

THE IO VOLCANO OBSERVER (IVO) FOR DISCOVERY 2015. A. S. McEwen¹, E. P. Turtle², and the IVO team*, ¹LPL, University of Arizona, Tucson, AZ USA. ²JHU/APL, Laurel, MD USA.

Introduction: IVO was first proposed as a NASA Discovery mission in 2010, powered by the Advanced Sterling Radioisotope Generators (ASRGs) to provide a compact spacecraft that points and settles quickly [1]. The 2015 IVO uses advanced lightweight solar arrays and a 1-dimensional pivot to achieve similar observing flexibility during a set of fast (~18 km/s) flybys of Io. The John Hopkins University Applied Physics Lab (APL) leads mission implementation, with heritage from MESSENGER, New Horizons, and the Van Allen Probes.

Io, one of four large Galilean moons of Jupiter, is the most geologically active body in the Solar System. The enormous volcanic eruptions, active tectonics, and high heat flow are like those of ancient terrestrial planets and present-day extrasolar planets. IVO uses advanced solar array technology capable of providing ample power even at Jovian distances of 5.5 AU. The hazards of Jupiter’s intense radiation environment are mitigated by a comprehensive approach (mission design, parts selection, shielding). IVO will generate spectacular visual data products for public outreach.

Science Objectives: All science objectives from the Io Observer New Frontiers concept recommended in the 2011 Decadal Survey are addressed by IVO (see Table 1).

Table 1: IVO Science Objectives

Understand:	Key Measurements
A1. Io’s active volcanism	High-resolution repeat imaging at UV to thermal-IR wavelengths.
A2. State of Io’s interior & implications for tidal heating	Measure peak lava temperature for mantle temperature and electromagnetic induction signal from mantle melt. Map/monitor global heat flow. Measure tidal $Re(k_2)$.
B1. Nature of Io’s lithosphere & unique tectonics	Image and measure topography of key tectonic structures.
B2. Connections between Io’s volcanism & its surface & atmosphere	Measure mass spectra and temporal and spatial variability of neutral species, and map spectral variations of surface.
B3. Io’s mass loss & magnetospheric interactions	Acquire in situ and remote observations. NAC bandpasses for OI, KI, and Na-D.
B4. Limits to active volcanism on Europa	Distant repeat imaging to search for plumes or surface changes.
C1. Jupiter system science	Observe Jupiter, rings, moons, and magnetosphere.

Science Experiments: There are 5 or 6 instruments plus gravity science (see Table 2). Science measurements combine to address fundamental questions such as the internal structure and tidal heating of Io (Figure 1).

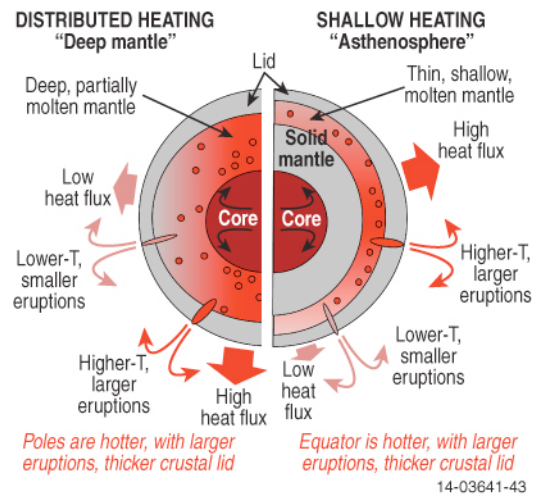


Figure 1. IVO will distinguish between two basic tidal heating models, which predict different latitudinal variations in heat flux and volcanic activity. Colors indicate heating rate and temperature. Higher eruption rates lead to more advective cooling and thicker solid lids [2].

Table 2: IVO Science Experiments

Experiment	Characteristics
Narrow-Angle Camera (NAC)	5 μrad/pixel, 2k × 2k CMOS detector, color imaging (filter wheel + color stripes over detector) in 12 bands from 300 to 1100 nm, framing images for movies of dynamic processes and geodesy.
Wide-Angle Camera (WAC)	25° FOV for stereo; identical electronics and detector to NAC, stripe filters but no filter wheel.
Thermal Mapper (TMAP)	640 × 480 detector array and eight spectral bandpass stripes (5-40 μm), 125 μrad/pixel, for thermal mapping and silicate compositions.
Dual Fluxgate Magnetometers (DMAG)	Mounted on end and middle of 3.8-m boom, low-noise sensors, range/sensitivity: 4000/0.01 nT (fine), 65,000/0.02 nT (coarse), sampling rate 8 or 60 vectors/s.
Particle Environment Package for Io (PEPI)	Ion and Neutral Mass Spectrometer (INMS) mass range 1–1000 amu/q, with $M/\Delta M = 1100$. Plasma Ion Analyzer (PIA) mass range 1–70 amu, 0.1 to 15 keV, $\Delta E/E = 0.07$.
Gravity Science	2-way Doppler tracking on I0 and I2, near Io orbital periapse and apoapse, to constrain mantle rigidity.
Hotspot Mapper (HOTMAP)	Optional Student Collaboration instrument, 25° FOV, bandpass from 1.5-2.5 microns.

Instrument Mounting and Operations: The NAC and TMAP are on a ± 90° pivot for off-nadir targeting during encounters and for distant monitoring. The DMAG sensors are on the end and middle of 3.8-m boom and collect data continuously. WAC and HOTMAP are mounted on the S/C nadir deck, and observe during ±20 minutes of each Io closest approach, except I0 and I2. PEPI is mounted on the S/C structure with the INMS field of view in the ram direction when the S/C nadir deck points at Io, and the PIA

and has a large (hemispheric) field of view that will often include the upstream direction. Gravity science requires pointing the high-gain antenna at Earth during the I0 and I2 encounters.

