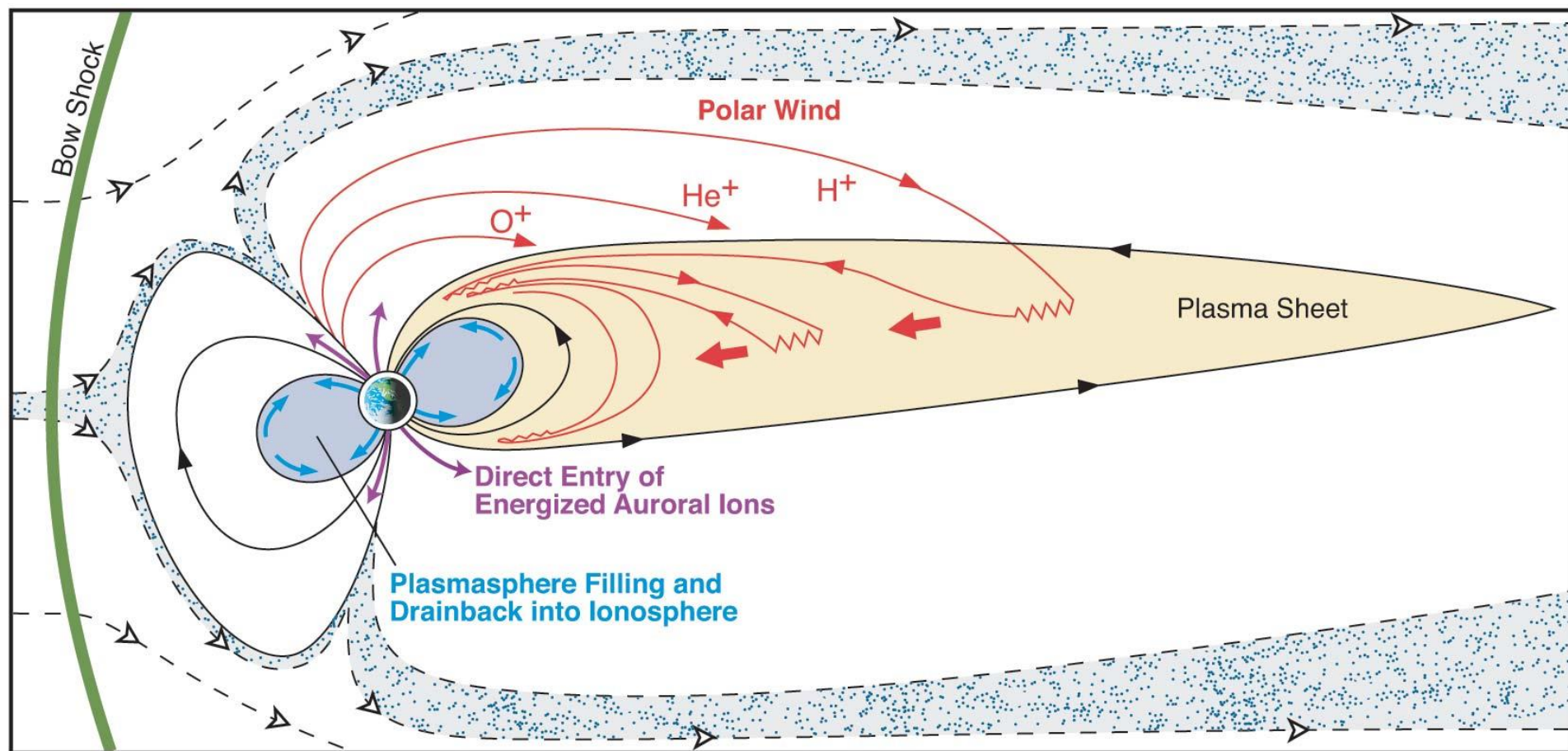


Plasma Sources

Plasma Sources

	Mercury	Earth	Jupiter	Saturn	Uranus	Neptune
N_{max} cm^{-3}	~1	1- 4000	>3000	~100	~3	~2
Comp- osition	H ⁺ Solar Wind	O ⁺ H ⁺ Iono- sphere	O ⁿ⁺ S ⁿ⁺ Io	O ⁺ H ₂ O ⁺ H ⁺ Enceladus	H ⁺ Iono- sphere	H ⁺ N ⁺ Triton Iono- sphere
Source kg / s	?	5	700- 1200	70- 200	~0.02	~0.2

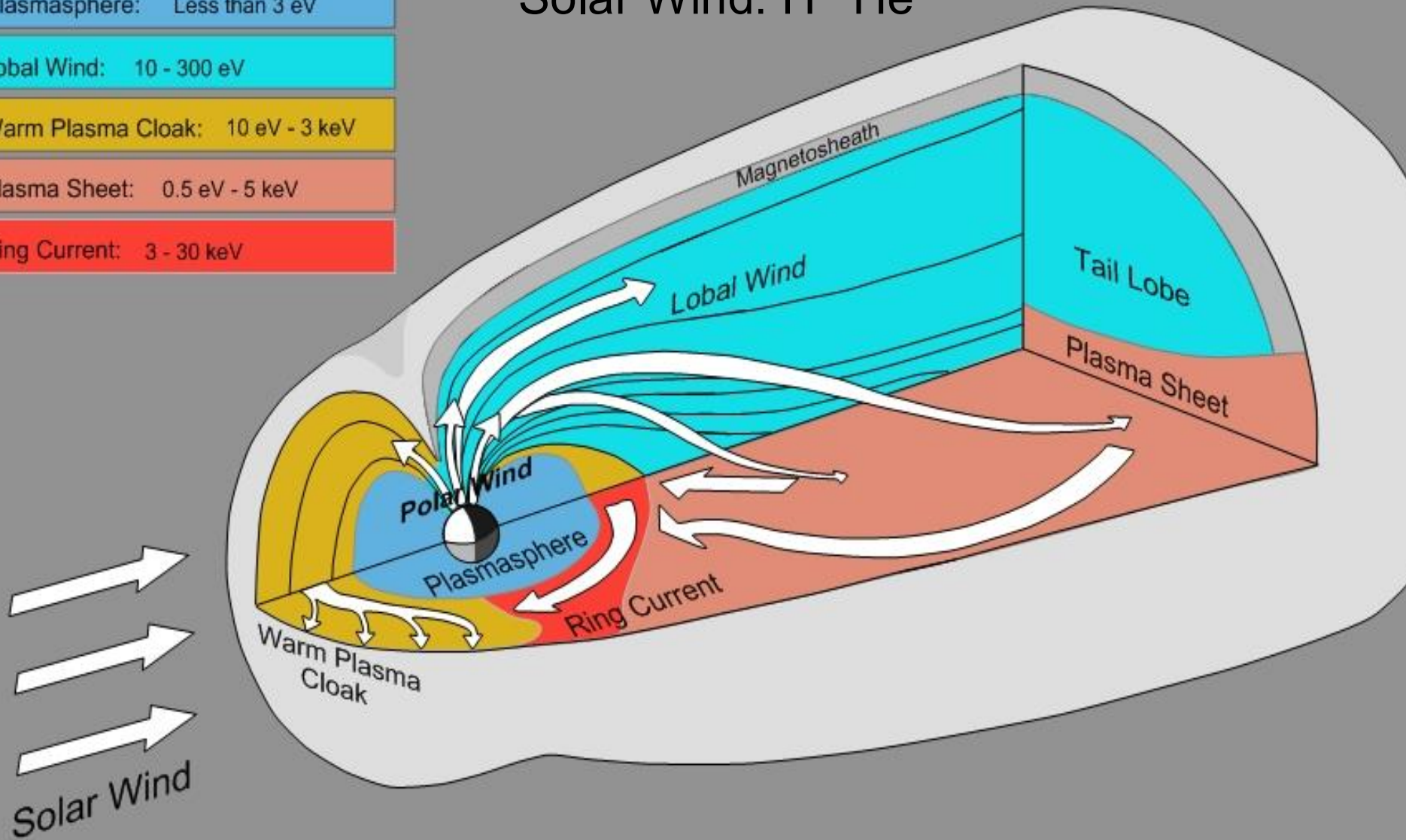
Earth Sources of Plasma (5 kg/s):
Solar Wind + ionosphere mixed (over the poles) into
magnetotail and convected sunward

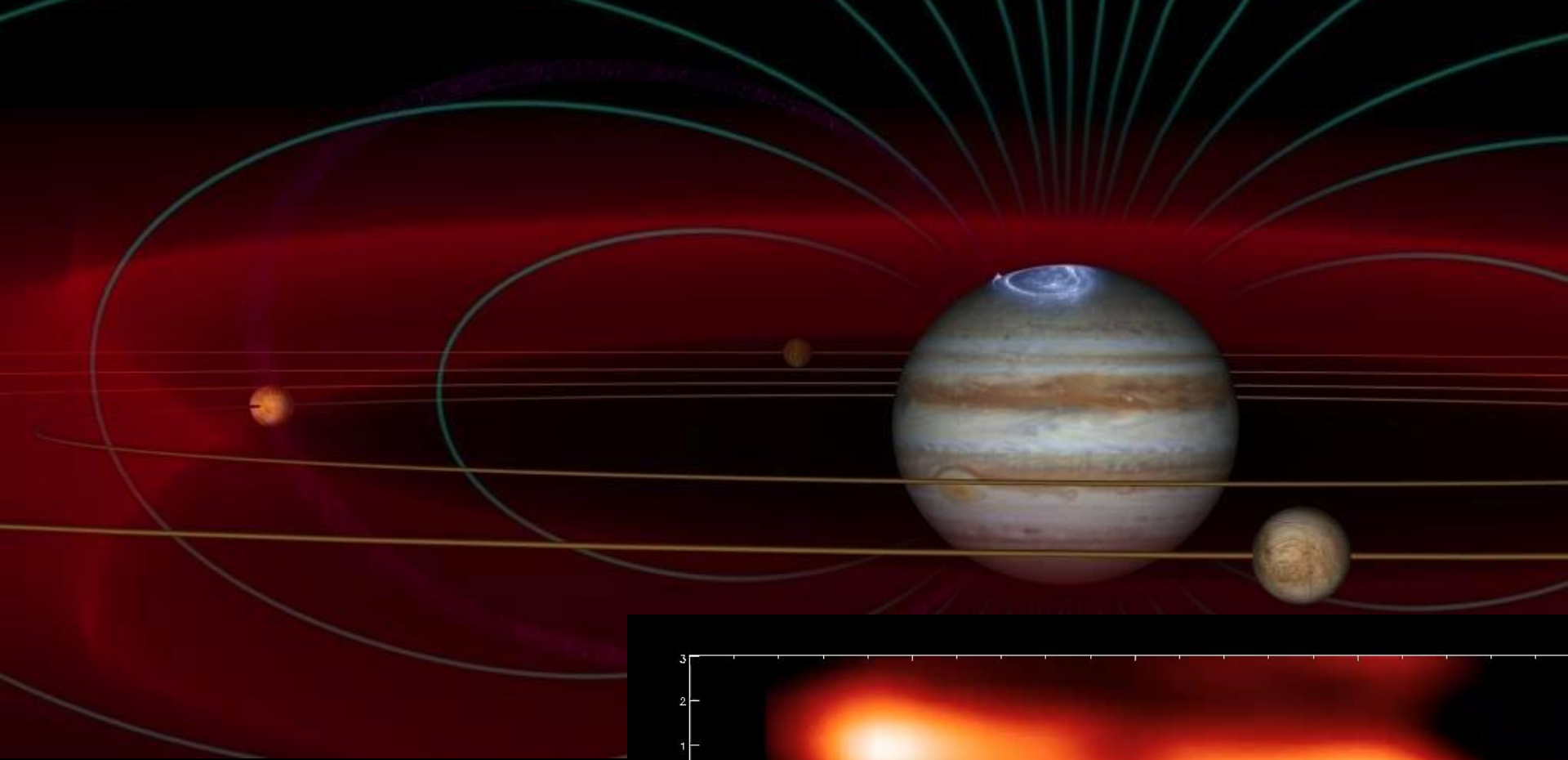


Earth Plasma Flux 5 kg/s

Ionosphere: H^+ He^+ O^+
Solar Wind: H^+ He^{++}

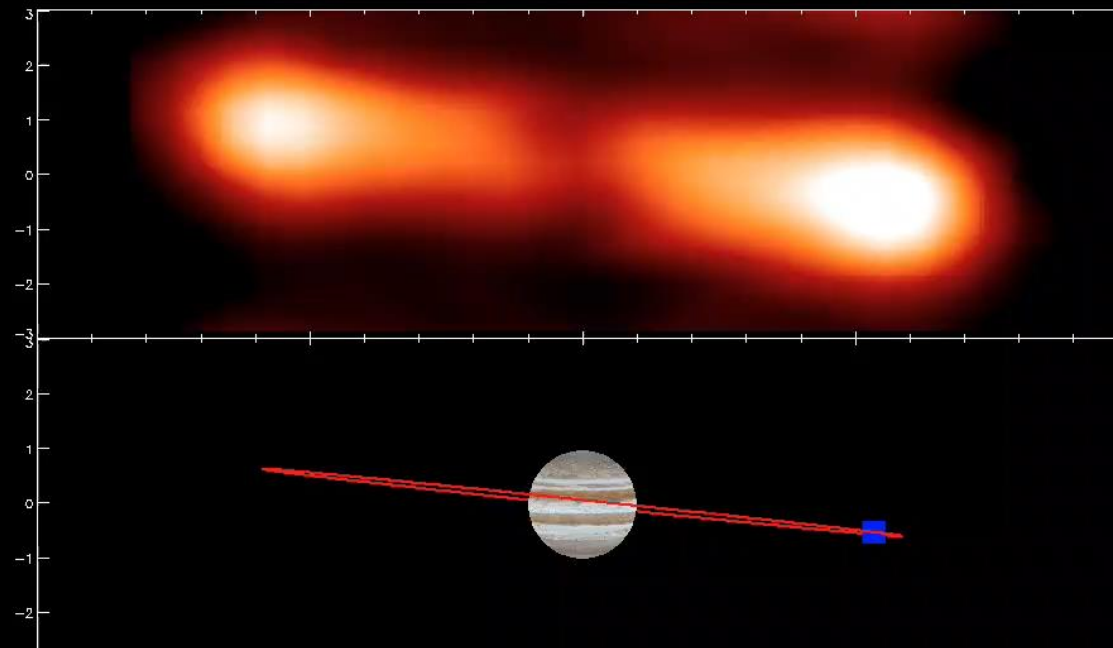
Polar Wind:	Less than 3 eV
Plasmasphere:	Less than 3 eV
Lobal Wind:	10 - 300 eV
Warm Plasma Cloak:	10 eV - 3 keV
Plasma Sheet:	0.5 eV - 5 keV
Ring Current:	3 - 30 keV





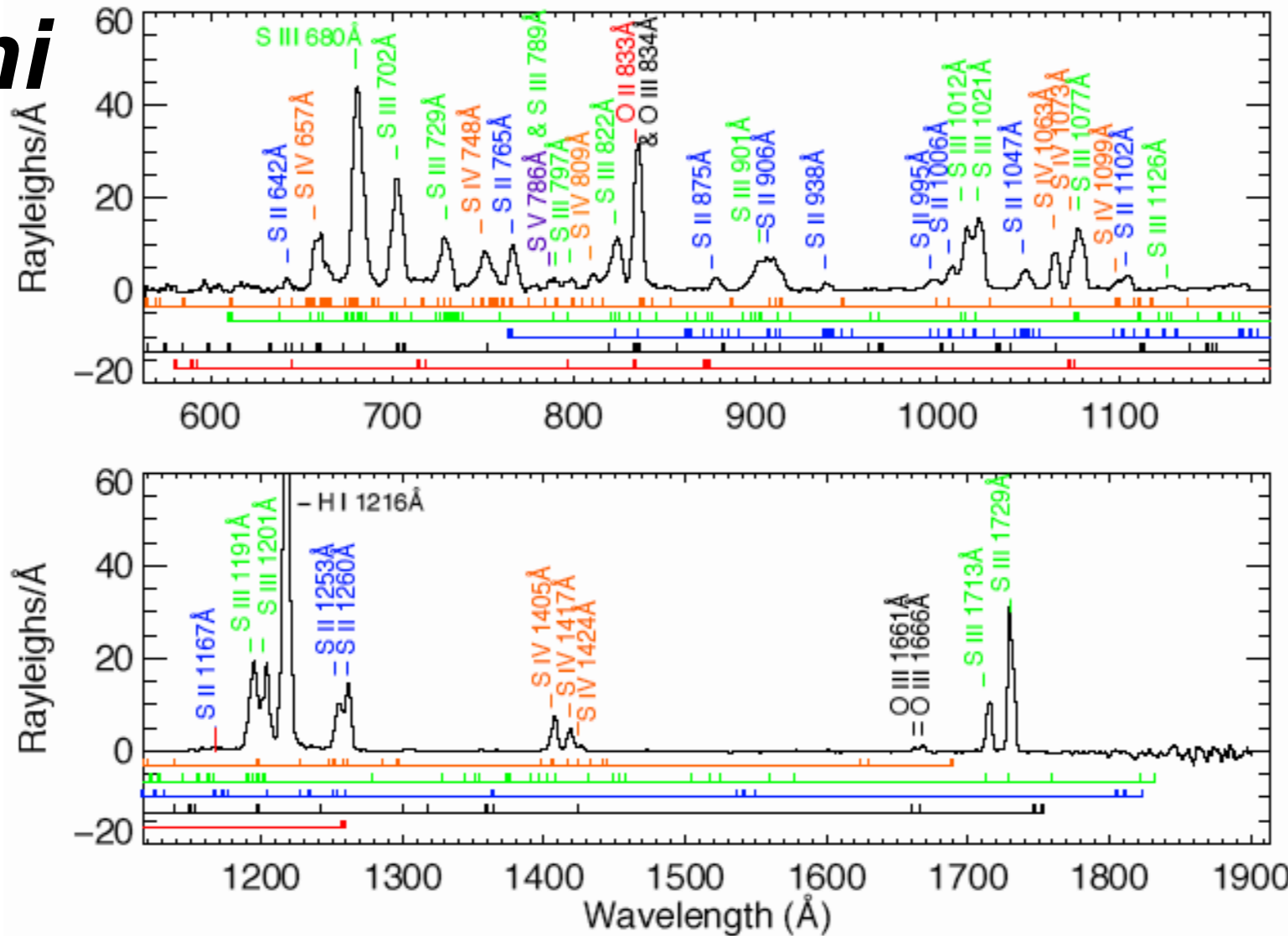
Io Plasma torus

- Total mass 2 Mton
- Source 1 ton/s
- Replaced in 50 days

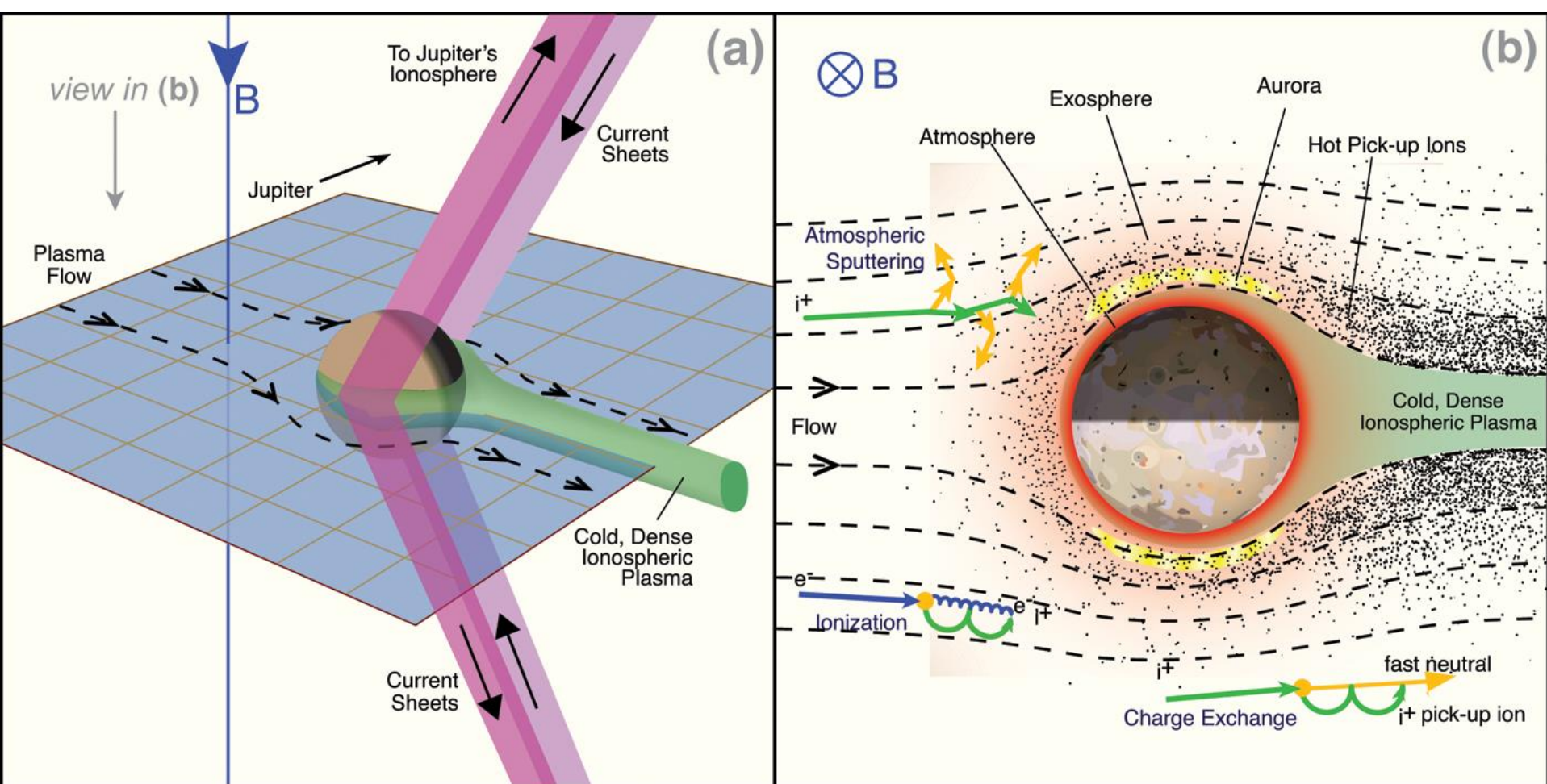


Cassini UVIS

Spectral
diagnosis of
plasma
conditions
Ni, Ne, Te



- Electron impact excitation
- Ion composition, electron temperature
- ~2 TerraWatts UV emission
- Torus structure & Variability
- Physical chemistry model



