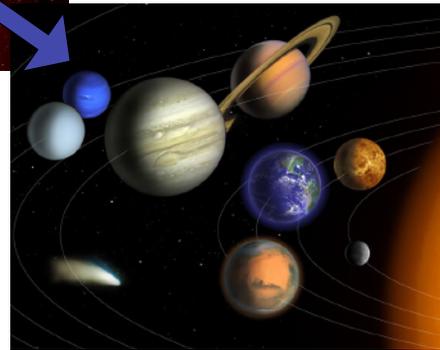




Fran Bagenal

How does a solar system form from a cloud of gas?



- 1. Large bodies in the solar system have orderly motions*
- 2. Planets fall into two main categories*
- 3. Swarms of asteroids and comets populate the solar system*
- 4. Several notable exceptions to these general trends stand out*

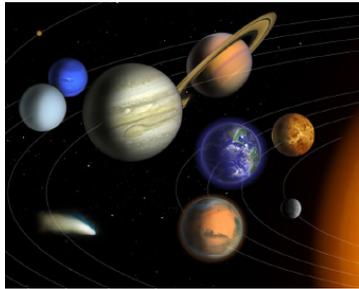


Facts we need to explain

Formation: Sources of Evidence

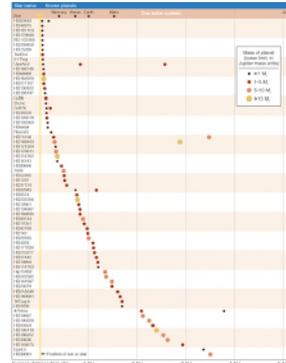


Star-forming regions
Chemistry of source material



Our solar system

1. Patterns of motions
2. 2 types of planets
3. Asteroids and comets
4. Exceptions

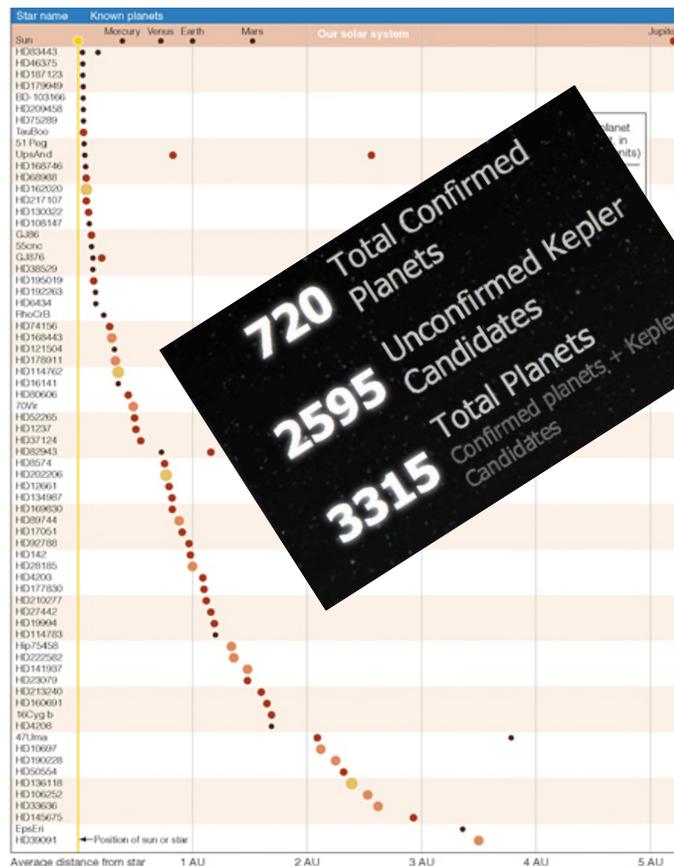


Other solar systems
Similarities and differences

Other Solar Systems

Over 1235 potential planetary systems detected - all very different from ours - so far

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qRJ30fkyiU4>

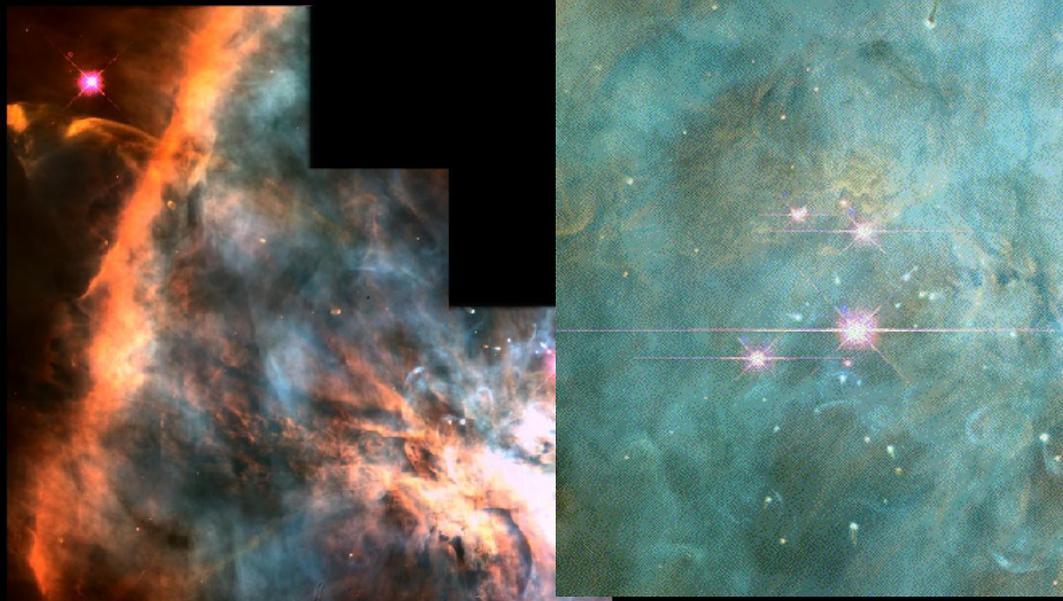


Collapse of the Solar Nebula

- Formation of the Sun seems a good place to start.
- Theories of star formation are based on observing millions of stars of different ages.
- Start with a **nebula** of gas and dust.
 - *Nebula = noun = "cloud" (plural = nebulae)*
 - *Nebular = adjective = "cloud-like"*

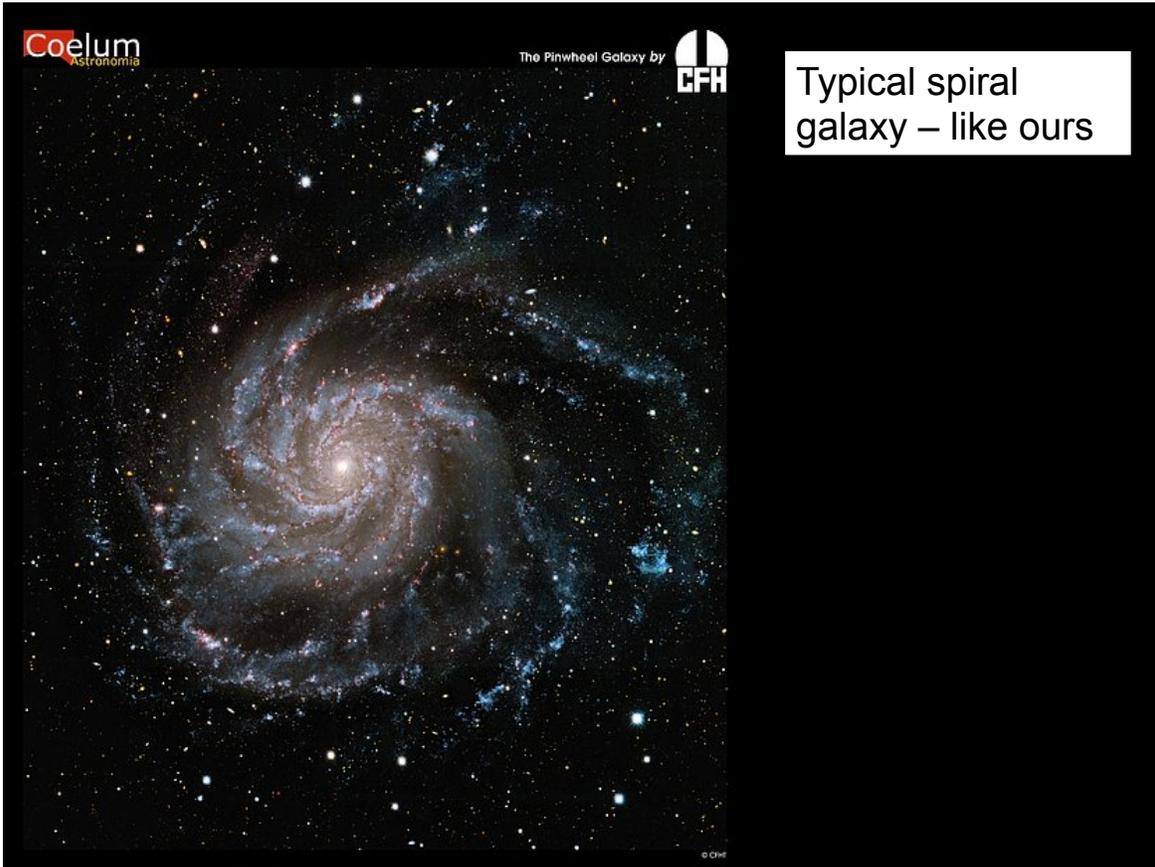
Section could have been called
Collapse of Nebular Solar Nebula.

