JIVE AT SUNSPOT SOLAR OBSERVATORY





Studying More Than Just the Sun!

This fall, Sunspot Solar
Observatory welcomes the
Jovian Interiors from
Velocimetry Experiment
(JIVE) — an innovative
research campaign led by
New Mexico State University
to explore atmospheric
dynamics on distant worlds.



Cutting-Edge Technology

The experiment will utilize the Doppler Spectro-Imager (DSI) - a French-designed instrument developed by the Observatoire de la Côte d'Azur — newly adapted to interface with the Dunn Solar Telescope. Custom enhancements include:

- A guider/tracker system
- Fast steering mirror
- Pupil stabilizer for improved optical precision.



About the Project

JIVE aims to peer beneath
Jupiter's swirling clouds,
using Doppler
spectro-imaging to
measure subtle shifts in light
that reveal the planet's
internal structure and
motions.



Scientific Goals

- Unlock insights into gas giant interiors
- Advance planetary Doppler imaging techniques
- Expand our understanding of atmospheric physics beyond Earth

This Year's Twist: Saturn at Opposition

While Jupiter isn't in opposition this year, Saturn is! And it's not just any opposition — it coincides with equinox, when Saturn's ring plane aligns edge-on with the Sun from Earth's perspective. This rare geometry occurs only once every decade and offers a perfect window for velocity mapping of Saturn's disk.

