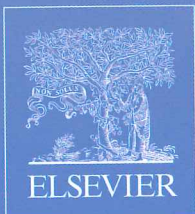
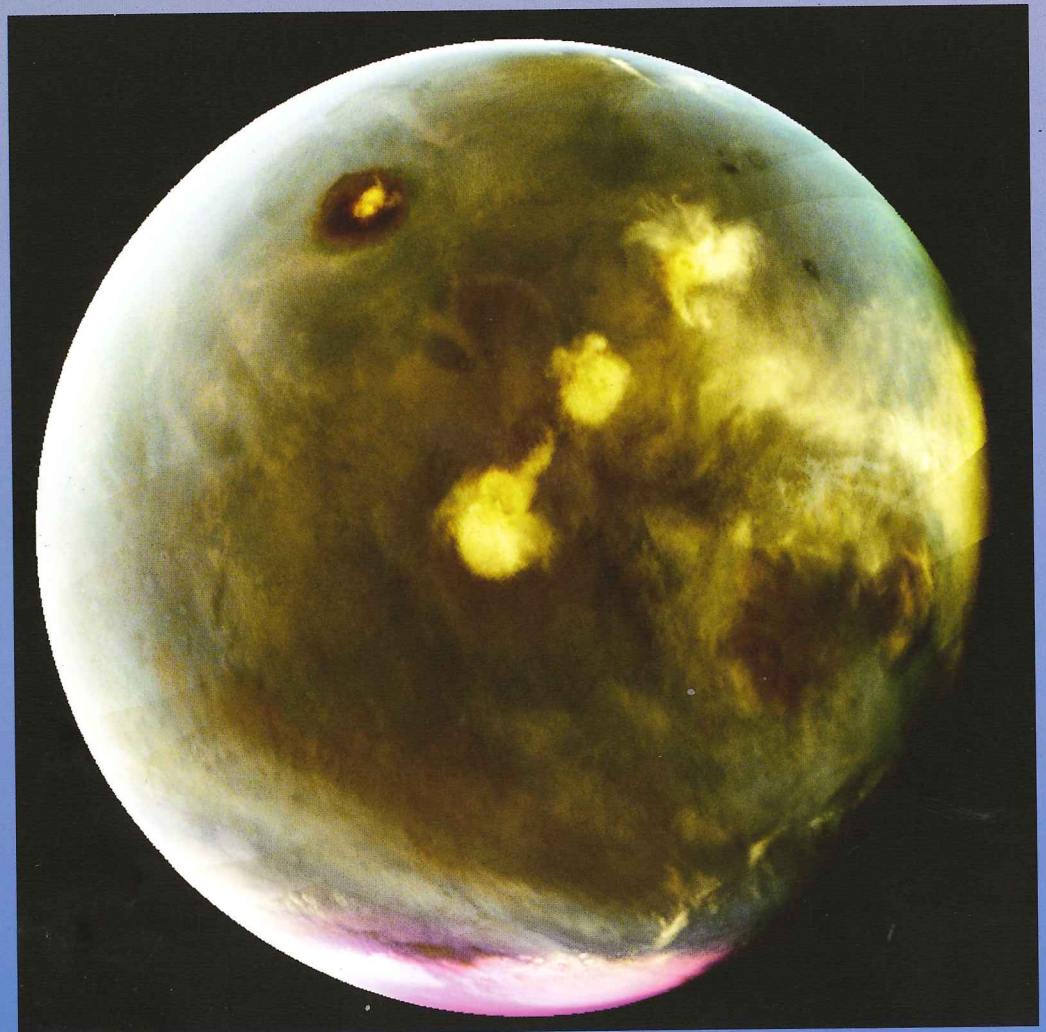