The Orion Nebula

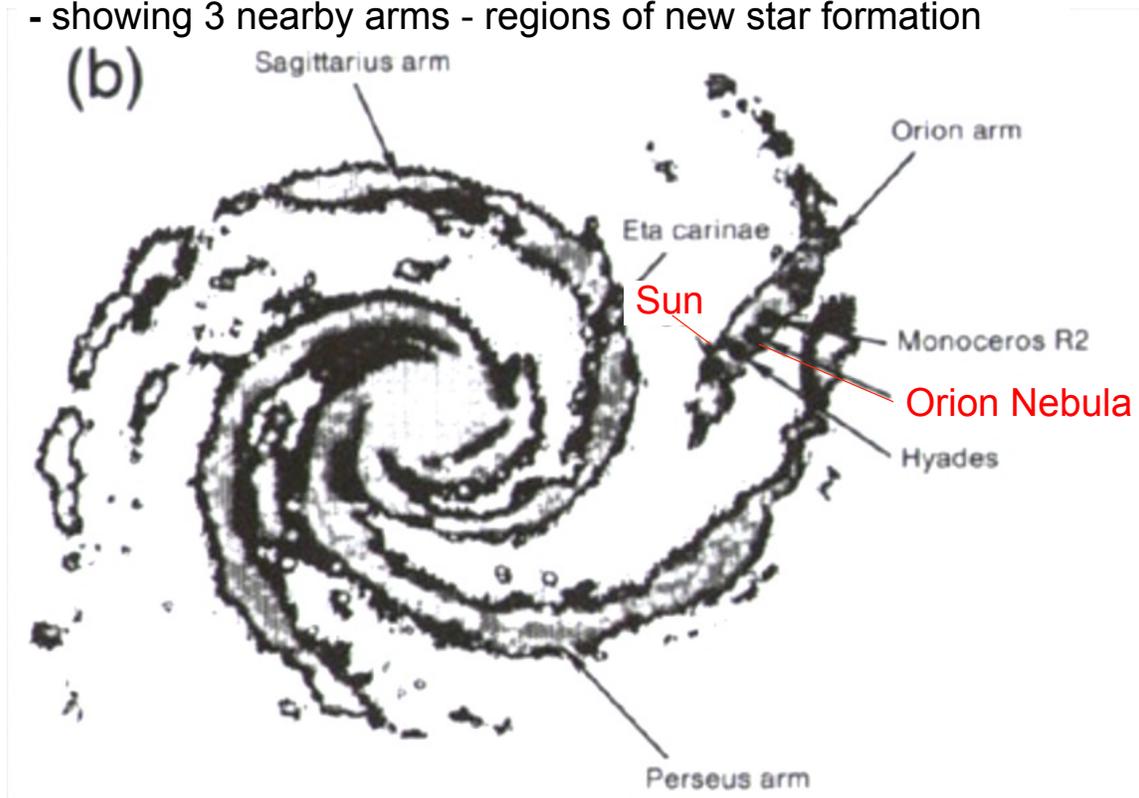


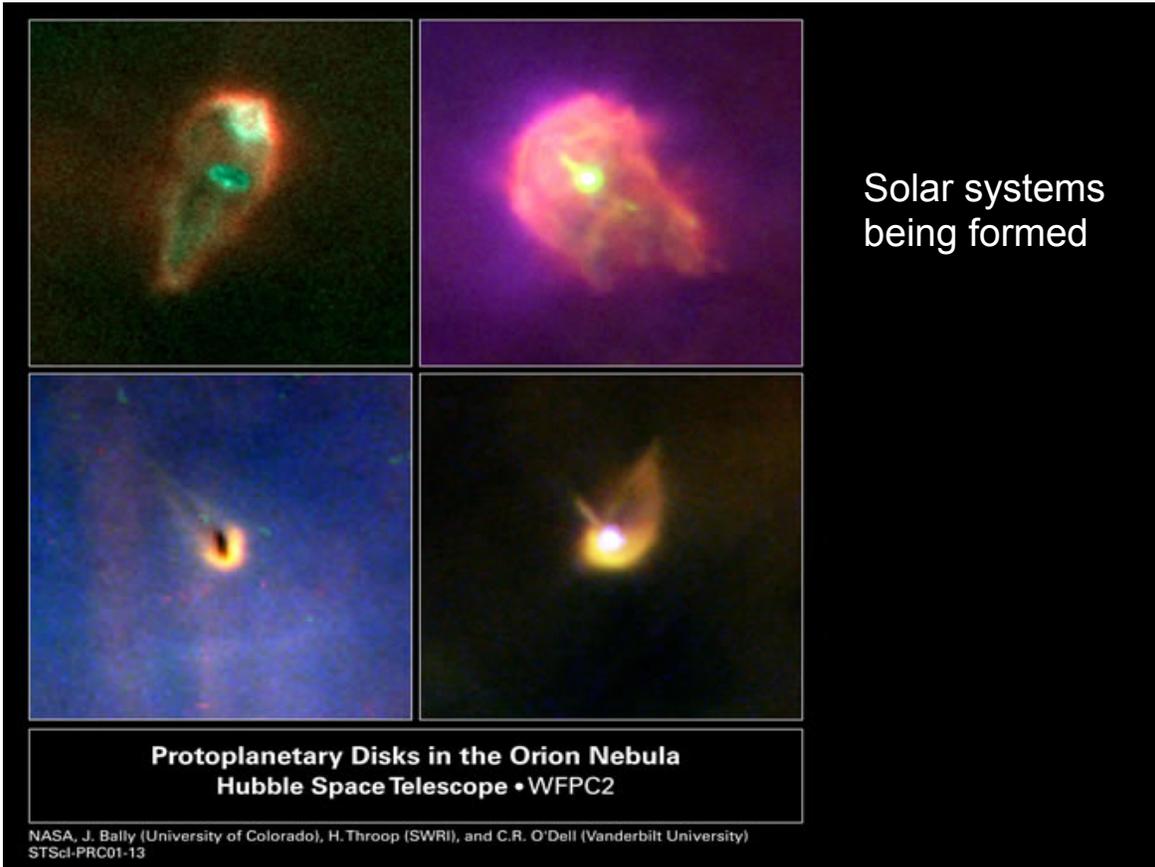
Hubble Space Telescope
Wide Field Planetary Camera 2





Sketch of probable structure of the **Milky Way – our galaxy**
- showing 3 nearby arms - regions of new star formation

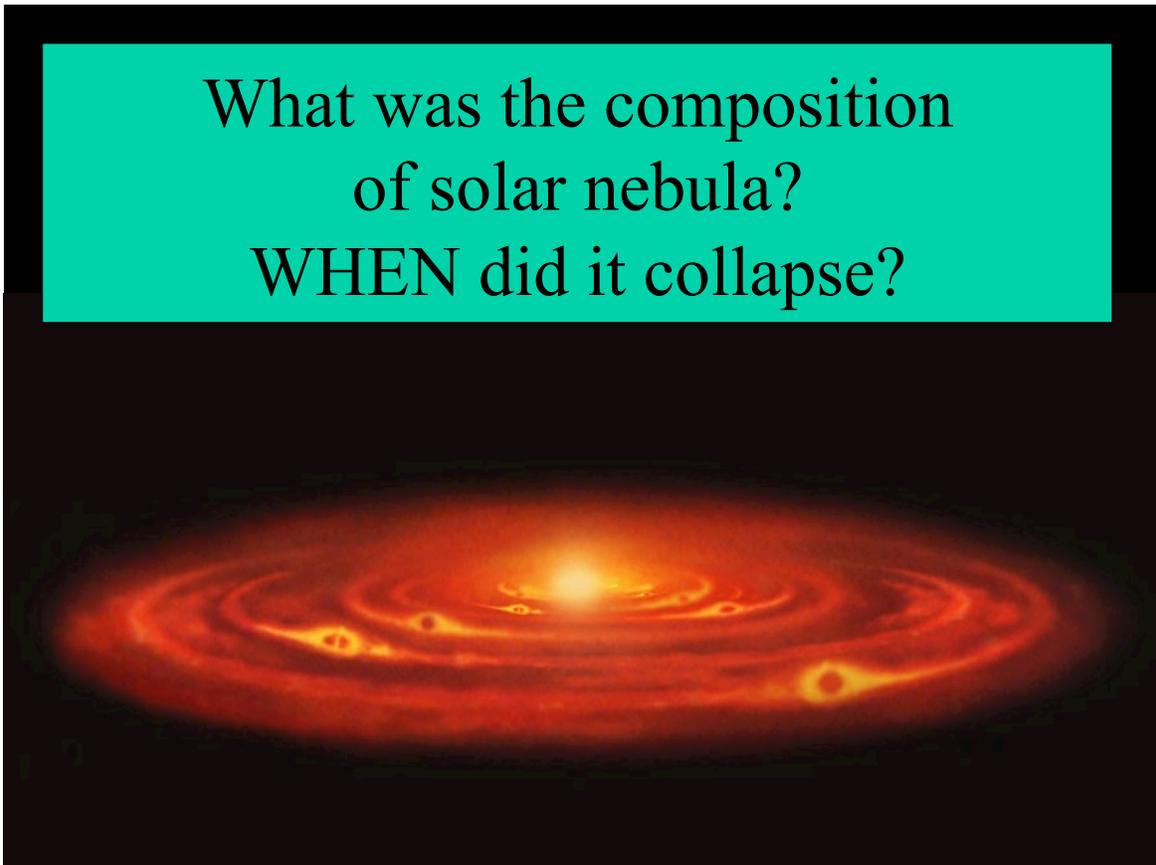




What Caused Nebula to Collapse?

- A. Gravity
- B. Rapid rotation
- C. Magic
- D. Laughter

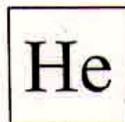
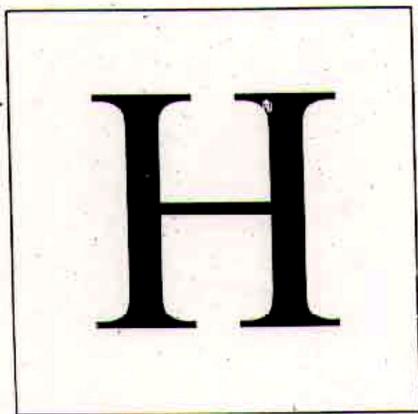
What was the composition
of solar nebula?
WHEN did it collapse?



What is the 3rd most abundant element in the Universe?

- A. Iron
- B. Carbon
- C. Water
- D. Oxygen
- E. Nitrogen

The Astronomer's Periodic Table
(Ben McCall)



□ ■ □ ■
C N O Ne

•
Mg

•
Si

•
S

•
Ar

•
Fe

- Mostly H, H and more Hydrogen

- Some Helium

- Tiny amount of other elements

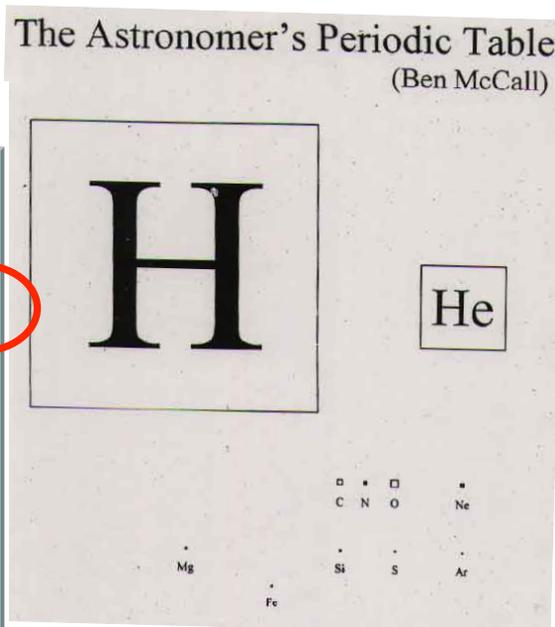
Cosmic abundance of elements - in stars, universe

Element	Symbol	Atomic Number	Number of Atoms per Million Hydrogen Atoms
Hydrogen	H	1	1,000,000
Helium	He	2	68,000
Carbon	C	6	420
Nitrogen	N	7	87
Oxygen	O	8	690
Neon	Ne	10	98
Sodium	Na	11	2
Magnesium	Mg	12	40
Aluminum	Al	13	3
Silicon	Si	14	38
Sulfur	S	16	19
Argon	Ar	18	4
Calcium	Ca	20	2
Iron	Fe	26	34
Nickel	Ni	28	2

Inert = non-reactive

Cosmic Abundances

Element	Symbol	Atomic Number	Number of Atoms per Million Hydrogen Atoms
Hydrogen	H	1	1,000,000
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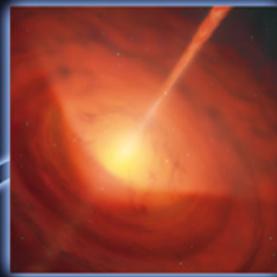


Ignore inert gases
He, Ne, Ar

H₂O, NH₃, CH₄
Water, Ammonia, Methane
Hydrogen compounds

WAM!
(for Nitrogen – N₂ more likely)

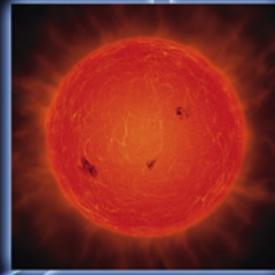
Heavy Elements made in star explosions - *super novae*



Individual stars form in fragments of much larger clouds as gravity draws gas together. Forming stars are surrounded by spinning disks and often emit jets of gas out their north and south poles.



Massive stars explode when they die, scattering much of their content—including newly produced heavy elements—into space.



Stars shine with energy produced by nuclear fusion in their cores, creating heavier elements from lighter ones.

Interstellar Organic Molecules - lots of them!

