



HAL
open science

A global model of meteoric metals in the atmosphere of Mars

Wuhu Feng, John Plane, Francisco González-Galindo, Daniel Marsh, Adam Welch, Juan Diego Carrillo-Sánchez, Diego Janches, Jean-Yves Chaufray, Francois, Forget, Ehouarn Millour, et al.

► **To cite this version:**

Wuhu Feng, John Plane, Francisco González-Galindo, Daniel Marsh, Adam Welch, et al.. A global model of meteoric metals in the atmosphere of Mars. Europlanet Science Congress 2021, Sep 2021, Online, Unknown Region. pp.EPSC2021-692, 10.5194/epsc2021-692 . insu-03571057

HAL Id: insu-03571057

<https://insu.hal.science/insu-03571057v1>

Submitted on 14 Feb 2022

HAL is a multi-disciplinary open access archive for the deposit and dissemination of scientific research documents, whether they are published or not. The documents may come from teaching and research institutions in France or abroad, or from public or private research centers.

L'archive ouverte pluridisciplinaire **HAL**, est destinée au dépôt et à la diffusion de documents scientifiques de niveau recherche, publiés ou non, émanant des établissements d'enseignement et de recherche français ou étrangers, des laboratoires publics ou privés.



Distributed under a Creative Commons Attribution 4.0 International License



A global model of meteoric metals in the atmosphere of Mars

Wuhu Feng^{1,2}, John Plane², Francisco González-Galindo³, Daniel Marsh^{2,4}, Adam Welch², Juan Diego Carrillo-Sánchez⁵, Diego Janches⁵, Jean-Yves Chaufray⁶, Francois Forget⁷, Ehouarn Millour⁸, Matteo Crismani⁹, Nicholas Schneider¹⁰, and Mehdi Benna⁵

¹University of Leeds, National Centre for Atmospheric Science, School of Earth and Environment, Leeds, United Kingdom of Great Britain – England, Scotland, Wales (w.feng@leeds.ac.uk)

²University of Leeds, School of Chemistry, Leeds, United Kingdom

³Instituto de Astrofísica de Andalucía, CSIC, Granada, Spain

⁴National Center for Atmospheric Research, Boulder, USA

⁵GSFC/NASA, USA

⁶Laboratoire Atmosphères, Milieux, Observations Spatiales, IPSL, Paris, France

⁷Laboratoire de Meteorologie Dynamique, Université Paris VI, Paris, France

⁸Laboratoire de Meteorologie Dynamique, Université Pierre et Marie Curie, Paris, France

⁹California State University, San Bernardino, USA

¹⁰Laboratory for Atmospheric and Space Physics, University of Colorado, Boulder, USA

Here we report a global model of meteoric metals including Mg, Fe and Na in the Laboratoire de Météorologie Dynamique (LMD) Mars global circulation model (termed as LMD-Mars-Metals), following on similar work as we have done for the Earth's atmosphere. The model has been developed by combining three components: the state-of-the-art LMD-Mars model covering the whole atmosphere from the surface to the upper thermosphere (up to $\sim 2 \times 10^{-8}$ Pa or 240 km), a description of the neutral and ion-molecule chemistry of Mg, Fe and Na in the Martian atmosphere (where the high CO₂ abundance produces a rather different chemistry from the terrestrial atmosphere), and a treatment of injection of the metals into the atmosphere as a result of the ablation of cosmic dust particles. The LMD-Mars model contains a detailed treatment of atmospheric physics, dynamics and chemistry from the lower atmosphere to the ionosphere. The model also includes molecular diffusion and considers the chemistry of the C, O, H and N families and major photochemical ion species in the upper atmosphere, as well as improved treatments of the day-to-day variability of the UV solar flux and 15 mm CO₂ cooling under non-local thermodynamic equilibrium conditions. So far, we have incorporated the chemistries of Mg, Fe and Na into LMD-Mars because these metals have different chemistries which control the characteristic features of their ionized and neutral layers in the Martian atmosphere. The Mg chemistry has 4 neutral and 6 ionized Mg-containing species, connected by 25 neutral and ion-molecule reactions. The corresponding Fe chemistry has 39 reactions with 14 Fe-containing species. Na chemistry has 7 neutral and only 2 ionized Na-containing species, with 32 reactions. The injection rate of these metals as a function of height is pre-calculated from the Leeds Chemical Ablation Model (CABMOD) combined with an astronomical model which predicts the dust from Jupiter Family and Long Period comets, as well as the asteroid belt, in the inner solar system. The LMD-Mars-Metals model has been run for several full Martian years under different surface dust scenarios to investigate the impact of high atmospheric dust loadings on the modelled metal layers. The model has been evaluated against Mg⁺

observations from IUVS (Imaging UV Spectrometer) and NGIMS (Neutral Gas Ion Mass Spectrometer) instruments on NASA's Mars Atmosphere and Volatile Evolution Mission (MAVEN) spacecraft. We have also carried out other sensitivity experiments with different seasonality/altitude/latitudinal varying of Meteoric Input Function (MIF) of these metals in the model. These sensitivity results will be discussed.