Modeling the Jovian subnebula

I. Thermodynamic conditions and migration of proto-satellites

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Abstract. We have developed an evolutionary turbulent model of the Jovian subnebula consistent with the extended core accretion formation model of Jupiter. This model takes into account the vertical structure of the subnebula, as well as the evolution of the surface density as given by an α-disk model and is used to calculate the thermodynamical conditions in the subdisk for different values of the viscosity parameter. We show that the Jovian subnebula evolves in two different phases during its lifetime. In the first phase, the subnebula is fed through its outer edge by the solar nebula as long as it has not been dissipated. In the second phase, the solar nebula has disappeared and the Jovian subdisk expands and gradually clears with time as Jupiter accretes the remaining material. We also demonstrate that early generations of satellites formed during the beginning of the first phase of the subnebula cannot survive in this environment and fall onto the proto-Jupiter. As a result, these bodies may contribute to the enrichment of Jupiter in heavy elements. Moreover, migration calculations in the Jovian subnebula allow us to follow the evolution of the ices/rock ratios in the proto-satellites as a function of their migration pathways. By tempting to reproduce the distance distribution of the Galilean satellites, as well as their ices/rock ratios, we obtain some constraints on the viscosity parameter of the Jovian subnebula.

Key words. planets and satellites: formation – solar system: formation

1. Introduction

In recent years, the conditions leading to the formation of regular satellite systems in the Saturnian and Jovian subnebulae have been studied in detail by Mousis et al. (2002a), Canup & Ward (2002), Mosqueira & Estrada (2003a,b) and Mousis & Gautier (2004). However, while these authors described the evolution of the gas-phase chemistry and/or the conditions of accretion of the regular satellites, none of them coupled the evolution of the subnebula to the last phases of the formation of Jupiter and Saturn.

For instance, Mousis et al. (2002a) and Mousis & Gautier (2004) noted that the accretion rates used in their subdisk models were substantially lower than those calculated by Coradini et al. (1995) for the last stages of Saturn and Jupiter formation. According to them, adopting initial accretion rates in agreement with the Coradini et al. (1995) rates would have been incompatible with the assumption of a geometrically thin disk on which their models were based. Moreover, they assumed subdisks models whose material (gas and gas-coupled solids) were not supplied by the solar nebula, in conflict with the actual scenarios of subnebula formation (Lubow et al. 1999; Magni & Coradini 2004). Instead, they assumed that their subdisks were closed systems with a mass that can only decrease with time, neglecting the fact that the giant planets continued to accrete gas from the solar nebula during a substantial fraction of time.

Canup & Ward (2002, hereafter referred to as CW02), proposed an accretion disk model of the Jovian subnebula supported by the simulations of solar nebula gas accretion through a gap onto a Jupiter-like planet as described by Lubow et al. (1999). These authors considered satellite formation in a low surface density circumJovian accretion disk, resulting from the reduced gas inflow characterizing the last stages of the planet’s growth. The regular satellite formation model of CW02 is therefore compatible with the presence of water ice in the two Galilean icy satellites as well as the apparent incomplete differentiation of Callisto. Moreover, the reduced surface density naturally increases type I migration timescales, thus making survival of satellites more likely.

Their model, however, depends on three unknown parameters, namely the opacity inside the subdisk, the accretion rate of material (from the nebula to the subnebula), and the viscosity parameter inside the subdisk. Moreover, the accretion rate is assumed to be time independent, implying a constant supply of material from the solar nebula. Thus, the model of CW02 does not take into account the progressive thinning of the
solar nebula and its consequences on the structure and the time evolution of the Jovian subnebula.

Finally, in their model of subnebula, although the temperature at the present location of the two Galilean icy satellites is low enough to allow the presence of water ice in satellitesimals, it is too high to maintain the trapping of volatiles such as CO$_2$ and NH$_3$ under the form of hydrates or pure condensates (see Mouissi & Alibert 2005 – hereafter Paper II – for details). This is in conflict with evidence of the presence of these species in the two Galilean icy satellites (see Hibbitts et al. 2000, 2003; Mouissi et al. 2002b; Spohn & Schubert 2003).

