

Hot Spots and Plumes on Europa

Paul Hayne

APS Department and LASP

Paul.Hayne@Colorado.edu

Duane D221

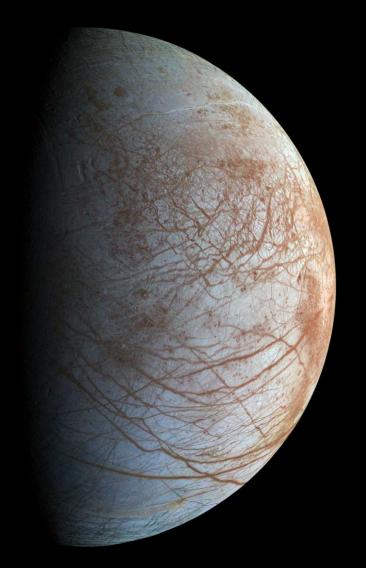


MY RESEARCH FOCUSES ON THE SURFACES AND ATMOSPHERES OF ICY PLANETS AND MOONS

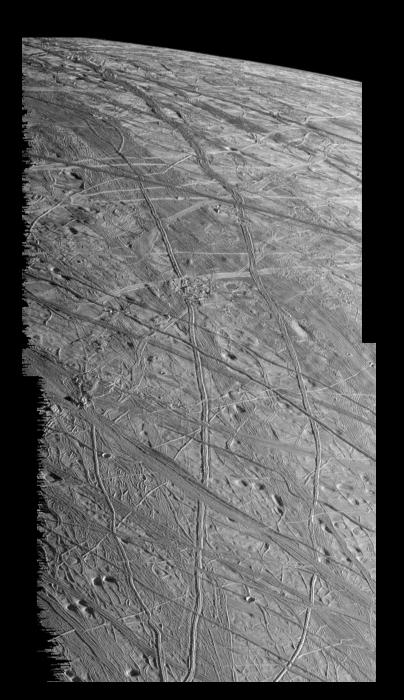


Especially thermal behavior and dynamic phenomena!

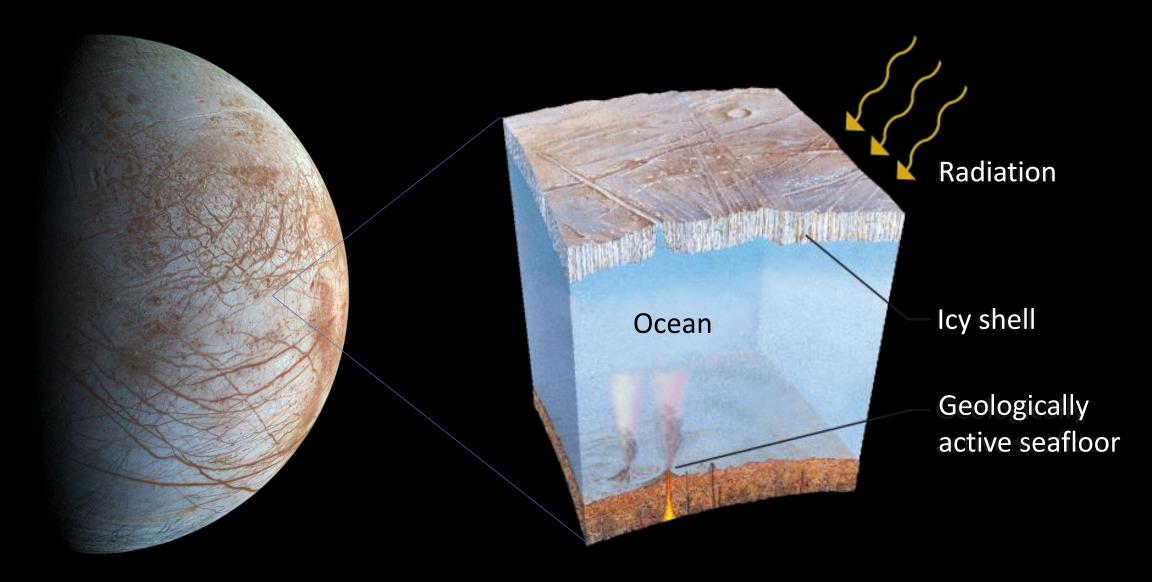
Europa: A Fractured World







Europa: An Ocean World

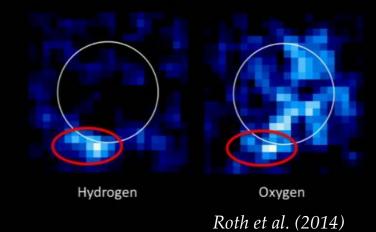


Europa: An Active World?

