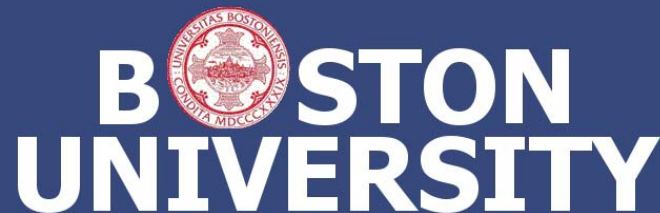


Ionospheric Layers of Mars and Earth

Michael Mendillo





Short communication

Ionospheric layers of Mars and Earth

Henry Rishbeth^{a,b,*}, Michael Mendillo^a

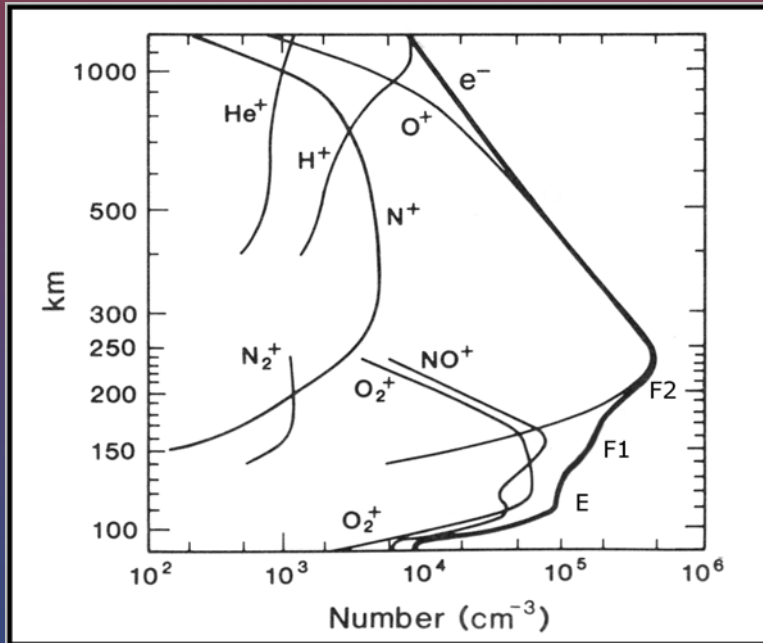
^aCenter for Space Physics, Boston University, Boston, MA 02215, USA

^bDepartment of Physics and Astronomy, School of Physics and Astronomy, University of Southampton, Highfield, Southampton, Hampshire SO17 1BJ, UK

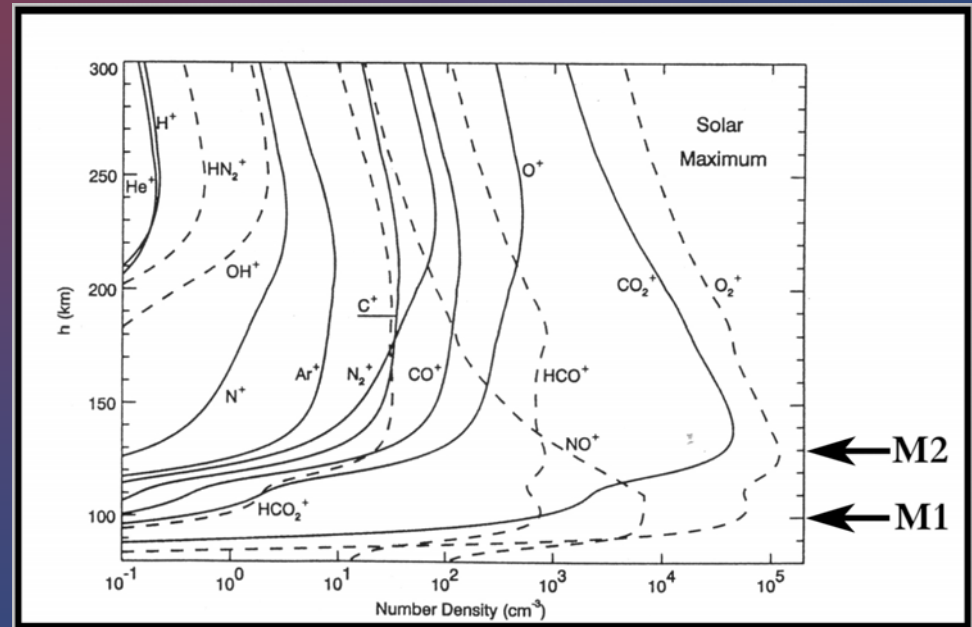
Received 11 September 2003; received in revised form 24 February 2004; accepted 24 February 2004

