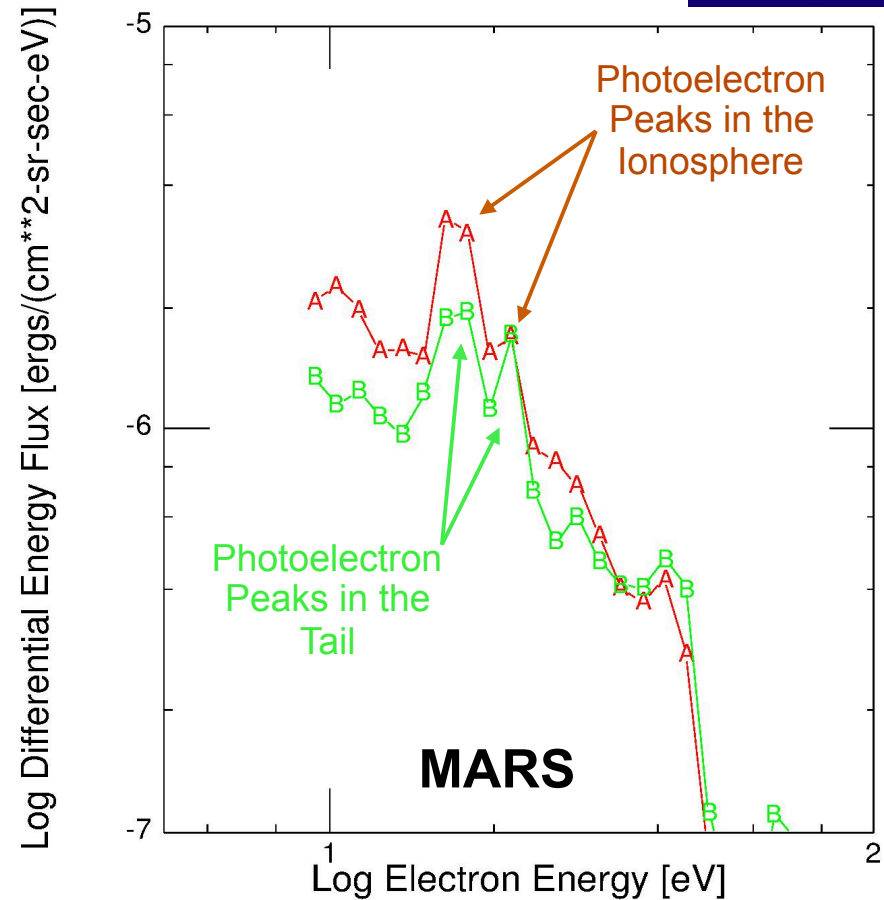
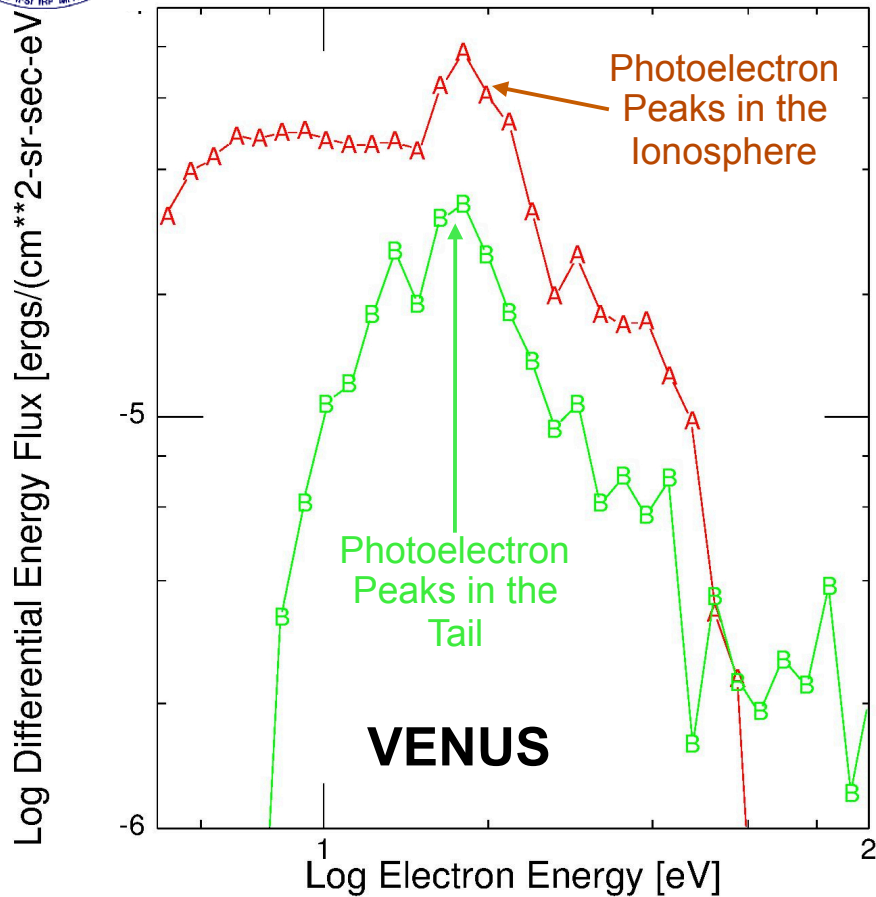




Similar Ionization Processes on Venus and Mars



Peaks in the electron spectrum are caused by solar HEII 30.4 nm ultraviolet light ionizing carbon dioxide and atomic oxygen in the atmosphere. The emitted electrons are observed in the dayside ionosphere near the ionization source; however, they are also observed deep in the planet's tail traveling away from the Sun. **This proves that the atmospheres of both Mars and Venus are being stripped away in an ionization process caused by the Sun.**

Tsang, S. M. E., A.J. Coates, G. H. Jones, R. A. Frahm, J. D. Winningham, S. Barabash, R. Lundin, and A. Fedorov, "Ionospheric Photoelectrons at Venus: Case Studies and First Observation in the Tail", *Planetary and Space Science*, in press, 2015