

Modification of Jupiter's Stratosphere Three Weeks After the 2009 Impact

Short Title: Jupiter's Stratosphere Three Weeks After 2009 Impact

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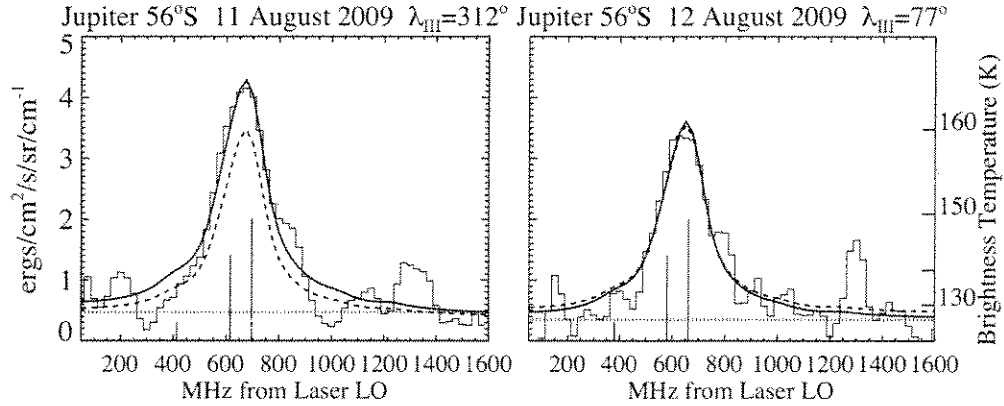
ABSTRACT

Infrared spectroscopy sensitive to thermal emission from Jupiter's stratosphere reveals effects persisting 23 days after the impact of a body in late July 2009. Measurements obtained on 2009 August 11 UT at the impact latitude of 56°S (planetocentric), using the Goddard Heterodyne Instrument for Planetary Wind and Composition mounted on the NASA Infrared Telescope Facility, reveal increased ethane abundance and the effects of aerosol opacity. An interval of reduced thermal continuum emission at $11.744\text{ }\mu\text{m}$ is measured $\sim 60^{\circ}\text{--}80^{\circ}$ towards planetary east of the impact site, estimated to be at 305° longitude (System III). Retrieved stratospheric ethane mole fraction in the near vicinity of the impact site is enhanced by up to $\sim 60\%$ relative to quiescent regions at this latitude. Thermal continuum emission at the impact site, and somewhat west of it, is significantly enhanced in the same spectra that retrieve enhanced ethane mole fraction. Assuming that the enhanced continuum brightness near the impact site results from thermalized aerosol debris blocking contribution from the continuum formed in the upper troposphere and indicating the local temperature, then continuum emission by a haze layer can be approximated by an opaque surface inserted at the 45-60 mbar pressure level in the stratosphere in an unperturbed thermal profile, setting an upper limit on the pressure and therefore a lower limit on the altitude of the top of the impact debris at this time. The reduced continuum brightness east of the impact site can be modeled by an opaque surface near the cold tropopause, which is consistent with a lower altitude of ejecta/impactor-formed opacity or significantly lesser column density of opaque haze material. The physical extent of the observed region of reduced continuum implies a minimum average velocity of 21 m/s transporting material prograde (planetary east) from the impact.

24 *Key words:* Jupiter, atmosphere; Impact processes; Infrared observations; Atmospheres,
25 composition; Atmospheres, dynamics

1. INTRODUCTION

The comet Shoemaker-Levy 9 (SL9) impacts on Jupiter in July 1994 appeared then to be a unique opportunity to investigate giant impacts and restorative processes in a strongly perturbed Jovian atmosphere [e.g., Harrington et al. 2004]. On 2009 July 19, A. Wesley in Murrumbateman, Australia discovered a new dark spot in Jupiter’s southern hemisphere that closely resembled the SL9 impact sites and that had not been observed on preceding nights [Sánchez-Lavega et al., 2010; Hammel et al., 2010], providing a new opportunity to build on the experience of SL9. We incorporated spectroscopy of the impact site region into Jupiter observations in 2009 August at the NASA Infrared Telescope Facility (IRTF) on Mauna Kea, Hawaii. A significant result of studying the SL9 impacts was the discovery of many after-effects in the planet’s stratosphere, such as the injection and photodestruction of tropospheric NH_3 [e.g., Kostiuk et al., 1996; Griffith et al., 1997; Fast et al., 2002], shock-produced H_2O [e.g., Bjoraker et al., 1996], thermal modification [e.g., Lellouch et al. 1995; Orton et al., 1995; Bézard et al. 1997] and aerosol deposition, dispersal, and sedimentation [e.g., West et al., 1995]. The planned observing technique for 2009, sensitive to infrared auroral activity in the polar regions, also was well-suited to investigate the post-impact stratosphere as debris settled and equilibrium chemistry re-established itself. We report here on high-resolution mid-infrared spectroscopy of stratospheric ethane (C_2H_6) at the impact latitude of 56°S (planetocentric), 23 days after impact, finding a modest local enhancement in stratospheric C_2H_6 concentration near the impact site (Fig. 1) and significant changes in continuum emission near and east of the impact site that constrain the vertical distribution of debris and the stratospheric wind speed and direction.