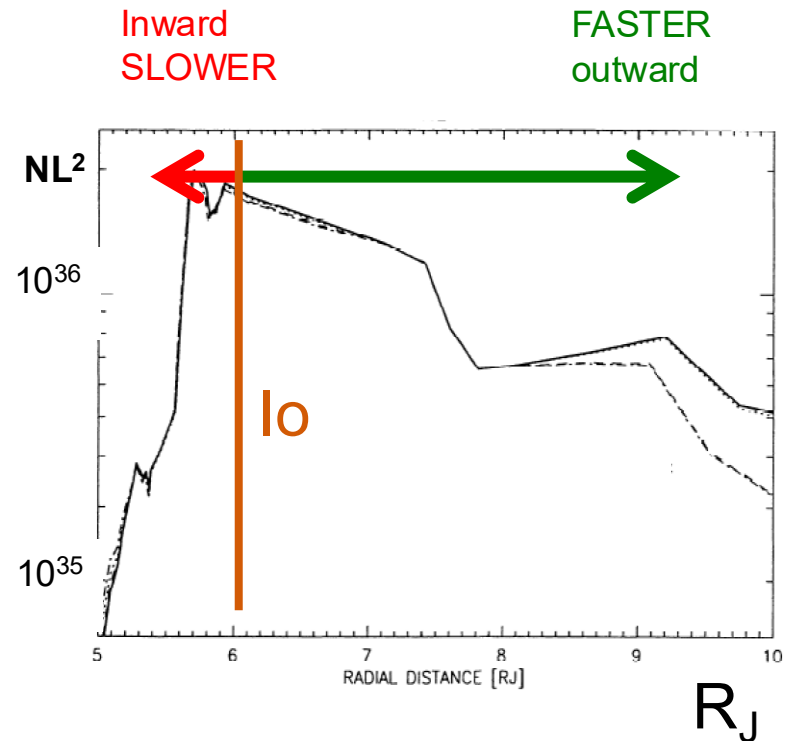
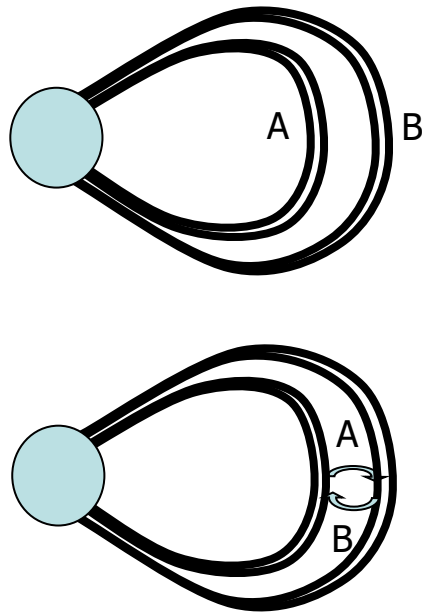
- Strong electrodynamic interaction
- Mega-amp currents between Io and Jupiter

- Plasma interaction with Io's atmosphere
- Heated atmosphere escapes
- ~20% plasma source local

Radial Transport

In rotating magnetosphere: If fluxtube A contains more mass than B – they interchange

Interchange of A and B does not change field strength for $\beta \ll 1$

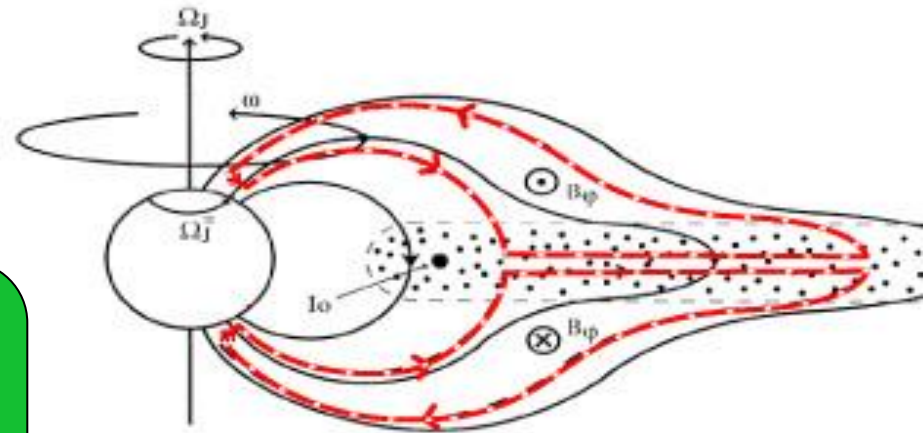
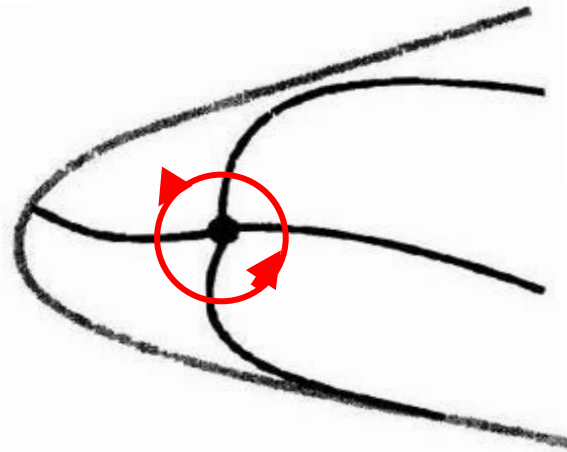


Coupling the Plasma to the Flywheel

- As plasma from Io moves outwards its rotation decreases (conservation of angular momentum)
- Sub-corotating plasma pulls back the magnetic field
- $\text{Curl } \mathbf{B} \rightarrow$ radial current J_r
- $J_r \times \mathbf{B}$ force enforces rotation

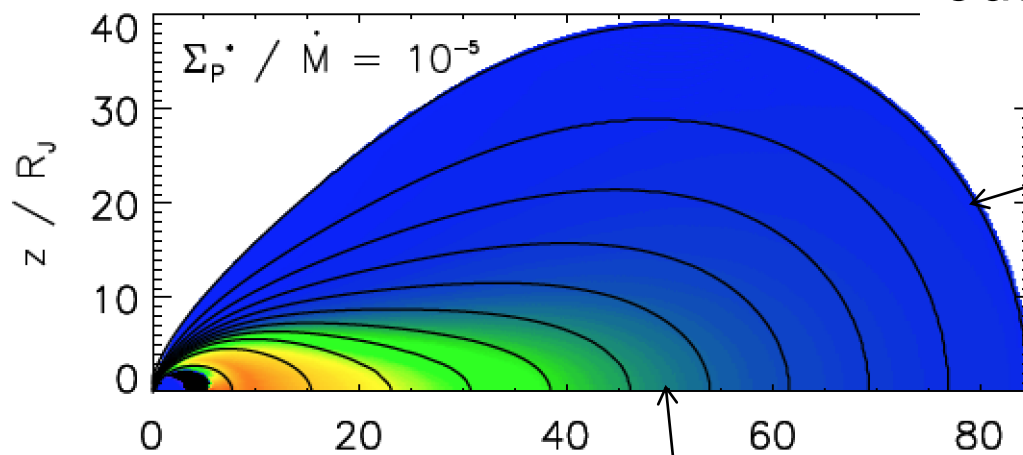
Field-aligned currents couple magnetosphere to Jupiter's rotation

Khurana 2001



Cowley & Bunce 2001

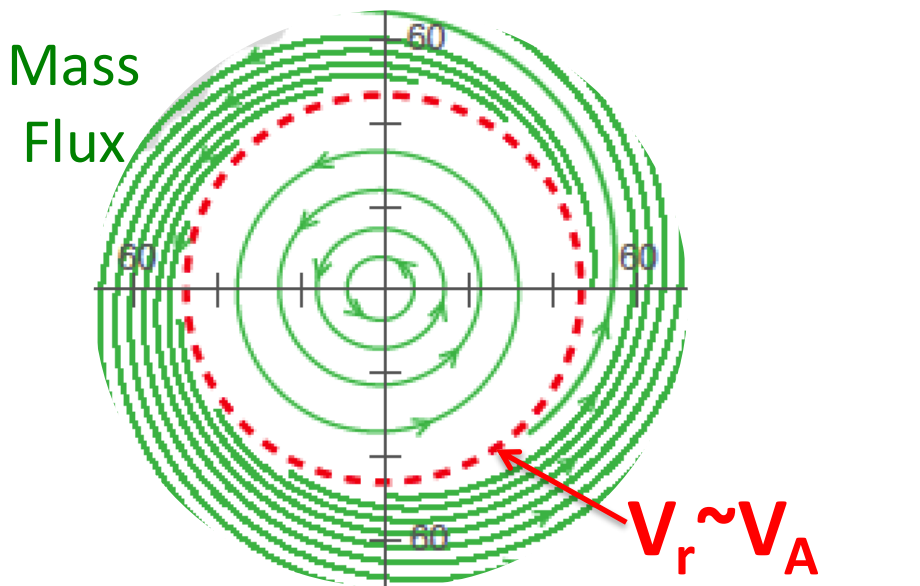
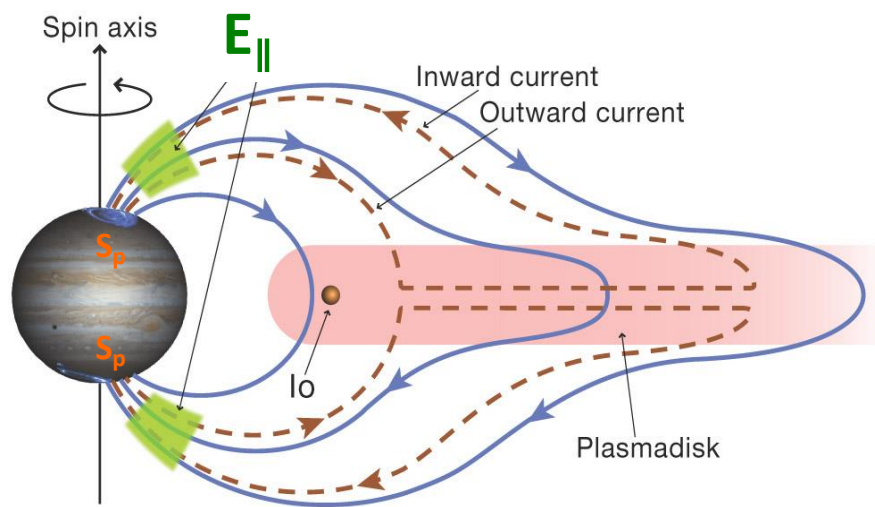
How is information transmitted along magnetic field lines?



How is a stress from the outside communicated to the planet?

How does a blob of plasma here communicate with the planet?

Alfven waves!



Radial Transport

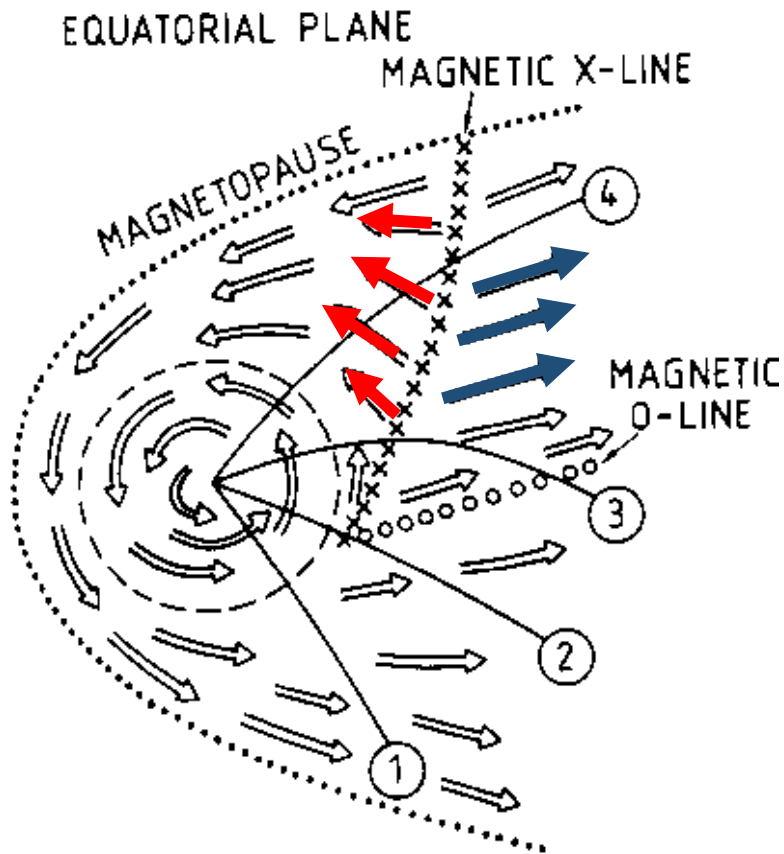
- Fluxtube interchange
- Mass flux out
- Empty magnetic flux in
- **Decoupling**

S_p , $E_{\parallel}$ and/or $V_r \sim V_A$

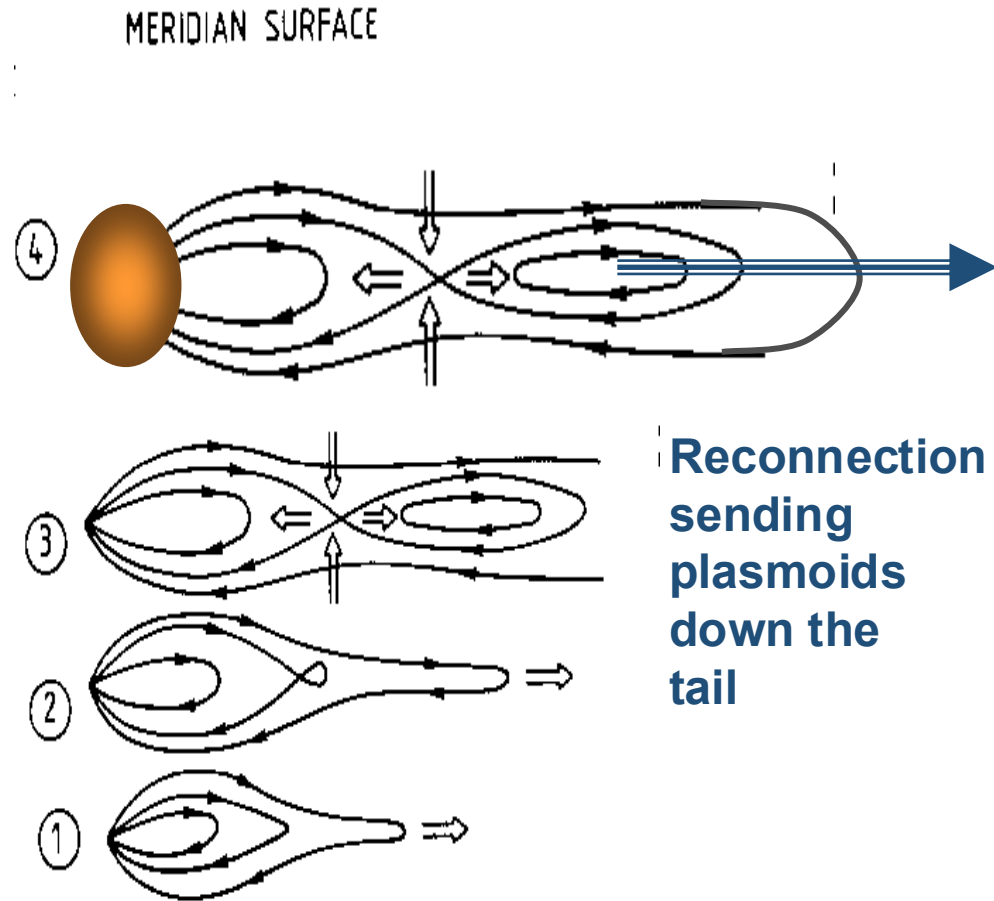
Communication breaks down $\sim 25R_J$.
Magnetosphere & atmosphere stop talking $> 60 R_J$

Vasyliunas Cycle

driven by centrifugal forces



Inward Injection **Plasmoid Ejection**

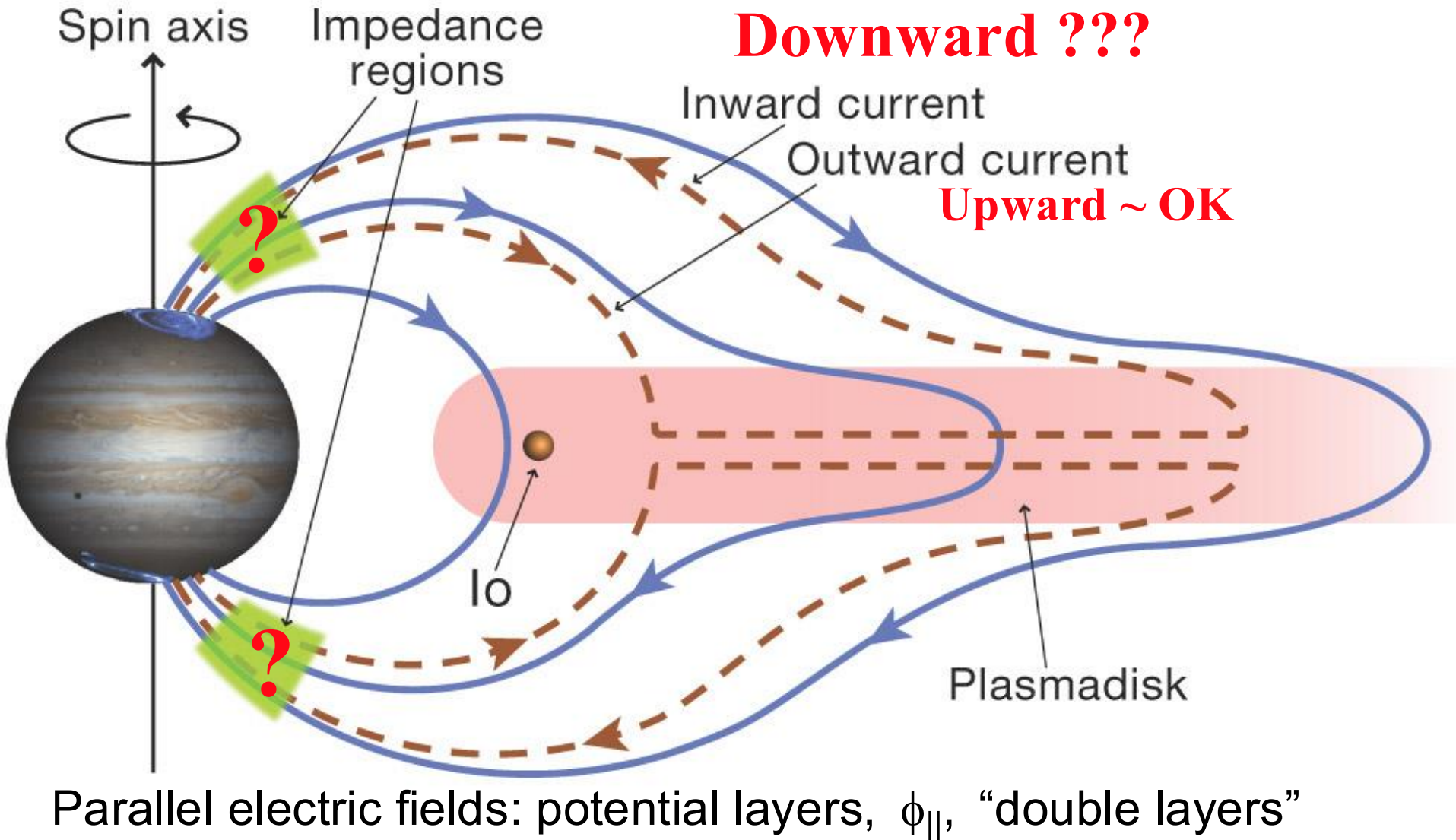


**Reconnection
sending
plasmoids
down the
tail**

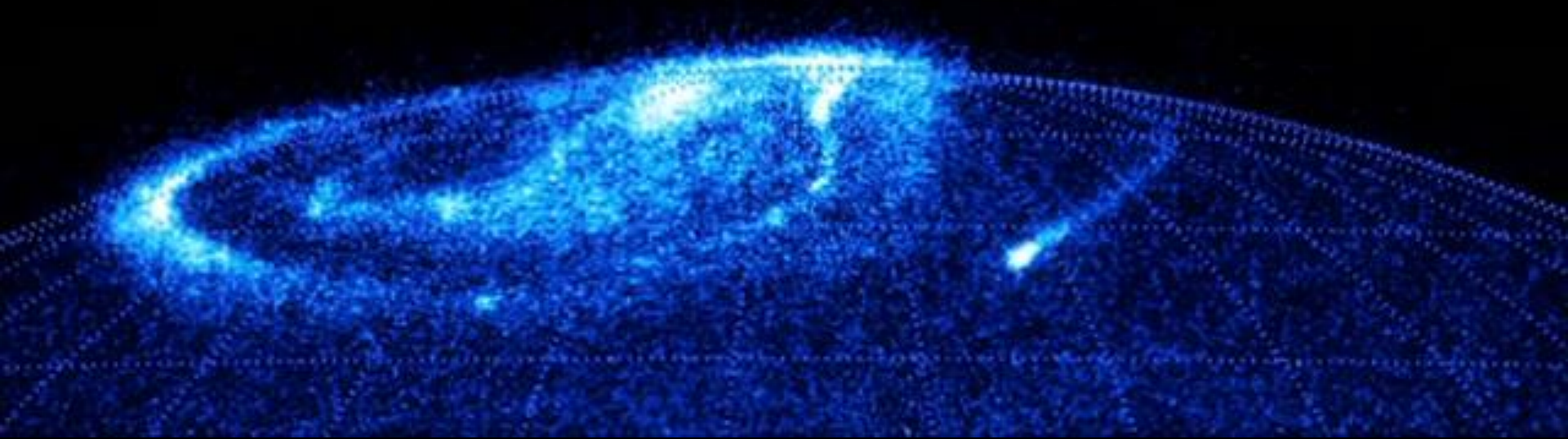
Vasyliunas
Cowley et al.
Southwood &
Kivelson