Simple Hydrides, Oxides, Sulfides, Halides, and Related Molecules

H ₂	CO	NH ₃	CS	NaCl
HCl	SiO	SiH ₄	SS	AlCl
H ₂ O	SO ₂	CC	H ₂ S	KCl
	OCS	CH ₄	PN	AlF

Nitriles, Acetylene Derivatives, and Related Molecules

HCN	HC≡C—CN	H ₃ C—C≡C—CN	H ₃ C—CH ₂ —CN	H ₂ C=CH ₂
H ₂ CCN	H(C≡C) ₂ —CN	H ₃ C—C≡CH	H ₂ C=CH—CN	HC≡CH
CCCCO	H(C≡C) ₃ —CN	H ₃ C—(C≡C) ₂ —H	HNC	
CCCS	H(C≡C) ₄ —CN		HN=C=O	
HC≡CCHO	H(C≡C) ₅ —CN		HN=C=S	
H ₂ CNC				

Aldehydes, Alcohols, Ethers, Ketones, Amides, and Related Molecules

H ₂ C=O	H ₃ COH	HO—CH=O	H ₂ CNH
H ₂ C=S	H ₃ C—CH ₂ —OH	H ₃ C—O—CH=O	H ₃ CNH ₂
H ₃ C—CH=O	H ₃ CSH	H ₃ C—O—CH ₃	H ₂ CNC
NH ₂ —CH=O	(CH ₃) ₂ CO?	H ₂ C=C=O	

Cyclic Molecules

C ₃ H ₂	SiC ₂	C ₃ H
-------------------------------	------------------	------------------

Ions

CH ⁺	HCO ⁺	HCNH ⁺
HN ₂ ⁺	HOCCO ⁺	SO ⁺
	HCS ⁺	

Radicals

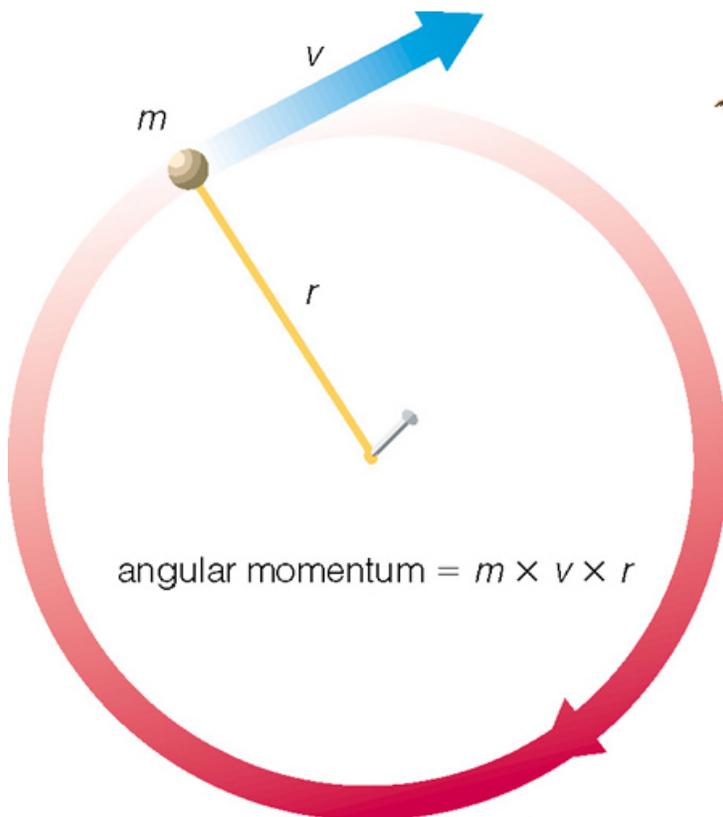
OH	C ₃ H	CN	HCO	C ₂ S
CH	C ₄ H	C ₂ N	NO	NS
C ₂ H	C ₅ H	H ₂ CCN	SO	
	C ₆ H			

CHON...

Collapse of the Solar Nebula



- Spins up
- Forms a disk
- Heats up



Conservation of
Angular
Momentum

$MVR = \text{Constant}$

Where did the angular momentum come from???

Small random motions averaging out to a tiny bulk motion

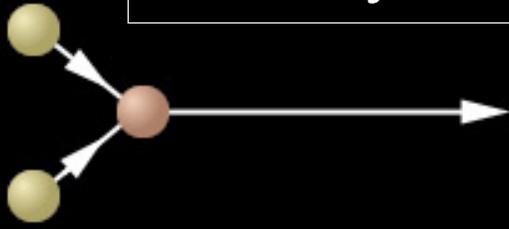
- this bulk motion is then “amplified” (due to conservation of angular momentum) as the cloud collapses

Collapse of the Solar Nebula



Why a disk?

Why a Disk?



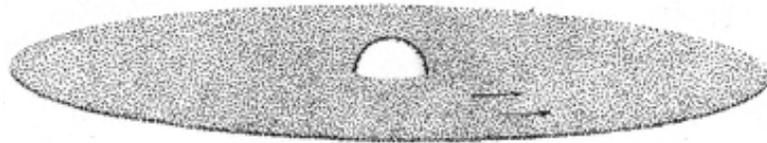
Oblique collisions \rightarrow regular orbits



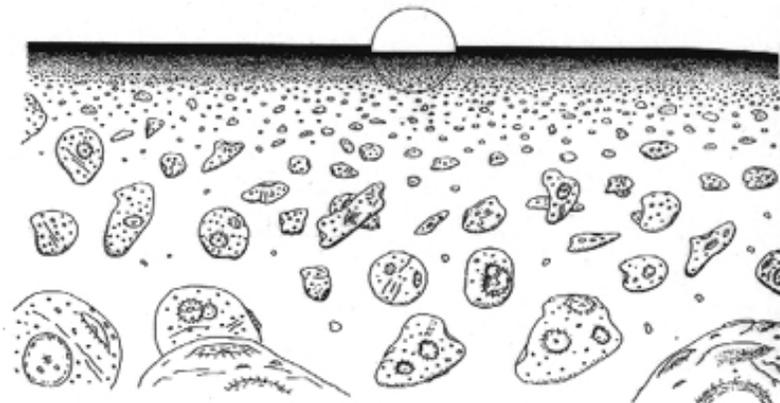
Head-on collisions \rightarrow smaller object

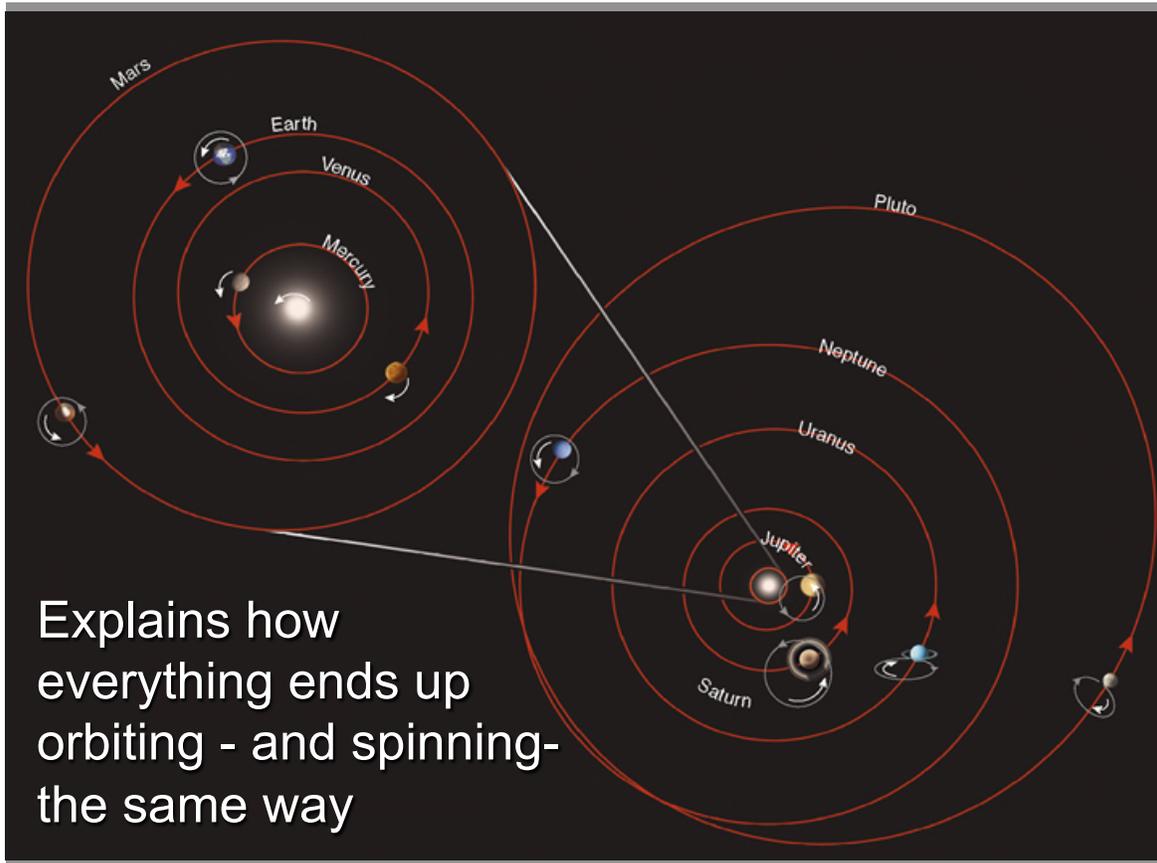
As the cloud collapses (due to gravity) the gases, dust and stuff orbit the central mass -

On the timescale of an orbit gravity still balances the centrifugal force - the disk is not formed by being “flung out into a disk”. Nor does gravity “pull the material into a disk”. These are common misconceptions.

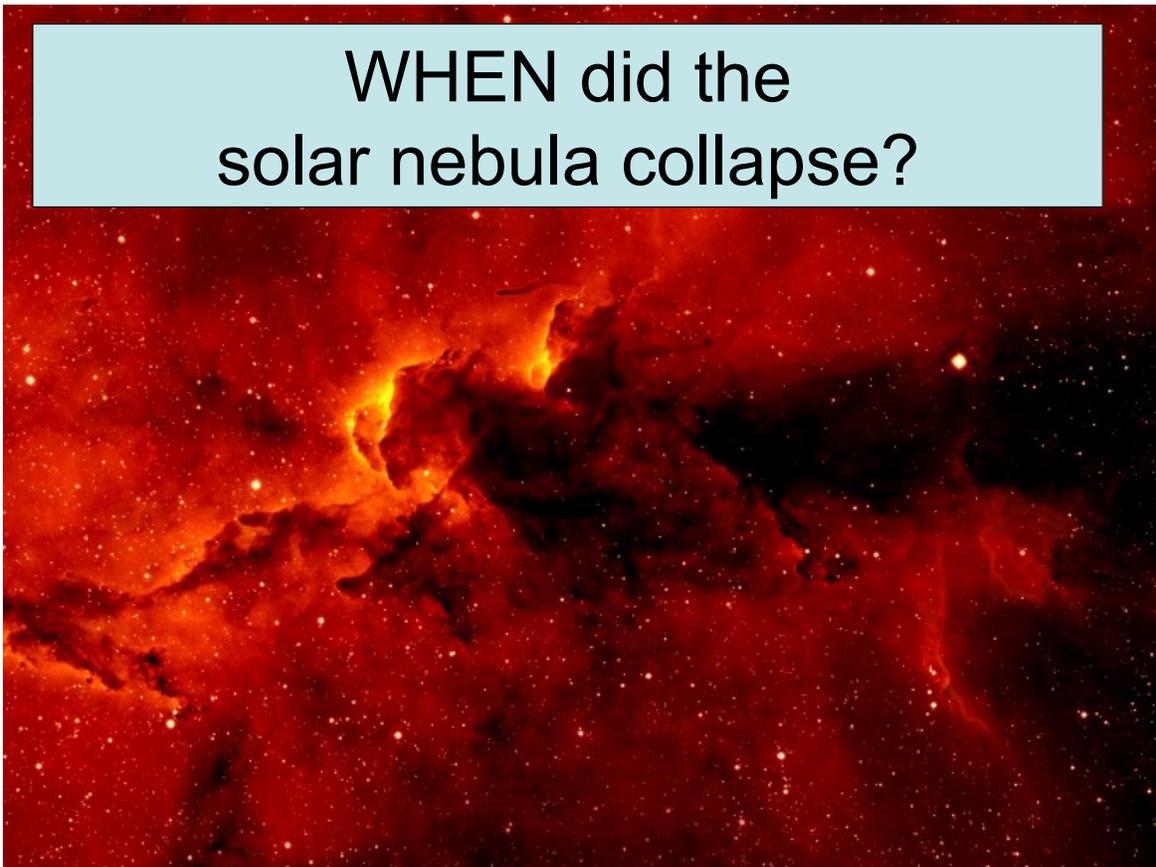


Go with the flow or crash to oblivion - Extreme Conformism!





