

# Temperature and area constraints of the South Volund Volcano on Io from the NIMS and SS1 instruments during the Galileo G1 orbit.

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Abstract. Analysis of **data** from **darkside** and eclipse observations of **Io** by the NIMS **and** SS1 instruments show that the South **Volund** hot spot is a manifestation of high temperature active silicate volcanism. The NIMS **data are fitted** with a two temperature model (developed from **modelling** terrestrial **lavas**) which yields a better fit to the data than a single temperature fit. The **multispectral color** temperatures obtained from NIMS are compared with the brightness temperatures obtained from the SS1 instrument, and show excellent agreement for the hotter of the two components fitted to the NIMS data. The two components might correspond to a cooled crust which has formed on the surface of an active flow or lava **lake**, at a temperature of approximately 450 K, **and** covering an area of about 50 **km<sup>2</sup>**, and a hotter and much smaller component, at a **temperature** of approximately 1100 K and an area of less than 0.1 **km<sup>2</sup>**. The hot **component implies** the existence of cracks in the surface crust of a flow or lake through which the hot interior radiates, a hot vent area, or breakouts of lava forming new flow lobes. The ratio of these areas is consistent with the crack-to-crust ratio of some lava flows **and** lava lakes on **Earth**.

## Introduction

**Io** is the most volcanically active body known in the solar system. Volcanic hot spots were discovered on **Io** by the Voyager **spacecraft** in 1979 [*Pearl and Sinton, 1982*] with temperatures approaching 650 K, the detection limit of the Voyager Infrared Imaging Spectrometer (IRIS). **These** temperatures failed to resolve the on-going question of which form of volcanism was dominant on **Io**, silicate volcanism (with temperature from 900 K to greater than 1900 K) or sulfur volcanism (390-600 K, perhaps up to 1000 K if sulfides are involved). Since Voyager, Earth-based observations have yielded color temperatures indicative of silicate volcanism (e. g., 1550 K in 1986; 1225 K in 1990, *Veeder et al., 1994*). During the **early** Galileo **epoch**, in the latter **half** of 1996, high temperature events were observed with ground based instruments with temperatures in excess of 1400 K [*Stansbury et al., 1997*], while Galileo was observ-

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ing active volcanism from Jupiter orbit. This has greatly strengthened the case for silicate volcanism on **Io** [Carr, 1986; Blaney *et al.*, 1995; Davies, 1996].

### **Voyager and Galileo at Io**

In 1979 Voyager detected a plume -75 km high emanating from the **Volund** vent, located at **lat** 23 N, 177 W. During the Voyager encounters a hot spot was observed in this region by Voyager IRIS with a temperature of 585 K over an area of 21 **km<sup>2</sup>** [J. C. Pearl and A. S. McEwen, personal communication].

One of the major mission **objectives** of the Galileo spacecraft is to observe Io's volcanic processes. As a Voyager plume site, the **Volund** region was a natural choice for close scrutiny during the **Galileo** mission. The Galileo **spacecraft** entered orbit around Jupiter on 7 December 1995 and since June 1996 has been observing Io. In sunlit **images** of Io the Galileo Solid State Imaging (**SSI**) experiment revealed surface color and **albedo** changes in the **Volund** region since Voyager observed it 17 years earlier [McEwen *et al.*, 1997a]. Centered at 18 N, 173 W, this feature (referred to hereafter as South **Volund**) is a new **low-albedo linear feature** (possibly fissure-fed flows) about 150 km long surrounded by more **diffuse** deposits (probably plume fallout **pyroclastic** material). It appears to be a new volcanic center distinct from the Voyager-era **Volund** volcanic region. SS1 also **detected** an active plume at least 30 km high over South **Volund** during orbit **G1** [McEwen *et al.*, 1997b]. Of the plume seen by Voyager, there was no sign. The South **Volund** plume site is about 200 km from the **Volund** plume site. If both are served by a common **magma** source then it must be **deep-seated**.