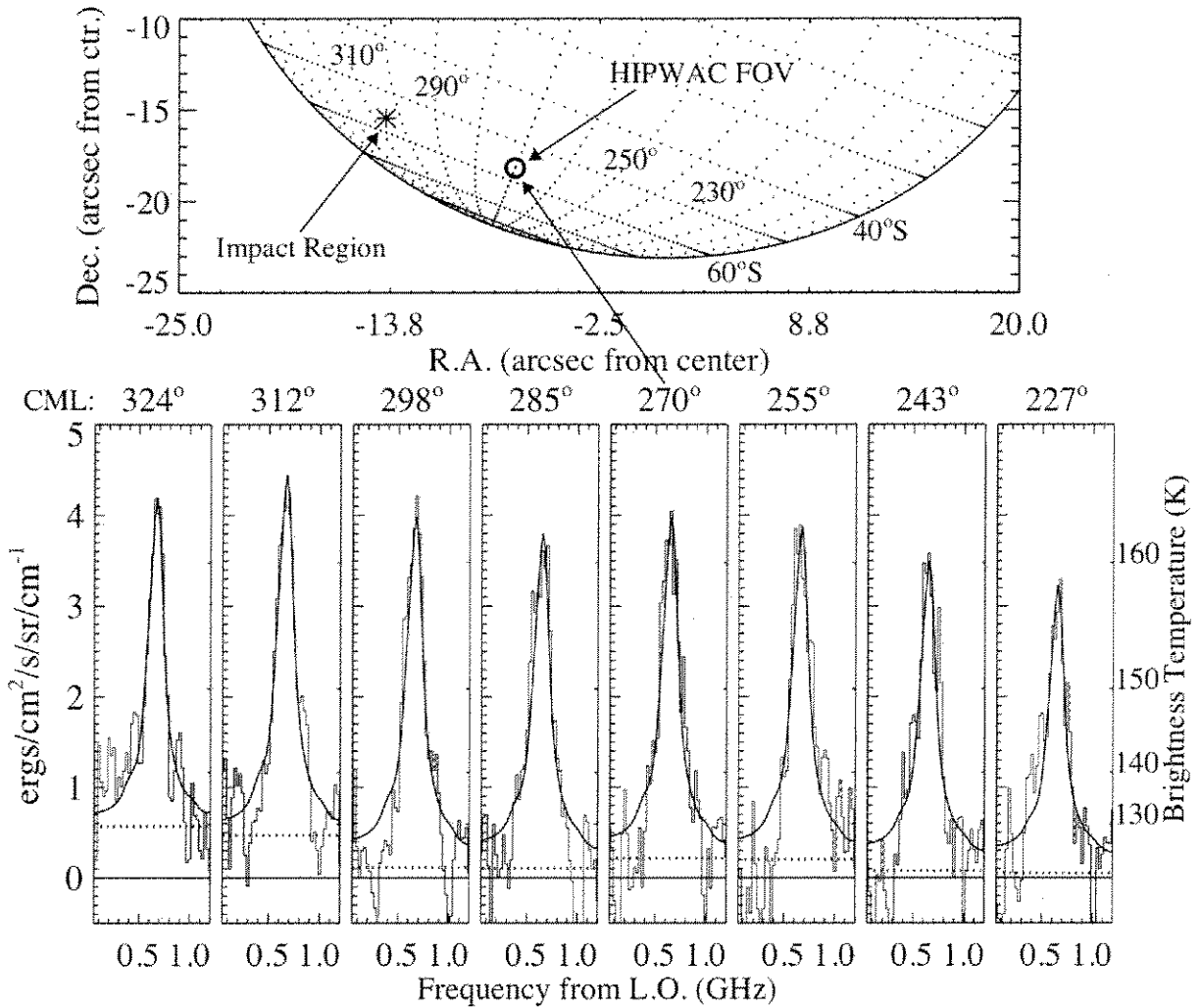
Approximate location of Figure 1 (see FIGURE CAPTIONS section)

