

Cedric Gillmann,
G. Golabek.



RICE UNIVERSITY

Venus: The role of surface volatile exchanges in evolving climate conditions on terrestrial planets

For more details, please read:

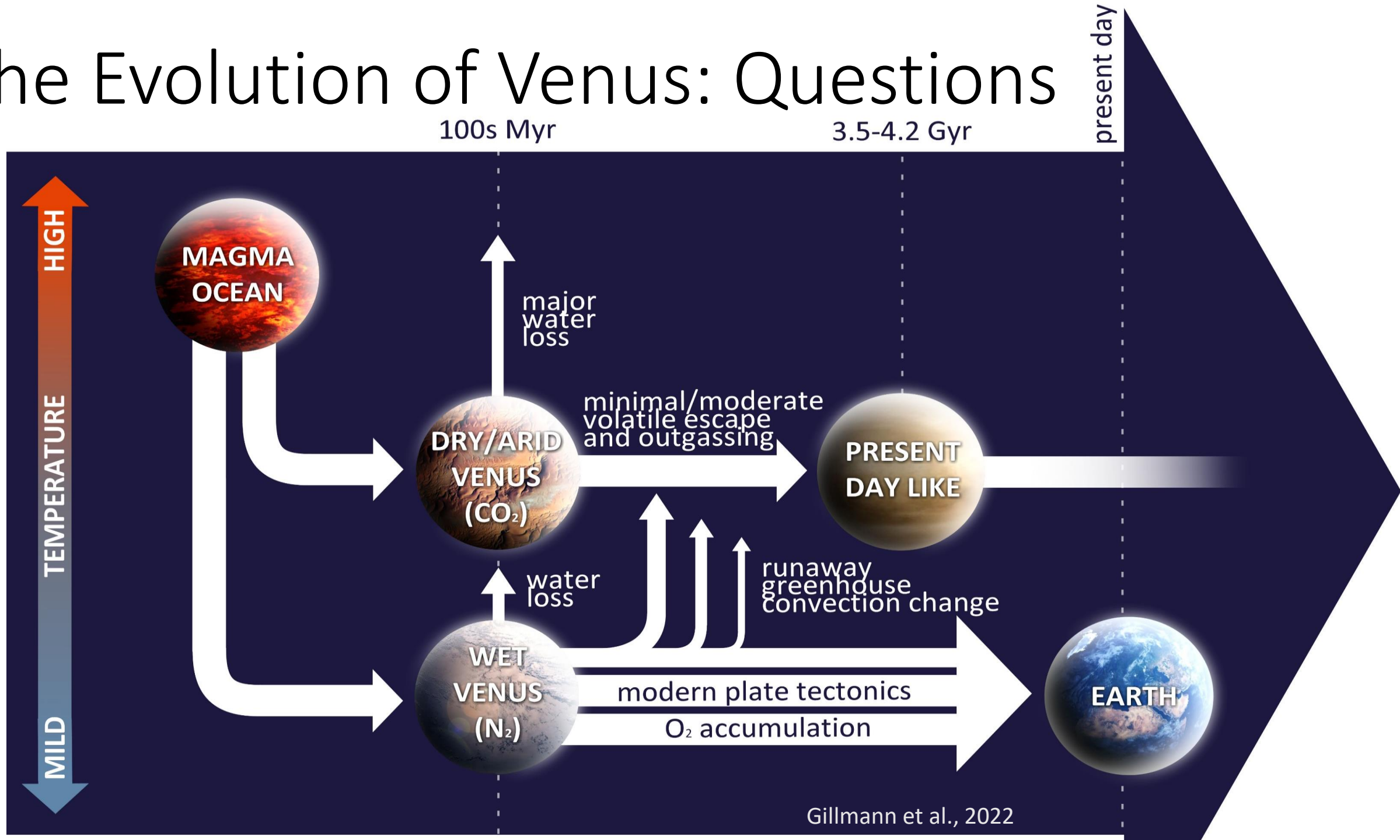
- The long-term evolution of the atmosphere of Venus: processes and feedback mechanisms

C. Gillmann, M. J. Way, G. Avice, D. Breuer, G. J. Golabek, D. Honing, J. Krissansen-Totton, H. Lammer, A.-C. Plesa, M. Persson, J. G. O'Rourke, A. Salvador, M. Scherf, M. Yu. Zolotov

<http://arxiv.org/abs/2204.08540> (submitted to *Space Sci. Rev.*, 2022)



