

PHOTOCHEMISTRY AND DIFFUSION IN JUPITER'S STRATOSPHERE. J. I. Moses¹, T. Fouchet², B. Bézard³, E. Lellouch³, and G. R. Gladstone⁴, ¹Lunar and Planetary Institute, 3600 Bay Area Blvd., Houston TX 77058-1113 (moses@lpi.usra.edu), ²Atmospheric, Oceanic and Planetary Physics, Oxford University, Oxford OX1 3PU, England, ³Observatoire de Paris-Meudon, F-92195 Meudon, France, ⁴Space Sciences Dept., Southwest Research Institute, San Antonio TX 78228-0510, USA.

Introduction: Infrared spectra from Jupiter exhibit numerous emission features due to higher-order hydrocarbons produced from methane photolysis in the upper stratosphere. Photochemical models to date [e.g., 1,2,3] have done a poor job of reproducing the observed hydrocarbon abundances, especially if one considers the new high-quality observational constraints provided by ISO, the Infrared Space Observatory [see 4,5,6,7]. Recent advances in our knowledge of the stratospheric temperature profile, species abundances, and chemical kinetics data have provided important new model constraints and input parameters, and updated photochemical models are needed in order to explain the observed composition. We use the observational constraints provided by ISO to construct new one-dimensional steady-state models of Jovian stratospheric photochemistry. The models include coupled hydrocarbon and oxygen photochemistry, vertical eddy and molecular diffusion, and radiative transport (including multiple Rayleigh scattering by H₂, He, and CH₄). We focus on determining the eddy diffusion coefficient profile in the stratosphere, as this information is currently poorly constrained or contradictory [e.g., 8,9, and Fig. 1]. We also discuss the implications with regard to hydrocarbon photochemistry on all the giant planets.

Results: The upper-stratospheric eddy diffusion coefficient derived from observations of Jupiter's 584 Å brightness [e.g., 10] is inconsistent with that derived from the *Voyager* ultraviolet stellar occultation experiment [8] or infrared CH₄ v₃-band fluorescence data [11]. Therefore, we have created two models (A & B) with very different high-altitude diffusion profiles (see Fig. 1). We also test the eddy diffusion profile used by [1] (Model C). The resulting mixing-ratio profiles for several observed constituents are shown in Fig. 2. Our main conclusions are as follows:

(a) Models A and B both provide a good fit to the ISO C₂H₂, C₂H₆, CH₃C₂H, C₄H₂, and C₆H₆ data. The He profile from Model B is consistent with the 584 Å data, but the Model B CH₄ profile is inconsistent with the methane observations of [8,11]. The Model A CH₄ profile is consistent with [8,11], but the He profile is inconsistent with [10]. A reanalysis of all the above data sets [8,10,11], new UV occultation data (i.e., the *Cassini* flyby), and/or a better determination of the upper at-

mospheric temperature profile as a function of latitude are needed before this issue can be resolved.

(b) Model C and the model of [1] are inconsistent with the C₄H₂ upper limit and the C₂H₆/C₂H₂ ratio inferred from ISO data [4], suggesting that the eddy diffusion coefficient adopted in these models is too large at pressures of 1-100 mbar and/or the hydrocarbon chemistry from [1] is incorrect or incomplete.

(c) The large abundance of benzene on Jupiter and the other giant planets [e.g., 5] most probably results from the long dissociation lifetime of the C₆H₆ molecule. Upon absorption of a UV photon, electronically excited C₆H₆ can be collisionally quenched at lower stratospheric pressures before it dissociates.

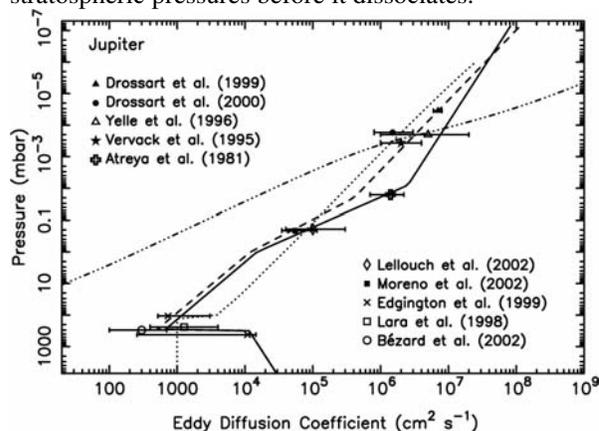


Figure 1. The eddy diffusion coefficients adopted for Model A (solid line), Model B (dashed line), and Gladstone *et al.* [1] and Model C (dotted line) compared with various observational constraints (individual data points).

Figure 2 (next page): Mixing ratio profiles from our models compared with various infrared and ultraviolet observations (line styles as labeled in Fig. 2a).

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