Aurora

The aurora is the signature of Jupiter's attempt to spin up its magnetosphere



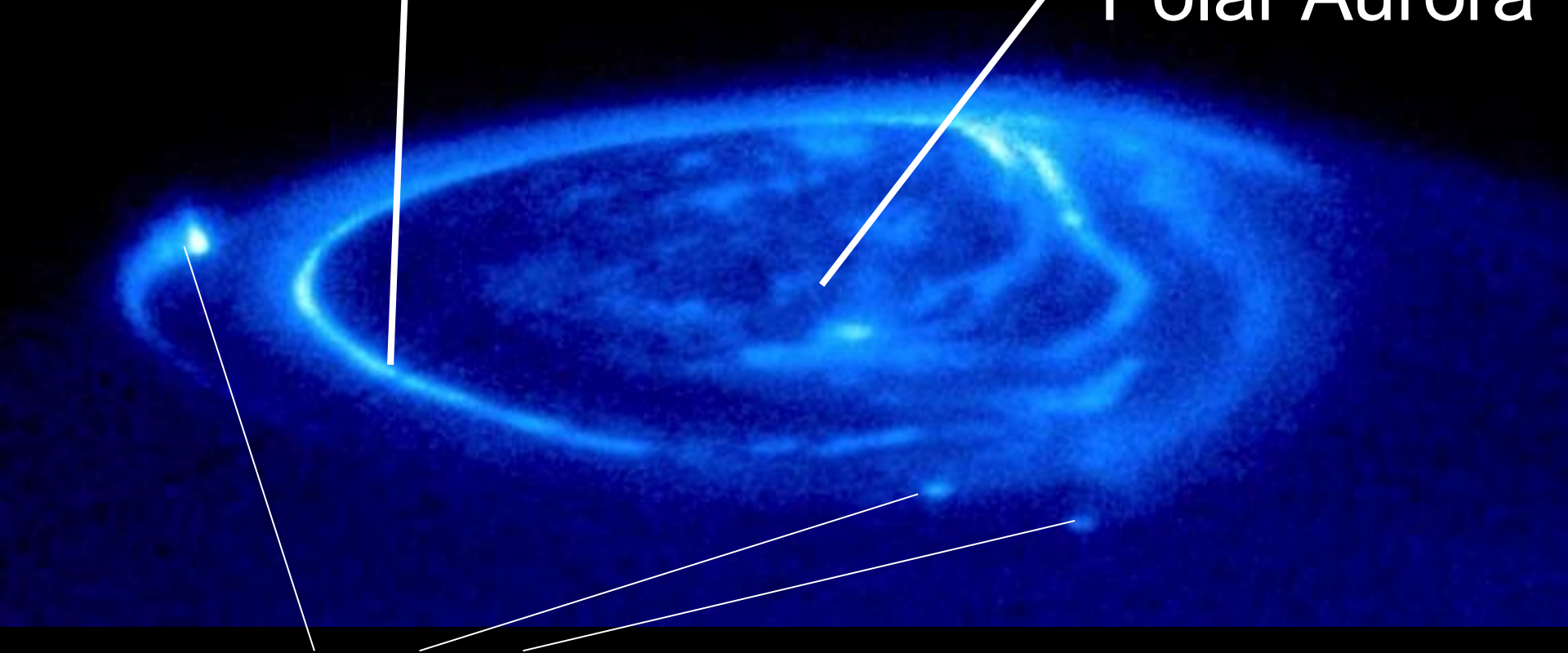
Hubble Space Telescope — *Jon Nichols*



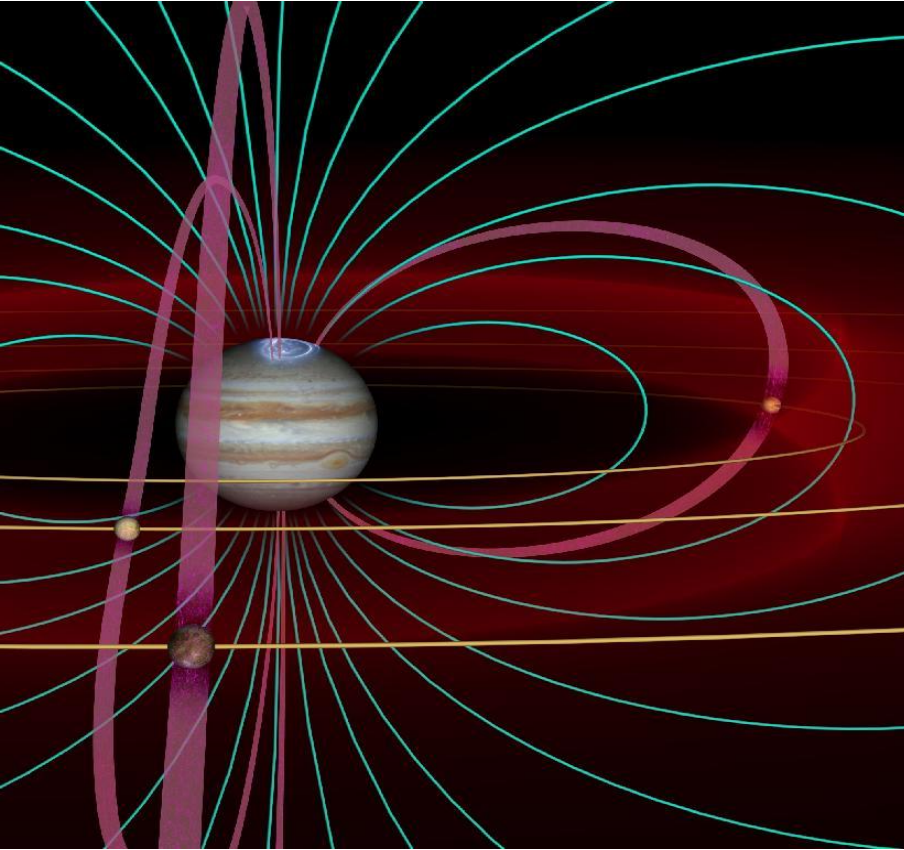
Jupiter's 3 Types of Aurora

Steady Main
Auroral Oval

Variable
Polar Aurora



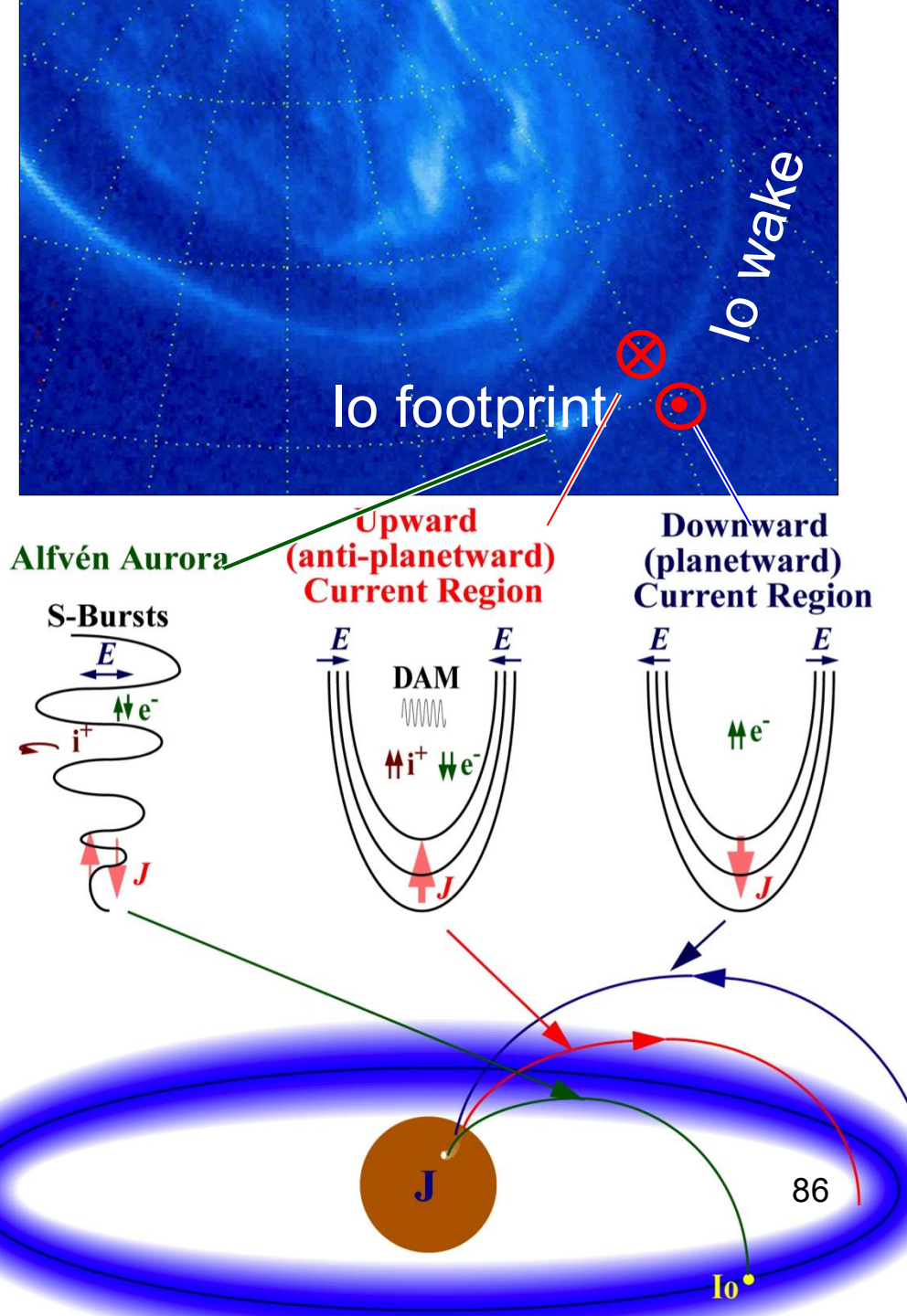
Aurora associated with moons



Satellite auroral emissions

- Plasma-moon electrodynamic interaction
- Mega-amp current systems
- Analogous to Earth auroral processes

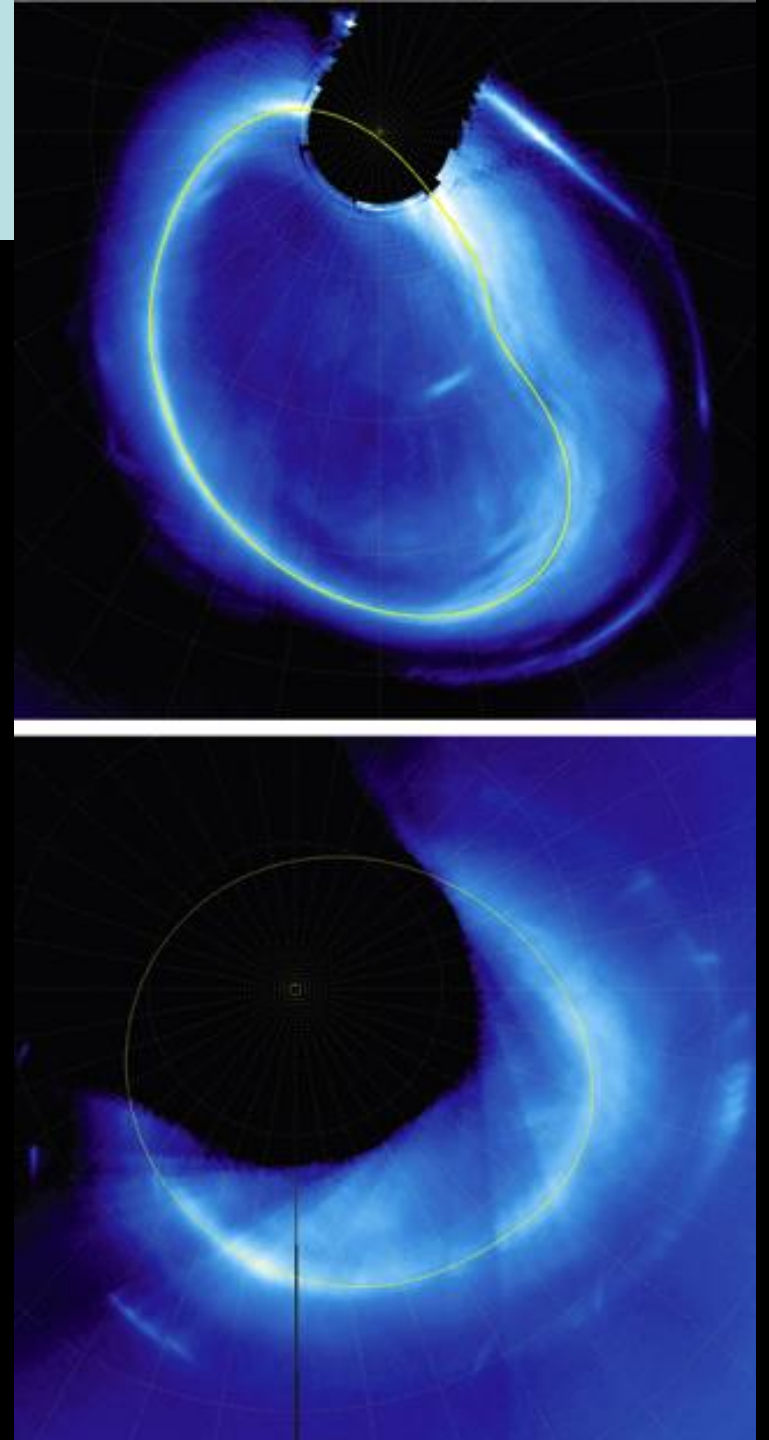
Papers by Su, Ergun, Lysak, Hess, Bonfond



Main Aurora

- Shape constant, fixed in magnetic co-ordinates
- Magnetic anomaly in north
- Steady intensity
- $\sim 1^\circ$ Narrow

