THE ATMOSPHERE AND IONOSPHERE OF JUPITER

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Abstract

The properties of the atmosphere of Jupiter are reviewed in the light of observations carried out by the Voyager mission. Solar occultation measurements in the ultraviolet show that the temperature of the upper atmosphere is 1100±200K, an apparent increase of about 30% from the value obtained by the Pioneer mission in 1973. Stellar occultation in the ultraviolet indicate that the temperature gradient in the thermosphere is about 1K km-1. These results pose problems for candidate heating mechanisms because the heat input required is large (0.5 ergs cm⁻² s⁻¹) and must be deposited at high altitudes. Solar EUV, inertia gravity waves and particle and ion precipitation appear to be unsatisfactory mechanisms for the equatorial thermosphere. Joule heating remains a possibility. For Joule heating to be a viable mechanism, differential wind of several hundred meters per second between the ions and neutrals is required throughout the entire ionosphere. The stellar occultation experiment also provides a determination of the altitude of the homopause and the eddy diffusion coefficient there of about (1-2)x106 cm2 s-1. This result is consistent with the value deduced from the helium 584Å airglow emission rate based on the evidence from infrared data that the He/H2 ratio is 0.10± 0.03. A very large solar cycle variation in the atomic hydrogen Lyman alpha airglow emission rate is discussed. The stellar occultation data also provide information concerning hydrocarbons in the atmosphere. The volume mixing ratios of CH4 and C_2H_6 are found to be 2.5×10^{-5} and 2.5×10^{-6} at $5 \mu b$ level, while the upper limit for C_2H_2 at $10 \mu b$ level is 5×10^{-6} . Voyager IR data yield the volume mixing ratios deeper in the stratosphere to be $(1.4\pm0.45)\times10^{-3}$, 5×10^{-6} , and 3×10^{-8} to 10^{-7} for CH_4 , C_2H_6 and C_2H_2 respectively. The CH4 mixing ratio is thus 1.5±0.5 times the value one would expect for a solar composition ratio of the elements.

The equatorial electron density profile determined by Voyager radio occultation can be explained if ion molecule reactions between ${\rm H}^+$ and vibrationally excited ${\rm H}_2$ at high temperatures are fast enough. Temperature dependence of these reactions also accounts for an observed ionospheric diurnal variation. The high latitude ionosphere indicates possible precipitation of high energy particles in the region mapped by the Io plasma torus.

INTRODUCTION

Much of what is presently known about the upper atmosphere and ionosphere of Jupiter has been made possible by the successful observations carried out on the two recent Voyager spacecraft. The ultraviolet spectrometer (UVS) and the radioscience subsystem (RSS) provided the principal data, and the gaps in these data were often bridged by the infrared (IRIS) and imaging science (ISS) measurements.

The pre-Voyager view of Jupiter's upper atmosphere and ionosphere is rather rudimentary and has already undergone radical changes. For completeness and continuity we will provide a brief overview of the pre-Voyager observations and the theoretical calculations; fairly comprehensive reviews of the subject before the Voyager observations can be found in Strobel (1975, and 1979), and Atreya and Donahue (1976 and 1979). The important aeronomical questions about the upper atmosphere concern the thermal structure of the upper atmosphere and its implica-

tions for the atmospheric energetics; the composition of the atmosphere and the strength of mechanical mixing; and sources and sinks of ionization. The following discussion is a development of these basic themes.

2. THERMAL STRUCTURE

Optical observations from the ground, from sounding rockets and from Pioneer spacecraft all indicated an ammonia cloud top temperature of about 150K where the pressure was about 600mb, with a temperature inversion between 10 and 100mb in the troposphere (see review by Hunten, 1976). The temperature rose to a nearly constant value of 160-170K at a pressure level of about 5 to 10mb. The occultation of the star β Sco in the visible gave a temperature of about 170±30K at 10μ b (Hunten and Veverka, 1976). Measurement of the topside ionospheric electron density profile by radioscience techniques from Pioneers 10 and 11 gave the first indication of a warm plasma -- on the order of 850K (Fjeldbo, et al., 1975, and 1976). Theoretical considerations for both cold and hot exospheres by Henry and McElroy (1969) and Nagy et al. (1976) indicated virtually no disequilibrium between electron, ion and neutral temperatures in the vicinity of the electron density peak. This is due to the fact that above the peak, the electrons lose energy in collisions with the major ion H+. The warmer H+ in turn loses energy in resonance charge exchange with H, and in collisions with H_2 . Below the peak, the electrons lose energy in rotational excitation of H_2 . Thus, even before the Voyager observations, one could speculate with reasonable certainty that the upper atmospheric temperature should be high. No information on the thermal structure in the upper stratosphere, mesosphere and thermosphere was available (except for temperatures at $1\mu b$ and about 10^{-11} bar).

The Voyager 1 solar occultation experiment carried out at a range of about 7R, (1R, $\tilde{}$ 71,300km) yielded the first measurement of the upper atmospheric neutral temperature (Atreya, et al., 1979a). Continuous absorption of the solar ultraviolet radiation in the 600-800Å range by atmospheric molecular hydrogen can yield the value of the scale height of the absorbing region. It has been found that such an absorption occurs over a large height interval (Fig. 1) indicating a large upper atmospheric scale height. Indeed, the analysis of the data yield a temperature of 1450 \pm 250K at an atmospheric density level of 3 x 10 $^{\prime}$ molecules cm $^{-3}$ (Atreya, et al., 1979a) which corresponds roughly to 1500-2000km above the ammonia cloud tops. Because of the large range of the spacecraft, the large angular diameter of the sun (0.1° at 5 AU), and the non-uniformity of the ultraviolet distribution of the disc of the sun, the statistical uncertainty in the above determination is large. The Voyager RSS observations of the electron density in the equatorial region performed within hours of the solar occultation experiment yield a plasma temperature in the topside ionosphere which is on the order of 1300K (Eshleman, et al., 1979a). The solar and radio occultation measurements both probe the tropical upper atmosphere almost simultaneously and confirm the theoretical predictions of energy equilibrium between the plasma and neutral gas in the upper atmosphere.

