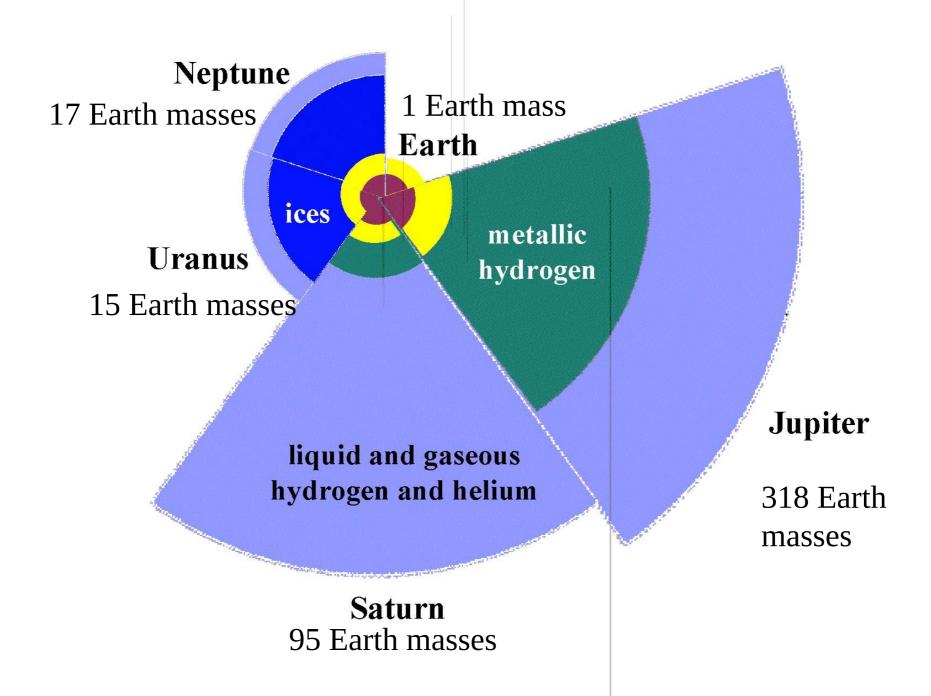
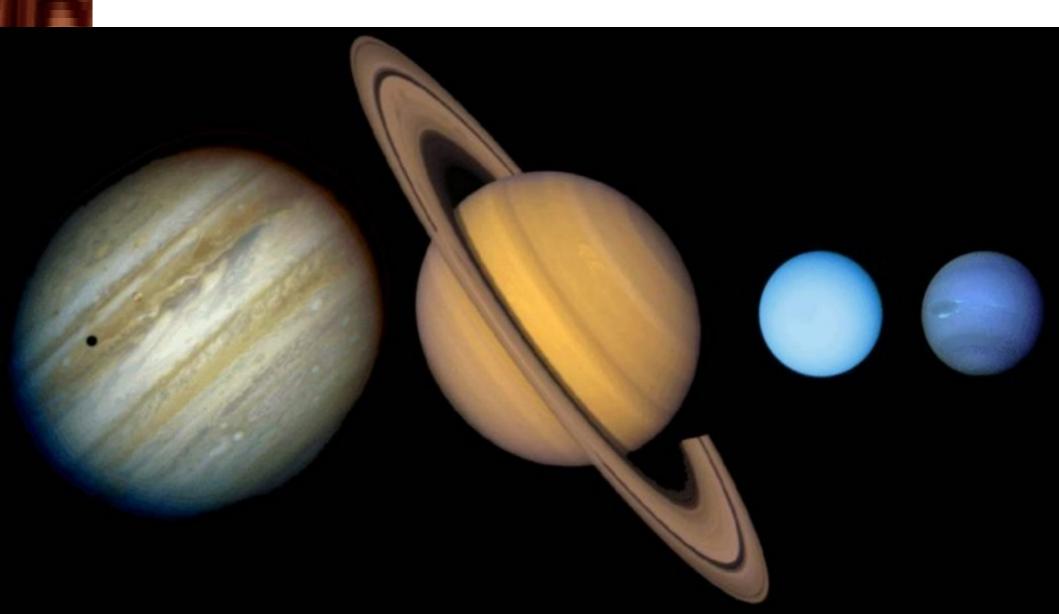
"When I die, I want to go peacefully like my Grandfather did, in his sleep-not screaming, like the passengers in his car." coolfunnyquotes.com