2. OBSERVATIONS

Infrared spectra, targeting the 56° south impact latitude on Jupiter, were acquired on 2009 August 11 and 12 (UT) using the NASA Goddard Space Flight Center's Heterodyne Instrument for Planetary Wind And Composition (HIPWAC) at the IRTF (Fig. 2). HIPWAC is a mid-infrared heterodyne spectrometer that obtains very high spectral resolving power ($\lambda/\Delta\lambda > 10^6$) by mixing an infrared laser local oscillator with light collected from a target, generating the difference-frequency spectrum at radio frequencies about the local oscillator. For this investigation, a carbon-14 dioxide gas-laser local oscillator provided access to the spectral bandwidth of $\pm 0.0534 \text{ cm}^{-1}$ ($\pm 1.6 \text{ GHz}$) centered on the $^{14}\text{CO}_2$ P18 transition at 851.4895 cm^{-1} ($11.744 \text{ }\mu\text{m}$, 25.53 THz). Absolute intensity calibration is provided by a calibrated internal thermal source, the measured reflectivity and transmittance of optical elements, and the transmittance of Earth's atmosphere at the observed airmass and wavelength. Calibration measurements were acquired before, once during, and after the sequence of measurements on August 11 described here. Other instrument performance parameters (e.g., HgCdTe detector bias voltage) showed that instrument performance remained consistent throughout this period.

65 Meteorological data collected by the Canada-France-Hawaii Telescope indicated consistently
66 good conditions ([www.cfht.hawaii.edu/cgi-](http://www.cfht.hawaii.edu/cgi-bin/uncgi/elixir/skyprobe.pl?plot&mcal_20090810.png)
67 [bin/uncgi/elixir/skyprobe.pl?plot&mcal_20090810.png](http://www.cfht.hawaii.edu/cgi-bin/uncgi/elixir/skyprobe.pl?plot&mcal_20090810.png)).

68 The spectra were sampled by a discrete 64-channel filter-bank with a resolution of
69 25 MHz ($8.3 \times 10^{-4} \text{ cm}^{-1}$). The distribution of power as a function of difference frequency
70 accurately measures true line shapes of spectral features, while high spectral resolving power
71 unambiguously identifies molecular species. Fully-resolved molecular line shapes constrain
72 species abundance and the thermal profile in the region of line formation. The infrared
73 heterodyne technique and the unique features of very high-resolution spectroscopy of planetary
74 atmospheres are described in greater detail by Kostiuk [1994] and by Kostiuk and Mumma
75 [1983].



Approximate location of Figure 2 (see FIGURE CAPTIONS section)

HIPWAC's narrow, high-resolution bandpass was configured to detect individual features of ethane (C_2H_6) for the granted polar auroral investigation, therefore ethane served as the target for this unexpected opportunity to investigate a post-impact Jovian stratosphere. Ethane is a stable product of methane (CH_4) photochemistry that is nearly uniformly mixed in Jupiter's stratosphere and is the second-most significant carbon reservoir after methane. Molecular features formed in the positive temperature gradient of a planetary stratosphere appear in emission (Figs. 1 and 2). The principal ethane feature in the measured spectra is a doublet at

~600 MHz, transitions RR(5,11,1) and RR(5,11,3) in the ν_9 band [Atakan et al., 1983; Daunt et al., 1984] at 11.74391 μm rest wavelength (851.5051 cm^{-1}). The HIPWAC field of view (FOV) at this wavelength is $\sim 0.84''$ full-width at half-maximum (FWHM), nearly diffraction-limited on the 3 m NASA IRTF telescope. The FOV spans $\sim 5^\circ$ of longitude, centered on the central meridian at the 56°S impact latitude on the 49 arcsecond disk of Jupiter. Spectra were acquired by maintaining the FOV pointing on the central meridian and integrating a sequence of ~ 4 -minute scans while Jupiter's rotation scanned a range of longitude across the FOV. Individual spectral scans have been averaged into overlapping groups (Fig. 2) to provide sufficient signal-to-noise ratio, covering 10° - 20° in longitude. The varying Doppler shift due to relative motion of Earth and Jupiter and due to Earth's rotation has been corrected by shifting to a common frequency scale before averaging. Unidentified features in this spectral region at 1300 MHz and at 200 MHz are not instrumental artifacts and are excluded from the present analysis.

The date and time (UT) and central meridian longitude (CML) of the ten spectra extracted from the measurements, as well as the C_2H_6 mole fraction and continuum brightness retrieved from radiative-transfer analysis (described below), are reported in Table 1. All longitudes used in this work are reported in System III Jovimagnetic coordinates (e.g., Russell and Dougherty 2010). The spectral interval near the line peak is displayed in Fig. 2 for the eight spectra nearest the impact site at 305° longitude. One spectrum with high signal-to-noise ratio was acquired at 77° CML on August 12 (Fig. 1). Another spectrum of modest signal-to-noise ratio at 125° CML was acquired on August 11. Both regions are far from the impact site and there is no evidence that they are affected by the impact. The remaining eight spectra are composed of scans acquired on August 11. The peak brightness temperature at line core in the spectrum at 312° CML is greater than the rest (Figs. 1 and 2). Continuum in the spectra east (on

Jupiter) of the impact site is depressed relative to the continuum observed at 77° CML, which reflects approximately quiescent conditions at the impact latitude.