Mosqueira & Estrada (2003a,b) considered stationary models of the Jovian and Saturnian subnebulae that were divided in two different zones. Each subnebula was assumed to be composed of an optically thick and potentially turbulent inner region located inside the planet’s centrifugal radius, surrounded by an optically thin laminar extended disk. Since their models were not explicitly tied to any giant planet formation calculations, it is difficult to evaluate whether such structures are natural outcomes of giant planet and their subnebulae formation.

In a recent paper, Alibert et al. (2004) proposed some new models of giant planet formation. These models include migration in solar nebula models whose evolution is ruled by viscous dissipation and photoevaporation. Using these models, the authors showed that it is possible to form planets in a timescale well within observed disk lifetimes. In the present work, we extend the concept described by CW02 to inflow rates given by the model of Jupiter formation presented in Alibert et al. (2005b, hereafter A05) to calculate the structure of the Jovian circumplanetary disk which we assume to be well described by a two-dimensional time dependent turbulent α-model. Moreover, for the sake of consistency, we use in these calculations the same opacity law and equation of state as in A05. This allows us to reduce quantitatively the number of free parameters in our model of subnebula.

The evolution of the subnebula, which is strongly coupled to the last stages of the host planet formation, proceeds in two distinct phases. The first phase corresponds to the time during which the subnebula is still fed by the solar nebula which has not yet fully dissipated. Once this has occurred, the subnebula enters the second phase, during which it evolves as a closed system until all the mass has been accreted by the planet.

Considerations about the thermodynamical state of the Jovian circumplanetary disk as well as about migration of proto-satellites in the subnebula allow us to discuss the survival of the Galilean satellites. We demonstrate that, during the beginning of phase 1 (when the subnebula is fed by the nebula), proto-satellites cannot survive and fall onto Jupiter as a result of type I and type II migration. Once the feeding of the subnebula ceases (phase 2), we show that satellites with properties quite similar to the Galilean ones can survive for a limited range of the dissipation parameter α.

The outline of the paper is as follows. In Sect. 2, we provide some details on the formation of Jupiter and its subnebula. We also describe the structure and the evolution of the circumplanetary disk. In Sect. 3, we examine the conditions of migration of proto-satellites in the subnebula, and, in Sect. 4, we calculate the thermodynamical conditions inside the subnebula. Finally, Sect. 5 is devoted to the discussions and the summary. The composition of ices incorporated in the regular icy satellites of Jupiter, which derives from the thermodynamical conditions of the subnebula, will be discussed in a forthcoming paper (Paper II).

2. Evolutionary turbulent model of the Jovian subnebula

2.1. Formation of Jupiter and its circumplanetary disk

The model of the Jovian subnebula we consider here is derived from the concept advocated both by Stevenson (2001) and CW02: the so-called gas-starved disk model. We recall only briefly this concept as more detailed explanations can be found in CW02.

At the beginning of Jupiter’s formation process, the total radius of the planet equals its Hill’s radius, and no subnebula can exist. At the end of the formation process, the cooling rate of the planet’s envelope is such that its radius shrinks faster than the disk can supply additional gas. Accretion of gas now proceeds through streamers which eventually collide and form a circumplanetary disk (Lubow et al. 1999). When the radius of proto-Jupiter becomes small enough, a subnebula emerges from the contracting atmosphere. This subnebula is fed by gas and gas-coupled solids accreted from the nebula. Note however that, in the original model of CW02, the accretion rate from the solar nebula to the subnebula remains a free parameter. In the model we present here, we use the accretion rate of gas derived from the model of Jupiter formation of A05.

This formation model takes into account three effects, namely the formation process of the planet itself, by accretion of solids and gas, the protoplanetary disk structure and evolution, and the migration of the planet. In this model, the giant planet forms from an embryo originally located between 9 and 10 AU that ends its migration when the disk has disappeared, at the current position of Jupiter. More information about this model can be found elsewhere (A05), and we only give here some details on the end of the formation process, when the subnebula can exist.

