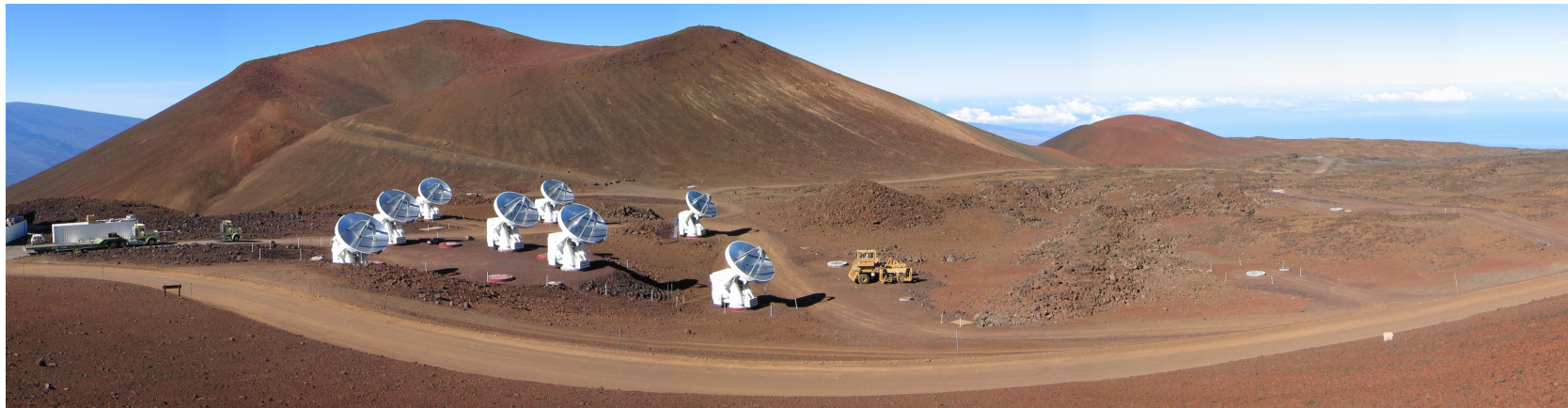


Solar system studies with the SMA

Arielle MOULLET, Mark GURWELL and the SMA team

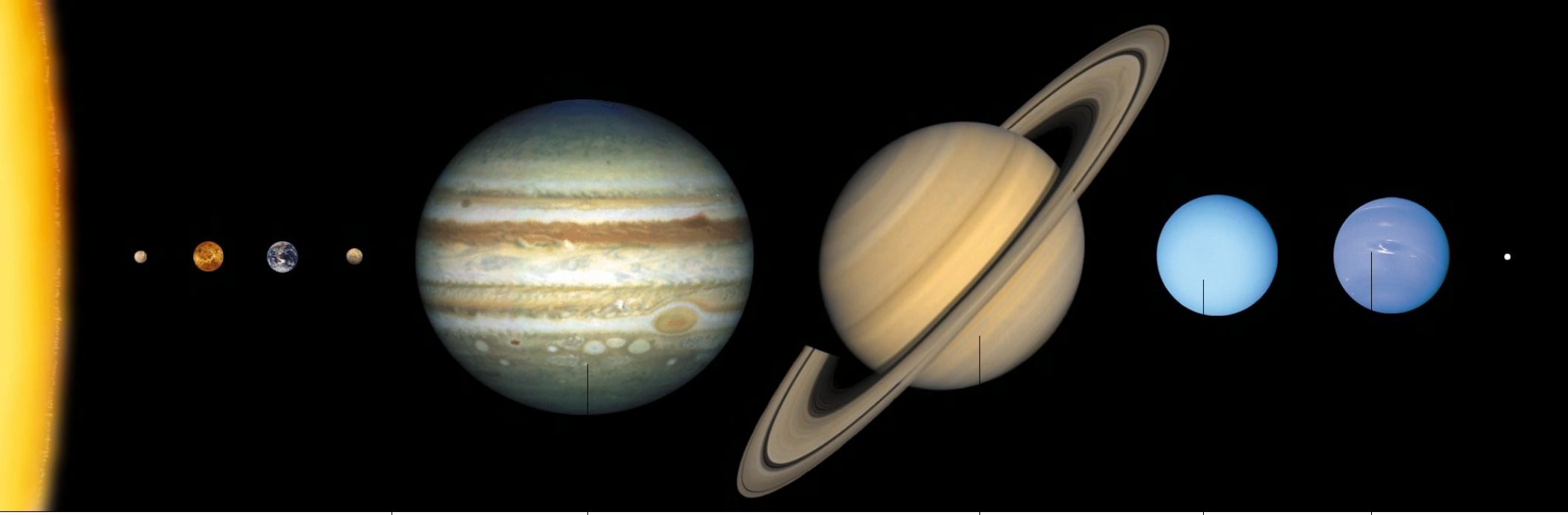


The solar system at mm wavelengths

- Thermal continuum emission from surfaces on bodies with little/no atmosphere : Mars, Mercury, asteroids and Kuiper Belt objects.
 - **albedo, emissivity, size, thermophysical properties**
- Collisionally induced pseudo-continuum emission from thick deep atmospheres (~1 bar)
- Rotational lines of molecular atmospheric species (CO, HDO, H₂O, SO₂)
 - vertical profiles of **abundance, temperature** (1-bar-1microbar)
 - **dynamics** via Doppler-shift mapping

SMA performances

- Spatial resolution down to $0.3''$, e-SMA : $0.2''$
mapping on sources as small as Titan ($0.8''$)
- Relatively large primary beam ($52''$ at 230 GHz) :
possible mapping on very large sources , e.g. Jupiter ($45''$)
- High spectral resolution correlator modes, down to 25 kHz :
line profile analysis and Dopplershift measurements
- Large instantaneous bandwidth :
good continuum sensitivity, spectroscopy on wide pressure-broadened lines



