

## The 2013 MAVEN Mission To Mars

## Summary of MAVEN Status

- We've been developing MAVEN since 2003
- All science instruments are complete and on the spacecraft
- Spacecraft assembly is complete, environmental testing is complete, observatory is at Cape Canaveral in final preparation for launch
- Launch period is 18 November 7 December, 2013
- Arrival at Mars in September, 2014
- One-Earth-year primary science mission

Technical progress is on track, we are on schedule and on budget!



## Overarching Question: Did Mars Ever Have Life?

Mars appears to meet or have met all of the environmental requirements for the occurrence of life:

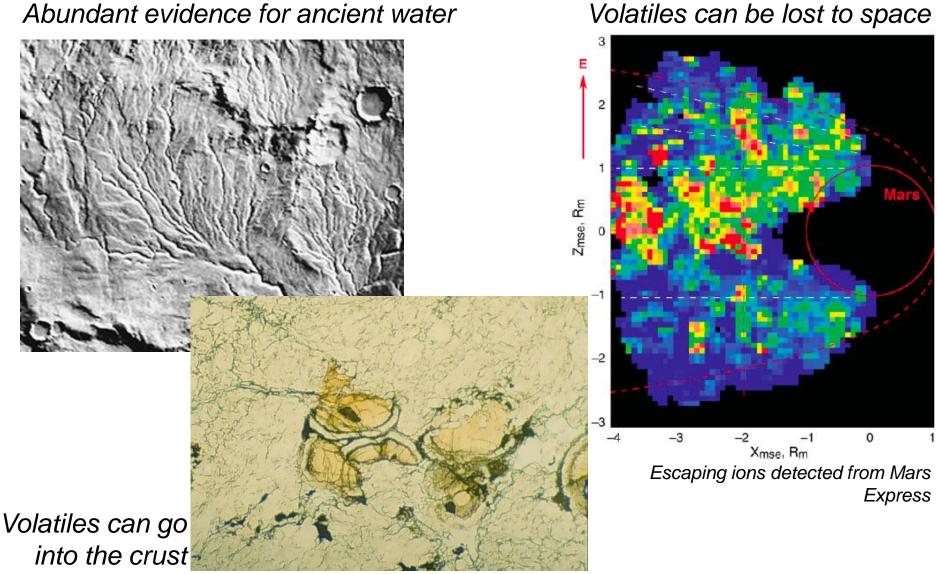
- Liquid water
- Access to the biogenic elements
- Source of energy to drive metabolism





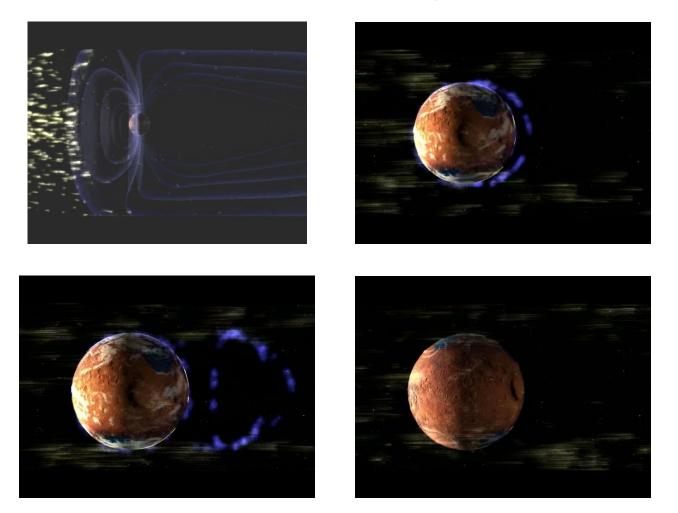
Did Mars ever have life? How did any life interact with its planetary environment? How has the habitability of Mars changed over time?

