### Astr 2310 Thurs. May 3, 2016 Today's Topics

- Chapter 10: The Jovian Planets
  - Jupiter
    - Physical Properties
    - Atmospheric Features
    - Interior
    - Origin
  - Saturn
    - Physical Properties
    - Atmospheric Features
    - Interior
    - Origin
  - Uranus
    - Physical Properties
    - Atmospheric Features
    - Interior
    - Origin
  - Neptune
    - Physical Properties
    - Atmospheric Features
    - Interior
    - Origin

### **Jovian Planets**



A composite of Voyager images showing Jupiter, Saturn, Uranus, and Neptune, scaled to their relative sizes. Earth and Venus are also shown scaled to their relative sizes.

From Encylopedia of the Solar System

#### **Overview of General Properties**

Planet	Distance	Period	Dia. (km)	Mass (ME)	Avg. Den.	Rotation
Jupiter	5.2 AU	11.9 yr	142,800	318	1.4 gm/cc	9.9 hr
Saturn	9.5 AU	29.5 yr	120,540	95	0.7 gm/cc	10.7 hr
Uranus	19.2 AU	84.1 yr	51,200	14	1.2 gm/cc	17.2 hr
Neptune	30.1 AU	164.8 yr	49,500	17	1.7 gm/cc	16.1 hr
Pluto	39.4 AU	248.6 yr	2,240	0.002	2.5 gm/cc	153.4 hr

Composition:

Gaseous envelope (mostly H + He) with an icy and silicate (rocky) core. Models imply Jupiter and Saturn have metallic H "mantles."

Jovian planets freture "reducing atmospheres – Hydrogen rich ( $H_2$ , He,  $CH_4$ ,  $NH_3$ ,  $H_2O$ ) Terrestial planets feature "oxidizing atmospheres – Oxygen rich ( $O_2$  or  $CO_2$ )

#### **Jupiter**

- Exploration:
  - Galileo's first telescope revealed disk and 4 bright moons. Huygen's discovered Great Red Spot soon after.
  - Voyager 1 & 2 flyby2 (late 1980s) revealed complex cyclonic storms
- Physical Properties:
  - Mass: 318 of Earth's
  - Diameter: 142,800 km (more than 11 times Earth's)
  - Avg. Density: 1.33 gm/cc (mostly gas)
  - Rotation: siderial period of 9h 50m (differential rotation!)
- Interior
  - Composition: Massive H (75%) and He (24%) atmosphere
  - Models imply that H is liquid or even metallic over most of inerior
  - Models suggest the core is rocky about size of Earth
- Atmospheric Features
  - Alternating light and dark bands with light areas cooler (higher). Rapid rotation stretches clouds horizontally.
  - Large cyclonic storms (Great Red Spot)
  - Lots of complex hydrocarbon molecules found in atmosphere
  - Max. winds ~ 300 km/hr
- Origin
  - Compositional gradient of moons suggest Jupiter was quite hot an bright at time of formation
  - Strong magnetic field due to differentially rotating liquid metallic H mantle.
  - Internal heat source suggests condensation of He

### Ice+Rock Core H+He "Atmosphere"



Jovian Planets possible because of H<sub>2</sub>O condensation
With H+O solid, much more material available
Solid cores get large enough for gravity to hold H, He gas

•With a miniature gas nebula present you can build a <u>miniature solar system</u> of (giant planet + many moons)

### **Details of the Atmosphere**



- Mostly made of H, He
- Trace amounts of C, N, O, S
- CH<sub>4</sub> present as gas
- NH<sub>3</sub>, NH<sub>4</sub>SH, H<sub>2</sub>O can condense in colder upper regions ⇒ <u>clouds</u>
- Colors from unknown trace chemicals
- Density of gas smoothly increases with depth till point where it is indistinguishable from liquid ⇒ no real "surface"
- At very high temperatures and pressures hydrogen becomes a "metal" and conducts electricity ⇒ generates magnetic field

#### Jupiter as seen by Cassini



### Winds on Jupiter



### Winds near the Great Red Spot



#### Hurricanes exist because Low Pressure trying to turn winds to the left almost balance

#### Coriolis Force trying to turn winds to the right.



# Jupiter has multiple cloud decks as air rises in low pressure "zones"



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   S
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- Colors from unknown
  trace chemicals