### **South Volund in the dark**

During Galileo's first (G 1) orbit of Jupiter the hemisphere of **Io** containing **Volund** was imaged, while it **was** in darkness, by both the Near Infrared Mapping Spectrometer (**NIMS**) and SS1. As described below, NIMS and SS1 identified South **Volund** as a thermal anomaly, part of which **had** a temperature in excess of 700 K [McEwen *et al.*, 1997c]. This was the only hot spot **seen** by both instruments in darkness **during** the G 1 encounter.

On June 29, 1996, during the G 1 encounter, SS1 imaged 10 in eclipse, covering longitudes from 150 W to 330 W. The 2.13 second exposure through the **clear** filter (0.38 to 1.05  $\mu\text{m}$ ) revealed the presence of high-temperature hot spots (including one at South **Volund**) all of which corresponded to low **albedo** features on the surface of Io [Belton *et al.*, 1996]. The image was taken at a range of 1,035,000 km, with a resolution of 10.5 km per pixel. The eclipse observation, however, **had** an **effective** resolution of about 50 **km/pixel** as the image was smeared due to the long exposure. The operation of the SS1 instrument is **described** in Belton *et al.*, [1992]. The derivation of the SS1 **area-temperature** relationship is discussed in McEwen *et al.*, [1997c]. To see a hot spot in eclipse requires a temperature of at least 700 K, if the hot spot fills an entire SS1 pixel.

Temperature is inversely proportional to area. The possible temperature/area combinations are shown in Figure 1, with the areas projected (corrected for oblique viewing) for comparison with the NIMS data.

Figure 1

On June 28 1996, ten hours before the SS1 observation, NIMS obtained one 408 wavelength observation of Io, ranging between 0.7 and 5.2  $\mu\text{m}$ . This observation encompassed all latitudes **and** the longitude range 54 W to 190 W, thus covering part of the leading hemisphere and most of the **anti-jove** hemisphere of **Io**. Longitudes between 95 W **and** 182 W were in darkness. The range to **Io** was 700,000 km, **and** the resolution of NIMS at this range was 350 **km/pixel**. South **Volund** was again identified as a hot spot.

### Processing NIMS spectra

NIMS is an instrument particularly well suited to observing the thermal signature of volcanism. This signature is particularly easy to analyze in **nightside** observations where data are **uncontaminated** by reflected sunlight. Analysis of the NIMS data [Carlson *et al.*, 1996; Lopes-Gautier *et al.*, 1997] revealed the presence of at least 16 hot spots in the **nightside** image, with the promise that with improving analysis techniques more will be revealed. Hot **spots** were initially identified by looking for NIMS pixels with characteristic thermal ramps towards the 5 micron end of the spectrum (see Figure 2). A hot **spot** typically occupies adjacent NIMS **pixels** in the direction of the instrument's mirror sweep. This is caused by the instrument's point **spread** function, described in Carlson *et al.*, [1992]. To obtain the true **emittance** from an individual hot spot, the spectra from the two adjacent NIMS pixels containing the hot spot are added. There is additional **variation** within the spectrum as the NIMS **field** of view moves across the **spatially** small hot spot, caused by the instrument changing grating positions during the observation. This causes the slight patterning in the data in Figure 2 but which **does** not occur in the spectrum for each grating position, each of which consists of up to 17 wavelengths.

Figure 2

### Fitting NIMS spectra: Single temperature fits

The South **Volund** NIMS spectrum was initially fitted with a single **temperature** black **body Planck** function, using a least-squares algorithm. Table 1 shows the temperature fits to the **NIMS** data for South **Volund** using a variety of methods. Fitting a temperature to all single grating **positions** for two **added** NIMS pixels produced a mean temperature of 537 K  $\pm$  17 K, (17 K being the standard deviation to the **fit**). Fitting a single grating spectrum (grating position 19) produced a best-fit temperature of 530 K  $\pm$  10 K. Fitting the combined spectrum of two **NIMS** pixels produced a **best-fit** temperature of 520 K  $\pm$  10 K (see Figure 2). It is apparent that the patterning does not produce significant errors in the analysis.