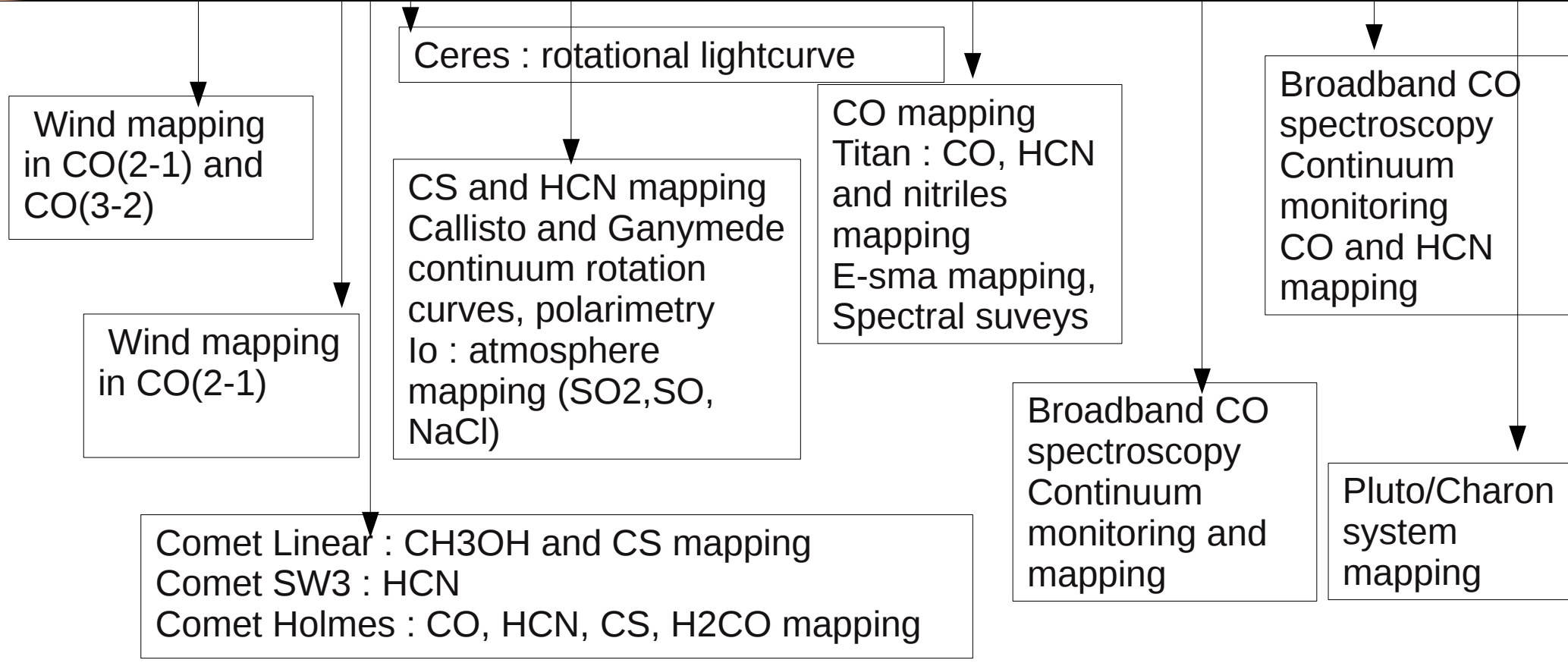
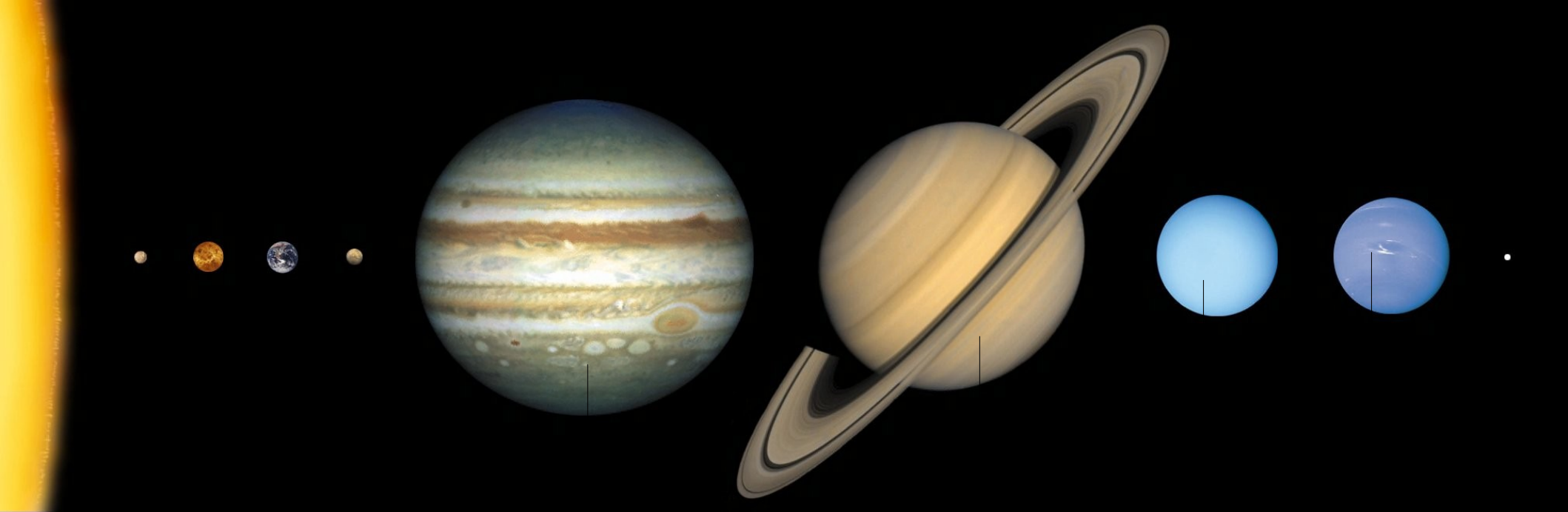
Comet Linear : CH₃OH and CS mapping