Hubble Observations: December 2012



- Recent HST observations suggest presence of plumes
- If real, Europa is active today!
- Greater plume intensity than Enceladus



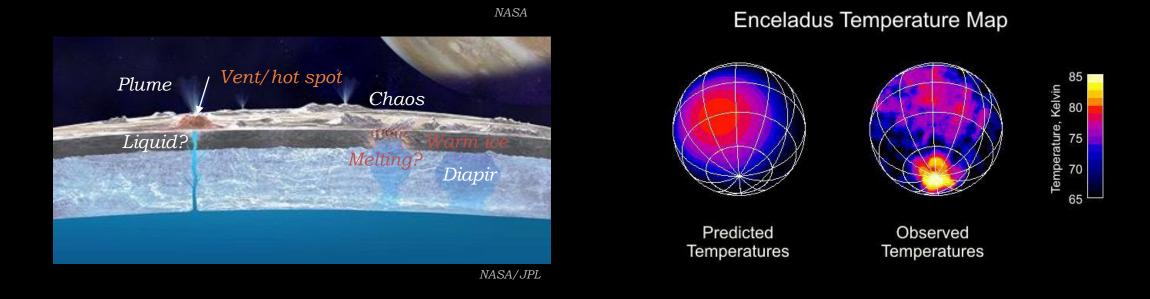
Europa plume
Europa hotspot

Plume

2016

Sparks et al. (2017)

Motivation



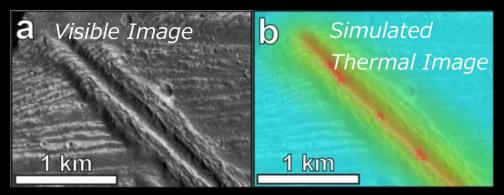
• Temperature is a fundamental indicator of internal activity on ocean worlds



E-THEMIS: Measuring Endogenic Heat



- Preparing for Europa Clipper mission launch ~2023
- E-THEMIS will detect hot spots, active regions

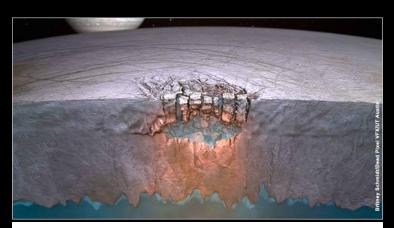


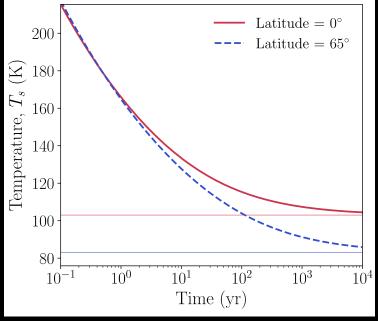


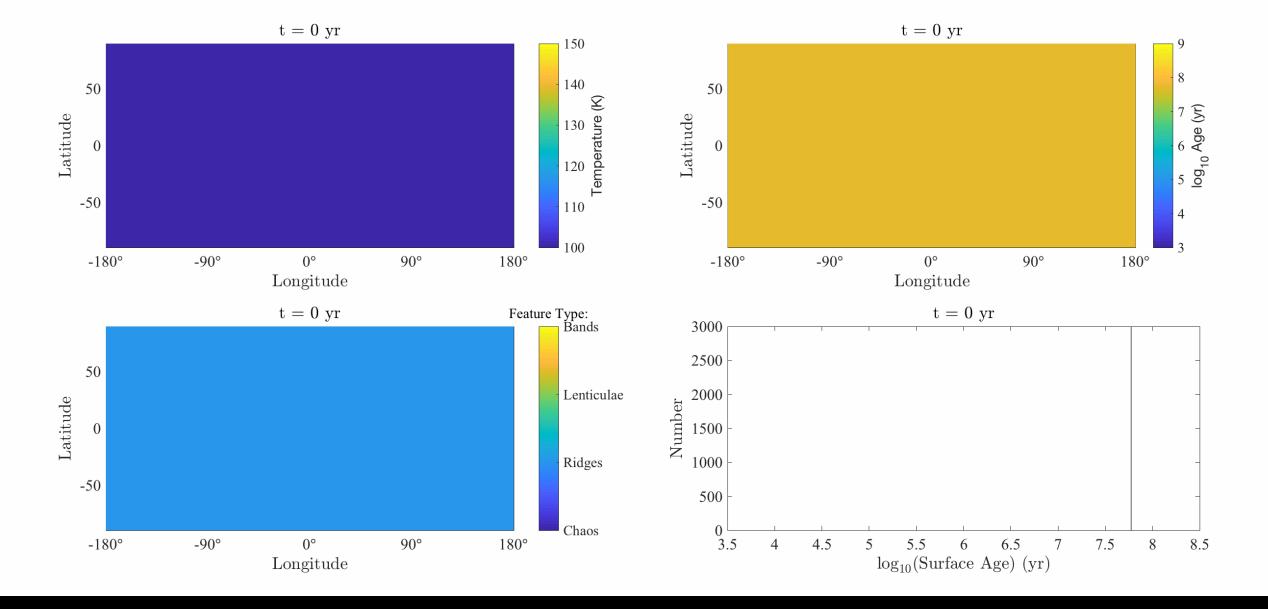
Europa Thermal Emission Imaging System (E-THEMIS)