The color temperature of 520 K and the measured flux were used to determine that the surface area radiating at this temperature is about 23 **km<sup>2</sup>**. From Figure 2 it is clear that a more sophisticated thermal model with more components

is required as the **SSI-detected** hot spot in the same location has a temperature equal to or greater than 700 K [see *McEwen et al., 1997c*]. *Close* examination of the NIMS South **Volund** spectrum (and some of the other hot spot spectra, including Prometheus) showed extra flux between 0.7 and 2.0  $\mu\text{m}$  (see Figure 2), poorly fitted by the best single temperature fit. This is further evidence of the hotter component to the thermal anomaly. The hot component is very small relative to the much huger cooler component in the NIMS spectrum which tends to be dominated by larger radiances from the cooler component. A second, hotter component was therefore **added** to the fitting algorithm to **see** if the fit could be improved.

### Two-temperature fits

With two areas at different temperatures, the resulting power spectrum is of the form

$$I_{\lambda} = f_h \frac{c_1}{\lambda^5 (e^{c_2/\lambda T_h} - 1)} + f_w \frac{c_1}{\lambda^5 (e^{c_2/\lambda T_w} - 1)}$$

where  $I_{\lambda}$  is the radiance at wavelength  $\lambda$   $\mu\text{m}$ ,  $c_1 = 3.74185 \times 10^8 \text{ W } \mu\text{m}^4 \text{ m}^{-2}$ ;  $c_2 = 1.4388 \times 10^4 \text{ } \mu\text{m} \text{ K}$ ;  $f_w$  is the scale factor applied to the warm component which is at temperature  $T_w$ , and  $f_h$  is the scale factor applied to the hot component which is at temperature  $T_h$ . Emissivity for both units is taken to be 1.

The two-component **least squares** best fit was determined iteratively and the standard deviation and variance residuals checked to ensure that the fit was the best within computational limits ( $\approx 10$  K). Surface areas were **determined** from the best-fit temperature and scale factor, **ratioed** to the power output at a given wavelength at this temperature.

The best two temperature fit for the NIMS data was obtained using 450 K  $\pm 10$  K for the warm component, and 1100 K  $\pm 10$  K for the hot component. The resulting **sped ra** are shown in Figure 2. This two temperature fit reduced the standard deviation of the single temperature fit to the NIMS data by 40% (see Table 1). The 450 K component has an **area** of 40  $\text{km}^2$ , and the 1100 K component has an area of 0.06  $\text{km}^2$ .

### NIMS-SSI comparison

Using the SSI **clear** filter flux and using the NIMS derived temperature of 1100 K, the **SSI-implied** area for a brightness temperature of 1100 K is 0.04  $\text{km}^2$ . The areas, **corrected** for the slightly different **emittance** angles (41 degrees for NIMS, 62.5 degrees for SSI) for the hot component are 0.080  $\text{km}^2 \pm 0.002 \text{ km}^2$  from NIMS, and 0.087  $\text{km}^2$  for SSI at 1100 K (see Figure 1), a remarkable degree of agreement. This good agreement **between** observations taken at significantly different viewing geometries suggests that there are no strong emission angle effects. From the NIMS data the projected area of the warm component is 53  $\text{km}^2$ . If circular, the radius is just over 4 km.

Table 1

## Discussions

The source of this thermal anomaly could be a single flow or crusting-over lava lake, or a series of flows. The hot component comprises 0.15 % of the warm area. If this corresponds to a flow crack fraction, it is very close to those derived from the **study** of active Hawaiian (terrestrial) lava flows a few days after emplacement. These have **been** found to have crack fractions of 3.6% for very young (seconds to minutes) flow lobes, but this drops to about 0.4% for flow lobes tens of minutes older [*Flynn and Mouginis-Mark, 1992*]. As cooling proceeds over days the crack fraction decreases further, diminishing the contribution to thermal emission from the hottest lava. The crack fraction of the **Kupaianaha (Kilauea, Hawaii)** lava lake in a relatively quiescent state ranged from 1.43 % to 0.08% [Flynn, 1992]. The lack of observed emission angle effects implies the hot material is not hidden in deep vertical cracks observable only at low emission angles, and might be in the process of erupting on to the surface.