Callisto and Ganymede
continuum rotation
curves

Titan : CO, HCN
and nitriles
mapping

Broadband CO
spectroscopy
Continuum
monitoring

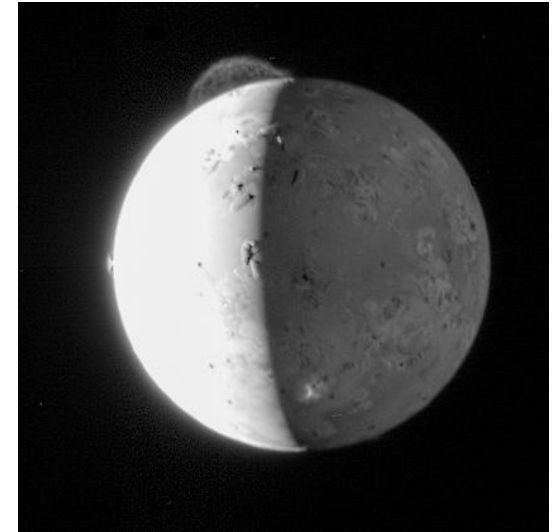
Broadband CO
spectroscopy
Continuum
monitoring



Io's atmosphere

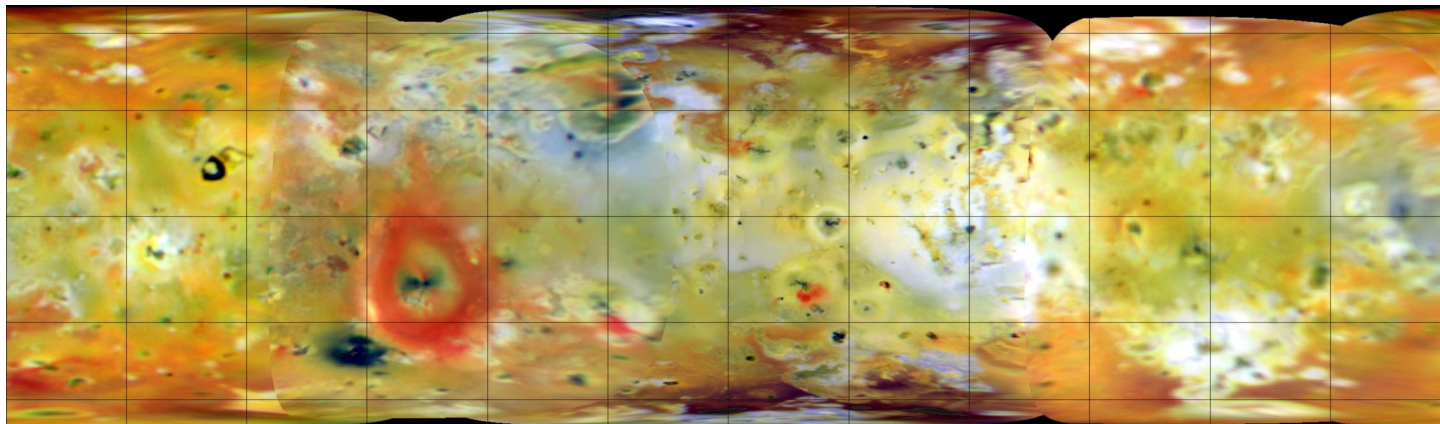
- Composition : SO_2 (90%), SO, NaCl, S_2 , ..
- Extremely tenuous ~ 1 nanobar
- Low lifetime : thermal escape + plasma torus drag + condensation
- Primary origin : volcanic outgassing

What are the sustaining sources/mechanisms ?
Where is it located ? Related to geographic features ?



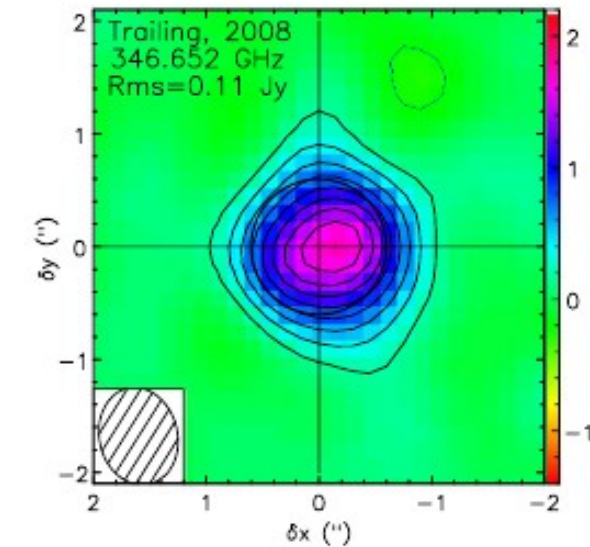
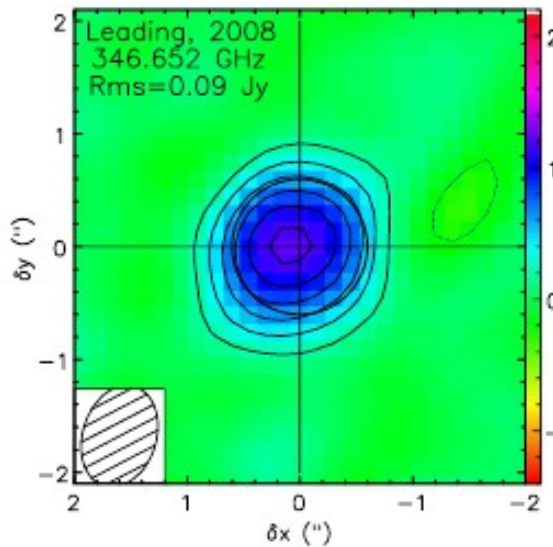
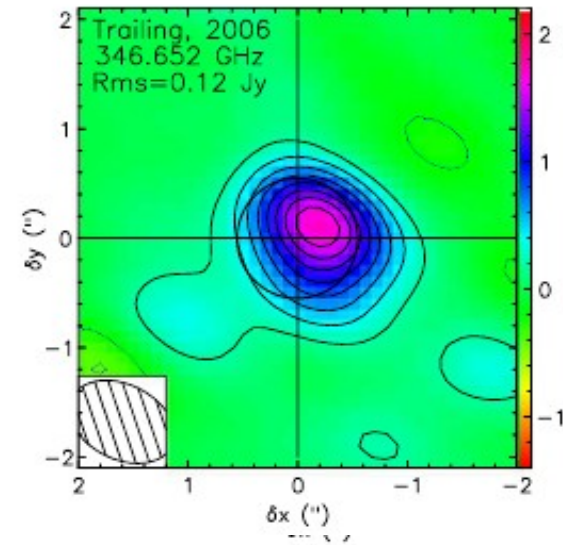
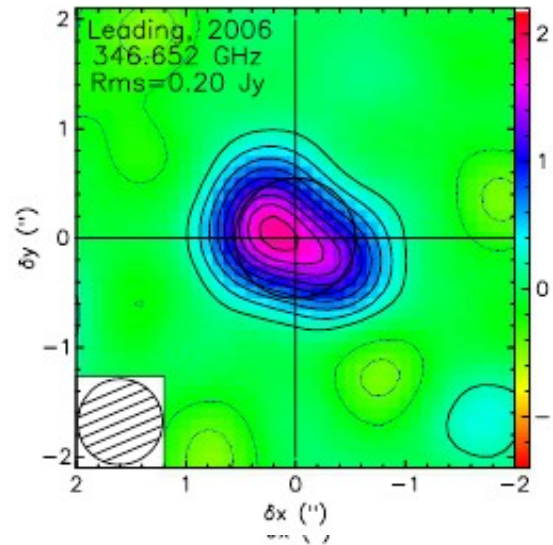
Dust plume Tvashtar spotted by New Horizons-LORRI (Credits Nasa/ JHUAPL/ SRI)