Approximate location of Table 1 (see TABLE section)

3. RADIATIVE-TRANSFER ANALYSIS

Quantitative results from radiative-transfer analysis of the emergent spectra are reported in Table 1. The radiative-transfer techniques employed here are those of Hewagama et al. [2008]. Spectral line parameters were derived from direct laboratory measurements targeting ethane features near $^{14}\text{CO}_2$ lasing transitions for heterodyne investigations, consistent with Daunt et al. [1984] and Atakan et al. [1983], and nearly identical with recent values from Vander Auwera et al. [2007], which are required to accurately model individual molecular features at infrared heterodyne spectral resolution. A model of the measured ethane emission spectrum is synthesized by combining the model spectrum in many sub-resolution elements, weighted by an approximation to the telescope point-spread function, to simulate the integrated beam detected by the spectrometer. The sub-resolution elements differ in slant angle and in the projected radial velocity due to Jupiter rotation. Finite seeing and tracking uncertainties were incorporated by adjusting the modeled beam width to $1.8''$ FWHM, blurring the modeled ethane doublet consistent with the measured spectrum. Fitted parameters in the atmospheric model (e.g., ethane mole fraction, temperature, continuum emission, Doppler shift) are iteratively improved to best fit the measured spectrum with the modeled emergent spectrum. Uncertainties are derived from exploring the goodness of fit in the vicinity of the best fit.

Similar analysis of infrared heterodyne spectroscopy retrieved an ethane mole fraction of

2.8±0.6 ppmv (parts per million by volume) in Jupiter's unperturbed equatorial stratosphere in the 0.2-20 mbar region [Kostiuk et al., 1987, 1989; Livengood et al., 1993], assuming a thermal profile derived from Voyager Infrared Interferometer Spectrometer (IRIS) measurements [Hanel et al., 1979]. A simultaneous fit to ethane mole fraction and stratospheric temperature for the 2009 August spectrum with high signal-to-noise ratio at 77° longitude yields mole fraction nearly identical to the quiescent equatorial retrieval. The partially-saturated ethane emission line peak requires a temperature in the 1–10 mbar region, in which the line-center contribution function peaks, that is similar to *Voyager* retrievals near this latitude but a few Kelvin greater than the temperature in profiles derived from more-recent *Cassini* CIRS data [Nixon et al., 2007], from the December 2000 Jupiter flyby. The impact took place during northern Jovian spring, the *Voyager* flybys in autumn, and the *Cassini* flyby in summer. Since there is no seasonal match, neither empirical thermal profile is inherently a better choice. Since the retrieved temperature at 77° longitude corresponds most closely to the *Voyager* profile, we adopt that profile for this investigation in order to minimize free atmospheric parameters. The remaining fitted parameters are a constant-with-height ethane mole fraction profile above the tropopause, the continuum emission brightness, and Doppler shift to account for modest deviations from tracking precisely on Jupiter's central meridian. The contribution to the ethane emission line originates in the 0.2-20 mbar region, with the bulk of the contribution peaking at ~2 mbar.

In principle, the fully-resolved ethane line shapes contain information on both mole fraction and temperature in the region of line formation and both parameters could be fitted for each measured spectrum just as for the test fit to the 77° longitude spectrum. In practice, the signal-to-noise ratio in these particular measurements is not sufficient to unambiguously

distinguish between spatial variations in composition vs. spatial variations in stratospheric temperature, based on spectroscopic constraints alone. We discount the possibility of spatially variable temperature in the measured spectra for several reasons independent of spectroscopic constraints, holding the temperature profile steady and fitting the ethane mole fraction:

1. Stratospheric thermal decay measured after the much larger SL9 impacts [e.g. Bézard, 1997; Lellouch et al., 1995] and unperturbed temperatures in infrared heterodyne spectroscopy of ammonia, 18 days after a major SL9 impact [Fast et al., 2002], suggest that residual heat from the impact should have dissipated long before three weeks. Other investigations of the August 2009 impact region support thermal decay by three weeks post-impact [Orton et al., 2010; dePater et al., 2010; Fletcher et al., 2010*a,b*].
2. Additional opacity in the stratosphere from impact debris would not heat it, but could conceivably cool it. The stratosphere is heated by solar UV absorption and cooled by infrared radiation. The stratospheric temperature is greater than radiative equilibrium at 5 AU because it radiates inefficiently. Increased opacity could radiate more effectively and thereby cool the stratosphere, but not heat it. There is no evidence for such a thermally-driven decrease in emission by stratospheric ethane.
3. Wave phenomena have been suggested informally as a mechanism for zonal thermal variability in the stratosphere. No prior infrared heterodyne measurement has needed to invoke such an hypothesis under equilibrium conditions. If the variation in ethane emission brightness were due entirely to thermal variations, such as variations that might be indicative of Rossby waves [e.g., Deming et al. 1997; Flasar et al. 2004], temperature increases of over 5 K in the few mbar region where the line peaks form are required to fit the emission, which is high compared to ~1 K variations reported by Deming et al. [1997]. The measured

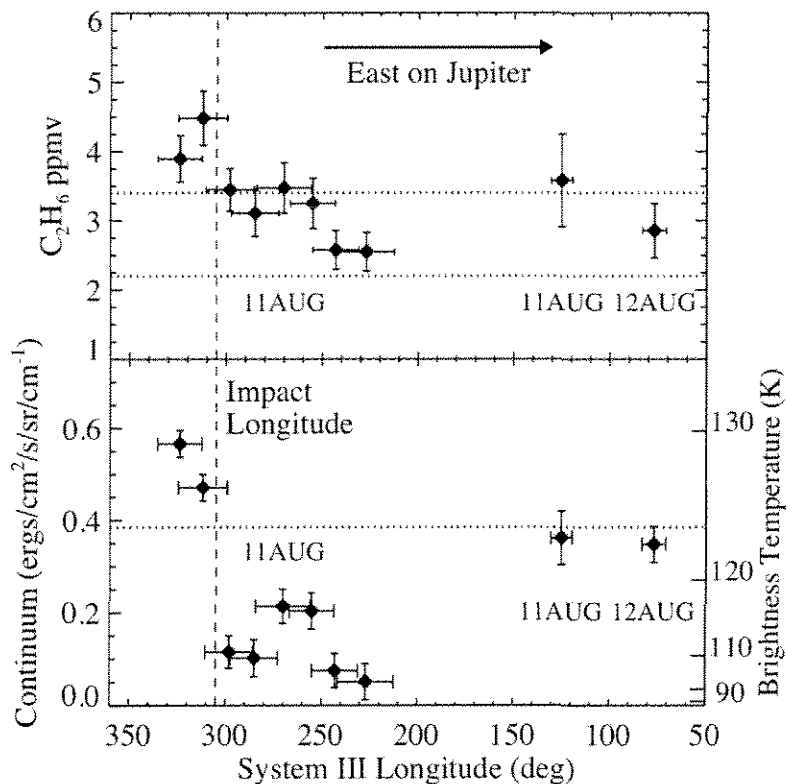
continuum brightness variation is not in the same sense as the ethane emission brightness variation, and the corresponding continuum brightness temperatures vary by over 10 K (Fig. 3). It is possible that an impact initiates a standing wave, which plausibly might not have been observed during the SL9 impacts due to the superposition of so many inputs. The distant spectra at 77° and 125° longitude do not appear consistent with either a local minimum in stratospheric temperature due to a wave of wavenumber 1, or a local maximum due to a wave of wavenumber 2. Without specific evidence, there is no reason to contemplate a more complex waveform.

4. There is a strong plausibility argument for compositional perturbations arising and persisting. Jupiter's polar auroral stratosphere, for example, shows evidence of non-equilibrium chemistry due to high-energy particle input [Kim et al., 1985; Kostiuk et al., 1993; Livengood et al., 1993]. Ethane's long photochemical lifetime, of order ~100 years [Gladstone 1983], ensures that dissipation from impact-chemistry is only by transport and diffusion rather than by rapid photochemical destruction.

4. RESULTS

Quantitative radiative-transfer results from fitting each of the spectra of Fig. 2 are reported in Table 1 and displayed in Fig. 3. The retrieved continuum brightness is significantly depressed over a substantial range of longitude to the east (on Jupiter) of the impact site at 305° longitude, and is significantly enhanced in the spectra west of the impact site. The retrieved ethane mole fraction is generally within the generous uncertainty limits of the quiescent value of 2.8 ± 0.6 ppmv, but is outside that limit in the two spectra just west of the impact site. Furthermore, the sequence of retrievals east of the impact site shows an increasing trend with

201 longitude, from a slight depression in retrieved mole fraction farthest from the impact site at 227°
 202 longitude up to a peak at 312° longitude (Fig. 1).