The Evolution of Venus: Questions



Evolution through volatile exchanges

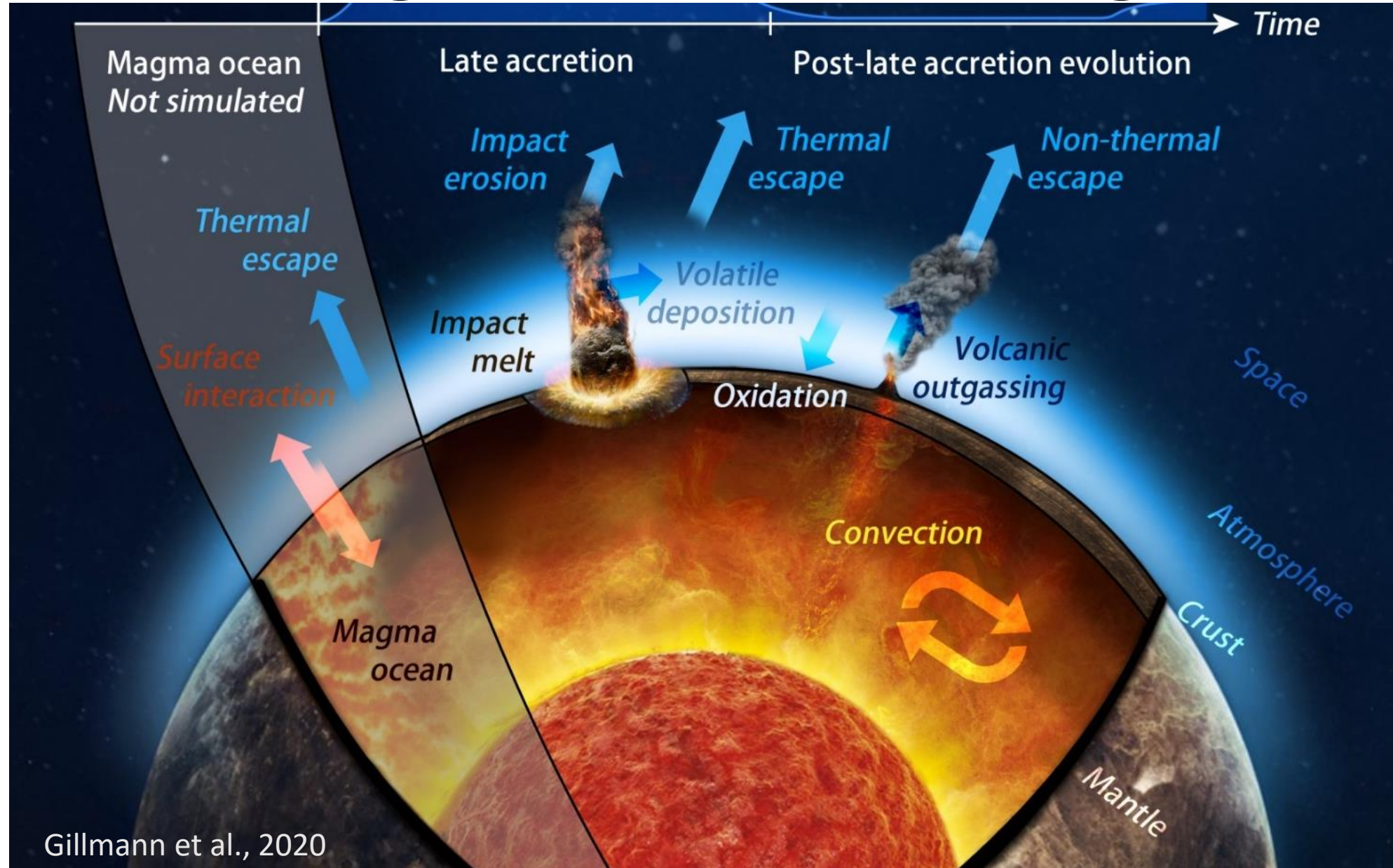
Possibly simpler volatile exchanges than on Earth.

Water sources on Venus:

- Volcanic outgassing
- Impactor delivery

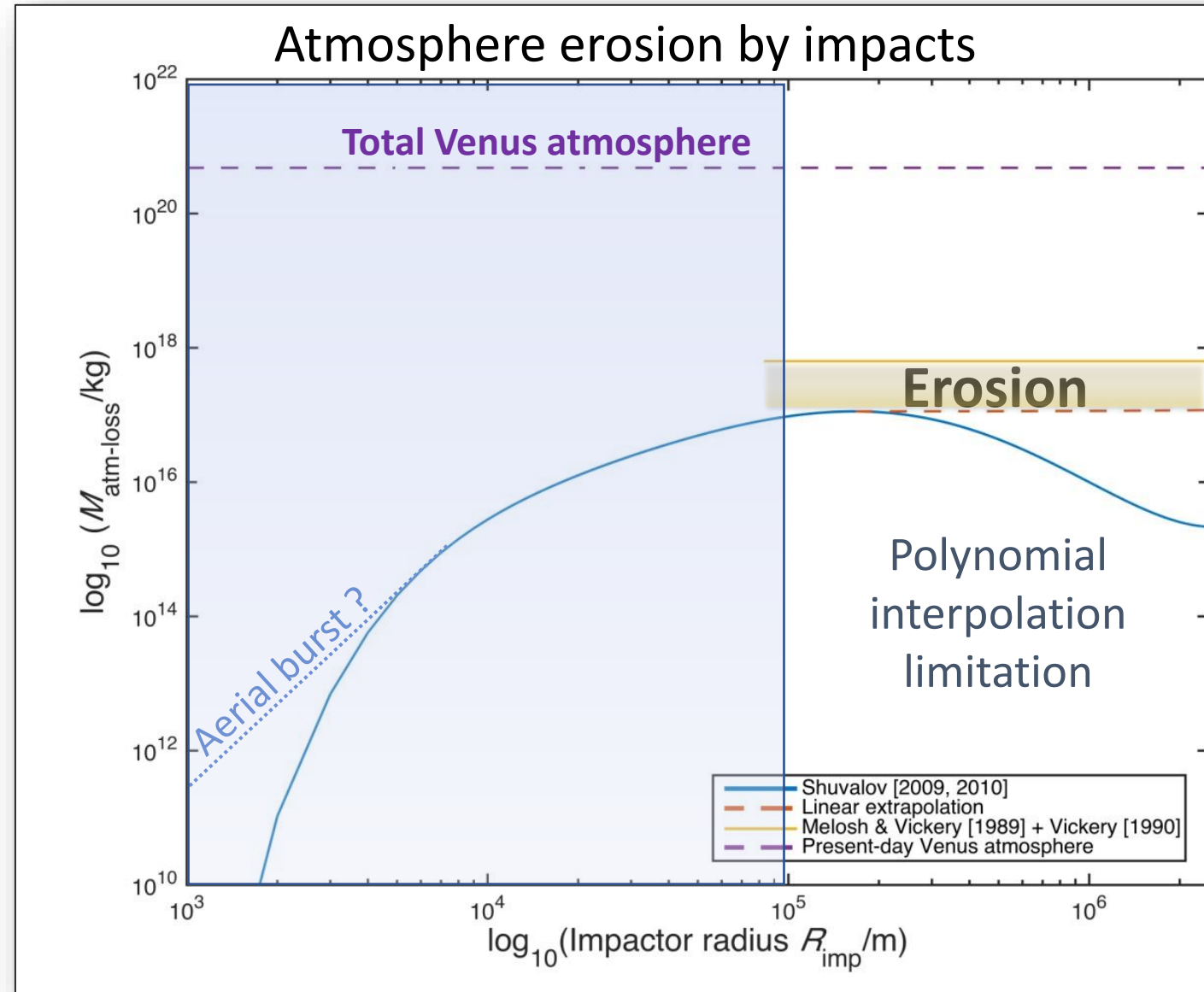
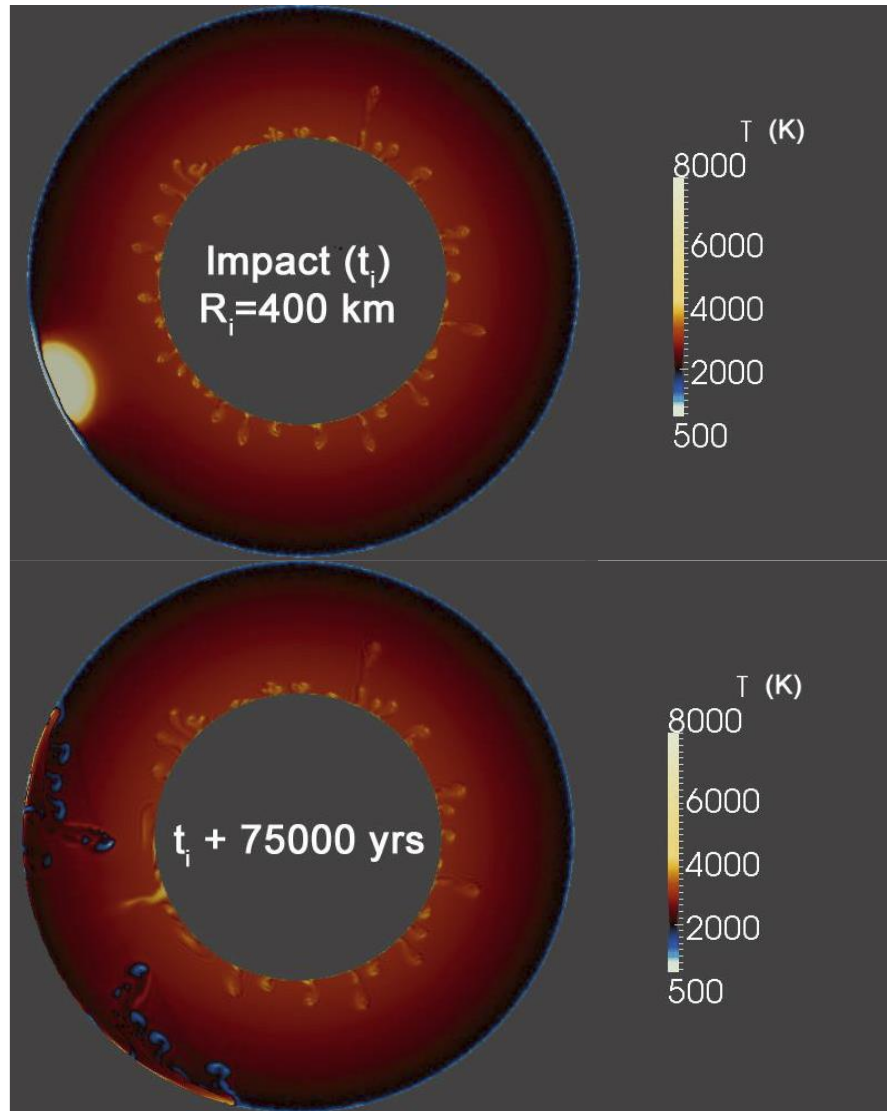
Water loss on Venus:

- Impact erosion
- Thermal and non-thermal escape
- Surface oxidation / gas-solid reactions



