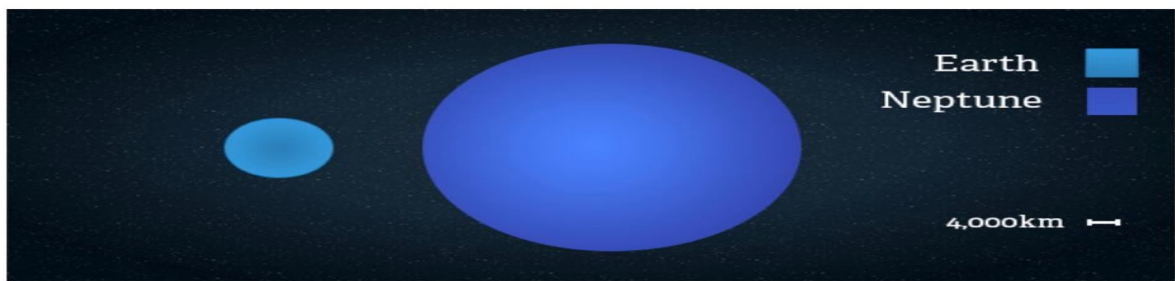


In 1845, the English astronomer John Couch Adams completes his calculations as to the position of this unknown planet. A year later the French astronomer the Jean Joseph Le Verrier made known his calculations that were strikingly similar to those of Adams. As a result the scientific community took notice and began its search for the planet in the region of the Sky Adams and Le Verrier had predicted. In September 23, 1846, the German Astronomer Johann Gall observed the new planet near to where Adams calculations had forecasted and even closer to those of Le Verrier.

Until the Voyager 2 spacecraft fly-by in 1989, little was known about Neptune. This mission provided new information about Neptune's rings, number of moons, atmosphere and rotation.



Side by side comparison of the size of Neptune vs Earth

10 Amazing Facts about Neptune:

- I. It takes Neptune 164.8 Earth years to orbit the sun.
- II. Neptune is the Roman God of the sea. In Greek Neptune is called Poseidon.
- III. Neptune has the second largest gravity of any planet.
- IV. Neptune spins very quickly on its axis.
- V. Neptune is the great Dark Spot which is roughly the size of Earth.
- VI. The largest Neptunian moon, Triton was discovered just 17 days after the Neptune itself was discovered.
- VII. The climate on Neptune is extremely active.
- VIII. Neptune has 14 known moons.
- IX. Only one spacecraft, Voyager 2, has flown past the Neptune.
- X. Neptune has an average surface temperature of -214°C