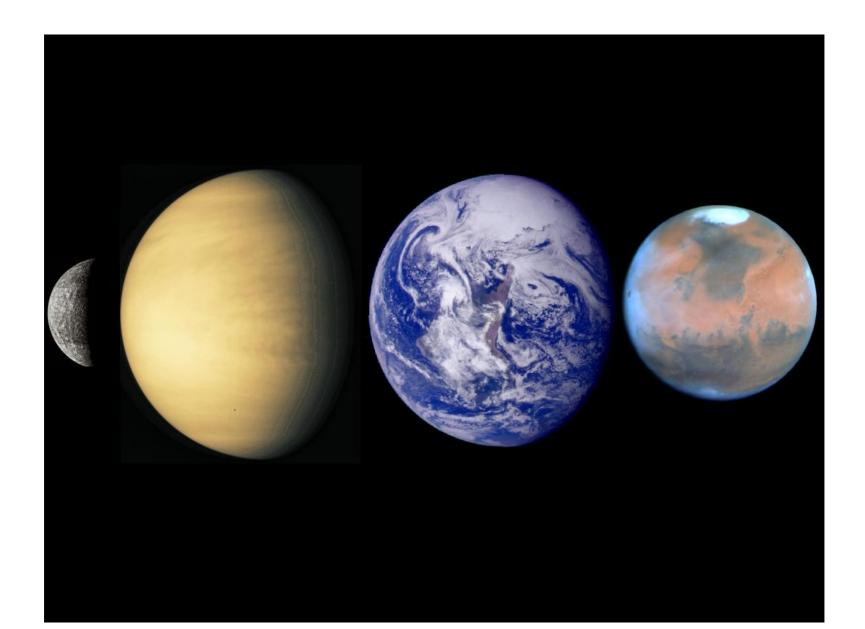
Test 1 on Monday (Feb 26) In class- bring a pencil- scantron



The Gas Giant Planets (Jovian and Neptunian). What are their common features in contrast to the Terrestrial planets?

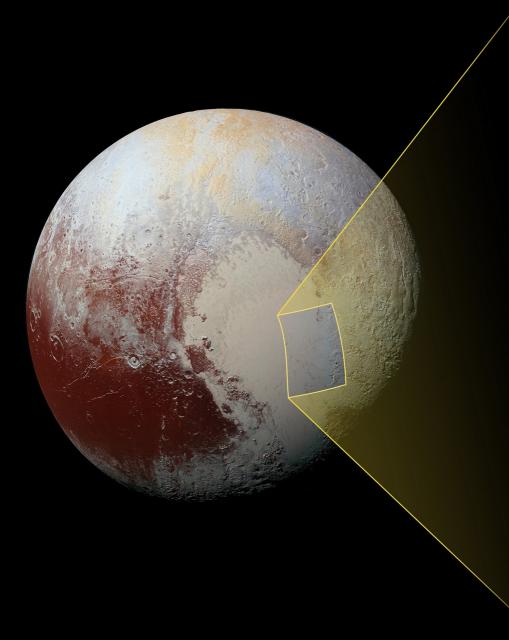


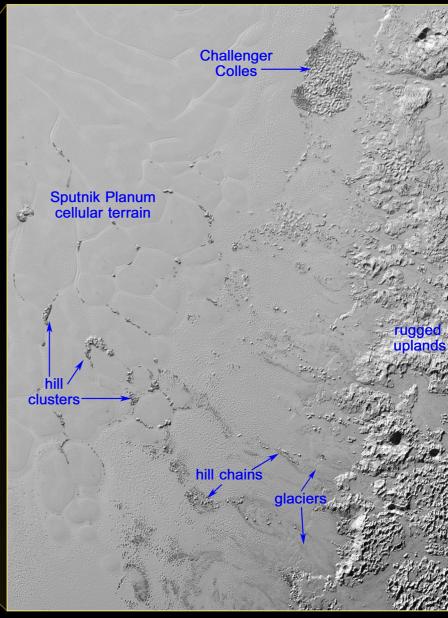
# What are the common features of the Terrestrial planets in contrast to the Jovian ones?

