

layer in contact with the molten iron of the core would enhance the chemical reactions (40), releasing additional Si and O and explaining a possible affinity of CRZs with ULVZs.

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# Detection of Molecular Hydrogen in the Atmosphere of Mars

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Four hydrogen (H<sub>2</sub>) lines have been detected in a spectrum of Mars observed with the Far Ultraviolet Spectroscopic Explorer. Three of those lines are excited by the solar Lyman β photons. The line intensities correspond to a column H<sub>2</sub> abundance of 1.17 (±0.13) × 10<sup>13</sup> per square centimeter above 140 kilometers on Mars. A photochemical model for the upper atmosphere that simulates the observed H<sub>2</sub> abundance results in an H<sub>2</sub> mixing ratio of 15 ± 5 parts per million in the lower atmosphere. The H<sub>2</sub> and HD mixing ratios agree with photochemical fractionation of D (deuterium) between H<sub>2</sub>O and H<sub>2</sub>. Analysis of D fractionation among a few reservoirs of ice, water vapor, and molecular hydrogen on Mars implies that a global ocean more than 30 meters deep was lost since the end of hydrodynamic escape. Only 4% of the initially accreted water remained on the planet at the end of hydrodynamic escape, and initially Mars could have had even more water (as a proportion of mass) than Earth.

Mars' atmosphere has a total pressure of 6 mbar and consists of CO<sub>2</sub> (95.5%), N<sub>2</sub> (2.7%), H<sub>2</sub>O [variable amounts, ~150 parts per million (ppm)], products of their photochemistry, and noble gases. Among the photochemical products, CO (0.07%), O, O<sub>2</sub> (0.13%), O<sub>3</sub>, H, and NO have been detected (1, 2). Photochemical models of the martian atmosphere (3, 4) predict a comparatively high (~40 ppm) mixing ratio of H<sub>2</sub>.

Despite the low abundance of water vapor in the atmosphere, its dissociation and the subsequent chemistry of the photolysis products play a crucial role in preventing the accumulation of CO and O<sub>2</sub> and therefore supporting the stability of CO<sub>2</sub>. Molecular hydrogen forms in Mars' middle atmosphere at 20 to 50 km by the reaction between H and HO<sub>2</sub>. H<sub>2</sub> is delivered to the upper atmosphere as a result of atmospheric mixing and diffusion. Decomposition of H<sub>2</sub> to atomic hydrogen by ionospheric processes determines the extent of escape of hydrogen to space and therefore the extent of loss of water from Mars. Although the predicted H<sub>2</sub> mixing ratio is comparatively high, molecular hydrogen was not detected by spacecraft that visited Mars (5–7). We observed Mars using the Far Ultraviolet Spectroscopic Explorer (FUSE) to

detect and measure H<sub>2</sub> in Mars' upper atmosphere.

FUSE consists of four co-aligned telescopes that cover a range of 904 to 1186 Å (8). Each telescope has a diffraction grating and a focal plane assembly with four apertures, and shares two segments at one of two detectors. This results in eight spectra per orbit for each aperture. The spectra consist of 16,384 pixels of ~6.5 mÅ each.

We observed Mars on 12 May 2001, when the heliocentric and geocentric distances of Mars were 1.512 and 0.58 AU (9), respectively, with angular diameter = 16.2 arc sec, phase (Sun-Mars-Earth) angle = 24°, solar longitude  $L_S = 160^\circ$ , geocentric velocity = -10.4 km s<sup>-1</sup>, and solar activity index  $F_{10.7\text{ cm}} = 140$ . Solar longitude is used to specify seasons on Mars, and  $L_S = 160^\circ$  corresponds to 2 September in the terrestrial calendar. The exospheric temperature was  $T_\infty = 270\text{ K}$  (10) for the season and solar activity index during the observation. The observation was made in six FUSE orbits with a total exposure of 5 hours.

The instrument resolving power is  $\lambda/\delta\lambda = 24,000$  for point sources and 5000 for Mars, which was observed with the 30 × 30 arc sec aperture. The spectral line width is 0.2 Å for this resolving power. Another aperture was used to control the terrestrial airglow foreground, which was very weak at the FUSE altitude of 768 km. We summed 96 observed spectra to obtain composite spectra of Mars and the foreground (11). These composite

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spectra consist of 5688 bins of 50 mÅ each.