The temperature up to the 2mb level was determined by the IRIS (Hanel, et al., 1979) and RSS measurements, and except for considerable structure, agreed with results

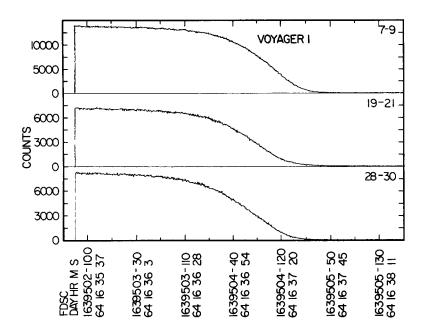


Fig. 1. Counting rates in three representative sets of channels: 7-9 (590-618Å), 19-21 (665-692Å), and 28-30 (702-729Å) as a function of time during the Voyager 1 solar occultation experiment (Atreya, et al., 1979a). The unattenuated signal represents solar flux in the appropriate channels before continuum absorption by $\rm H_2$ in the atmosphere.

of earlier observations pertaining to somewhat lower pressure levels. The temperature above the height of lmb (~160km) was determined from an ultraviolet occultation of star α Leo monitored by Voyager 2 from a range of 27 R_{\uparrow}. Figure 2 is in illustration of the progressive absorption in Jupiter's atmosphere of

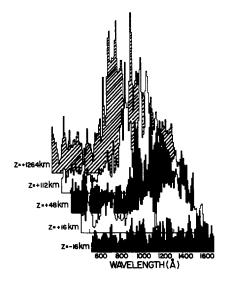


Fig. 2. Progressive absorption of the α Leo spectrum as the tangent ray height descends in the Jovian atmosphere. The zero of the altitude reference is 200km above the ammonia cloud tops.

the stellar light above the Lyman continuum cut off limit. The first spectrum taken 1264km above the total extinction level is an unattenuated stellar spectrum as measured by the UVS. The absorption increases as the tangent height is lowered. The absorption is first noticed in the 900-1200Å interval. This pattern continues over about 500km. Within a few seconds after that, the entire long wavelength portion (λ >1200Å) is rapidly absorbed, while the line of sight proceeds through the last tens of kilometers before total extinction occurs. Fig. 3 adapted from Sandel, et al. (1979) shows two distinct spectral regions of the absorption. The upper panel depicts absorption over a large height range by H_2 in its Lyman and Werner bands while the lower panel shows a rapid absorption by various hydrocarbons in the deep atmosphere where the temperature is low. The details of the above

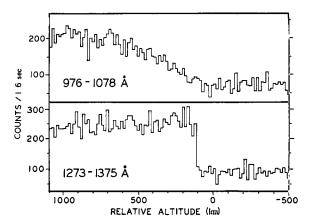


Fig. 3. Representative sets of α Leo stellar occultation data (Sandel, et al., 1979). The upper panel shows absorption in the H₂ Lyman and Werner bands and is indicative of a large scale height in the upper atmosphere. Absorption in λ >1200Å sets in quickly in the deeper atmosphere where CH₄, and C₂H₆ densities become large.

stellar occultation data analysis have been presented by Festou, et al. (1980). These data yield temperature and atmospheric density profiles from 160km to about 1750km above the ammonia cloud tops. On combining the mesospheric and thermospheric data of the α Leo stellar occultation with the solar occultation data in the exosphere, and IRIS and RSS data in the stratsophere and the troposphere one arrives at a composite thermal structure as shown in Figure 4. The results are valid for tropical latitudes; only fragmentary data are available for the other latitudes.

The thermospheric temperature profile in Fig. 4 looks similar to the earth's thermosphere. Deeper in the atmosphere, except for a well-defined tropopause, there is virtually no resemblance to the terrestrial thermal structure. Indeed, an earthlike mesopause on Jupiter is not supported by the observations. Unlike the earth, Jupiter receives a minute amount of energy from the sun and its upper atmospheric energetics are not expected to be controlled by solar EUV. There are several aspects of the Jovian upper atmospheric temperature structure which need to be discussed. The exospheric temperature is high, and it has increased by more than 50% from the time of the Pioneer observations in 1973. Although the Pioneer observations were made near the solar minimum, and the Voyager observations near

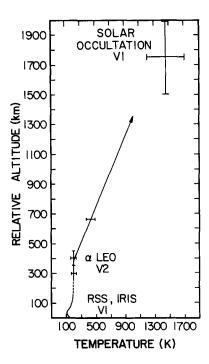


Fig. 4. Equatorial thermal profile resulting primarily from the UVS solar and stellar occultation data. Temperature from the cloud tops up to lmb level (-150km) is obtained by IRIS and RSS experiments. Linear extrapolation between the IRIS and UVS data is indicated by broken line. Altitudes are measured from the ammonia cloud tops. The exospheric temperature reaches a value of 1100 ± 200 K consistent with the further analysis of the Atreya, et al. (1979a) solar occultation data. Readers wishing to use this figure must consult Atreya, et al. (1980) and Festou, et al. (1980) for further details.

solar maximum, it is difficult, for the reason cited, to make a case for direct correlation of the increased solar activity with the increased temperature. In the following paragraphs are examined several possibilities which could lead to elevated thermospheric temperatures in the absence of a large solar EUV source.

In the β Sco occultation data (Elliott, et al., 1974) oscillations in the upper atmospheric temperature structure were observed. These oscillations are reminiscent of vertically propagating inertia gravity waves which generally break up five to ten scale heights above the homopause; there they could either be reflected or dissipate some or all of their energy in the form of heat. French and Gierasch (1974) calculated that these waves carry up to 3 ergs cm⁻² s⁻¹ of energy. Atreya and Donahue (1976) and Atreya, et al., (1979a) found by solving the one dimensional heat conduction equation that if all this energy were available for heating the atmosphere, a temperature between 1000 and 1500K could easily be attained nearly 150 to 300km above the homopause (assumed to be at a density level of 10^{11} to 10^{13} cm⁻³). The Voyager ISS data also indicated the presence of planetwide inertia waves (Hunt and Muller, 1979). The dissipation of the inertia gravity waves would result in a large temperature gradient deep in the atmosphere; the observations (Fig. 4), on the other hand, indicate a rather low (<1K km $^{-1}$) lapse rate in the thermosphere. Moreover, there is no reason to expect effects associated with inertia gravity waves to vary during the solar cycle.