During the formation of Jupiter, the planet accretes some gas from the solar nebula. The accretion rate of gas increases with time, and is first governed by the internal structure of the planet (which controls the amount of gas that can be accreted). After ~1.5 Myr (see A05), the planet has opened a gap inside the disk, and the amount of gas that can be accepted by the planet exceeds what can be sustained by the protoplanetary disk. The accretion rate is then controlled by the solar nebula. Hydrodynamical simulations by Lubow et al. (1999) and D’Angelo et al. (2002) have shown that the accretion rate of gas through a gap depends on the mass of the planet and the characteristics of the disk. Analytical fits of the above-mentioned simulations by Veras & Armitage (2004) lead to an accretion rate approximately given by:

$$\frac{M_{\text{gas, Max}}}{M_{\text{disk}}} = 1.668 \left( \frac{M_{\text{planet}}}{M_\text{J}} \right)^{1/3} e^{-\frac{M_{\text{planet}}}{1.5 M_J + 0.04}} + 0.04,$$  

(1)
where $M_J$ is the Jupiter mass and $M_{\text{disk}}$ is the accretion rate in the unperturbed solar nebula, at the position of the planet. In our model, this gives, together with the value of $M_{\text{disk}}$ derived from the disk model of A05, the amount of material flowing in the subnebula.

### 2.2. Structure and evolution of the Jovian subnebula

In our model, the evolution of the subnebula proceeds in two phases. During phase 1, when the solar nebula is still present, the subnebula is fed through its outer edge, at a rate ruled by Jupiter’s formation (see below). The outer radius of the subnebula is taken equal to $150 R_J \sim 1/5 \times R_{\text{Hill}}$, a value close to the one calculated by Magni & Coradini (2004) using a 3D hydrodynamical model of the end of Jupiter’s formation.

In phase 2, namely when the solar nebula has disappeared, the subnebula evolves only due to accretion of its material onto the planet. In addition, due to the conservation of angular momentum, the subnebula expands outward, its outer radius being limited to the Hill radius. In both cases, the inner radius of the subnebula is chosen equal to $3 R_1$, a value lower than the Jovianocentric distance of Io, the innermost regular satellite of Jupiter.

#### 2.2.1. Temporal evolution

In the $\alpha$-disk model, the radial evolution of the subnebula is governed by a diffusion equation:

$$\frac{d\Sigma}{dt} = \frac{3}{r} \frac{\partial}{\partial r} \left[ r^{3/2} \frac{\partial}{\partial r} \nu \Sigma^{1/2} \right],$$

(2)

where $\Sigma$ is the surface density in gas phase in the subnebula, $r$ is the distance to the planet and $\nu$ the mean (vertically-averaged) viscosity. In this equation, the origin of time in the subnebula is arbitrarily taken when the accretion rate from the solar nebula to the subnebula is equal to $9 \times 10^{-7} M_J/\text{yr}$. This corresponds to the time when Jupiter has already accreted ~75% of its total mass. However, as we point out in Sect. 4, phase 1 of the subnebula’s evolution is a stationary one, the accretion rate being constant for all radii. Hence, the origin of time has no great importance.

The mean viscosity used in the diffusion equation is determined with the help of the vertical structure of the subnebula, calculated using the method described in Papaloizou & Terquem (1999) and Alibert et al. (2005a). For each distance $r$ to the planet, the vertical structure is calculated by solving the equation for hydrostatic equilibrium, together with the energy equation and the diffusion equation for the radiative flux. The local viscosity is calculated using the standard Shakura & Sunyaev (1973) $\alpha$-parametrization $\nu = \alpha C_s^2 / \Omega$ where the speed of sound $C_s^2$ is determined by the equation of state, and $\Omega^2 = GM_{\text{planet}}/r^3$. Using this procedure, we calculate, for each distance $r$ to the planet and each value of the surface density, the distribution of pressure, temperature and density. We then derive the midplane pressure and temperature, as well as the mean viscosity inside the disk. This procedure avoids the use of an a priori temperature (or viscosity) law as a function of the Jovianocentric distance.

From these calculations we are able to derive relations between the midplane pressure, temperature and surface density, that will be used to calculate the ices content of planetesimals accreted by the proto-satellites (see Sect. 3).