EARTH

MARS



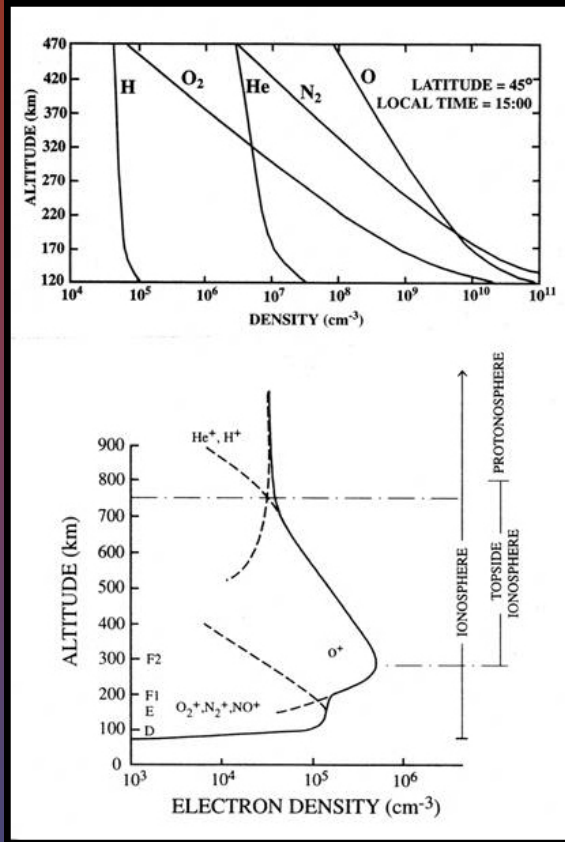
(after Johnson, 1969)



From Krashopolsky, JGR, 2002

COMPARATIVE ATMOSPHERES/IONOSPHERES*

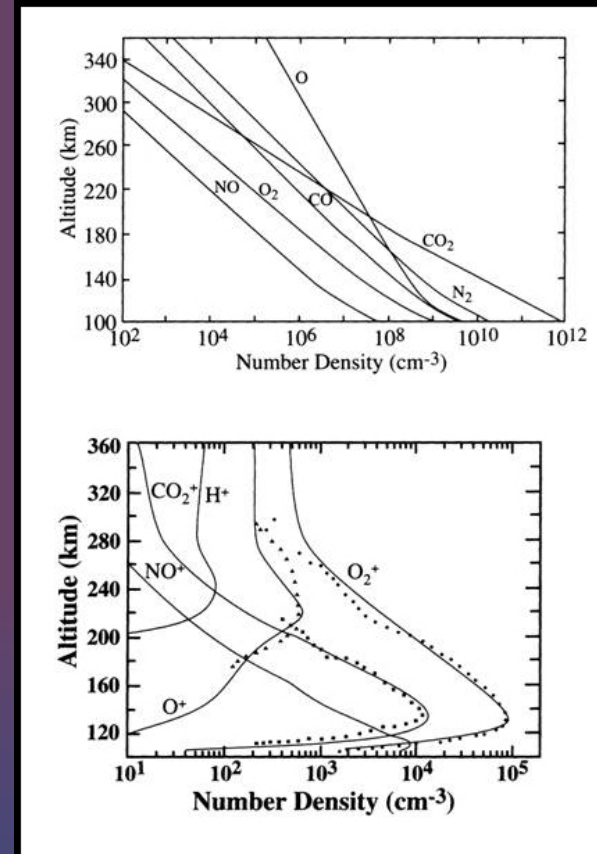
EARTH



E-Region

$h_m E \approx 110 \text{ km}$
 $[N_2] \approx \text{few} \times 10^{11} \text{ cm}^{-3}$
 $[e^-] \approx 10^5 \text{ cm}^{-3}$

MARS



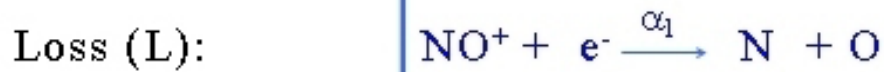
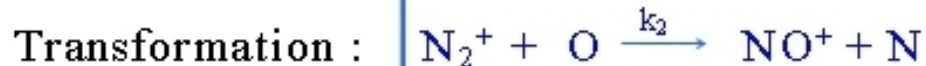
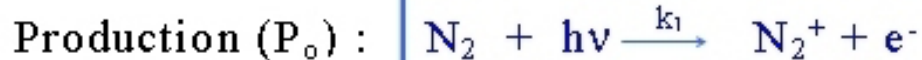
Maximum

$h_m M_2 \approx 135 \text{ km}$
 $[CO_2] \approx 10^{11} \text{ cm}^{-3}$
 $[e^-] \approx 10^5 \text{ cm}^{-3}$