Another possibility for heating of the upper atmosphere is the penetration of magnetospheric electrons - soft or hard. According to a mechanism proposed by Hunten and Dessler (1977), magnetospheric soft electrons can, in principle heat the upper atmosphere. A heat source of some 0.5 ergs $\,\mathrm{cm}^{-2}\,\,\mathrm{s}^{-1}$ would be needed to produce temperatures of about 1000K. Although Hunten and Dessler suggested some mechanisms for producing the electrons there is a serious problem in finding a source with sufficient strength to produce the required electron flux. Nevertheless, there is some evidence to support their suggestion, although even that is not unambiguous. The Voyager UVS detected dayside planetwide emissions of the H2-Lyman and Werner bands which are excited by low energy (~50-60eV) electrons. Their measured intensity of 2.8±1kR (Shemansky, et al., 1980) implies a flux of $0.3 \text{ ergs cm}^{-2} \text{ s}^{-1}$. If this energy is deposited quite high in the atmosphere it can be of potential value for heating the atmospheric gas. For Lyman and Werner bands to be detected outside the atmosphere by remote sensing, they must originate above the layer where methane begins to absorb (in \partial 1000 A). The total energy needed to produce these bands is not quite sufficient for the required amount of heating, and it is difficult to imagine precipitation of electrons in the equatorial region - for which the data are presented in Fig. 4. Another difficulty with relating the heating to the presence of the ${\rm H_2}{\text{-}}{\rm bands}$ is that these emissions are nonexistent (<500R) on the nightside, implying a highly asymmetric electron energy spectrum. An upper limit of 0.04 ergs cm $^{-2}$ s $^{-1}$ at night set by this result is consistent with the excitation of H Lya at night (McConnell, et al., 1980a). Photoelectrons are found not to be responsible for either the H_2 -emissions or the heating.

The Voyager UVS detection of aurorae in the high latitude region mapped by the Ioplasma torus (Broadfoot, et al., 1979, 1980; Sandel, et al., 1979) provides another potential source of heating. The measured Lya intensity in the auroral band was 60kR, while the H2-Lyman and Werner band intensity was 80kR, implying energy deposition of 1.3 x 10^{13} watts. If this energy were allowed to be spread evenly over the entire disc of the planet, it would amount to 0.2 erg cm⁻² s⁻¹. The energy available is not sufficient for the required heating, even if pole to equator circulation were very efficient. There is no reason to expect it to be efficient. Futhermore, the range of high energy auroral electrons in an H_2 -atmosphere is large so that most of the heating produced by these electrons will take place quite deep in the atmosphere. There is evidence from the Voyager 2 entry occultation ionospheric measurement (Eshleman, et al., 1979b) that large amounts of energy must be deposited in the auroral region to cause excessive low altitude heating (see Sec. 5 on Ionosphere). It should be remarked that protons and other heavier ions such as sulfur and oxygen from the Io-plasma torus will have shorter range in the atmosphere than electrons with comparable energies. Consequently, heavier ions would deposit their energy high in the atmosphere if there is a way for them to precipitate in the Jovian ionosphere. Their densities, and the atmospheric density where they would dissipate their energy, are quite low.

Finally, one can imagine that the drag between ions and neutrals could be as important on Jupiter as it is on the Earth. For Joule heating to be important, heating should occur primarily in the ionization layers resembling terrestrial sporadic E revealed by Pioneer 10 and 11 radio occultation observations.

Differential winds on the order of 200-300 ms⁻¹ at density levels of 10^{12} to 10^{14} molecules cm⁻³ would be required to produce the heating. If the Joule heating takes place in the main ionosphere differential winds almost as strong are needed throughout the mesosphere, and the temperature gradient turns out to be too large. Whether such conditions exist is unknown. No information about thermospheric dynamics is currently available, and is not likely to become available from information obtained by the Galileo orbiter-probe experiments.

In summary, the mechanisms so far suggested for heating of the thermosphere all have problems and lack a firm theoretical or observational basis. Much further analysis is needed before a credible candidate emerges.

COMPOSITION

The mean thermal velocity of the hydrogen atoms in Jupiter's upper atmosphere is about 5% of the escape velocity. Thus, it is unlikely even for the lightest of planetary gases to have escaped from Jupiter. This view led to the consensus that the bulk composition of Jupiter's atmosphere should be close to that of the primordial nebula from which the sun and planets were formed. Ground based observations in the visible and infrared more or less confirm the expected solar composition ratio of elements on Jupiter. Before the Voyager observations, the upper atmospheric distribution of gases was deduced theoretically by considering the photolysis of the gases, assuming that their bulk abundances were known. An overview of the earlier photochemical calculations for ammonia and methane, and the present understanding of their distributions is presented below.

Ammonia photochemistry has been studied in detail by Strobel (1973) and Atreya, et al. (1977a). Ammonia is photolyzed in 1600-2300Å region, which is spectrally isolated from the region where methane absorbs UV. Because of its low vapor pressure in the Jovian troposphere, ammonia freezes out well below the region of methane photolysis. Thus, the methane and ammonia systems can be considered entirely separate from each other. The photochemical scheme of ammonia is shown in Figure 5. The abundance of the terminal product nitrogen, N2, is highly dependent on the degree of supersaturation of NH, and the intermediate product hydrazine, N,H. Atreya, et al. (1977a) calculated the range of values possible for the N_2 mixing ratio, depending upon whether or not N_2H_4 was supersaturated. Barker, et al. (1980) have recently attempted to detect the N_2^+ first negative band system at 3914Å and 4278Å in the auroral region of Saturn, and found an upper limit of 1 to 2kR. However, photolysis of ammonia should produce much more N_2 on Jupiter than on Saturn. Thus, it is not unlikely that large amounts of nitrogen may be present on Jupiter. Although N_2 is the terminal product in the photochemical scheme of Fig. 4, its density in the atmosphere is limited. It will be mixed downward and deep in the Jovian interior be recycled to ammonia by the termolecular reaction, $N_2 + 3H_2 \rightarrow NH_3$. Current estimates (Sato and Hansen, 1979) indicate 1 to 1.5 times the solar ratio for N/H on Jupiter. The Voyager IRIS observations of the pure rotational bands at 50 μm and ν_2 vibrational-rotation band at $10\mu m$ indicate that the NH_{q} mixing ratio is lower than the saturated value in the upper troposphere (R. Hanel, and D. Gautier, personal communication, 1980).