#### 2.2.2. Boundary conditions

Equation (2) is solved with two boundary conditions. At the inner boundary, we use the condition

$$\frac{\partial \Sigma}{\partial r} \bigg|_{\text{inner radius}} = 0,$$

(3)

which states that the inner disk instantaneously adapts to the condition given by the outer disk (see Alibert et al. 2005a).

The outer boundary condition varies, depending upon the evolution of the subnebula (phase 1 or phase 2). During phase 1, the subnebula is fed from its outer radius by gas originating from the solar nebula. We then impose the gas accretion rate at the outer radius (see Alibert et al. 2005a):

$$\Phi(r) \equiv 3\pi \nu \Sigma + 6\pi r \frac{\partial \Sigma}{\partial r} = \frac{dM_{\text{gas}}}{dt},$$

(4)

where $dM_{\text{gas}}/dt$ is the accretion rate of gas calculated in the Jupiter formation model and is given by Eq. (1). In this equation, the accretion rate in the solar nebula away from the planet is approximately given by the following linear law:

$$M_{\text{disk}} \sim M_{\text{disk,0}} \left(1 - t/\tau\right) M_\odot/\text{yr},$$

(5)

where $M_{\text{disk,0}} \sim 1 \times 10^{-6} M_J/\text{yr}$ and $\tau \sim 5.6 \times 10^5$ yr.

During phase 2, the subnebula is allowed to expand and the surface density is set to 0 at ~700$R_I$ (corresponding to Jupiter’s Hill radius).

### 3. Proto-satellites migration

#### 3.1. Migration rates

The forming satellites interact with the surrounding gas of the subnebula, leading to migration. In the present work, two mechanisms have to be considered, namely momentum exchange via gravitational forces and gas drag.

Gravitational interactions with the subnebula lead to inward migration of the forming body. Depending on its mass, two cases have to be distinguished. A low mass object migrates in what is called type I migration (Ward 1997), whereas an object massive enough to open a gap in the subnebula migrates at a slower rate, in type II migration (Ward 1997). The calculation of the type I migration rate has been the subject of many studies, in particular in the context of planet formation. Analytically, the first migration rates derived by Ward (1997) were so short that survival of planets was, contrary to what is observed, very unlikely. Tanaka et al. (2002) have recently

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1 The surface density in the protoplanetary disk, $\Sigma_{\text{disk}}$, evolves due to viscosity and photoevaporation. At the end of the protoplanetary disk’s life, the viscosity term $(\nu \Sigma_{\text{disk}})$ becomes negligible compared to the photoevaporation term $(\Phi \Sigma_{\text{disk}})$, leading to a quasi linear decrease of $\Sigma_{\text{disk}}$ and of the accretion rate ($\dot{M}_{\text{disk}} \propto \nu_{\text{disk}} \Sigma_{\text{disk}}$).
revisited these calculations, and found much longer migration timescales, but still too short to ensure survival of forming protoplanets. Numerically, Bate et al. (2003) considered a laminar disk (as was assumed in the work of Tanaka et al. 2002) and found migration rates in good agreement with this latter work. On the other hand, by considering protoplanetary disks with a magnetic field, Nelson & Papaloizou (2004) and Laughlin et al. (2004) found that, due to density fluctuations inside the disk, the migration pathway in type I can be represented by a random walk, reducing significantly the net inward migration rate compared to the one derived in Tanaka et al. (2002) and Bate et al. (2003). Moreover, the type I migration rate is very sensitive to local structures in the disk: Menou & Goodman (2004) have shown that its rate can be reduced by one order of magnitude in the regions of opacity transitions. Finally, we note that in order to form planets, A05 had to drastically reduce the type I migration rate.

In the context of satellite formation in circumplanetary disks, the kind of phenomena that could reduce type I migration in protoplanetary disks (MHD, density fluctuations, ...) may or may not be present. Moreover, we note that, in the model of A05, Jupiter and Saturn form in a disk whose mass ratio (mass relative to the central body’s one) is of the order of $\sim 0.05$, whereas, as we shall see in Sect. 4, the mass ratio of the subnebula is of the order of $\sim 0.005$. Since higher (relative) mass disks suffer some higher magnitude density fluctuations, type I migration may be closer to the one of a laminar disk (Tanaka et al. 2003; Bate et al. 2003) in the subnebula.