Fourteen of the strongest H<sub>2</sub> lines (12) that should be in the FUSE spectral range are not blended with other lines (Table 1). All these lines originate from three levels of the upper electronic state B'<sup>Σ<sub>u</sub><sup>+</sup></sup> of the H<sub>2</sub> Lyman band system. Vibrational and rotational quantum numbers of these levels are *v*' = 6 and *J*' = 0, 11 and 2, and 5 and 2, respectively (13). Four of these lines have been detected at a level exceeding 3 statistical uncertainties, and the two strongest lines are shown in Fig. 1.

Emission rate factors  $g = \alpha\sigma bI$  (as defined below) are used to transform the observed line intensities to column abundances of emitting species. The lower level for the excitation of all three upper levels is the same: *v*" = 0, *J*" = 1. Its population  $\alpha = 0.685$  for H<sub>2</sub> at temperature of 270 K was calculated (14) taking into account statistical weights associated with the nuclear spin. These weights are equal to 1 and 3 for even and odd rotational quantum numbers, respectively, if an electronic state is even (the H<sub>2</sub> ground state), and are opposite in the case of an odd electronic state (the upper state of the H<sub>2</sub> Lyman band system). Wavelengths and transition probabilities to calculate the integrated absorption cross sections  $\sigma$  (15) are taken from (16); *b* is the branching ratio for a line, that is, a ratio of its transition probability to a sum of transition probabilities of all lines emitted from that upper level. *I* is the solar radiation at the H<sub>2</sub> absorption lines at 1025.93, 972.63, and 1037.15 Å and is equal to  $6.6 \times 10^9$ ,  $1.76 \times 10^9$ , and  $1.00 \times 10^9$  photons cm<sup>-2</sup> s<sup>-1</sup> Å<sup>-1</sup>, respectively, at 1 AU. We took the data for solar minimum from (17, 18) and corrected them to the solar mean conditions of our observations ( $F_{10.7 \text{ cm}} = 140$ ) using (19).

Ratios of the line intensities to the calculated emission rate factors are equal to column abundances of H<sub>2</sub> (Table 1). A weighted mean of these values is  $2.7 (\pm 0.3) \times 10^{13}$  cm<sup>-2</sup> and corresponds to the detection of H<sub>2</sub> on Mars at the 9σ level.

CO<sub>2</sub> absorbs the solar photons that excite H<sub>2</sub> and the photons emitted by H<sub>2</sub>. A convenient approximation for light components on Mars is to assume a black atmosphere below a level where a total two-way optical depth of CO<sub>2</sub> is equal to 1, and to neglect the CO<sub>2</sub> absorption above this level (20). This absorption level varies for the H<sub>2</sub> lines from 127 to 148 km, depending on the CO<sub>2</sub> cross sections (21), and its mean altitude is  $140 \pm 5$  km. Intensities in our spectrum of Mars refer to solid Mars with a radius  $R = 3390$  km, and the observed H<sub>2</sub> column abundance should be reduced by a factor of  $[1 + (140/3390)]^2 = 1.084$ .

The obtained H<sub>2</sub> column abundance needs a correction for air mass factor. This factor  $\eta$

is equal to 2 for phase angle  $\beta = 0$  and global mean conditions. We have solved the problem for arbitrary  $\beta$  and found