## Where Did The Water Go? Where Did The CO<sub>2</sub> Go?



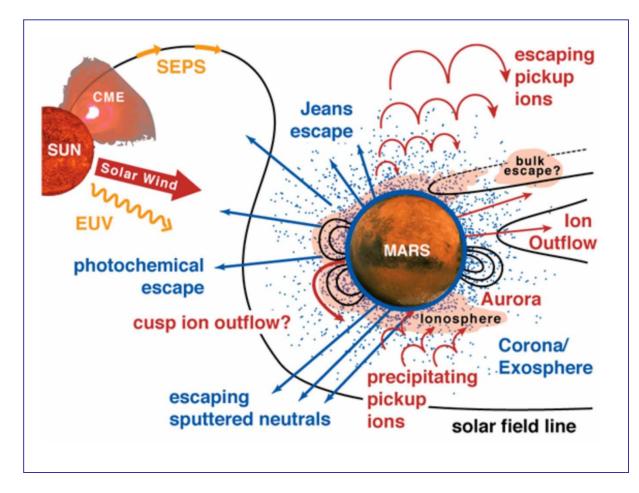
Carbonate deposits in a Martian meteorite

## Working Scenario For Key Process In Evolution Of Martian Atmosphere



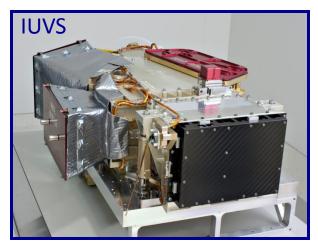
Turn-off of the Martian magnetic field allowed turn-on of solar-EUV and solar-wind stripping of the atmosphere approximately 4.0 billion years ago, resulting in the present thin, cold atmosphere.

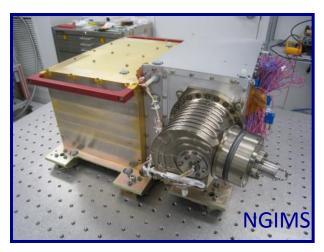
#### MAVEN Will Allow Us To Understand Escape Of Atmospheric Gases To Space



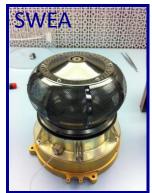
- MAVEN will determine the present state of the upper atmosphere and today's rates of loss to space.
- Measurements will allow determination of the net integrated loss to space through time.