203
 204 Approximate location of Figure 3 (see FIGURE CAPTIONS section)

205
 206 The ethane mole fraction of 2.9 ± 0.4 ppmv retrieved from the high signal-to-noise
 207 spectrum acquired far from the impact site, at 77° longitude, is consistent with the unperturbed
 208 stratosphere and is adopted here as a standard for that condition. The maximum retrieved ethane
 209 mole fraction is 4.5 ± 0.4 ppmv at 312° longitude, 60% greater than the retrieval at 77° longitude,
 210 with continuum 40% brighter than 77° longitude. The maximum retrieved continuum brightness
 211 at 324° longitude, on the other hand, is 60% greater than at 77° longitude, while the ethane mole
 212 fraction is 40% enhanced. Throughout the region 227°–298° longitude, east of the impact site,
 213 the continuum is depressed by 40%–90% relative to 77° longitude.

Normally, the continuum brightness originates in the cold upper troposphere at around 200 mbar due to $\text{H}_2\text{-H}_2$ translational/rotational collision-induced opacity in Jupiter's hydrogen-dominated atmosphere [Trafton, 1964]. We model the continuum using calculations from Borysow et al., [1985] and fit the measured continuum as it deviates from the calculation. Because features in the spectra are fully-resolved, the measurement of continuum level is independent of degeneracy between continuum emission and gas concentration faced by low-resolution and imaging techniques. No significant deviation is found for the spectra far from the impact site (77° and 125° longitude). The significant deviations of continuum brightness in spectra closer to the impact site must be due to opacity above and interfering with the continuum brightness originating in the upper troposphere. The continuum measurements are consistent with additional opacity introduced at various altitudes and corresponding temperature in the stratosphere.

For the spectra at 312° and 324° longitude, the enhanced continuum can be modeled by introducing a surface of infinite opacity in the stratosphere where the physical temperature is equal to the continuum brightness temperature and greater than in the upper tropospheric region in which $\text{H}_2\text{-H}_2$ opacity dominates. This sets a lower limit on the altitude at the top of the impact debris at this place and time. A surface at the 60 mbar level fits the 125K continuum brightness temperature in the spectrum at 312° longitude, while a surface at the 45 mbar level fits the warmer 130 K continuum brightness temperature in the spectrum at 324° longitude. The fit to the measured spectra is consistent with narrow line wings due to an opaque layer cutting off the contribution of ethane in the lower stratosphere, at greater pressure where broad line wings are formed.

The reduced continuum brightness temperature east of the impact site can be modeled by

opacity above the altitude of H₂-H₂ opacity and at colder temperatures. Opacity at the cold tropopause, ~100 mbar, results in a depressed model continuum similar to the retrievals.

3. DISCUSSION AND CONCLUSIONS

The retrieved stratospheric ethane mole fraction is greatest near the impact site (Fig. 3), on the order of 60% enhanced relative to the unperturbed stratosphere (Table 1). Fletcher et al. [2010a] retrieve elevated ethane abundance at 304° longitude on July 26 (one week post-impact) relative to August 13 (factor of 1.7-3.2 at 6 mbar). If we apply their relative factor to our August 11 measurement of 4.5±0.4 ppmv of ethane at a few mbar at 312°±12° longitude (Table 1), this results in an ethane abundance of 7.6-14.4 ppmv one week after impact compared to the quiescent value of 2.8 ppmv measured by heterodyne spectroscopy [Kostiuk et al., 1987, 1989; Livengood et al., 1993] and confirmed by measurements well away from the impact region. Ethane plausibly could have been formed by fast processes, such as thermochemistry from the direct impact or from the exothermic re-entry of plume ejecta [Harrington and Deming, 2001; Zahnle and Mac Low, 1995; Zahnle, 1996; Livengood et al., 1995, 1997], or perhaps by surface-catalyzed chemistry on injected aerosols. Kostiuk et al. [1996] made limited measurements of ethane eight days after and 15° in longitude away from the SL9 Q1 impact region using IR heterodyne spectroscopy and did not report enhancement of ethane. Fletcher et al. [2010a] and Orton et al. [2010] argue, based on Zahnle [1996], that excess ethane will form only in the absence of oxygen-bearing species, from which they conclude the 2009 impactor may have been oxygen-poor, suggesting that it may have been an asteroid, not a comet.

