# Variability of Jupiter's main auroral emission and satellite footprints observed with HST during the Galileo era

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#### Abstract

Hubble Space Telescope images of Jupiter's UV aurora show that the main emission occasionally contracts or expands, shifting toward or away from the magnetic pole by several degrees in response to changes in the solar wind dynamic pressure and Io's volcanic activity. When the auroral footprints of the Galilean satellites move with the main emission this indicates a change in the stretched field line configuration that shifts the ionospheric mapping of a given radial distance at the equator. However, in some cases, the main emission shifts independently from the satellite footprints, indicating that the variability stems from some other part of the corotation enforcement current system that produces Jupiter's main auroral emissions. Here we analyze HST images from the Galileo era (1996-2003) and compare latitudinal shifts of the Ganymede footprint and the main auroral emission. We focus on images with overlapping Galileo measurements because concurrent measurements are available of the current sheet strength, which indicates the amount of field line stretching and can influence both the main emission and satellite footprints. We show that the Ganymede footprint and main auroral emission typically, but do not always, move together. Additionally, we find that the auroral shifts are only weakly linked to changes in the current sheet strength measured by Galileo. We discuss implications of the observed auroral shifts in terms of the magnetospheric mapping. Finally, we establish how the statistical reference main emission contours vary with CML and show that the dependence results from magnetospheric local time asymmetries.

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32

# 33 Plain Language Summary

34 Jupiter's main auroral emission is thought to be the result of a current system that develops to 35 help circulate plasma from Io as it moves through Jupiter's magnetosphere. There are many factors that can influence the position and brightness of Jupiter's main emission, including the 36 37 solar wind and internal factors like Io's volcanic activity. The auroral footprints of Jupiter's 38 moons Io, Europa, and Ganymede can provide important clues to what factors influence 39 variability in the main auroral emission because some processes, like those that affect the radial 40 stretching of the magnetic field, will affect the position of both the satellite footprints and the 41 main emission. In this study we quantify and compare variability in the position of Jupiter's main 42 auroral emission and the Ganymede footprint in images from the Hubble Space Telescope. We 43 focus on images from the Galileo era (1996-2003) and compare variability in the auroral emissions to Galileo observations of magnetospheric variability. We find that the Ganymede 44 45 footprint and main auroral emission typically change in the same way, but find the expected 46 relationship between the auroral motion and the magnetic field measured by Galileo to be weak.

#### 47 **1. Introduction**

It has been nearly 30 years since the Hubble Space Telescope took its first images of 48 Jupiter's aurora with its Faint Object Camera (Caldwell et al., 1992). Subsequent high resolution 49 50 images with HST's WFPC-2 (Wide Field Planetary Camera 2), ACS (Advanced Camera for 51 Surveys), and STIS (Space Telescope Imaging Spectrograph) instruments have shown that 52 Jupiter's ultraviolet auroral emissions can be classified into three types. From most equatorward 53 to poleward, they are: the equatorward emissions, which include auroral injection signatures and 54 the magnetic footprints of the Galilean satellites Io, Europa, Ganymede, and Callisto; the main auroral emission, a relatively constant and narrow (~1-3° latitudinal width) band of emissions 55 56 forming a kidney bean shape in the northern hemisphere and an oval in the south; and the polar 57 emissions, which are highly variable and include flares, spots, a dark region, and arc-like 58 features.

59 Jupiter's main auroral emission is thought to be the result of a corotation enforcement 60 current (CEC) system that arises due to the breakdown of plasma corotation in the middle 61 magnetosphere (Cowley and Bunce, 2001; Hill, 2001). The primary source of plasma in Jupiter's 62 magnetosphere is the moon Io, whose volcanic activity adds plasma to the system at a rate of 63 ~500-1000 kg/s (Thomas et al., 2004). As plasma diffuses radially outward from its source at Io's orbit (5.9 Jovian radii or  $R_J$ ; 1  $R_J$  = 71,492 km) its azimuthal velocity decreases to conserve 64 65 angular momentum, and a CEC system develops. The plasma is accelerated back up toward 66 corotation by a **j** x **B** force provided by the radially outward current, and the upward (out of the 67 ionosphere) field-aligned current, carried by downward moving electrons, is thought to produce 68 the main auroral emission. Though the corotation enforcement theory for the production of 69 Jupiter's main aurora has been widely accepted, Bonfond et al. (2020) recently highlighted

several pieces of observational evidence that are broadly inconsistent with the typical CEC description. Several recent observations and theoretical studies indicate that waves, including ULF (Pan et al. 2021, Lysak and Song, 2020), EMIC (Yao et al., 2021), Alfvén (Gershman et al., 2019; Saur et al., 2018), and whistler mode waves (Elliott et al., 2018), may play a larger role in the generation of the Jovian aurorae than previously foreseen. Any auroral origin theory must be ultimately able to account for observed auroral properties like brightness, position, and both temporal and spatial variability.

Though sometimes called the "main oval", Jupiter's main auroral emissions are actually 77 78 shaped like a kidney bean in the northern hemisphere, as shown in the HST polar projections in 79 Figure 1, due to the presence of a weak-field anomaly in the internal magnetic field (Grodent et 80 al. 2008b). The southern main auroral emissions form an oval roughly centered on the southern 81 magnetic pole, which is tilted by  $\sim 10^{\circ}$  with respect to the rotation axis. The main emission 82 brightness ranges from tens to thousands of kiloRayleighs (kR) and varies temporally as well as 83 with CML and local time (e.g. Grodent et al., 2003). Its morphology also varies with local time: the main emission width ranges from  $\sim 0.5^{\circ}$ -1° in the dawn to noon sector to as wide as  $\sim 3^{\circ}$  near 84 dusk, and a "discontinuity" typically appears pre-noon (Radioti et al., 2008). The location of the 85 86 main emission maps roughly to a source region at  $\sim 20-40 \text{ R}_{\text{J}}$  in the magnetosphere, which is 87 consistent with the CEC theory (e.g. Nichols and Cowley, 2004; Nichols et al., 2020), though the mapping varies with local time (Vogt et al., 2011). The main emission occasionally contracts or 88 89 expands, shifting toward or away from the magnetic pole, by several degrees (e.g. Grodent et al., 90 2008a; Nichols et al., 2009). This motion is often referred to as a "latitudinal shift" and is largely 91 in the direction of magnetic, not jovigraphic, latitude, particularly in the northern hemisphere. 92 This type of variability, which has been linked to both changes in the solar wind dynamic pressure (Grodent et al., 2003) and changes internal to the magnetosphere like volcanic activity
on Io or changes in the hot plasma pressure gradient (Bonfond et al., 2012; Nichols, 2011;
Nichols et al., 2015), is the focus of our study.

96 There are two likely explanations for the observed latitudinal shifts of Jupiter's main 97 auroral emission. The first is a change in the magnetic field configuration that shifts the 98 ionospheric mapping of a given radial distance in the equatorial magnetosphere. For example, if 99 a magnetospheric magnetic field line becomes more (less) radially stretched compared to its 100 average state then its ionospheric footprint would shift equatorward (poleward) compared to its 101 typical mapping, as illustrated in Figure 1 (top left). The figure illustrates why the ionospheric 102 footprint of a fixed radial distance in the magnetosphere, such as Ganymede's orbit at 15  $R_{I}$ , 103 shifts equatorward as the field becomes increasingly radially stretched. In this illustration, the 104 dashed outer blue field line (weak current sheet) and the solid inner red field line (strong current 105 sheet) both cross the equator at the same radial distance but the ionospheric footprint of the 106 dashed blue field line is poleward of the solar red field line. Additionally, the two solid field 107 lines in the figure have the same ionospheric footprint, but the equatorial crossing point is much 108 larger for the radially stretched red field lines (strong current sheet) than for the more dipolar 109 blue field lines (weak current sheet). Therefore, a change in the magnetic field configuration can 110 lead to a latitudinal shift of the main auroral emission by shifting the ionospheric footprints of 111 field lines that are linked to the radial distance where the CEC system peaks. A change in the 112 magnetic field configuration would also affect the latitudinal positions of the auroral satellite 113 footprints since they are linked to a fixed orbital distance.

114 The second likely cause of latitudinal shifts in Jupiter's main auroral emission is a change 115 in part of the CEC system that produces the main auroral emission, such as a change in the

116 plasma mass loading rate or in the radial profile of the plasma azimuthal velocity. These changes 117 can alter the radial distance of the peak corotation enforcement currents, as shown in the 118 magnetodisk modeling work of Nichols (2011) and Nichols et al. (2015), and latitudinally shift 119 the main emission as its equatorial radial mapping changes. These changes may also lead to a 120 shift in the satellite footprint locations, as the Nichols modeling work shows. However, in 121 general, changes in the CEC system would not *necessarily* lead to a shift in the satellite footprint 122 locations unless the field geometry also changed. For example, the Ganymede footprint is 123 located close to its expected location in the auroral image reproduced in Figure 1 (bottom right), 124 but the main auroral emission is so extremely expanded that it is located equatorward of the 125 Ganymede footprint, indicating a magnetospheric source distance inside of 15 R<sub>I</sub> (Bonfond et al., 126 2012). The latitudinal motion of the satellite footprints is therefore a useful diagnostic tool for 127 identifying the cause of latitudinal shifts in the main auroral emission.

