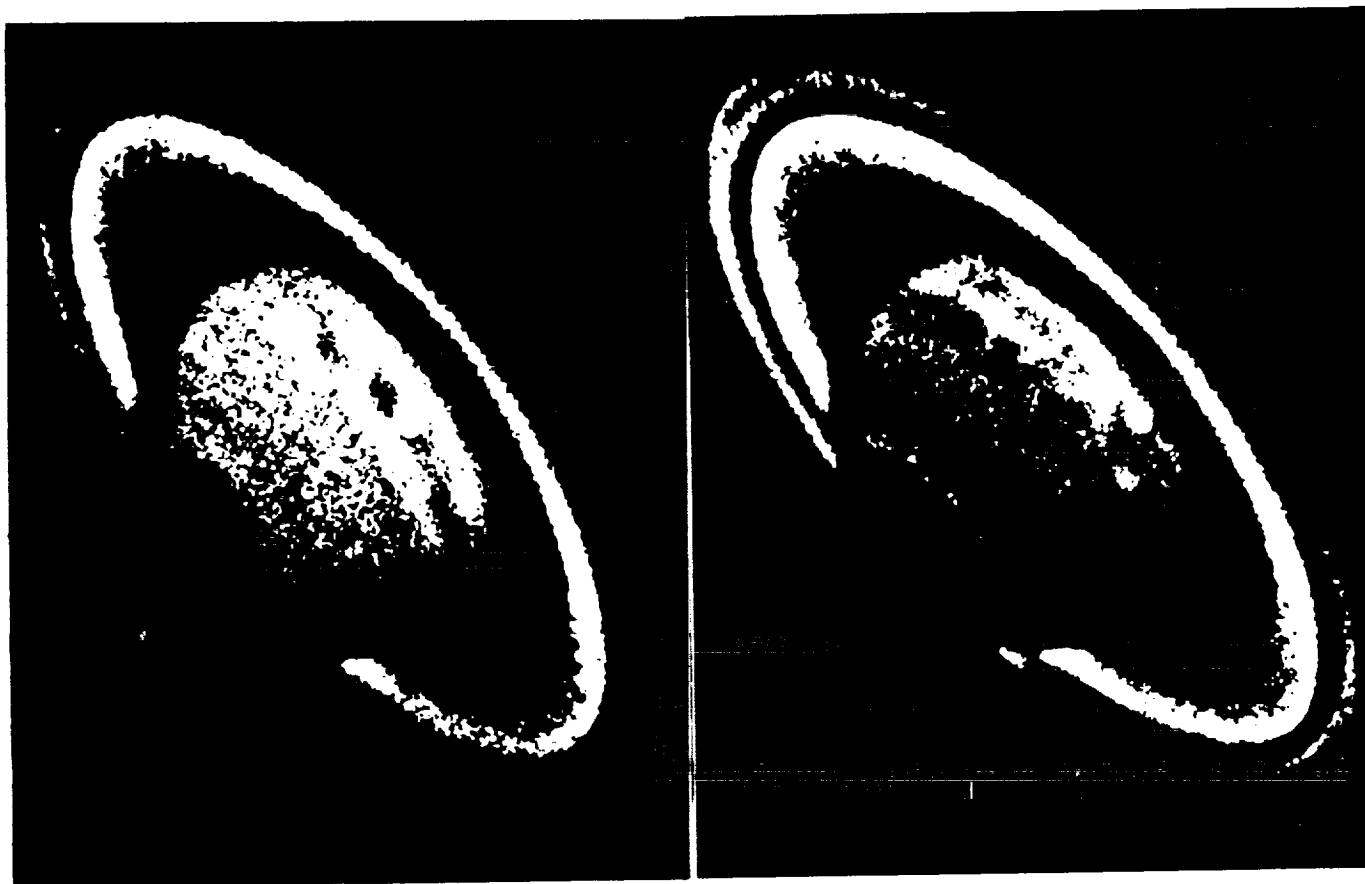


N92-12066

Storm on Saturn S. Larson

In September 1990, a white spot appeared on Saturn's atmosphere, which later spread over the entire equatorial region. The accompanying images were obtained as a part of an effort to refine techniques for obtaining high resolution groundbased CCD images of the planets, and show the turbulent disturbance in Saturn's atmosphere. These broad red-band CCD images were obtained on 1990 November 11.1 (upper) and 12.1 UT (lower) with the Catalina 1.5 m telescope. The planet was low in the sky at sunset, but the seeing was good enough to show detail in the equatorial region over all longitudes. Visibility of the features is enhanced by digital spatial filtering techniques. A storm of this magnitude has not been seen on Saturn since 1933.