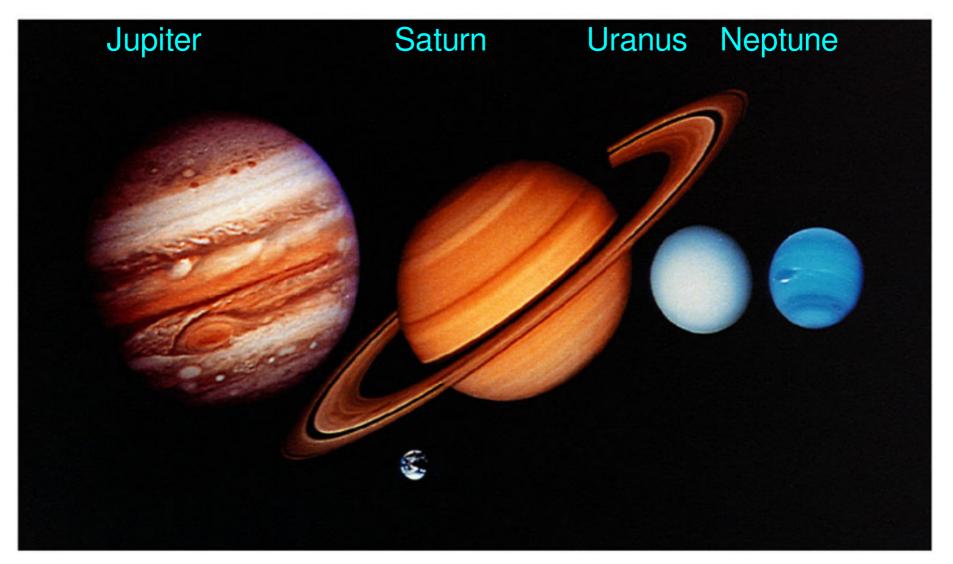
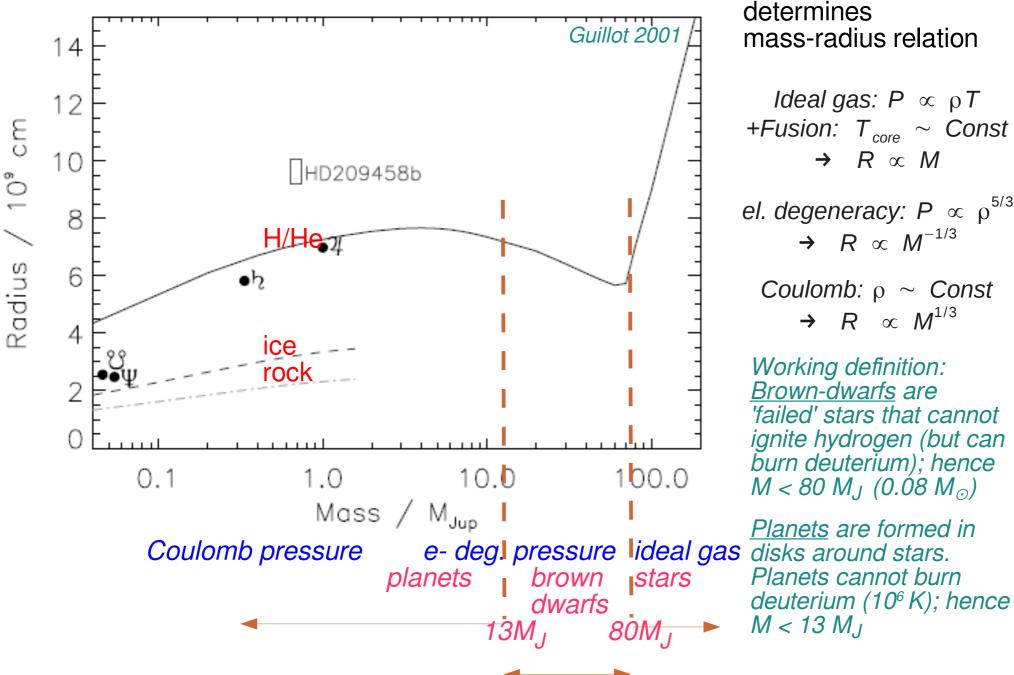