128 In this paper we survey the HST auroral images from the Galileo era (1996-2003) and 129 compare how latitudinal shifts of the Ganymede footprint compare to concurrent shifts in the 130 main auroral emission, with the ultimate goal of furthering our understanding of how Jupiter's 131 magnetosphere-ionosphere (M-I) coupling system varies in time. We focus on images with 132 overlapping Galileo measurements because concurrent information is available about the amount 133 of field line radial stretching, which can affect the position of both the main emission and 134 satellite footprints (Vogt et al., 2017). We consider whether the main emission and satellite 135 footprints occur independently and compare the auroral shifts to Galileo fits of the current sheet 136 current density. Section 2 presents an overview of the data used in this study, section 3 describes 137 how we identified the position of the main auroral emission and corrected for viewing geometry, 138 and section 4 discusses our results and future work. We conclude in section 5 with a summary.

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# 140 **2. Data used in this study**

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### 142 2.1 HST data availability, image reduction, and limb fitting

143 In this study we use images taken with HST's STIS instrument, which has a resolution of 144 0.0246 arcsec/pixel. We are interested in comparing auroral variability to changes measured in 145 Jupiter's magnetosphere by the Galileo spacecraft, which orbited Jupiter from 1996 to 2003. 146 Therefore, we began our analysis by looking at the 170 images that are available from 25 unique 147 dates beginning in September 1996 and ending in February 2001. These images come from 148 observing programs 7308, 7769, 8171, and 8657. Most of the images have been analyzed in 149 some way in previous studies (e.g. Clarke et al., 2002; Grodent et al., 2003) but with a different 150 focus than our present work. An additional 13 images are available from observing program 151 9685 during 24-26 February 2003 (DOY 55-57), though the last Galileo magnetometer data 152 available from Jupiter's magnetosphere are from November 2002, so we have excluded these 153 from our study.

154 From the initial list of 170 images, we have excluded 27 images (13 from the northern 155 hemisphere and 14 from the southern hemisphere) in which our analysis was unable to clearly 156 identify a significant part of the main emission (see Section 3), almost always because of an 157 unfavorable viewing geometry. Though the main emission is not circular, especially in the north 158 hemisphere, it is still roughly centered on the magnetic pole in both hemispheres. Jupiter's  $\sim 10^{\circ}$ 159 dipole tilt, toward ~200° System III (SIII) longitude (left handed), means that the visibility of the 160 main emission is heavily biased for certain central meridian longitudes (CMLs). The 82 northern 161 hemisphere images used in this study have CMLs ranging from ~90° to ~290° with a median of ~180°, and the 61 southern hemisphere images used in this study have CMLs ranges of ~300°360° and ~0°-120°. Table S1 lists the date, time, CML, and other relevant details for the 143
images used in this study.

165 HST images were reduced following the latest version of the BU pipeline process (see 166 Clarke et al., 2009). This process includes a dark count subtraction, flat field response correction, 167 interpolation over bad pixels, and other corrections and rotations necessary to identify the planet 168 center and make a polar projection of each image. The planetary limb fitting provides an 169 uncertainty of up to a few pixels in the position of different auroral features. In order to mitigate 170 the effects of this uncertainty on our analysis we consider the relative positions of the main 171 auroral emission and Ganymede footprint in addition to the precise position or shift with respect 172 to a fixed reference contour. In our image reduction we used the same planetary center pixel 173 values as Bonfond et al. (2017) and confirmed that the satellite footprint locations we obtained 174 matched the coordinates provided in their supplemental material. The Ganymede or Europa 175 footprints were detected in roughly half of the 143 images used in this study: 62 images 176 contained the Ganymede footprint (34 in the northern hemisphere and 28 in the southern 177 hemisphere) and 7 images included the Europa footprint in the southern hemisphere. In our 178 analysis we focus on the Ganymede footprints because there are so few images containing the 179 Europa footprint and exclude three images (one from the northern hemisphere and two in the 180 southern hemisphere) in which the Ganymede footprint is located very close to the limb of the 181 planet, which makes it difficult to accurately characterize any shift of the footprint with respect 182 to the reference footpath or the main emission.

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184 2.2 Galileo data used in this study

185 The Galileo spacecraft completed over 30 orbits of Jupiter, surveying the magnetosphere 186 at radial distances up to ~150 R<sub>J</sub> and providing excellent coverage at nightside local times, as 187 shown by the black orbit tracks in Figure 2. Colored boxes in Figure 2 show the spacecraft 188 position at the times of all images used in this study excepting the two images from 28 May 1998 189 (DOY 148), when Galileo was located in the predawn middle magnetosphere but no concurrent 190 magnetometer data are available. Galileo was located inside of 30 RJ for 32 of our 143 HST 191 images, in the middle to outer magnetosphere for 76 images, and in the solar wind or 192 magnetosheath for the remaining 35 images. For all images when Galileo was located in the solar 193 wind or magnetosheath the spacecraft was located outside of the expanded Joy et al. (2002) 194 magnetopause (outer light blue line in Figure 2).

195 Images from intervals when the spacecraft was located inside of 30 R<sub>J</sub> are particularly 196 relevant because real-time information is available about Jupiter's current sheet and the degree of radial stretching in the magnetic field. Vogt et al. (2017) analyzed temporal variability in 197 198 magnetometer data from radial distances  $10-30 \text{ R}_{J}$  in each of Galileo's orbits. Specifically, they 199 obtained an orbit-by-orbit fit of the Connerney, Acuña, and Ness (1981) current sheet model parameter  $\mu_0 I_0$ , the current sheet current density, which indicates the strength of the current sheet 200 201 or the amount of radial field stretching. Larger values of  $\mu_0 I_0$  indicate a stronger current sheet and a more radially stretched field. The best fit  $\mu_0 I_0$  values are shown in the top panel of Figure 202 203 3; we note that because the focus of Figure 3 is a comparison to the HST auroral images the time 204 range of Figure 3 omits some Galileo  $\mu_0 I_0$  fits from 1996 to early 1997 and from late 2001 to 2002. Error bars indicate variability in the inbound and outbound  $\mu_0 I_0$  fits of each orbit, though 205 the  $\mu_0 I_0$  fit values were generally stable on the ~5-10 day timescale during which the spacecraft 206 was located at distances from 10 to 30 R<sub>J</sub>. Auroral mapping models show that the overall  $\mu_0 I_0$ 207

208 variability would be expected to produce a  $\sim 2.3^{\circ}$  shift in the ionospheric position of model field lines traced from 30 R<sub>J</sub>, a ~1.5° shift in the modeled Ganymede footprint location, and a ~0.7° 209 210 shift in the modeled Io footprint location. The top right of Figure 1 shows an example of the 211 expected auroral shifts in the northern ionosphere that would be consistent with the measured 212 current sheet variability observed by Galileo, estimated by tracing model field lines with 213 different current sheet parameters. Vogt et al. (2017) performed an initial analysis of 27 HST 214 images with similar CMLs to examine how the size of the main "oval" changed with the 215 contemporaneous best fit  $\mu_0 I_0$ , but did not find a clear relationship. Here we expand on that 216 initial work on the main emission and also consider how the best fit  $\mu_0 I_0$  affects the observed 217 locations of the satellite footprints.

218

#### 219 3. Analysis: main emission identification and CML correction

220 Since Bonfond et al. (2017) have already identified the satellite footprint locations in our 221 images, after confirming these locations the primary task in our analysis was to obtain the 222 position of the main auroral emission. Figure 4 illustrates our approach using a northern 223 hemisphere image from 25 November 1998 at a Central Meridian Longitude (CML) of 164.2°. 224 We began by identifying "slices" of magnetic longitude, assuming the magnetic pole is located at 225 10.31° latitude and 196.61° System III longitude (left handed) following the JRM09 field model 226 (Connerney et al., 2018), with a resolution of 2° longitude. The thick colored lines emanating 227 from the magnetic pole in the left panel of Figure 4 show some of these magnetic longitude 228 slices, drawn every 10° in magnetic longitude.

Next, we identified the position where each magnetic longitude slice intersects with theNichols et al. (2009) reference main emission, drawn in gray in Figure 4. We then obtained a

231 Gaussian fit to the auroral brightness along each magnetic longitude slice within the region that 232 is  $\pm 4.5^{\circ}$  magnetic latitude from the reference main emission, outlined by the two pink contours in 233 the left panel of Figure 4. The right panel of Figure 4 shows auroral brightness and Gaussian fits 234 from selected magnetic longitude slices as a function of distance from the Nichols et al. (2009) 235 reference contour, defined as positive for points poleward of the reference contour. The color of 236 each line corresponds to the color of the magnetic longitude slice drawn in the left panel of 237 Figure 4; for clarity we have only drawn lines every 15° of magnetic longitude. Finally, we 238 identified the main emission location, plotted as white stars in Figure 4, as the position of the 239 peak in the Gaussian fit on each magnetic longitude slice. We have confirmed that we obtain 240 very similar main emission positions whether we use a Gaussian fit approach or whether we 241 define the main emission location as the point of peak brightness along each magnetic longitude 242 slice. The difference between the main emission points identified with the two different 243 approaches was typically ~0.1° in spherical distance and both approaches lead to very similar 244 estimates of auroral variability.

245 In our analysis we exclude points where the main emission was misidentified (for 246 example, because of a feature like the Ganymede footprint) or is sharply discontinuous. 247 Therefore, there are some gaps in the main emission location stars shown in Figure 4. Many of 248 these gaps occur in the auroral discontinuity region at pre-noon local times (Radioti et al., 2008) 249 and in the northern auroral "kink" sector, where the main emission can be difficult to identify 250 and often features multiple arcs. As previously mentioned, we discarded completely 26 images 251 for which we were unable to obtain good fits to the main auroral emission, largely due to the 252 viewing geometry.