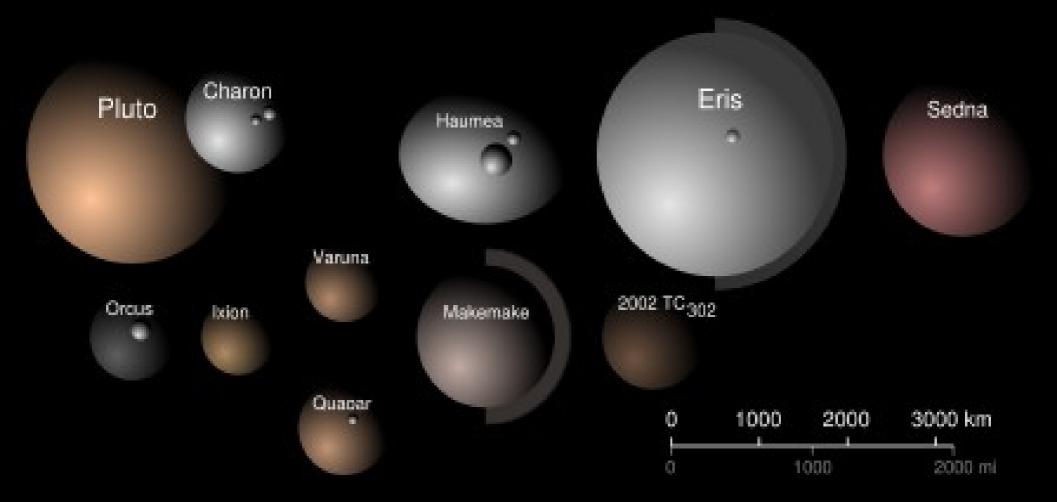


## Pluto and its moon Charon

### Convective nitrogen ice.







## Dwarf planets

### Asteroids and comets

These are smaller objects in our solar system.



Important point: Asteroids indicate a transition from the inner solar system, which is rocky, to the outer solar system, which is colder, and therefore icy.

#### Asteroids and comets

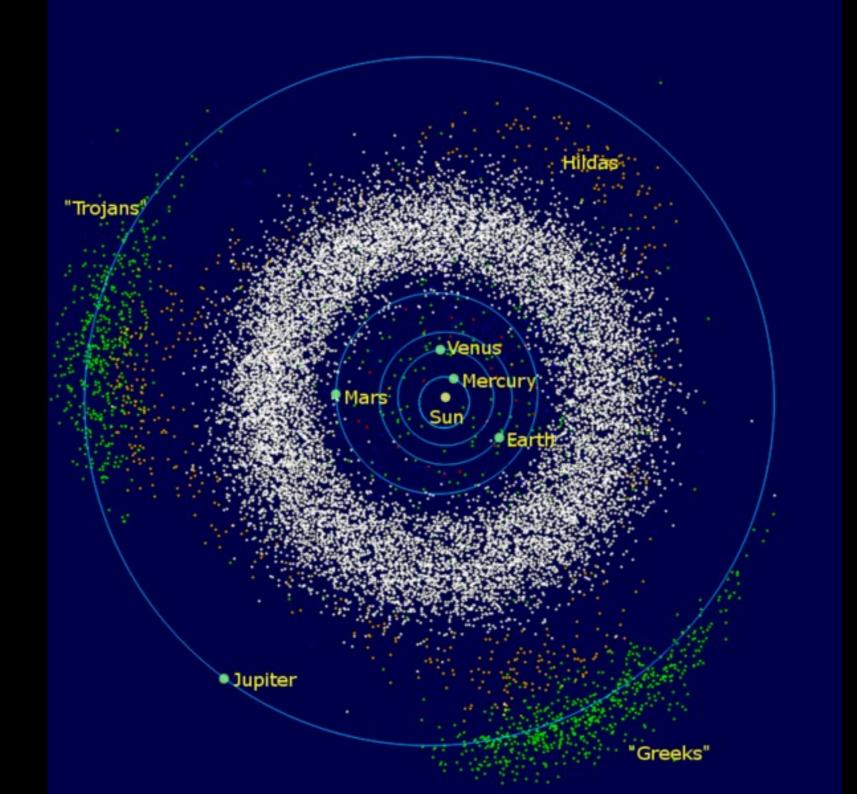
Most asteroids are between Mars and Jupiter (2.1-3.4AU). There are

3 types:

-At the inside of the asteroid belt (2.1AU-2.7AU) the asteroids are stony and metal-rich (like Earth rocks).