WHEN did the solar nebula collapse?



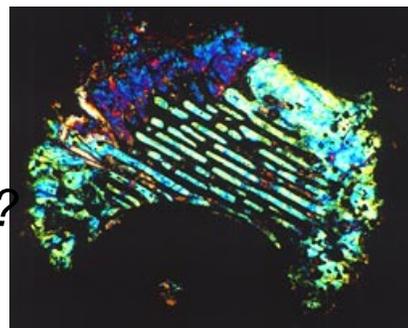
The Age of Our Solar System

- A. ~4,500 years
- B. ~4.5 million years
- C. ~450 million years
- D. ~4.5 billion years
- E. ~450 billion years

Oldest Meteorite

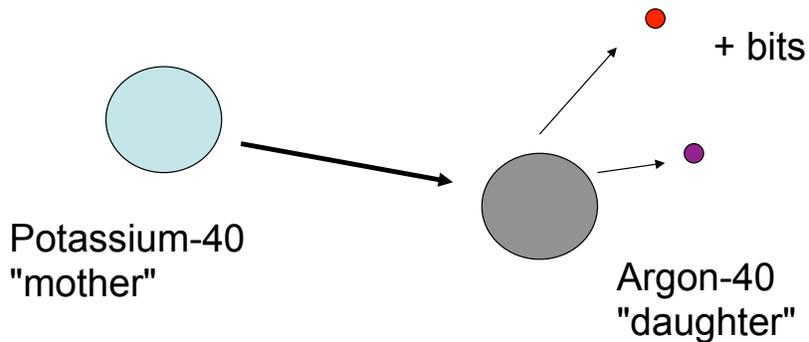


Allende - fell to Earth near Chihuahua, Mexico at 1:05am on February 8, 1969.
Age: 4.5 BY old

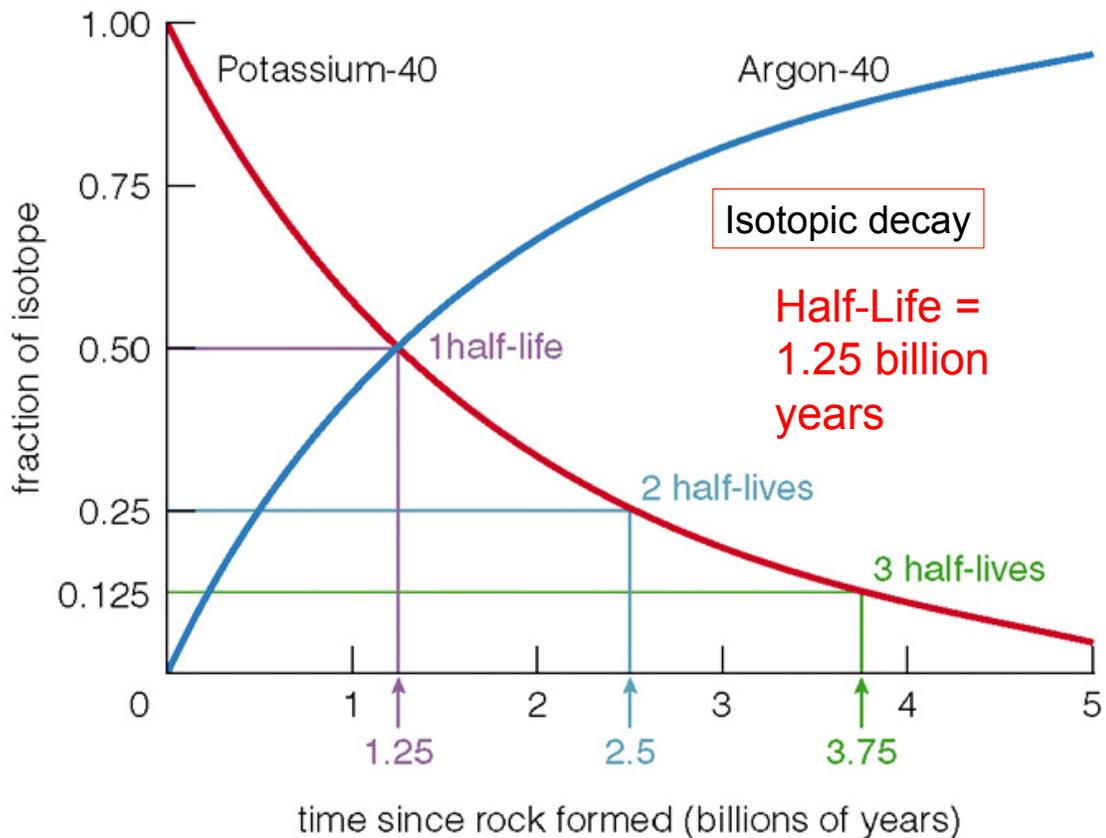


How do we know it's that old?

Fission of atomic nucleus

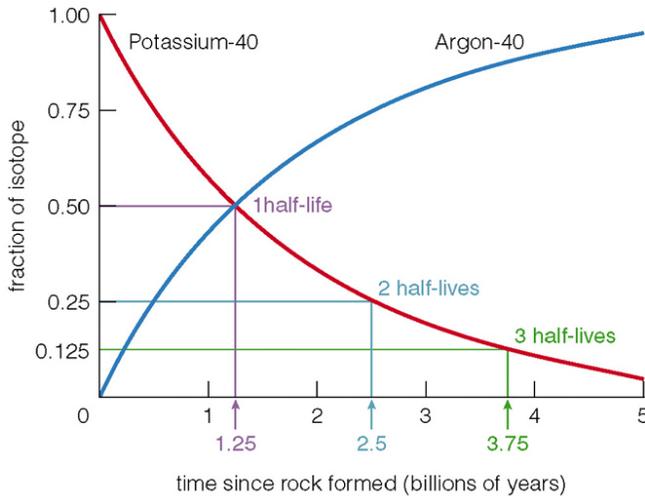


Probability of "splitting up":
Expect half the material to decay in 1.25 billion years
Half-Life = 1.25 billion years



How do we date rocks?!

Measure the ratio: Mother Isotope
Daughter Isotope



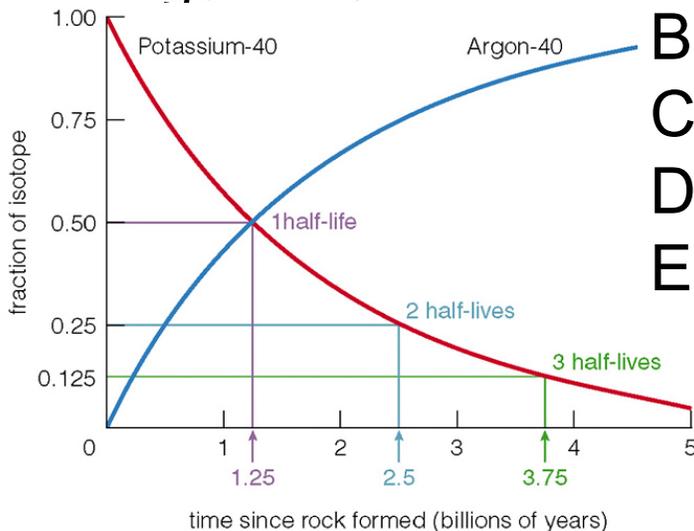
Potassium - 40
Argon - 40

Half-Life =
1.25 billion
years

We measure a ratio of 0.25 -
what age is the rock?

Potassium - 40

Argon - 40



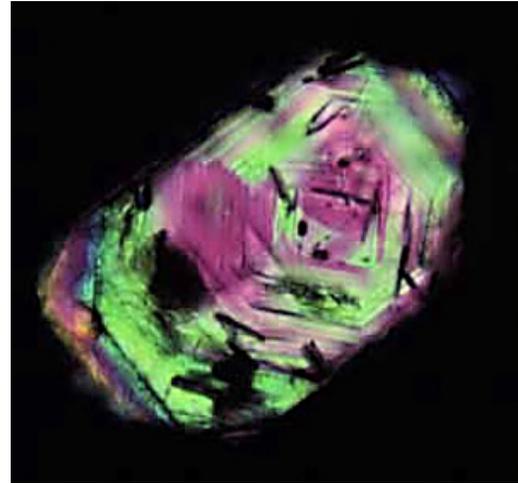
- A. 0.25 billion yrs
- B. 0.65 billion yrs
- C. 1.25 billion yrs
- D. 2.50 billion yrs
- E. 3.75 billion yrs

Half-Life =
1.25 billion
years

- Mineral grains (zircon)
- Uranium/Lead (U/Pb) ratios suggest
- age ~4.4 billion years
- sedimentary rocks in west-central Australia.

Oldest Earth Rocks

4.4 Billion Years Old



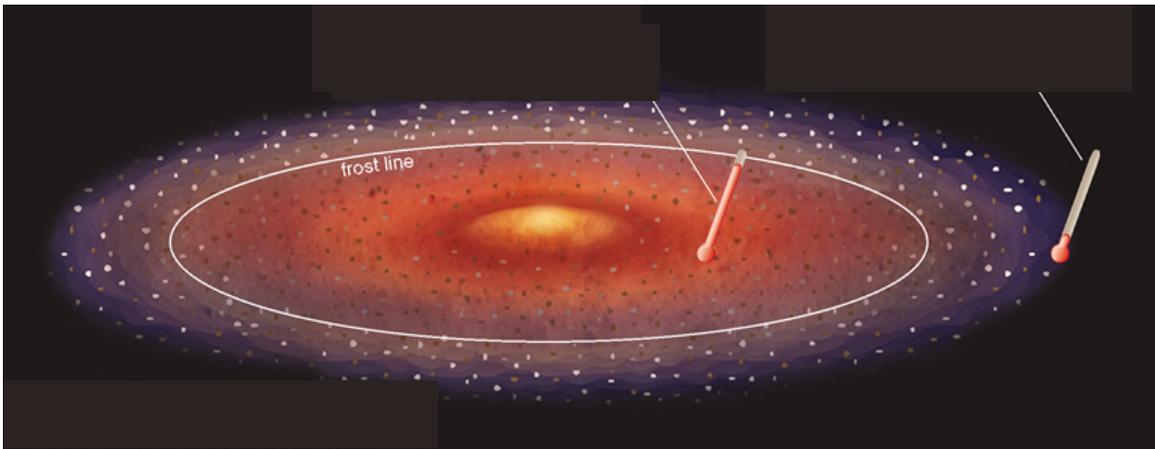
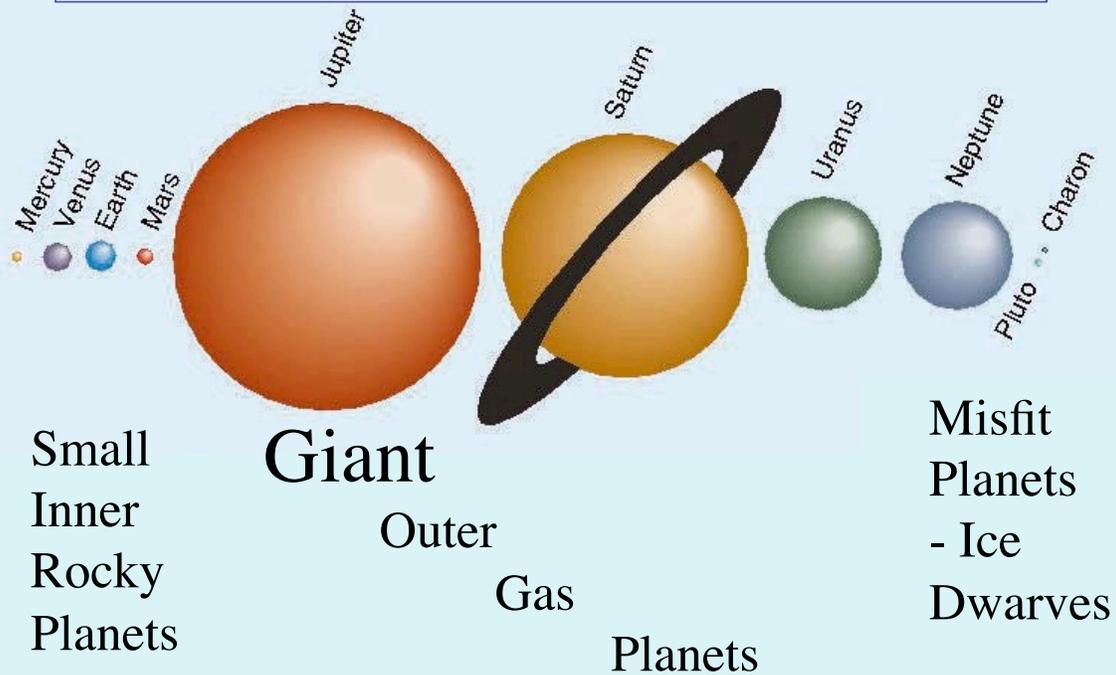
Oldest Solar System Rocks