253 Several previous authors have identified reference main emission contours by co-adding 254 images (Grodent et al., 2003; Nichols et al., 2009; Bonfond et al., 2017). We take a slightly 255 different approach here, defining a statistical reference main emission contour by identifying the 256 average position of the main emission. For example, Figure 5 shows the distribution of the main 257 emission positions along each magnetic longitude slice identified using the approach described 258 above. Each box in Figure 5 has dimensions of 2° magnetic longitude by 0.1° magnetic latitude 259 and its color indicates the number of images in which the main emission position, as identified 260 by the peak of the Gaussian fit, was located within that box. The main emission locations are scattered by as much as ~3-4° in magnetic latitude but are concentrated in narrow bands that are 261 262 close to the Nichols et al. (2009) reference contour in the north and the Grodent et al. (2003) 263 reference contour in the south (thick gray lines). The scatter in the main emission peak locations 264 is generally largest near dusk and smallest near dawn, where the main emission tends to be 265 narrow and well-defined in HST images. We define our reference contour by calculating the 266 average magnetic latitude of the main emission in each magnetic longitude bin. Our resulting 267 reference contours for the northern and southern hemispheres are shown by the thick black lines 268 in Figure 5. Figure 6 shows that our statistical reference contours are similar in shape and 269 location to the reference contours derived by Grodent et al. (2003), Nichols et al. (2009), and 270 Bonfond et al. (2017). Our statistical reference contour most closely matches Grodent et al. 271 (2003), as expected since that study and ours used a nearly identical set of images.

The main emission position varies with CML (Grodent et al., 2003), so we have also plotted the distribution of main emission positions separately for certain CML ranges in Figure 5 and we have calculated CML-specific statistical reference main emission contours, which are plotted in the top panel of Figure 7. In the northern hemisphere we considered the following

276	CML ranges: CMLs 80°-140° (purple), 140°-190° (blue), 190°-240° (green), 240°-290° (red); in
277	the southern hemisphere we considered CMLS 0°-60° (purple), 60°-180° (blue), and 290°-
278	360° (red). (Note that there are no northern images with CMLs less than 80° or larger than 290°,
279	and no southern hemisphere images with CMLs between 180° and 290°.) In the northern
280	hemisphere, the main emission is most expanded at small CMLs (purple) and becomes more
281	contracted with increasing CML (e.g. red contour), as noted by Grodent et al. (2003). The CML
282	dependence is not as noticeable in the southern hemisphere as it is in the northern hemisphere,
283	though again the reference contour at the earliest CMLs (red) is most expanded. This behavior in
284	both hemispheres is consistent with the main emission shifting poleward at dusk compared to its
285	average location for a given location, as we discuss in more detail in section 4.3.

286

- 287 4. Results and Discussion
- 288

### 289 4.1 Comparison of main emission and satellite footprint shifts

290 After identifying the main emission in each HST image we can now consider whether the 291 main emission and satellite footprints shift independently or whether they demonstrate similar 292 temporal behavior (i.e. whether poleward motion of the main emission is typically accompanied 293 by poleward motion of the satellite footprints). For each image that contained a satellite footprint 294 we define the Ganymede footprint shift as the minimum spherical distance between the observed 295 satellite footprint and the reference footpath derived by Bonfond et al. (2017). Similarly, we 296 define the main emission shift as the mean distance between the main emission and the CML-297 specific statistical reference contour (see section 3). For both the main emission and Ganymede

footprint we define the shift as positive if the relevant auroral feature is poleward of the referencecontour/footpath and negative if it is equatorward.

300 Figure 8 shows plots of the Ganymede footprint shift and the main emission shift. This 301 figure contains data from the 59 images (33 of the northern hemisphere and 26 of the southern 302 hemisphere) for which the main auroral emission was clearly identified and the Ganymede 303 footprint was not located close to the limb of the planet (see section 2.1). In the left panel we 304 calculated the main emission shift using the main emission location at all longitudes; in the right 305 panel we calculated the main emission shift using only the main emission points in the 10° 306 magnetic longitude bin (e.g. 0°-10°, 10°-20°, etc.) closest to the Ganymede footprint. In both 307 plots two thirds of the points are located in the upper right or lower left quadrants, indicating that 308 the footprint and main emission shift together (both poleward or both equatorward). The linear 309 correlation coefficient of the two shifts is stronger when considering the main emission shift only 310 at magnetic longitudes near the Ganymede footprint (linear correlation coefficient 0.52) instead of at all longitudes (linear correlation coefficient 0.37). This could indicate that the processes that 311 312 change the magnetic field configuration and produce auroral shifts are somewhat localized.

Of the images for which the Ganymede footprint and main emission shift separately, most come from the northern hemisphere and involve an equatorward motion of the main emission. Interestingly, in all four images from 26 July 1998 (DOY 207) the main emission was shifted equatorward while the Ganymede footprint was shifted poleward (all four images from this date are of the northern hemisphere). The images which feature opposite footprint and main emission shifts do not otherwise appear to be more likely to occur under specific conditions or circumstances like date, CML, footprint longitude, best fit magnetodisk parameter  $\mu_0 I_0$ , etc.

320 Overall, we conclude that the main emission and Ganymede footprint generally, but do 321 not always, shift together. However, our conclusion comes with several caveats about the 322 uncertainty of the planetary limb fitting / center pixel finding process, which affects the absolute 323 shifts of both the main emission and Ganymede footprint. Due to the uncertainty in fitting the 324 planet center in each HST image, Bonfond et al. (2017) assumed an uncertainty of 8 pixels, 325 which typically corresponds to  $\sim 2^{\circ}$  spherical distance, in the footprint spot locations from STIS 326 images. This uncertainty is larger than the typical auroral shifts we have calculated here but is 327 likely an overestimate (a more typical assumed uncertainty value is ~3 pixels). We can remain 328 reasonably confident in our analysis since the uncertainty associated with the limb fitting applies 329 to both the main emission and the Ganymede footprint, though exactly whether the uncertainty 330 affects the footprint and main emission in the same way – for example, whether an *n*-pixel error 331 in the planetary center finding shifts both the main emission and footprint poleward/equatorward 332 or shifts them in opposite directions – depends on factors like the image CML, position of the 333 auroral feature, and direction of the limb fitting error. Using a subset of representative images at 334 a range of CMLs we calculated that a 3 pixel uncertainty in the planetary center pixel results in 335 an typical variability in the main emission position of  $\sim 0.2^{\circ}-0.8^{\circ}$ , with an average value of  $\sim 0.4^{\circ}$ . 336 We note, that the time series in Figure 3 shows that the main emission shifts among images from 337 the same day can vary significantly, sometimes even being of opposite sign. We do not believe 338 this is indicative of a physical process – the timescale is likely too short – but probably reflects 339 some of the error and uncertainty in our analysis, including the planet center pixel finding and 340 main emission identification. Finally, we note that it is important to note that the Ganymede 341 footpath which provides the basis for calculating the footprint shift was derived by Bonfond et al. 342 (2017) using more images, and likely covering a wider range of magnetospheric conditions, than

we have considered in our study. Their dataset encompassed dates from 1997 to 2014 andincluded more than 700 images in the north and more than 200 images in the south.

345

# 346 *4.2 Auroral shifts and magnetodisk variability*

347 Next we consider whether the observed Ganymede footprint and main auroral emission 348 shifts display any dependence on the magnetospheric field configuration as indicated by the best fit magnetodisk parameter  $\mu_0 I_0$  calculated by Vogt et al. (2017). The best fit  $\mu_0 I_0$  values were 349 350 calculated using Galileo magnetometer data during intervals when the spacecraft was located at 351 radial distances between 10 and 30 R<sub>J</sub> in each orbit. Roughly half (68 of 143) of the 143 images 352 used in this study overlapped with or occurred within 2 days of these intervals. Those images come from 10 of the 31 Galileo orbits (C10, E15, E16, E18, C21, C22, C23, I24, I27, and G29) 353 which featured slightly smaller-than-average best fit  $\mu_0 I_0$  values. The 68 images with 354 355 simultaneous/near-simultaneous current sheet measurements include 19 images with a clearly 356 identified Ganymede footprint. The best fit  $\mu_0 I_0$  values at the times of our HST images range 357 from 428 to 494 nT, with a mean of 463 nT. By comparison, the best fit  $\mu_0 I_0$  values from the full 358 Galileo data set range from 406 to 572 nT, with a mean of 476 nT (see Vogt et al., 2017, table 1).

Figure 9 shows plots of the main emission shift, Ganymede footprint shift, and the difference between the Ganymede footprint shift and main emission shift as functions of the best fit  $\mu_0 I_0$  values corresponding to the dates of each image. In Figure 9a and in the middle panel of Figure 3 the error bars plotted for the Ganymede footprint shift indicate the possible range of shift values due to the 8 pixel uncertainty in the footprint latitude and longitude assumed by Bonfond et al. (2017). In Figure 9b and in the bottom panel of Figure 3 the error bars indicate the standard deviation of the distance between the observed main emission points and the CML-specific reference contour.