When the Hill’s radius of the satellite (in the planet–satellite system) becomes higher than the local thickness of the subnebula (calculated using the vertical structure, see Sect. 2.2.1), migration switches to type II$^2$. In that case, we use the same prescription as in Alibert et al. (2005a), namely:

$$\frac{d\alpha}{dt} = -\frac{3
u}{2\alpha_S} \times \text{Min}\left(1, \frac{2\Sigma a^2}{M_S}\right).$$

(6)

where $\alpha_S$ is the Jovianocentric distance of the satellite, and $M_S$ is the satellite mass. In that case, the migration rate is given, for low mass objects, by the inward viscous velocity ($3\nu/2\alpha_S$). When the mass of the satellite becomes comparable to the one of the subnebula, migration slows down and eventually stops.

Two other phenomena may lead to radial migration of forming satellites, namely gas drag and tidal interactions with Jupiter. We have checked that for the subnebulae we consider, and for bodies of mass close to the ones of Jovian satellites, migration occurs mainly in type I, and, to a lower extent, in type II. Gas drag and tidal forces are negligible, at least for the Jovianocentric radii we consider.

3.2. How to choose the dissipation parameter $\alpha$?

The thermodynamical conditions inside the subnebula determine the composition of ices incorporated into icy planetesimals (see Paper II), which ultimately determine the composition of the Jovian satellites. Hence, the modelling of the thermodynamical evolution of the subnebula must be carried out in a way compatible with the bulk chemical composition of the Jovian satellites. Since in our model this thermodynamical evolution is mainly governed by the $\alpha$-parameter, the bulk composition of the satellites provides constraints on the allowed values for $\alpha$. We note that since the evolution of the subnebula is coupled to Jupiter’s formation model, the constraints obtained for $\alpha$ may be functions of this model as well. While the decrease of the mass inflow rate is important, tests have shown that the timescale over which this happens does not seem to be crucial as long as reasonable values are chosen.

During phase 1 the subnebula is fed through its outer edge by the nebula at a rate which is determined by the parameters adopted for Jupiter’s formation model. The choice of $\alpha$ in the subnebula will determine how efficiently this inflow will be processed through the subnebula. Clearly, lower values of $\alpha$ imply lower transport rates and consequently higher surface densities for a fixed mass inflow. Since the rate of type I migration is a function of surface density and not viscosity, lower values of $\alpha$ also imply a larger migration rate. Hence, subnebulae characterized by low $\alpha$ values are more massive, and imply a faster type I migration rate. Moreover, a low viscosity subnebula being more massive, it is thicker. Since the transition from type I to type II occurs when the Hill’s radius of the satellite becomes greater than the subnebula’s half-thickness, the type I migration extent is higher in a low viscosity subnebula.

For type II migration, the rate is proportional to $\alpha$ as long as the satellite mass remains small compared to the disk mass. However, since the disk mass is larger for low $\alpha$ values, type II migration in low $\alpha$ disks lasts longer than in high $\alpha$ disks.

$^2$ Note that the transition from type I to type II could occur for much lower masses (see Rafikov 2002).
This effect offsets, at least in part, the reduced migration rate in a low $\alpha$ disk.

As we shall see in the next section, due to the aforementioned effects, the distance a satellite migrates (due to both type I and type II migrations) is larger in a low $\alpha$ disk.

With time, the temperature and pressure conditions at a given radius inside the subnebula decrease. Rocky satellites must then form during the early times of the subnebula’s evolution, and, as a consequence, they suffer a large amount of migration. A low viscosity subnebula then loses all its rocky satellites inside the central body. In order to allow the survival of these satellites, the dissipation parameter $\alpha$ has to be greater than a minimum value that is determined in the next section.

To obtain a maximum value of the dissipation parameter $\alpha$, we consider the formation of Callisto. Due to its partial differentiation, it is generally accepted that this satellite has formed on a relatively long timescale (see CW02, Mosqueira & Estrada 2003a, for discussions), of the order of at least $\sim 10^5$ years. Since Callisto incorporates a large amount of ices (Sohl et al. 2002), its formation requires that the subnebula remained cold in regions beyond $26.6 R_J$ (its present day Jovianocentric distance) during more than $\sim 10^5$ years, if one assumes that the formation of the satellites has to be completed before the subnebula has disappeared.