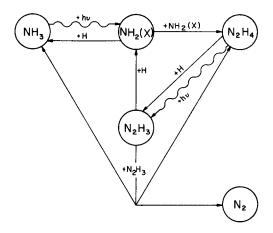


Fig. 5. Photochemistry of ammonia in the Jovian atmosphere (Atreya, et al., 1978).

Their results shown in Fig. 6 indicate N_2 mixing ratios between 10^{-8} and 3 x 10^{-11} at the cloud tops (0.6 bar). Detection of N_2 on Jupiter has not yet been reported.

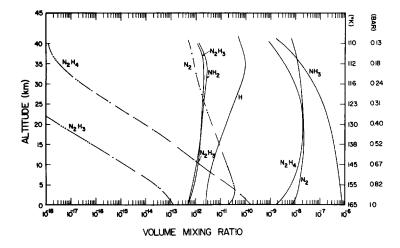


Fig. 6. Volume mixing ratios of ammonia and its photochemical products for Hunten (1976) temperature profile and the K<1/M $^{1/2}$ atmospheric model (solid line curves). The temperatures and pressures given on the right ordinate correspond to the altitudes shown on the left (Atreya, et al., 1977a). Curves illustrated by — · · · — for N₂H₄ and N₂H₃ assume a saturation vapor mixing ratio. The resultant N₂ mixing ratio profile is shown by the — · · · — curve. The ammonia cloud tops are at a pressure level of about 0.6bar.

Next, we turn to the aeronomy of methane. The photolysis of methane shortward of 1600Å results in the production of heavier hydrocarbons, acetylene (C_2H_2) , ethane (C_2H_6) and ethylene (C_2H_4) , along with numerous intermediate radicals. The photochemical scheme is shown in Fig. 7. One dimensional continuity and transport calculations carried out by Strobel (1975) yield the height distribution of the products. The calculations by Strobel need drastic revision in view of the fact that photoabsorption cross sections of methane and ethane have been substantially revised. Mount, et al. (1977) find that the methane photoabsorption cross sec-

tions in the wavelength region $\lambda>1475\text{\AA}$ are a factor of 200 lower than the values used by Strobel. Mount and Moos (1978) find that at 200K their measurements of ethane photoabsorption cross sections yield values which are 20% lower than the Okabe and Becker (1963) values used by Strobel (1975). Moreover, several key

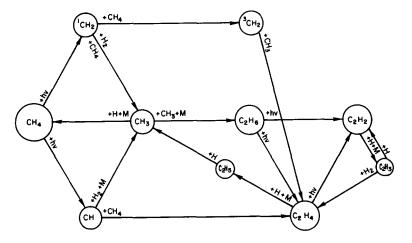


Fig. 7. Photochemistry of methane in the Jovian atmosphere (Strobel, 1975).

reaction rates in the chemical scheme have been revised and are listed by Yung and Strobel (1980). The value of the eddy diffusion coefficient at the homopause at the time of the Voyager observations is different than that used by Strobel. In view of these changes and the results of the Voyager α Leo stellar occultation measurements, it is appropriate to show only the hydrocarbon density profiles as we know them now. Unlike the solar occultation experiment, the stellar occultation data are not averaged over large height intervals. The height resolution in the latter is limited by the rate of descent of the minimum tangent ray altitude in the atmosphere. The a Leo stellar occultation experiment (Festou, et al., 1980) resulted in an effective height resolution of about 15km which is about one half of the atmospheric scale height at lmb. Although theoretically it is possible to achieve 3.2km height resolution, some integration of the data was necessary to improve the statistics. The analysis of Festou, et al., yields $[CH_4]/[H_2] = 2.5$ $\times 10^{-5}$, $[C_2H_6]/[H_2] = 2.5 \times 10^{-6}$ — both at $5\mu b$, and $[C_2H_2]/[H_2] \le 5 \times 10^{-6}$ at $10\mu b$ level. The $\mathrm{CH_4/H_2}$ mixing ratio deduced from the infrared data in the two wings of the v_{L} band of CH_{L} was found to be $(1.4\pm0.45)\times10^{-3}$, which is 1.5±0.5 times that for the solar ratio of elements. The preliminary analysis of the IRIS observations gives ${\rm C_2H_2/H_2} = 3{\rm x}10^{-8}$ to 10^{-7} , ${\rm C_2H_6/H_2} = 5{\rm x}10^{-6}$ deep in the atmosphere (10-100mbar level) and show latitudinal variations (Hanel, et al., 1979; and R. Hanel, personal communication, 1980). Substantially different mixing ratios are expected higher in the atmosphere due to photochemical transformation. The IRIS data are being analyzed further (R. Hanel, 1980, personal communication) to determine hydrocarbon mixing ratios in a region which would overlap the UVS data.