367 By our definition a positive auroral shift means a shift poleward of the statistical main emission or satellite footprint reference contour, which would be consistent with a small current 368 369 sheet current density  $\mu_0 I_0$  or a mostly dipole-like field geometry (see Figure 1), while a negative 370 or equatorward shift would be consistent with a larger  $\mu_0 I_0$  and more radially stretched field configuration (see Figure 1). Therefore, we expect a negative correlation between the current 371 sheet  $\mu_0 I_0$  fit and the two auroral shifts plotted in Figure 9a and Figure 9b. The main emission 372 373 shift plotted in Figure 9a is very scattered but there is a very weak anti-correlative trend, with the smallest  $\mu_0 I_0$  values featuring only positive shifts. However, the Ganymede footprint shifts 374 plotted in Figure 9b are nearly all positive and they appear to vary independently of the  $\mu_0 I_0$  fit 375 376 values.

377 The difference between the Ganymede footprint shift and the main emission shift is 378 plotted in Figure 9c. This shift difference is a useful quantity to consider because it provides 379 information about whether the Ganymede footprint and main emission grow closer together or 380 farther apart compared to the distance between their reference contours. We plot the shift 381 difference rather than the distance between the Ganymede footprint and the main emission 382 because the latter quantity depends on several factors, like the satellite longitude and CML, in addition to the current sheet  $\mu_0 I_0$  term, so identifying its  $\mu_0 I_0$  dependence from observations is 383 384 not straightforward. The shift difference plotted in Figure 9c will be zero if both the Ganymede 385 footprint and the main emission move latitudinally by the same distance and in the same 386 direction. The shift difference will be positive if the Ganymede footprint and main emission get 387 closer together (if the Ganymede footprint shifts more poleward than the main emission does, or

388 if the Ganymede footprint shifts less equatorward than the main emission does) and will be 389 negative if the footprint and main emission get farther apart. We expect the distance between 390 contours that map to two fixed positions in the magnetosphere (i.e. 15  $R_J$  and 30  $R_J$ ) to decrease with increasing radial field stretching or current sheet  $\mu_0 I_0$  term (see Figure 1 top right). 391 392 Therefore, if the radial mapping of the main auroral emission is constant in time then we expect the shift difference plotted in Figure 9c to be positively correlated with  $\mu_0 I_0$ . However, as was 393 the case for the main emission shift plotted in Figure 9a, the shift difference plotted in Figure 9c 394 395 shows some scatter but overall shows a very weak anti-correlation with  $\mu_0 I_0$ , with most negative 396 values occurring at large  $\mu_0 I_0$ .

Finally, time series of the Ganymede footprint and main auroral emission shifts are plotted in the bottom two panels of Figure 3 for comparison to the best fit  $\mu_0 I_0$  time series in the top panel. Galileo measurements of the best fit  $\mu_0 I_0$ , magnetospheric electron density, and Io dust emission rate, and ground-based observations of the Io plasma torus intensity all show a long-term decrease from roughly 1997 to 2000 (Krüger et al., 2003; Nozawa et al., 2004, 2005). Unfortunately, the HST observations are too sporadic during that interval, and too variable overall, to identify any corresponding long-term trend in the auroral shifts.

404

#### 405 *4.3 Main emission mapping: CML and temporal variability*

We now turn to the question of how the main emission's equatorial mapping changes in time. We begin by identifying the average main emission mapping then proceed to compare the observed CML dependence of the average main emission location identified in section 3 (Figure 5) to the variability over a Jovian rotation period predicted from a mapping model. This analysis is useful to assess whether the observed CML dependence is indicative of a real spatial (CML) variability or whether it reflects temporal changes or other biases. We then consider the observed
main emission latitudinal shifts in the context of the measured current sheet current density
changes and discuss implications for the magnetosphere-ionosphere coupling system.

414 For our mapping we primarily use the flux equivalence approach of Vogt et al. (2011), 415 which is more reliable than tracing field lines from most global models in the middle and outer 416 magnetosphere because it incorporates an empirical model of the magnetic field in those regions 417 and accounts for local time asymmetries. This mapping approach is based on the assumption that 418 the magnetic flux through a region in the ionosphere must equal the flux through the region to 419 which it maps in the equatorial magnetosphere. The model uses a 2-D (radial distance and local 420 time) empirical fit to magnetometer data to calculate the flux threading the equator and a model 421 of Jupiter's internal magnetic field to calculate the flux through the ionosphere. Full details are 422 available in Vogt et al. (2011). We note that the mapping results presented here use the Juno-era 423 JRM09 magnetic field model (Connerney et al., 2018) as the internal field model in the flux 424 mapping. The choice of internal field model can have a significant quantitative effect on the 425 magnetosphere-ionosphere mapping of a specific point (Vogt et al., 2015), but we have 426 confirmed that our choice of internal field model does not significantly change the qualitative 427 findings presented here. Finally, we note that the mapping model depends on CML but does not 428 include any other temporal variability (i.e. on time scales longer than one jovian day).

Figure 10 shows the main auroral emission mapping to the jovigraphic equator as a function of the mapped local time. The mapping shows some dependence on hemisphere and whether one employs the flux mapping (red and blue lines) or fieldline tracing (black lines) approach but overall, the main emission typically maps to  $\sim$ 20-40 R<sub>J</sub>. The red lines show the average mapped location obtained by averaging the individual flux mapping results from each

434 HST image, and the blue lines show the flux mapping result of the statistical reference contour. 435 If the main emission is linked to processes occurring in the equatorial magnetosphere, like 436 corotation breakdown in the CEC theory, we would expect very close agreement between the 437 northern (solid lines) and southern (dashed lines) radial distance mapping. There is a north-south 438 difference in the mapping in Figure 10, but the mapping shows a systematic local time trend for 439 both hemispheres. With the exception of the southern hemisphere reference contour flux 440 mapping (blue dashed line), all mapping approaches suggest that the main emission maps to 441 larger distances near dusk than near dawn by about 10-15  $R_J$ . Therefore, we suggest that the 442 north-south mapping discrepancy could be due to systematic biases in the data used to create the 443 northern or southern reference contours or could indicate the uncertainty in the mapping.

444 The Vogt et al. (2011) flux mapping model predicts that the ionospheric mapping of a 445 fixed position in the equator will vary over the course of a jovian rotation period because of local 446 time asymmetries in the magnetosphere. The model predicts that ionospheric contours that map 447 to a fixed equatorial radial distance will be located more poleward where they map to local times 448 near dusk than where they map to dawn local times, as we illustrate in supplemental figure S1. 449 This point can also be seen in the middle panel of Figure 7, where the different colored mapped 450 50  $R_J$  contours are shifted poleward near dusk and equatorward near dawn. Since the portion of 451 the main emission that maps to a specific local time rotates with CML, magnetospheric local 452 time asymmetries are manifested in auroral images as a CML-dependent latitudinal shift in the 453 location of the main auroral emission.

We investigate the expected CML dependence in Figure 7, which compares the observed CML dependence of the main auroral emission to the CML dependence predicted using the Vogt et al. (2011) mapping model with JRM09 as the internal field model. Here we consider the

457 mapping to 50 R<sub>J</sub>, though this distance is at the upper end of the typical main emission radial 458 distance mapping (Figure 10), because the CML dependence we observe in the main emission is 459 larger than the predicted variability at 30 R<sub>J</sub>. This is probably because the main emission 460 mapping varies with local time (Figure 10), which further amplifies the expected CML 461 dependence since a position on the main emission would shift even more poleward when it is 462 linked to dusk local times (where it maps to a larger radial distance) compared to when it is 463 linked to dawn local times (where it maps to a smaller radial distance).

464 The middle row of Figure 7 shows the ionospheric contours mapping to 50  $R_{\rm J}$  in the 465 magnetosphere at different CMLs corresponding roughly to the average CML of the images 466 included in each bin: in northern hemisphere those CMLs are 120° (purple), 160° (blue), 210° 467 (green), and 270° (red), and in the southern hemisphere they are 30° (purple), 90° (blue), and 468 330° (red). The black contours in the middle panel of Figure 7 show the ionospheric mapping for 469 CMLs 190° and 50° for the northern and southern hemisphere, respectively, which are roughly 470 the average CML values for the set of northern and southern images used in this study. Finally, 471 the bottom row of Figure 7 shows the magnetic latitudinal shift between each CML-specific 472 statistical main emission contours (colored lines) and the average statistical main emission 473 contour (black) calculated from all images used in this study. We define the shift as positive if 474 the CML-specific statistical main emission contour is poleward of the average statistical main 475 emission contour and negative if it is equatorward. The solid lines show the observed latitudinal 476 shift, or the magnetic latitude difference between the colored and black contours from the top 477 panel of Figure 7, and the dashed lines show the magnetic latitude difference between the 478 modeled colored and black contours from the middle panel of Figure 7.

479 By comparing the observed (solid) and predicted (dashed) latitudinal shifts in the bottom 480 row of Figure 7 we see that the overall CML dependence observed in the main auroral emission 481 is generally consistent with the CML dependence predicted by the ionospheric mapping from 50 482 R<sub>J</sub>. For example, both CML 240°-290° in the north and CML 290°-360° in the south (red lines) 483 feature a large poleward (positive) shift at large longitudes in both the observations and mapping 484 predictions. The observed shifts in the other CML bins do not match the mapping predictions as 485 closely but do generally match the direction of the modeled shift (i.e. poleward or equatorward) 486 and the observed and mapped contours from the various CML bins generally appear in the same 487 order from most poleward to most equatorward. Overall, we find that the observed and modeled 488 CML dependence are broadly consistent with each other. Since the auroral mapping model has 489 no temporal dependence this confirms that the observed main emission CML dependence is a 490 real spatial, not temporal, variation that likely results from local time asymmetries in both the 491 magnetosphere and the main emission equatorial mapping.