Clarke et al., Grodent et al. HST



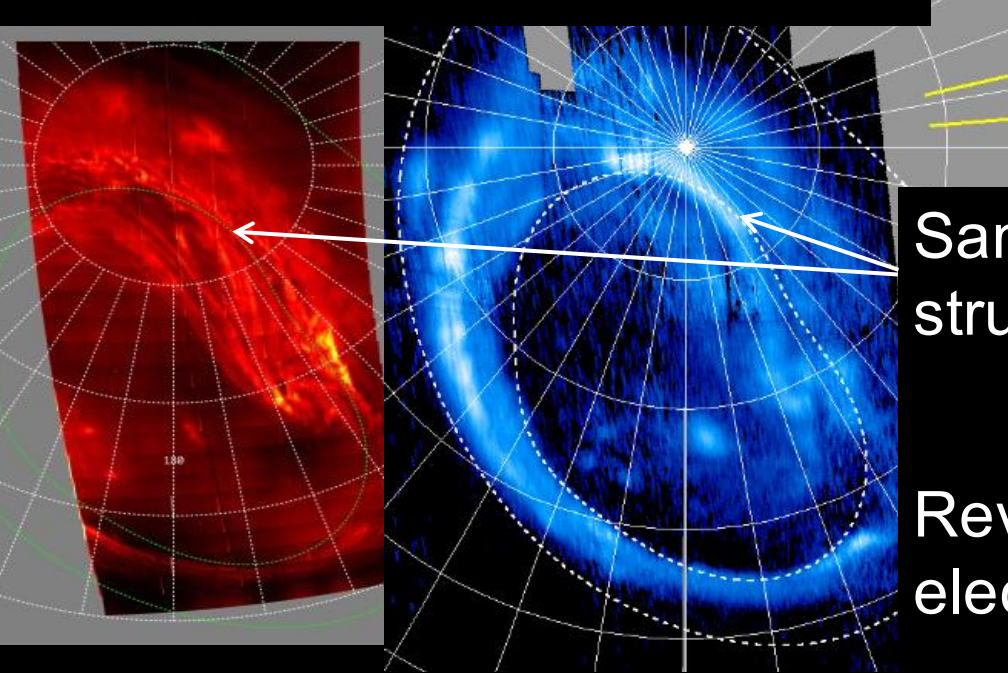
Jupiter's Aurora: Structured & Dynamic

Juno UVS



JIRAM

UVS

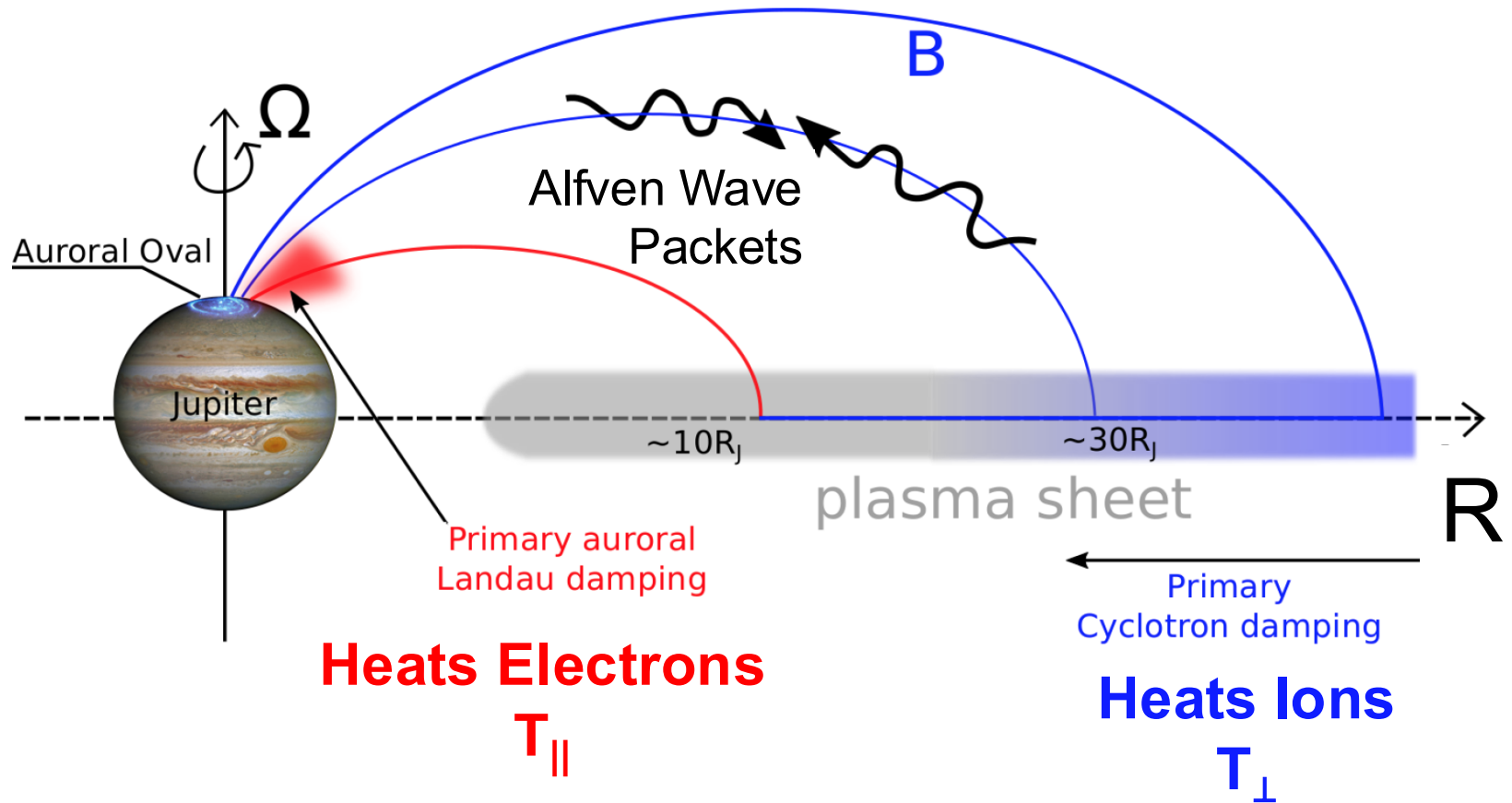


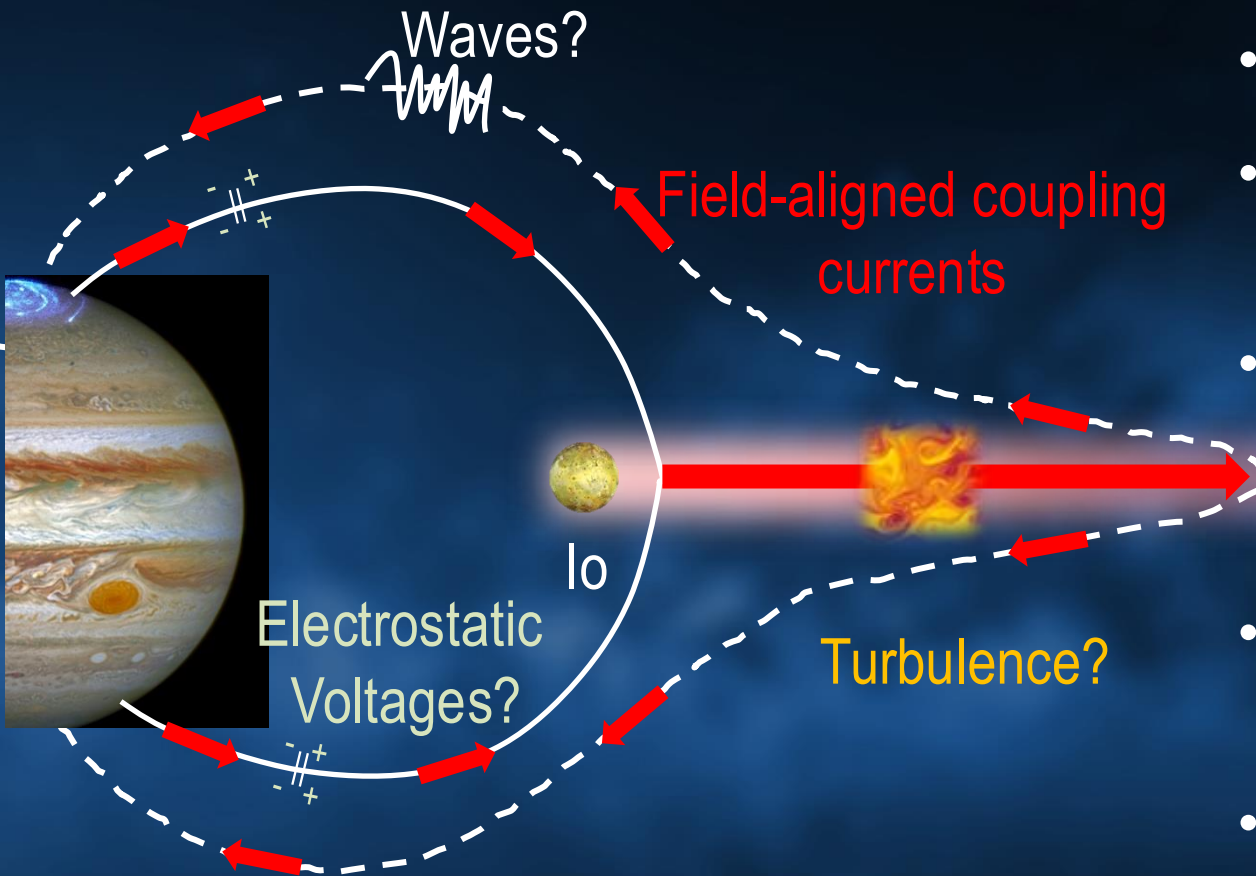
Same region – very different
structure in UV vs. IR

Reveals energy of bombarding
electrons & atmospheric chemistry

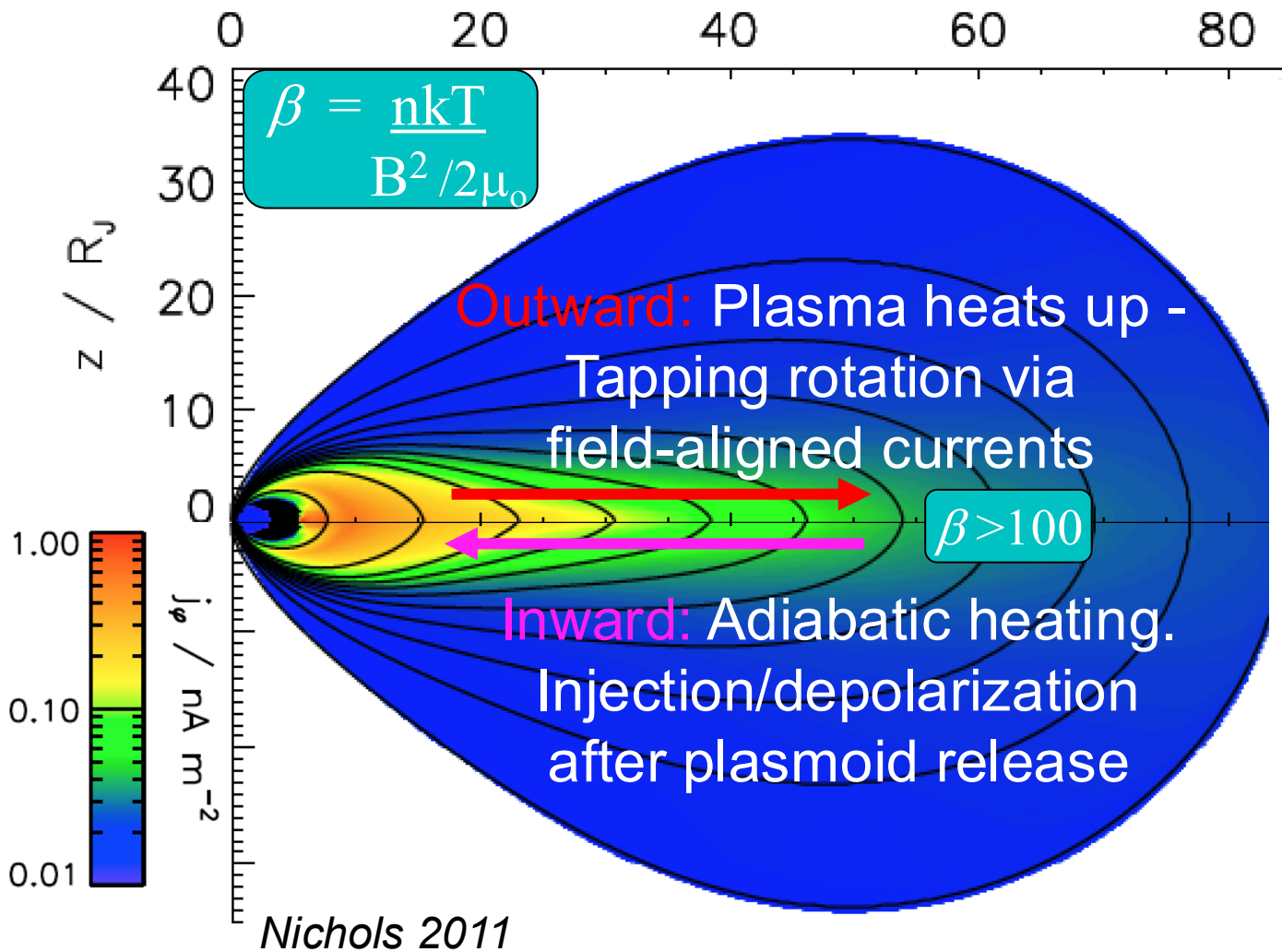
Gerard et al. 2018

Alfven Wave Heating – Both Ions and Electrons



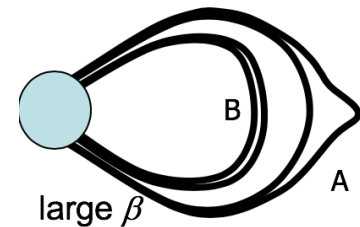


- System quasi-stable?
- Strong coupling currents unstable?
- Fluxtube interchange non-continuous – local force imbalance
- Turbulence cascades to small scales?
- Stochastic accelerations



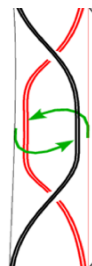
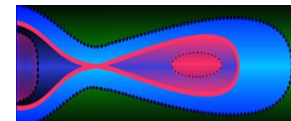
Transport:

Plasma β increases
ballooning replaces
interchange



"Drizzle"

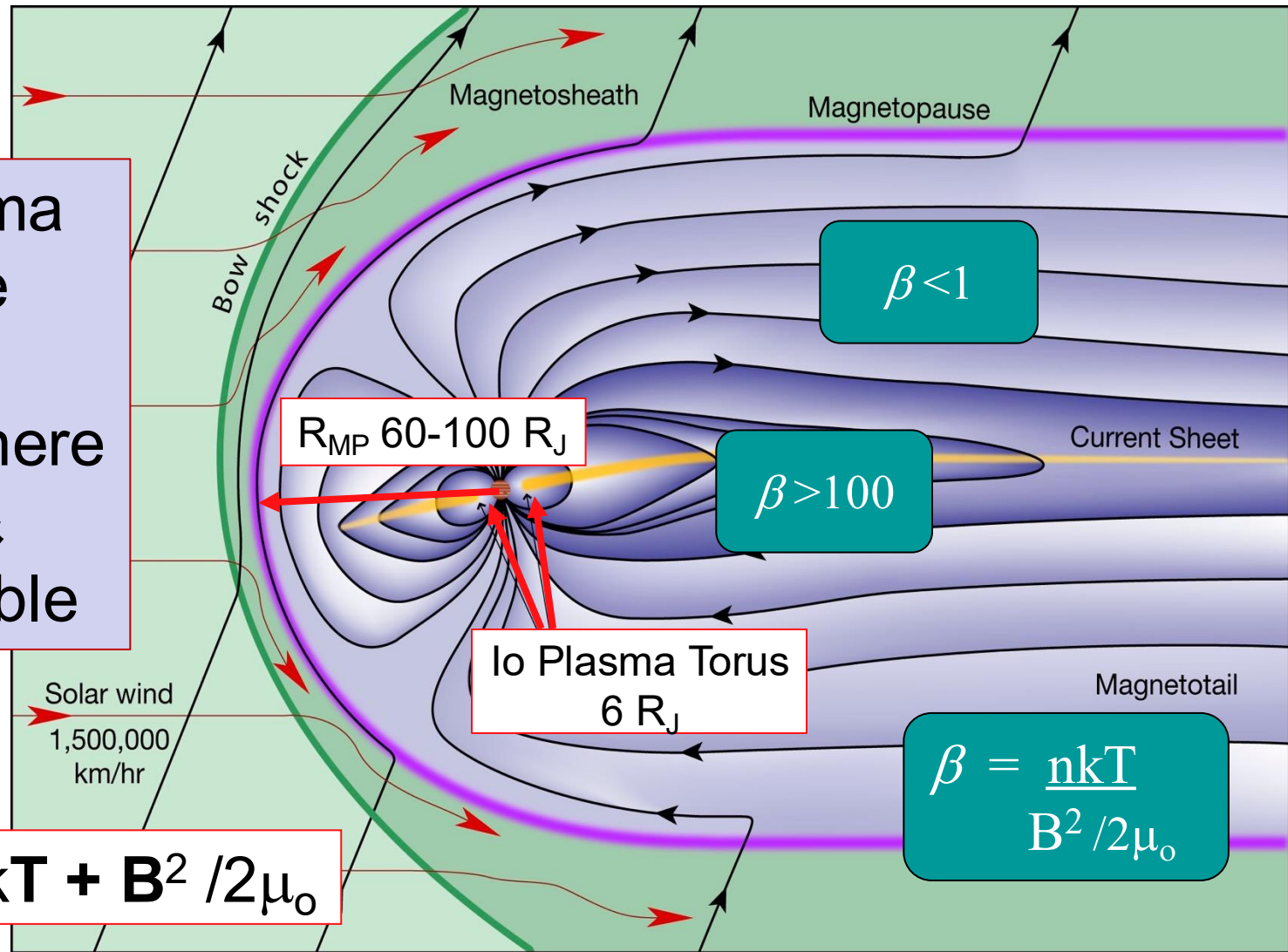
Small-scale, local
Kinetic transport?
Reconnection?
Plasmoids?



Fluid -> Kinetic Approach

High Plasma Pressure
Makes
Magnetosphere
Larger &
Compressible

$$\rho_{sw} V_{sw}^2 = nkT + B^2 / 2\mu_o$$



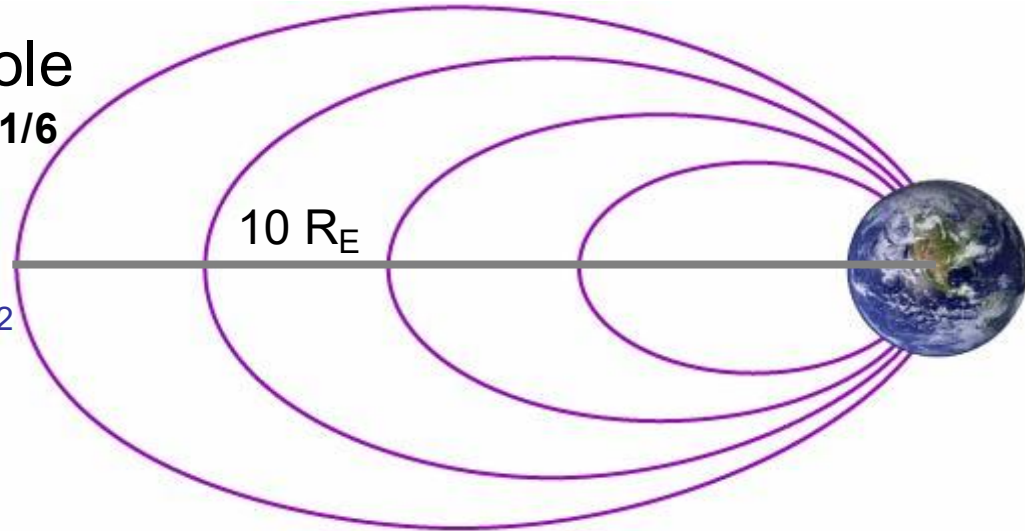
How Compressible with Solar Wind Pressure?

Earth ~ Dipole

$$R_{mp} \sim (\rho V^2)^{-1/6}$$



solar wind ρV^2

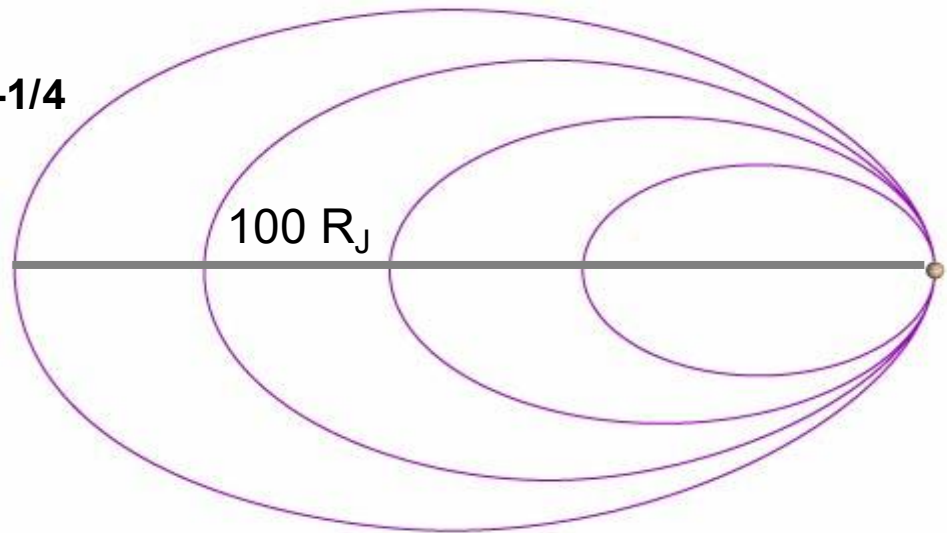


Jupiter

$$R_{mp} \sim (\rho V^2)^{-1/4}$$



solar wind ρV^2



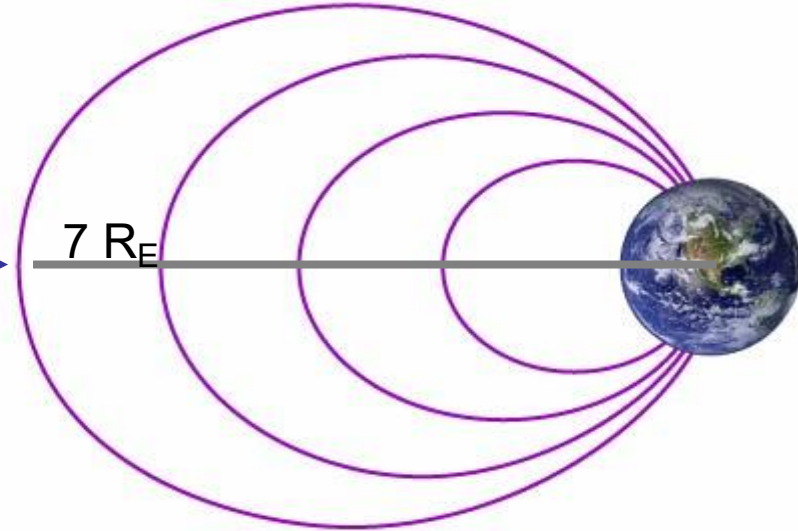
Slavin 1985
Huddleston et al. 1998
Joy et al. 2002

