



Plasma sheets in induced magnetospheres of Mars and Venus

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Mars and Venus have no a global intrinsic field and solar wind interacts directly with their conductive ionospheric shells producing the induced magnetospheres with magnetic tails. Plasma sheet is the region in the tail where the magnetic field tensions transfer the momentum back to the ionospheric plasmas which escape the planets. It is one of the main loss channels for the planetary ions. Mars Express and Venus Express have provided a wealth of the data on properties of the induced magnetic tails and plasma sheets. We will discuss their main characteristics including mechanisms of ion energization and their control by solar wind and the interplanetary magnetic field variations.