Io's surface imaged by Galileo-SSI (Nasa Photo Gallery)



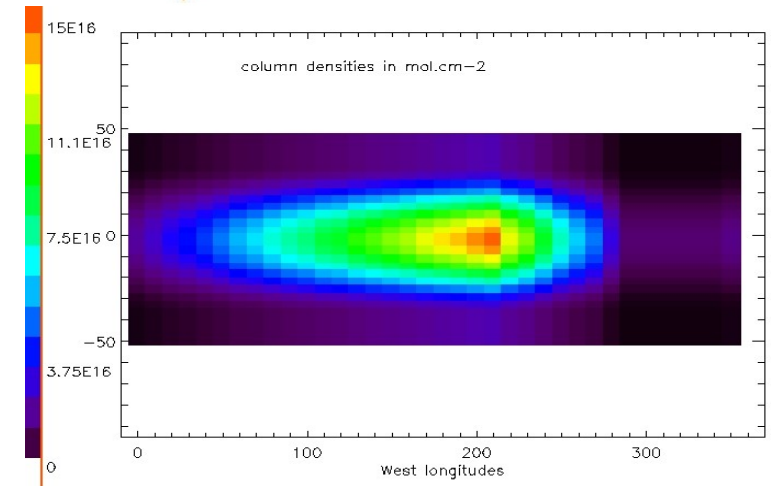
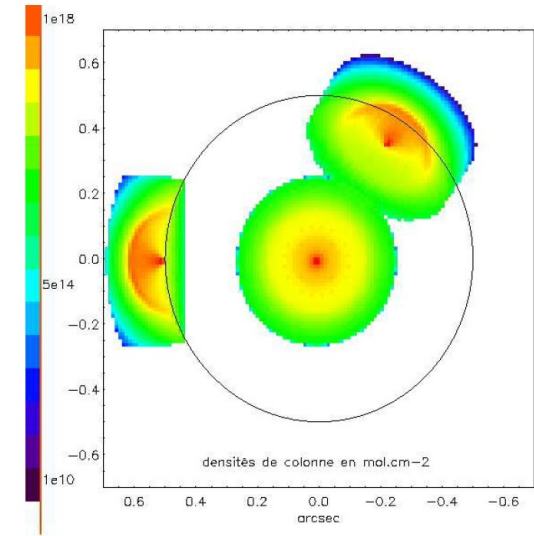
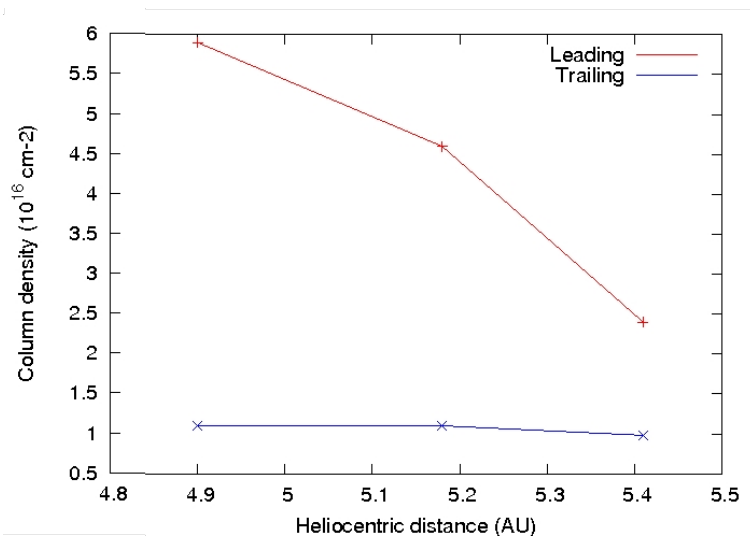
Io's atmosphere : SO₂

- 2006 and 2008, extended configuration
346.652 and 346.528 GHz SO₂ lines
- Line-integrated mapping (1 MHz),
~0.6'' resolution (Io's disk=1.2'')
- Emission displacement with respect to
moon's center : SO₂ concentrated on
anti-jovian hemisphere.
- Line emission extent **smaller than**
continuum.



