

"The Planets"

Astro/EPS C12 (CCN 17045 or 32505)

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LEC: 2 LeConte TWTh, 2:40–5:00pm
Office Hours: 419 Campbell Hall,
Mon 3–4 and Tue 5–6

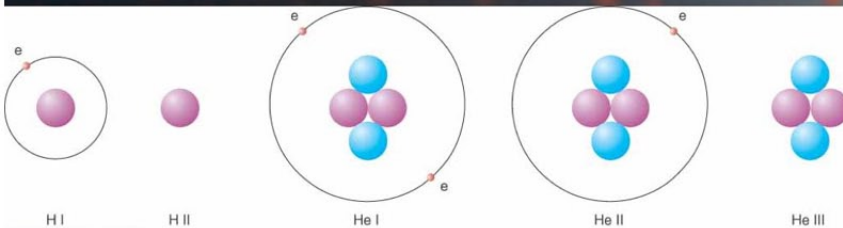
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STAR PARTY

- 10PM TUES 12 AUG
- attendance optional (this is just for fun)
- meet at 10pm in front of Campbell Hall
- don't be late
- my cell 510-207-2236
- may be cancelled if weather is bad

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CHARGED PARTICLES AND PLASMA



- ions are formed by removing or adding electrons to the neutral atom
- ions are charged particles
- PLASMA is a neutral ionized gas

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MAGNETIC FIELDS

- charged particles spiral along magnetic field lines
- charged particles can't cross magnetic field lines
- field lines must be closed
- magnetic fields are generated by moving charge (or "currents")
- RIGHT HAND RULE: if the current flows in a loop following your fingers, the magnetic field direction follows your thumb
- RIGHT HAND RULE: if the current flows in one direction following your thumb, the magnetic field forms a loop following your fingers

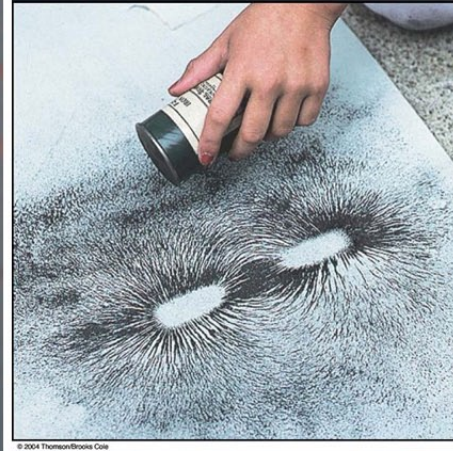
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MAGNETIC FIELDS vs PLASMAS

- dense plasma or conducting fluid
 - can generate strong magnetic field felt far away from source
 - within the plasma, complex interaction between currents and magnetic fields: magnetohydrodynamics
- thin plasma
 - particles follow field lines
 - magnetic fields generated by currents in the this plasma are relatively weak

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DEMONSTRATING MAGNETISM



- iron filings trace field lines
- field is strongest where field lines are closest together
- charged particles get trapped in magnetic field lines, so their flow patterns can be visualized this way

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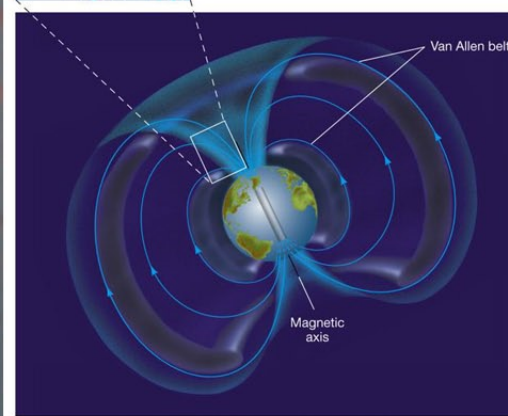
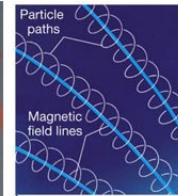
MAGNETIC DIPOLE



- a basic type of magnetic field configuration
- has a north pole and south pole
- field lines connect from south pole to north pole
- the magnet can be visualized as a current loop

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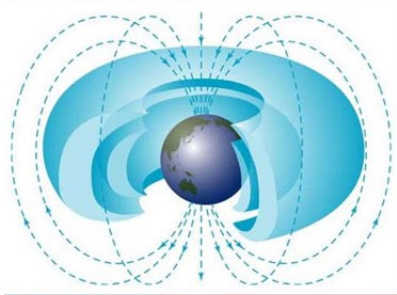
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MAGNETIC FIELDS & CHARGED PARTICLES

- charged particles follow field lines
- field lines follow charged particles

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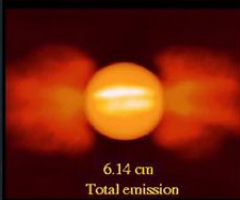
RADIATION BELTS