x10 Solar
wind
pressure

Earth ~ Dipole

$$R_{mp} \rightarrow 0.7 R_{mp}$$

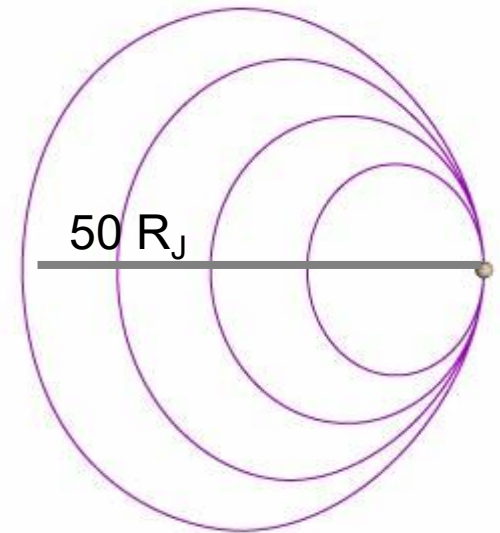
solar wind ρV^2



Jupiter

$$R_{mp} \rightarrow 0.5 R_{mp}$$

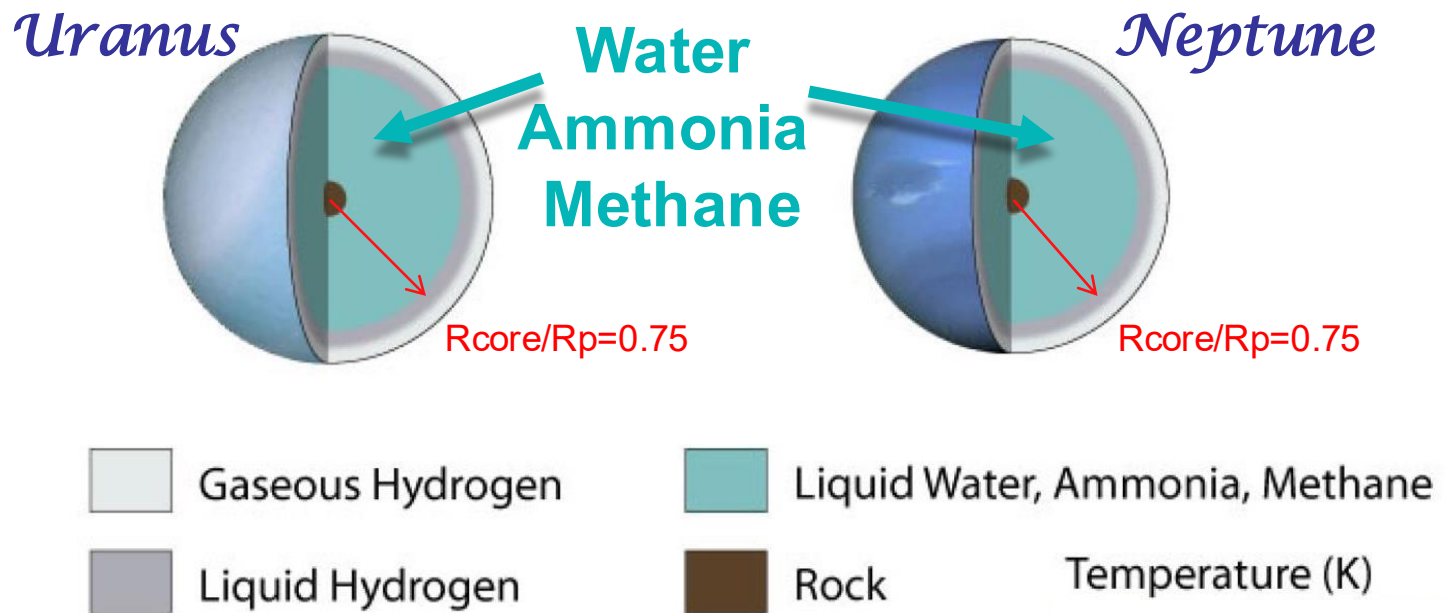
solar wind ρV^2



observed
100-50 R_J
dayside
magnetosphere

Uranus & Neptune

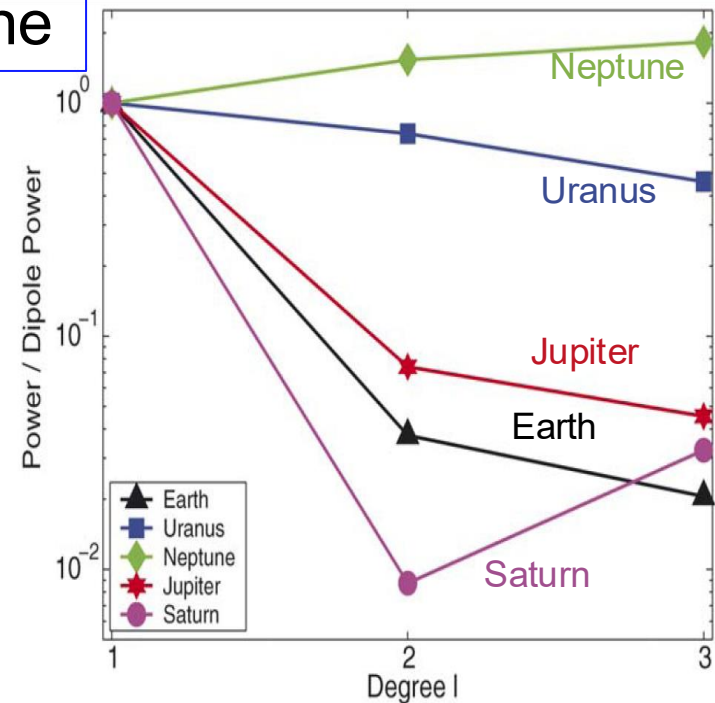
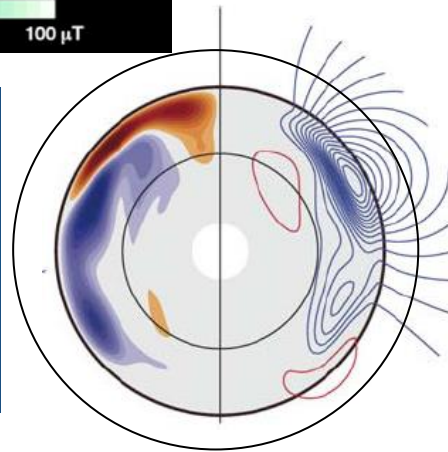
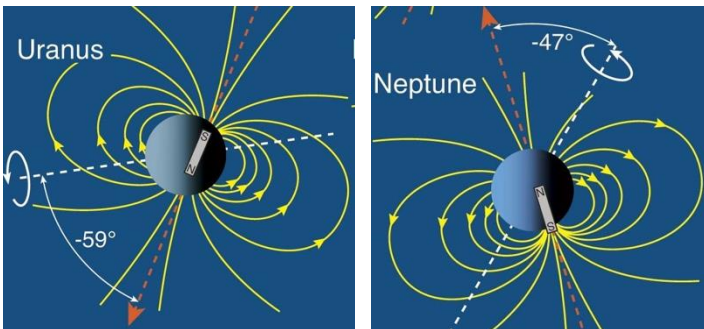
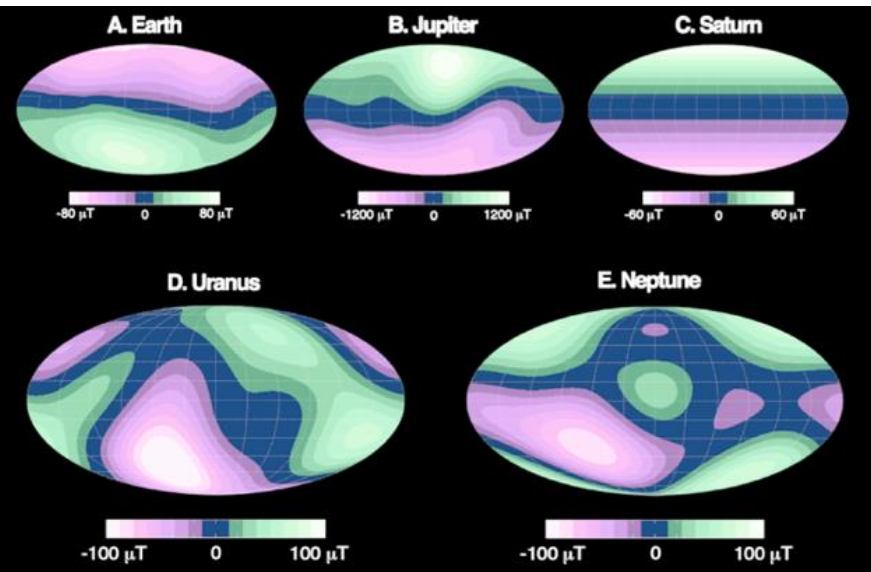
They're Totally Weird!



Uranus and Neptune have much less mass

- Lower pressures
- No metallic hydrogen
- Weak & irregular magnetic fields produced in **water layer**, deep below gas envelope

Weird Magnetospheres Uranus & Neptune



Modeling Uranus & Neptune non-dipolar fields with thin-shell dynamo over a stratified core

Stanley & Bloxham 2006

Discovery of H_3^+ and infrared aurorae at Neptune with JWST

Received: 16 January 2024

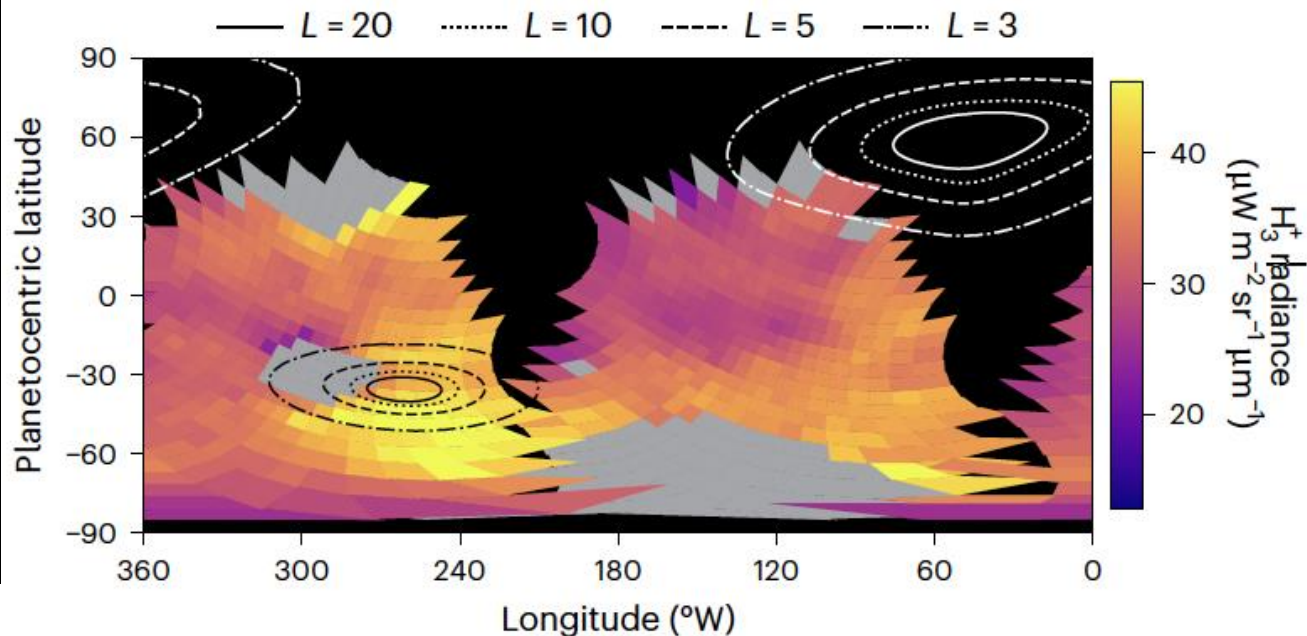
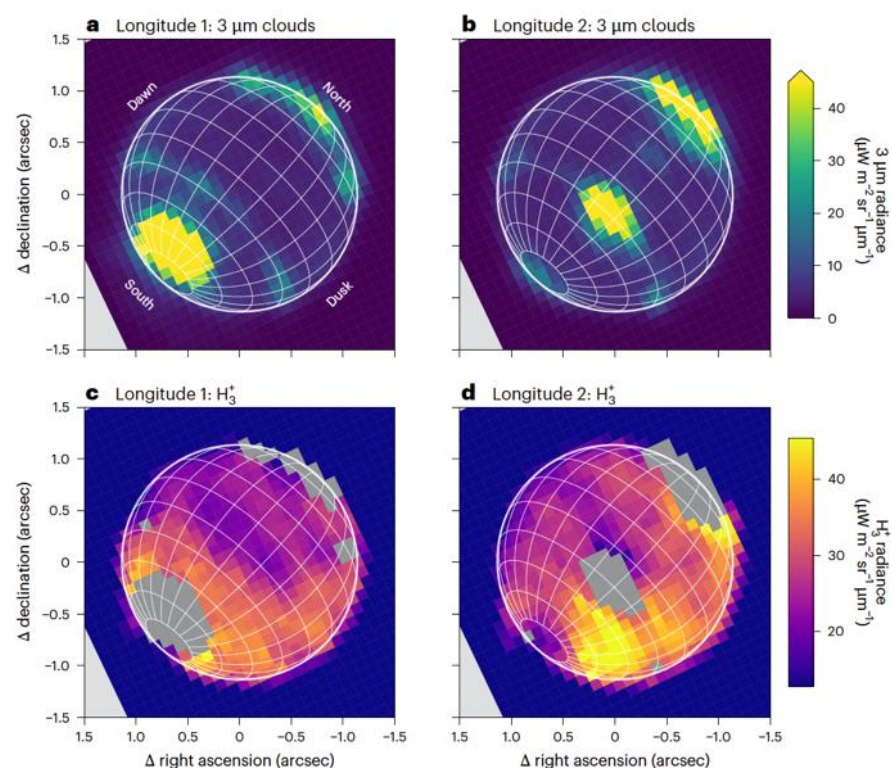
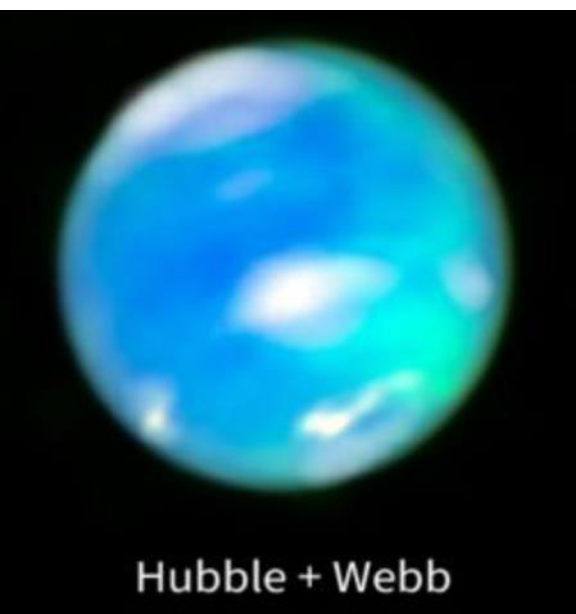
Accepted: 17 February 2025

Published online: 26 March 2025

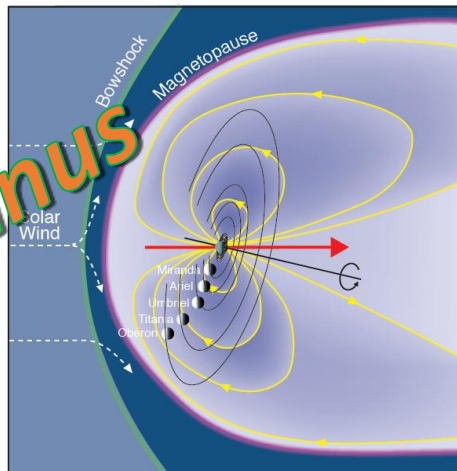
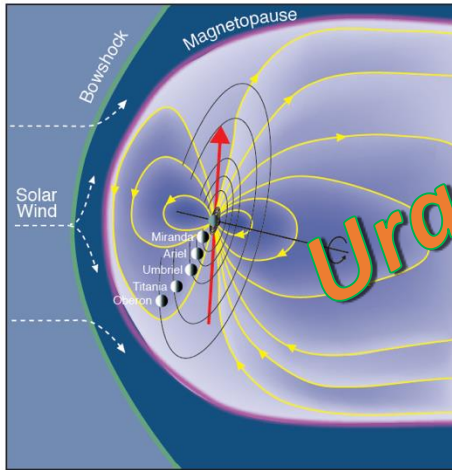
[Check for updates](#)

Henrik Melin¹, Luke Moore^{2,3}, Leigh N. Fletcher⁴, Heidi B. Hammel⁵, James O'Donoghue^{6,7}, Tom S. Stallard¹, Stephanie N. Milam⁸, Michael Roman⁹, Oliver R. T. King⁹, Naomi Rowe-Gurney⁹, Emma E. Thomas⁹, Ruoyan Wang⁹, Paola I. Tiranti⁹, Jake Harkett⁹ & Katie L. Knowles¹

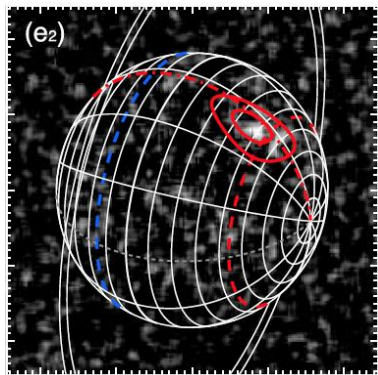
Hot off the press!!
JWST sees IR aurora at Neptune



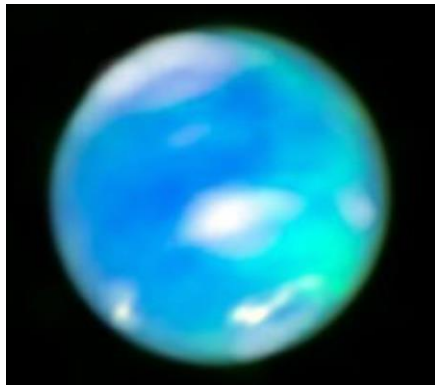
Need to go back to Uranus & Neptune



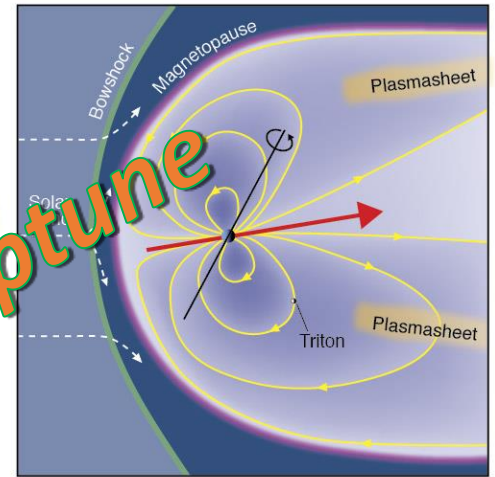
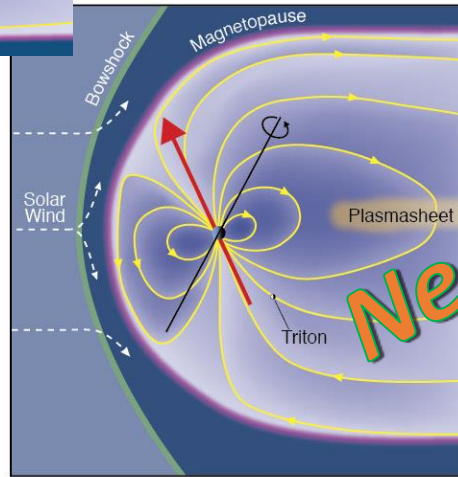
- Voyager got quick glimpse!
- Saw irregular, changing field
- How do m'spheres respond to solar wind?



Lamy et al. 2017

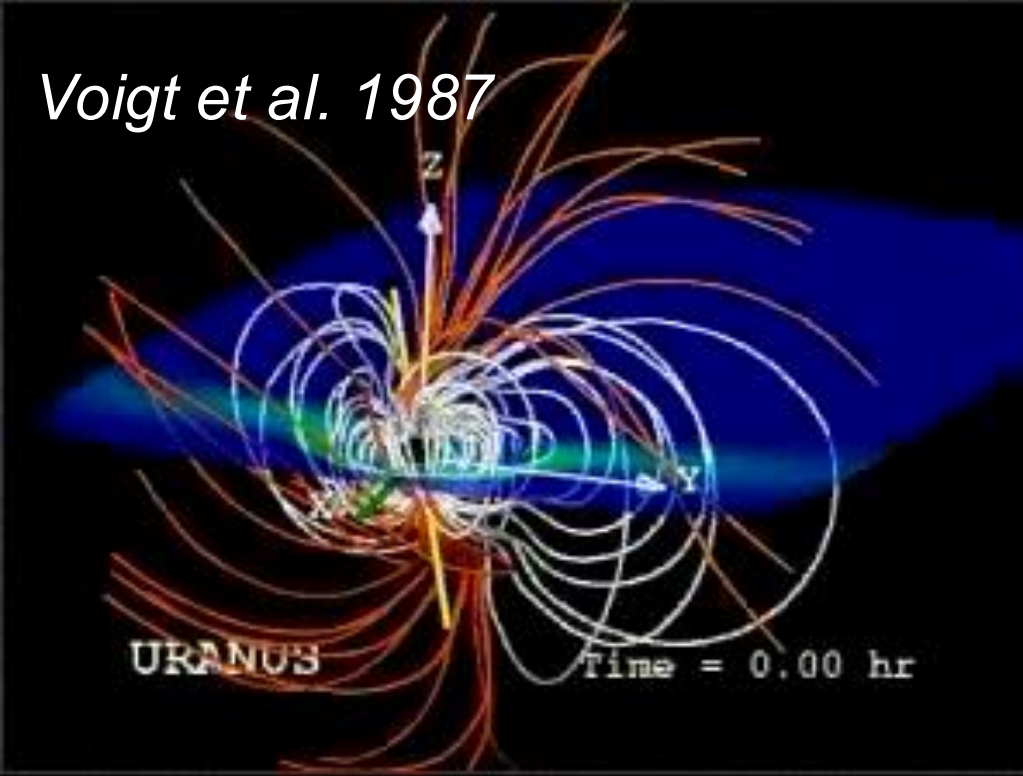


Melin et al. 2025



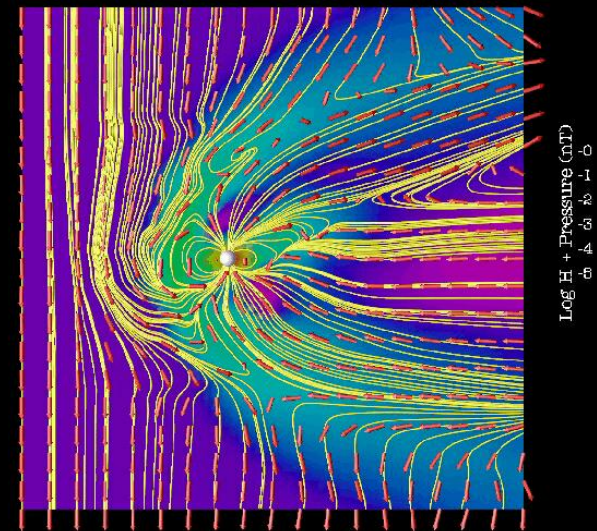
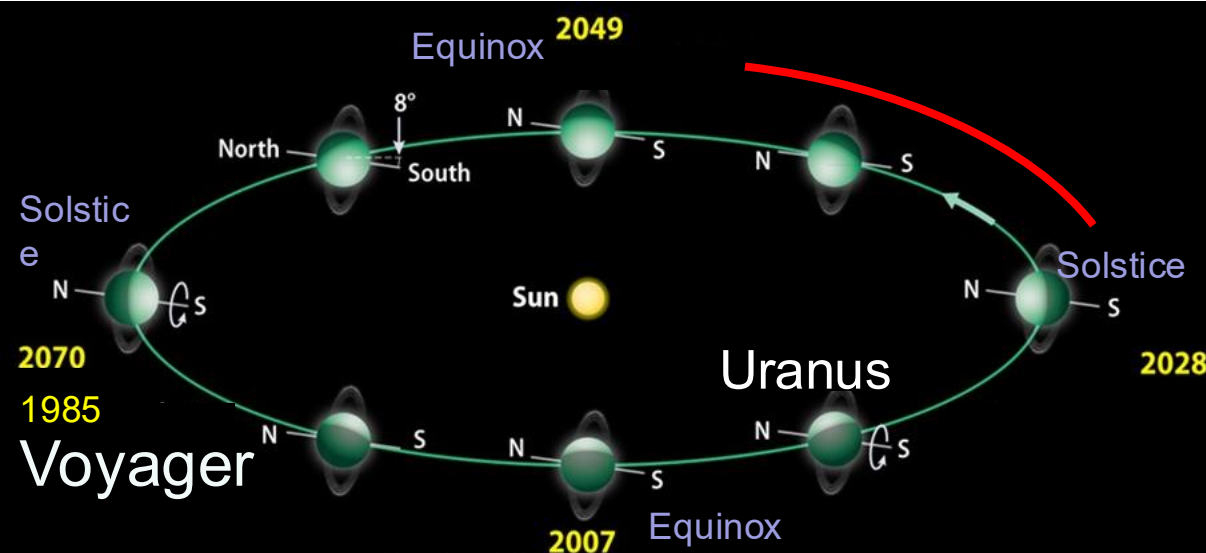
Hints of aurora with H /JWST