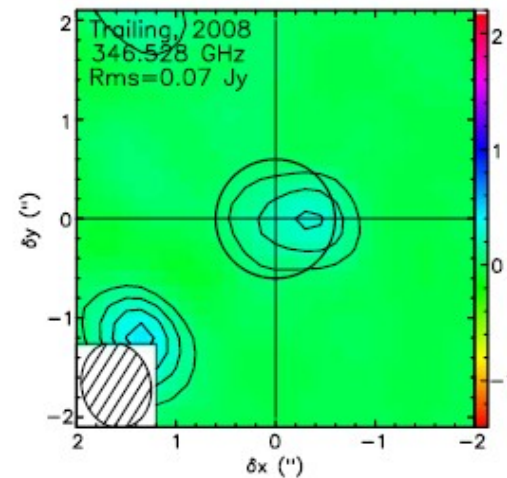
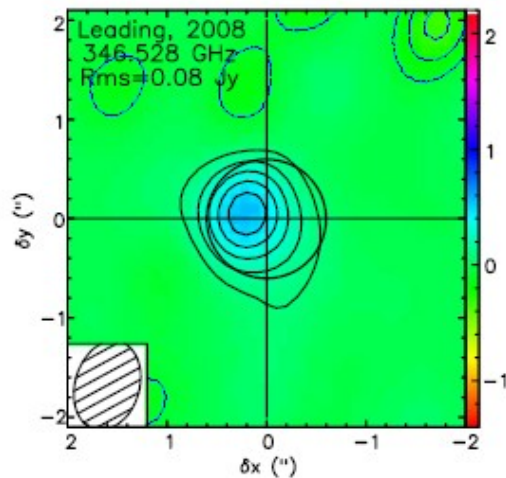
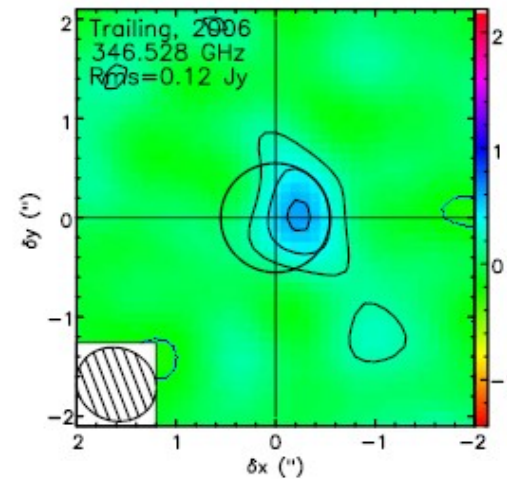
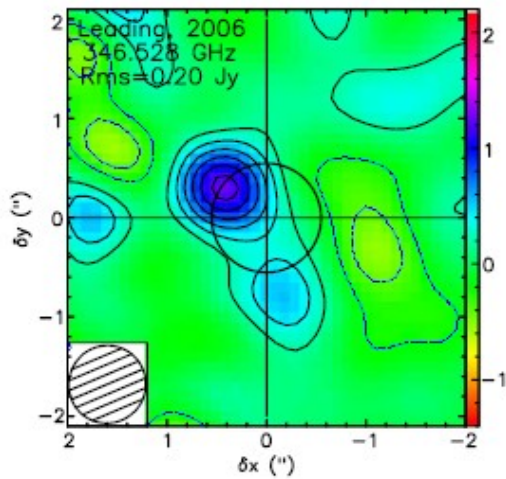
Io's atmosphere : SO₂

- Comparison to volcanic plumes models : volcanism can only explain <20% of the SO₂ content
- Satisfactory comparison to hydrostatic atmospheric models : **sublimation of SO₂ ice is probably the main source for SO₂**
- Confirmed by dependence of SO₂ column density on heliocentric distance :



SO₂ distribution for volcanic and hydrostatic models. Adapted from Spencer et al. (2005) and Zhang et al. (2000)

