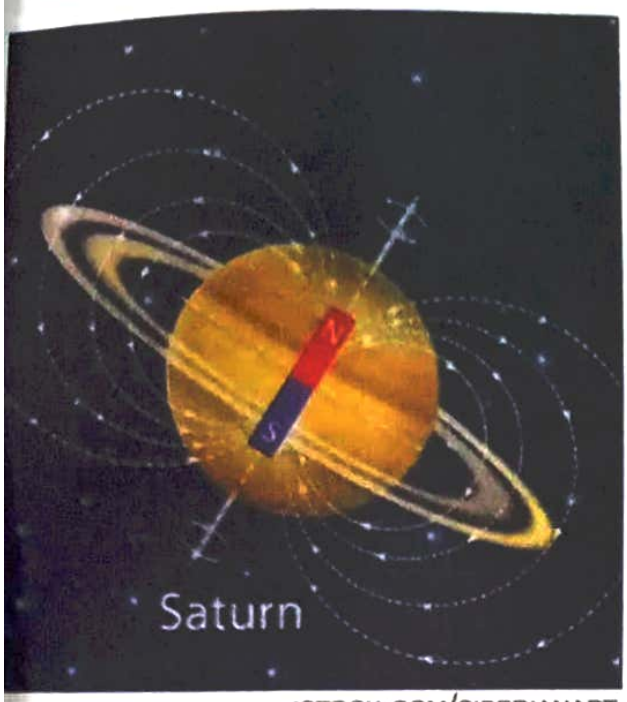
MICROSCOPE



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Saturn's shield

According to a study by University College London researchers in the UK, Saturn's magnetic field is asymmetrical compared to Earth's. This is likely a result of Saturn's fast rotation coupled with the heavy material it pulls around. Saturn's field is vast, 10 times wider than the planet itself. The study, published in *Nature Communications*, looked at data from the Cassini space mission to determine the location of Saturn's cusp — where the magnetic field lines start to curve back into the planet's poles and funnel charged particles down into the atmosphere.