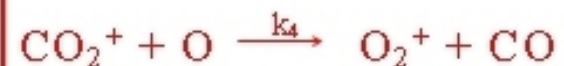
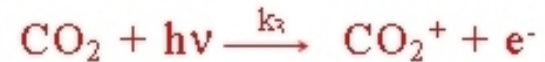
* Schunk and Nagy (2000): IONOSPHERES, Physics, Plasma Physics, and Chemistry; Camb. Univ. Press

Photo-Chemical Equilibrium

EARTH



MARS



For $P_o = L$:

where

η = ionization efficiency
(# $e^- / cm^3 / hv$ absorbed)

S = Solar Ionizing Flux
= $S_1(1AU)/d^2(AU)$

H = Scale Height of ionizable gas

$e = 2.718...$

χ = Solar zenith angle

Chapman
Theory

$$P_o = \alpha N_e^2$$



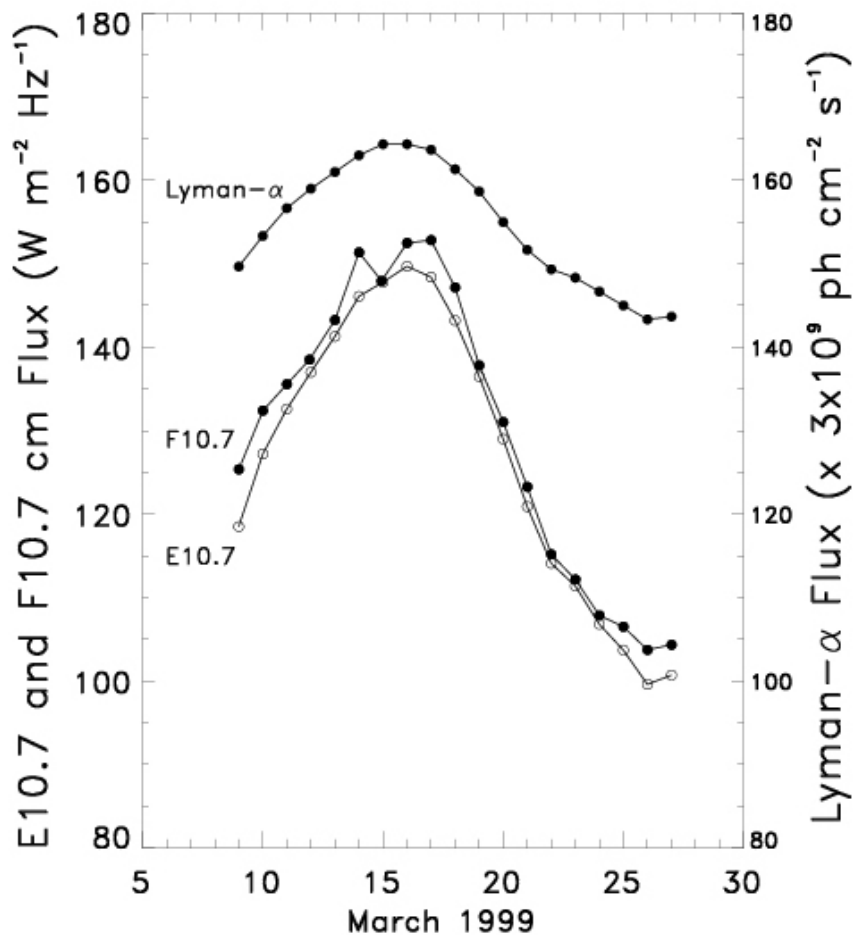
$$\left(\frac{\eta S}{eH} \right) \cos \chi = \alpha N_e^2$$

$$\underbrace{\frac{\eta S_1}{e\alpha H}}_{\text{Ionospheric Layer Index}} = \underbrace{N_e^2 d^2 \sec \chi}_{\text{(observed) (#2)}}$$

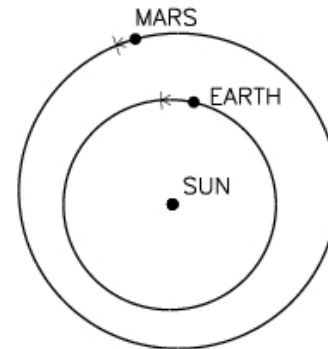
⊕ (theory) (#1)

Case Study Period --- Mars near Opposition during a month of pronounced Solar Activity