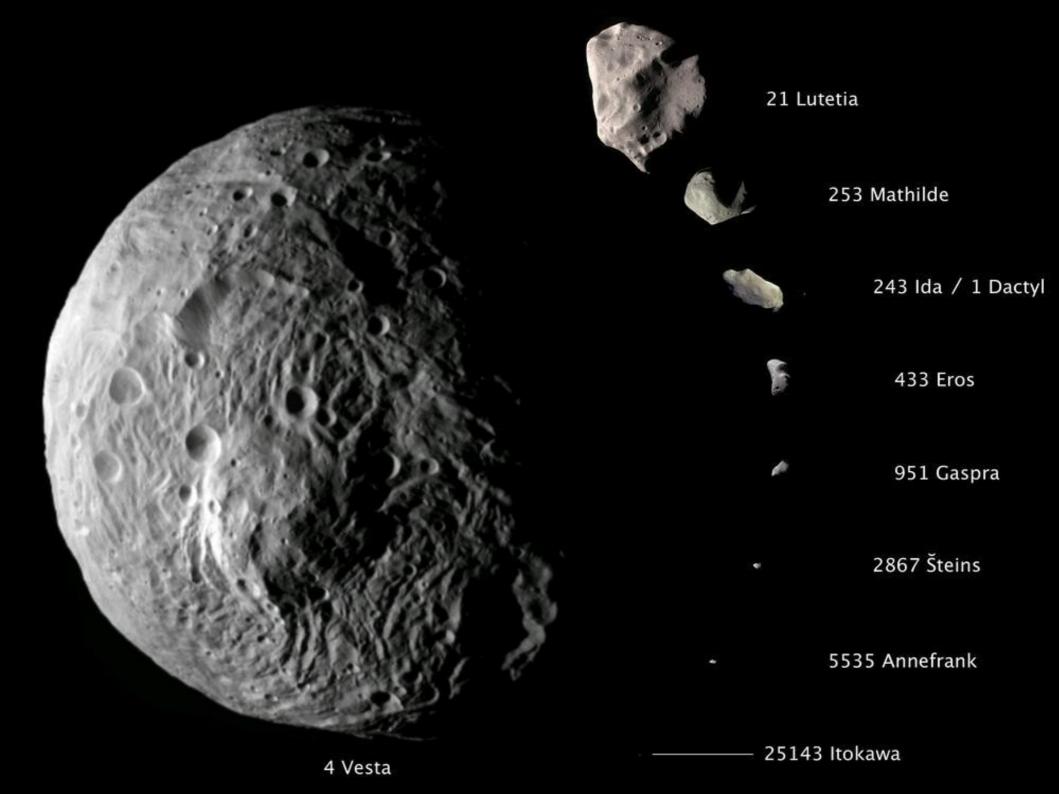
-Around 2.7AU, the asteroids become darker as they are carbon-rich.

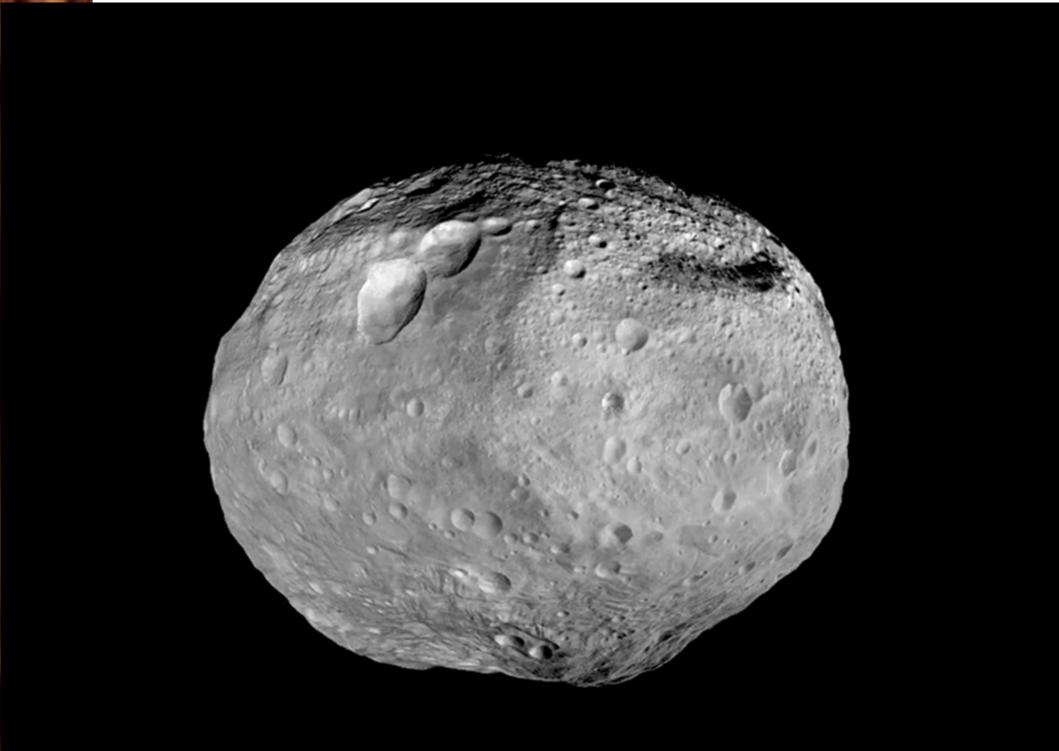
-Past 3 AU, they become dirty snowballs. They are less dense than asteroids closer to the Sun.