With terrestrial lava flows it has been shown that a good level of agreement to spectral data can be obtained with two temperature fits [e.g., *Crisp and Baloga, 1990; Flynn and Mouginis-Mark, 1992; Flynn, 1992*]. The two temperatures generally correspond to a cooling crust on the surface of the lava flow (or crust forming on the surface of a lava lake) and cracks in the surface that reveal the hot material within. The temperature of the cracks remains remarkably constant, while the surface of the crust cools rapidly. With time, the proportion of the surface comprised of crack..., the crack fraction, tends to decrease.

The temperature of the cool component of the thermal anomaly is a function of the age of the bulk of the cooling material. At the time of emplacement, the temperature distribution along a lava flow is non-uniform, **decreasing** with distance (i.e., with age). Initially, heat loss from a flow surface by radiation is rapid, being a **function** of the fourth power of temperature. As temperature decreases with time, the rate of cooling decreases **dramatically**. The result is that the warm component of a flow surface soon becomes near-isothermal. The thermal conductivity of the crust **determines** how fast heat is transferred to the surface of the flow (further buffered by latent heat release from a **still-molten** interior). It takes a few hours for a highly vesicular (bubble-rich) crust, to days for a less vesicular crust (close to Hawaiian cooling rates), to a few weeks for almost solid- (volatile-free) basaltic crusts [*Davies, 1996*], for a flow to cool down to 450 K on the surface of Io. Assuming that the two temperature **fit** is representative of the actual **temperature** distribution, we may infer that the South **Volund** flow surface (or lava lake crust) was relatively young (**less** than a few weeks) during these observations.

The temperature of the hot component is **considerably** less than that expected if molten basalt (typically 1350 K to 1450 K) is the erupting material. However, the **two-temperature** component fit is somewhat insensitive to the highest temperature flow **areas** (areas close to the vent, or

newly exposed lava at temperatures greater than 1300 K) as these areas are very small relative to the rest of the anomaly, emplaced **days** or weeks earlier. Additionally, the **low** signal to noise ratio in the NIMS data for thermal radiation at short wavelengths ( $< 2.0 \mu\text{m}$ ) tends to mask the highest temperature components contributions at the shortest wavelengths. It has been found that two temperature fits often reduce the apparent temperature of the hot component by up to 250 K [*Flynn and Mouginis-Mark, 1992*]. This implies that part of the South **Volund** flow **could** be at a temperature in excess of 1350 K, in the range of molten basalt.

There also exists the possibility that 1100 K is **indeed** the temperature at which the material is erupted. **Keszthelyi** and McEwen [1996] postulate that the crust of **Io** should be dominated by alkali-rich, silica-rich compositions with melting points of  $\leq 1400$  K, the result of repeated partial melt **ing and extensive differentiation of the ionian mantle**. Silica-rich **rhyolites** on Earth commonly have eruption temperatures from 1000 K to 1200 K and **dacites** can have eruption temperatures as low as about 1100 K [e.g., *Francis, 1993*]. On Earth, the presence of water decreases melting temperatures, but it is not known if magmas on **Io** contain water or other **volatiles** which have similar effects on melting temperature. 1100 K is too high a temperature to be **sulphur**, which melts at 400 K and vaporizes at about 700 K at STP; **sulfur boils vigorously at 500 K on Io** [*Lunine and Stevenson, 1985*].

To summarize, NIMS and SS1 data collected **during** night and eclipse reveal the presence of thermal **anomalies** at sub-pixel resolution. For the South **Volund** hot spot there is excellent agreement between the area derived from NIMS data for the hot component of a two component thermal anomaly, and the area derived from SS1 data using the NIMS hot **component** temperature. These measured temperatures are most likely a manifestation of silicate volcanism, possibly a flow or series of flows, or crusting-over lava lake, part of which was recently or currently active at the time of observation.

For the South **Volund** and other hot spot NIMS observations a multiple-component lava flow cooling **model** (such as used in *Davies, 1996; Howell, 1997 and Keszthelyi and McEwen, 1997*) may well be more appropriate than a two temperature model, providing better constraints on the high temperature components of the flow. The **nature** of the South **Volund** eruption (most likely involving both silicate **lavas** and **sulphur** compounds as **volatiles**) and other hot spots will be **further** constrained by analyzing NIMS and SS1 observations from subsequent orbits throughout the Galileo prime and Europa **missions**, to the year 2000.

