



Ion escape fluxes from Mars

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A 3D, multi-species, non-ideal MHD numerical code was used to calculate the ion escape fluxes from Mars. The calculations were carried out for six cases with different solar wind, solar cycle and crustal field orientation conditions and the total escape fluxes varied by about an order of magnitude from 2.72×10^{23} to 2.37×10^{24} sec^{-1} . These results were compared to the recently measured Mars Express results of 3.1×10^{23} sec^{-1} , which were obtained near solar cycle minimum conditions, indicating a good agreement between measured and calculated fluxes.