## The MAVEN Science Instruments











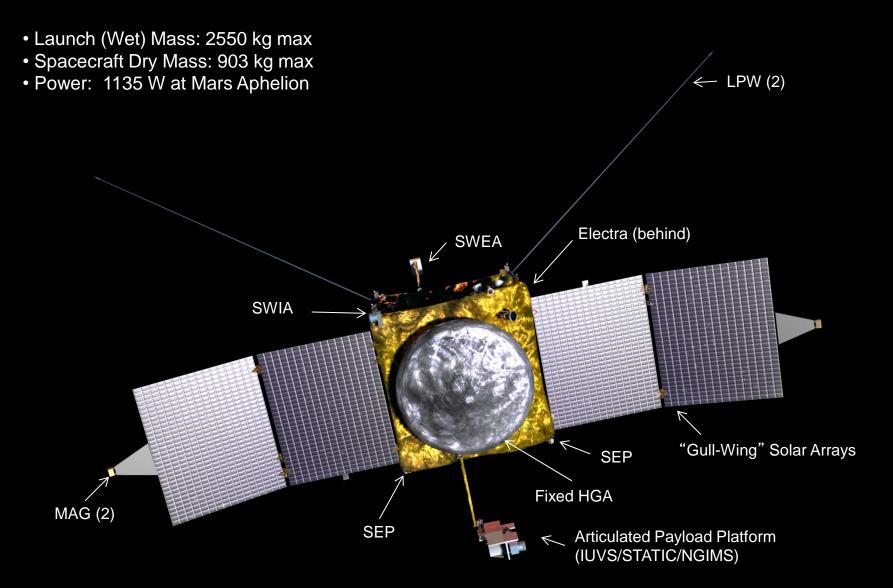




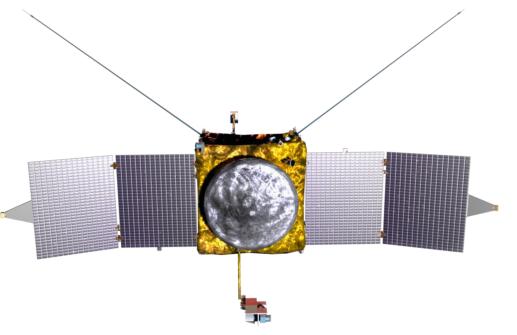




## The MAVEN Spacecraft



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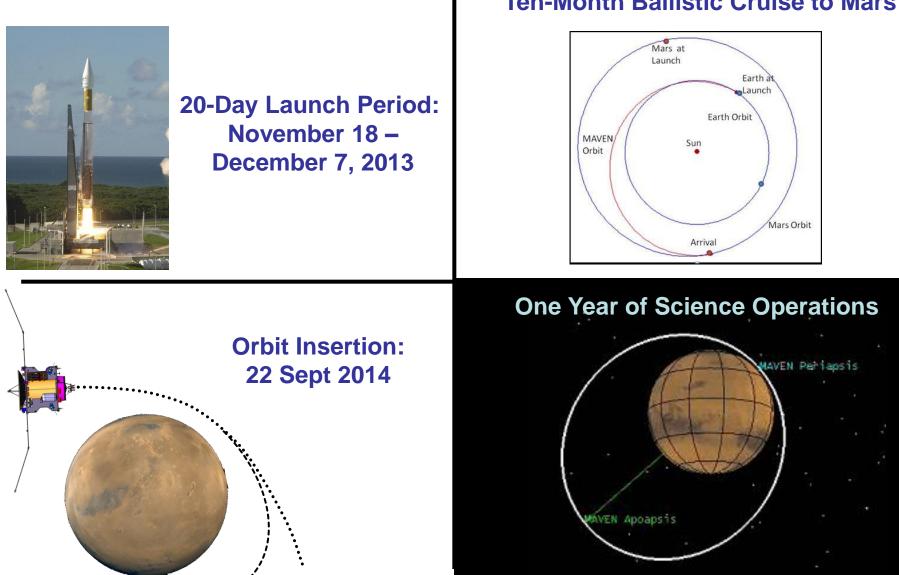


Same weight fully loaded as a GMC Yukon – 2550 kg.



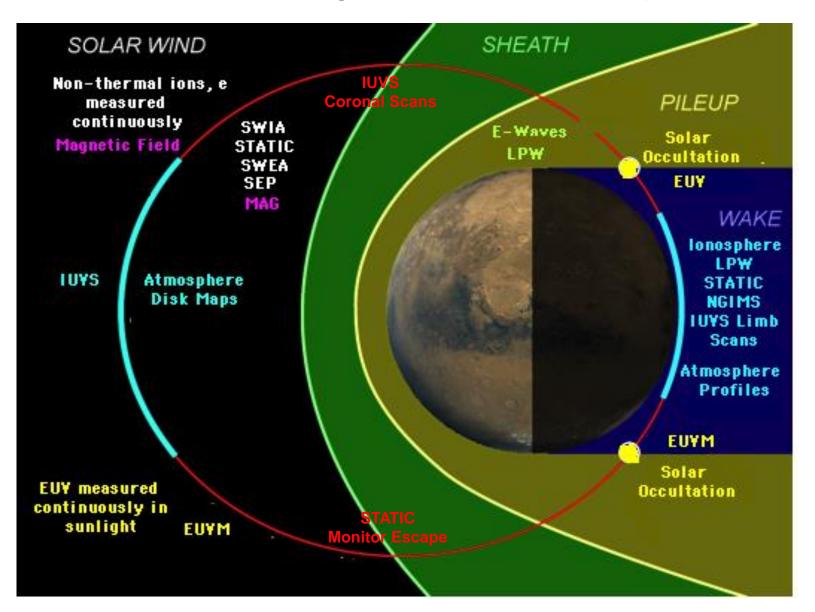
Same length as a school bus – wingtip-to-wingtip length of 37ft.

