

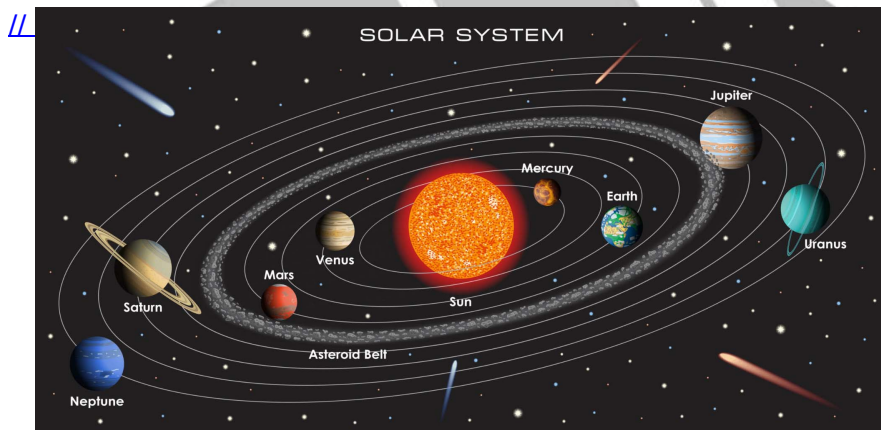


## Mystery Behind Venus' Extreme Dryness

[Source: TH](#)

Recently, scientists have suggested that a reaction, called the **HCO<sup>+</sup> Dissociative recombination Reaction (DR)** that occurs above the surface of [Venus](#), is responsible for the disappearance of water in the planet.

- DR occurs when HCO<sup>+</sup> absorbs an electron and breaks up into CO and a hydrogen atom which then escapes into space, losing out water without evaporation.
  - **Other reasons cited by scientists:**
    - **Venus' harsh atmosphere** caused by a greenhouse effect from CO<sub>2</sub>.
    - **Venus' proximity to the Sun** (heat and UV rays breaking down water molecules into H and O<sub>2</sub> atoms).
- **Venus (Earth's twin)** is the second planet from the Sun, and the sixth largest planet.
  - It is the **2nd brightest** natural object in the night sky after the Moon.
    - Venus has no moon or satellite of its own.
  - Only Venus and Uranus rotate in a **clockwise direction** on their axis, while others rotate in anti-clockwise direction.
  - A day on Venus is actually longer than a year, as it takes longer for Venus to complete one rotation on its axis than to orbit the Sun.



**Read More:** [Venus' Tectonic History](#)

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