#### Overview: Giant Planet Model Outputs for PSWS

# On behalf of UCL Europlanet Team (N. Achilleos, P. Guio)

Images: Clarke / Spencer



- Our proposed model outputs for PSWS will be based on two sources:
- (1) The UCL Magnetodisc Model, which can provide axisymmetric models of this region for both the Jovian and Kronian magnetospheres.
- (2) The UCL '2.5D' axisymmetric model of the Jovian thermosphere, including the effects of magetosphere-ionosphere coupling (hence relevant to studies of 'planetary space weather').

### **Examples of Model Ouput**



• Some outputs from UCL Saturn Magnetodisc Model (see Achilleos, Guio and Arridge, MNRAS, 2010)

- Model uses the formalism of Caudal (1986, JGR) – force balance between plasma pressure, magnetic (JxB) force and centrifugal force.
- Main model parameters are disc radius (linked to solar wind pressure) and hot plasma content (an internal 'driver')

#### **Examples of Model Output**



- Left Panel: Yates, Achilleos, Guio (2012, PSS) calculated steady-state, axisymmetric atmospheric models connected to different models of the middle magnetospheric flow and auroral region (Nichols and Cowley, 2004; Grodent and Gerard, 2001).

- *Right Panel:* Time-dependent response of the model to a brief (~3 hour) Gaussian-type 'pulse' in solar wind pressure (disc radius) – see also *Yates et al (2014, PSS).* Output shown for time at the 'peak' of the pulse.

## Work in Progress and Aims

• As part of our effort for VESPA, the UCL team are writing a 'user guide' document to the models. This document could of course be made available to all interested parties.

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#### **Baseline Functionality:**

- We could compute first-order magnetodisc models which represent solar wind-dependent 'perturbations' by applying the same 'angular momentum conservation' for the disc as applied by *Yates et al (2014)*.
- The caveat is that such models are valid only over a *limited range* of time scales for the solar wind event which 'triggers' the change in the planetary system.
- A 'library' of models could be constructed, according to parameters such as time scale of solar wind pressure change.

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#### How will this work as part of a 'PSWS Service'?

• A suggested simple approach would be to provide a library of models, according to relevant parameters, particularly *time scale* of the solar wind dynamic pressure event.

• Relevant PSWS predictions of solar wind dynamic pressure at giant planet orbits could then be (spectrally?) analysed to search for time scales in a similar range.

• If a certain critical 'fraction' of the signal power lies within the valid range of time scales, a corresponding set of model outputs could be retrieved from the library as a representative approximation of how the planetary thermosphere-magnetosphere system would respond – or at least to somehow place limits on the 'degree' of this response.

• The above is one possibility – we welcome any other suggestions.