Voigt et al. 1987



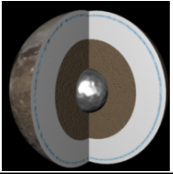
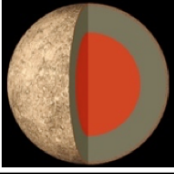
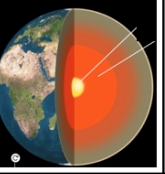
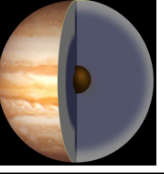
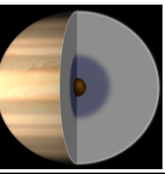
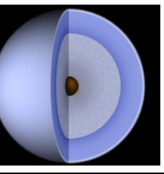
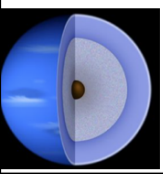
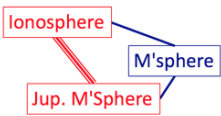
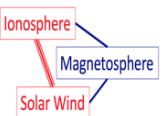
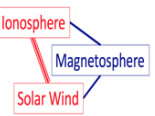
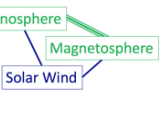
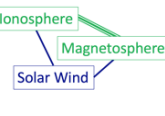
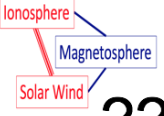
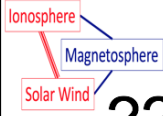
Explore weird configurations at different seasons

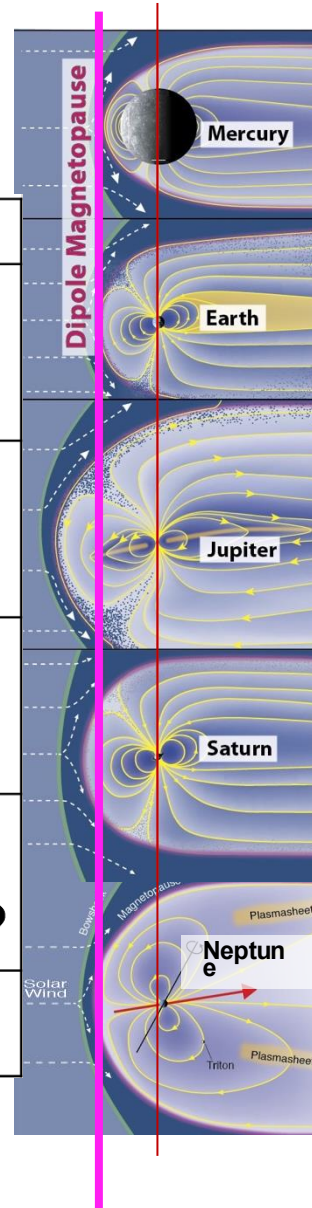
- Full coverage from orbit
- Modern instrumentation
- Onboard data-processing



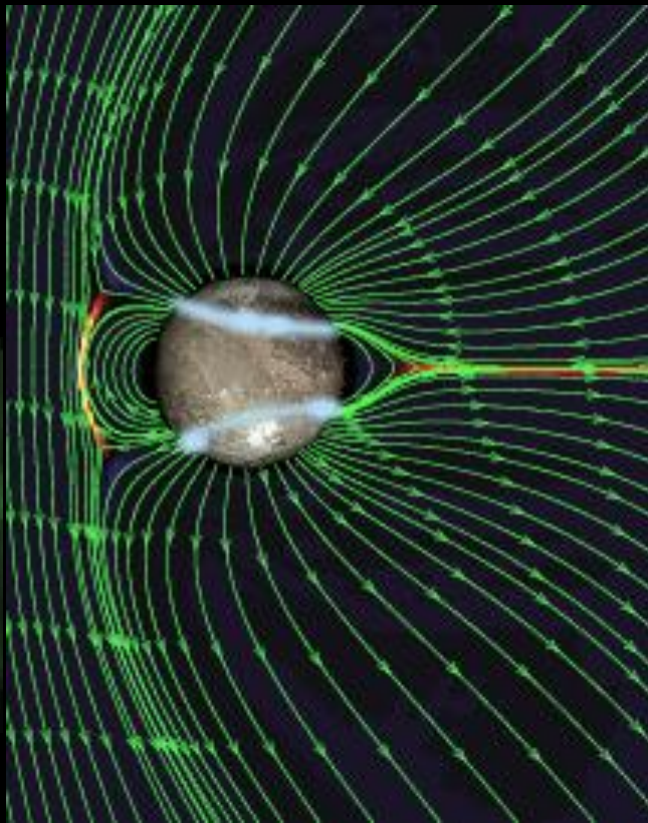
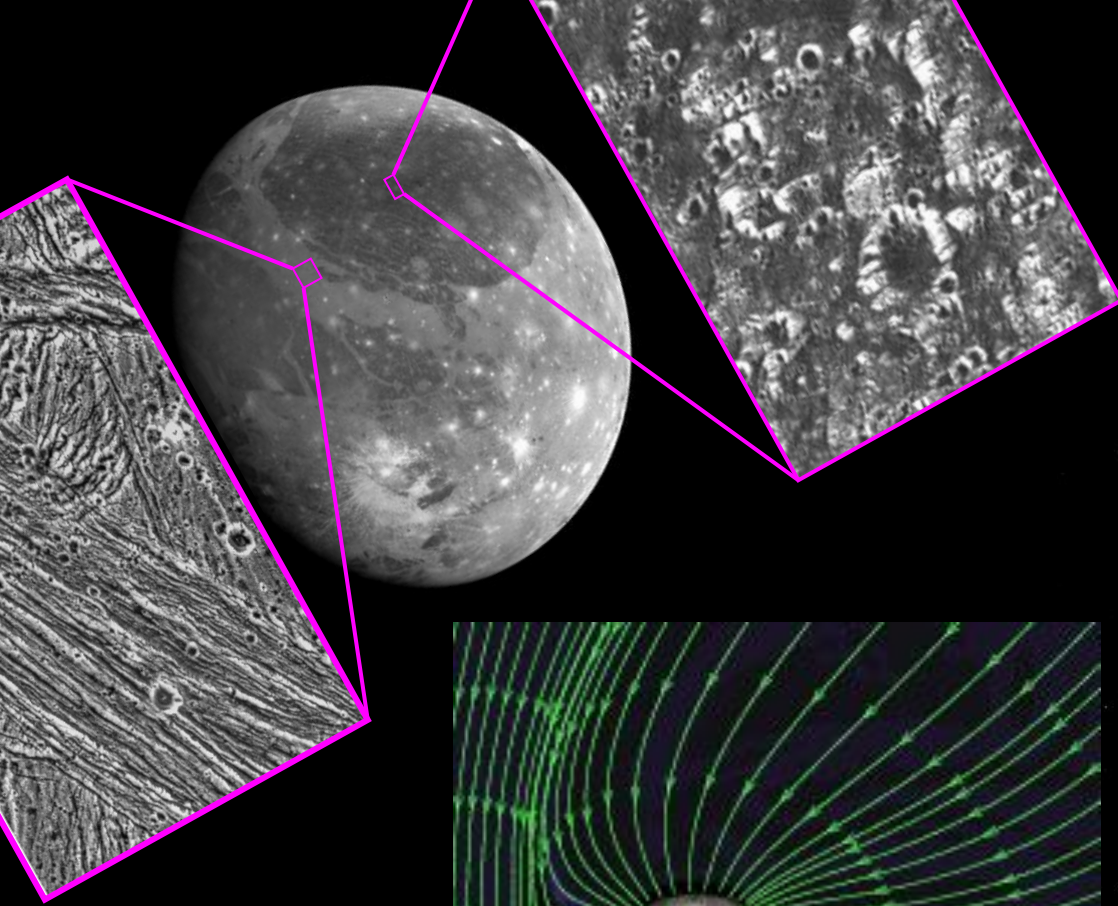
Cao & Paty 2017

Comparative Planetary Magnetospheres

	Ganymede	Mercury	Earth	Jupiter	Saturn	Uranus	Neptune
							
Moment / M_E	5×10^{-4}	5×10^{-4}	1	20,000	600	50	25
$R_{M'pause}$ / R_p	1.8	1.5	8-12	63-92	22-27	18	23-26
Coupling Process							
Timescale	mins	mins	hrs	wks	days	??	??



ESA's JUICE



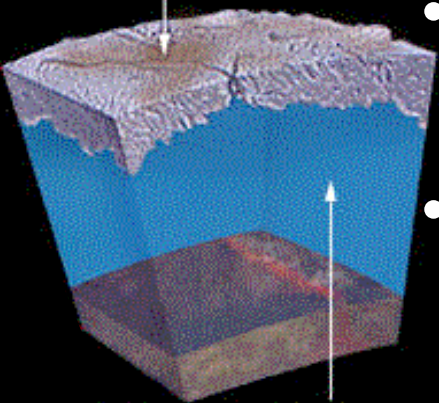
Arrives at Jupiter 2034
Will Orbit Ganymede

Europa

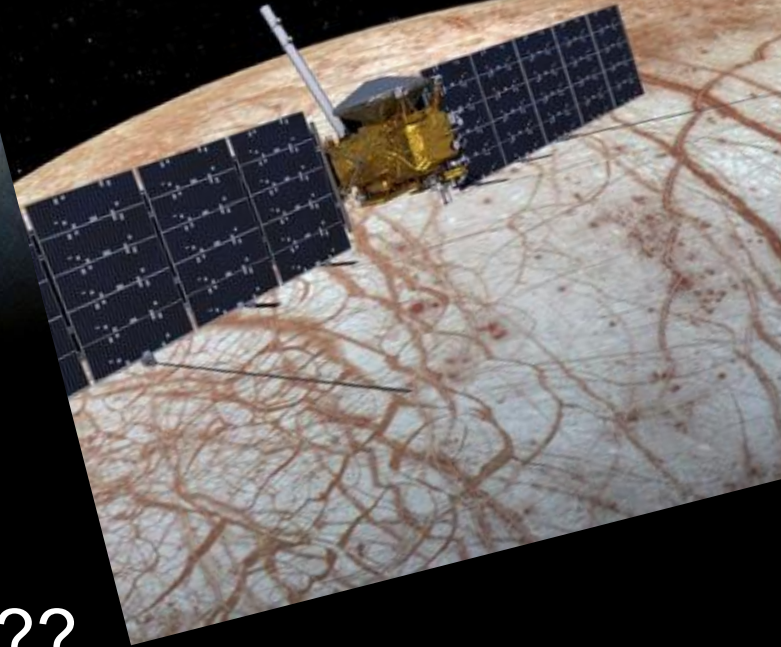
Europa Clipper Mission

- What's the brown gunk?
- How thick is ice?
- Does water reach surface?
- What's in the water??

Ice Covering



Liquid Ocean Under Ice



Launched Oct 2024
Orbits Jupiter 2030

Planetary Magnetic Dynamos

– Outstanding issues:

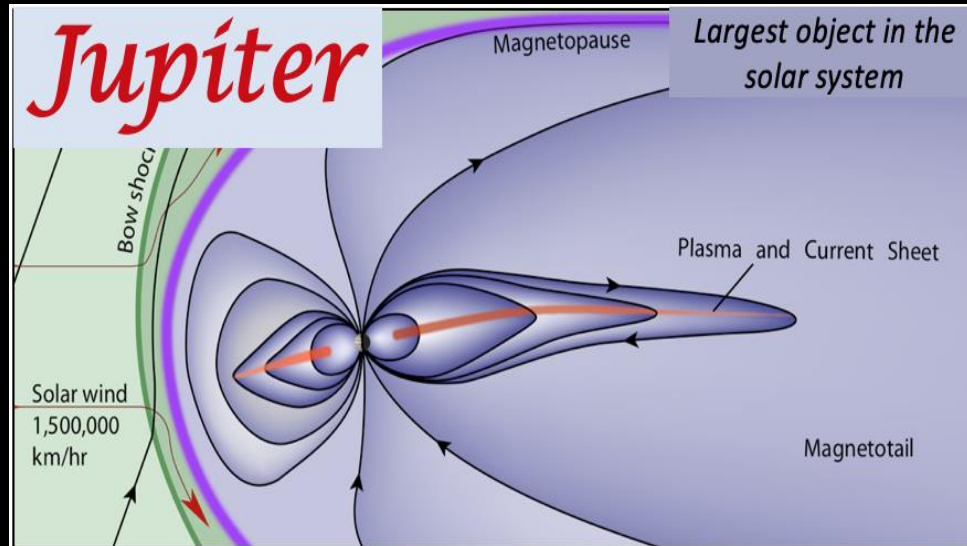
- What controls amount of non-dipole field?
- Dynamos of Earth, Jupiter, Sun:
similarities / differences?
- What controls variation in time?
- Did Venus have a dynamo?
- Why do some dynamos die out?

Planetary Magnetospheres

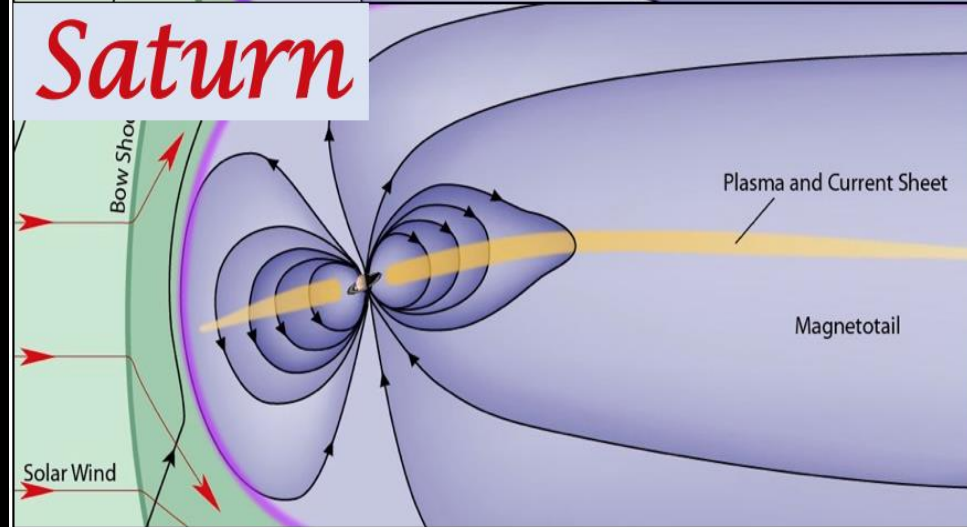
Summary

- Diverse planetary magnetic fields & magnetospheres
- Earth, Mercury, Ganymede magnetospheres driven by reconnection
- Jupiter & Saturn driven by rotation & internal sources of plasma
- Uranus & Neptune are complex – *need to be explored!*

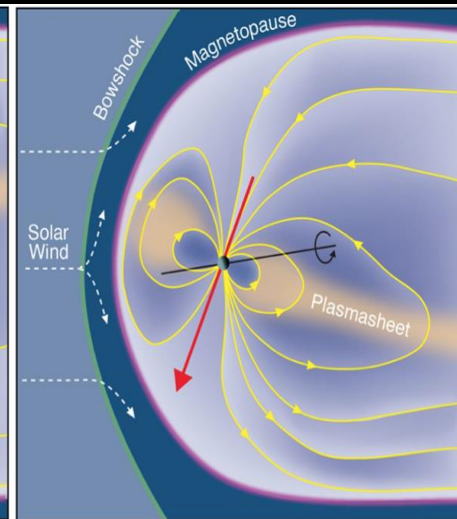
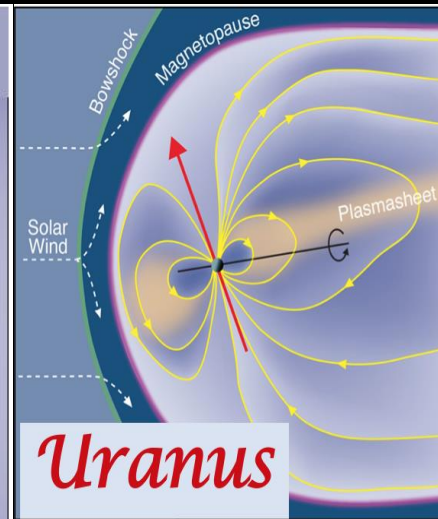
Jupiter



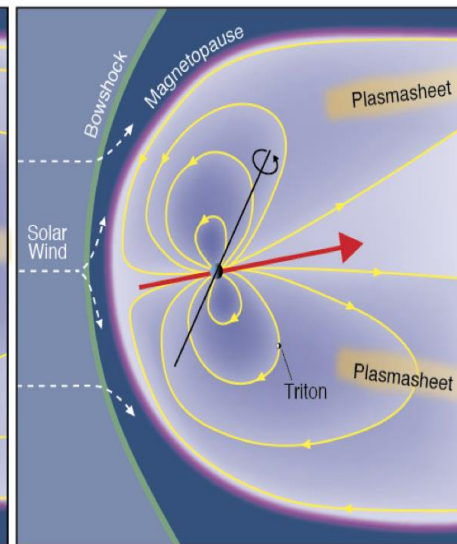
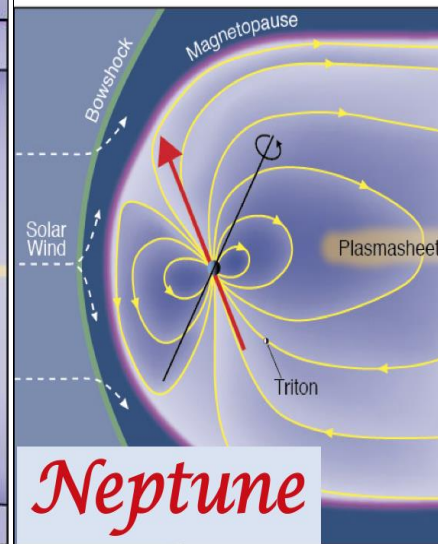
Saturn



Uranus



Neptune



Let's Keep Exploring!