## **MAVEN Mission Architecture**



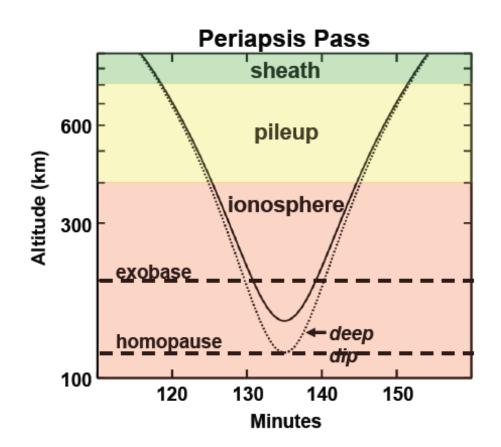
#### **Ten-Month Ballistic Cruise to Mars**

#### MAVEN Makes Measurements Throughout The Orbit And Measures All Regions Of Near-Mars Space



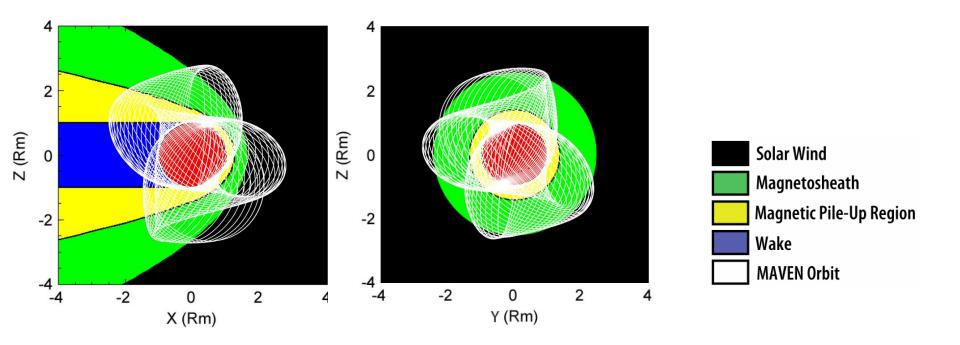
#### Elliptical Orbit Allows Measurement of All Relevant Regions of Upper Atmosphere

- Nominal periapsis near 150 km.
- Five "deep-dip" campaigns with periapsis near 125 km.
- Provide complete coverage of entire upper atmosphere



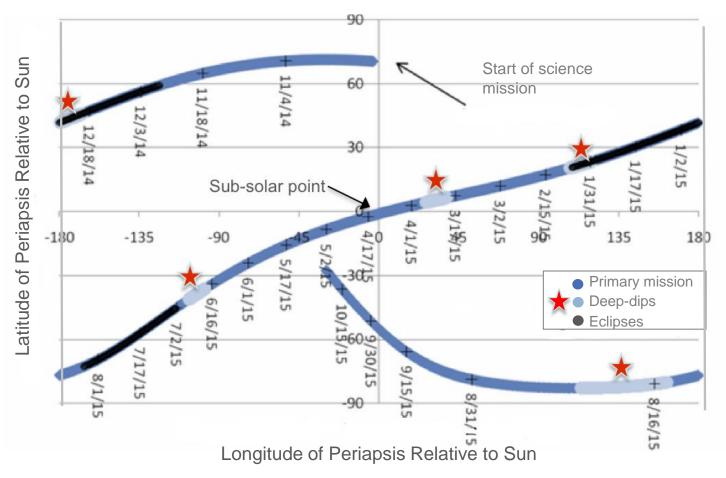
## **MAVEN Orbit and Primary Science Mission**

- Elliptical orbit to provide coverage of all altitudes
- The orbit precesses in both latitude and local solar time
- One-Earth-year mission allows thorough coverage of near-Mars space