Solar Activity Indices 9–27 March 1999

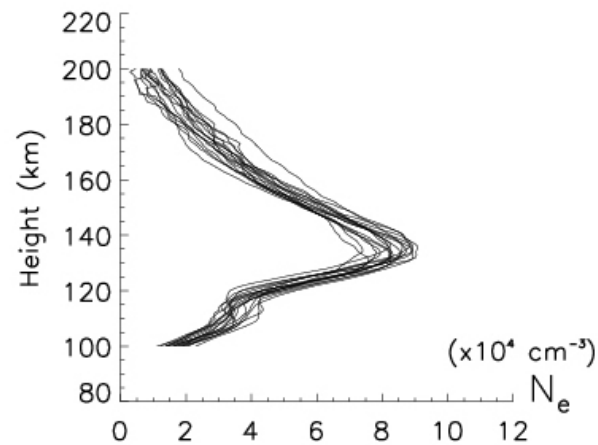


(a) 9–27 March 1999



Relative Planetary Positions

(b) Mars $N_e(h)$ --- MGS



Ionospheric layer index at six stations for 9-27 March 1999

Station	Geographic Coordinates	Θ (E)	θ (E)	Θ (F1)	θ (F1)
Chilton	52°N,2°W	29 ± 3	0.042	117 ± 9	0.19
Eglin	30°N,87°W	32 ± 6	0.100	133 ± 42	0.15
Ahmedabad	23°N,73°E	24 ± 2	0.106	146 ± 20	0.35
Hobart	43°N,147°E	35 ± 5	0.114	134 ± 2	0.43
Port Stanley	52°N,58°W	29 ± 4	0.080	165 ± 23	0.50
Zhongshan	69°N,76°W	24 ± 6	0.108	120 ± 24	0.89
Average		29 ± 4	0.092	136 ± 24	0.42

Ionospheric layer index Θ for F1, M2, E and M1 layers from Eq. (2) versus solar flux index $E_{10.7}$ in flux units ($10^{-22} \text{ W m}^{-2} \text{ Hz}^{-1}$).

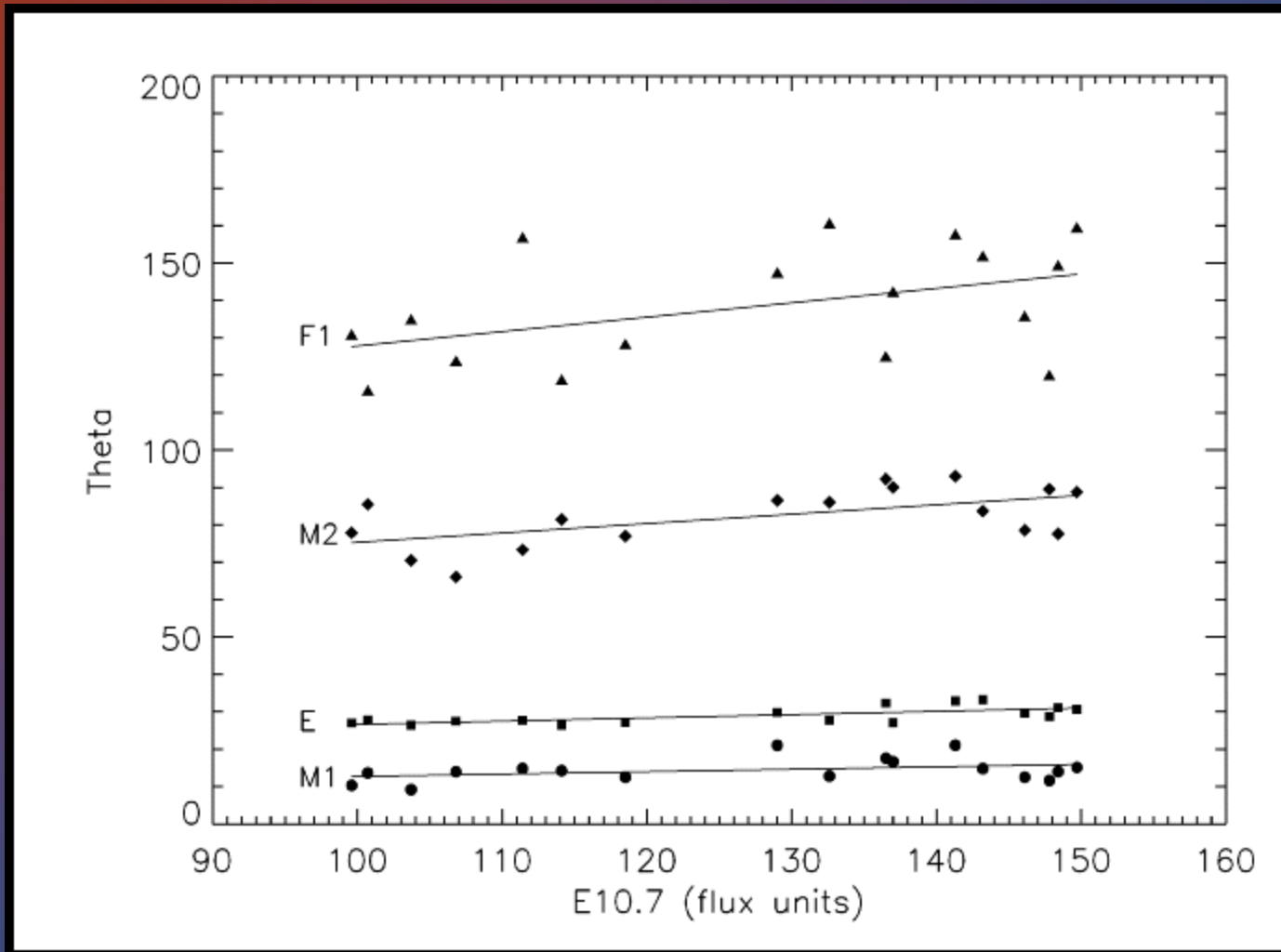
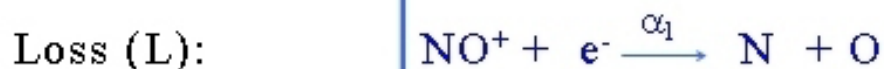
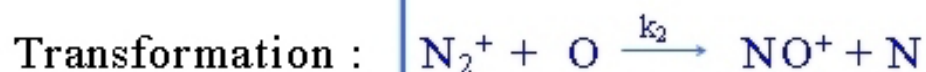
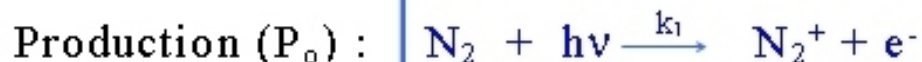
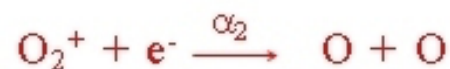
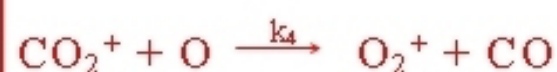
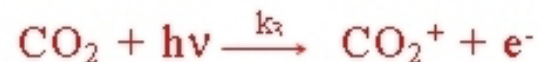