The measured densities of H_2 , CH_4 , C_2H_6 , and C_2H_2 are shown as a function of height in Fig. 8. No C_2H_4 has been found at $10\mu b$ level. The He density in the figure is simply a representation of the He mixing ratio measurement by IRIS in the homosphere. Conspicuously absent from this figure is a distribution of atomic

hydrogen. If ultraviolet absorption were the only source of atomic hydrogen, it would be produced primarily by dissociative photoionization and photodissociation of H_2 . Subsequently, H would be transported in the deep atmosphere where it would be removed by a three body recombination reaction (H+H+M+H₂+M). Photolysis of

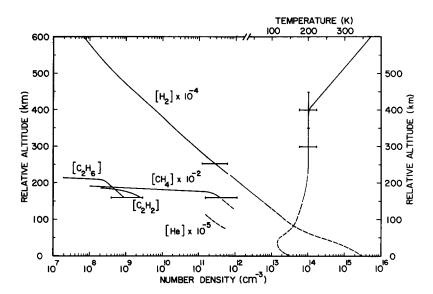


Fig. 8. H_2 , CH_4 , C_2H_6 and C_2H_2 density profiles deduced from the α Leo stellar occultation data. The helium mixing ratio is measured to be 0.10 ± 0.03 by IRIS. The thermal structure shown in this figure is the same as in Fig. 4. Altitudes are measured from the ammonia cloud tops (P = 600mb, T = 150K) and corresponding pressures are shown on the right ordinate. Readers wishing to use this figure must consult Atreya, et al. (1980), and Festou, et al. (1980).

methane and ammonia would contribute to the atomic hydrogen abundance source. The above sources of atomic hydrogen are sufficient to explain the $0.4 \mathrm{kR}$ of Ly α measured by the Pioneer 10 photometer, if resonance scattering of the solar Ly α photons is responsible for the excitation. The Voyager UVS observed more than thirty times as much Jovian Ly α . This increase cannot be explained by a factor of 2.5 increase in the solar Lyman alpha flux that occurred between 1973 and 1979. The excess hydrogen must be provided by means other than the photodissociation of H $_2$. Particle precipitation can provide the extra source. Thus, one cannot confidently model the production of atomic hydrogen at this time. The Ly α observations yield an average column abundance of 1 x 10^{17} cm $^{-2}$ (McConnell, et al., 1980a) for atomic hydrogen above the layer where the optical depth of methane at Ly α is one. This abundance increases to 3 x 10^{17} cm $^{-2}$ in the region of enhanced Ly α emission, indicating longitudinal asymmetry (Sandel, et al., 1980; Dessler, et al., 1980).

4. EDDY DIFFUSION COEFFICIENT

Many problems of planetary aeronomy require an understanding of the mixing processes in the stratosphere and mesosphere which can be mathematically represented by a parameter — the eddy diffusion coefficient, K_h . Information concerning K_h in the Jovian atmosphere was limited to that inferred from the measurement of the Lyx albedo of the planet, until the Voyager UVS observations of the hydrocarbon density profiles provided a more direct means of determining the

level of the homopause. By definition the value of the eddy diffusion coefficient is equal to the molecular diffusion coefficient at the homopause.

According to a hypothesis developed by Hunten (1969) and Wallace and Hunten (1973), the homopause value of the eddy diffusion coefficient can be related to the column abundance of atomic hydrogen $N_{_{\mbox{\scriptsize H}}}$ above the methane absorption level (generally the homopause) by an inverse functional relationship. On the other hand, the atomic hydrogen column abundance varies as the square of the Lylpha albedo. It is assumed that resonance scattering of the solar Lyman alpha photons is the only mechanism that excited Lya emission from Jupiter, and the exospheric temperature is low (~150K). The concept is relatively straightforward: large K_h (i.e, higher homopause level) permits smaller ${ t N}_{
m H}$ above the homopause resulting in smaller scattered Lya, and vice-versa. Based on the above hypothesis we have calculated K_h for all the Lylpha observations of Jupiter (Table 1). The highest value, $K_h \approx 10^8 \text{ cm}^2 \text{ s}^{-1}$, corresponds to a Ly α intensity of 0.4kR, while the lowest value of $K_h \approx 5 \times 10^5$, corresponds to the highest measured Ly α intensity of ~14kR. Actually, the Voyager UVS detected Lya intensities as high as 20kR at selected longitudes in the equatorial region. The median value of $K_{\overline{h}}$ between 10^6 and 10^7 is calculated for the times of medium Jovian Lylpha intensity — about 2 to 4 kR as measured by the Copernicus OAO-3 satellite.

The deduction of K_h based on the Ly α intensity in the manner described above is not appropriate if excitation by means other than solar resonance scattering occurs and if the exosphere is hot. The UVS observed a Ly α nightglow with an emission rate of lkR, presumably caused by particle excitation. This feature may well be present on the dayside also. Moreover, particle precipitation provides a source of atomic hydrogen in addition to the dissociative photoionization and photodissociation of H_2 , and photolysis of CH_4 and NH_3 . Charged particle destruction of methane can lead to a rapid decrease in the CH_4 density well below the homopause. The Wallace and Hunten calculations need to be revised also in view of the fact that the upper atmosphere is hot with a temperature nearly a factor of ten greater than assumed in the above calculations. Until they are repeated the calculations of Wallace and Hunten yield an order of magnitude estimate of the value of the eddy diffusion coefficient.

The Voyager ultraviolet stellar occultation experiment gives measurements of equatorial CH₄ and C₂H₂ densities as a function of height (Fig. 8). It is quite unlikely that particle destruction of CH₄ would take place in the equatorial regions. Atreya, et al. (1980) therefore, constructed several models of the methane photolysis with eddy diffusion coefficient and its variation with altitude as a free parameter. (These calculations took into consideration all the improvements in the CH₄ photochemistry described in Sec. 3). The best fit to the data was obtained with $K_h = 1.4^{+0.8}_{-0.7} \times 10^6 \text{ cm}^2 \text{ s}^{-1}$. The range of values in K_h is a reflection of the statistical uncertainty in the data and the precision with which the level at which the hydrocarbon densities fall off can be fixed. The above value of K_h is to be compared with that deduced from the Voyager Lyα observations, i.e., $^{-10^6}$ cm² s⁻¹.