- The oldest dated **moon rocks**, however, have ages between **4.4 - 4.5 billion years** and provide a minimum age for the formation of Moon
- **Meteorites** – closest to Solar System formation - 4.53 and 4.58 billion years ago

4.54 BY to <1% accuracy

- <http://pubs.usgs.gov/gip/geotime/radiometric.html#table>

Why Only 2 Types of Planets?



Which materials will condense in the innermost part of the disk?

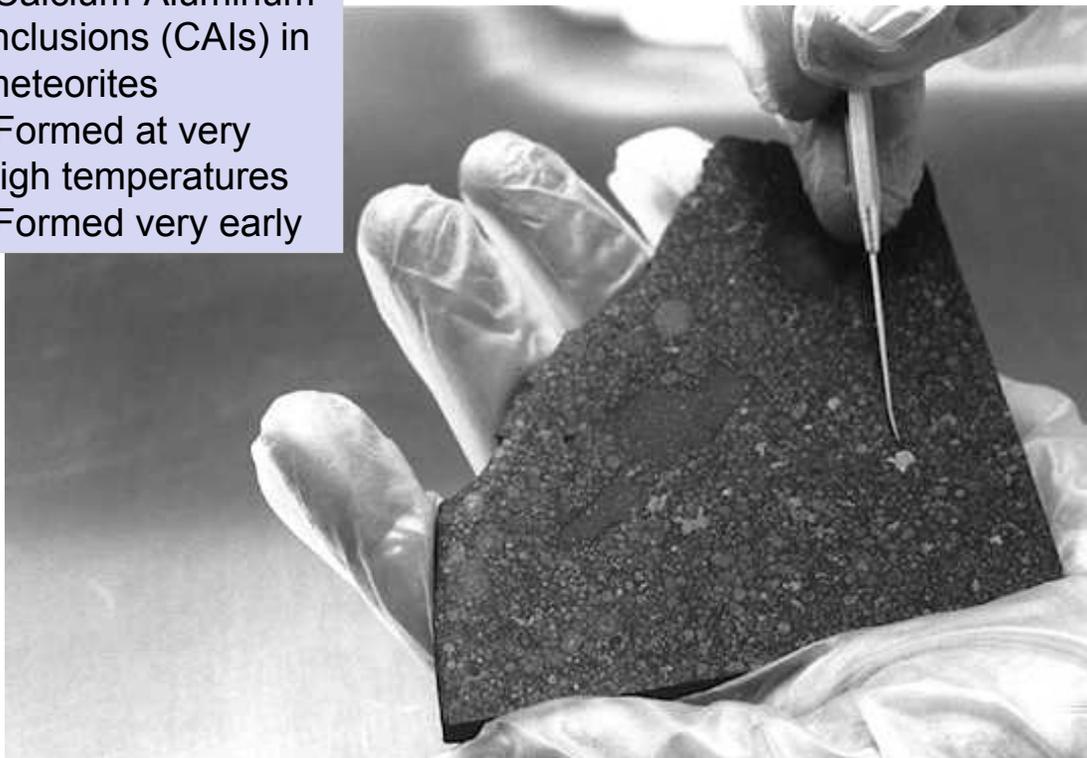
- A. Hydrogen and helium - they are so abundant
- B. Water, Ammonia and Methane - they are big, heavy molecules
- C. Rocks and metals - they condense at high temperatures

Refractory = melts/evaporates at higher temperatures, tends to be a solid at reasonable temperatures

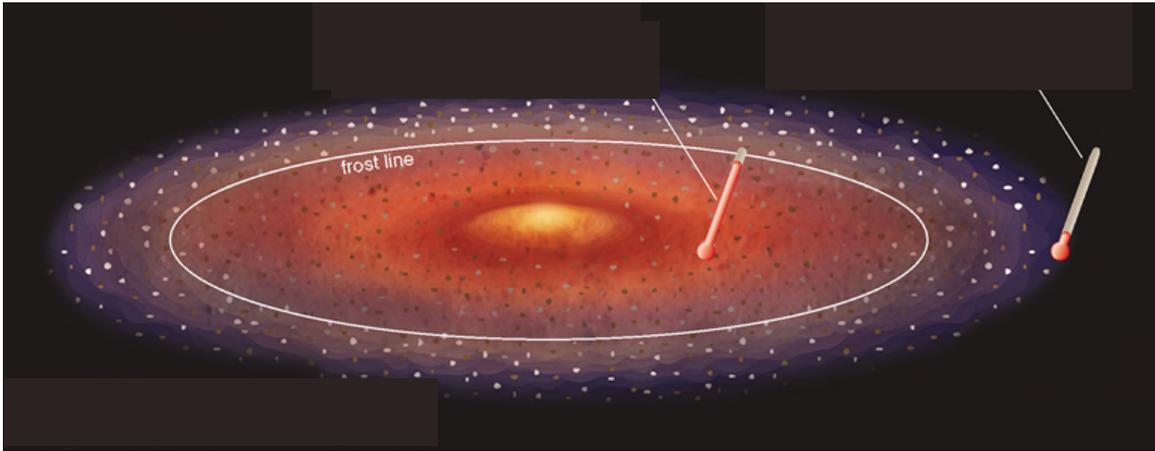
Volatile = melts/evaporates at lower temperatures, tends to be a gas at reasonable temperatures

	Examples	Typical Condensation Temperature	Relative Abundance (by mass)
Hydrogen and Helium Gas 	hydrogen, helium	do not condense in nebula	 98%
Hydrogen Compounds 	water (H ₂ O) methane (CH ₄) ammonia (NH ₃)	< 150 K	 1.4%
Rock 	various minerals	500–1,300 K	 0.4%
Metals 	iron, nickel, aluminum	1,000–1,600 K	 0.2%

- Calcium-Aluminum Inclusions (CAIs) in meteorites
- Formed at very high temperatures
- Formed very early

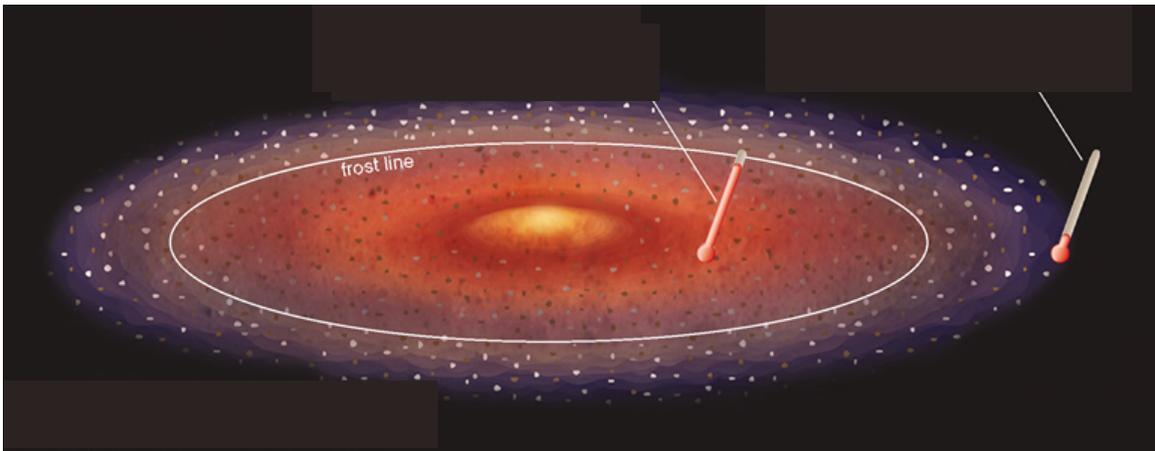


Allende meteorite – fell in Mexico in 1969



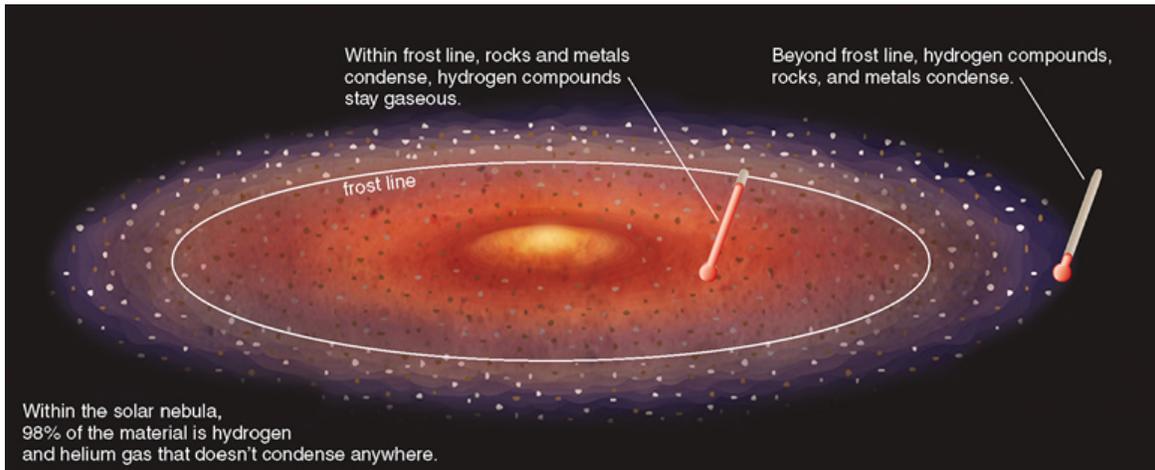
Where do Water, Ammonia and Methane condense?

- A. Throughout the solar nebula as it cools
- B. The inner region of the solar nebula
- C. The outer region of the solar nebula
- D. They do not condense anywhere in the solar nebula

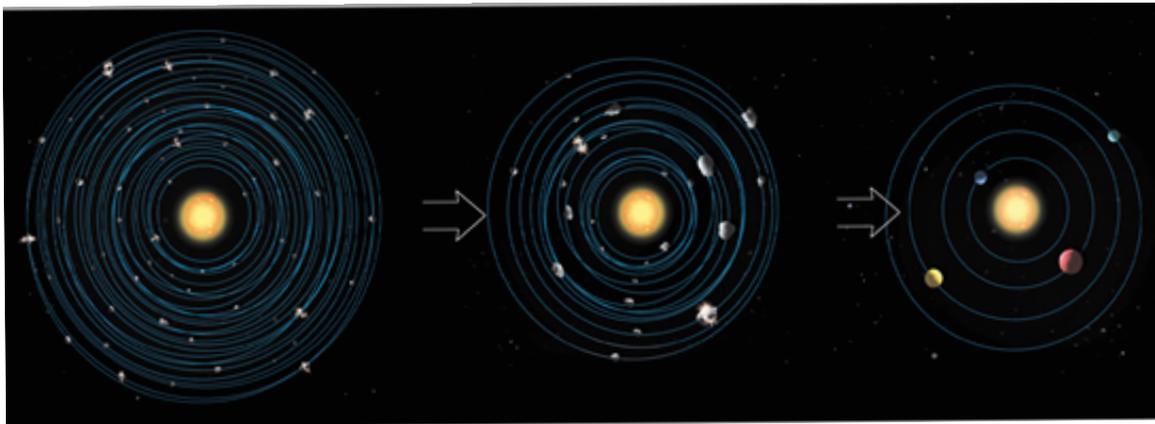


Where do Hydrogen & Helium condense?