492 Finally, we show in Figure 11 the expected variability in the main emission position 493 resulting from changes in the current sheet current density. We represent the main emission 494 position by tracing model field lines from 30 R<sub>J</sub> in the jovigraphic equator and we assess the 495 expected variability by altering the  $\mu_0 I_0$  parameter in the Connerney, Acuña, and Ness (1981) 496 current sheet model ("CAN1981") or the similar Juno-era current sheet model from Connerney 497 et al. (2020) ("CON2020"). Both CAN1981 and CON2020 represent the perturbation magnetic 498 field as that produced by an axisymmetric annular disk of azimuthal current with adjustable 499 parameters including the inner edge  $R_0$ , outer edge  $R_1$ , half-thickness D, and current density  $I_0$ . 500 (The CON2020 model additionally included the effects of the radial current which produces the 501 azimuthal magnetic field that sweeps the field back out of the meridian plane.) The blue, green,

and red colored contours show the traced 30 R<sub>J</sub> mapping calculated using varying  $\mu_0 I_0$ , 502 503 representing low, average, and high current sheet current density, respectively, in the CAN1981 504 and CON2020 current sheet models. We implemented the CAN1981 model using the Voyagerera fits for  $R_0$  (5 R<sub>J</sub>),  $R_1$  (50 R<sub>J</sub>), and D (2.5 R<sub>J</sub>), and took  $\mu_0 I_0 = 400$ , 480, and 560 nT, roughly 505 506 covering the range of Galileo-era fits (406 to 572 nT with a mean of 476 nT) from Vogt et al. (2017). We implemented the CON2020 model using the Juno-era fits for  $R_0$  (7.8 R<sub>J</sub>),  $R_1$  (51.4 507 R<sub>J</sub>), and D (3.6 R<sub>J</sub>), with the mean value of  $\mu_0 I_\rho/2\pi$  = 16.7 nT, and took  $\mu_0 I_0$  = 240, 280, and 508 320 nT, roughly covering the range of Juno-era fits (248.4 to 312.2 nT with a mean of 279.2 nT) 509 510 as reported by Connerney et al. (2020).

511 We can compare the variability of the colored contours – representing low, average, and 512 high current sheet current density – to the variability in the main emission position as indicated by the small shaded gray bins of 2° magnetic longitude by 0.1° magnetic latitude. We have 513 514 shaded in all bins for which the main emission was located in that area in at least two of the 515 images used in this study, which eliminates some of the extreme outliers (see e.g. dark purple 516 high-latitude bins in the distribution of the main emission locations shown in Figure 5). The 517 different panels of Figure 11 show 30 R<sub>I</sub> fieldline tracing results obtained using CAN1981 plus 518 the internal field of the Grodent Anomaly Model or GAM (Grodent et al., 2008b) in the north 519 and VIP4 (Connerney et al., 1981) in the south and CAN2020 plus JRM09 (Connerney et al., 520 2018) in both the north and south. There is considerable variation in how well the mapped  $30 R_{J}$ 521 contours of the different field models/options match the main emission locations. However, we 522 can see that the predicted variability in the main auroral emission position as indicated by the 523 spacing of the colored contours is roughly consistent with the observed variability as indicated 524 by the spread of the gray shaded bins.

525

# 526 *4.4 Discussion and future work*

The results described above include some unexpected and sometimes conflicting 527 528 conclusions about the latitudinal variability of the main auroral emission, its relationship to 529 variability in the Ganymede footprint position, and the influence of changes in the current sheet 530 current density. In particular, the absence of a clear relationship between the Ganymede footprint 531 shift and the concurrent  $\mu_0 I_0$  fit by Galileo is puzzling. The most likely explanation is that errors 532 in the planetary limb fitting procedure led to incorrect footprint locations and the derived footprint shifts. However, it is also important to remember that the limited HST data set 533 534 considered here, particularly when considering the subset of images that contain the Ganymede 535 footprint, does not encompass times of the most extreme  $\mu_0 I_0$  values. We note, for example, that most of the Ganymede footprint shifts measured here are positive, indicating a position poleward 536 537 of the reference footpath, which would be expected for a weaker than normal current sheet stretching. This is consistent with the fact that the Galileo  $\mu_0 I_0$  fits at the time of the HST images 538 539 ranged from ~430-500 nT, while the Galileo  $\mu_0 I_0$  fits from all orbits ranged from 406 to 572 nT. Finally, we note that the typical Ganymede footprint shift observed here, ~0.5° poleward, is 540 541 roughly consistent with the total difference,  $\sim 1.5^{\circ}$ , expected between the strongest and weakest 542 current sheet fits to all Galileo data (top right of Figure 1). In the future, expanding our analysis 543 to include Juno  $\mu_0 I_0$  fits (Connerney et al., 2020) and Juno-HST concurrent images could help fill out the range of  $\mu_0 I_0$  values under consideration and evince the expected relationship 544 545 between the Ganymede footprint shift and  $\mu_0 I_0$ .

546 As a final explanation for the absent expected correlation between the Ganymede 547 footprint shift and the Galileo  $\mu_0 I_0$  fit, we note that is it possible that the time or spatial scales of

548 Jupiter's current sheet variability might be inconsistent with the type of snapshot comparison to 549 HST images that we have attempted here. For example, it is possible that the magnetic field 550 configuration at the time of some HST images was influenced by a transient process like a 551 magnetospheric injection (e.g. Mauk et al., 1999), tail reconfiguration (e.g. Louarn et al., 2014), 552 or solar wind compression (e.g. Vogt et al., 2019) that occurred on a time scale that was short (~hours to tens of hours) compared to the ~5-10 day intervals over which the  $\mu_0 I_0$  fits were 553 calculated. Such a transient process could produce a brief Ganymede footprint shift that is 554 inconsistent with the  $\mu_0 I_0$  fit. There were some Galileo orbits for which the inbound and 555 outbound  $\mu_0 I_0$  fits of each orbit varied significantly, as shown by the handful of points with large 556 557 error bars in the top panel of Figure 3, but the  $\mu_0 I_0$  fit values were generally stable on the ~5-10 day timescale. The  $\mu_0 I_0$  values plotted in Figure 9 are the average values for each orbit but 558 similar plots made using the  $\mu_0 I_0$  fits from separate inbound or outbound orbit segments, shown 559 560 in Figure S2, also do not show the expected relationship between the footprint shift and  $\mu_0 I_0$ . It 561 is also possible that any magnetic field stretching or compression observed by Galileo is limited 562 in local time and does not necessarily extend to Ganymede's location, which would explain why the footprint shift did not display the expected dependence on  $\mu_0 I_0$ . As shown in the right side of 563 564 Figure 2, Galileo was generally located at dusk and nightside local times (~16:00 and later) when 565 it was located between 10 and 30 R<sub>J</sub>, the radial distance range over which Vogt et al. (2017) calculated the  $\mu_0 I_0$  fits. By comparison, almost all of the Ganymede footprints we analyzed in 566 567 this study map to earlier local times, roughly 08:00-12:00. However, we note that the Galileo  $\mu_0 I_0$  fits were generally similar for both the inbound and outbound portions of an orbit, which 568 569 could be at significantly different local times, so we feel this explanation is somewhat unlikely.

570 The analysis we have undertaken here naturally leads to several interesting topics for 571 future work. Here we have considered only auroral position and not other auroral properties like 572 brightness or the width of the main emission, which (Nichols et al., 2009), and a future study 573 could assess whether these properties are linked to changes observed in the magnetodisk or 574 variability in the satellite footprint locations. Computational magnetosphere-ionosphere coupling 575 models like those applied in Nichols (2011) and Nichols et al. (2015) can be used to examine 576 how variability in the corotation enforcement current system can produce the auroral shifts we 577 have studied here, and model results could be compared to Galileo data. Finally, we hope in the 578 future to more thoroughly analyze the Galileo magnetometer data and additional Galileo datasets 579 like the hectometric auroral radio emissions and energetic particle detector (EPD) measurements 580 for context about the state of Jupiter's magnetosphere at the time of each HST image. For 581 example, Galileo data can help infer whether, at the time of each HST image, the magnetosphere 582 was experiencing a solar wind compression or other dynamic behavior such as a quasi-periodic 583 interval of magnetic loading/unloading (e.g. Kronberg et al., 2005, 2007; Louarn et al., 2014; 584 Yao et al., 2019), and the measured variability in the magnetic field and plasma properties 585 provide a valuable constraint to M-I coupling models.

586

### 587 **5.** Summary

We have identified the position of the main auroral emission in all HST images that overlapped with the Galileo mission (1996-2003). We have quantified the variability in the main emission position and compared it to concurrent shifts in the position of the Ganymede footprint and to changes in the current sheet current density  $\mu_0 I_0$  fit to concurrent Galileo data. We expect that the position of the satellite footprints will depend on the  $\mu_0 I_0$  term, which provides a

measure of how radially stretched the magnetic field is, because the satellites are located at a fixed position in the magnetosphere and any motion in their auroral footprints should be linked to a change in the magnetic field configuration. By comparison, past observations have shown that the main auroral emission may shift independently (in magnitude and direction) of the satellite footprints, which would suggest that the variability can be driven by factors in the corotation enforcement current system or any other mechanism responsible for the main emissions that do not influence the magnetic field geometry.