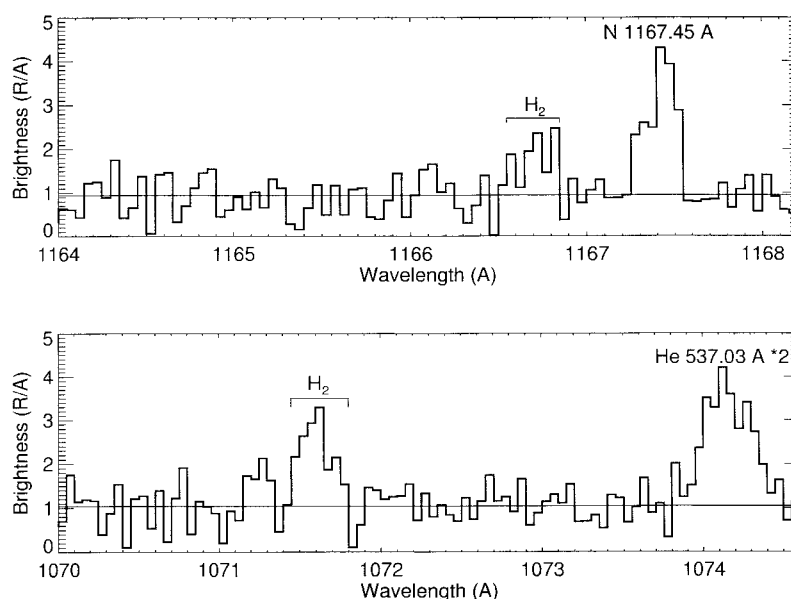
$$\eta = 2 - \frac{2}{\pi} [\beta \sin \beta + (1 - \sin \beta) \tan \beta] \quad (1)$$

Then  $\eta = 1.723$  for  $\beta = 24^\circ$ .

H<sub>2</sub> is a light species with a large scale height (330 km for  $T = 270$  K), and the H<sub>2</sub> emission from the dayside limb contributes to the total observed emission. (Scale height is the altitude interval in which density decreases by a factor of  $e = 2.72$ .) The air mass is much greater on the limb, and this moves the absorption level to  $\sim 160$  km. Our calculation for the limb takes into account the correction (22) for the large scale height of H<sub>2</sub> and results in a term of

$\sim 0.73$  (23) that should be added to get a total correction factor of  $(1.084 \times 1.723) + 0.73 = 2.6$ . This factor depends weakly on the CO<sub>2</sub> cross sections, and this dependence is taken into account in the calculated vertical column abundances of H<sub>2</sub> (Table 1). The weighted-mean vertical column abundance of H<sub>2</sub> is  $1.08 (\pm 0.12) \times 10^{13}$  cm<sup>-2</sup>.

A final correction is for the absorption of the solar photons by H<sub>2</sub> (self-absorption). Photons emitted by H<sub>2</sub> are not absorbed by H<sub>2</sub> molecules because these photons do not involve the ground state *v*" = 0. Our calculation of self-absorption was made for the (6-0) P1 line at 1025.93 Å that excites three of the four detected H<sub>2</sub> lines. Assuming a mean air mass of 2 for the solar radiation and thermal broadening for this



**Fig. 1.** Fragments of Mars' spectrum near the H<sub>2</sub> lines at 1166.76 and 1071.62 Å. Thin lines show the background.

**Table 1.** H<sub>2</sub> lines in the FUSE spectrum of Mars. Lines above 3σ detection limit are in italics. Emission rate factors *g* are calculated for the solar activity index  $F_{10.7 \text{ cm}} = 140$  and heliocentric distance of 1.512 AU.  $4\pi I$  is the brightness in Rayleighs (6), which refers to the size of solid Mars and with no correction for both dark crescent and the atmosphere above the dayside limb.  $\{H_2\}_{sl}$  is the global-mean slant column abundance of H<sub>2</sub> uncorrected for air mass and self-absorption.  $\{H_2\}_0$  is the vertical column abundance of H<sub>2</sub> above 140 km uncorrected for self-absorption. The weighted-mean corrected vertical column abundance is equal to  $1.17 (\pm 0.13) \times 10^{13}$  cm<sup>-2</sup> from these data. All errors are 1σ.