- A. Throughout the solar nebula as it cools
- B. Only in the inner region of the solar nebula
- C. Only in the outer region of the solar nebula
- D. They do not condense anywhere in the solar nebula

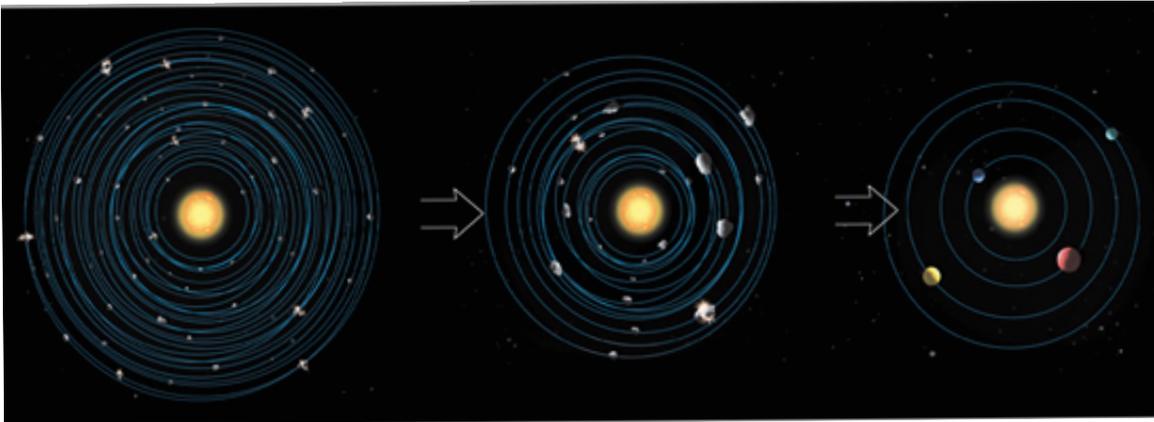
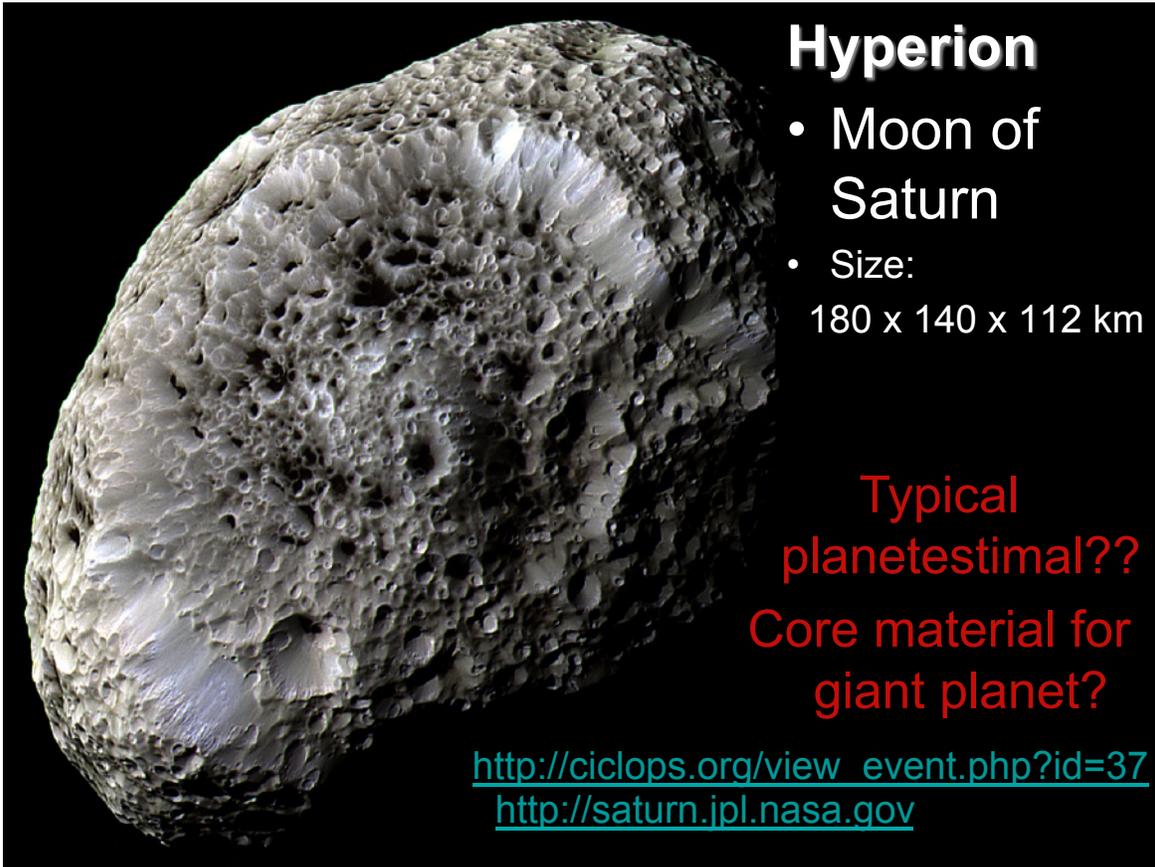


- 98% of material - hydrogen & helium - does not condense - anywhere - stay as gases.
- Inside frostline only refractory materials condense - rocks & metals
- Outside frostline volatiles also condense - WAM - AND rocks & metals too.



Accretion of Planetesimals

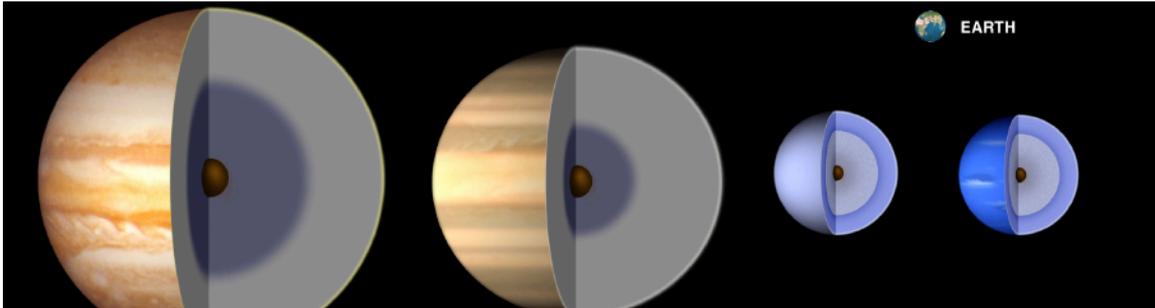
- Many smaller objects collected into just a few large ones
- The bigger get bigger - *Oligarchic growth*



Accretion of Planetesimals

- Many smaller objects collected into just a few large ones
- REALLY big planetesimals (~20 Mearth) gravitationally pull in hydrogen - the most abundant gas - and become GIANT.

The Giant Planets



Hydrogen envelopes over cores
of rock, metals and
Water, Ammonia, Methane
- WAM!

Why Only 2 Types of Planets?

1. Cosmic Abundance of Elements - H, O, N, C
2. Temperature Colder Farther from Sun
 - Abundance ices condense beyond frost line
 - Snowballs -> bigger snowballs
 - Giant snowballs have enough gravity to hold H - most abundant element - > giant planets
 - Small amounts of rock & metal-> terrestrial planets
 - Ice dwarfs, comets, asteroids = leftovers

Issues addressed:

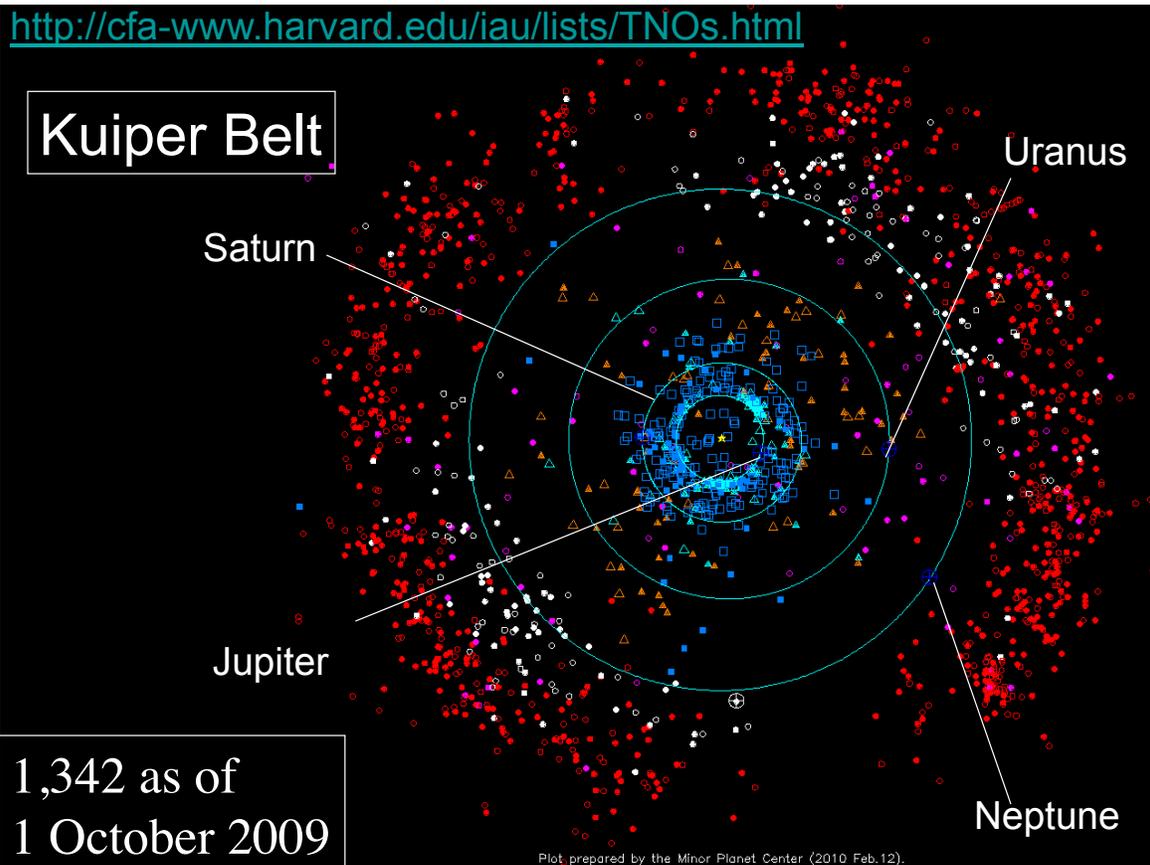
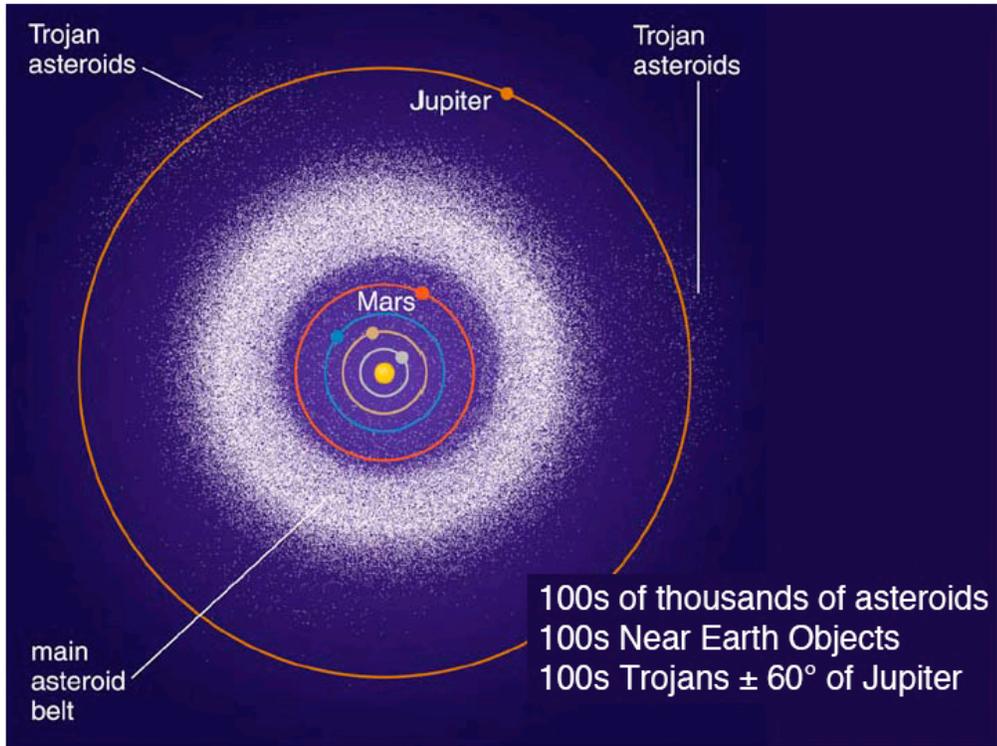
1. Angular momentum distribution
2. Orderly motion of planetary spins and orbits
3. 2 types of planets - small, rocky inner planets vs. giant gas outer planets