- Jupiter has radiation belts like Earth does
- electrons trapped in the magnetic field emit synchrotron radiation at radio wavelengths



3.56 cm



6.14 cm

Total emission



6.14 cm

Synchrotron rad. subtracted

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"DYNAMOS" AND MAGNETIC FIELD GENERATION

internal magnetic fields are generated when planets have two things:

- conducting fluids in the interior
 - liquid iron
 - liquid metallic hydrogen
 - ionized water
- rapid rotation

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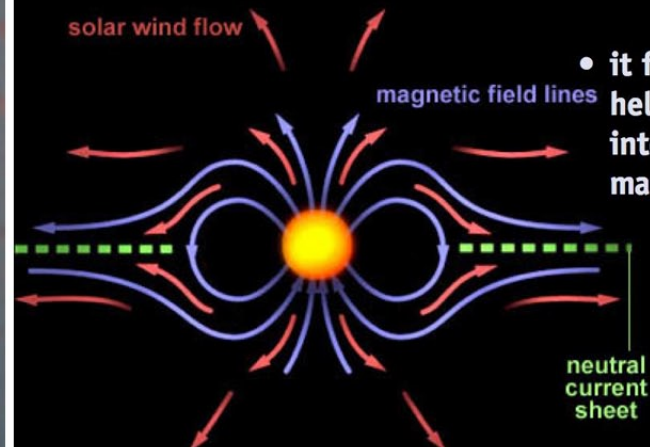
"DYNAMOS" AND MAGNETIC FIELD GENERATION

- Earth + Mercury
 - spinning liquid iron near core
- Mars
 - may have a "fossil" magnetic field preserved in some locations
- Jupiter + Saturn
 - rapidly spinning liquid metallic hydrogen
- Uranus + Neptune
 - spinning, polarized water away from core
- Sun
 - hot hydrogen plasma

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SOLAR WIND/IMF

- the solar wind is a flowing plasma

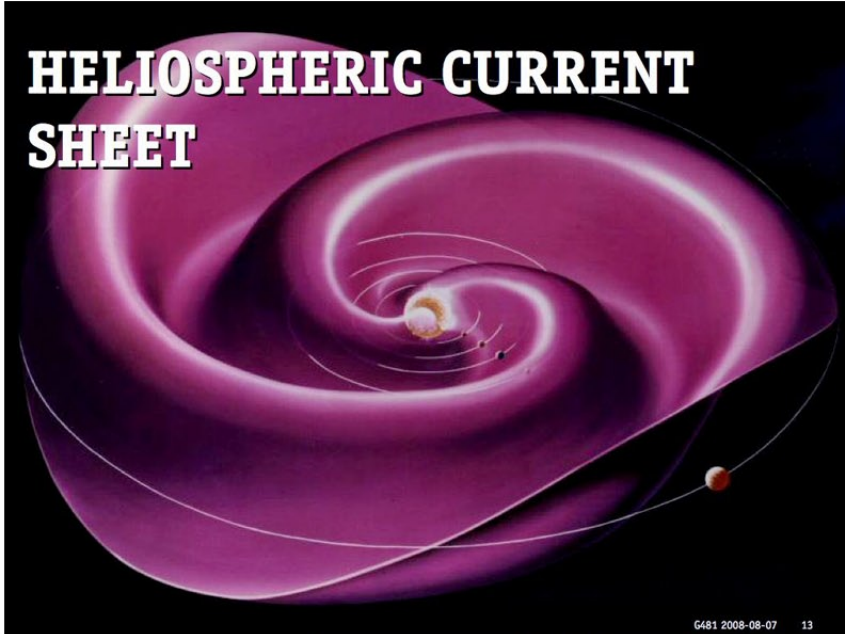


- it follows and helps shape the interplanetary magnetic field

neutral current sheet

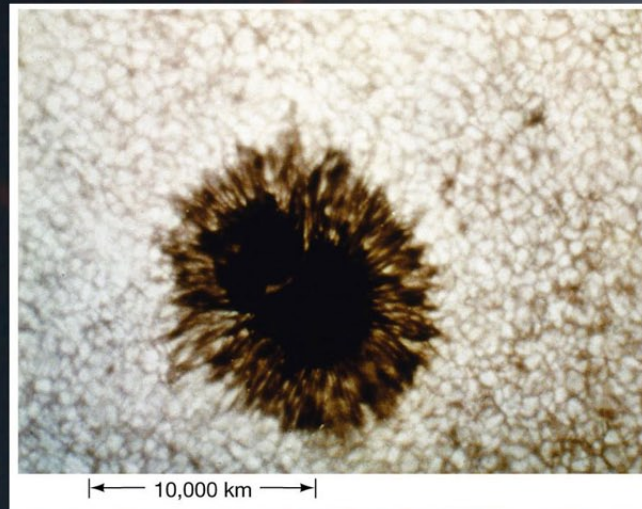
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HELIOSPHERIC CURRENT SHEET



