Memo

Juno science team meeting, Copenhagen June 16-19

Attending the science team meeting of the Juno mission indeed turned out to be a good opportunity for me to learn more about the Juno mission, talk to the people involved and get connected to the science team.

The main topics on the meeting agenda were the current status of the overall mission (spacecraft, trajectory, trade studies, etc.), the current status and the latest operations of the nine scientific instruments onboard Juno, and discussions within the three science working groups, particularly the working groups on Jupiter's interior (IWG), atmosphere (AWG) and magnetosphere (MWG). While the mission and spacecraft status news was mostly technical and not so much of interest for me, the instrument reports gave very interesting insights in the capabilities and the planned science when Juno arrives at Jupiter.

More important, I had discussions with key people working on different instruments. Most notably, I could speak to Randy Gladstone, who is the principal investigator of the Ultraviolet Spectrograph (UVS) team. He offered to include me in the planning of the UVS observations during the main mission phase. Furthermore, I had a discussion with Jonathan Nichols from the University of Leicester about the possibility to propose simultaneous Hubble Space Telescope observations of the UV aurora of both Jupiter and the large moons complementary to the Juno investigations. Nichols is an experienced HST observer and has already proposed HST observations during the approach phase of Juno in May/June 2016 in order to relate Juno measurements outside Jupiter's magnetosphere to aurora processes, which are yet to be granted. At least one follow-up proposal for HST time will be submitted in any case for the next observing HST cycle, which exactly coincides with the Juno main mission phase (Oct. 2016 – Oct. 2017).

Being considered collaborator now on the Juno project, I was also granted access to the websites of the Juno Science Operations Center (JSOC), where all documents and information related to the mission are collected and provided to the team members.

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