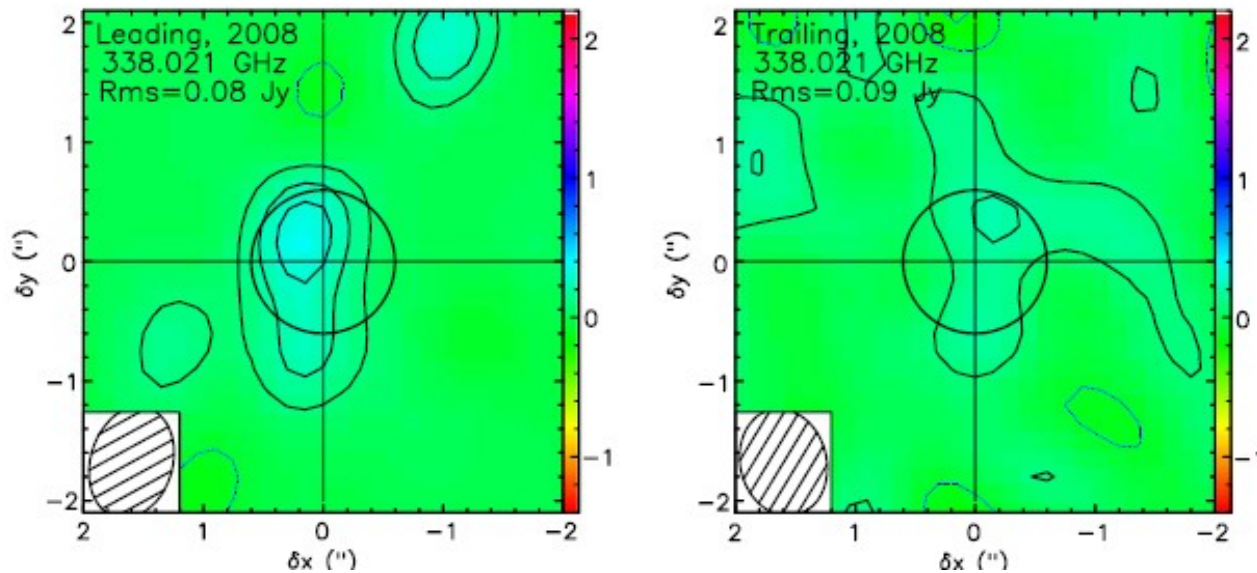
Io's atmosphere : SO



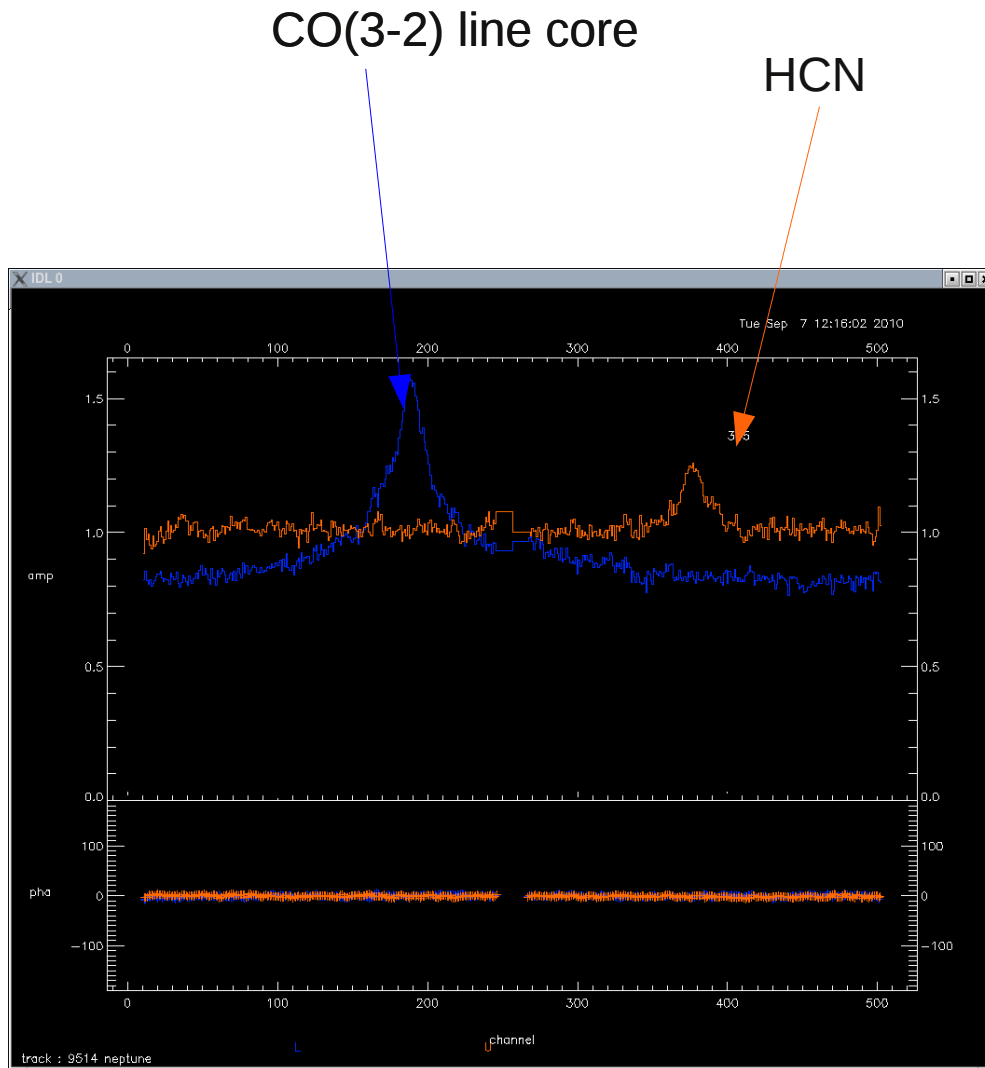
- 346.528 GHz line
- Line-integrated mapping (1 MHz).
- SO concentrated on the **anti-jovian hemisphere**.
- Line emission extent smaller than continuum.
- Volcanism can sustain <40% of the atmosphere
- SO₂ photolysis is the best candidate for SO production

Io's atmosphere : NaCl

- Line at 338.021 GHz
- Low S/N : cannot interpret emission shape, concentrated on the anti-jovian hemisphere.
- Emission coherent with **purely volcanic origin**



Neptune's atmosphere : CO and HCN



- CO and HCN unstable in Neptune' stratosphere, but detected :
exogenic (comets/satellite) or **internal origin** (vigourous convection from the deep layers) ?

- mm-CO lines give access to both tropospheric (broad wings) and stratospheric (core) abundances.

- **CO never mapped** : distribution would give clues on the source

- August/September 2010 :
3 tracks in extended configuration for CO(3-2) / HCN (4-3). Resolution 0.8" (Neptune 2.3")

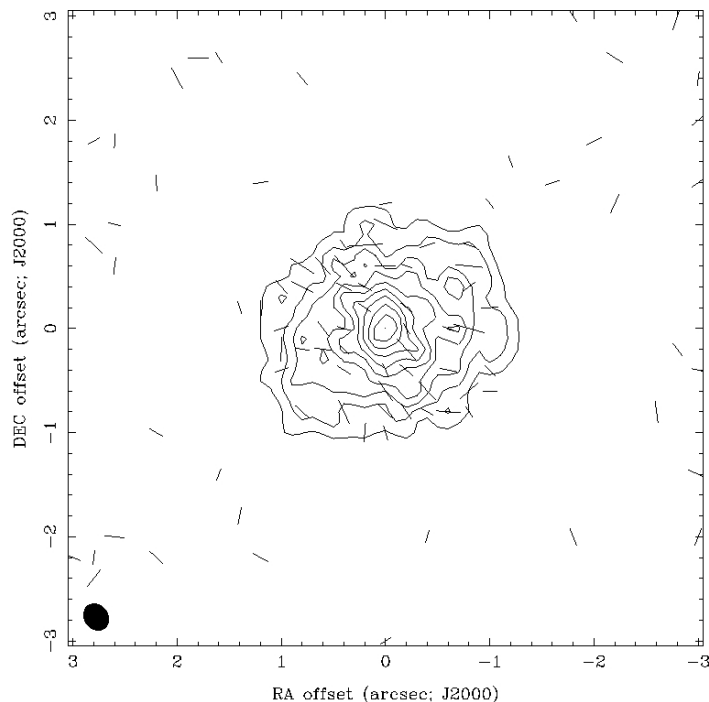
Polarimetry on Galilean moons

- The thermal emission from a surface should be polarized (Fresnel law). Polarization increases with emission angle and dielectric constant.