# **Giant Planets**



made mostly of H, He and H-compounds, no solid surface 99.5% planet mass, 99.8% solar system angular momentum

## **Giant planets border stars**



Ideal gas:  $P \propto \rho T$ +Fusion:  $T_{core} \sim Const$  $\rightarrow R \propto M$ el. degeneracy: P  $\propto \rho^{5/3}$  $\rightarrow R \propto M^{-1/3}$ Coulomb:  $\rho \sim Const$  $\rightarrow R \propto M^{1/3}$ Working definition: Brown-dwarfs are 'failed' stars that cannot ignite hydrogen (but can

Equation of state

burn deuterium); hence  $M < 80 M_{.1} (0.08 M_{\odot})$ 

#### Are planets just gas balls like stars? Probably not.

Jupiter & Saturn: largely degenerate H & He, mean  $\rho = 1.3 \& 0.7 \text{ g/cm}^3$ -- hydrogen metallic (conductive) below certain depth (?) -- core: solid, heavy metal + ices Jupiter's core: < 10 M<sub>E</sub> (or 0?); Saturn's core: ~ 13 M<sub>E</sub> (15% of mass)

Uranus & Neptune: largely ices (H<sub>2</sub>O, CH<sub>4</sub>, NH<sub>3</sub>), mean  $\rho$  = 1.2 & 1.7 g/cm<sup>3</sup>

-- relatively thin gaseous H & He envelope

-- mostly icy + rocky core

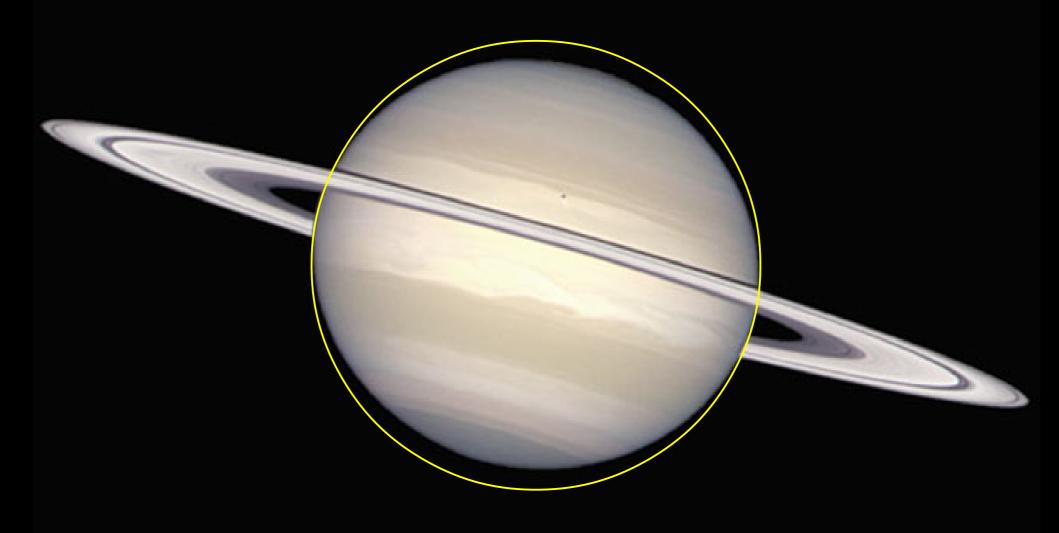
Why do we care about the solid cores?