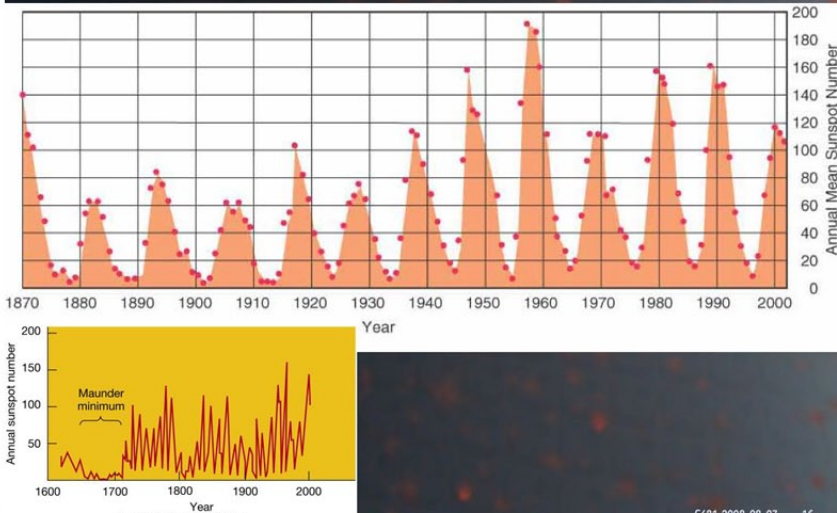
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SUNSPOTS

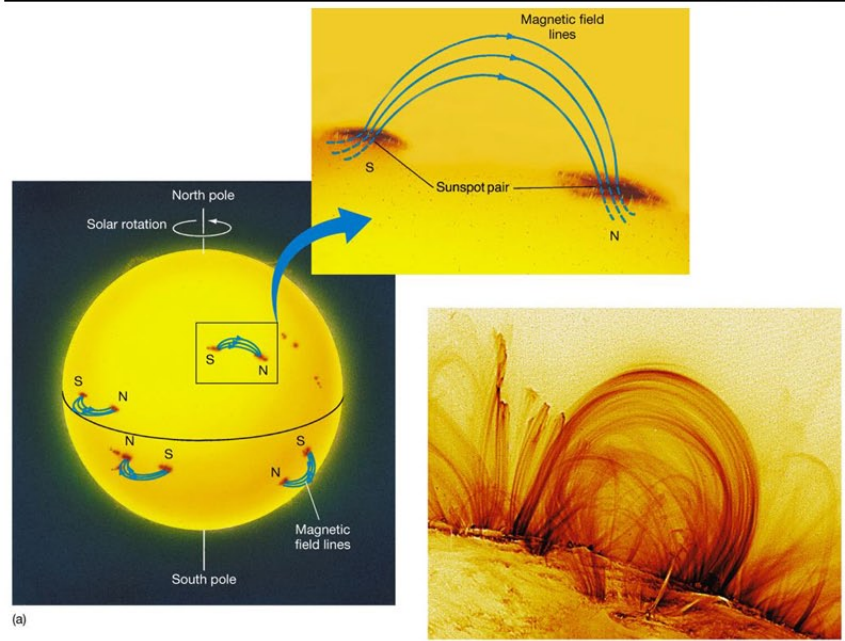


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SUNSPOT CYCLE



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(a)

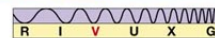
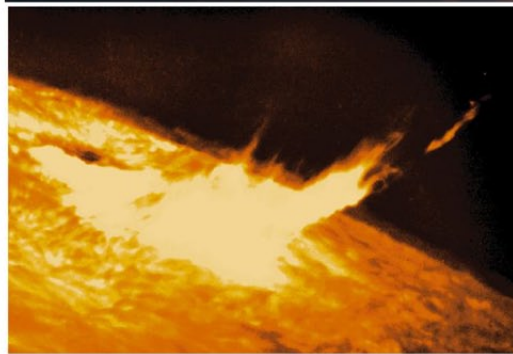
CORONA



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SOLAR FLARES

- 100 MK temperatures (6x hotter than the core)
- can cause problems at Earth
 - hazardous for astronauts and satellites
 - can disrupt electric power distribution grids on the surface