Line	$\lambda$ (Å)	$g$ (ph s <sup>-1</sup> )	$4\pi I$ (R)	$\{H_2\}_{sl}$ ( $\times 10^{13}$ cm <sup>-2</sup> )	$\{H_2\}_0$ ( $\times 10^{13}$ cm <sup>-2</sup> )
(6-1) P1	1071.62	$8.54 \times 10^9$	$0.465 \pm 0.059$	$5.45 \pm 0.69$	$2.07 \pm 0.27$
(6-2) P1	1118.61	$5.44 \times 10^9$	$0.135 \pm 0.033$	$2.48 \pm 0.61$	$1.00 \pm 0.24$
(6-3) P1	1166.76	$1.28 \times 10^8$	$0.279 \pm 0.058$	$2.18 \pm 0.46$	$0.80 \pm 0.18$
(11-1) R1	1013.60	$7.17 \times 10^{10}$	$0.019 \pm 0.072$	$2.64 \pm 10.0$	$1.04 \pm 4.00$
(11-1) P3	1019.36	$1.22 \times 10^9$	$0.019 \pm 0.041$	$1.56 \pm 3.38$	$0.62 \pm 1.36$
(11-2) R1	1055.54	$2.84 \times 10^9$	$0.062 \pm 0.033$	$2.18 \pm 1.16$	$0.84 \pm 0.45$
(11-2) P3	1061.46	$2.63 \times 10^9$	$0.092 \pm 0.059$	$3.50 \pm 2.24$	$1.39 \pm 0.90$
(11-3) R1	1098.31	$1.31 \times 10^9$	$0.002 \pm 0.077$	$0.16 \pm 5.86$	$0.06 \pm 2.22$
(11-3) P3	1104.38	$2.33 \times 10^9$	$0.048 \pm 0.077$	$2.07 \pm 3.30$	$0.78 \pm 1.25$
(11-4) R1	1141.73	$1.63 \times 10^9$	$0.023 \pm 0.054$	$1.42 \pm 3.33$	$0.55 \pm 1.29$
(11-4) P3	1147.92	$1.12 \times 10^9$	$0.064 \pm 0.045$	$5.74 \pm 4.05$	$2.16 \pm 1.53$
(5-0) P3	1043.50	$3.54 \times 10^9$	$-0.035 \pm 0.063$	$-1.0 \pm 1.20$	$-0.37 \pm 0.75$
(5-1) P3	1090.45	$2.66 \times 10^9$	$0.193 \pm 0.063$	$7.29 \pm 2.38$	$2.77 \pm 0.90$
(5-3) R1	1181.29	$2.04 \times 10^9$	$-0.055 \pm 0.065$	$-2.7 \pm 3.18$	$-0.92 \pm 1.09$

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line, its peak cross section is  $9 \times 10^{-15} \text{ cm}^2$  from (15), and a slant optical depth is  $\tau = 2 \times (9 \times 10^{-15}) \times (1.08 \times 10^{13}) = 0.195$  in the line center. The corrected value is  $\tau_0 = 0.21$  (24), which results in a vertical abundance of  $\text{H}_2$  of  $1.17 (\pm 0.13) \times 10^{13} \text{ cm}^{-2}$  above 140 km on Mars.

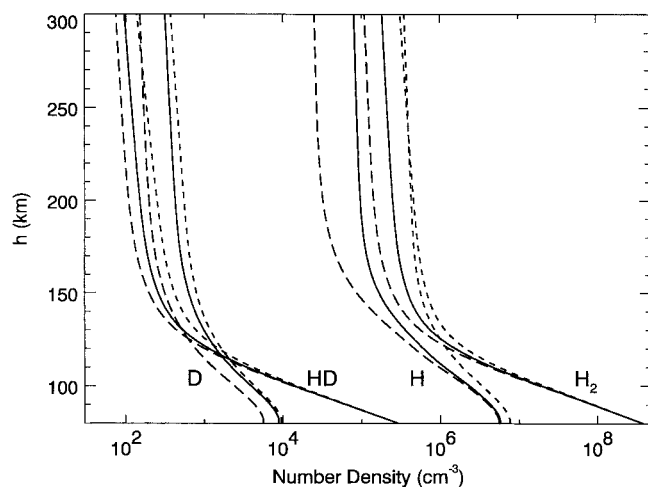
We modeled self-consistently the density profiles of O,  $\text{N}_2$ , CO, Ar, He,  $\text{H}_2$ , H, HD, D, and 18 ions in the range of 80 to 300 km by solving the continuity equations for these species (25). The density profiles for  $\text{H}_2$ , H, HD, and D are shown in Fig. 2. Processes that result in dissociation of  $\text{H}_2$  are the reactions with  $\text{CO}_2^+$ ,  $\text{O}^+$ ,  $\text{CO}^+$ ,  $\text{N}_2^+$ ,  $\text{N}^+$ ,  $\text{Ar}^+$ , and  $\text{O}(^1\text{D})$ , ionization (followed by the ion reactions), and photoelectron dissociation. Similar processes are applied to HD with a correction for the greater mass. We calculated our model for the conditions of our observation, the observation of D (26, 27), which is closely relevant to the problem of hydrogen isotope fractionation and loss, and the observation of H from Mariner 6 and Mariner 7 (20).