Simulating Hot Spots

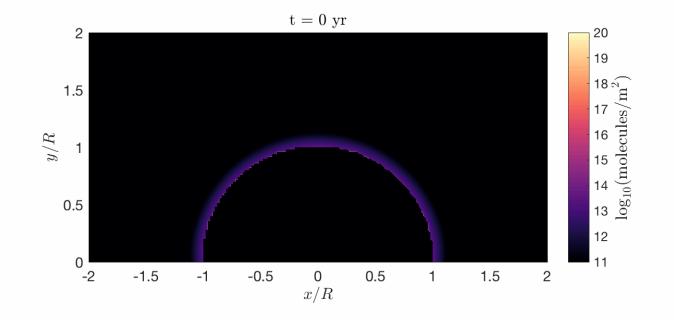
- We use a combination of numerical (computer) models and analytic (pen and paper) solutions to the heat equation
- Can track surface temperatures through time for any hot spot
- Can model plume formation and decay; compare to observations

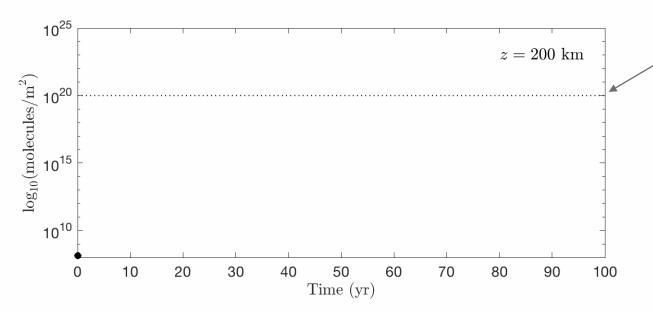






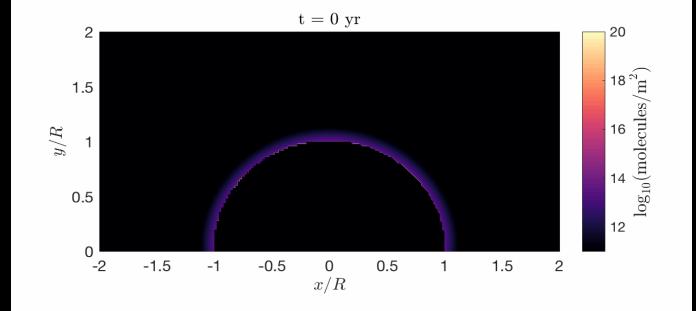
Plumes

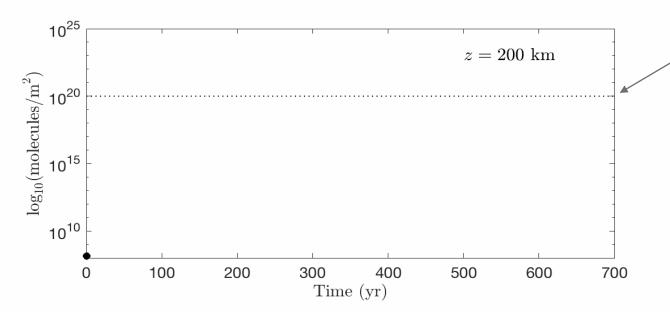




Roth et al. (2014) detection

Plumes





Roth et al. (2014) detection

Join the EPIC Group!

Considering applications for summer 2019



Required Skills:

- Strong physics and calculus background (1+ yr of each)
- Programming proficiency in at least one language (preferred: Python, C/C++, MATLAB, IDL)
- A curious mind and dedication to 'finding things out'!