Enhanced continuum brightness west of the impact site can be modeled by introducing an infinite opacity layer at the ~45-60 mbar level, an upper limit on the pressure and therefore a

lower limit on the altitude of the top of the aerosol ejecta cloud that likely forms the opacity in Jupiter's atmosphere in the vicinity of the impact site. If the total opacity is finite, then the aerosol cloud must extend to greater temperature and thus higher altitude, to produce the same continuum brightness. This is consistent with de Pater et al. [2010] and Orton et al. [2010] who report deposited particles around 10 mbar and down to the 200-300 mbar level and Fletcher et al. [2010b] who report particulates between 3 and 30 mbar less than one week after the impact. West et al. [1995] used HST imaging and aerosol microphysical modeling to estimate particle coagulation and sedimentation times in the SL9 impact regions. They predicted significant settling of $\sim 0.5 \mu\text{m}$ particles down to the 10 mbar level by one month after impact. Hammel et al. [2010] interpret their results as consistent with a more rapid settling of particles from HST observations of the 2009 impact region compared to HST observations of SL9. Our results imply a settling rate of particles that contribute to the $11.7 \mu\text{m}$ opacity that is not inconsistent with the West et al. model based on SL9 aerosol altitudes. Although the entry angle of the 2009 impactor was shallower than that of the SL9 fragments [Sanchez-Lavega et al., 2010], the initial altitude of the resulting aerosol cloud might have been similar since it must have originated from the ballistic re-entry from above of ejected plume material, as with SL9, in order to account for the observed angular extent in the day after impact.

Continuum brightness east of the impact site, at 227° to 298° longitude, is reduced to less than that of the unperturbed atmosphere. This can be modeled as a layer of infinite opacity near the tropopause. Uncertainty limits in retrieving the most depressed continuum brightness are consistent with a layer of unit emissivity in equilibrium with a tropopause temperature no more than 5 K cooler than the 110 K tropopause in the *Voyager* profile [e.g., Hanel et al., 1979, Simon-Miller et al., 2006]. It is unclear why the coolest retrieved brightness temperatures at

227° and 245° longitude, $\sim 100 \pm 5$ K, are less than the nominal tropopause temperature of ~ 110 K. The persistence of sub-micron particles above the cloud deck for weeks after the SL9 impacts was confirmed by West et al. [1995] using *Hubble Space Telescope* (HST) imaging. For an optically thick layer with an appropriate combination of particle size and refractive index at 11.7 μ m wavelength, resulting in a particle absorption cross section less than the geometric cross section, the brightness temperature will be less than the physical temperature [Mishchenko et al., 2002]. A detailed test of these ideas is outside the scope of the present work and may be addressed in the future.

The zonal extent of the region of depressed continuum implies the transport of perturbed atmosphere to a longitude offset of 78° east of the impact site, consistent with prograde transport at an average speed of at least 21-28 m/s. The next further east spectrum, at $\sim 125^\circ$ longitude, is approximately quiescent and limits the maximum prograde wind speed to less than 63 m/s. Enhanced continuum in spectra just west of the impact site could be due to westward transport at higher (warmer) stratospheric altitudes or perhaps direct emplacement of material by the impact. There is not enough sampling in this direction to constrain the extent of impact effects west of the impact site. Flasar et al. [2004] estimated stratospheric wind speeds on Jupiter from *Cassini* CIRS thermal maps, finding an eastward zonal flow in the lower stratosphere of 20–40 m/s, consistent with our results. These velocities are significantly greater than those obtained at this latitude by Porco et al. [2003] from *Cassini* visible imaging of upper tropospheric clouds, confirming that the material sensed in our observations is located in the stratosphere. HST imaging by Hammel et al. [2010] retrieves a maximum eastward velocity of ~ 10 m/s, in the same direction as our measurements, although a lesser speed. They also measure some of the impact debris traveling westward with a maximum speed of ~ 5 m/s. Imaging by the amateur astronomy

community [Hueso et al., 2010a] also is consistent with primarily eastward transport at velocities consistent with the cloud tops. The eastward extent of the debris field measured by HIPWAC is greater than the extent evident in corresponding HST images [Hammel et al., 2010]. The apparent inconsistency could be due to insufficient contrast in the images leading to a lower limit on the extent of the debris field, aerosol evolution and vertical differentiation of particle size populations leading to differential transport in the vertically-varying Jovian wind field, the sensitivities of the employed wavelengths to aerosol populations, or a combination. This suggests that the aerosol properties as well as the vertical distribution of ejecta material and winds remain to be investigated in greater detail.

The July 2009 event provided an unexpected second chance to study impact effects on Jupiter, almost exactly 15 years after the SL9 impacts. The subsequent imaging of smaller impact events on Jupiter by A. Wesley and C. Go on 3 June 2010 and by M. Tachikawa and A. Kazuo on 20 August 2010 indicate that impact events are not so rare as once thought. Investigated Jupiter impacts now range from the 2010 fireball events with no detectable after-effects [Hueso et al., 2010b] to the chemistry-altering SL9 and 2009 impacts, and continued monitoring and study will further enhance our understanding of the effects of impacts on planetary atmospheres.