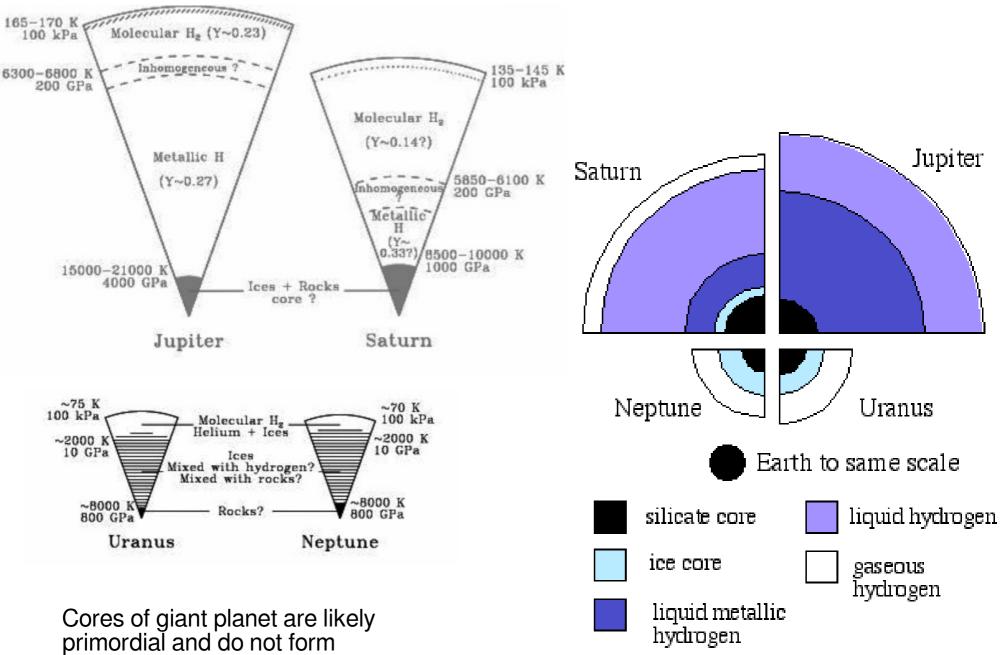
Formation of giant planets likely starts with a solid core – unlike stars

How do we figure out about the cores? Spin it!

core: a high density central region spherical body: gravitational potential is independent of density profile but when the planet rotates, it oblateness depends on  $\rho = \rho(r)$ 

$$\Phi(\theta) = -\frac{GM}{r} \left[ 1 - \left(\frac{R}{r}\right)^2 J_2 P_2(\cos\theta) - \left(\frac{R}{r}\right)^4 J_4 P_4(\cos\theta) - \dots \right]$$





by gravitational settling. Did Jupiter melt part of its core?

Energy budget for giant planets		Abs	Absorb solar flux: $(1-A)4\pi R_o^2 \sigma T_o^4 \times \frac{\pi R_p^2}{4\pi a^2}$ Emit blackbody flux: $4\pi R_p^2 \sigma T_p^4$ $T_p = (1-A)^{1/4} \left(\frac{R_o}{2a}\right)^{1/2} T_o$		
passive T <sub>p</sub> actual T <sub>p</sub> L <sub>total</sub> /L <sub>received</sub>	Jupiter 113K 130K 1.7	Saturn 83K 95K 1.8	Uranus 60K 59K 1.0	Neptune 48K 59K 2.6	

3 sources of planetary intrinsic luminosity: primordial + settling + radio-active

Jupiter: **primordial heat** + He settling relative to H (very long thermal time-scale: ~10<sup>9</sup> yrs)

Saturn: primordial heat + He settling relative to H

Uranus: no additional source required

Neptune: Do require add'I source; but so similar to Uranus, so why?

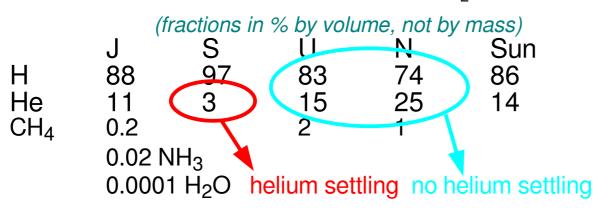
--- what about gravitational contraction? No, already shrunk

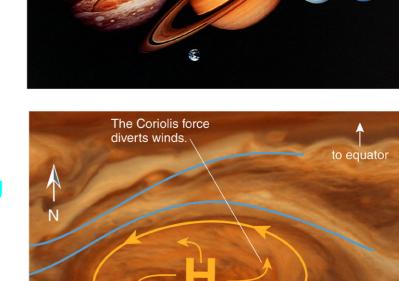
--- terrestrial planets: radio-active elements

--- how much energy can you gain by separating H & He?