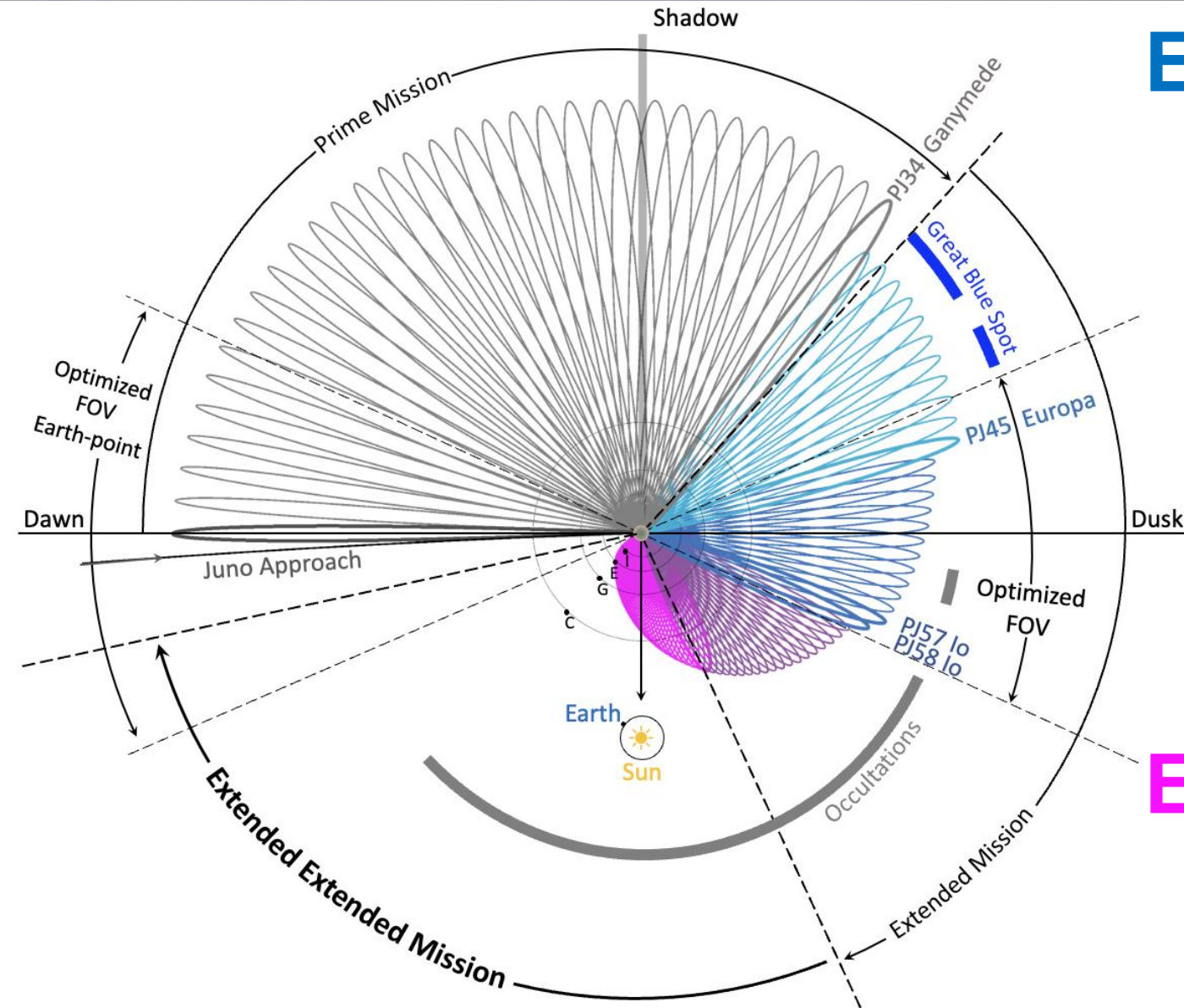
Extended Mission – EM2

EM1

- PJ35-76
- 2022-25

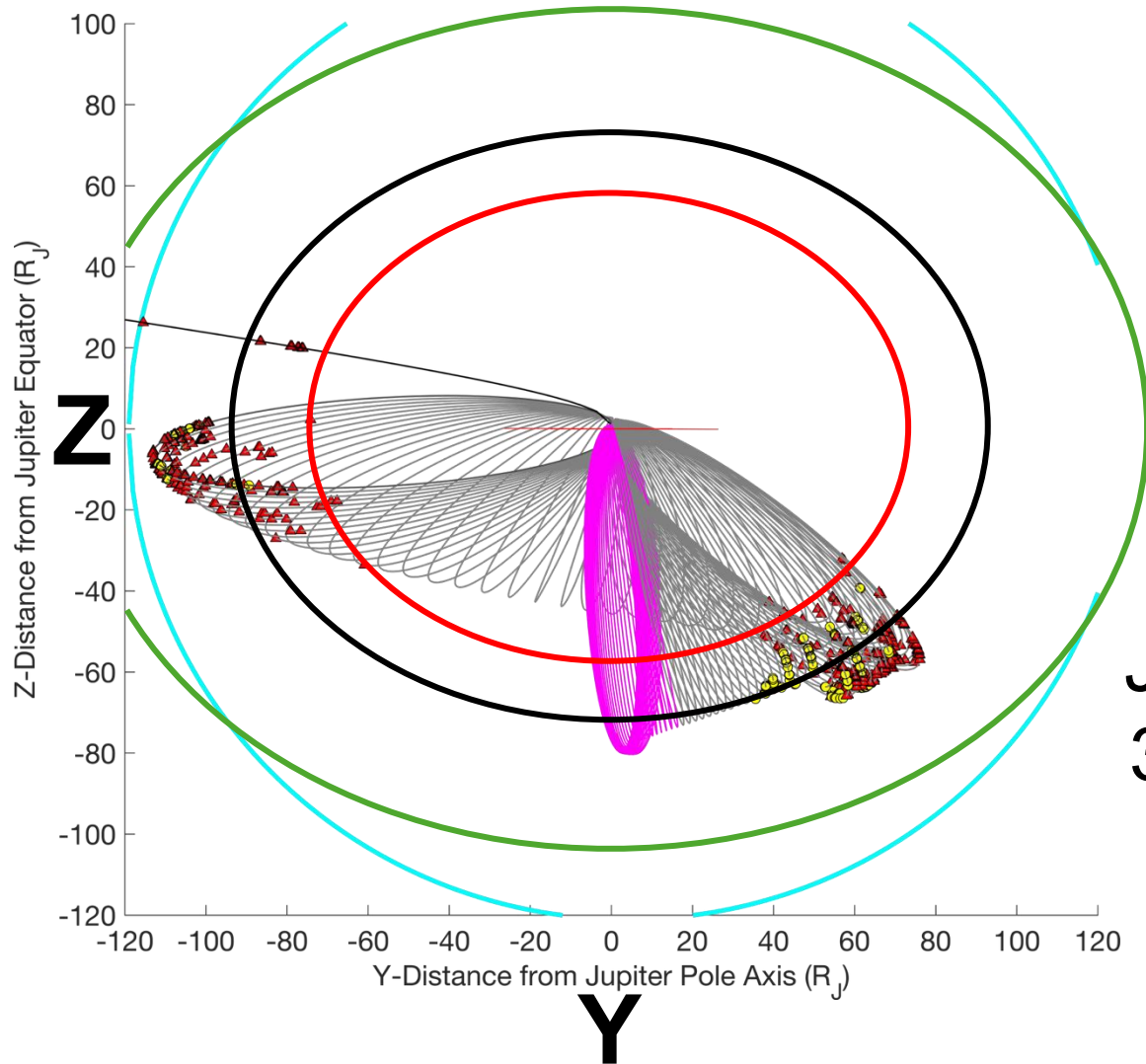
EM2

- PJ77-110
- 2025-28



Looking Down

Juno BS & MP Crossings



- Bow Shock Crossing
- ▲ Magnetopause Crossing
- Magnetopause 10%-ile
- Magnetopause Median
- Magnetopause 90%-ile
- Bow Shock Compressed

Ranquist+2020
model adapts
Joy+2002 by adding
30% polar flattening

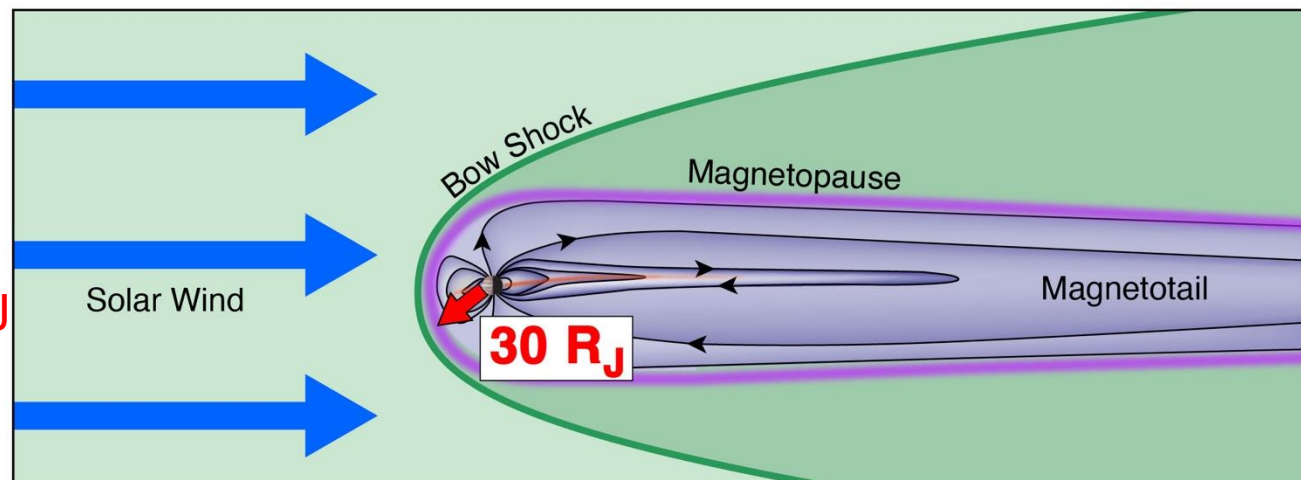
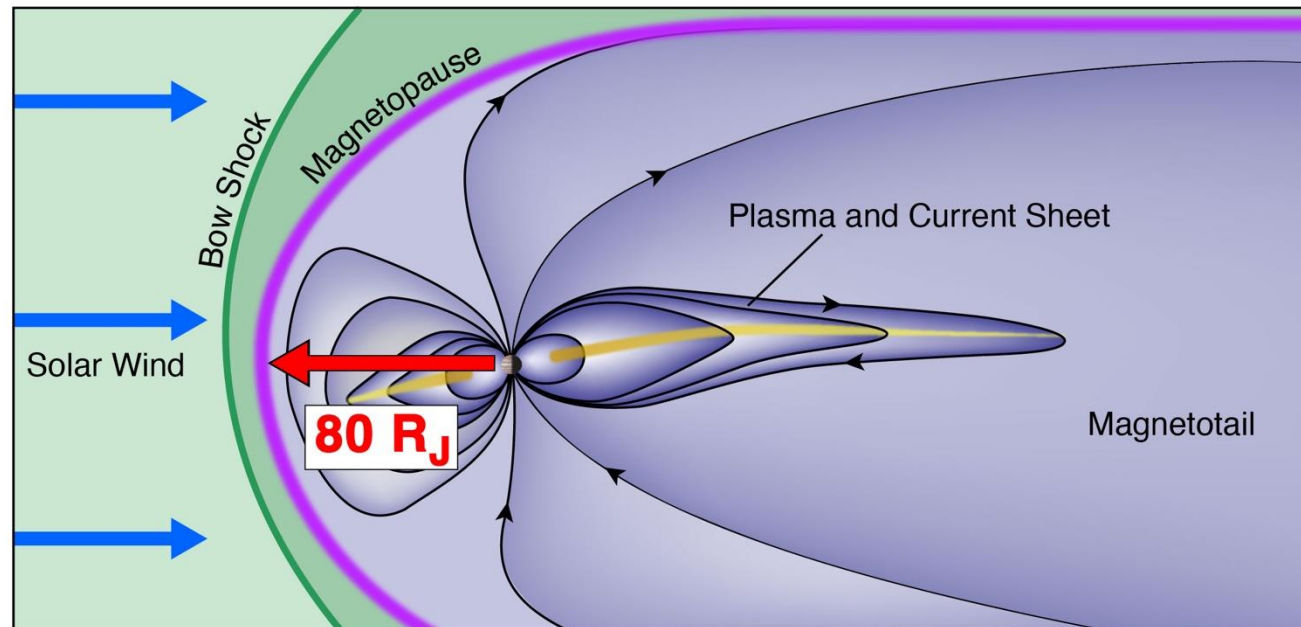
Grace Fuller is
adding MP
crossings from
recent orbits...

Looking from Sun

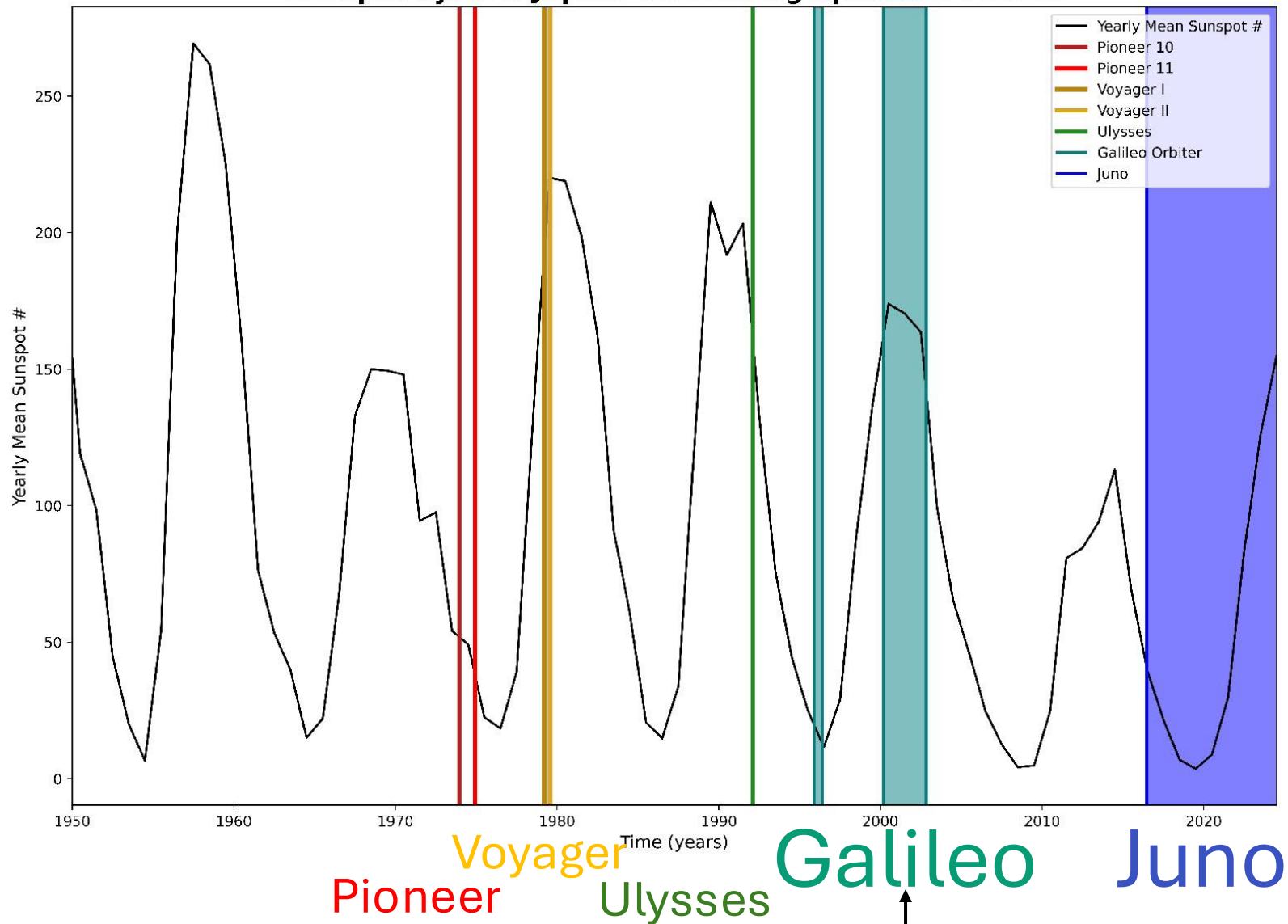
Juno Witnesses Extremely Compressed Magnetosphere



- Oct 2024 Storm
 - Solar Max
 - Magnetopause at $30 R_J$ - 45° lat.
 - **Noon MP~ $20 R_J$**
- That's inside Callisto's orbit!*