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447

FIGURE CAPTIONS

Fig. 1. HIPWAC spectra, near (312° longitude, *left*) and far from (77° longitude, *right*) the 2009 July impact site, 11–12 August 2009 (histograms, smoothed for clarity). The solid curve is a model emergent spectrum for ethane in Jupiter’s stratosphere. Vertical lines represent logarithm of C_2H_6 line strength at 180 K. The frequency scale is the difference from the $^{14}\text{CO}_2$ laser local oscillator frequency at 851.4895 cm^{-1} . Prominent features at $\sim 150\text{ MHz}$ and $\sim 1300\text{ MHz}$ are not due to C_2H_6 and are unidentified; they are masked from the retrievals. The horizontal dotted line is a fitted continuum. The dashed-line curve is a model for the quiescent stratosphere (2.8 ppmv C_2H_6).

Fig. 2. Variation of ethane peak emission measured by HIPWAC at 56°S latitude on Jupiter on the central meridian on 2009 August 11 UT. Central meridian longitude (CML) is noted for each panel, 227° through 324° System III, and each spectrum covers 10° – 20° in longitude. The modeled emergent spectrum fitted to the measured data (histograms) is shown by a smooth curve; horizontal dotted lines indicate retrieved continuum. The combination of pressure-sensitive line shape and absolute radiance across the full bandpass simultaneously constrains the C_2H_6 mole fraction and the altitude of an idealized opaque surface (representing a lower altitude limit on the top of the impact debris) in the temperature-pressure profile for each spectrum. This is reflected in the broadening (227° – 298° CML) or narrowing (312° – 324° CML) of the line wings.

Fig. 3. Variation of retrieved ethane mole fraction (*upper*) and continuum brightness (*lower*) from spectra acquired at 56°S latitude on 2009 August 11 and 12 UT. Dotted lines enclose the range of C₂H₆ mole fraction determined previously from heterodyne spectroscopy of the quiescent stratosphere [Kostiuk *et al.*, 1987]. Retrieved C₂H₆ mole fraction is greatest near the impact longitude of 305° (dashed line). Retrieved continuum brightness is greatest near the impact site and can be modeled by opacity in the stratosphere. Depressed continuum brightness toward planetary east of the impact can be modeled by opacity near the cold tropopause. No measurements were made in the interval 125°–227° longitude.

480 TABLE

481

482 **Table 1: Variation with longitude of extracted spectroscopic parameters^a**

UT Date 2009	UT	Longitude ^b Sys III	Fitted C ₂ H ₆ mole fraction ^c	Fitted continuum ^d	Relative C ₂ H ₆ mole fraction ^e	Relative continuum ^f
Aug-12	09:17:41	77°±6°	2.9±0.4	0.34±0.04	-	-
Aug-11	14:44:43	125°±5°	3.6±0.7	0.36±0.06	1.3±0.3	1.0±0.2
Aug-11	07:39:22	227°±14°	2.5±0.3	0.05±0.04	0.9±0.2	0.1±0.1
Aug-11	08:04:53	243°±12°	2.6±0.3	0.07±0.04	0.9±0.2	0.2±0.1
Aug-11	08:25:17	255°±11°	3.3±0.4	0.20±0.04	1.1±0.2	0.6±0.1
Aug-11	08:49:31	270°±14°	3.5±0.4	0.21±0.04	1.2±0.2	0.6±0.1
Aug-11	09:14:47	285°±12°	3.1±0.3	0.10±0.04	1.1±0.2	0.3±0.1
Aug-11	09:36:36	298°±12°	3.4±0.3	0.11±0.04	1.2±0.2	0.3±0.1
2009-Jul-19		305°	<i>Impact site, at 56° S latitude (planetocentric).</i>			
Aug-11	09:58:48	312°±12°	4.5±0.4	0.47±0.03	1.6±0.3	1.4±0.2
Aug-11	10:20:03	324°±11°	3.9±0.3	0.56±0.03	1.4±0.2	1.6±0.2

483 *a* Contribution to ethane emission features originates between 0.2 and 20 mbar, with maximum
484 contribution around a few mbar.

485 *b* Jupiter System III longitude, (radio-magnetic coordinates; Russell and Dougherty 2010),
486 indicating range of longitude during integration. Spectra acquired on central meridian at the
487 56° south impact latitude (planetocentric).

488 *c* Retrieved ethane (C₂H₆) mole fraction in parts per million by volume (ppmv) from radiative
489 transfer analysis.

490 *d* Retrieved thermal continuum brightness, units of erg/cm²/s/sr/cm⁻¹ from radiative transfer
491 analysis.

492 *e* Ethane mole fraction normalized to retrieval at 77° longitude.

493 *f* Continuum brightness normalized to retrieval at 77° longitude.