The effects of impacts

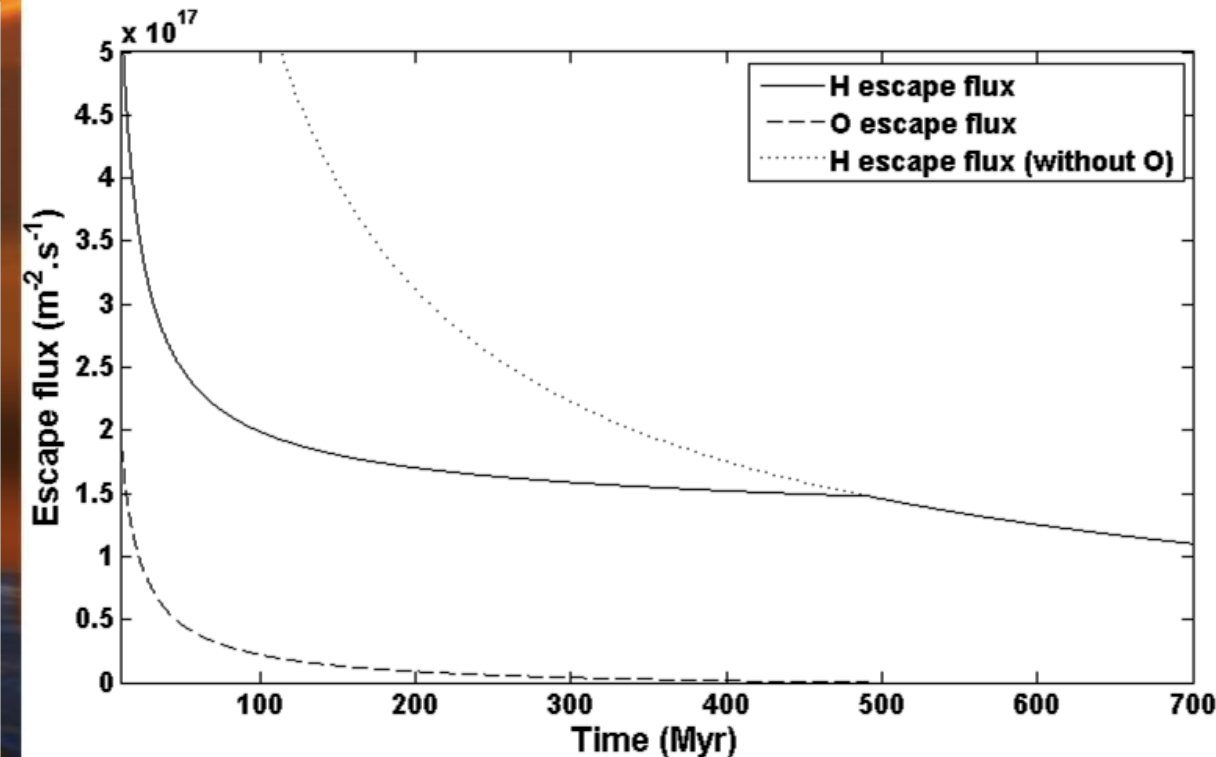
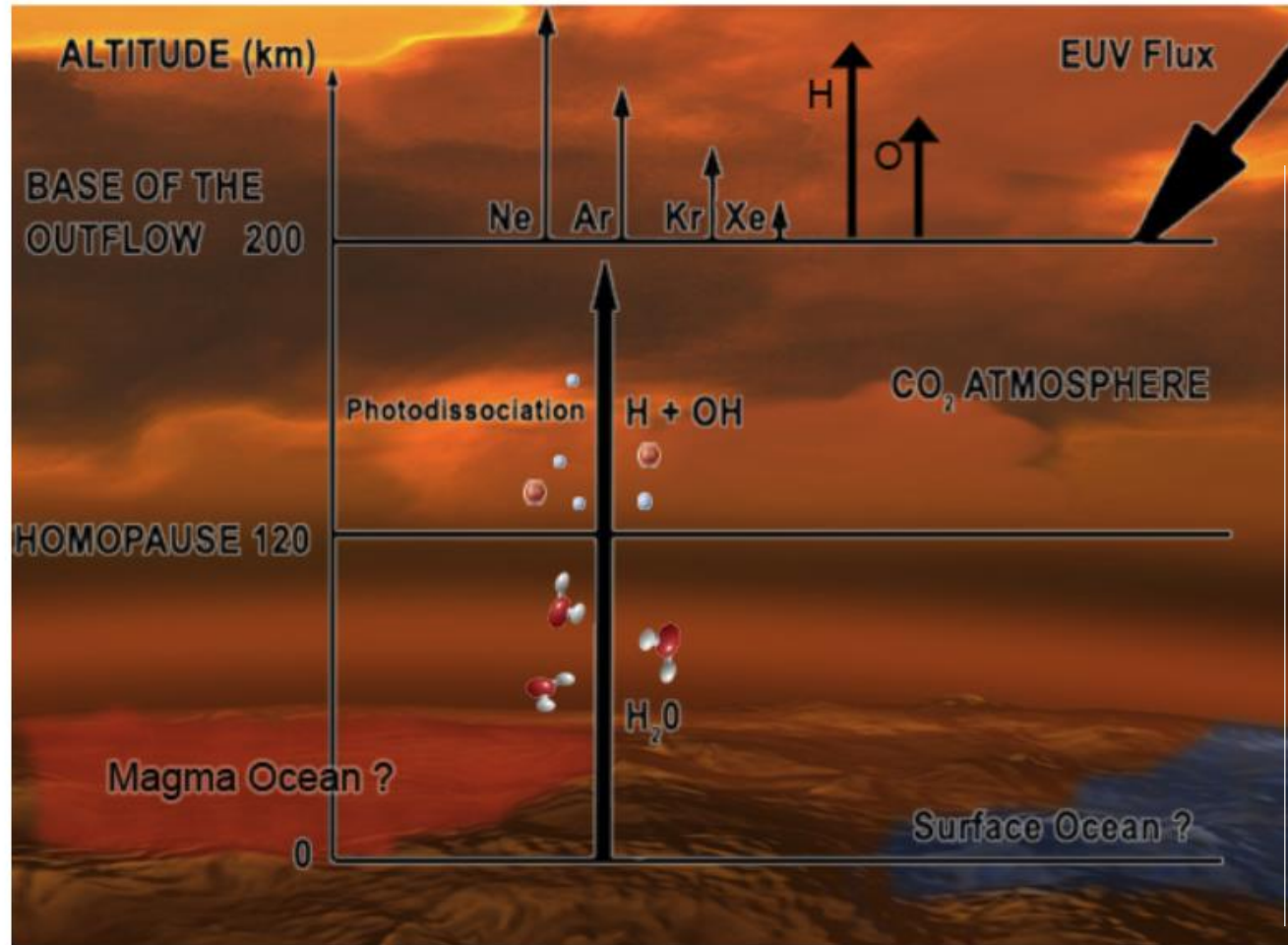
Melting by impact



Thermal escape: efficient early on, and for H

- Removes water efficiently, but O remains and needs to be removed.