# **Magnetic fields and trapped particles**



- Magnetic fields favored by
  - Conductive core
    - Earth: Fe
    - Jupiter: Metallic H
  - Fast rotation rate
- Charged particles trapped by magnetic field
  - Come from satellites
  - Cause aurora on Jupiter

Cassini image of magnetosphere from escaping ions

## Aurora on Jupiter



Hubble ultraviolet image, with magnetic field lines drawn in

Aurora caused when some trapped particles "leak" into the atmosphere of Jupiter

#### Saturn

- Exploration:
  - Galileo's first telescope revealed "ears" which Huygen's discovered to be rings
  - Voyager 1 & 2 flyby2 (late 1980s) revealed only weak cyclonic storms but complex ring system
- Physical Properties:
  - Mass: 95 times Earth's
  - Diameter: 120,540 km (about 9.4 times Earth's)
  - Avg. Density: 0.68 gm/cc (mostly gas)
  - Rotation: siderial period of 10h 50m (differential rotation!)
- Interior
  - Composition: Massive H (75%) and He (24%) atmosphere
  - Models imply that H is liquid or even metallic over most of interior (like Jupiter)
  - Models suggest the core is rocky about size of Earth with some ice (?)
- Atmospheric Features
  - Alternating light and dark bands with light areas cooler (higher). Rapid rotation stretches clouds horizontally. Again, like Jupiter but much less dramatic
  - Large cyclonic storms (but nothing like Great Red Spot)
  - Lots of complex hydrocarbon molecules found in atmosphere
  - Max. winds ~ 1300 km/hr
- Origin
  - Magnetic field is present but weaker than Jupiter's
  - Origin of rings something of a mystery as lifetime is only a few million years
  - Internal heat source suggests condensation of He

#### Saturn as seen by the Hubble Space Telescope



#### Uranus

- Exploration:
  - Accidently discovered telescopically by Herchel in 1700s.
  - Voyager 2 flyby2 (late 1980s) revealed essentially featureless atmosphere.
- Physical Properties:
  - Mass: 14 of Earth's
  - Diameter: 51,200 km (4.1 times Earth's)
  - Avg. Density: 1.2 gm/cc (mostly gas)
  - Rotation: siderial period of 17h 12m (differential rotation!)
- Interior
  - Composition: Massive H (75%) and He (24%) atmosphere
  - Models imply that H is liquid or even metallic over most of inerior
  - Models suggest the core is rocky about size of Earth
- Atmospheric Features
  - Essentially featureless atmosphere.
  - Lots of complex hydrocarbon molecules found in atmosphere
  - Max. winds ~ 100 km/hr
- Origin
  - Origin of large obliquity is a mystery
  - Weak magnetic field
  - No evidence of an Internal heat source

#### **Uranus**



Uranus is nearly featureless with little evidence for major storms. Note the pole-on view (obliquity >  $90^{\circ}$ )

#### Neptune

- Exploration:
  - Galileo's recorded it moving near Jupiter's 4 bright moons but didn't recognize it as a distant planet. Discovered via its perturbation of Uranus.
  - Voyager 2 flyby (late 1980s) revealed complex cyclonic storm and cirrus clouds
- Physical Properties:
  - Mass: 17 of Earth's
  - Diameter: 50,400 km (nearly 4 times Earth's)
  - Avg. Density: 1.7 gm/cc (mostly gas)
  - Rotation: siderial period of 16h 6m (differential rotation!)
- Interior
  - Composition: Massive H (75%) and He (24%) atmosphere
  - Models imply that H is liquid or even metallic over most of interior
  - Models suggest the core is rocky about size of Earth
- Atmospheric Features
  - Alternating low contrast bands. Rapid rotation stretches clouds horizontally.
  - Large cyclonic storm (Great White Spot) but not as long lived as on Jupiter
  - Lots of complex hydrocarbon molecules found in atmosphere
  - Max. winds ~ 2100 km/hr
- Origin
  - Moderately strong magnetic field due to differentially rotating liquid metallic H mantle.
  - Internal heat source suggests condensation of He