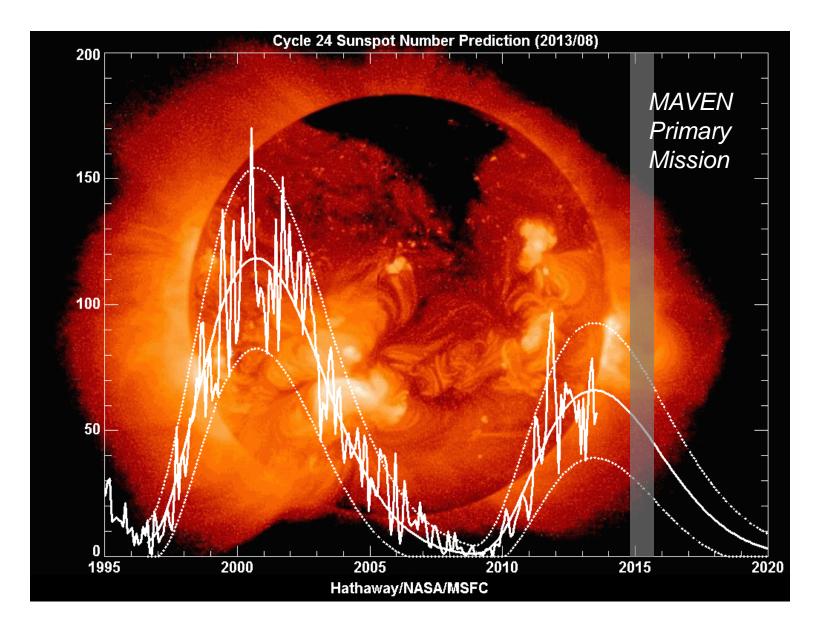


## Latitude and Local Time Coverage

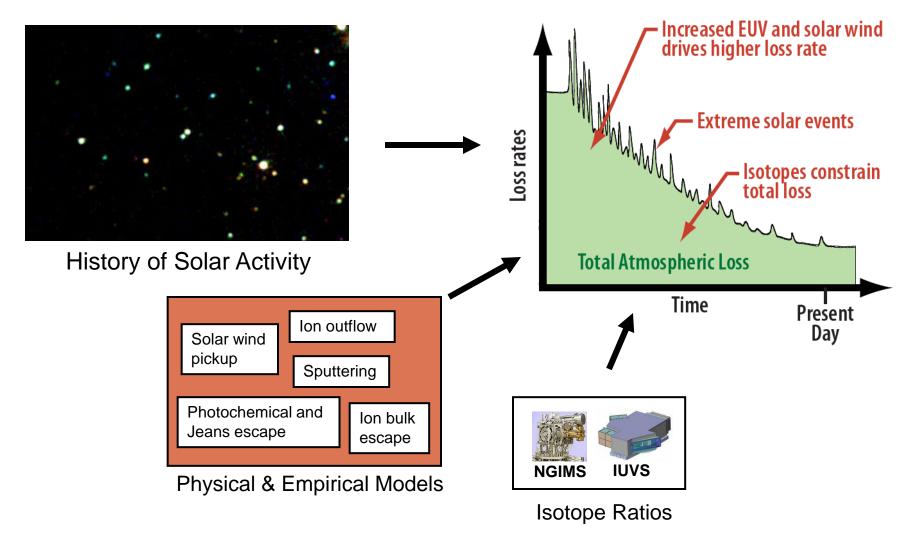
- One-Earth-year mission provides coverage of all local solar times and most latitudes.
- Figure shows periapsis location for each orbit.
- Deep dips near subsolar region, midnight, terminator, crustal B region, polar cap



## MAVEN's Timing in the Solar Cycle



#### Constraining the Total Atmospheric Loss Through Time



We will use multiple, independent approaches to determining atmospheric loss.