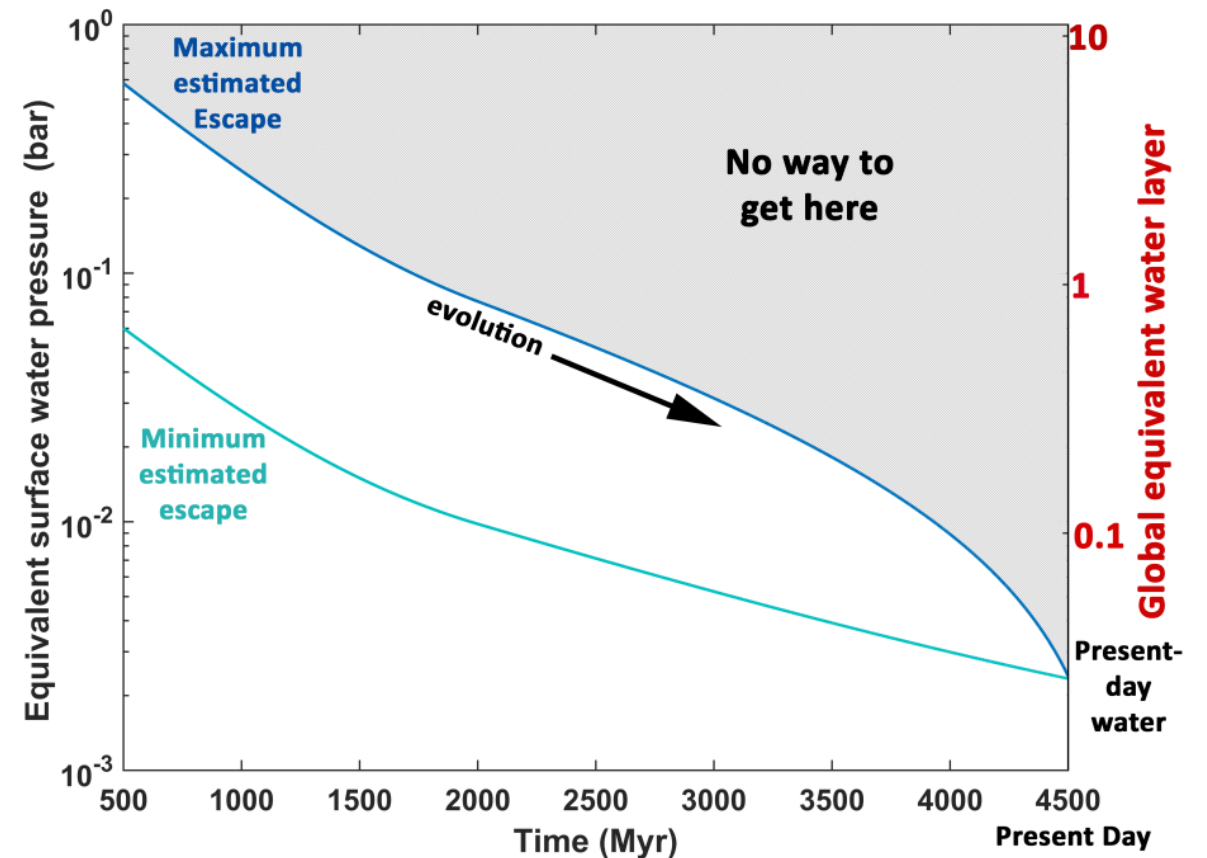
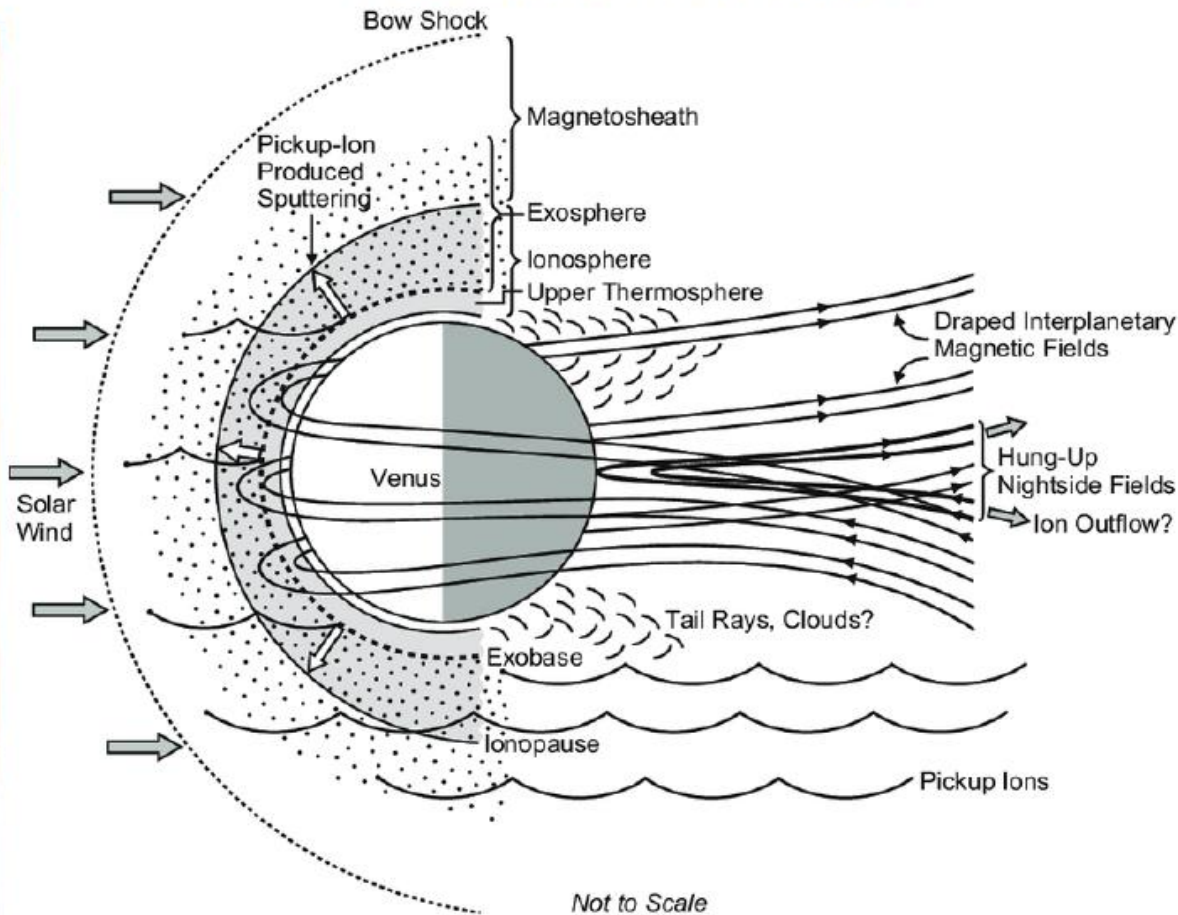
- H loss potentially high even late in the evolution of Venus, provided a significant water vapor atmosphere occurs.