Photo-Chemical Equilibrium

EARTH



MARS



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$$\left(\frac{\eta S}{eH} \right) \cos \chi = \alpha N_e^2$$

$$\underbrace{\frac{\eta S_1}{e\alpha H}}_{\text{Ionospheric Layer Index}} = \underbrace{N_e^2 d^2 \sec \chi}_{\text{(observed) (#2)}}$$

⊕ (theory) (#1)

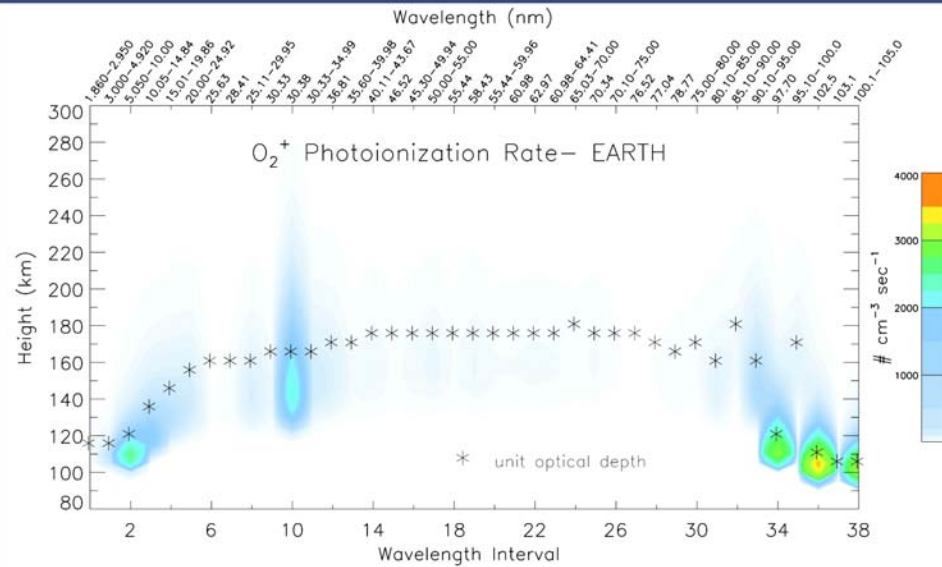
Mars/Earth comparison of ionospheric layers, showing:

- layer heights h_m
- 'ionospheric layer index' Θ at solar flux $E_{10.7} = 125$
 - slope $\theta = d\Theta/dE_{10.7}$
 - correlation coefficient between Θ and $E_{10.7}$
 - scale height H
- atmospheric pressure p at height h_m corrected to overhead sun