TABLE 1

JOVIAN LYMAN ALPHA

OBSERVATION PERIOD	TECHNIQU E	SOLAR ACTIVITY	Lya INTENSITY ⁽¹ (kR)	$(cm^2 s^{-1})$	REFERENCES
9/67	Rocket	Near Max	4.0	1x10 ⁶	Moos, <u>et</u> <u>al</u> . (1969)
1/71	Rocket	Near Max	4.4 ± 2.6	9x10 ⁵	Rottman, et
9/72	Rocket	Near Min	2.1 ± 1.0	3x10 ⁶	<u>al</u> . (1973) Giles, <u>et al</u> . (1976)
12/73	Pioneer	Near Min	0.4 ± 0.12	3x10 ⁸	Carlson &
8-9/76	Copernicus	Medium	2.8	2x10 ⁶	Judge (1974) Atreya, et
5,8&9/76	Copernicus	Medium	2.8 to 4.0 2	2x10 ⁶ -1x10 ⁶	al. (1977b) Bertaux, et
3/78	Copernicus	Near Max	8.3 ± 2.9	≤10 ⁶	<u>al</u> . (1980) Cochran &
12/78	Rocket & IUE	Near Max	13	<10 ⁶	Barker (1979) Clarke, <u>et</u>
1,3&5/79	IUE	Near Max	14	≤10 ⁶	<u>al</u> . (1980a) Clarke, <u>et al</u> .
3-7/79	Voyager	Near Max	14	≤10 ⁶	(1980b) Broadfoot, et al. (1979)

¹ Copernicus intensities have been adjusted for the new geocoronal calibration factor of Bertaux, et al. (1980).

The presence of helium in the upper atmosphere of Jupiter is revealed by the detection of He 584Å emission in the dayglow spectrum (McConnell, et al., 1980b). If this spectral feature is produced in resonance scattering of solar 584Å radiation its apparent emission rate depends on the flux at the center of the solar 584Åline (total flux and line width), the mixing ratio of He below the homopause or the He to H_2 ratio, the value of the eddy diffusion coefficient at the homopause, $K_{\rm h}$, and the effective temperature in the scattering region. As in the case of hydrogen, the smaller the values of K_h the larger is the column He to H_2 ratio. The higher the temperature in the region of effective scattering, the greater is the line width and the more effective a given amount of helium is in scattering. Hence, smaller helium column densities and larger values of $K_{\mathbf{h}}$ are needed to produce a given airglow brightness. The 584Å dayglow observed by Voyagers 1 and 2 were 5.5 $R\pm30\%$ and 3.9 $R\pm20\%$, respectively. Assuming a He to H, ratio of 0.10 ±0.3 V/V as determined by the IRIS experiment, implies a value of ${
m K}_{
m h}$ of about $8{
m x}10^5$ cm 2 s $^{-1}$ if the temperature in the scattering region is 150K, and a value of K_h of about $2x10^7$ cm^2 s⁻¹ if the temperature is 1000K. The former combination is consistent with the assumption that all of the dayglow Ly α is produced by resonance scattering — N_u of about 10^{17} cm⁻² (McConnell, <u>et al.</u>, 1980a). In fact, the temperature at which most of the resonance scattering by He occurs is neither 150K nor 1000K. With the altitude of this region lying at around 400km the temperature according to Fig. 4 will probably be on the order of 200K. Hence, the value of $K_{\rm h}$ that would appear to follow from the He airglow analysis is closer to $10^6~{
m cm}^2~{
m s}^{-1}$, which is consistent with that deduced from the stellar occultation observations. Of course, it should be noted that the airglow value is averaged over the daytime

 $^{^2}$ Eddy diffusion coefficient at the central value of Lyα intensity using Wallace and Hunten (1973) calculations. See text for discussion of $\rm K_h^{} \cdot$

hemisphere, while the occultation value refers to the tropics. The Pioneer 10 observation of 5.1R of 584Å airglow in 1973 (when the effective solar radiation was only about one-fourth as strong as in 1979), would imply values of K_h in the range 3 x 10 7 - 10 9 cm 2 s $^{-1}$, consistent with the conclusions forced by the low Ly α dayglow values also reported.

5. IONOS PHERE

Radio occultation experiments have provided several measurements of the Jovian ionosphere as listed in Table 2.

TABLE 2
PIONEER AND VOYAGER IONOSPHERIC MEASUREMENTS

SPACECRAFT AND OBSER- VATION DATE	OBSERVATION GEOMETRY	[Ne]max (cm ⁻³)	Z [Ne]max (km)	T p (K)	REMARKS
Pioneer 10; 12·4·73	26°N; ξ=81°	1-2x10 ⁵	1250	600	Entry, evening terminator
Pioneer 10; 12.4.73	58°N; ξ=95°	2-3x10 ⁵	1000	1250	Exit, morning ter-
Pioneer 11; 12·3·74	79°8; ξ=93°	2x10 ⁵	1100	850	Entry, morning ter-
Pioneer 11; 12.3.74	20°N; evening	~2x10 ⁵	1100	?	Exit; low quality data
Voyager 1; 3.5.79	12°S, 63° Ψ ξ=82°	2x10 ⁵	1750	1300	Entry, afternoon
Voyager 1; 3.5.79	1°N, 314°W; E=98°	1.5x10 ⁴	2450	1300	Exit, pre-dawn
Voyager 2; 7·10·79 Voyager 2; 7·10·79	66.7°S; ξ=87.9°	? 2x10 ⁵	? 2150	1600 1200	Entry, evening Exit, morning

 $Z_{\text{[Ne]max}}$ is the altitude of the electron density maximum, [Ne]max, above the ammonia cloud tops; T_p =topside plasma temperature; ξ is solar zenith angle.

Figures 9, 10, 11 and 12 show ionospheric profiles measured on Pioneer 10 and 11 and Voyager 1 and 2. One notes in the Pioneer data considerable diurnal, temporal, latitudinal and longitudinal variations in the peak electron density, plasma scale height, extent of the ionosphere and number of ionospheric layers. In general, however, the Pioneer data indicate a peak electron density of $(1-2) \times 10^5$ cm⁻³ at an altitude of 1000km and six to seven ionization layers above and below the peak; the plasma scale height corresponds to a temperature ~850K in the topside ionosphere (Fjeldbo, et al., 1975, 1976). There is no clear indication of a diurnal variation in the peak electron density. The Voyager 1 equatorial data, on the other hand, show a factor of 10 decrease in the peak electron density from day to night; the topside scale height corresponds to a temperature on the order of 1200-1300K (Eshleman, et al., 1979a). The high latitude ionosphere measured on Voyager 2 is not at all typical. The Voyager 2 entry data correspond to the region where the Io-plasma torus is magnetically mapped on to Jupiter, and consequently, a large amount of energy is precipitated in this region, leading to a relatively hot plasma — as is indicated by the large scale height.