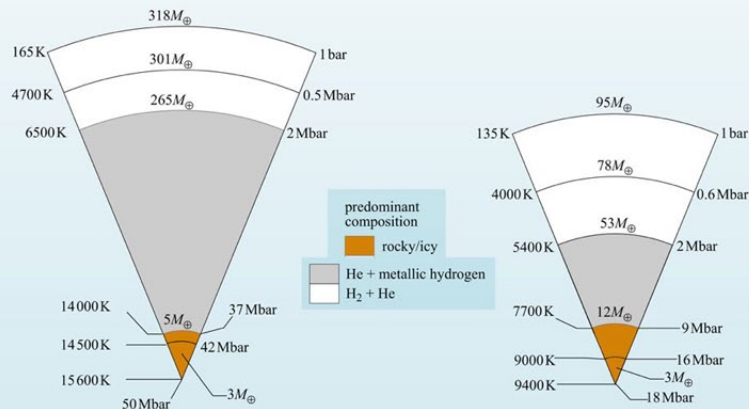


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GIANT PLANET INTERIORS

(a) Jupiter

(b) Saturn



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METALLIC LIQUIDS

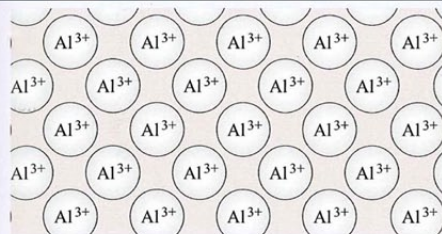


Figure 6.6 Aluminium ions (Al^{3+}) arranged as though in a crystal of aluminium. The electrons 'lost' from the atoms wander freely through the solid.

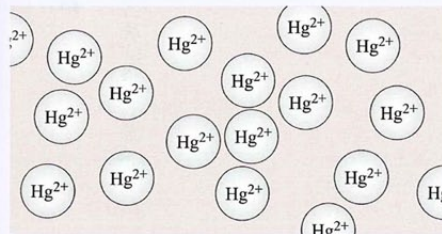
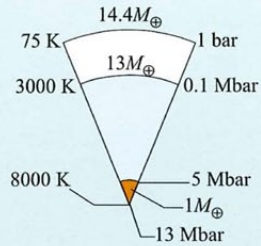


Figure 6.7 Mercury ions (Hg^{2+}) arranged as though in liquid mercury. The 'lost' electrons are free to travel through the liquid, but the arrangement of the ions is less regular than in solid aluminium.

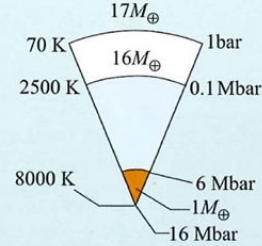
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GIANT PLANET INTERIORS

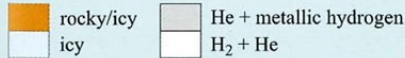
(c) Uranus



(d) Neptune

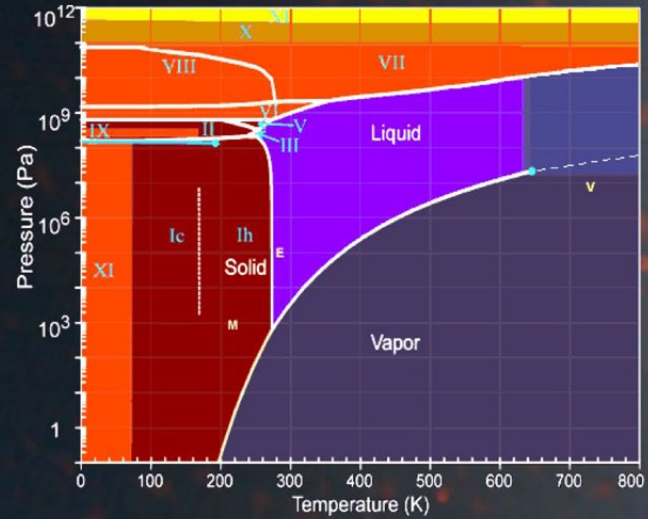


predominant composition



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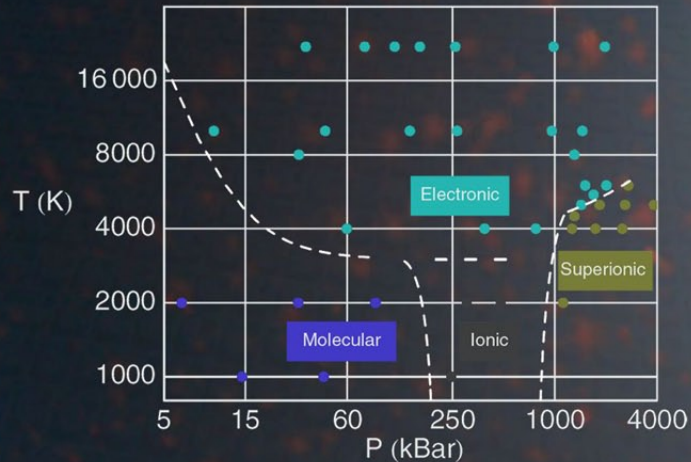
PHASES OF WATER