600 We compared the magnitude and direction of latitudinal shifts in the main auroral 601 emission and Ganymede footprint and found that the two auroral features generally moved 602 together (i.e. both shifted poleward or both shifted equatorward with respect to a reference 603 contour). However, we also found that the position (with respect to a reference contour) of both 604 the main auroral emission and the Ganymede footprint are only weakly linked to the changes in the concurrent best fit  $\mu_0 I_0$ . The lack of the expected clear relationship between the Ganymede 605 606 footprint behavior and the current sheet current density is puzzling and may reflect the 607 uncertainty in the planetary limb fitting during the STIS image processing. Additionally, we 608 found that there can be significant differences in the measured main emission position among 609 images from the same day, even after accounting for the expected variability with CML / over a 610 Jovian day, which is probably also indicative of the measurement uncertainties.

As part of our analysis we derived a northern and southern statistical main emission reference contours using all images in the north and south hemispheres, respectively, and also derived statistical reference contours using only images from specific CML ranges. We found that the main emission position shifts by  $\sim 1^{\circ}-2^{\circ}$  over the course of one Jovian rotation and that the observed CML dependence is consistent with the mapping model predictions that account for

616 local time asymmetries in Jupiter's magnetosphere. Additionally, we mapped our derived 617 statistical main emission reference contour to the magnetosphere using both a flux equivalence 618 and field line tracing technique and found that the main emission typically maps to  $\sim$ 20-40 R<sub>J</sub> in 619 the equator and at larger distances near dusk than near dawn.

In summary, we have quantified the temporal and spatial (CML and local time) variability of the main auroral emission and Ganymede footprint during the Galileo era. We do not find a strong link between the auroral shifts and the current sheet current density fit to Galileo data but we expect that future studies will provide more insight into the drivers of the observed auroral variability, both by decreasing the uncertainty in the auroral position and by expanding our analysis to other Galileo and Juno datasets.

626

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Ganymede footprint



803 Figure 1. (Top left) Illustration showing how a change in the configuration of magnetic field 804 lines in Jupiter's magnetosphere can lead to a latitudinal shift in auroral features like the main 805 emission or a satellite footprint (not to scale). The blue (red) field lines show the field 806 configuration for a weak (strong) current sheet. (Top right) Results of tracing model field lines to 807 the northern ionosphere from 6 R<sub>J</sub> (dash-dot), 15 R<sub>J</sub> (dashed), and 30 R<sub>J</sub> (solid) in the jovigraphic 808 equator assuming a weak (blue) or strong (red) current sheet consistent with the measured 809 current sheet variability observed by Galileo. Modified from Figure 8 of Vogt et al. (2017). (Bottom left) Two HST polar auroral images from 2000 (red) and 2005 (blue) are overlayed, 810

showing how the Ganymede footprint and main auroral emission can shift latitudinally by
several degrees. Reproduced from Grodent et al. (2008a). (Bottom right) HST polar image of
Jupiter's aurora from Bonfond et al. (2012) in which the main auroral emission is so expanded
that it is located equatorward of the Ganymede footprint. The white line shows the Bonfond et al.
(2012) reference main emission.

816



Figure 2. (Left) Black lines show the orbital path of the Galileo spacecraft projected onto the equatorial plane, with the sun to the left. Lines are drawn only at times with available magnetic field measurements. Colored boxes show Galileo's position at the times of the 143 HST images used in this study, with the exception of the two HST images from 28 May 1998 (DOY 148), when no magnetometer data are available. Light blue lines show the positions of the expanded and compressed Joy et al. (2002) magnetopause. (Right) Galileo's orbital path projected onto the equatorial plane (black lines) along with its position at the times of HST images (colored)

squares) in the inner and middle magnetosphere. Galileo's trajectory is shown only for the 10 orbits for which HST images overlap or nearly overlap with intervals when the current sheet best fit  $\mu_0 I_0$  was calculated (when the spacecraft was located between 10 and 30 R<sub>J</sub> – see the red dashed circles).

829



Figure 3. Time series of the current sheet current density,  $\mu_0 I_0$ , and auroral shifts during the Galileo era. (top) Best fit  $\mu_0 I_0$  calculated using Galileo data as a function of time. Error bars show the variability obtained by fitting the inbound and outbound portions of each Galileo orbit separately (see text). Red lines show times of the HST images used in this study with (solid) and

835 without (dashed) a visible Ganymede footprint. The dashed horizontal line at 476 nT indicates 836 the average  $\mu_0 I_0$  fit from all Galileo orbits. (middle) Ganymede footprint shift (see text) as a 837 function of time. In this and the next panel data from northern hemisphere images are plotted as 838 circles and data from southern hemisphere images are plotted as star symbols; gray symbols 839 indicate data from auroral images with no corresponding  $\mu_0 I_0$  fit. Both the Ganymede footprint 840 and main emission shifts are defined as positive if the relevant auroral feature is poleward of the 841 reference contour/footpath and negative if it is equatorward. Error bars indicate the uncertainty in 842 the Ganymede footprint position reported by Bonfond et al. (2017) (see text). (bottom) Mean 843 main auroral emission shift in each image, corrected for CML dependence (see text), as a 844 function of time. Error bars indicate the standard deviation of the main emission shift.



846

Figure 4. (left) Polar projection of an HST image taken on 25 November 1998 with CML 164.2°
(yellow star). Colored lines radiating outward from the magnetic pole show the magnetic
longitude "slices" along which we fit the auroral brightness with a Gaussian in the region
between the two pink contours. The gray line shows the reference main emission contour of
Nichols et al. (2009). White stars show the identified main emission locations for this image,

852	with a spacing of 2° magnetic longitude. System III left-handed longitude is noted in white text
853	and latitude is noted in blue. (b) Auroral brightness (thick lines) and Gaussian fits (thin lines)
854	along selected magnetic longitude "slices" from the left panel of Figure 4, plotted as a function
855	of distance from the Nichols et al. (2009) reference contour in degrees of magnetic latitude. Each
856	brightness profile has been plotted in the same color of the corresponding magnetic longitude
857	slice.



Figure 5. Distribution of the main emission locations identified following the approach
described in Section 3, shown here in a polar view looking down on the planet in the northern
hemisphere and looking up at the planet in the southern hemisphere. Colors represent the number
of images for which the main emission is located in each 2° magnetic longitude by 0.1° magnetic
longitude box. Data are plotted separately for all images (left column) and for images from the

specified CML ranges. Thick gray contours in all panels show the reference contours of Nichols
et al. (2009) in the northern hemisphere and Grodent et al. (2003) in the southern hemisphere.
Thick black lines show the statistical main emission reference contour defined in this study using
images from all CMLs.

869



Figure 6. Polar plots comparing the location of our statistical reference main emission contour
(black) to the locations of the previous reference contours identified by Grodent et al. (2003)
(red), Nichols et al. (2009) (blue), and Bonfond et al. (2017) (green dashed and solid lines for the
contracted and expanded reference contours, respectively). The left panel shows the reference
contours for the northern hemisphere and the right panel shows the reference contours for the
southern hemisphere.





Figure 7. (top) Polar projections of the statistical reference contours derived for various CML
bins. In the northern hemisphere the CML bins are 80°-140° (purple), 140°-190° (blue), 190°-

240° (green), and 240°-290° (red), and in the southern hemisphere the CML ranges are 0°-60° 881 (purple), 60°-130° (blue), and 290°-360° (red). Our statistical reference emissions for all images 882 883 (from all CMLs) are plotted in black. (middle) Ionospheric contours mapping to 50 R<sub>J</sub> in the 884 magnetosphere using the Vogt et al. (2011) flux mapping model with JRM09 as the internal field 885 model, calculated for CML 120° (purple), 160° (blue), 210° (green), and 270° (red) in the 886 northern hemisphere, and 30° (purple), 90° (blue), and 330° (red) in the southern hemisphere. 887 Black contours show the ionospheric mapping for CML 190° in the northern and 50° in the 888 southern hemisphere. (bottom) Magnetic latitudinal shift between the CML-specific reference 889 contour and the average statistical main emission contour plotted as a function of SIII left handed 890 longitude. Solid lines show the observed latitudinal shift and dashed lines show the latitudinal 891 shift predicted from the mapping model.

892



Figure 8. Plots of the Ganymede footprint shift and main auroral emission shift. The auroral
shifts are calculated as the mean spherical distance between the respective auroral feature
(footprint or main emission) and a specific reference contour (see text) and are defined as
positive for a poleward shift. In the left panel the main auroral emission shift is calculated using
the main emission position at all longitudes and in the right panel the main auroral emission shift
is calculated using only longitudes near the Ganymede footprint (see text). Circles and stars
indicate northern and southern hemisphere images respectively.



904

905 Figure 9. Dependence of the observed auroral shifts on the best fit current sheet current density 906 term  $\mu_0 I_0$ , obtained from Galileo data, for the date of each HST image. In all panels circles and 907 stars indicate northern and southern hemisphere images respectively. a) The Ganymede footprint shift as a function of the best fit  $\mu_0 I_0$  for each HST image. Error bars indicate the uncertainty in 908 909 the Ganymede footprint position reported by Bonfond et al. (2017) (see text). b) As in Figure 9a 910 but for the CML-corrected main auroral emission shift. Error bars indicate the standard deviation 911 of the main emission shift. c) The difference between the Ganymede footprint shift and the main 912 emission shift as a function of the best fit  $\mu_0 I_0$  for each image.