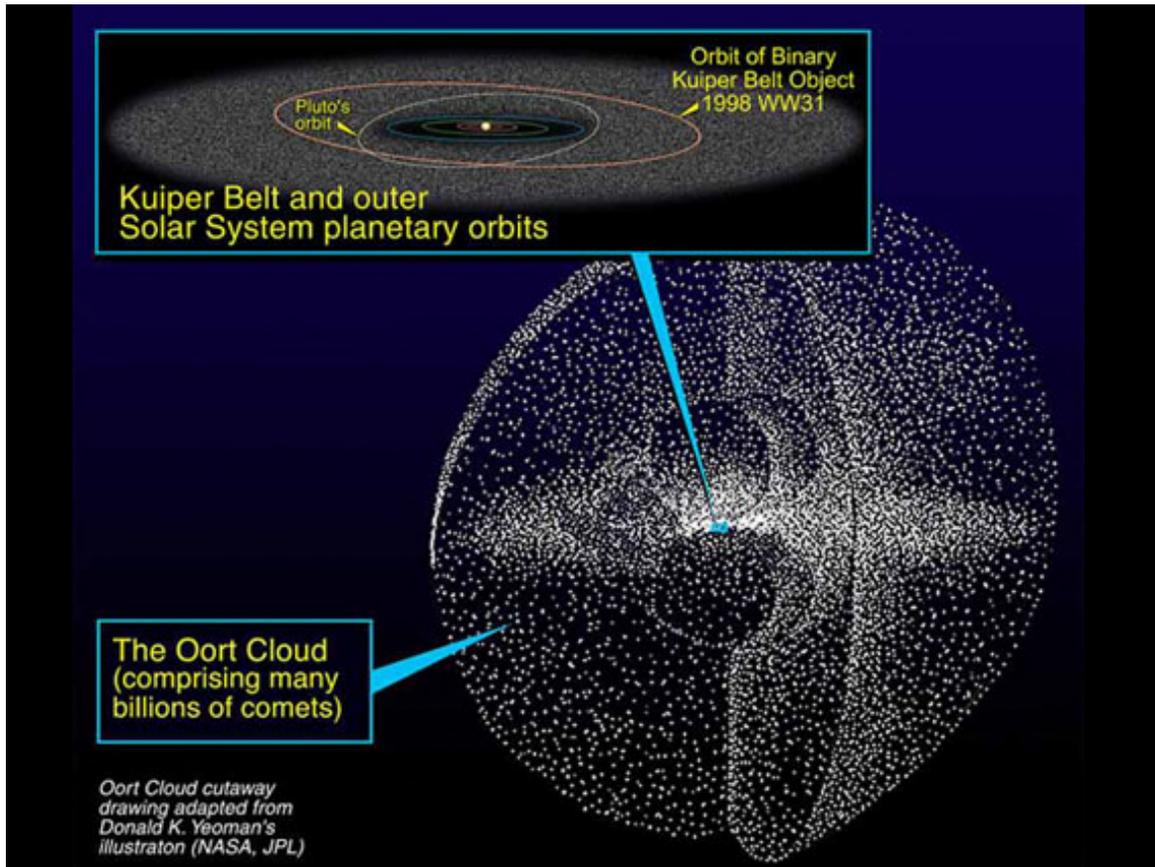
But there's still (a) gas and (b) junk between planets

What happens to the junk?

- Gets kicked about - mostly by JSUN
- Kicked out of solar system - Oort Cloud
- Herded - asteroid belt, Kuiper Belt
- Captured as moons
- Bashed into young planets -> Moon, Charon, others?

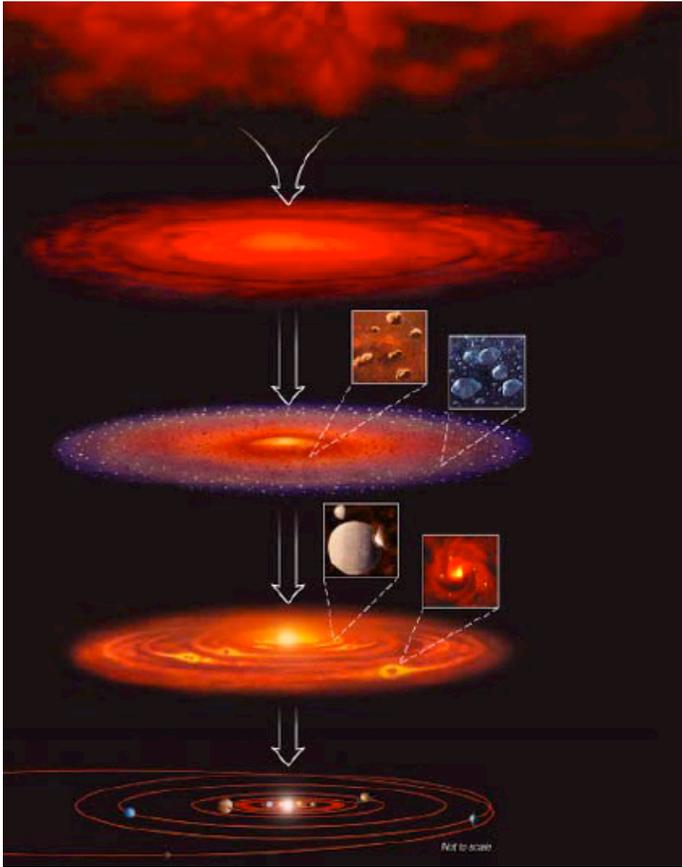
3 swarms of small bodies: Asteroid Belt, Kuiper Belt, Oort Cloud of comets





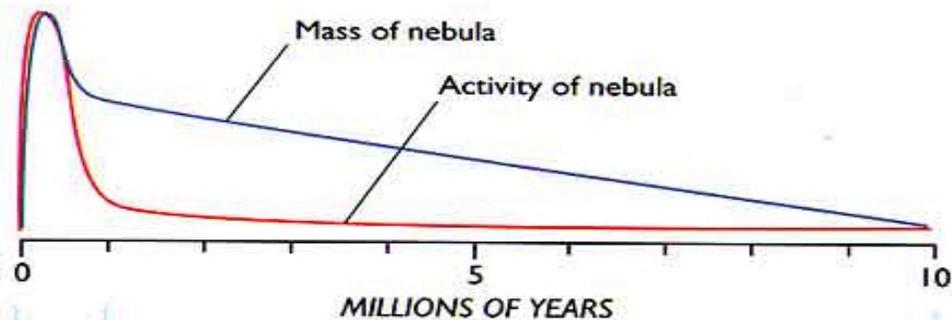
What's the main reason there are two types of planet (TP vs JP)?

- A. Denser particles were drawn closer to the Sun by the Sun's strong gravity where they could form TP's
- B. Volatile materials (ice) condensed at lower temperatures of the outer solar nebula, & attract more gas
- C. The solar wind pushed lower-density materials into the outer solar system where they formed JP's
- D. Planets of different density formed throughout the solar system, but denser planets fell inwards
- E. The solar nebula never had much hydrogen & helium or hydrogen compounds in any form in the inner solar system



Summary of Solar System Formation
Fig 8.13

How long does this whole solar system formation process take?



- Nebula collapse <1 MY
- planetesimal formation in 1MY
- Jupiter, Saturn form < 2 MY
- Terrestrial planets <4 MY
- Uranus & Neptune?
 - Motions are slow in the outer solar system
 - Accretion is very slow....

- Nebula collapse <1 Million Years - *fast!!*
- Planetesimal formation < 1MY
- Jupiter, Saturn <2 MY
- Terrestrial Planets <4 MY
- Uranus & Neptune??
 - Accretion is SLOW in the outer solar system

Less material

Material orbits the sun slowly

Few collisions, slower accretion

Too slow for Uranus & Neptune to have formed in their current locations

But it's not so simple...