Number 197, December 2016

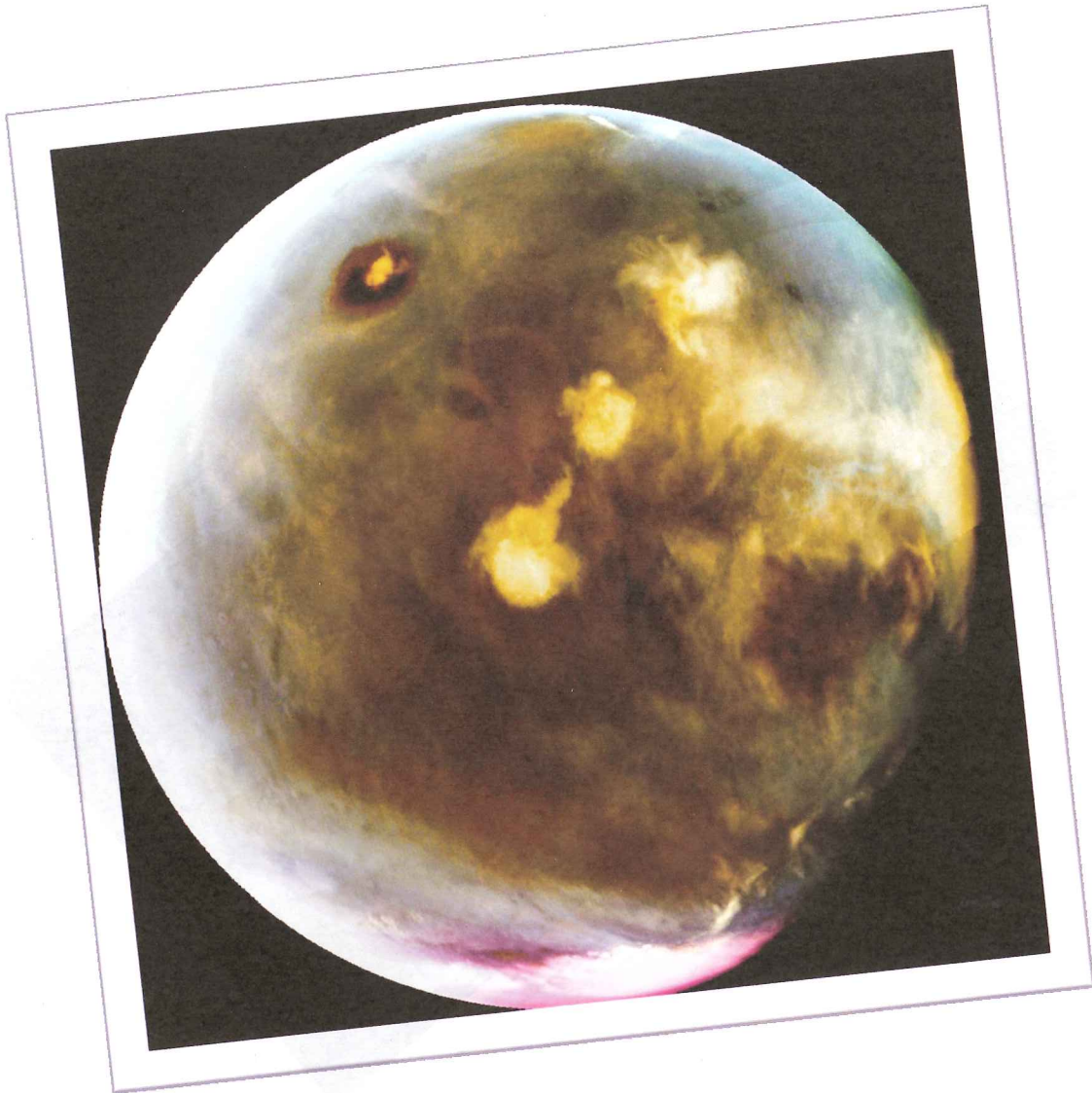
COSPAR'S INFORMATION BULLETIN

SPACE RESEARCH TODAY



NASA's *MAVEN* Mission Gives Unprecedented Ultraviolet View of Mars

[NASA release, 17 October 2016]



(Image credit: NASA/*MAVEN*/University of Colorado)

New global images of Mars from the *MAVEN* (Mars Atmosphere and Volatile Evolution) mission show the ultraviolet glow from the Martian atmosphere in unprecedented detail, revealing dynamic, previously invisible behaviour. They include the first images of "nightglow" showing how winds circulate at high altitudes. Dayside ultraviolet imagery shows how ozone amounts change over the seasons and how afternoon clouds form over giant Martian volcanoes. The images were taken by the *MAVEN* Imaging UltraViolet Spectrograph. This image shows cloud formation on 9-10 July 2016. The ultraviolet colours have been rendered in false colour. Mars' tallest volcano, Olympus Mons, appears as a prominent dark region near the top of the image, with a small white cloud at the summit that grows during the day. Three more volcanoes appear in a diagonal row, with their cloud cover (white areas near centre) merging to span up to 1000 miles by the end of the day. High concentrations of atmospheric ozone appear magenta in the polar region.