Non-Thermal escape: a sink for O, but how much?

- How does it really evolve with time and a changing atmosphere?

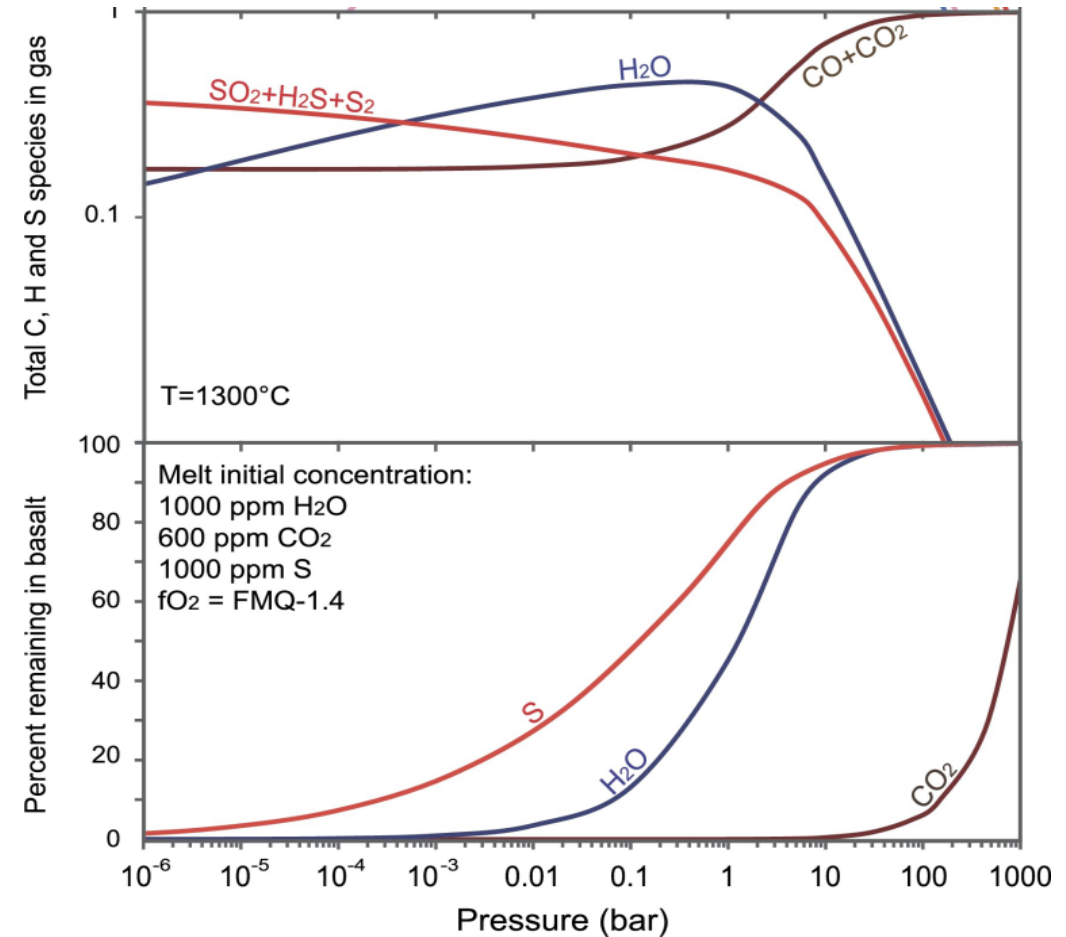
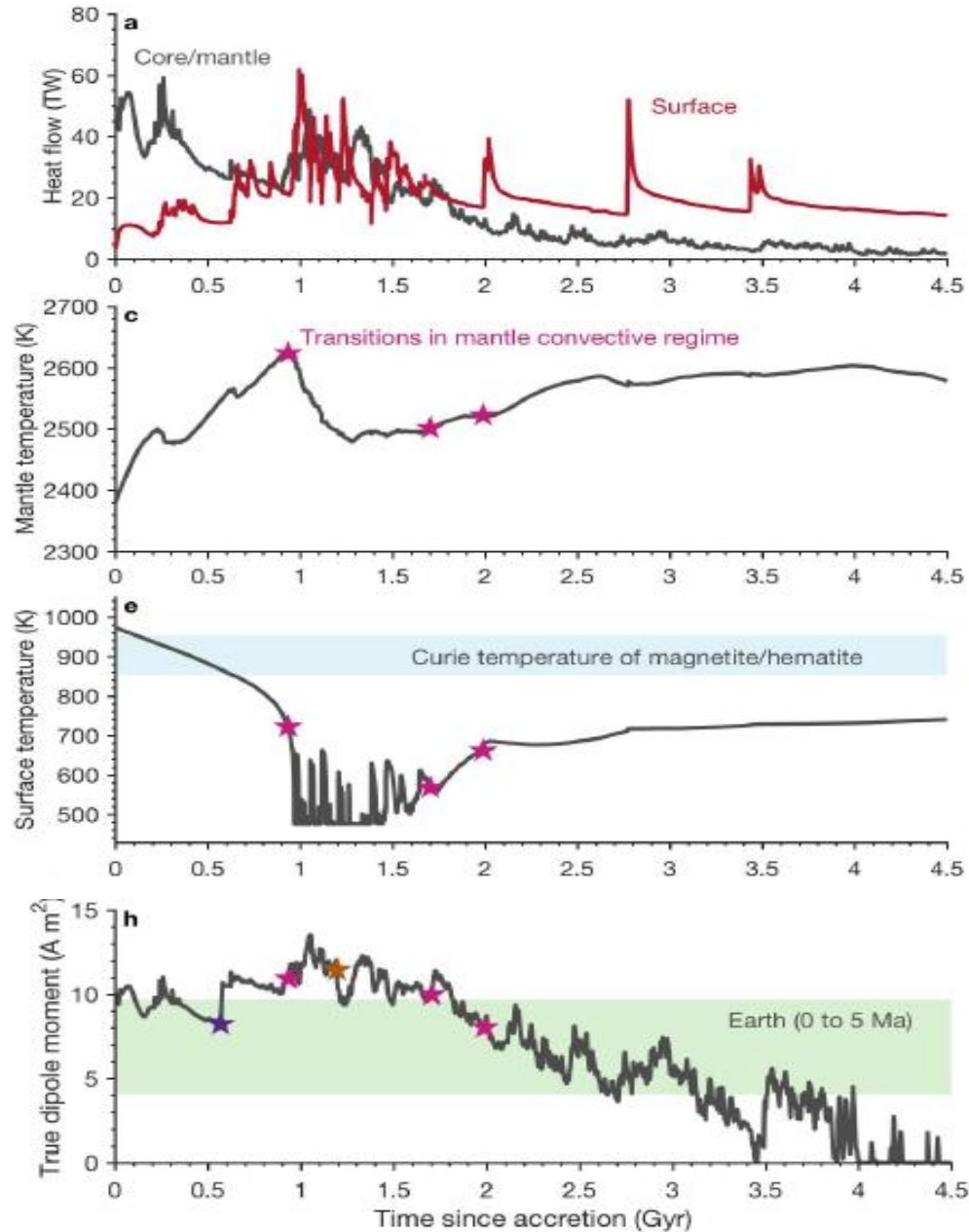
- Recent work suggests very little oxygen loss this way.



