

COMPARISON OF THE SOLAR WIND INTERACTION WITH
COMETS GIACOBINI-ZINNER, HALLEY, AND GRIGG-SKJELLERUP

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Results from the encounters with comets Giacobini-Zinner, Halley, and Grigg-Skjellerup are reviewed. The varying activities of the comets provide strong and weak obstacles in the solar wind and the interactions may be compared and contrasted. In general terms, the size of the interaction region and bow shock standoff is determined by the comet outgassing rate. The ion pickup and massloading processes are discussed, with particular attention on the wave turbulence generated and the evolution of the ion distributions. Current understanding of the observations and the ability of models to explain them are considered.

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