## Gas giant atmospheres

All 4 have deep atmospheres with mostly H<sub>2</sub> & He



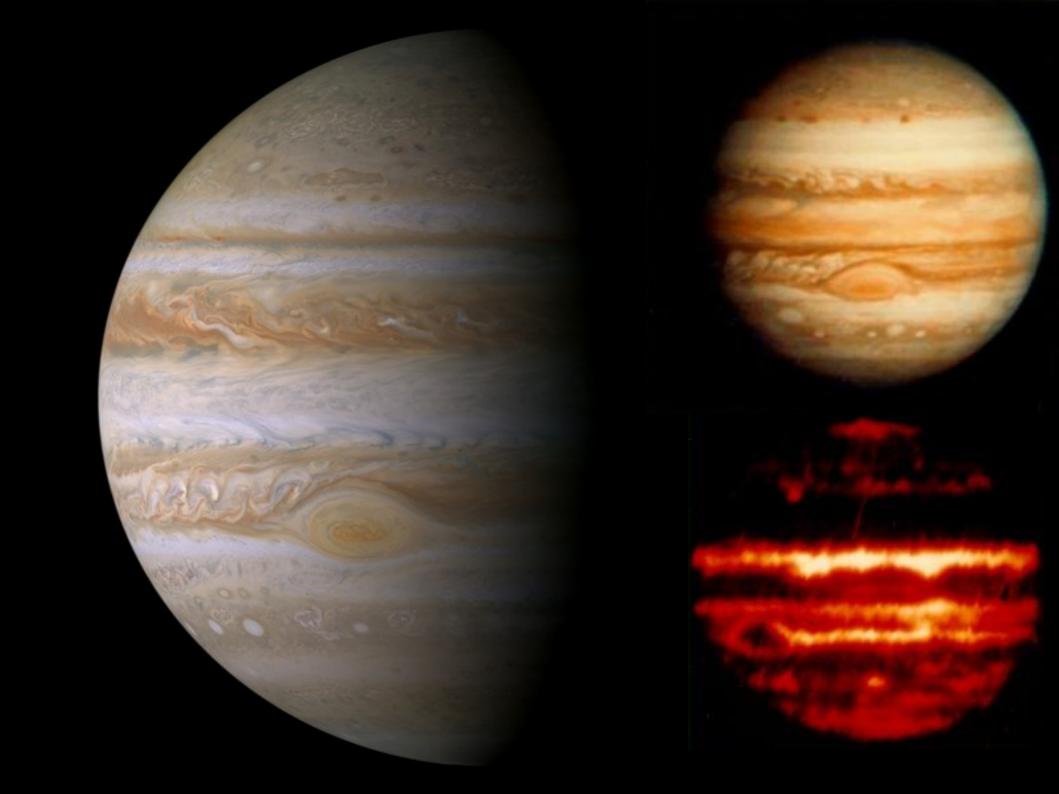


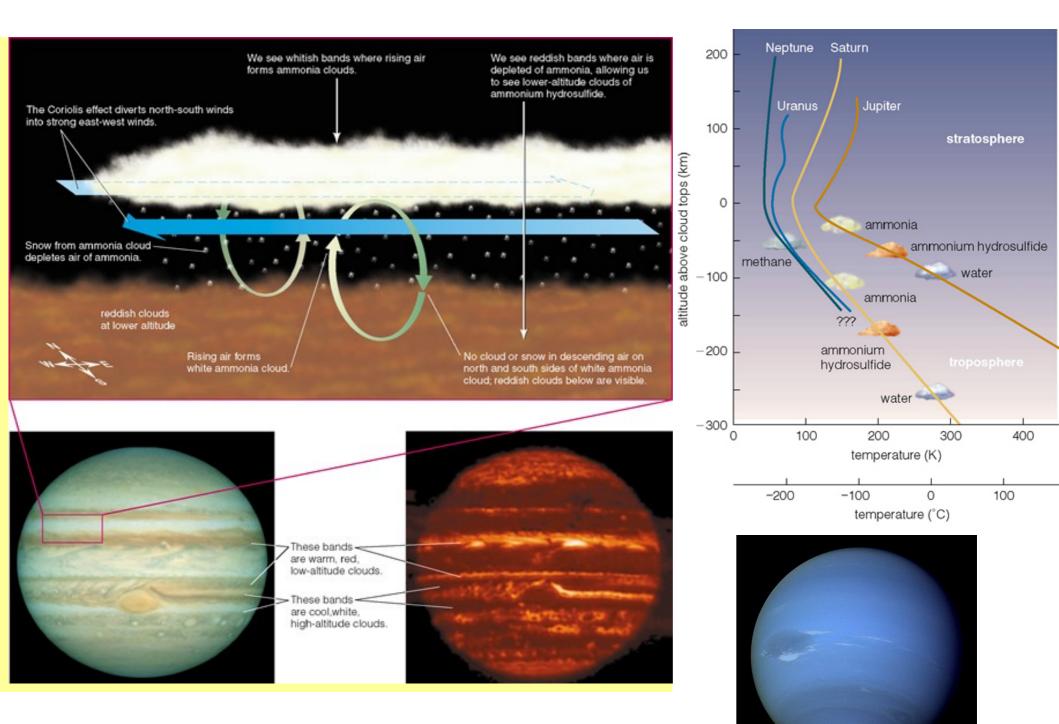
high pressure

1) Trace gases condense into **clouds** at diff. temperature Clouds are also passive tracers of local wind pattern

2) Jupiter, Saturn & Neptune have strong **zonal winds** (up to 500 m/s) zonal winds driven by solar irradiation, a combination of cold pole -- hot equator pressure gradient & Coriolis force: great red-spot of Jupiter: a giant anti-cyclonic vortex, surprisingly long-lived cyclone: 2 V x  $\Omega = -\nabla P/\rho$ ; tornado: V<sup>2</sup>/r = -  $\nabla P/\rho$ 

3) Uranus: uniquely bland & sedate (no internal heat flux, obliquity 97 deg)





#### Other cool points?

1) magnetic fields: all 4 have appreciable B fields, Jovian aurorae,