$\text{H}_2$  and HD densities at 80 km were chosen to fit the observed  $\text{H}_2$  column abundance above 140 km and the observation of D. They are equal to  $4 \times 10^8$  and  $2.9 \times 10^5 \text{ cm}^{-3}$ , respectively. The  $\text{H}_2$  density corresponds to its mixing ratio of  $15 \pm 5 \text{ ppm}$  in Mars' lower atmosphere. The given uncertainty mostly reflects the uncertainties of the initial data in our models. The obtained mixing ratio is smaller than the predictions of recent models (3, 4, 26, 28) by a factor of 2.7. The obtained HD density results in its mixing ratio of  $11 \pm 4$  parts per billion. The calculated concentration of  $\text{H} = 2.7 \times 10^4 \text{ cm}^{-3}$  at 250 km at solar maximum agrees with the Mariner 6 and 7 value of  $2.7 (\pm 1) \times 10^4 \text{ cm}^{-3}$  (20).

The  $\text{H}_2$  and HD densities correspond to

$$\frac{\text{HD}/\text{H}_2}{\text{HDO}/\text{H}_2\text{O}} = 0.41 \quad (2)$$

**Fig. 2.**  $\text{H}_2$ , H, HD, and D density profiles calculated for the conditions of the observations of D [(26), solar minimum, short dashes],  $\text{H}_2$  (this work, solar mean, solid lines), and H [(20), solar maximum, long dashes].



for  $\text{HDO}/\text{H}_2\text{O} = 2 \times 5.5$  (29–31) times the terrestrial value of  $\text{D}/\text{H} = 1.56 \times 10^{-4}$  (32). The currently studied processes of fractionation of D between  $\text{H}_2\text{O}$  and  $\text{H}_2$  in the martian lower atmosphere are the depletion in photolysis of HDO relative to that of  $\text{H}_2\text{O}$  (33) and the preferential condensation of HDO near and above the hygropause (34). A composite effect of these processes was calculated at 0.43 in (28), exactly the value we obtain from our observation, the observation of D (26), and the model. We do not have any means to fit this value in our model, and this coincidence strongly favors the adequacy of the obtained  $\text{H}_2$  and HD abundances. This also solves the controversy between the photochemical and thermodynamical controls of fractionation of D in  $\text{H}_2$  relative to  $\text{H}_2\text{O}$  in Mars' atmosphere (26, 28, 35) in favor of the photochemical control.

Escape fluxes  $\Phi$  calculated in our models make it possible to calculate a fractionation factor

$$f = \frac{\Phi_{\text{D+HD}}/\Phi_{\text{H+2H}_2}}{\text{D}/\text{H}} \quad (3)$$

This factor is equal to 0.055, 0.082, and 0.167 at low, medium, and high solar activity, respectively. The sums of the fluxes from three models are used in this relation to determine the mean fractionation factor, which is equal to 0.105.

The analysis of  $\text{H}_2\text{O}$  exchange between a few reservoirs on Mars (28) results in

$$a = \frac{1}{f} \ln \frac{1-f}{1-fr} \quad (4)$$

where  $a$  is the ratio of the  $\text{H}_2\text{O}$  loss to the  $\text{H}_2\text{O}$  abundance in the reservoir exchangeable with the atmosphere in the last billion years, and  $r$  is the present-to-initial  $\text{D}/\text{H}$  ratio. Most probably, a bulk of the exchangeable reservoir is the ice in the polar caps, which is equal to a global layer  $\sim 14 \text{ m}$  thick (28, 36–38). The polar caps shrink very much or completely disappear at very high obliquity of  $40^\circ$  to  $45^\circ$  (39, 40) and accumulate water from the atmosphere at low obliquity. The

