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Review of results from the plasma package ASPERA-4 onboard Venus Express

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The plasma package ASPERA-4 (Analyzer of Space Plasmas and Energetic Neutral Atoms) is operational since the Venus orbit insertion in April 2006 and provides measurements of ions, electrons, and energetic neutral atoms in the range from a few eV to few tens keV. We provide basic introduction into the instrument design and review the main results of the experiment mainly in the field of electrodynamics of the ion population including the ion escape measurements.

Keywords: Venus Express, ASPERA-4, ion escape