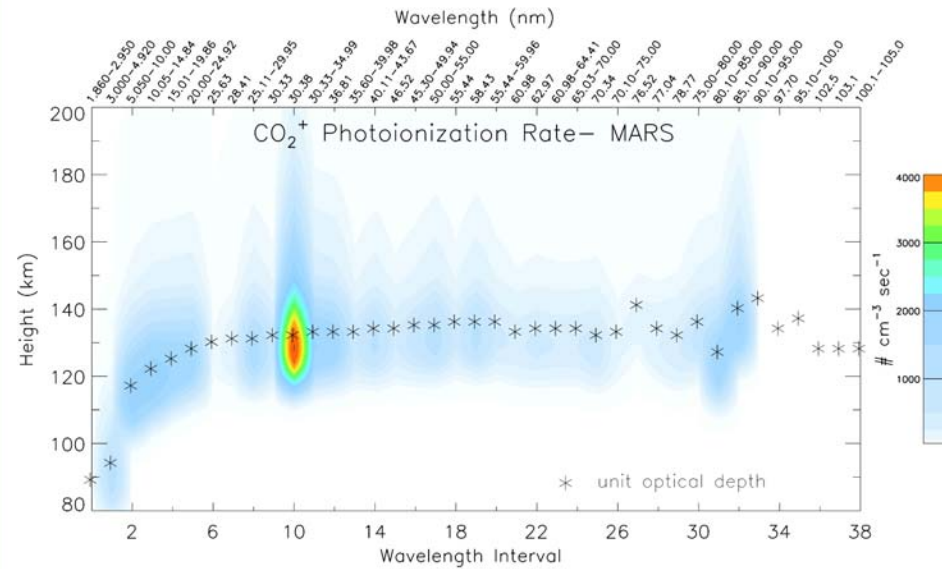
Layer	Height (km)	Θ	θ	Correlation	H (km)	$\log_{10} p$ (mb)
F1	170	137 ± 14	0.38	0.45	36	-5.4
M2	134 ± 3	82 ± 6	0.25	0.59	12	-5.8
E	110	29 ± 2	0.087	0.70	10	-4.3
M1	111 ± 3	14 ± 3	0.065	0.37	8	-4.8