Jupiter's magnetic influence extends past Saturn orbit generation of these fields -- primordial or dynamo?

2) seasons:

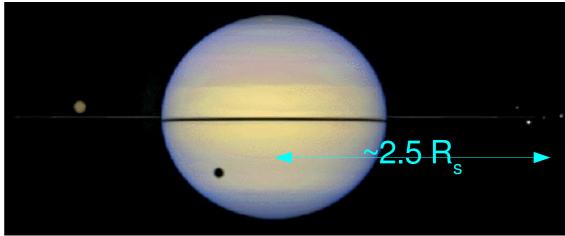
Uranus: 97.92° inclined relative to orbit, very weird seasons!

 rings & satellites: all 4 have rings and many satellites rings: sandy or icy dust and some boulders, 2.5 planet radii (~Roche radius)

--  $H/R \sim 10^{-6}$  (a razor blade?)

- --- gaps: shepherding moons
- -- origin: tidally disrupted satellites or primordial?

Satellites: worlds of their own captured (Phoebe) or formed in-situ Europa (@J): cracky surface underground H<sub>2</sub>O ocean Titan (@S): smoggy atmosphere surface H-compound ocean?



#### Saturn's rings (Cassini images

Prometheus shepherding

Sharp edges

Rings full of waves (density)

Braided ring