- Retrieving the soil **dielectric constant** with polarization measurements → **emissivity, limb darkening** analysis (temperature distribution)

- Polarization mapping on Callisto and Ganymede at 347 GHz in very extended mode tempted in July 2009

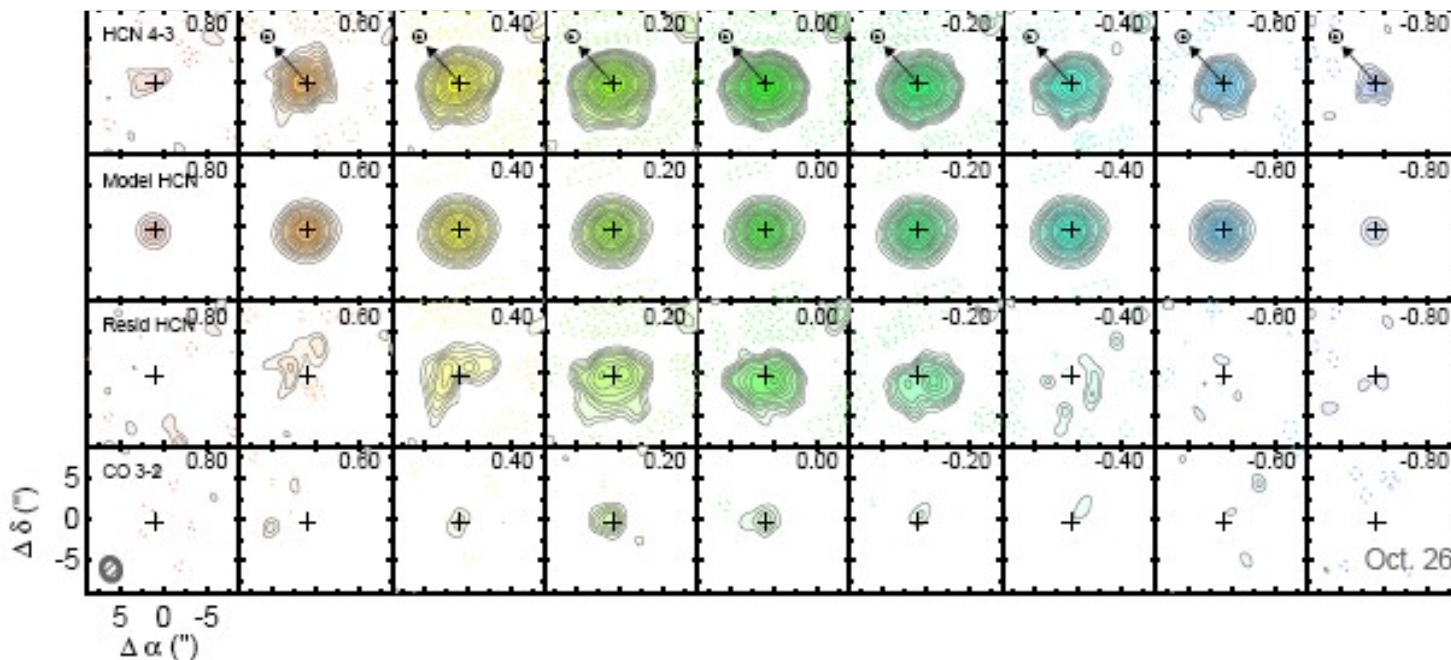
- Results not satisfactory : more S/N needed , self-calibration techniques



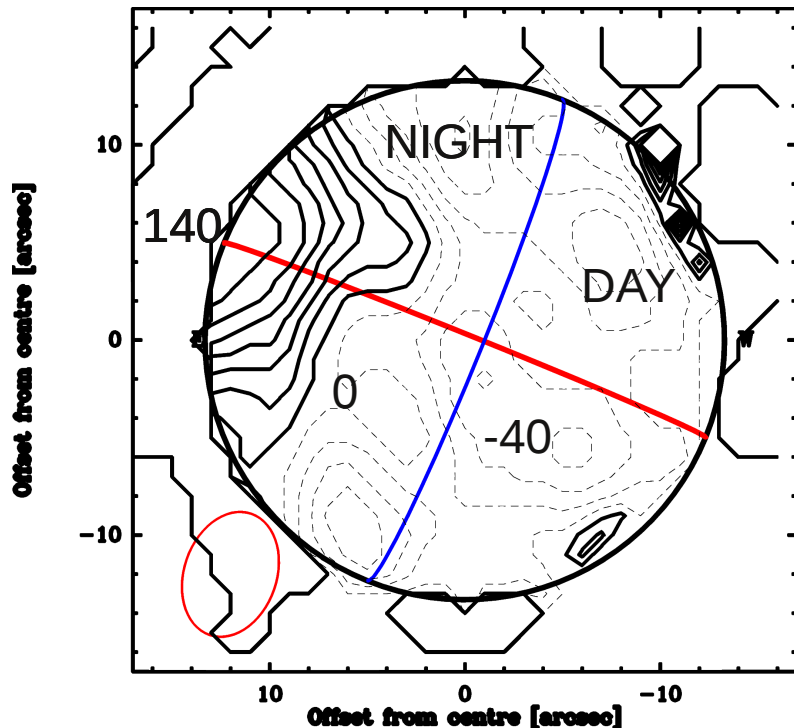
Continuum and polarization ratio and orientation on Ganymede , July 2009

Comet 17P/Holmes outburst

- Monitoring of the **outburst in October 2007**, through continuum, CO, HCN, H₂CO and CS lines mapping
- **Two structures : isotropic outgassing + jet**
- CO/HCN much higher in the jets : CO outgassing could be related to the onset of the outburst



Venus' mesospheric winds



- The mesosphere (65-120 km altitude) usually exhibits both subsolar to antisolar flows and zonal retrograde flows, highly temporally variable
- Dopplershifts mapping on CO(2-1) and CO(3-2) lines in subcompact configuration give **access to winds in the 90-100 km range** (PI. H. Sagawa, January 2009)
- CO(2-1) : Detection of **retrograde zonal winds on the night-side ~ 140 m/s**

Dopplershift map on the CO(2-1) line core in m/s.

Dashed contours correspond to approaching winds (blue-shift), full contours to receding winds (red-shift). Countour step=20 m/s.