Consequences of Mantle dynamics

For magnetic field generation, surface conditions, and volatile cycles.

Outgassing, mostly CO₂ on Venus? 



Consequences of volcanism

Volcanic production is estimated from Mantle dynamics modelling

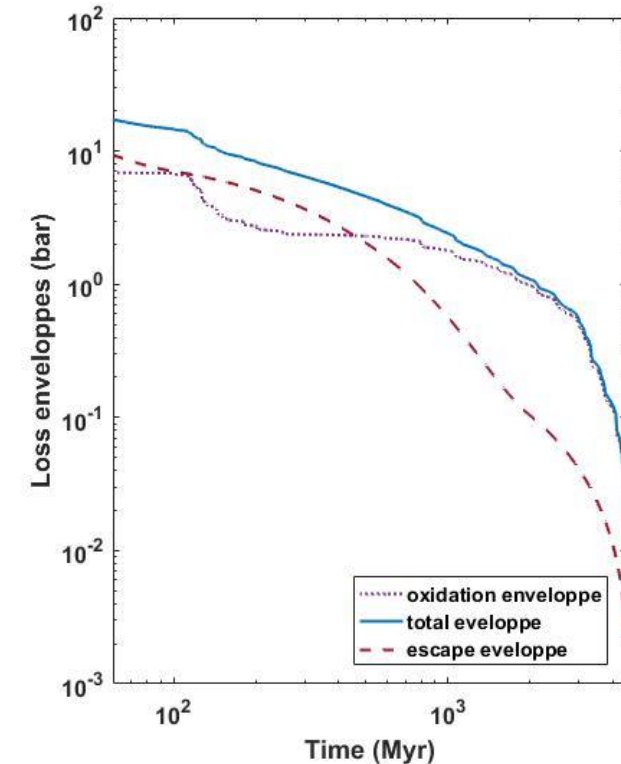
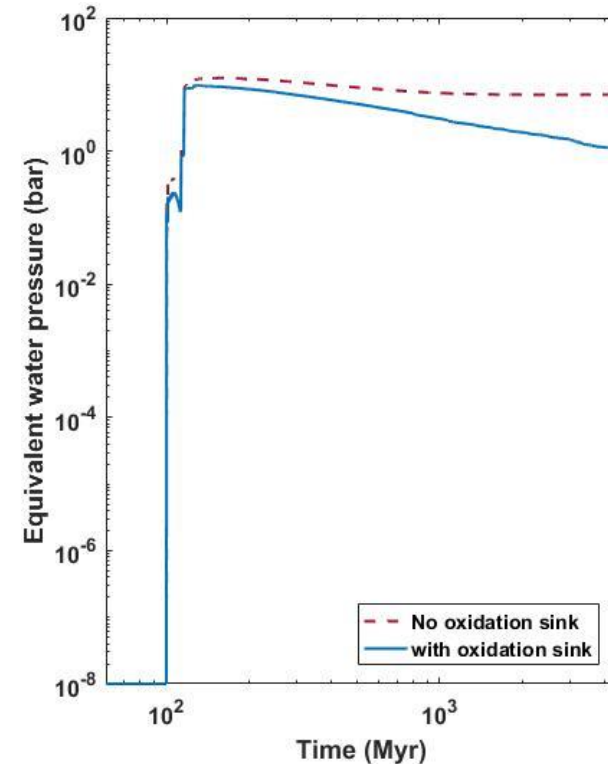
A sink for Oxygen