Unlike as advertised in the movies, the asteroid belt is not a crowded place. We fly spacecraft right through it. However, over the course of billions of years, many collisions have occurred between asteroids.







Important point: Comets provide the structure of the outer solar system beyond the planets.

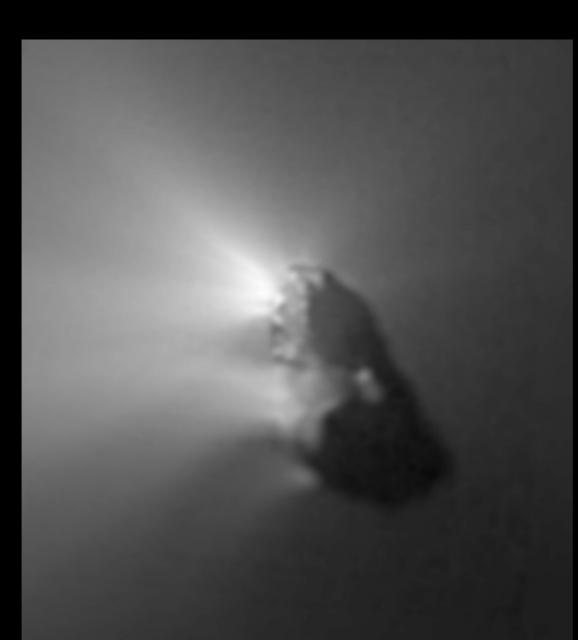
The Kuiper belt and furthest is called the Oort Cloud



#### Comets

Comets are dirty snowballs in space. As they get close to the Sun (within about 3AU), the water/carbon dioxide/formaldehyde ice (known as volatiles) begins to evaporate.

#### A comet consists of 3 parts: nucleus, coma, and tail (2).



Nucleus is small 5-20 miles across usually. This is where all the material is. As it heats up, "jets" of gas stream out.

# Gas, dust and ice from the nucleus become the coma: perhaps 1 million km across.

Tails can extend for up to an AU!2 kinds:1) Ion tail of charged particles2) Dust/gas tail.



2 varieties of comets:

 Short period- 50-400 year orbits. From Kuiper belt.
Orbit near ecliptic plane.

2) Long period- >500 years, but more typically thousands of years! From Oort cloud-10,000 to 100,000 AU! Orbits from any angle



Important point: Comets provide the structure of the outer solar system beyond the planets.

The Kuiper belt and furthest is called the Oort Cloud

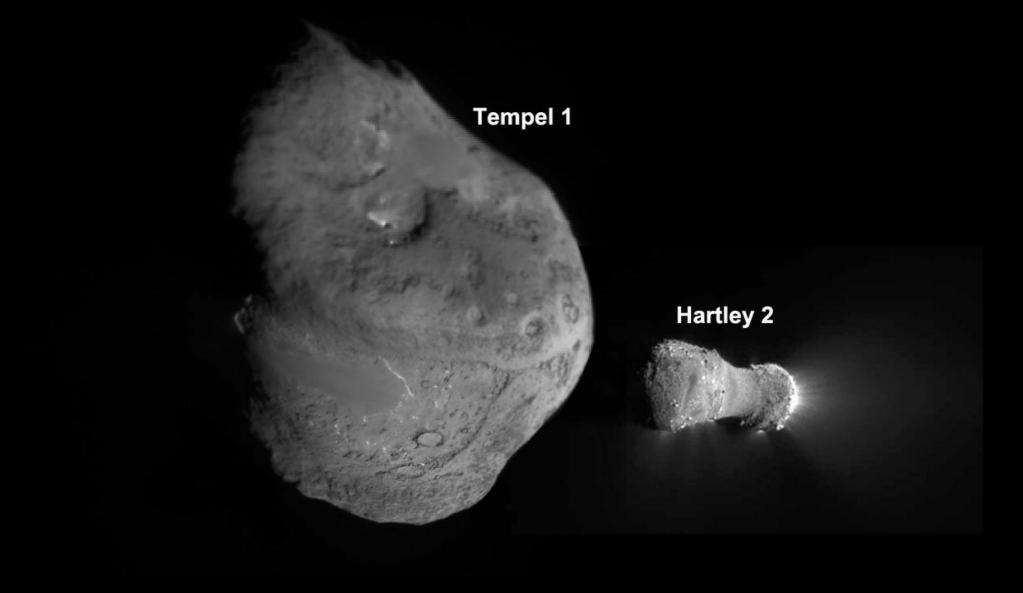


#### **Oordt Cloud**

## **Kuiper Belt**

M

#### Tempel 1: 14x4x4km. Hartley 2: 2.2x0.6x0.4 km



## Comet 67P/Churyumov-Gerasimenko

One last item to inventory: The Sun.