Mission Operations at Lockheed Martin, Science Operations at CU/LASP



LASP MAVEN Science Operations Center

## Proposal, Site Visit, and Presentation at NASA HQ



## One Of ~220 Reviews Over The Life Cycle Of MAVEN

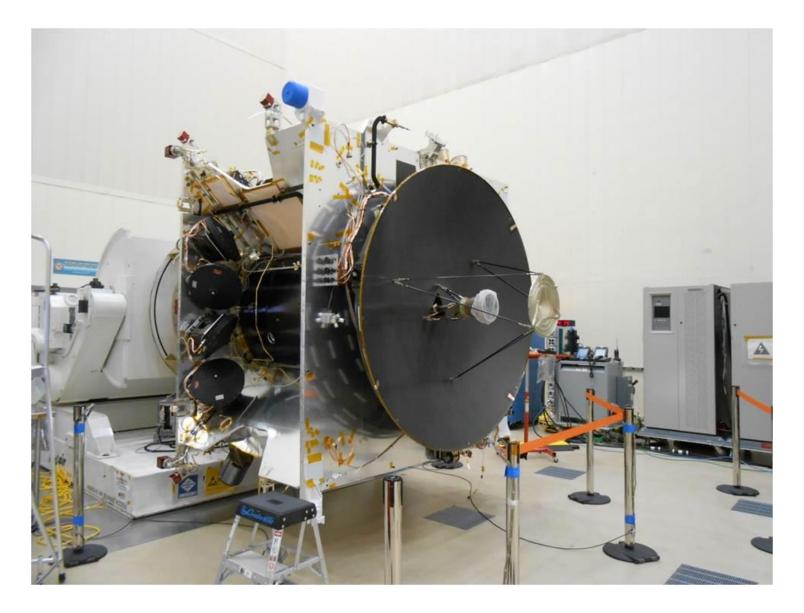


## MAVEN Spacecraft Early In Assembly



Integration of core structure with fuel tank

#### Nearly Complete Spacecraft In Lockheed Martin High-Bay Cleanroom



## **Observatory in Environmental Testing**

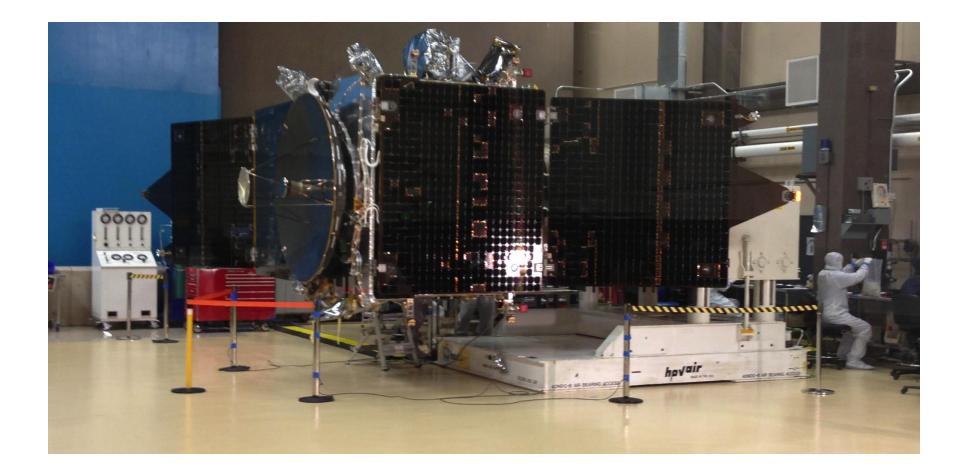




**MAVEN** in Acoustics

**MAVEN on Shaker – Sine Vibration** 

## MAVEN Observatory Ready To Ship



#### Starting Its Journey To Mars: From Lockheed Martin To Kennedy Space Center, 2 August 2013



### MAVEN's Atlas V – 401



Atlas 1<sup>st</sup> Stage



Ship to the Cape by barge



Atlas Centaur 2<sup>nd</sup> Stage

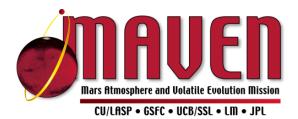
#### **Atlas Payload Fairing**



## From Arrival At Cape To Launch

- ✓ Inspect, clean, and prepare spacecraft after shipping
- ✓ Re-install equipment that had been removed for shipping
- $\checkmark$  Re-install components that had been removed for minor rework or calibration
- ✓ Conduct System Verification Tests to ensure that everything works properly
- Install pyro devices
- Final spin balance test
- Load fuel
- Mate spacecraft to payload support structure that will attach to upper stage
- Install spacecraft into payload fairing
- Transport to Vertical Integration Facility (VIF) and mate with Atlas booster and Centaur upper stage
- Roll out to launch pad (day before launch)
- Fuel booster and upper stage (on launch pad on day of launch)
- Final countdown and launch

# Note: Launch is a major milestone in the project, but remember that the goal is the science!



# MAVEN is on track, on schedule, and on budget.

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