- Fresh volcanic material can be oxydized to form Hematite/magnetite
- $2 \text{FeSiO}_3 + \frac{1}{2} \text{O}_2 \rightarrow \text{Fe}_2\text{O}_3 + 2 \text{SiO}_2$
- Reaction is fast but produces only a thin coating

Increasing time of alteration in hours



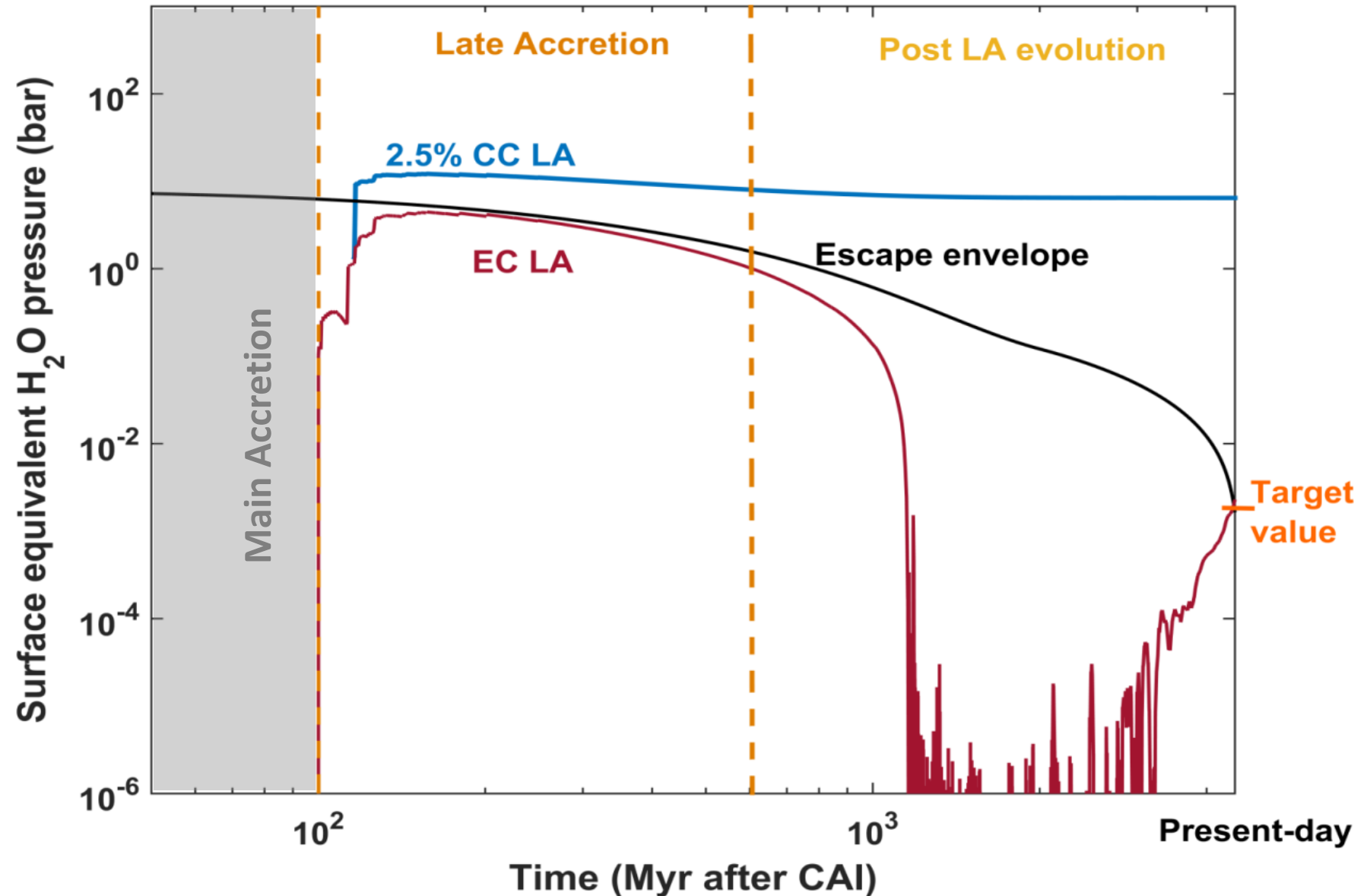
Filiberto et al. (2020)



- Solid/gas oxidation is potentially more efficient than escape but still only accounts for a small total amount of O.
- The situation may be different with magma.

Combining the mechanisms

- Using realistic H₂O loss.
- Relatively dry material delivery is consistent.
- Depends on our understanding of volatile exchanges
- **CC: 8% H₂O**
- **EC: 0.1% H₂O**



Conclusions

- Volatile exchanges are critical.
- Late water rich environments become more and more difficult to reconcile with the present-day state.
- It is critical to understand the nature and abundance of volatiles released by volcanism.
- Surface observation is needed to understand the nature of the (sub)surface and conditions of past melting events

- **The long-term evolution of the atmosphere of Venus: processes and feedback mechanisms**

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