mean excess of D in  $\text{H}_2\text{O}$  from the martian meteorites (41, 42), which had been injected from the upper layers of Mars' regolith, is smaller than that in the atmospheric  $\text{H}_2\text{O}$  by a factor of 2.6. Water in the deep regolith may be depleted in D even more strongly. It is not clear whether the recently found seeps and gullies could involve amounts of water comparable to a global ocean  $\sim 100 \text{ m}$  deep (a moderate estimate for  $\text{H}_2\text{O}$  in regolith), nor is it clear how effective the isotope exchange with the atmosphere could be for the conditions of fast drainage and freezing out of the erupted water. Therefore, we expect that only a small part of  $\text{H}_2\text{O}$  in the regolith was exchangeable with the atmosphere.

The  $\text{D}/\text{H}$  ratio was probably equal to 1.9 at the end of hydrodynamic escape (43). Then  $r = 5.5/1.9 = 2.9$ ,  $a = 2.4$ , and the loss of water after the end of hydrodynamic escape is 30 m. This value becomes a lower limit if exchange of  $\text{H}_2\text{O}$  in the regolith with the atmosphere was effective during the last billion years.

Hydrogen escape is coupled with escape of oxygen on a long-term scale (44). Therefore, our value may be compared with the  $\text{H}_2\text{O}$  loss of 10, 50, and 9 m calculated in (45–47), respectively, using a completely different approach: the integration of oxygen escape processes after the end of impact erosion of Mars' atmosphere (48).

Hydrodynamic escape of water on Venus could occur when the  $\text{H}_2\text{O}/\text{CO}_2$  volume ratio in the atmosphere exceeded 0.6 (49). Evidently, the existence of a liquid  $\text{H}_2\text{O}$  ocean on early Mars is not sufficient to drive hydrodynamic escape. This requires a hot Mars that could be possible during its accretion and a short time after it ended. Hydrodynamic escape of the initially accreted  $\text{H}_2$  and  $\text{H}_2$  released in the reaction



could be more effective. The isotope fractionation factor is  $f_h = 0.8$  for this escape if  $\text{H}_2/\text{CO}_2 < 0.5$  (50). Then a ratio of the initial water abundance,  $\text{H}_2\text{O}_i$ , to that at the end of hydrodynamic escape,  $\text{H}_2\text{O}_e$ , is

$$\frac{\text{H}_2\text{O}_i}{\text{H}_2\text{O}_e} = 1.9^{1/(1-f_h)} = 25 \quad (6)$$

assuming the terrestrial  $\text{D}/\text{H}$  for the initial water (51). On the other hand,  $\text{H}_2\text{O}_e = \text{H}_2\text{O}_{\text{pc}} + \text{H}_2\text{O}_r + \text{H}_2\text{O}_l > 50 \text{ m}$  (where the subscripts pc, r, and l refer to the polar caps, regolith, and loss, respectively). The terrestrial ocean scaled to the mass and size of Mars is equivalent to a global martian ocean 1 km deep. The above considerations result in  $\text{H}_2\text{O}_i > 1.25 \text{ km}$ , that is, Mars was initially even more rich in water than Earth (52). An additional supply of water from comets with  $\text{D}/\text{H} \approx 2$  and a possible difference between the initial  $\text{D}/\text{H}$  on Mars and the terrestrial value may affect this scenario and reduce the loss by hydrodynamic escape.