915 Figure 10. The equatorial mapping of Jupiter's main auroral emission, shown here by the 916 mapped radial distance plotted as a function of the mapped local time. Red lines show the result 917 of averaging the flux mapping of each individual main emission contour from all images in this 918 study, plotted separately for the north (solid) and south (dashed). Blue lines show the flux 919 mapping results for the north (solid) and south (dashed) statistical reference contours, calculated 920 using the average CML value of the images from each respective hemisphere (190° for the north 921 and 50° for the south). Black lines show the average of the individual mappings for each image 922 obtained by tracing field lines using the JRM09 + CAN2020 model (Connerney et al., 2018, 923 2020) for the north (solid) and south (dashed).



**Figure 11.** Expected variability in the ionospheric mapping of 30 R<sub>J</sub> radial distance in the jovigraphic equator, calculated by tracing model field lines for different internal field models (GAM, Grodent et al., 2008b; VIP4, Connerney et al., 1998; JRM09, Connerney et al. 2018) as noted. In the top row field lines were traced assuming the current sheet model of Connerney, Acuña, and Ness (1981), while in the bottom row field lines were traced using the current sheet model of Connerney et al. (2020). Blue, green, and red contours show the traced 30 R<sub>J</sub> mapping calculated using low, average, and high values, respectively, for the  $\mu_0 I_0$  parameter in the

933 CAN1981 (top) and CON2020 (bottom) current sheet models (see text). Bins of 2° magnetic
934 longitude by 0.1° magnetic latitude are shaded in gray if the main emission was located in that
935 area in at least two of the images used in this study.



937

Figure S1. Ionospheric mapping contours from the Vogt et al. (2011) flux mapping model with
JRM09 as the internal field model. (top left) Contours mapping to equatorial radial distances 20-,
40, 60, and 80 R<sub>J</sub> at CML 0°. (top right) Contours mapping to equatorial radial distances 20, 40,
60, and 80 R<sub>J</sub> at CML 180°. (bottom left) Overlap of the CML 0° (red) and CML 180° (blue)

942 mapping contours from the top row. (bottom right) Contours mapping to 50 R<sub>J</sub> in the equator



944



946 Figure S2. Dependence of the observed auroral shifts on the best fit current sheet current density 947 term  $\mu_0 I_0$ , obtained from Galileo data, for the date of each HST image. This figure follows the 948 format of Figure 9 except that here we plot the best fit  $\mu_0 I_0$  values from the inbound or outbound 949 orbit segments corresponding to each HST image date where applicable rather than the orbit-950 averaged  $\mu_0 I_0$  fit. In all panels circles and stars indicate northern and southern hemisphere images respectively. a) The Ganymede footprint shift as a function of the best fit  $\mu_0 I_0$  for each 951 952 HST image. Error bars indicate the uncertainty in the Ganymede footprint position reported by 953 Bonfond et al. (2017). b) As in Figure S2a but for the CML-corrected main auroral emission

- 954 shift. Error bars indicate the standard deviation of the main emission shift. c) The difference
- between the Ganymede footprint shift and the main emission shift as a function of the best fit
- 956  $\mu_0 I_0$  for each image.
- 957

- **Table S1.** (see separate file) Date, time, CML, and other relevant details for the 143 images used
- 959 in this study.

Figure 1.



### **Expected Auroral Variability**



# Main Emission and Ganymede footprint both move in latitude



## Main Emission moves; Ganymede footprint does not



Figure 2.



Figure 3.



Figure 4.





Figure 5.



Figure 6.

### North

180°

270°

60°

**50°** 

## South

.90°

-80°

70°

.

()°

Grodent et al. (2003) Nichols et al. (2009) Bonfond et al. (2017) This work Figure 7.



Figure 8.



Figure 9.


Figure 10.



Figure 11.



Year		Day of Year	Time (hh:mm	Rootname	Hemisphere	CML (degrees	Ganymede fo
	1997	263	13:58:28	o43b06btq	South	85.27	Yes
	1997	263	14:05:08	o43b06bvq	South	89.3002	Yes
	1997	263	15:35:15	o43b05c1q	North	143.7794	Yes
	1997	263	15:41:55	o43b05c3q	North	147.8096	Yes
	1997	335	4:06:06	o43b09b3q	North	117.5941	Yes
	1997	335	4:17:06	o43b09b5q	North	123.3356	No
	1998	148	11:58:04	o43b20010	North	162.9034	No
	1998	148	12:21:59	o43b20x9q	North	180.2019	No
	1998	207	13:49:01	o43b12xaq	North	110.2241	Yes
	1998	207	14:27:01	o43b2rxeq	North	133.7433	Yes
	1998	207	15:23:32	o43b2sxgq	North	166.9409	Yes
	1998	207	15:30:14	o43b2sxiq	North	171.0573	Yes
	1998	309	4:26:00	o43b15xeq	South	14.0346	Yes
	1998	330	0:51:55	o43b13s8q	North	164.2251	Yes
	1998	330	0:58:08	o43b13saq	North	168.1843	Yes
	1998	330	2:37:30	o43b4askq	North	227.9448	Yes
	1999	179	17:04:22	o43b21010	North	162.6151	Yes
	1999	179	17:24:30	o43b21020	North	175.3293	Yes
	1999	220	11:35:22	o5hya3z9q	South	13.2715	No
	1999	220	12:56:47	o5hyc3zhq	South	62.7378	No
	1999	220	13:39:28	o5hye3zpq	South	88.2966	No
	1999	225	13:51:04	o5hy02tsq	North	128.1348	No
	1999	225	13:57:39	o5hy02tuq	North	132.8214	No
	1999	225	15:26:49	o5hy02u0q	North	186.0218	No
	1999	225	15:33:24	o5hy02u2q	North	190.6733	No
	1999	226	9:12:43	o5g202x4q	South	110.7551	No
	1999	226	9:44:15	o5g2a2010	North	129.5923	No
	1999	226	9:52:10	o5g2a2xeq	North	134.6304	No
	1999	226	11:01:04	o5g2c2010	North	176.0331	No
	1999	226	11:15:16	o5g2c2xpq	North	185.1854	No
	1999	226	11:26:16	o5g2c2xrq	North	191.258	No
	1999	226	12:37:46	o5g2e2010	North	234.4946	No
	1999	226	12:51:58	o5g2e2y2q	North	243.7127	No
	1999	226	13:02:58	o5g2e2y4q	North	249.7196	No
	1999	227	14:25:12	o5g2a3caq	South	89.921	No
	1999	227	14:30:25	o5g2a3cbq	South	93.4729	No
	1999	227	14:34:43	o5g2a3cdq	South	96.2413	No
	1999	227	14:41:55	o5g2a3cfq	South	100.0274	No
	1999	227	14:54:12	o5g2b3chq	North	107.4535	No
	1999	227	16:28:02	o5g2d3csq	North	163.9806	No

1999	227	18:04:43	o5g2f3d3q	North	222.4323 No
1999	228	9:45:17	o5g2a1bqq	South	71.2713 No
1999	228	9:50:30	o5g2a1brq	South	74.8232 No
1999	228	9:54:48	o5g2a1btq	South	77.5916 No
1999	228	10:02:00	o5g2a1bvq	South	81.3777 No
1999	228	10:14:17	o5g2b1bxq	North	88.8039 No
1999	228	11:47:35	o5g2d1c3q	North	145.0087 Yes
1999	228	13:24:16	o5g2f1c9q	North	203.4605 No
1999	228	15:02:43	o5g2h1cfq	North	262.9805 No
1999	264	18:56:54	o5hy04hsq	South	68.1017 Yes
1999	264	19:09:34	o5hy04010	South	75.1415 Yes
1999	264	19:30:57	o5hy04i2q	South	88.6356 Yes
1999	264	20:27:30	o5hya4i4q	North	122.7892 Yes
1999	264	20:37:30	o5hya4i6q	North	128.2834 Yes
1999	264	21:04:50	o5hya4iaq	North	145.2913 Yes
1999	264	22:01:54	o5hya4icq	North	179.9357 No
1999	264	22:12:54	o5hya4ieq	North	185.9551 No
1999	264	22:38:52	o5hya4iiq	North	202.6959 No
1999	284	8:07:01	o5hya5bhq	North	168.0855 No
1999	284	9:26:34	o5hya5bpq	North	216.1962 No
1999	294	1:45:14	o5hya1qgq	South	4.0287 Yes
1999	294	3:03:26	o5hya1qoq	South	51.1586 Yes
1999	294	3:41:16	o5hya1qwq	South	74.0202 Yes
2000	53	16:19:51	o5hyb6fzq	North	111.6086 No
2000	53	16:59:32	o5hyb6g7q	North	134.7111 No
2000	319	5:58:28	o5hyb5eiq	North	147.8579 No
2000	319	7:17:59	o5hyb5eqq	North	195.9811 No
2000	319	7:56:31	o5hyb5eyq	North	219.2357 No
2000	349	10:46:42	o6ba02010	North	162.0103 No
2000	349	11:12:02	o6ba02mhq	North	178.1079 No
2000	349	12:05:24	o6ba02020	North	209.5926 No
2000	349	12:13:03	o6ba02mmq	North	214.1675 No
2000	349	13:42:24	o6ba02msq	North	268.2896 No
2000	349	13:46:47	o6ba02030	North	270.7887 No
2000	349	14:13:54	o6ba02n5q	North	288.0991 No
2000	349	15:18:25	o6baa2naq	South	326.3175 No
2000	349	15:58:40	o6baa2ngq	South	350.6528 No
2000	349	16:52:16	o6baa2010	South	22.9528 No
2000	349	17:16:00	o6baa2ntq	South	37.9522 No
2000	349	17:27:00	o6baa2020	South	44.0837 No
2000	351	11:00:31	o6ba03010	North	111.6184 Yes