It spins prograde, is made mostly of H and then He, and contains 99.87% of the mass of our entire solar system!

## Quiz 4: which moon is your favorite?

A) Ours B) Io C) Europa D) Titan E) Enceladus F) Triton G) other

## Making our solar system

How did our solar system come to be?

We have to use observations as constraints.

What are the features of our solar system that help to describe how it came about?

## Solar system observations:

- We want to explain how our solar system came to be.
- To do this, we need observations to constrain our ideas.
  - List 3 observations that are properties of our solar system.

## Solar system observations:

- All planets orbit in the same direction and nearly on the same (ecliptic) plane.
- Nearly all planets and major moons spin (and orbit) in the same direction.
- Terrestrial planets are close to the Sun, Jovian planets are farther from the Sun.
- The asteroid belt goes from rocky to icy
- Short period comets orbit near the ecliptic plane, longer period comets orbit in any direction.
- Most massive object (Sun) at the center.

First, you need the raw material. **Giant molecular** cloud. This is a region many million times the size of our solar system: with many hundreds of times the mass of our solar system.

For various reasons, part of this cloud begins to collapse under its own weight.

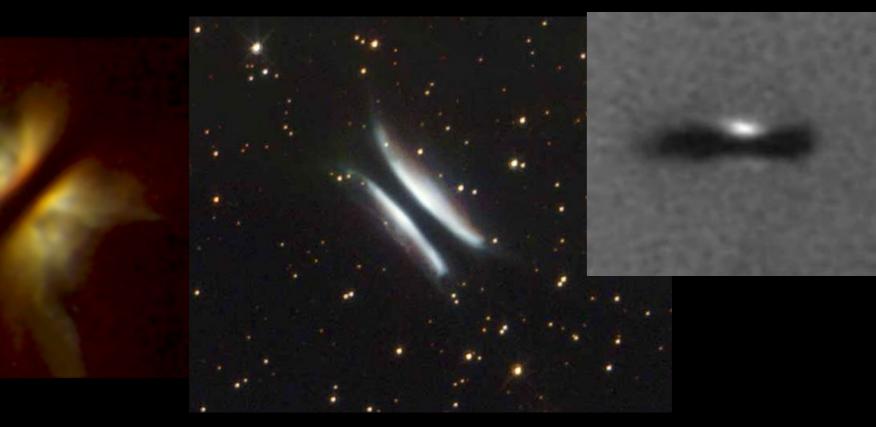
#### How to make a solar system!

The spherical clouds that are collapsing to form our Sun flattens to a disk (the Universe loves pancakes!) within a few million years. The disk spins from angular moment given by the Galaxy.





The collapsing cloud heats up (from converting gravitational energy to heat!) more towards the center of the disk (which is more concentrated) than the outside (which can also cool easier). Spins too!



The collapsing cloud heats up (from converting gravitational energy to heat!) more towards the center of the disk (which is thinner) than the outside (which can also cool easier). Spins too! As the nebula (disk) cools, elements like calcium, titanium and aluminum condense first, followed by iron, nickel, and silicates- the stuff we call rocks. But here they condense into tiny particles- like smoke or dust particles.

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These elements are cool enough to "stick" together when they meet. Forming dust up to 1cm in size.