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5. The basic data on the chemical composition of Mars' atmosphere were obtained from the mass spectrometers on the Viking 1 and 2 landing probes that were used to study the upper (1) and lower (2) atmospheres. However, those mass spectrometers had been designed for masses exceeding 10 and could not detect H<sub>2</sub>.
6. An attempt to detect H<sub>2</sub> on Mars by summing the Mariner 9 ultraviolet spectra resulted in an upper limit of 1.5 R to the line at 1607.5 Å that corresponded to the H<sub>2</sub> density of 1.1 × 10<sup>5</sup> cm<sup>-3</sup> at 560 km (53). One R (Rayleigh) corresponds to a column production of 10<sup>6</sup> photons cm<sup>-2</sup> s<sup>-1</sup> (4π ster)<sup>-1</sup>.
7. Spectroscopic detection of H<sub>2</sub> presents some difficulties. Despite the low H<sub>2</sub> dissociation energy of 4.48 eV, dissociation to the ground-state H atoms is parity-forbidden, and H<sub>2</sub> absorbs photons only below 1108 Å in the lines of the Lyman and other band systems. The Lyman system converges to the dissociative continuum at 845 Å, which corresponds to the formation of one of the H atoms in the excited state n = 2. The solar radiation is weak below 1108 Å, and the fluorescence of H<sub>2</sub> is weak as well. Fortunately, three absorption lines of the H<sub>2</sub> Lyman band system are exceptionally close to the strong solar Lyman β 1025.72 Å, Lyman γ 972.54 Å, and C II 1037.02 Å lines. The differences in the wavelengths are smaller than the widths of the solar lines, and the H<sub>2</sub> emission lines from these three levels are much stronger than other H<sub>2</sub> emission lines. This effect was first observed and explained using the Apollo 17 ultraviolet spectrometer (54).
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14. The population α was calculated as

$$\alpha(J) = \frac{(2J + 1)g_s \exp\left[-\frac{hcBJ(J + 1)}{kT}\right]}{\sum (2J + 1)g_s \exp\left[-\frac{hcBJ(J + 1)}{kT}\right]}$$

where g<sub>s</sub> is the nuclear spin statistical weight, B = 60.853 cm<sup>-1</sup> is the H<sub>2</sub> ground-state rotational constant, h and k are the Planck and Boltzmann constants, respectively, and c is the speed of light.

15. The absorption cross sections σ were calculated as

$$\sigma \text{ (cm}^2 \text{ Å)} = \frac{10^8 A \lambda^4 (2J' + 1)}{8\pi c (2J'' + 1)}$$

Nuclear spins are the same for upper and lower states and cancel out, A is the transition probability, and λ is the wavelength in cm.

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strument resolution of 84 mÅ in (55) to obtain the solar intensity at 1037.15 Å.

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$$0.93 \frac{(R + 160 \text{ km})(2\pi RH)^{1/2} (1 + 9/R\lambda)}{R^2(1 + 2/\lambda)}$$

where H = R/λ = 331 km is the H<sub>2</sub> scale height at 160 km for 270 K, λ = γMm/(RKT) = 10.73 is the structure parameter, γ is the gravitational constant, M and m are the masses of Mars and H<sub>2</sub>, respectively, and 0.93 is a ratio of H<sub>2</sub> column abundances at 160 and 140 km.

24. We deduced the following relation between τ and τ<sub>0</sub>:

$$\tau = \frac{2}{\sqrt{\pi}} \int_0^\infty \left\{ 1 - \exp[-\tau_0 \exp(-x^2)] \right\} dx$$

which is applicable for τ<sub>0</sub> < 1.

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# Mediterranean Sea Surface Radiocarbon Reservoir Age Changes Since the Last Glacial Maximum

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Sea surface reservoir ages must be known to establish a common chronological framework for marine, continental, and cryospheric paleoproxies, and are crucial for understanding ocean-continent climatic relationships and the paleoventilation of the ocean. Radiocarbon dates of planktonic foraminifera and tephra contemporaneously deposited over Mediterranean marine and terrestrial regions reveal that the reservoir ages were similar to the modern one (~400 years) during most of the past 18,000 carbon-14 years. However, reservoir ages increased by a factor of 2 at the beginning of the last deglaciation. This is attributed to changes of the North Atlantic thermohaline circulation during the massive ice discharge event Heinrich 1.

The reservoir age R<sub>surf</sub> of surface ocean water (the difference between the <sup>14</sup>C age of the sea surface and that of the atmosphere) reflects the balance among <sup>14</sup>C production, CO<sub>2</sub> exchange between the atmosphere and ocean, and mixing with <sup>14</sup>C-depleted intermediate waters (J). The

distribution of modern (before 1950) marine reservoir ages correlates closely with the main features of global thermohaline circulation. Surface ages vary from ~400 years in the well-ventilated gyres of the central North and South Pacific and Atlantic Ocean up to ~1200 years