Geophysical Research Abstracts Vol. 14, EGU2012-3253, 2012 EGU General Assembly 2012 © Author(s) 2012



Insight into Mercury's interior structure from recent data on its gravity field and spin state

A. Rivoldini (1,2) and T. Van Hoolst (1)

(1) Royal Observatory of Belgium, Time, Earth Rotation and Space Geodesy, Bruxelles, Belgium (Attilio.Rivoldini@oma.be), (2) Université Catholique de Louvain, Earth and Live Institute, Georges Lemaître Centre for Earth and Climate Research, Louvain-la-Neuve, Belgium

Mercury's spin state provide important constraints on the interior structure of Mercury. In particular, from those data sets Mercury's polar moment of inertia and the moment of inertia of its silicate shell can be determined, which contains information on the core radius and on the core's light elements concentration. In this study our goal is to study to what precision those two parameters and other parameters specifying the mantle and the crust can be determined from the moments of inertia and the planet's mass.