Martin Chaplin (LSBU website)

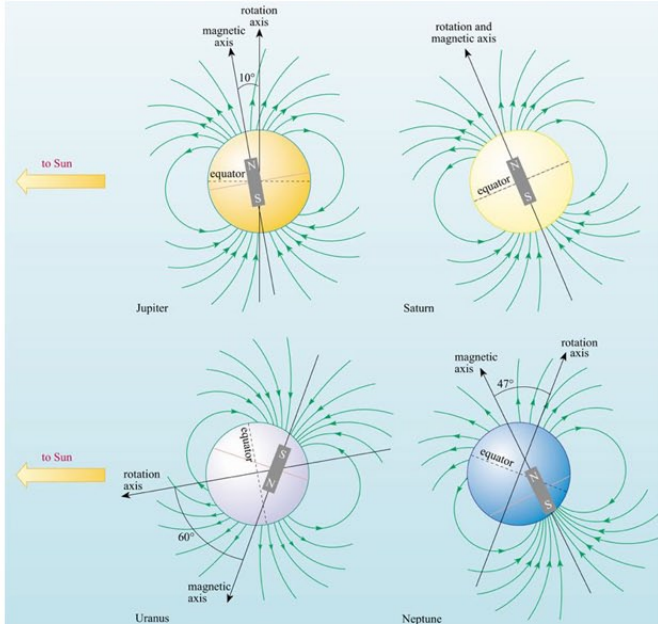
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HIGH PRESSURE WATER



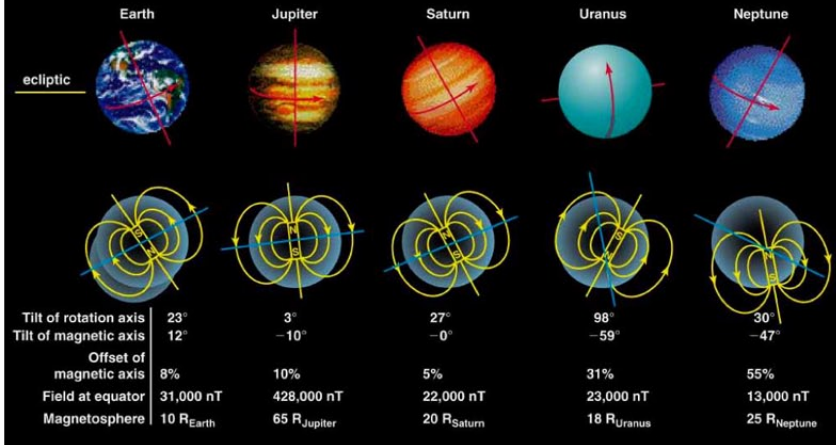
Mattsson and Desjarlais (2006), DFT

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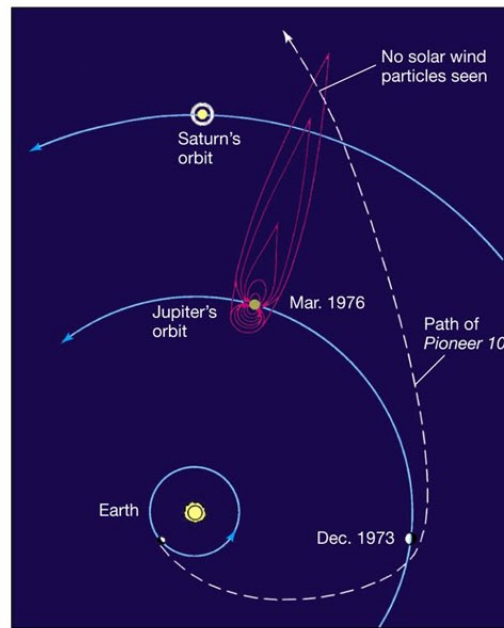
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MAGNETIC FIELDS



