

The background of the entire poster is a photograph of the MAVEN satellite in orbit around Mars. The satellite is a complex structure with a central body and several large, rectangular solar panel arrays extending outwards. Mars is visible in the lower right, showing its characteristic reddish-orange surface with some darker features. The sky is a deep, dark blue/black with some faint stars.

Please join us at the
Laboratory for Atmospheric and Space Physics
for our next public lecture

MAVEN's Mars Space Weather Report

Michael Chaffin

Wednesday, May 4, 2016 at 7:30 PM
(doors open at 7:00 PM)

LASP, 1234 Innovation Dr., Boulder, Rm. 299

Mars was once a planet with a thicker atmosphere that could support liquid water on its surface, but is now a desert world with much of its atmosphere lost to space. CU/LASP's Mars Atmosphere and Volatile Evolution mission has been orbiting Mars for over a year, collecting data on the the planet's atmosphere, and determining rates of atmospheric escape. Mars' upper atmosphere is a dynamic place, responding dramatically to varying solar input with widespread aurora and particle outflows. I'll talk about the sorts of measurements MAVEN is making at Mars and describe how these measurements have led to a revised picture of how the atmosphere operates and responds to varying solar wind and ultraviolet input. MAVEN's comprehensive measurements of atmospheric particles are helping scientists understand the history of atmospheric escape at Mars, and are essential to reconstructing the history of Mars' water loss.



For more information, contact the LASP Office
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