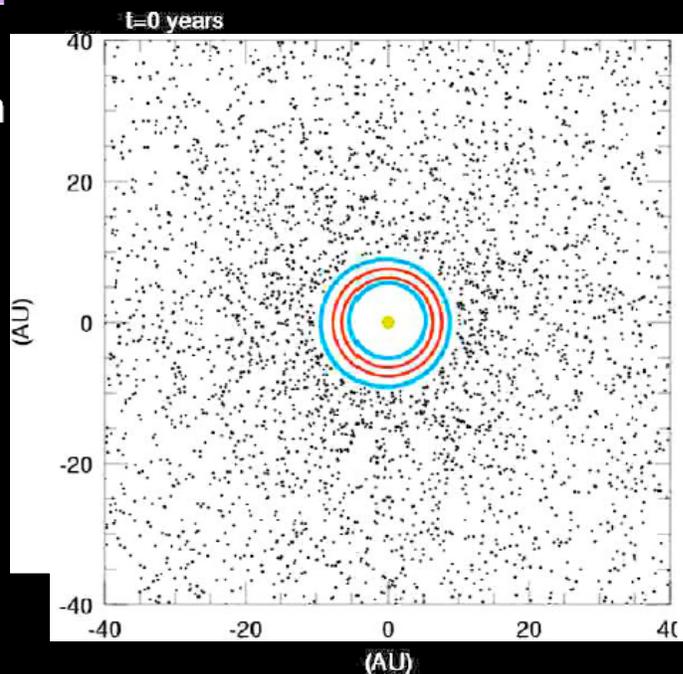
Jupiter & Saturn
& Neptune Uranus

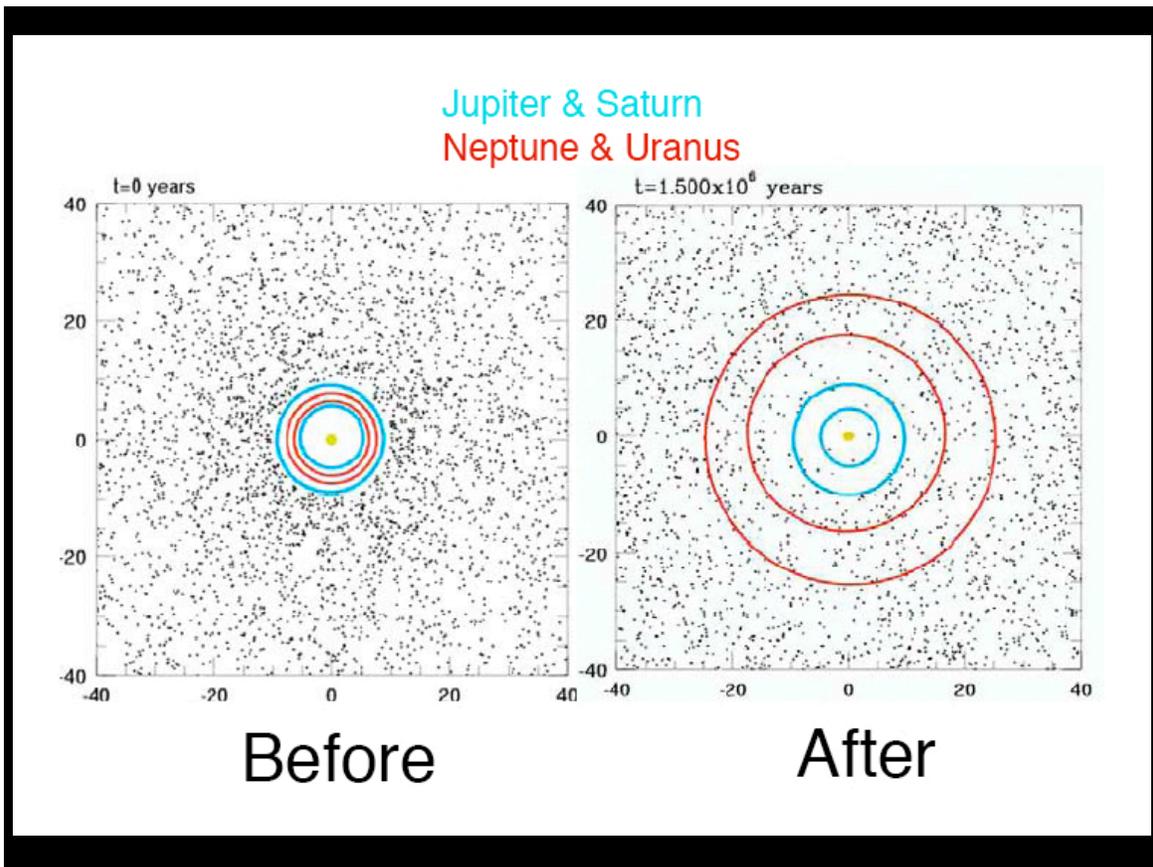
- Hard to make U & N at present orbits

- Where did Earth's oceans come from?

- How to make Kuiper Belt?

=> Migration?





Issues addressed:

1. Angular momentum distribution
2. Orderly motion
3. 2 types of planets
4. Time scale of formation
5. Asteroids, comets, Kuiper Belt
6. How Earth got oceans
7. Anomalies? Uranus tipped on side?
Formation of Moon & Charon?
Collisions can explain anything!

How do we
explain the
existence of
Earth's moon?

Big relative to
planet

Pluto's moon
Charon too



Formation of Moon by Giant Impact

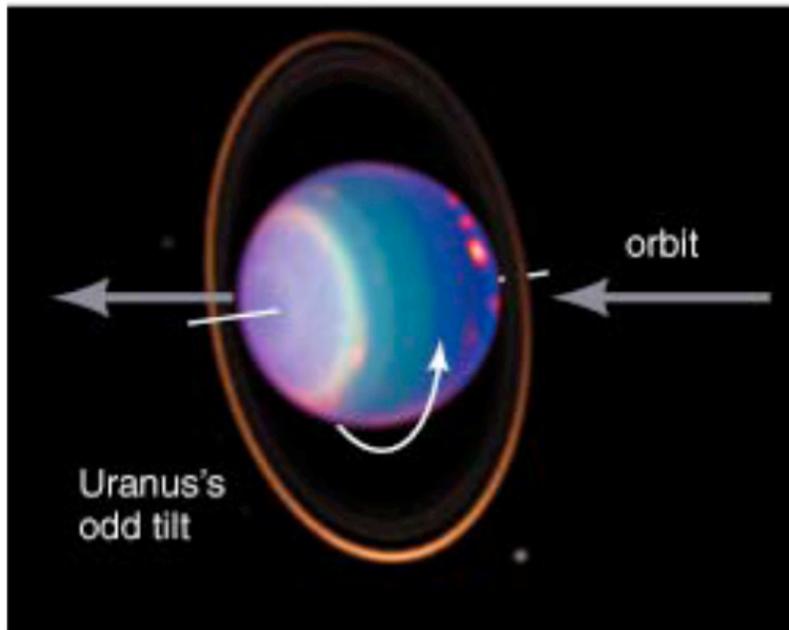
Giant impact stripped matter from Earth's crust

Stripped matter began to orbit

Then accreted into Moon



Odd Rotation



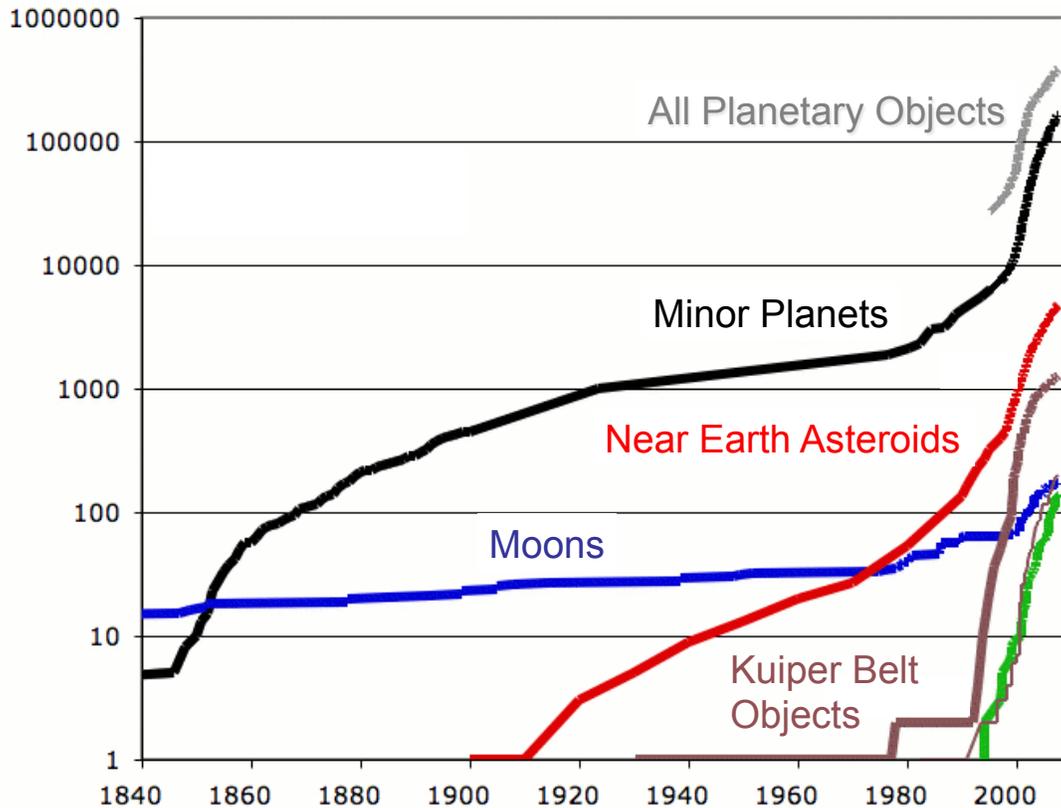
Giant impacts might also explain the different rotation axes of some planets

How Many Planets Are There?

- A. Probably thousands
- B. Definition is scientifically meaningless
- C. 10 - so far, could be hundreds
- D. 9.
- E. 8.



New Technology has allowed rapid acceleration of discoveries



A Planet (according to IAU)

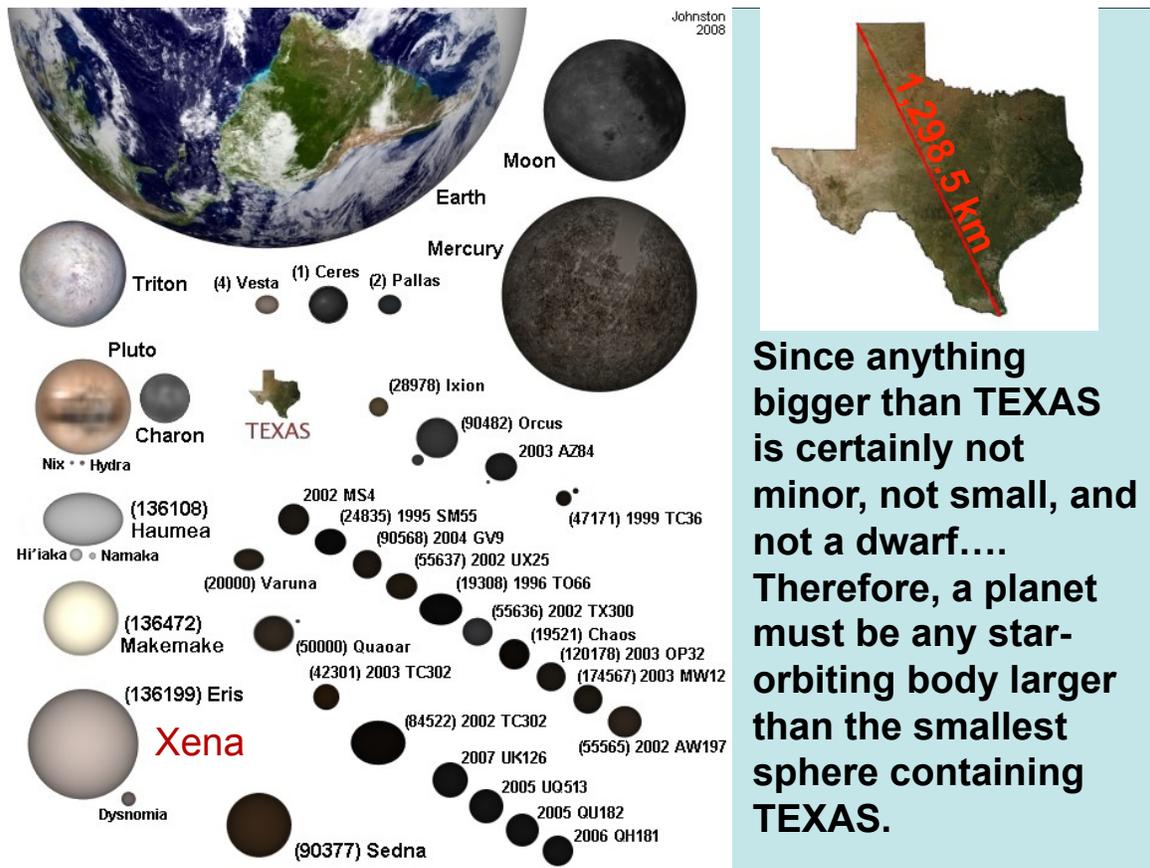
1. orbits the Sun (rather than a moon that orbits a planet)
2. Is big - *but how big?*
3. is big enough so that its own gravity pulls it together into a sphere - *but how round?*
4. Needs to clear out its neighborhood – ie. not be in a crowd – *but how separate from neighbors?*

Definition of Rocks

Particle Name	Minimum Size	Maximum Size
Clay	--	1/256 mm
Dust/Silt	1/256 mm	1/16 mm
Sand	1/16 mm	2 mm
Granule	2 mm	4 mm
Pebble	4 mm	64 mm
Cobble	64 mm	256 mm
Boulder	256 mm	--

Is this science ??

Note: Definition of a planet will not be on the test.



Since anything bigger than TEXAS is certainly not minor, not small, and not a dwarf.... Therefore, a planet must be any star-orbiting body larger than the smallest sphere containing TEXAS.