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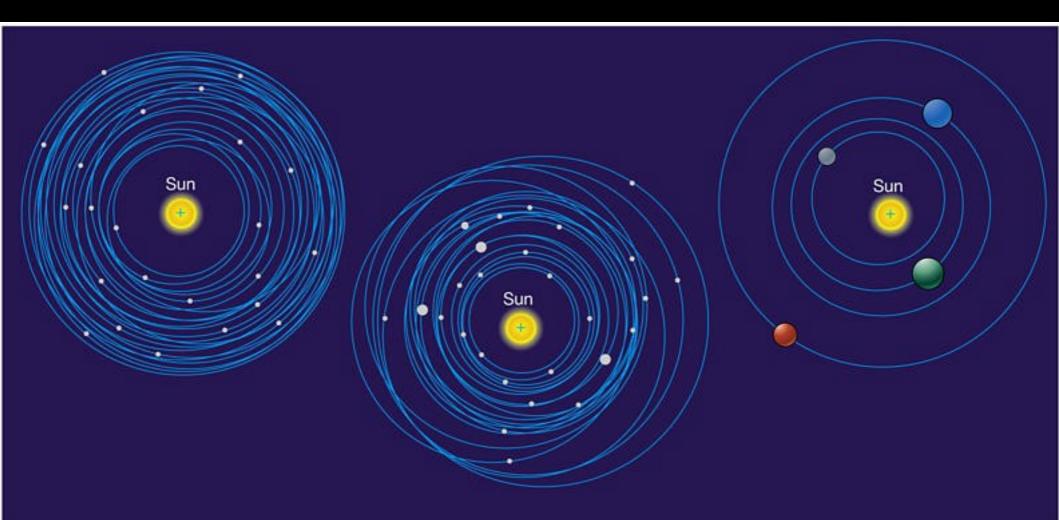
These elements are cool enough to "stick" together when they meet. Forming dust up to 1cm in size.

These dust particles begin to collide with each other, making rocks up to 1km in size.

#### **Terrestrial Planets**

At this point, we have to separate the Terrestrial planets from the Jovian planets.

The inner solar system remained too hot for ices to condense. The rocks were left to collide with each other. The biggest rocks began to methodically sweep up the smaller rocks in their orbital regions. Eventually the largest rocks, now planets, solidified and the remaining small rocks (now asteroids) pelted the surfaces of the planets, further removing asteroids from the inner solar system.



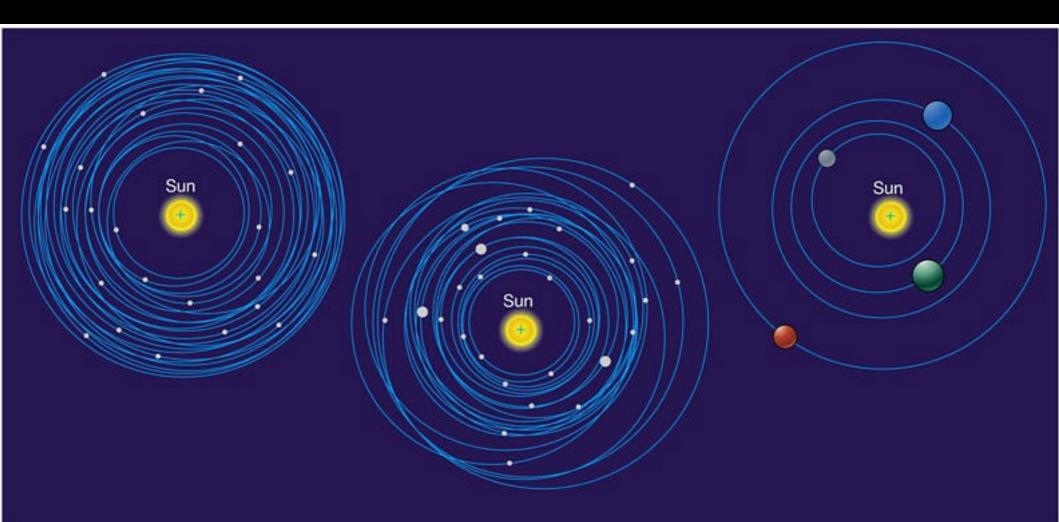
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Finally, comets, flung inward from the outer solar system, enriched the water supply (also from volcanoes). Earth and Mars are cool enough to keep this water.

# Terrestrial planets: pebbles $\rightarrow$ rocks $\rightarrow$ boulders $\rightarrow$ planetessimals $\rightarrow$ planets (NO ICE)



## Jovian Planets

When we left off, km size rocks were floating amongst the gas and dust of the outer nebular (disk). It becomes cool enough for ice (water, ammonia) to form on the rocks and dust, condensing out of the nebula.

