

The Collisions in Dust Experiment (COLLIDE 1 and 2)

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Shuttle launches: April 17, 1998 (STS-90) and
December 5, 2001 (STS-108)

A Microgravity Laboratory For Planet Formation



The Collisions Into Dust Experiment studied the gentle collisions that occur between particles in planetary rings and in the early stages of planet formation. The weightless environment of the space shuttle allowed for collisions into dust at very low speeds to help understand how planetary rings evolve and how the planets themselves formed. The COLLIDE experiment was designed and built by engineering students at the University of Colorado. Six impact experiments were recorded on videotape for analysis after the experiment returned to Earth.

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