During nearly all phase 1 of the subnebula’s evolution, the temperature remains high due to the high surface density. The temperature generally allows the presence of ices only after $\sim 0.5$ Myr (corresponding to the switch from phase 1 to phase 2, see Sect. 4). While the dissipation parameter does not strongly influence the potential presence of ices during phase 1, its value determines the evolution timescale of the subnebula during phase 2. The higher $\alpha$, the shorter evolution timescale. Requiring that the temperature must allow the presence of ices during at least $10^5$ yr translates to a maximum value of the dissipation parameter $\alpha$.

### 3.3. Migration pathways

We assume that the satellite’s mass increases linearly, on a timescale $\tau_S$, until it reaches a mass $M_S$. The Jovianocentric distance decreases as a result of type I and/or type II migration. The type I migration rate is calculated by using the formula of Tanaka et al. (2002), reduced by a constant factor $f_I$ that can take two values: $f_I = 1$ (no reduction) or $f_I = 0.001$ (the value used in the Jupiter’s formation model of A05). As stated in Sect. 3.1, these two choices reflect our lack of knowledge of the actual type I migration rate in the subnebula.

The proto-satellites start their drift at various locations and epochs, and their migration is calculated either until they reach the inner edge of the subdisk, or until the subnebula has disappeared. Proto-satellites whose Jovianocentric distance becomes lower than the inner radius are considered to have been lost inside the planet.

At each timestep, we calculate the local disk temperature and assume two planetesimal compositions that depend only on this thermodynamical parameter. For temperatures lower than 150 K, corresponding to the condensation temperature of water, we assume icy planetesimals (with a given ices/rock ($I/R$) ratio). In the opposite case, planetesimals are made of pure rock. At the time the subdisk disappears, we calculate the location of the remaining satellites, and the fraction of icy planetesimals accreted. For a given $I/R$ ratio, we can finally calculate the ices content of the satellites. Note however that the results presented in Figs. 2 to 4 do not depend on the assumed $I/R$ ratio of planetesimals.

We have made simulations with $M_S$ equal to the masses of the two rocky Jovian satellites, Io and Europa (Europa, with an ices content lower than 10% (Sohl et al. 2002), is rather considered as a rocky satellite), and the mass of Callisto. The formation timescale $\tau_S$ can take different values, between $10^4$ and $10^6$ yr for the rocky satellites, and between $10^2$ and $10^6$ yr for Callisto. Note that we do not address in this paper the question of the possibility of forming a body of mass $M_S$ on a timescale $\tau_S$. We assume in these simple calculations that the formation efficiency does not vary with time. Our calculations then allow us to determine the distance to Jupiter where satellites can exist when the subnebula cleared, as a function of their ices content.

#### 3.3.1. Rocky satellites

For $f_I = 0.001$ (type I migration rate equal to the one in A05), rocky satellites can survive for whatever value of $\alpha$ we have considered (down to $10^{-6}$). No constraining minimum value of the dissipation parameter can be derived in this case.

We now focus on $f_I = 1$ (no reduction of type I migration). Figure 2 gives, as a function of the distance to the planet,
the relative mass of ices inside the satellite, for $\alpha = 2 \times 10^{-4}$. The assumed formation time is varied from $10^4$ to $10^6$ yr, and the mass of the satellite is the one of Io. Rocky satellites can be found at locations up to $\sim 13 R_J$. For values of $\alpha$ lower than this minimum value ($10^{-4}$ and $1.5 \times 10^{-4}$ have been tested), no rocky satellite of the mass of Io can be formed and survive at its present location ($\sim 6 R_J$). If the mass of the satellite is the one of Europa, the minimum value of $\alpha$ is similar.

This result does not depend on the formation timescale provided it is below $10^5$ years. If $\tau_s = 10^6$ yr, purely rocky satellites cannot be found at the actual location of Io or Europa. This is expected since, in our model, the condensation radius has reached the inner location of the subnebula in $\sim 0.7$ Myr. However, this formation timescale seems too large for the accretion of Galilean satellites.