Photo-production vs. λ

EARTH



MARS

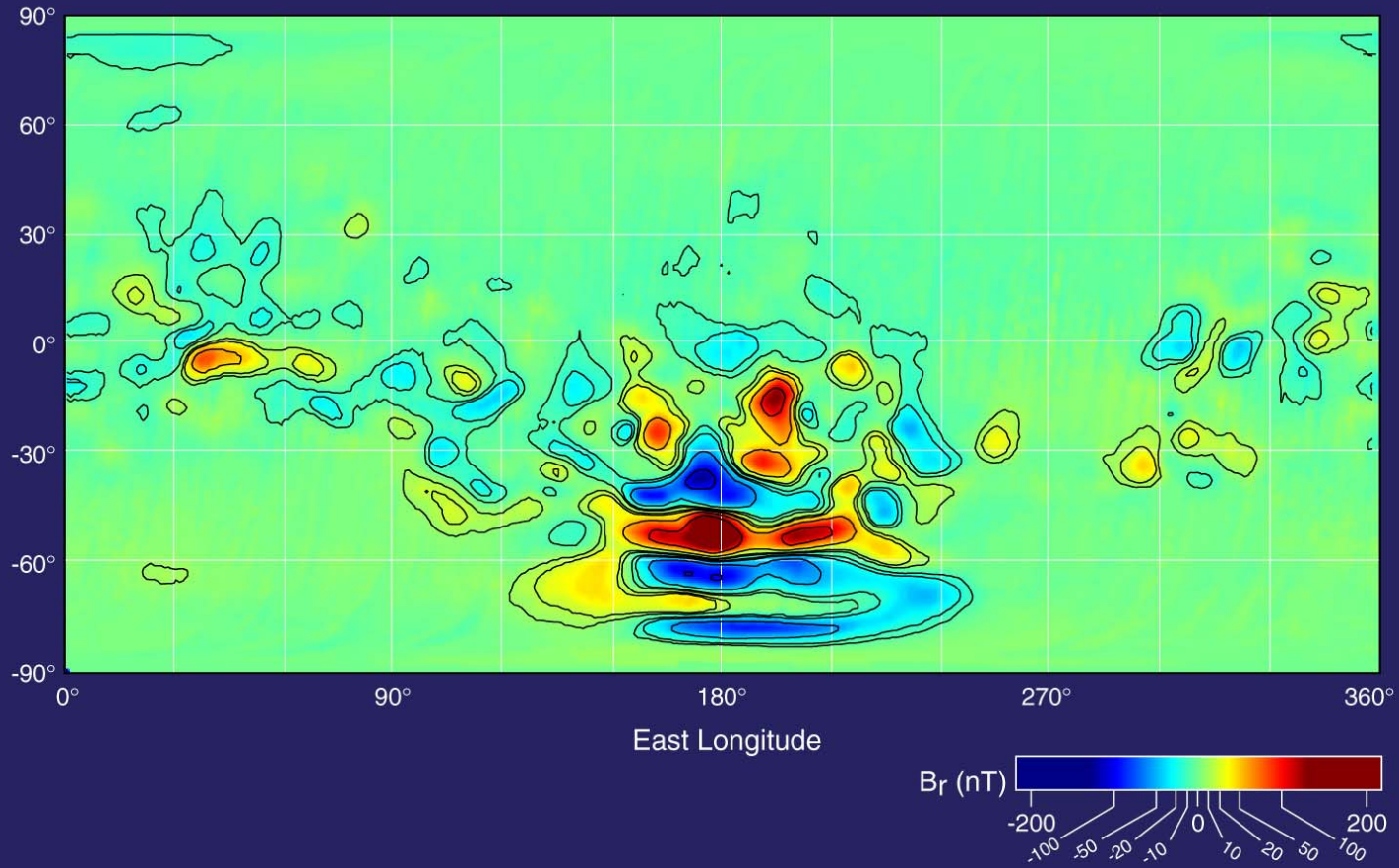


The End

Mars Crustal Magnetism

Mars Global Surveyor


MAG/ER



Connerney et al., *Geophys. Res. Lett.*, 28, 4015-4018, 2001.

