

ひさき衛星の連続監視で明らかにしたイオ火山噴火時のプラズマ質量供給率に対する木星オーロラの応答

木村 智樹 [1]; 平木 康隆 [2]; 埜 千尋 [3]; 土屋 史紀 [4]; 吉岡 和夫 [5]; 村上 豪 [6]; 山崎 敦 [7]; 北 元 [8]; Badman Sarah [6]; 深沢 圭一郎 [9]; 吉川 一朗 [10]; 藤本 正樹 [11]

[1] Tohoku University; [2] 電通大; [3] 情報通信研究機構; [4] 東北大・理・惑星プラズマ大気; [5] 東大・新領域; [6] ISAS/JAXA; [7] JAXA・宇宙研; [8] 東北大・理・惑星プラズマ大気; [9] 京大・メディアセンター; [10] 東大・理・地惑; [11] 宇宙研

Response of Jupiter's Aurora to Plasma Mass Loading Rate Monitored by the Hisaki Satellite During Volcanic Eruptions at Io

Tomoki Kimura[1]; Yasutaka Hiraki[2]; Chihiro Tao[3]; Fuminori Tsuchiya[4]; Kazuo Yoshioka[5]; Go Murakami[6]; Atsushi Yamazaki[7]; Hajime Kita[8]; Sarah Badman[6]; Keiichiro Fukazawa[9]; Ichiro Yoshikawa[10]; Masaki Fujimoto[11]
[1] Tohoku University; [2] UEC; [3] NICT; [4] Planet. Plasma Atmos. Res. Cent., Tohoku Univ.; [5] The Univ. of Tokyo; [6] ISAS/JAXA; [7] ISAS/JAXA; [8] Tohoku Univ.; [9] ACCMS, Kyoto Univ.; [10] EPS, Univ. of Tokyo; [11] ISAS, JAXA

The production and transport of plasma mass are essential processes in the dynamics of planetary magnetospheres. At Jupiter, it is hypothesized that Io's volcanic plasma carried out of the plasma torus is transported radially outward in the rotating magnetosphere and is recurrently ejected as plasmoid via tail reconnection. The plasmoid ejection is likely associated with particle energization, radial plasma flow, and transient auroral emissions. However, it has not been demonstrated that plasmoid ejection is sensitive to mass loading because of the lack of simultaneous observations of both processes. We report the response of plasmoid ejection to mass loading during large volcanic eruptions at Io in 2015. Response of the transient aurora to the mass loading rate was investigated based on a combination of Hisaki satellite monitoring and a newly-developed analytic model. We found the transient aurora frequently recurred at a 2-6-day period in response to a mass loading increase from 0.3 to 0.5 ton/s. In general the recurrence of the transient aurora was not significantly correlated with the solar wind although there was an exceptional event with a maximum emission power of 10 TW after the solar wind shock arrival. The recurrence of plasmoid ejection requires the precondition that amount comparable to the total mass of magnetosphere, 1.5 Mton, is accumulated in the magnetosphere. A plasmoid mass of more than 0.1 Mton is necessary in case that the plasmoid ejection is the only process for mass release.

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