We conclude that, if type I migration is not reduced, the $\alpha$ parameter has to be chosen greater than a minimum value, of the order of $2 \times 10^{-4}$.

Finally, the bodies whose final properties resemble those of Io started their formation during the end of phase 1. On the other hand, as pointed out by CW02, satellites formed during the early times of the subnebula’s evolution (beginning of phase 1, corresponding to high inflow rates) experience very strong disk torques, leading to very rapid inward migration: they end their migration below the inner radius of the subnebula, regardless of the value of $\alpha$ considered. If the tidal forces between the planet and the satellite are not strong enough to prevent further migration, these satellites will be accreted by the planet. These satellites formed at the beginning of phase 1 may therefore have contributed to the enrichment of the giant planet in heavy elements.

3.3.2. Icy satellites

We now consider the formation of Callisto, and use $f_1 = 1$ to calculate the type I migration rate (however, the results do not strongly depend on the actual value of $f_1$).

Figures 3 and 4 give, as a function of the distance to the planet, the relative mass of ices inside the satellite, for $\alpha = 2 \times 10^{-3}$ and $\alpha = 2 \times 10^{-4}$. The formation timescale $\tau_s$ is equal to $10^5$ and $10^6$ yr for $\alpha = 2 \times 10^{-4}$, and $10^5$ yr for $\alpha = 2 \times 10^{-3}$. In this latter case, at the present location of Callisto, satellites incorporate less than $\sim 40\%$ of icy planetesimals. In order to explain the actual $I/R$ in Callisto (at least 40 wt% of ices, see Sohl et al. 2002), one has to suppose that icy planetesimals contain no rocks, which is unlikely.

If the formation timescale is increased to 1 Myr, no icy satellites can form and survive at the present location of Callisto. This results from the very rapid evolution of the subnebula in phase 2: ices do not exist long enough to allow the formation of icy satellites within $10^6$ years.

On the other hand for $\alpha = 2 \times 10^{-4}$ and using the two afore mentioned formation timescales, it is possible to find satellites that have accreted at least 60% of icy planetesimals. This is compatible with the ices content estimation of Sohl et al. (2002), if the $I/R$ ratio of planetesimals is a least equal to $\sim 2$. The results are similar for $f_1 = 0.001$. This is to be expected since the important parameter is the evolution timescale of the subnebula, governed by the value of $\alpha$. Hence, whatever the value of $f_1$, the dissipation parameter has to be lower than $2 \times 10^{-3}$ in order to account for the ices content and formation timescale of Callisto.

In summary, the ices content and formation time of Callisto require a slow dissipating nebula, which translates to a dissipation parameter lower than $\sim 10^{-3}$. Moreover, the survival of rocky satellites requires a subnebula not too massive. This gives a lower value of the dissipation parameter that depends on the type I migration rate. For a low migration rate ($f_1 = 0.001$), there is no constraining minimum value, whereas, for $f_1 = 1$
Gas accretion rate at the inner edge of the subdisk (solid line), $H_t R$ for $t = 0.56$ Myr according to our model. During phase 1, the two accretion rates are nearly identical, revealing that the subnebula remains in equilibrium. After $t = 0.56$ Myr, the subnebula enters in its second phase of evolution and begins its expansion. The accretion rate as a function of the distance to Jupiter is then no longer constant. Hence, one cannot use an equilibrium model (i.e. with a constant accretion rate throughout all the subnebula) for this phase, and the diffusion equation (Eq. (2)) has to be solved.

Figures 6 to 8 show radial profiles of temperature $T$, pressure $P$, and surface density $\Sigma$, respectively, at various epochs. Water is in vapor phase at $t = 0$ in the whole subnebula, and $T$, $P$, and $\Sigma$ decrease with time and with the distance to Jupiter. At $t = 0.44$ Myr water starts to crystallize at the outer edge of the disk. The cooling of the Jovian subnebula results in the inward propagation of a water condensation front reaching the orbits of Callisto ($26.6 R_J$), Ganymede ($15.1 R_J$), Europa ($9.5 R_J$) and Io ($6 R_J$) at $t = 0.57$ Myr, $0.61$ Myr, $0.69$ Myr and $0.77$ Myr, respectively. Note that only 0.2 Myr are required for the snow line to propagate between the orbits of Callisto and Io. This very short timescale is due to the fact that crystallization of water occurs in the satellite zone during the transition between phases 1 and 2 of the subnebula evolution, when the cooling of the subnebula is very efficient.