2000	351	11:25:51	o6ba03utq	North	127.7846 Yes
2000	351	12:19:14	o6ba03020	North	159.2104 Yes
2000	351	12:26:53	o6ba03uyq	North	163.7852 Yes
2000	351	13:56:14	o6ba03v4q	North	217.907 Yes
2000	351	14:00:37	o6ba03030	North	220.406 Yes
2000	351	14:27:44	o6ba03vhq	North	237.7122 Yes
2000	351	14:38:44	o6ba03040	North	243.4514 Yes
2000	351	15:29:38	o6ba03vmq	North	274.3524 No
2000	351	17:08:42	o6baa3010	South	334.2355 No
2000	351	17:30:12	o6baa3w3q	South	347.6957 Yes
2000	351	17:40:12	o6baa3020	South	353.3171 No
2000	353	9:27:49	o6ba04010	South	356.8136 No
2000	353	9:53:09	o6ba04boq	South	12.7257 No
2000	353	10:04:09	o6ba04020	South	18.7806 No
2000	353	10:54:02	o6ba04btq	South	48.966 Yes
2000	353	11:34:19	o6ba04bzq	South	73.3211 Yes
2000	353	12:30:29	o6ba04030	South	107.2026 Yes
2000	353	14:09:59	o6baa4chq	North	167.3598 Yes
2000	353	14:48:57	o6baa4cnq	North	190.9592 Yes
2000	353	15:43:22	o6baa4010	North	223.7685 Yes
2000	353	16:21:29	o6baa4020	North	246.8136 Yes
2000	363	7:07:20	o6ba01o1q	South	337.8215 No
2000	363	7:49:39	o6ba01o7q	South	3.5056 No
2000	363	8:43:44	o6ba01030	South	36.102 No
2000	363	9:15:18	o6ba01olq	South	55.7924 No
2000	363	9:26:18	o6ba01onq	South	61.7811 No
2000	363	10:23:12	o6baa1opq	South	96.2163 No
2000	363	11:59:10	o6bab1010	North	154.3189 No
2000	363	12:20:40	o6bab1p6q	North	167.9586 No
2000	363	12:30:40	o6bab1020	North	173.3996 No
2001	13	16:50:08	o6ba06ryq	North	218.8244 No
2001	13	17:29:44	o6ba06s4q	North	242.7634 Yes
2001	13	18:19:38	o6ba06010	North	272.9895 Yes
2001	13	19:58:39	o6baa6smq	South	332.8875 No
2001	13	20:38:36	o6baa6suq	South	357.0381 Yes
2001	13	21:32:26	o6baa6010	South	29.5412 Yes
2001	13	22:04:00	o6baa6t8q	South	49.2932 Yes
2001	13	22:15:00	o6baa6taq	South	55.2182 Yes
2001	13	22:18:52	o6baa6tcq	South	57.6514 Yes
2001	13	23:44:40	o6baa6tiq	South	109.5193 Yes
2001	20	12:41:34	o6ba07wuq	South	42.04 Yes

2001	20	13:21:10 o6ba07x0q	South	65.9783 Yes
2001	20	14:11:08 o6ba07010	South	96.2437 No
2001	20	14:42:42 o6ba07xeq	South	116.1648 No
2001	20	14:53:42 o6ba07xgq	South	121.9198 No
2001	20	15:50:07 o6baa7xiq	North	156.1195 Yes
2001	20	16:30:04 o6baa7xqq	North	180.2693 No
2001	20	17:23:53 o6baa7010	North	212.7613 No
2001	20	17:55:27 o6baa7y4q	North	232.6127 Yes
2001	20	18:06:27 o6baa7y6q	North	238.4375 Yes
2001	20	19:43:31 o6bab7yeq	South	297.0287 No
2001	21	16:00:04 o6ba05aaq	South	312.5132 Yes
2001	21	16:39:40 o6ba05agq	South	336.4513 Yes
2001	21	17:29:32 o6ba05010	South	6.6561 Yes
2001	21	18:01:06 o6ba05auq	South	26.514 Yes
2001	21	18:12:06 o6ba05awq	South	32.3322 Yes
2001	21	18:15:58 o6ba05ayq	South	34.7653 Yes
2001	21	19:41:45 o6ba05b4q	South	86.6211 Yes
2001	21	22:21:17 o6baa5bmq	North	183.0587 Yes
2001	21	23:01:14 o6baa5buq	North	207.2083 No
2001	32	8:56:31 o43b22lxq	North	272.566 No
2001	32	9:06:32 o43b22010	North	277.5126 No

Galileo radial	Galileo Local	HST Program
22.9208	19.985	7308
23.1049	20.0133	7308
23.5899	20.086	7308
23.5899	20.086	7308
81.103	0.9636	7308
81.103	0.9636	7308
No Galileo in	No Galileo in	7308
No Galileo in	No Galileo in	7308
55.059	21.588	7308
55.059	21.588	7308
55.2772	21.5967	7308
55.4946	21.6053	7308
98.3139	0.2839	7308
42.1848	20.3856	7308
42.1848	20.3856	7308
42.8245	20.4215	7308
40.3408	0.5991	7308
40.3408	0.5991	7308
43.2001	0.2382	8171
42.5781	0.2726	8171
42.5781	0.2726	8171
18.188	16.9963	8171
18.188	16.9963	8171
18.9336	17.135	8171
18.9336	17.135	8171
26.477	18.1638	7769
26.6847	18.1845	7769
26.6847	18.1845	7769
27.2997	18.2448	7769
27.2997	18.2448	7769
27.2997	18.2448	7769
27.7148	18.2845	7769
28.1258	18.323	7769
28.1258	18.323	7769
36.6506	18.9854	7769
36.6506	18.9854	7769
36.6506	18.9854	7769
36.6506	18.9854	7769
36.9861	19.0074	7769
37.319	19.029	7769

37.9773	19.0711	7769
42.3204	19.3301	7769
42.3204	19.3301	7769
42.3204	19.3301	7769
42.3204	19.3301	7769
42.6141	19.3466	7769
42.9057	19.3629	7769
43.4828	19.3947	7769
43.7683	19.4104	7769
55.639	19.8138	8171
55.639	19.8138	8171
55.639	19.8138	8171
55.8328	19.8247	8171
55.8328	19.8247	8171
55.8328	19.8247	8171
56.0253	19.8357	8171
56.0253	19.8357	8171
56.0253	19.8357	8171
7.2384	12.7939	8171
7.9958	13.4632	8171
76.0187	19.8391	8171
76.0187	19.8391	8171
76.2369	19.8452	8171
6.5533	10.6917	8171
6.8066	11.1004	8171
218.6383	18.924	8171
218.3945	18.925	8171
218.3945	18.925	8171
115.767	19.5731	8657
115.767	19.5731	8657
115.5272	19.5755	8657
115.5272	19.5755	8657
115.0477	19.5804	8657
115.0477	19.5804	8657
115.0477	19.5804	8657
114.808	19.5829	8657
114.568	19.5853	8657
114.568	19.5853	8657
114.3289	19.5878	8657
114.3289	19.5878	8657
105.4073	19.6851	8657

105.4073	19.6851	8657
105.1688	19.6879	8657
105.1688	19.6879	8657
104.6907	19.6935	8657
104.6907	19.6935	8657
104.6907	19.6935	8657
104.6907	19.6935	8657
104.4524	19.6963	8657
103.9748	19.7019	8657
103.9748	19.7019	8657
103.9748	19.7019	8657
94.6815	19.8193	8657
94.6815	19.8193	8657
94.6815	19.8193	8657
94.4431	19.8225	8657
94.2059	19.8258	8657
93.9683	19.829	8657
93.4919	19.8356	8657
93.4919	19.8356	8657
93.2546	19.8388	8657
93.017	19.8421	8657
15.6328	23.7626	8657
15.2786	23.8517	8657
14.7537	23.9896	8657
14.5798	0.0373	8657
14.406	0.0862	8657
13.8959	0.237	8657
13.0697	0.5071	8657
12.908	0.5642	8657
12.908	0.5642	8657
115.1022	16.5974	8657
115.3387	16.6001	8657
115.3387	16.6001	8657
115.8125	16.6055	8657
115.8125	16.6055	8657
116.0499	16.6081	8657
116.0499	16.6081	8657
116.0499	16.6081	8657
116.0499	16.6081	8657
116.5243	16.6135	8657
141.4522	16.8636	8657

141.69	16.8658	8657
141.69	16.8658	8657
141.69	16.8658	8657
141.9273	16.8679	8657
141.9273	16.8679	8657
142.1649	16.87	8657
142.1649	16.87	8657
142.1649	16.87	8657
142.1649	16.87	8657
142.402	16.8722	8657
145.252	16.8976	8657
145.489	16.8997	8657
145.489	16.8997	8657
145.489	16.8997	8657
145.7264	16.9017	8657
145.7264	16.9017	8657
145.7264	16.9017	8657
146.2014	16.9059	8657
146.2014	16.9059	8657
174.9517	17.1423	7308
174.9517	17.1423	7308