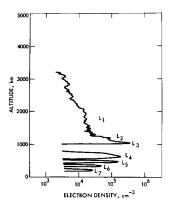


Fig. 9. Pioneer 10 radio occultation measurement of the electron density profile for early morning conditions: solar zenith angle 95°, latitude 58°N; topside plasma scale height ~800km (Fjeldbo, et al., 1975). The zero of the scale is at atmospheric density level of 3×10^{18} molecules cm⁻³, which is about 50km above the ammonia cloud tops.

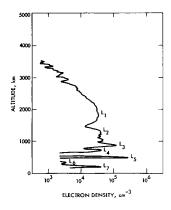


Fig. 10. Pioneer 10 radio occultation measurement of the electron density profile for late afternoon conditions: solar zenith angle 81°, latitude 26°N; topside plasma scale height ~375km (Fjeldbo, et al., (1975). Height scale is the same as in Fig. 9.

The sources of ionization on Jupiter can be classified into two categories — the solar euv, and the particle precipitation. Early ionospheric models were calculated by McElroy (1973). Numerous chemical reactions in addition to those listed by McElroy were recognized to be important by Atreya, et al. (1974), and Atreya and Donahue (1976). The ionospheric chemical scheme shown in Fig. 13 is a composite of the table of reactions from Atreya and Donahue (1976) and a potentially important reaction involving charge exchange of H^+ with vibrationally excited H_2 . The primary source of ionization is solar euv which is absorbed continuously by H_2 below 912Å, by H below 911Å and by He below 504Å. Subsequent to ionization, ion-atom/molecular interchange results in numerous intermediate and terminal ions as shown in Fig. 13. The major ion in the topside ionosphere, i.e., above the electron density maximum turns out to be H^+ . Below the maximum, H_3^+ and hydrocarbon ions CH_5^+ and $C_2^-H_5^+$ dominate. The terminal ions throughout the ionosphere are shown by shaded circles in Fig. 13; these ions are removed by electron recom-

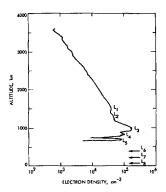


Fig. 11. Pioneer 11 radio occultation measurement of the electron density profile for early morning conditions: solar zenith angle 93°, latitude 79°S; topside plasma scale height $\sim 540\pm60 \text{km}$ (Fjeldbo, et al., 1976). The altitude reference is at an atmospheric density level of 2×10^{17} molecules cm⁻³, which is about 100km above the ammonia cloud tops.

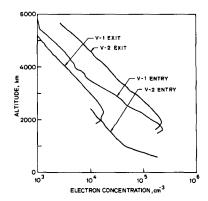


Fig. 12. Voyagerl and 2 RSS data on the electron density profiles (Eshleman, et al., 1979a, b; and the RSS group). Voyager 1 entry occultation occurred in late afternoon at 12°S, 63°W; solar zenith angle 82°. The Voyager 1 exit occultation took place in pre-dawn at 1°N, 314°W; solar zenith angle 98°. The Voyager 2 entry occultation geometry is 66.7°S, solar zenith angle 87.9°, evening conditions; exit at 50.1°S, solar zenith angle 92.4°, morning conditions. The Voyager 2 entry data represent dayside conditions in the invariant latitude range where the Io-plasma torus magnetically mapped on Jupiter. The height reference is at 1mb level, approximately 160km above the ammonia cloud tops.

bination. The fate of the less important lower altitude hydrocarbon ions is not known precisely; they could get converted to heavier hydrocarbon ions such as ${^{C}_{3}H_{8}}^{+}$ or ${^{C}_{4}H_{9}}^{+}$. No reliable data on the rates for reactions involving such ions are available.

Based on the chemical scheme just described, and using a model of the atmosphere which assumed an eddy diffusion coefficient at the homopause of ~3 x 10^7 cm 2 s $^{-1}$, Atreya and Donahue (1976) calculated an ionospheric profile to theoretically explain the Pioneer 10 dayside ionosphere in the equatorial region (26°N, ξ =81°; Fig. 10) radio occultation measurements. Figure 14 shows that the attempt was quite successful in explaining the main ionospheric feature when transport of the ions was taken into consideration. The location of the layer L₇ appears to

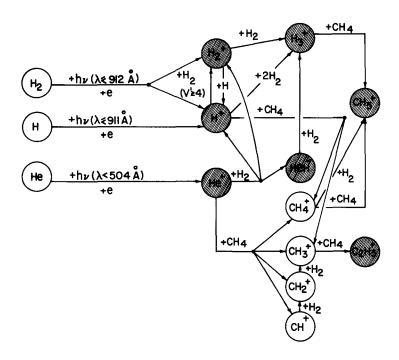


Fig. 13. Significant chemical reactions in the Jovian ionosphere.

coincide with a maximum in the CH3 ton production rate - which shows up as a shoulder at about 200km in the calculation (Fig. 10). The current measurements of the hydrocarbon profiles (Voyager data, Festou, et al., 1980), however, would tend to make this shoulder disappear. In their pre-Pioneer model, Atreya, et al. (1974) suggested the possibility that Na atoms then known to exist near Io (Brown, 1974) could be ionized (by electron impact or photons) and removed along the magnetic field lines to the Jovian ionosphere. There they could result in sporadic E type layering. Long lived metallic ions concentrated by wind shear electric fields are known to form layers in the terrestrial ionosphere. The source of the metallic ions could be meteoritic in origin as well. The Voyager observations have shown the presence of ions of sulfur and oxygen in the Ioplasma torus. No observations exist to confirm the migration of the heavy ions to the Jovian ionosphere, but the likelihood is great. It is important to recognize that no measurements of the 'height profiles' of temperature or important gases, (such as CH_4 , C_2H_2 , C_2H_6 and H_2) in the mesosphere and thermosphere were made until Voyager observations. The ionospheric calculations for the Pioneer 10 epoch are, therefore, necessarily based on theoretical models of the above parameters - as best as they could be modeled at that time. Although Voyager data would modify these models, there seems to be no systematic way of scaling the data from the Voyager to the Pioneer epoch.

