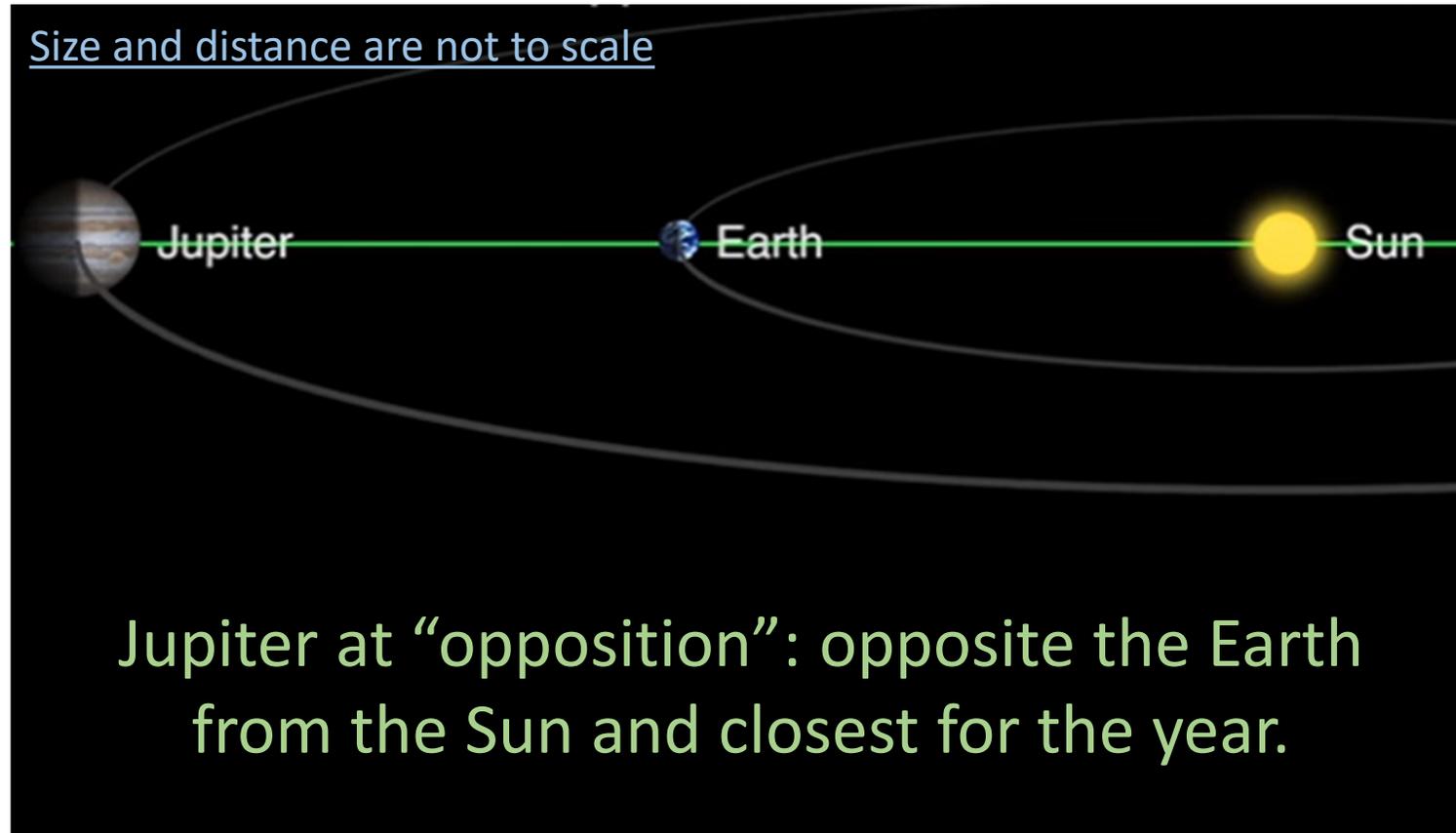


September 2022 Sky Events

Gas Giant Jupiter Closest to Earth this Month

The planet Jupiter, the largest planet in our solar system, **reaches “opposition”** (opposite the Earth from the Sun and closest for the year) on the night of **Sept. 26th**. At “opposition” Jupiter will be a very bright magnitude of -2.9!



September 2022 Sky Events

Gas Giant Jupiter Closest to Earth this Month

During September, Jupiter will shine more brightly than any star in the evening sky. Its disk will reach a peak diameter of about 50 arc seconds at opposition.

Jupiter is the fastest spinning solar system planet, completing a rotation in just under 10 hours.

Its striking cloud top bands and 4 bright Galilean moons are easy objects to observe with a small telescope. With steady, clear skies, Jupiter's Great Red Spot (GRS), if it is rotated toward Earth at the time, may also be observed in a telescope.

For an app on the positions of Jupiter's moons as well as the location timing for the GRS, [see this link](#).



NASA's Juno Mission Image

September 2022 Sky Events

Gas Giant Jupiter Closest to Earth this Month

September 26, 2022
around 9:00 p.m. EDT
from Asheville, NC



Rising at dusk and setting at dawn, the planet Jupiter is visible all night during the end of September.

Located in the zodiac constellation Pisces, the Fishes, Jupiter is positioned some 367 million miles (or 33 light minutes) away from Earth at “opposition” on September 26th. This is the closest Jupiter has been to Earth since 1963, and it won’t be this close again until the year 2129 – 107 years from now!

Jupiter is less than half as far from us as Saturn in September, and it also shines some 23 times brighter than Saturn in our night sky this month. Saturn can be found in the nearby constellation Capricornus.