Mission Plan: *IVO* launches in 2021 and arrives at Jupiter in early 2026. A close Io flyby (I0) ~1.5 hrs. after Jupiter orbit insertion lowers the orbit period, followed by 8 additional encounters achieving the suite of science objectives. The highly elliptical orbit with perijove near Io is inclined $>40^\circ$ to Jupiter's orbital plane (Figure 2), which minimizes total ionizing radiation dose compared to other Jupiter orbiters (Figure 3). The apoapse period of each orbit provides extended monitoring of Io and Europa at high phase angles ($>120^\circ$), best to detect and monitor volcanic plumes as well as high-temperature hot spots on Io. Four of the encounters are designed for optimal measurement of induced magnetic signature from mantle melt. *IVO* will collect at least 20 Gb of science data per encounter: 100 times the Io data from the 8-year *Galileo* tour. Encounters last ~1 week, including global monitoring and four Io eclipses, with distant monitoring and data playback near apoapse. I8 includes a flythrough of Pele's plume, if it is active, for gas composition.

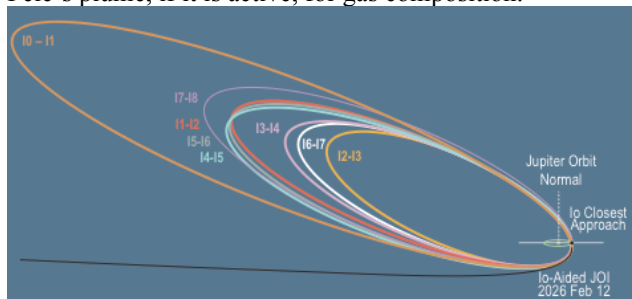


Figure 2: *IVO* nominal mission orbits in 2026-27.

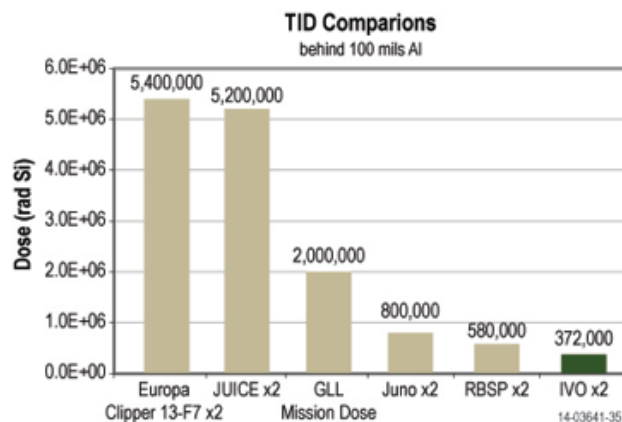


Figure 3. Normalized Total Ionizing Dose (TID) of Jupiter orbiters and Radiation Belt Storm Probes (Van Allen Probes), all with radiation design margin of 2x except *Galileo* (actual estimate).

Typical Science Data Yield from One Orbit:

- Imaging of full illuminated hemisphere at 500 m/pixel and key features at 5–300 m/pixel in >6 and 1–4 colors, respectively, plus pole-to-pole WAC stereo color mapping strip and HOTMAP frames.
- Imaging of high-temperature activity on nightside in 2+ colors at <100 m/pixel to measure liquid lava temperatures.
- Near-global TMAP coverage at 0.1–20 km/pixel to map heat flow and monitor volcanism.
- Visible and thermal movies of active plumes and lava lakes.
- Imaging four eclipses per encounter for hotspots and auroral emissions.
- Continuous DMAG and PIA measurements with high data rate near Io.
- INMS data (~200 spectra) near Io closest approach (C/A) and segments away from Io.
- Distant monitoring of Io, Europa, and Jupiter system.

Science Enhancement Options: A close flyby of a main-belt asteroid can be achieved during cruise to Jupiter, providing unique science and a “dress rehearsal” for Io flybys. The addition of ~20 Participating Scientists is proposed, along with support for Earth-based telescopic monitoring of Io. With a radiation design margin of 2, an extended mission could double the number of Io encounters (prior to workarounds for TID-related problems such as those by *Galileo* during its late extended missions). By pumping the orbit out to a longer period, it should be possible to extend the tour by 6 years, sufficient to swap sides of Io in sunlight and in darkness compared to the nominal mission, and provide extended time to monitor Jupiter. The longer period could also enable a close flyby of an outer moon, likely a captured Kuiper Belt Object [3].

References: [1] McEwen, A.S. et al. (2014) *Acta Astron.* **93**, 539. [2] Kirchoff, M. R., and W. B. McKinnon (2009) *Icarus* **201**:598. [3] Jewitt, D. et al. (2004) In: *Jupiter*. F. Bagenal et al., eds., Cambridge University Press, Cambridge, U.K., 263.

**IVO* team: F. Bagenal, S. Bailey, S. Barabash, J. Boldt, D. Breuer, A. Davies, I. de Pater, K.-H. Glassmeier, C. Hamilton, J. Helbert, R. Heyd, D. Heyner, K. Hibbard, S. Hörst, D. Humm, L. Iess, X. Jia, L. Kestay, K. Khurana, R. Kirk, R. Lorenz, J. Moses, O. Mousis, F. Nimmo, S. Osterman, C. Paranicas, C. Parker, J. Perry, E. Reynolds, A. Showman, B. Spence, J. Spencer, T. Spohn, S. Sutton, N. Thomas, M. Wieser, P. Würz.