When the measured profiles of the atmospheric gases, and the temperature (Fig. 8) (Festou, et al., 1980), and the chemical scheme shown in Fig. 13 are used to model the ionosphere at the time of the Voyager 1 encounter, it is found that the results are less satisfactory (Fig. 15) than indicated in Fig. 14. The measured peak electron density is apparently lower than the calculated one, and the altitude of

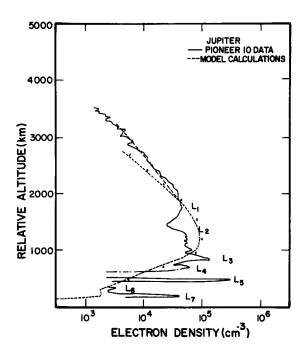


Fig. 14. Comparison of electron density profile measured by the Pioneer 10 radio occultation experiment (Fig. 10) and model calculations assuming a 1000K exospheric temperature. The short-dashed curve assumes a T $^{-0.5}$ variation for radiative recombination rate, α_r of H⁺ and He⁺. Joining of X's will yield the profile when $\alpha_r \propto T_e^{-0.75}$. The long-dashed curve shows the distribution under the assumptions of diffusive equilibrium, and $\alpha_r \propto T_e^{-0.5}$. The main ion is H⁺, except that the secondary peak at the location of layer L7 is where production of CH₃⁺ peaks. The height scale is same as in Fig. 10. Atreya and Donahue (1976).

the measured peak higher. There are several ways to explain this. One possibility is that the observed peak is not the ionization maxmimum but merely a high layer. Indeed, this is the case with the Pioneer data — layers overlie a smoother profile and it is difficult to say where the maximum in the electron density would be if there were no layers.

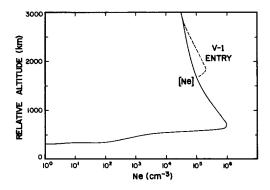


Fig. 15. Electron density calculated using photochemical scheme shown in Fig. 13 and for the geometry of observation corresponding to the Voyager 1 entry occultation (Fig. 12). The distribution of gases and temperature in the atmosphere is taken from Fig. 8.

If the maximum is as high as indicated by the data it would be necessary to invoke a mechanism to raise the altitude of the peak. Small vertical drifts on the order of 1 to 2 ms^{-1} are adequate, and can be supplied by a slow meridional wind system. It is obvious that further consideration is needed before a satisfactory fit to the data can be obtained. It should be noted that ionization by charged particles cannot play an important role in the equatorial region for which the Voyager 1 ionospheric measurements have been carried out. Layers do appear to exist in the Voyager epoch ionosphere, and their location and magnitude are currently being investigated (V. Eshleman, personal communication, 1980).

The diurnal variation in the peak electron density appears to be due to the conversion of the major ion, H^+ to the molecular ion H_2^+ , and subsequently, to H_3^+ which has a much faster rate of electron recombination than H. The sequence of the reactions is as follows:

$$H^{+} + H_{2} (v^{+} \ge 4) \rightarrow H_{2}^{+} + H$$
 (1)
 $H_{2}^{+} + H_{2} \rightarrow H_{3}^{+} + H$ (2)
 $H_{3}^{+} + e \rightarrow H_{2} + H$ (3)

$$H_2^+ + H_2 \rightarrow H_3^- + H$$
 (2)

$$H_2^+ + e \rightarrow H_2 + H$$
 (3)

Atreya, et al. (1979b) found that the population of the vibrationally excited H_2 may be large enough for the above sequence of reactions to be of importance when the exospheric temperature is greater than 1200K. Thus, at the time of the Pioneer observations when the exospheric temperature was ~850K, no diurnal variation in the electron density was expected or found because the lifetime of H in the cold ionosphere was much longer than one Jovian night. At the time of the Voyager equatorial observations, the exospheric temperature was high -- on the order of 1450K as has been noted, so that a sufficiently large population of H_2 existed in high vibration levels to cause the mechanism of Atreya, et al. (1979b) to be effective. To explain a factor of 10 decrease in the electron density from day to night, an overall rate of 4×10^{-16} cm³ s⁻¹ for reaction (1) would be required. Gas kinetic considerations do not rule out such a value for this rate constant; however, laboratory measurements for it do not yet exist.

The high latitude nightside ionosphere looks much like the equatorial dayside ionosphere. One reason could be that the topside plasma temperature is lower (about 1200K) than in the equatorial observations, resulting in a lower population of the vibrationally excited ${
m H_2}$ molecules. Thus, ${
m H}^{+}$ may not be converted to heavier ions. As stated earlier the Voyager 2 dayside ionosphere is in the region where the Io-plasma torus was magnetically mapped on Jupiter, and perhaps represents anomalous conditions. In all high latitude calculations, one should also keep in mind that particle precipitation may substantially alter the characteristics of the electron density profile.

6. SUMMARY

Explanation of the high exospheric temperature of the Jovian atmosphere and its increase between 1973 and 1980 poses a serious aeronomical problem. A source that deposits 0.5 ergs cm $^{-2}$ s $^{-1}$ at high altitude is required and none that is really satisfactory is so far suggested. The apparent large decrease in eddy coefficient at the homopause indicated by He 584, H Lyw airglow observations and ionospheric

modelling also needs explanation. On the other hand, our understanding of ionospheric processes seems to be adequate. This state of affairs depends, however, on verification of a proposal that conversion of H^+ to H_2^{+} by charge transfer of H with vibrationally excited H, has a large rate constant.

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