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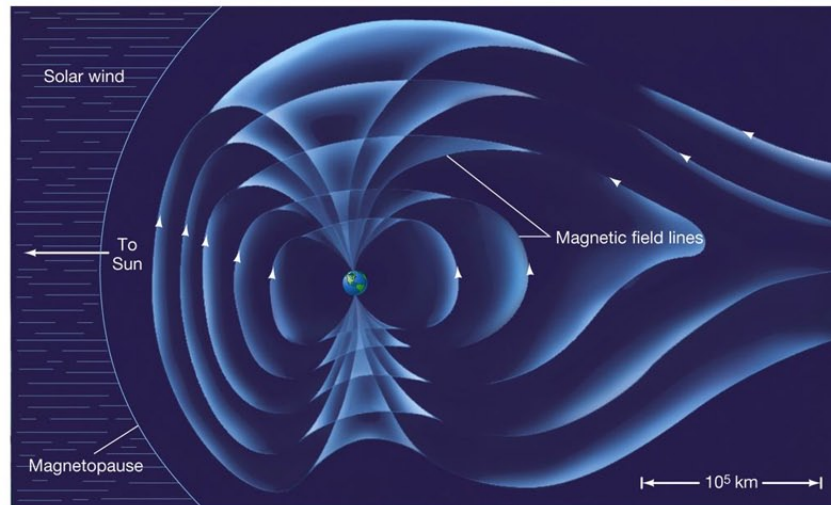
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- Jupiter's magnetosphere is the largest planetary structure in the Solar System

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GEOMAGNETIC FIELD



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AURORAE

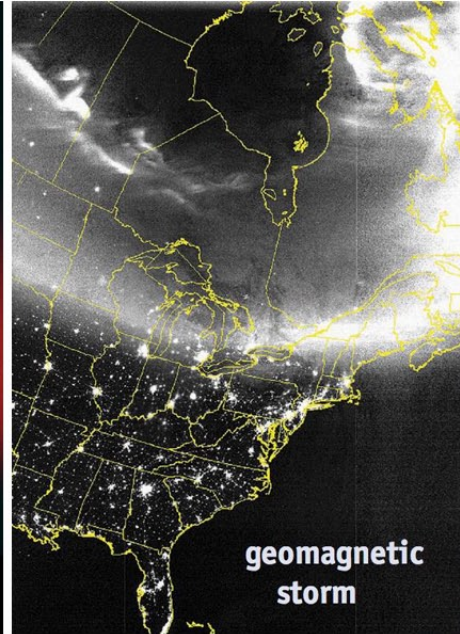
Dirk Obudzinski, 2004, near Davis

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AURORAE

Dirk Obudzinski, 2003, near Gilroy

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AURORAE



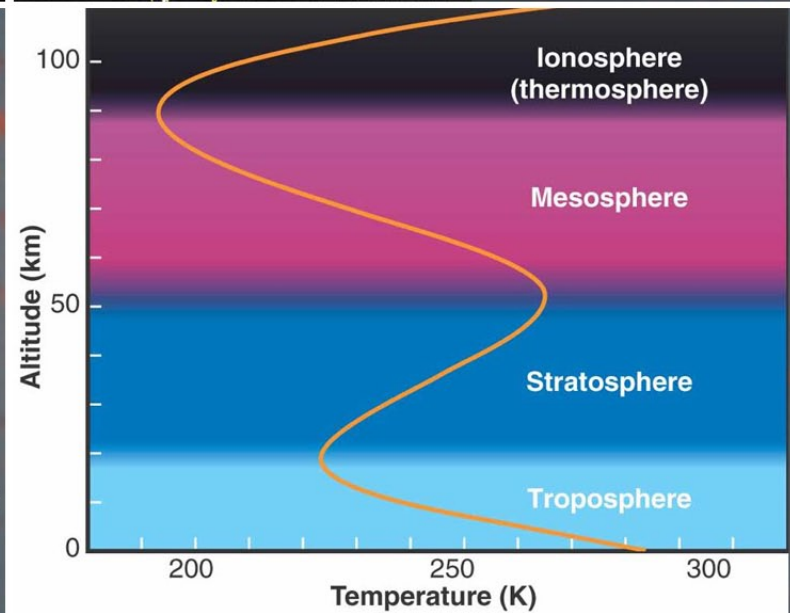
normal

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AURORAE

- Duane Clausen, Michigan 2003
- aurorae much higher than clouds

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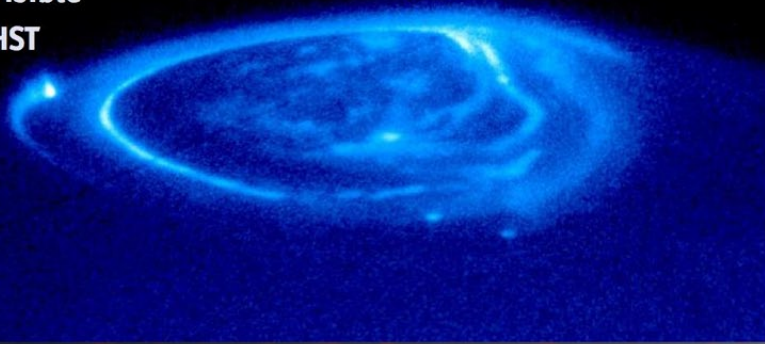