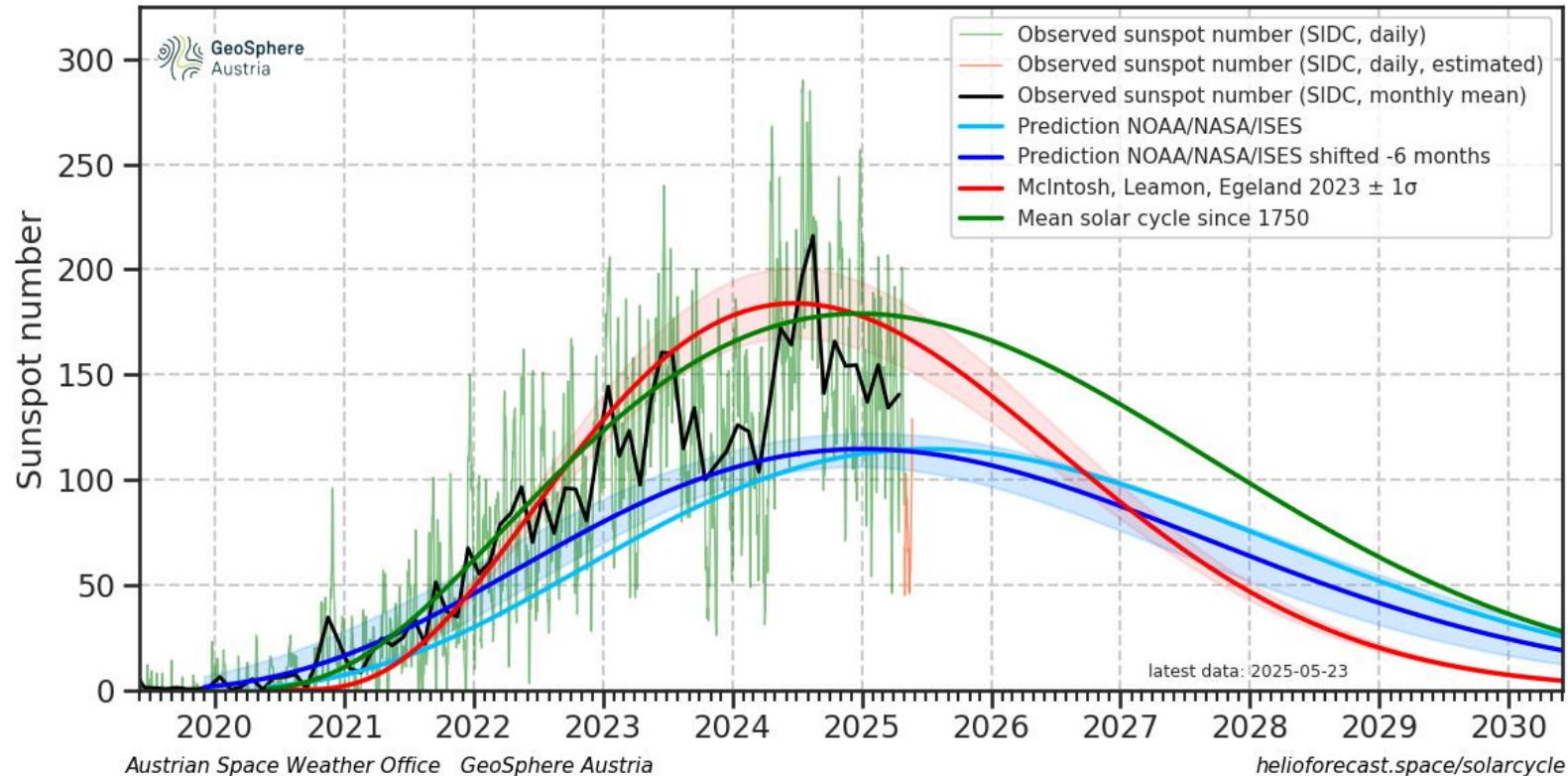


Sunspot Cycle & Jupiter-Interacting Spacecraft Dates



But orbit near midnight

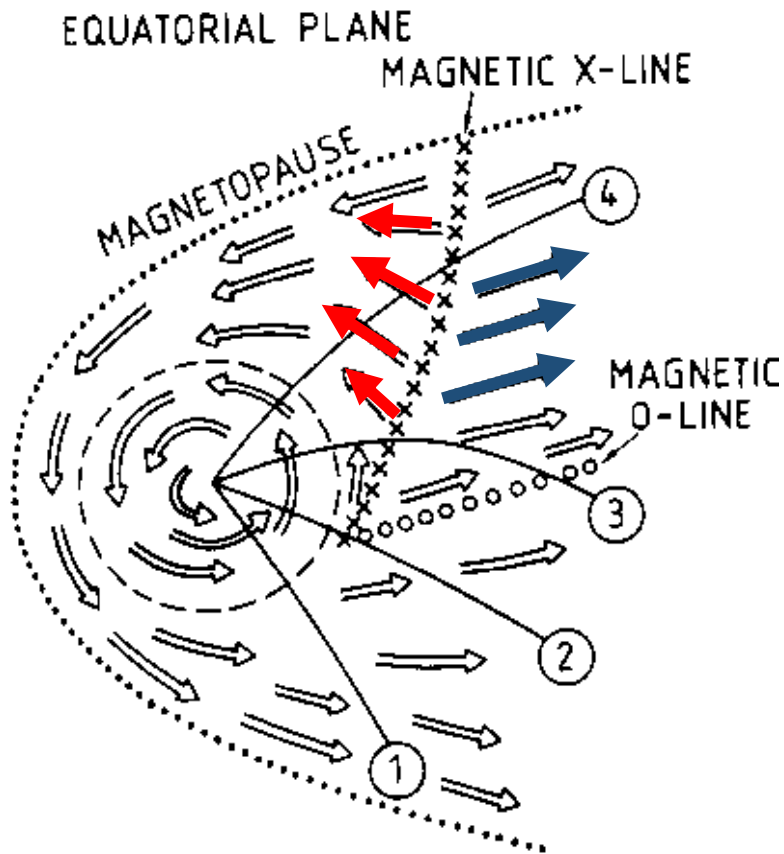
Solar Maximum Highly Variable



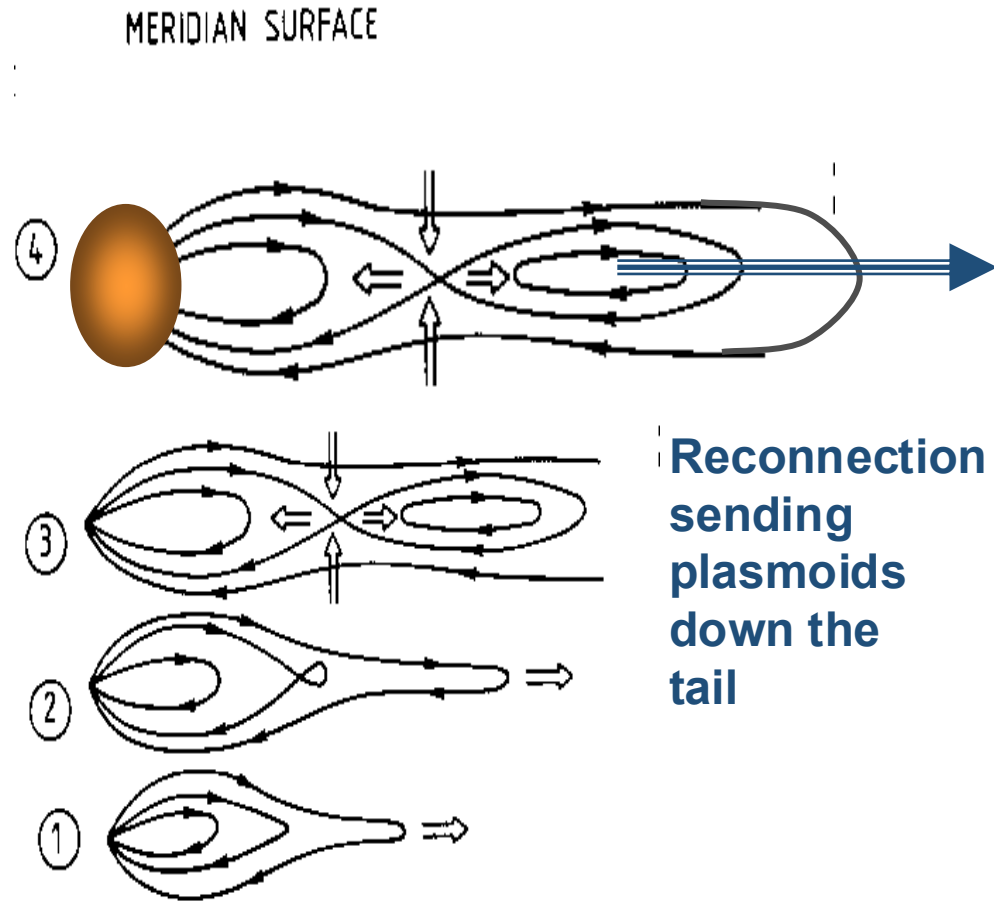
JUICE & Clipper at Jupiter for next Solar Max?
2035? 2036?

Vasyliunas Cycle

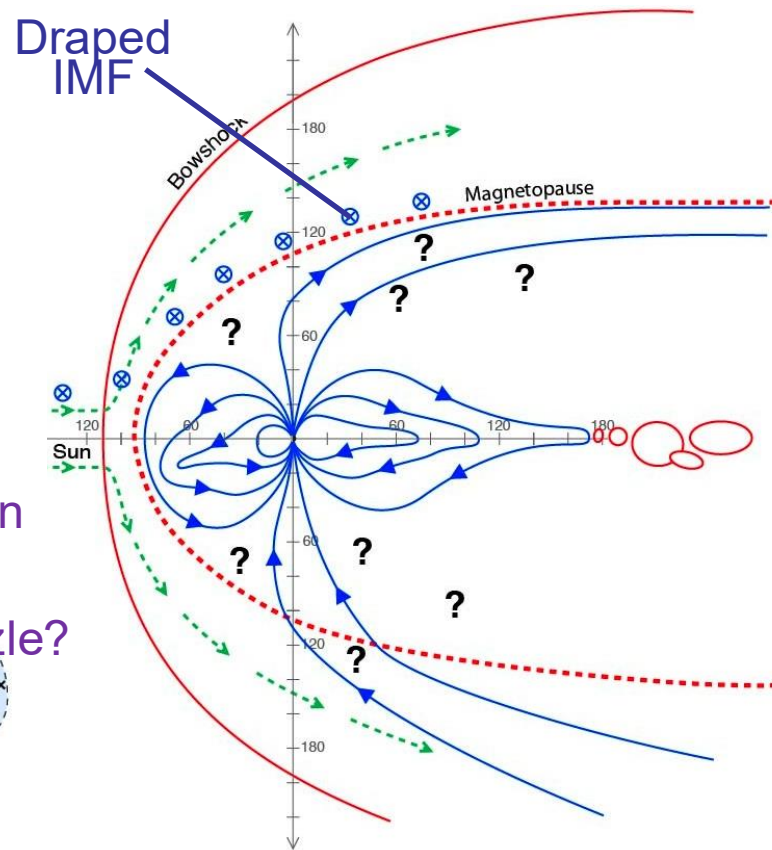
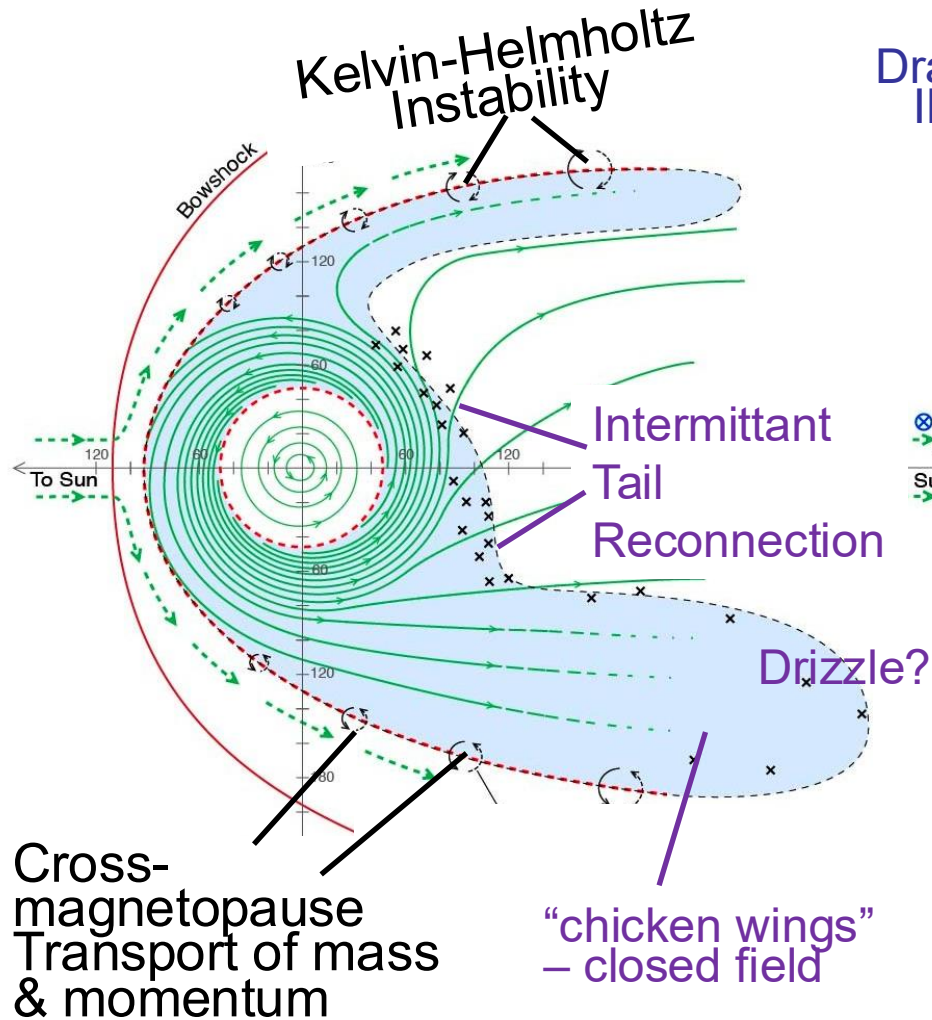
driven by centrifugal forces



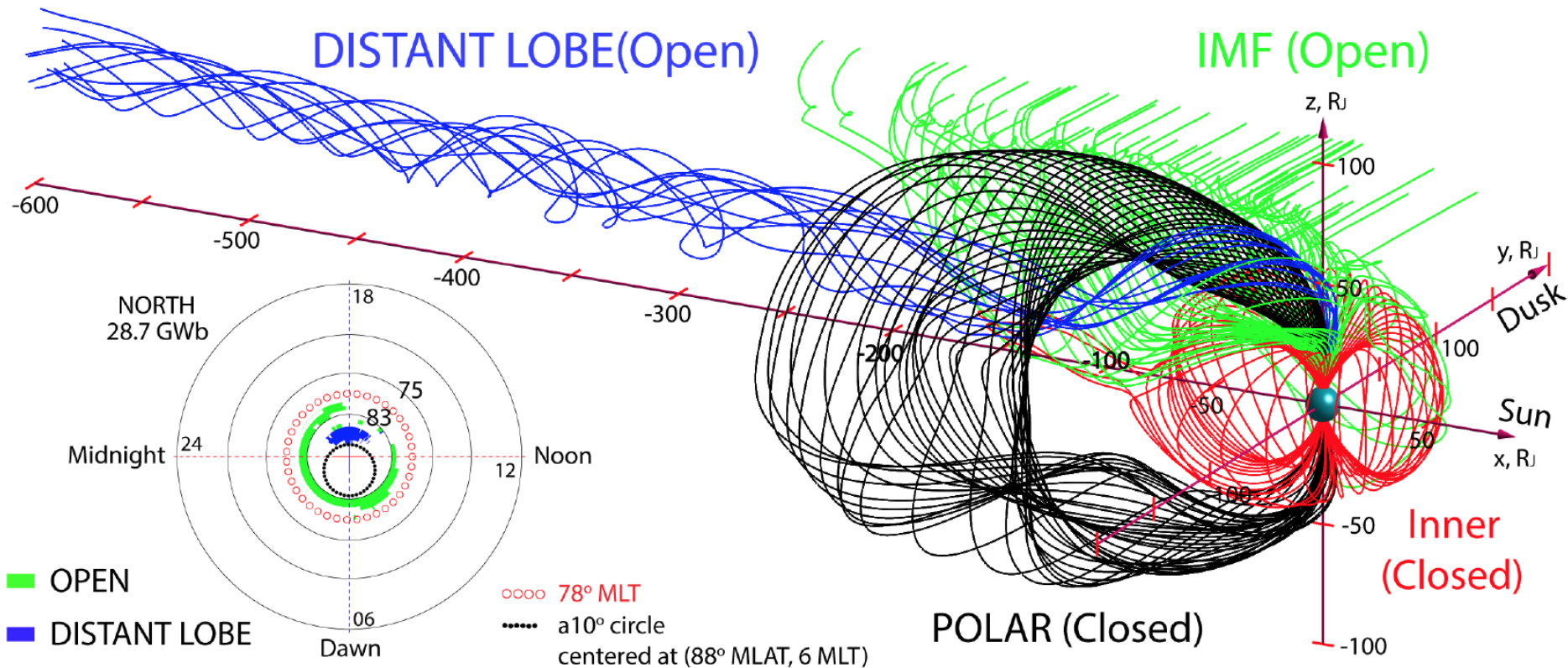
Inward Injection **Plasmoid Ejection**



**Reconnection
sending
plasmoids
down the
tail**



Models Suggest Greater Complexity



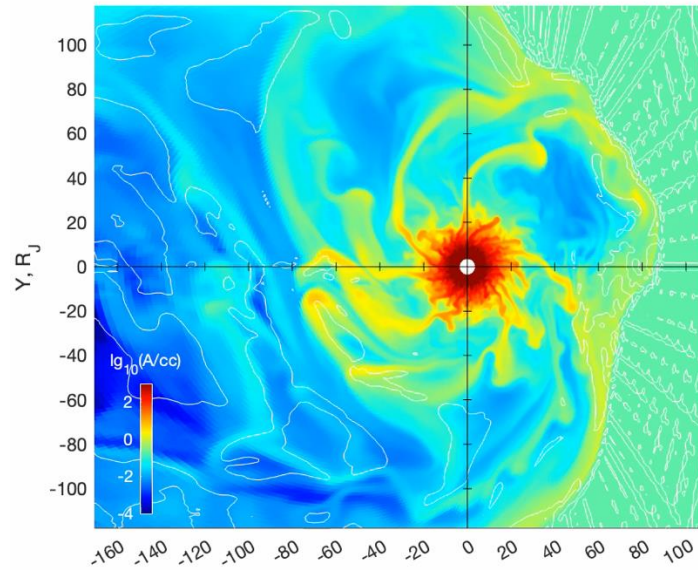
GAMERA Model

¹¹⁷
Binzheng Zhang et al. (2021)

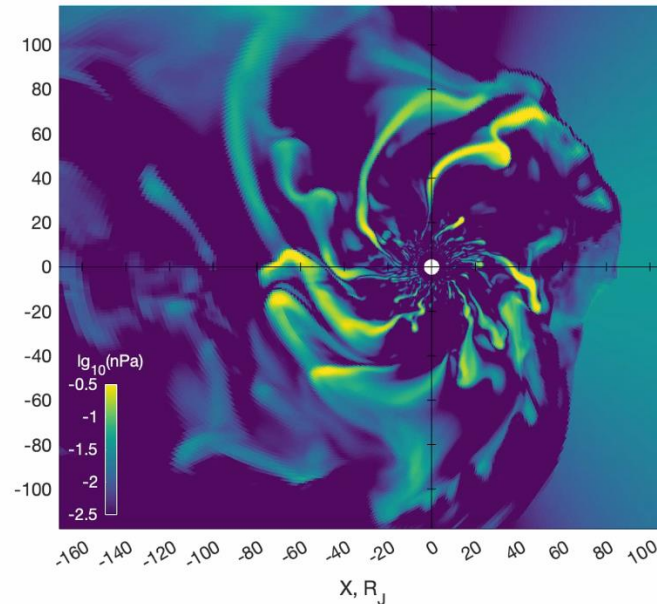
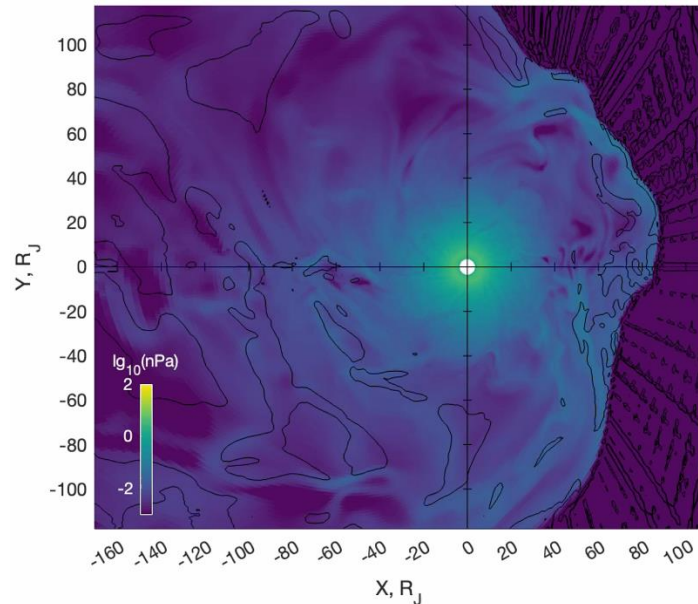
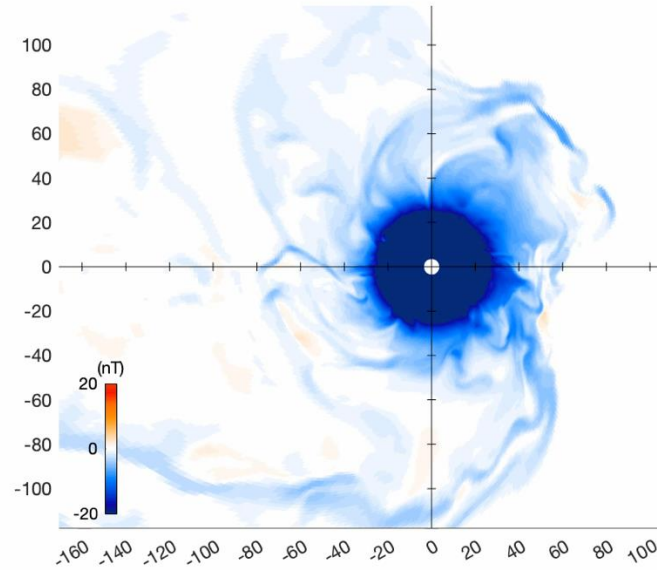
GAMERA Model

Feng et al. 2023

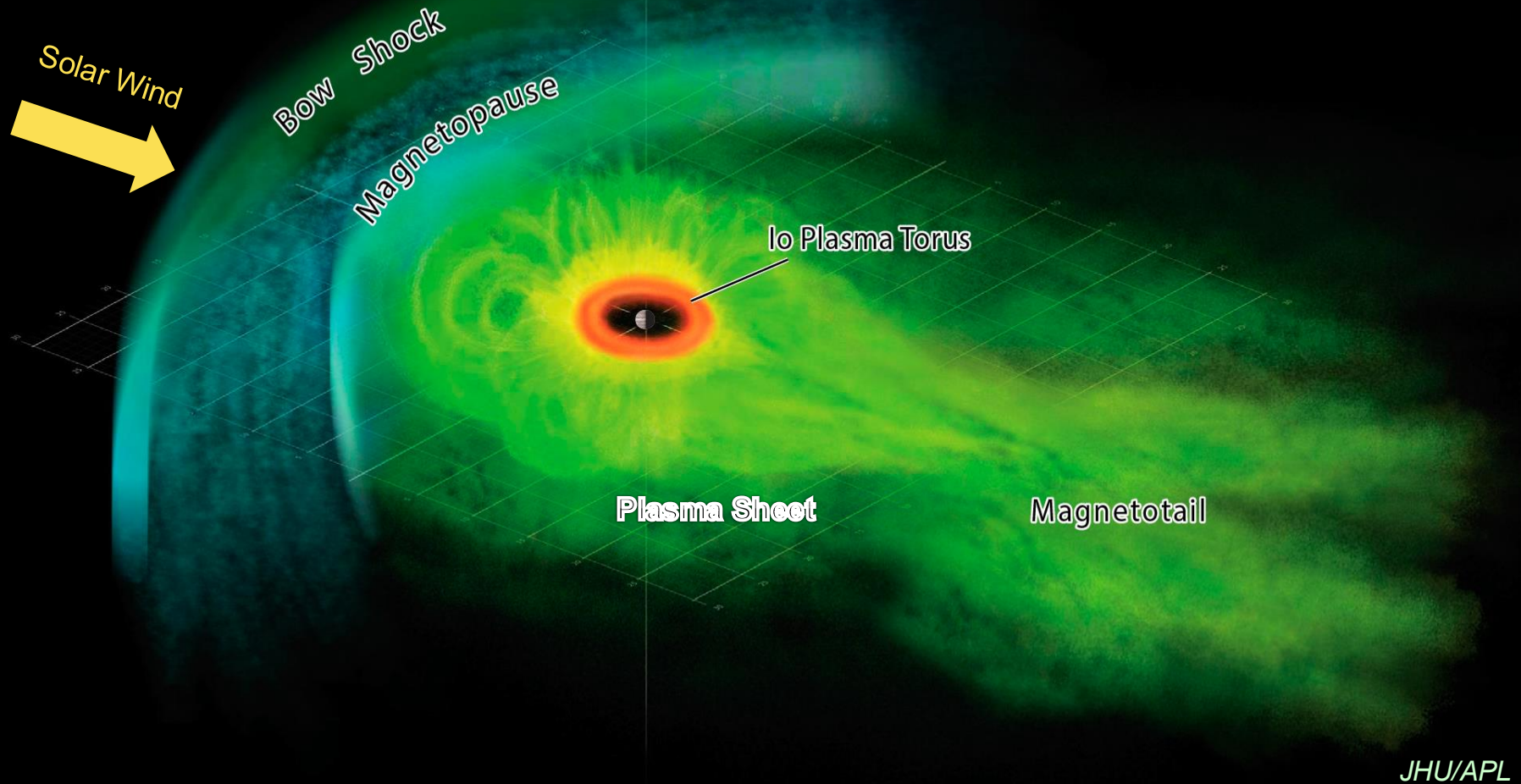
Jupiter SW $V_x = -360 \text{ km/s}$ SW density = 0.18 A/cc



Magnetopause location near 12MLT: $60.2 R_J$ Time = 520.0 hr



Is Jupiter Really Just a Colossal Comet?



JHU/APL