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**Figure 1.** The curve is the SS1 South **Volund** area (corrected for **emittance** angle) as a function of temperature. Also shown is the best-fit NIMS hot component area **and** temperature, 0.08 **km<sup>2</sup>** at 1100 K  $\pm$  10 K (**solid** circle). Change in area over the error temperatures is negligible.

**Figure 2.** Single (long-dash) **and** two-temperature (solid) fits to the S. **Volund** NIMS data (stars). The standard deviation of the fit of the two temperature model (1100 K, 0.08 **km<sup>2</sup>**, dot-dash line; **and** 450 K, 53 **km<sup>2</sup>**, shortdash line) is 40% less than that obtained from the single temperature (520 K, 23 **km<sup>2</sup>**) fit.

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**Table 1, Temperature Fits to South Volund Data**

<i>Best fit with single temperature</i>					
	Temperature K	Area <b>km<sup>2</sup></b>	stand dev. of data <b>fit</b>		
Individual grating positions: mean <b>temperature<sup>(a)</sup></b>	537 ± 34	17 * 1	0.0728		
Two NIMS <b>pixels</b> combined <b>spectrum</b>	520 ± 10 <sup>(b)</sup>	23	0.0698		
Grating position 19	530 ± 10 <sup>(b)</sup>	20	0.0653		
<i>Best fit with two temperatures</i>					
	Temp1 K	<b>Area1</b> <b>km<sup>2</sup></b>	Temp2 K	<b>Area2</b> <b>km<sup>2</sup></b>	atand. dev. of data fit
Two NIMS pixels <b>spectrum.</b>	110W	0.080	450 <sup>(b)</sup>	53	0.0457
Grating <b>pos.</b> 19	1100 <sup>(b)</sup>	0.078	450 <sup>(b)</sup>	49	0.0395

(a) Using added grating **positions** for the two NIMS pixels for S. **Volund**. The temperature for each grating position **is** determined, and the **mean** calculated.

(b) Fitting algorithm temperature increment = 10 K.

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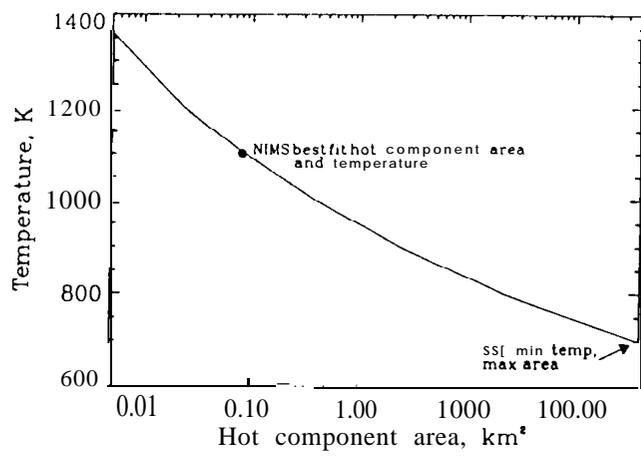


Figure 1

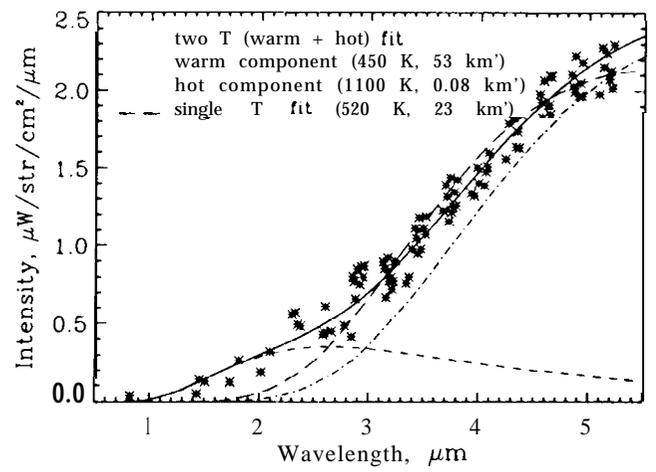


Figure 2