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JUPITER AURORA

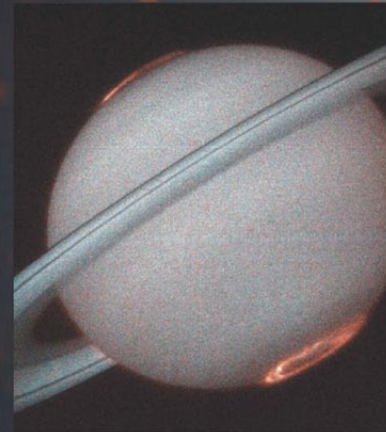
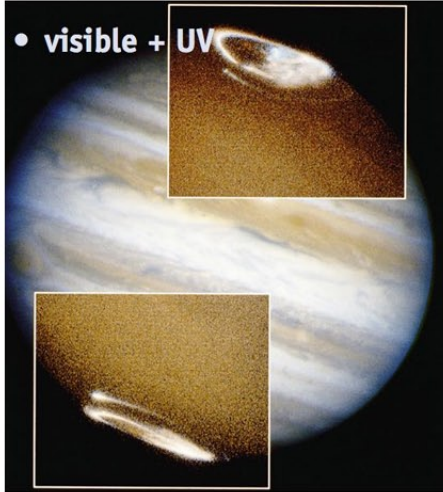
- UV, nightside
- moon footprints visible
- HST



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AURORAE

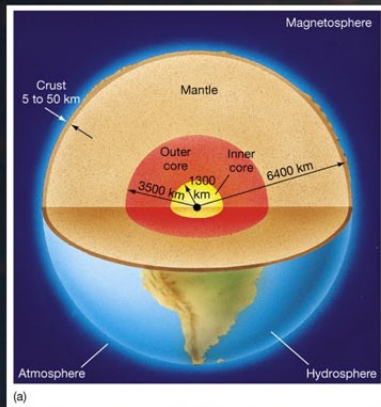
- visible + UV



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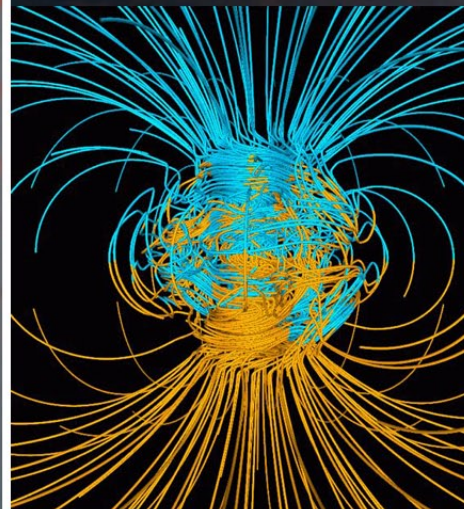
THE DYNAMO



- magnetic fields are generated by moving charge
- flow in the liquid iron core is the magnetic dynamo

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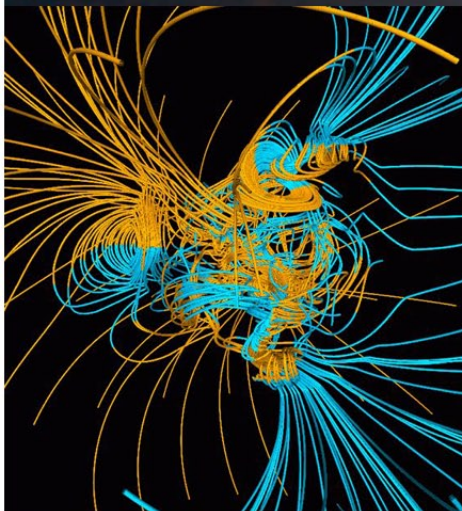
NORMAL DYNAMO



- Pittsburg / UCLA simulation
- cray C90
- mantle boundary visible
- outgoing field lines (S): yellow, incoming (N): blue

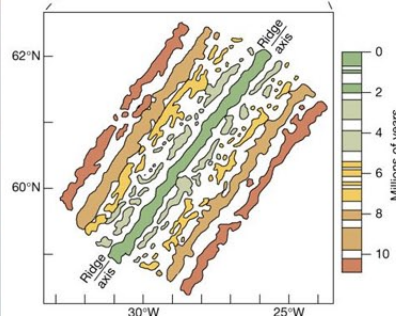
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DYNAMO IN REVERSAL



- rapid, chaotic variation during reversal
- field still protects Earth
- reversal lasts ~1000 years
- happen on irregular 700,000 yr timescales
- last one 780,000 years ago

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RIFT ZONE MAGNETIC RECORDS

- magnetic field POLARITY (north-south direction) shows an alternating pattern near oceanic rifts