Figure 9 represents radial profile of the $H/R$ ratio throughout the Jovian subnebula at different epochs, where $H$ is the half-height of the disk and $R$ is the jovianocentric distance. The value of $H/R$ is initially quite high, but it rapidly evolves to values low enough ($H/R < 0.3$ at $t = 0.2$ Myr) to make the thin disk approximation a reasonable one. Moreover, $H/R$ rapidly decreases with time and becomes lower than 0.1 during the second phase of the subnebula evolution, when the solar nebula has vanished.

5. Discussion and summary

We have presented a model of the Jovian subnebula derived from the concept initially proposed by Stevenson (2001)
and CW02, which is consistent with the formation of Jupiter, as described in A05. The evolution of the subnebula can be divided in two phases. During the first phase, the subnebula is fed through its outer edge by gas and gas-coupled solids originating from the protoplanetary disk. During this phase, the subnebula is in equilibrium, its accretion rate being constant through the subdisk and driven by the inflow of material delivered by the protoplanetary disk. When the solar nebula disappears, the subnebula enters in its second phase of evolution. The mass flux through the outer edge stops, and the Jovian subnebula expands outward due to viscosity. The subnebula is then no longer in global equilibrium since the accretion rate varies with the Jovianocentric distance in the subdisk.

In order to determine the thermodynamic properties of the subnebula, we had to choose the viscosity parameter $\alpha$, in a way compatible with the present day structure of Jupiter’s satellite system.

Using the type I migration rate derived by Tanaka et al. (2002), migration calculations showed that too small viscosity parameters are incompatible with the presence of rocky satellites at distances up to $\sim 10 R_J$. The value of the minimum $\alpha$-parameter was found to be $\sim 2 \times 10^{-4}$. A reduced migration rate, on the other hand, resulted in a very small minimum value of the $\alpha$-parameter.

The formation timescale and ices content of Callisto gives an upper limit on the dissipation parameter. High values of $\alpha$ lead to a subnebula where ices can be present only during a
short time. This is due to the very rapid decrease of the surface density during phase 2 of the subnebula’s evolution. In order to have ices present during at least \( \sim 0.1 \) Myr (the minimum formation timescale of Callisto, see CW02, Mosqueira & Estrada 2003), the subnebula must evolve slowly enough during phase 2. In the framework of our model, the \( \alpha \)-parameter must be lower than \( \sim 10^{-3} \). Tests have shown that the boundary values of alpha do not strongly depend on the assumed inflow rate of material, and on the Jupiter formation model.

Using a viscosity parameter compatible with these two boundaries, we have derived the thermodynamical conditions inside the subnebula, as a function of Jovianocentric radius and time. We will study the implications of these results for the gas phase chemistries of carbon and nitrogen and the derived composition of ices incorporated in the regular icy satellites in a forthcoming paper (see Paper II).

The calculations presented here are subject to some limitations. First, our subnebula model is based on the Jupiter formation model of A05, and one must keep in mind that the results depend on this assumption. Second, as in A05, we use the \( \alpha \) formalism (Shakura & Sunyaev 1973) to derive the subnebula’s structure, which itself is a limitation. Third, the type I migration rate is still subject to a large uncertainty, which we parameterize in a crude way by the factor \( f_i \). Some more precise constraints on both the viscosity and the migration processes could be brought using more precise calculations of the formation of satellites. This needs in particular to calculate the planetesimal surface density, and must take into account the effect of gas drag and growth of solids by mutual collisions.

Finally, our migration calculations also show that any satellite starting its formation during the beginning of the subnebula’s life is accreted onto Jupiter. The accretion of early formed satellites may be an alternative way to direct accretion by the planet, to increase the final content of heavy elements of Jupiter.

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