Imaging Pluto's system

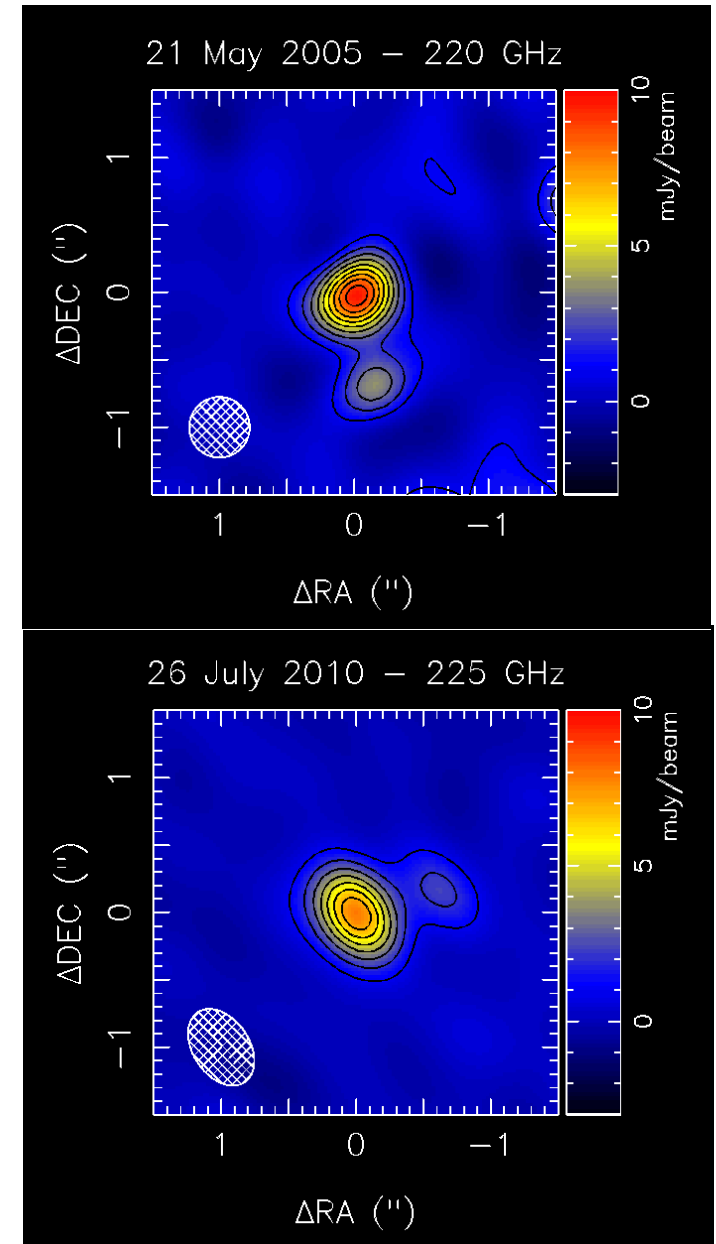
- **First thermal resolved imaging of the Pluto/Charon system**

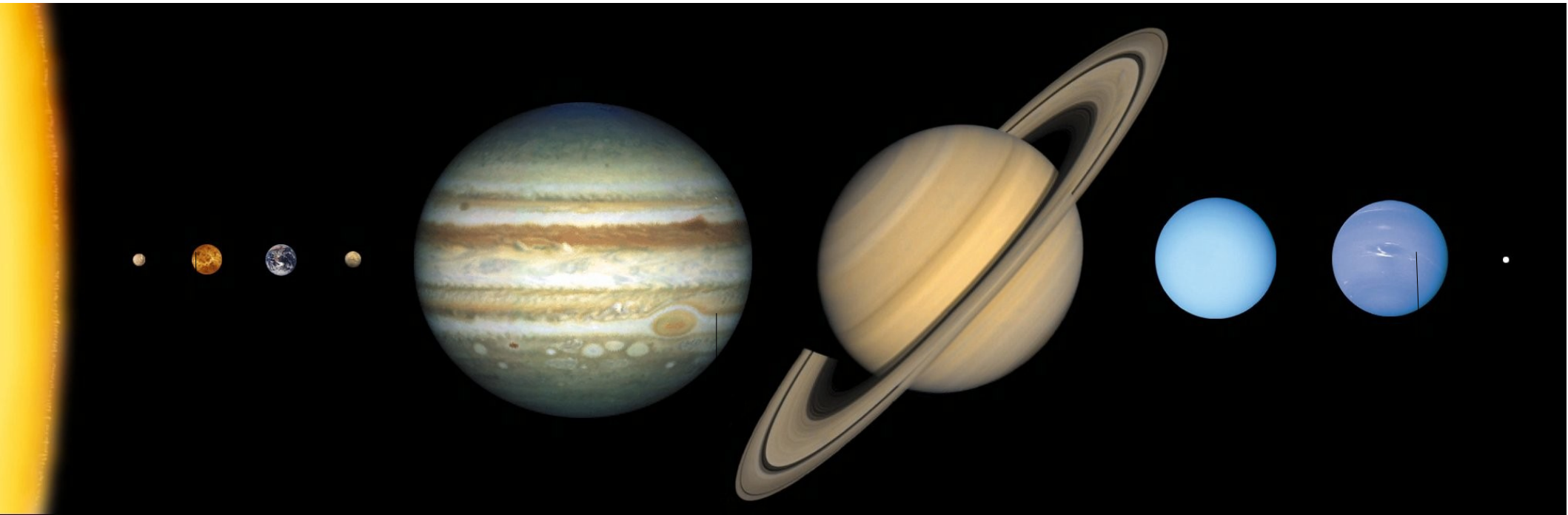
- SMA observations at 230 and 270 GHz in very extended configuration (2005 and 2010) :
0.4-0.5'' beam to separate Pluto from Charon
(0.9'' separation)

- Determination of each temperature (assuming the emissivity)

Pluto: 41 ± 5 K Charon: 54 ± 11 K (in 2005)

- Consistent with Charon in equilibrium with solar radiation, **Pluto could be in vapor pressure equilibrium with N₂ atmosphere.**





Mapping of minor species (SO₂)

Mapping of minor species

Ganymede/ Callisto :
surface polarimetry
with expanded
bandwidth

Wideband
spectroscopy
(PH₃)

Wideband
spectroscopy
(CO)