

**DUSK/DAWN ATMOSPHERIC ASYMMETRIES ON TIDALLY-LOCKED SATELLITES II: THERMAL TIDES AND OUTGASSING AT THE GALILEAN SATELLITES** Apurva V. Oza<sup>1,2</sup>, Francois Leblanc<sup>3</sup>, and Robert E. Johnson<sup>4,5</sup>, <sup>1</sup>Jet Propulsion Laboratory, California Institute of Technology, Pasadena, USA, <sup>2</sup>Physikalisches Institut, Universität Bern, Bern, Switzerland, ([apurva.v.oza@jpl.caltech.edu](mailto:apurva.v.oza@jpl.caltech.edu)), <sup>3</sup> LATMOS/CNRS, Sorbonne Université, UVSQ, Paris, France, <sup>4</sup>University of Virginia, Charlottesville, Virginia, <sup>5</sup>New York University, New York, USA

**Satellite Tides Background** Thermal tides on a tidally-locked satellite have been studied as gas flows on a rotating surface since the '60s [1]. The authors derived two relations  $nT^{5/2}$  and  $nT = \text{constant}$ , by allowing non-uniform gas concentrations (number density ( $n$ )-gradients) to drive lateral flows at a given temperature,  $T$ . In effect, when tenuous gas in an exosphere is coupled to a rotating surface, the semidiurnal thermal tide ( $\propto$  rotation rate  $\Omega$ , and temperature gradient  $dT/d\phi$ ) pulls the gas away from the expected thermal flux maxima  $\mathcal{F}$  at noon (see Figure 1 sketch, motivated by tidal density perturbations at close-in exoplanets [2]). The expressions studied for lateral transport in planetary exospheres are unable to reproduce the *location*  $\phi$  and *timing*  $t$ , of the peak  $O_2$  gas column densities  $N$ , simulated on the tidally-locked satellites Europa (JII) [3] and Ganymede (JIII) [4], observed so far only in oxygen emission at JII [5].

**Atmospheric Evolution and Escape Model** Here, we build on the rotating 1-D mass conservation model (nommé *dishoom* (desorbing interiors via satellite heating to observe outgassing model)) in Paper I (Oza, Johnson, and Leblanc [6]) where we showed that the density peaks consistently at dusk only if a thermal source is used to source the oxygen aurorae observed by the Hubble Space Telescope (HST). Since orbital longitude  $\phi$  probes the axis of time (and the associated surface heating  $dT/d\phi$ ) our analytic model is fundamentally tidal in nature. Thermal tides can therefore be useful in describing the exospheric accumulation of  $O_2/H_2O$  and volatiles generally given our recent understanding on the thermal nature of the  $O_2$  population (binding energy,  $U_s = 0.14$  eV (Johnson et al. [7])). Furthermore, recent HST evidence suggests that at the sunlit trailing hemispheres of JII and JIII (Roth et al. [8])  $H_2O$  may generate a locally-collisional atmosphere, whose density remains to be accurately constrained by future ground, space, or in-situ spacecraft. Although, it is generally agreed these  $O_2/H_2O$  atmospheres are more tenuous than  $SO_2$  ( $\ll 10^{17} \text{ cm}^{-2}$ ) at Io (JI) the simulated near-surface atmospheres at JII & JIII indicate that JI, JII and JIII are all indeed asymmetric towards dusk ((Oza et al. [3]; Leblanc et al. [4]; Walker et al. [9]; Lellouch et al. [10]).

**Implications** Studying atmospheric evolution on surface-bounded atmospheres is valuable in that properties of the icy surface Johnson et al. [7], and its interior

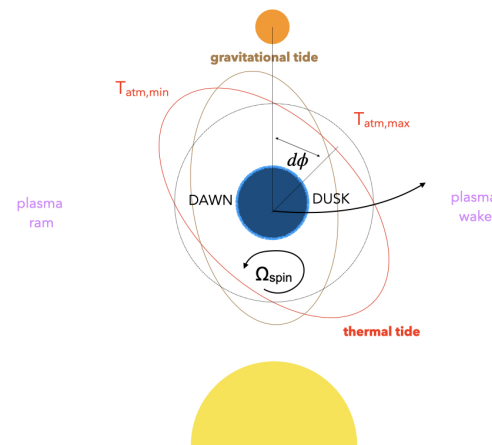


Figure 1: Birds-eye view illustrating the two tidal components acting on a tidally-locked satellite atmosphere/exosphere. Adapted from Arras and Socrates [2].

Hesse et al. [11] can be revealed. These constraints may also be able to inform the formation of primordial icy bodies (e.g comets) in the protosolar nebula (Oza and Johnson [12]).

**Thermal Outgassing of  $O_2/H_2O$  at Europa, Ganymede, and Callisto** Unlike JI, where the freezing point of  $SO_2$  frost (201 K) poses no challenge to our understanding of the Ionian surface-atmosphere boundary layer, the trapped  $O_2$  observed at JII, JIII, and JIV continues to be puzzling (Spencer, Calvin, and Person [13]; Spencer & Calvin 2002) as the trapped  $O_2$  in amorphous or crystalline ice grains must thermally outgas since  $P_{vap,O_2} \gg P_{JII-JIV}$ . Figure 2 provides a model considering the diurnal tide acting on the surface ice, from a range of regolith temperatures representative of the Galilean satellite surfaces. If the diurnal tide is able to sufficiently anneal and release trapped volatiles from inclusions/bubbles Johnson and Jesser [14], this model is a reasonable feedback mechanism for the icy Galilean satellite atmospheres, providing a direct parallel to volcanic  $SO_2$  frost on JI. This continues the idea that  $O_2$  is indeed accessible to the atmosphere as a surface frost in quasi-vapor pressure equilibrium (Paper I).

**Summary** If a resonance exists between the atmospheric lifetime and rotation rate a dusk-over-dawn at-

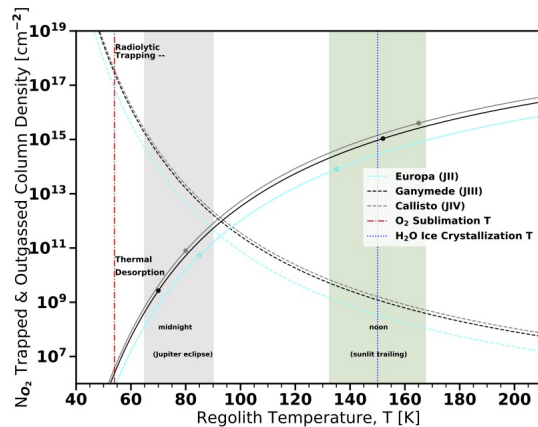


Figure 2: Surface-Atmosphere Exchange system modeled by dishoom where the trapped column is estimated following Johnson & Jessor 1997 and Johnson et al. 2019. The sublimation and ice crystallization temperatures are illustrated for O<sub>2</sub> sublimation (54.36 K) and H<sub>2</sub>O ice crystallization ( $\approx$  150 K) [15]. Thermal outgassing/sublimation of water is observed in the lab to be significant  $\gg$  150 K [16]. The outgassed column densities are normalized to rough constraints by HST oxygen aurorae observations (Hall et al. 1998).

ospheric asymmetry appears on tidally-locked satellites as shown for ultraviolet HST observations in Paper I [6]. Evidence of thermal outgassing of trapped volatiles may be present in spectra of the newly launched JWST, equipped with the mid-infrared detector MIRI [17]. Future observations may reveal thermal tide signatures, in the form of phase-curve variability as also studied for close-in, asynchronous exoplanets [2])

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