#### Neptune

Large cyclonic storms

High wind shear (highest winds in solar system

![](_page_18_Picture_3.jpeg)

### **Comparison of Jovian Planets**

Planet	a (AU)	P (years)	Т (К)	E <sub>out</sub> /E <sub>in</sub>	M (M <sub>earth</sub> )	ρ (gm/cm³)
Jupiter	5.2	12	143	1.7	318	1.34
Saturn	9.5	29	93	1.8	95	0.69
Uranus	19.2	84	53	~1	15	1.29
Neptune	30.1	165	57	2.6	17	1.66

• Variation in distance presumably ultimate causes other effects

- P: Kepler's third law
- T: Falloff mostly just result of falling solar energy
  - But Neptune hotter because more internal heat
- M: Clue to details of solar nebula mode
  - Less material in outer solar system or perhaps less efficient capture
- ρ: Should drop with mass because less compression
  - Works for Saturn vs. Jupiter
  - Increase for Uranus, Neptune indicates less H, He and more heavy material

### Effects of T (and E) on Atmospheres

![](_page_20_Figure_1.jpeg)

<sup>100 200 300 40</sup> Temperature (K)

![](_page_20_Figure_3.jpeg)

Saturn's bands much less distinct than Jupiter's

- Temp. lower on Saturn ⇒ cloud condense lower
- Deeper clouds  $\Rightarrow$  markings less visible

#### **Differences at Uranus and Neptune**

- Even colder  $\Rightarrow$  clouds even deeper
- So cold CH<sub>4</sub> can condense
- Little solar energy to drive weather
  - Uranus has strange seasons tipped on its side
  - Neptune has strong internal heat source, so it still can have weather
- Large amounts of heavy elements compared to amount of H, He on Jupiter, Saturn
  - Large amounts of CH<sub>4</sub> gas absorb red, make planets appear blue

### Implications of M, $\rho$ for Solar Nebula

 Relative amount of H, He (compared to heavy elements) drop for Saturn then drop dramatically at Uranus and Neptune

![](_page_21_Picture_2.jpeg)

![](_page_21_Picture_3.jpeg)

From our text Horizons, by Seeds

- Why were these outer planets so less efficient at capturing H, He?
  - Their mass is still great enough to do this, especially given low temperatures in the outer solar system
- May be a problem of timing
  - Accretion takes longer in the outer solar system because
    - The velocities of all objects there are much less
    - The distances between objects are greater
    - This is the same reason the periods of the orbits are so long
  - Uranus and Neptune may have only started to grow to critical size by the time the H, He gas was being driven out of the solar system

### Saturn's Rings as seen by the Hubble Space Telescope

![](_page_22_Picture_1.jpeg)

### The Roche Limit When can tides tear a moon apart?

![](_page_23_Picture_1.jpeg)

From Worlds Apart by Consolmagno and Schaefer

- As a planetary body get close to another object, tidal forces distort the body more and more.
  - Remember, Earth raises tides on the Moon just like it raises tides on the Earth
- If the distortion gets large enough, the moon will be pulled apart
  - Happens at "Roche Limit" when moon is ~2.44 × radius of planet away
  - At that point, tidal force pulling up on surface of moon is greater than moon's gravity pulling down
  - Only matters for objects held together by gravity
    - Astronaut in orbit will not be pulled apart
      - Is held together by much stronger chemical forces
    - Astronaut standing on the outside of the shuttle, hoping the shuttle's gravity would hold her there, <u>will</u> be pulled away from the shuttle

#### Rings are individual particles all orbiting separately

![](_page_24_Picture_1.jpeg)

![](_page_24_Picture_2.jpeg)

Voyager Image

Painting by Bill Hartmann

- Each particle dust to golf ball to boulder size is really a separate moon on its own orbit
- Orbit with Keplerian velocities: high in close, slow farther out
- Nearby <u>relative velocities</u> are low so particles just gently bump into each other – slowly grinding themselves up

### **Comparison of Jovian Ring Systems**

![](_page_25_Picture_1.jpeg)

Jupiter

![](_page_25_Picture_3.jpeg)

Uranus

![](_page_25_Picture_5.jpeg)

![](_page_25_Picture_6.jpeg)