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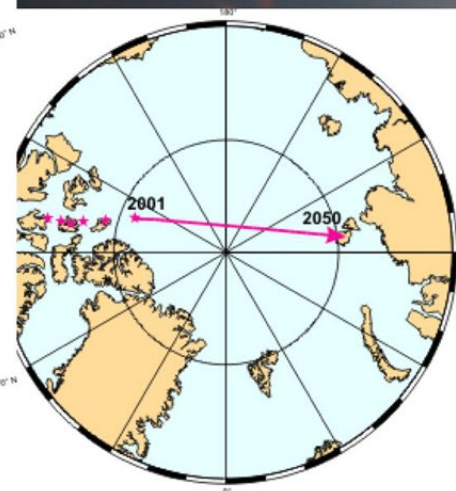
MAGNETIZED SOLIDS

- some solids can maintain a permanent magnetization
- imagine tiny frozen current loops within the solid
- "fossil" magnetic fields are trapped in some lavas as they solidify
- heating solids past their Curie temperature will erase the magnetization

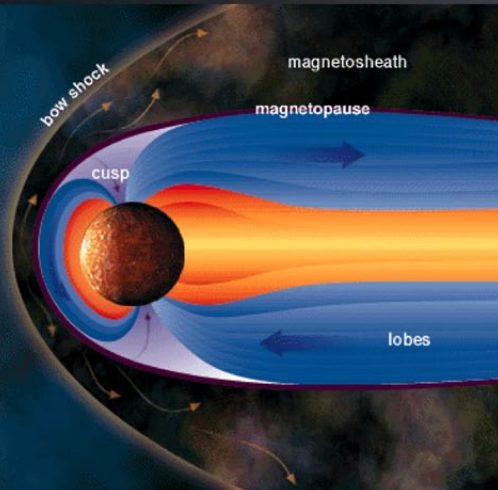
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POLE ON THE MOVE

- 2001: 81° N
- 2005: 83° N



MERCURY'S MAGNETOSPHERE



- 1% Earth's strength
- possibly a residual field
- Mercury's slow rotation and small size made this surprising

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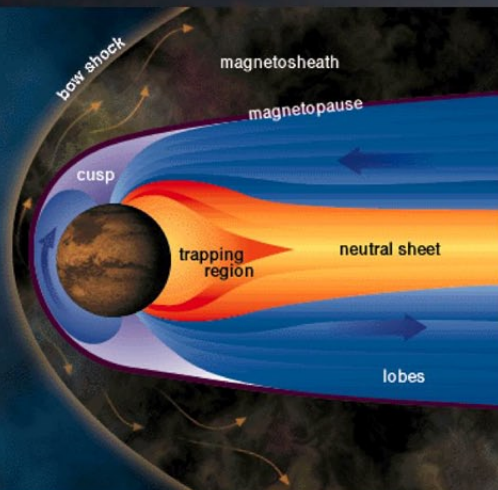
VENUS' MAGNETOSPHERE



- no intrinsic field
- probably related to lack of rapid rotation

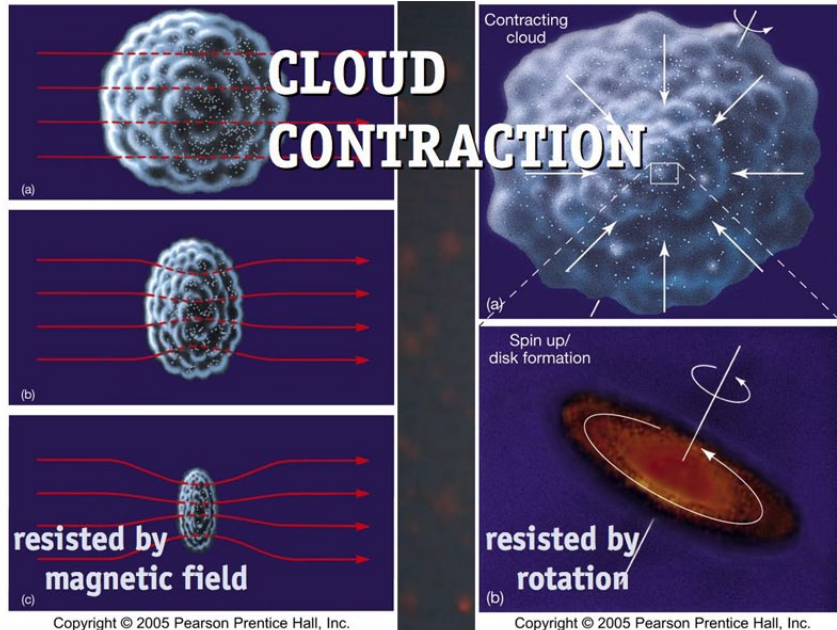
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MARS' MAGNETOSPHERE



- MGS detected a field 0.12% Earth's strength
- probably not a global field
- lack of significant field probably due to lack of liquid core

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