

SolarTech Power Solutions

Medium Solar System



Overview

What is interplanetary medium?

Interplanetary medium, thinly scattered matter that exists between the planets and other bodies of the solar system, as well as the forces (e.g., magnetic and electric) that pervade this region of space. The material components of the interplanetary medium consist of neutral hydrogen, plasma gas.

Is the earth embedded in the interplanetary medium?

Like all solar-system planets, the Earth is embedded in the interplanetary medium (IPM): the solar wind, an extension of the solar corona. The properties of the solar wind vary with the 11-year solar activity cycle. The solar system itself is embedded in the ISM, as already discussed above.

What is the difference between a medium and interplanetary space?

Def. the nature of the surrounding environment is called a medium. Daf. existing or occurring between planets is called interplanetary. Def. that part of outer space between the planets of a solar system and its star is called interplanetary space.

What are the highest energy particles in the interplanetary medium?

The highest energy particles in the interplanetary medium are called cosmic rays. Some are of solar origin; the most energetic, however, originate in some other unknown and very energetic processes outside our solar system. The interaction of the solar wind, the Earth's magnetic field and the Earth's upper atmosphere causes the auroras.

What are the material components of the interplanetary medium?

The material components of the interplanetary medium consist of neutral hydrogen, plasma gas comprising electrically charged particles from the Sun, cosmic rays, and dust particles. Extremely small amounts of neutral (non-

ionized) hydrogen have been detected throughout much of interplanetary space.

Where does the interstellar medium begin?

The interstellar medium begins where the interplanetary medium of the Solar System ends. The solar wind slows to subsonic velocities at the termination shock, 90—100 astronomical units from the Sun. In the region beyond the termination shock, called the heliosheath, interstellar matter interacts with the solar wind.

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