#### Saturn

All within Roche limit

Neptune

 Details controlled by Resonances and Shepard Satellites

### **Moons of Jovian Planets**

- Physical Properties
  - Largest are similar to Earth's moon in size
  - Most are icy and heavily cratered
- Interior
  - Some of the icy moons show signs of extensive melting and water-ice vulcanism
    - Upwelling of liquid water
    - Resurfacing from water flows now frozen
    - Interior moons of Jupiter show extensive tidal melting
      - Io: extensive volcanoes
      - Europa: liquid H2O oceans beneath icy crust
- Origin

- Largest moons may be captured from Kuiper belt

#### Jupiter as a miniature solar system

![](_page_27_Picture_1.jpeg)

- Four large moons (lo, Europa, Ganymede, Callisto)
- Regular (equatorial, circular) orbits
- Pattern of changing density and composition with distance
  - Inner two (Io, Europa) mostly rocky
  - Outer two (Ganymede, Callisto) more icy

### Io, Europa break rules about activity

![](_page_28_Picture_1.jpeg)

- Io most volcanically active body in solar system
- Europa shows new icy surface with few craters

Prometheus plume seen on ground

Plume above Pillan volcano

Io as seen by Galileo

### **Tidal heating explains activity**

![](_page_29_Picture_1.jpeg)

**Europa image from Galileo: Broken rafts of ice – contaminated by dark non-ice minearls** 

- Large tides from Jupiter flex satellites
- Friction from flexing heats interiors
- Important for Io, Europa, some other outer solar system satellites

### **Possible H<sub>2</sub>O ocean on Europa**

![](_page_30_Figure_1.jpeg)

- Tidal heating may keep H<sub>2</sub>O liquid under ice cover
- Perhaps a location where life could evolve
- "Europa Orbiter"
   Mission being planned to determine if ocean exists

#### **Callisto not active**

![](_page_31_Picture_1.jpeg)

Tides and tidal heating falls off rapidly with distance from Jupiter

#### **Comparison of Satellites**

![](_page_32_Picture_1.jpeg)

### **Titan: Largest Moon of Saturn**

Largest moon of Saturn

Has thick atmosphere Pressure ~ 1 earth atmosphere

Mostly N2, some CH4

Gas held because of low T UV acting on CH4 ⇒ smog Ethane produced – Lakes?

We "see" surface only in IR

Cassini dropped probe in Fall 2004

![](_page_33_Picture_7.jpeg)

### **Titan's Surface from Huygens Probe**

![](_page_34_Picture_1.jpeg)

#### **Iapetus – Saturn's Strange Moon**

lapetus: large albedo variations

Most of moon is icy but leading face is covered with very dark, organic (?) material. Transition regions show clear evidence for deposition of dark material. Origin is unknown.

![](_page_35_Picture_3.jpeg)

#### **Enceledus and Hyperion**

Enceledus: extensively resurfaced, one hemisphere essentially crater-free. Water erases cratered surface.

Hyperion: heavily cratered including a single massive crater

![](_page_36_Picture_3.jpeg)

![](_page_36_Picture_4.jpeg)

#### **Uranus' Moons**

![](_page_37_Picture_1.jpeg)

![](_page_37_Picture_2.jpeg)

![](_page_37_Picture_3.jpeg)

![](_page_37_Picture_4.jpeg)

![](_page_37_Picture_5.jpeg)

Clockwise from upper left:

Miranda, Ariel, Titania, Umbrial, and Oberon

All are icy and heavily cratered. Albedo variations suggest some upwelling of ice

### **Triton: Neptune's Largest Moon**

![](_page_38_Picture_1.jpeg)

- Largest moon of Neptune
- In unusual retrograde orbit
  - Probably captured after it formed
  - Tides during capture may have caused heating
- Does have thin atmosphere (N<sub>2</sub>)
- Shows recent "activity"
  - Not volcanic rather volatile related
  - Ices migrate with seasons
  - "Geysers" caused by heated ices

### Phobos & Deimos: Two "misplaced" asteroids?

![](_page_39_Picture_1.jpeg)

- Phobos and Diemos are small (~25 km and ~15 km diam.) moons of Mars
- Look like captured asteroids rather than moons formed in place
- Are "C" class i.e. dark "Carbonaceous" type "asteroids"