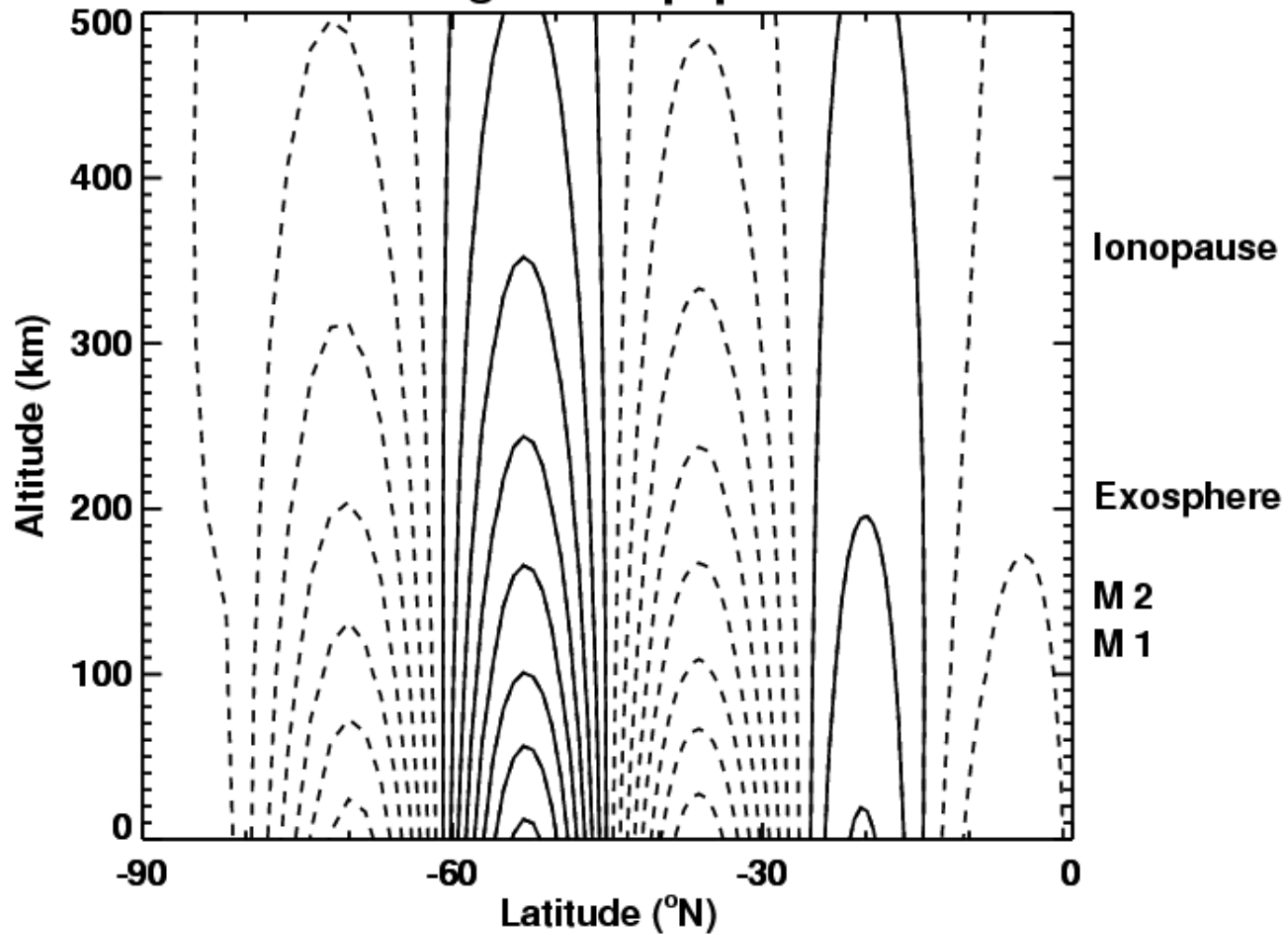
ConJ2001187.001v




BOSTON
UNIVERSITY


Imaging science

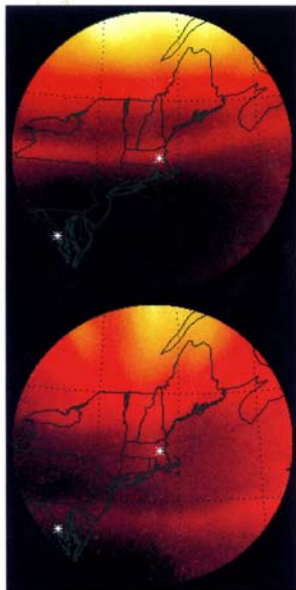
Mars Magnetic Equipotentials



Imaging Magnetospheric Boundaries at Ionospheric Heights

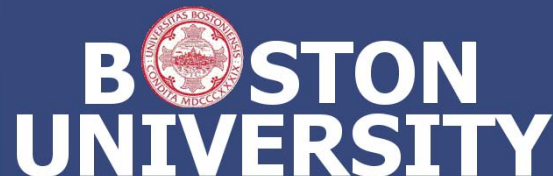
2000 SPRING MEETING

American Geophysical Union



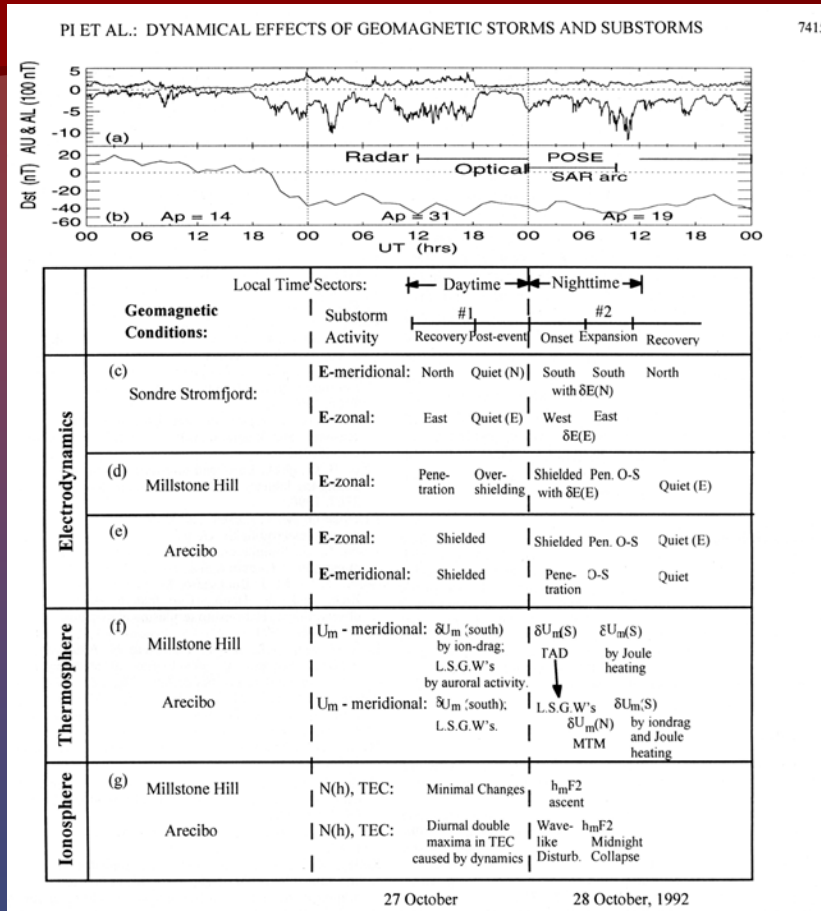
Published as a supplement to *Eos*, May 9, 2000

- Diffuse Aurora and Stable Auroral Red (SAR) Arcs track Plasma Sheet and Ring Current Movements from $L = 4$ to $L = 2$.
- The CEDAR Imager at Millstone Hill -- over a solar cycle of Multi-spectral Imaging at a Sub-Auroral Site



CHAINS-AND-CLUSTERS in AERONOMY (ISRs-FPIs-ASIs)

--In the decade of the 1990s, one paper was published using data from
3 ISRs, 1 FPI and 1 ASI



What happened to the dream?

