

Semimajor axes of orbits: 5.2 au (Jupiter) and 9.5 au (Saturn)

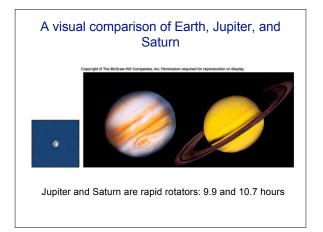
Add that is not

Question? (we saw this last night!)

- Jupiter is almost always larger in angular size than Venus and Mars
- Right now, Venus and Mars have angular diameters of about 10 arcseconds, Jupiter is 33 arcseconds
- Saturn is about 19
- What does it mean?

Basic properties of Jupiter and Saturn

- Jupiter: 11.2 X diameter of Earth and 318 X mass
- Saturn: 9.5 X diameter of Earth and 95 X the mass
- Jupiter and Saturn: the "giant planets"
- Question: how do we know the masses of Jupiter and Saturn?

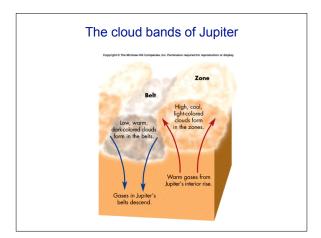


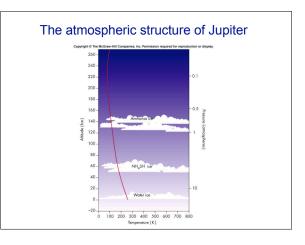
The Chemical Composition of Jupiter and Saturn

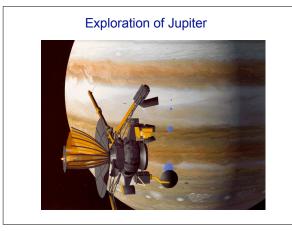
The densities of Jupiter and Satum are about that of water (Jupiter is 1.33 grams/cc, Saturn is 0.69 grams/cc). Basic physics shows that objects with the mass, size, and density of Jupiter and Saturn must be made of very light elements. Specifically, they must be composed nearly completely of hydrogen and helium.

Although we reach this conclusion on the basis of theoretical physics, this conclusion is borne out by all observations. The spectrum of Jupiter shows absorption lines due to hydrogen-rich molecules such as ammonia (NH3), methane (CH4), and water, as well as others hydrocarbons such as acetylene, ethane, and propane. This chemical composition was also verified by the Galileo spacecraft probe, which descended into the atmosphere of Jupiter.

Read the quotation in the text about the fact that Jupiter and Saturn are nearly completely composed of hydrogen and helium. In this, they have the same



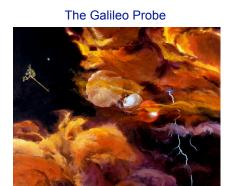




The Galileo spacecraft mission

- Launch: October 1989
- Arrival at Jupiter: December 1995
- End of mission (dive into Jupiter): September 2003

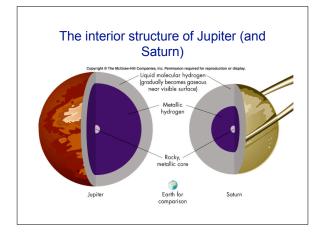


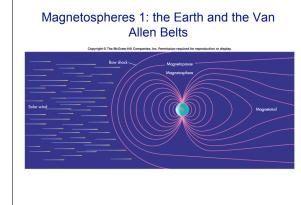


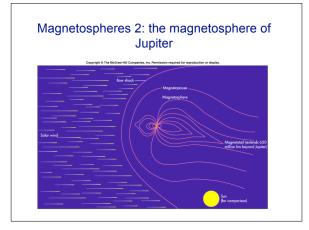
The Galileo Probe

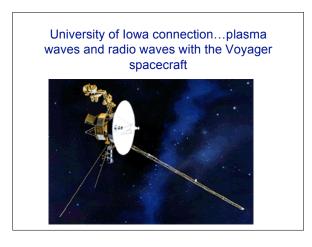
The Galileo Probe What the Probe saw

3









Sounds from the Voyager encounter with the Jovian bow shock

University of Iowa space plasma waves