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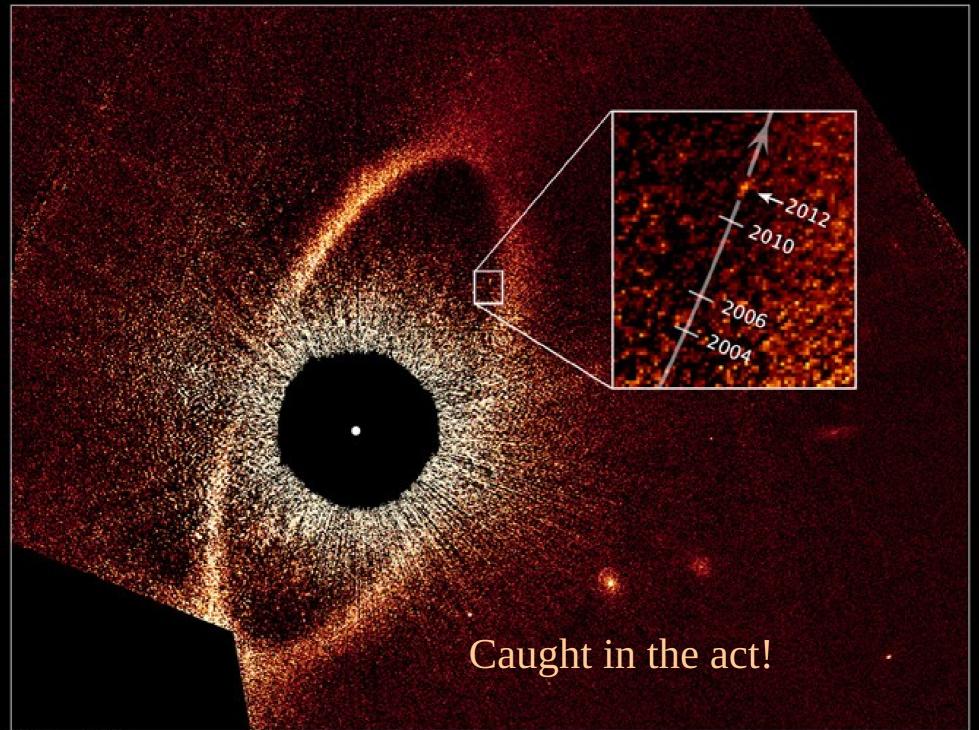
This drastically increases the size and amount of solid objects flying around. These solid bodies quickly collide, and sweep up other solid objects, becoming several times the mass of the Earth.

The largest objects now have enough gravity that gas in the nebula (disk) cannot escape and becomes bound to the planet. This creates huge, massive atmospheres.

#### Gas giant Planets

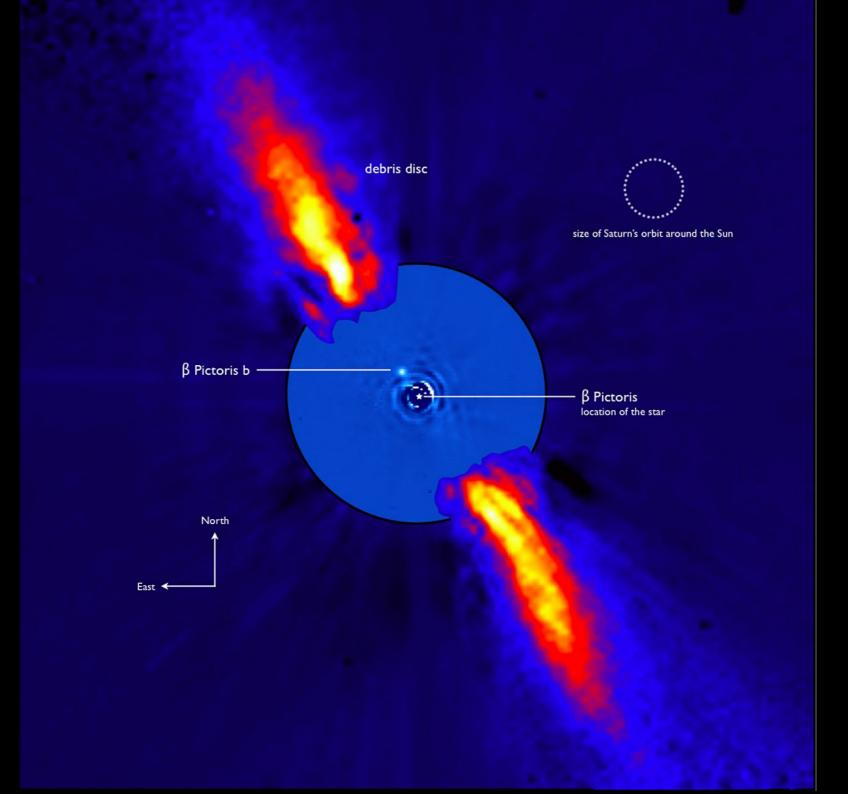
Pebbles  $\rightarrow$  boulders  $\rightarrow$  +ice  $\rightarrow$  massive cores  $\rightarrow$  +H  $\rightarrow$  massive planets.

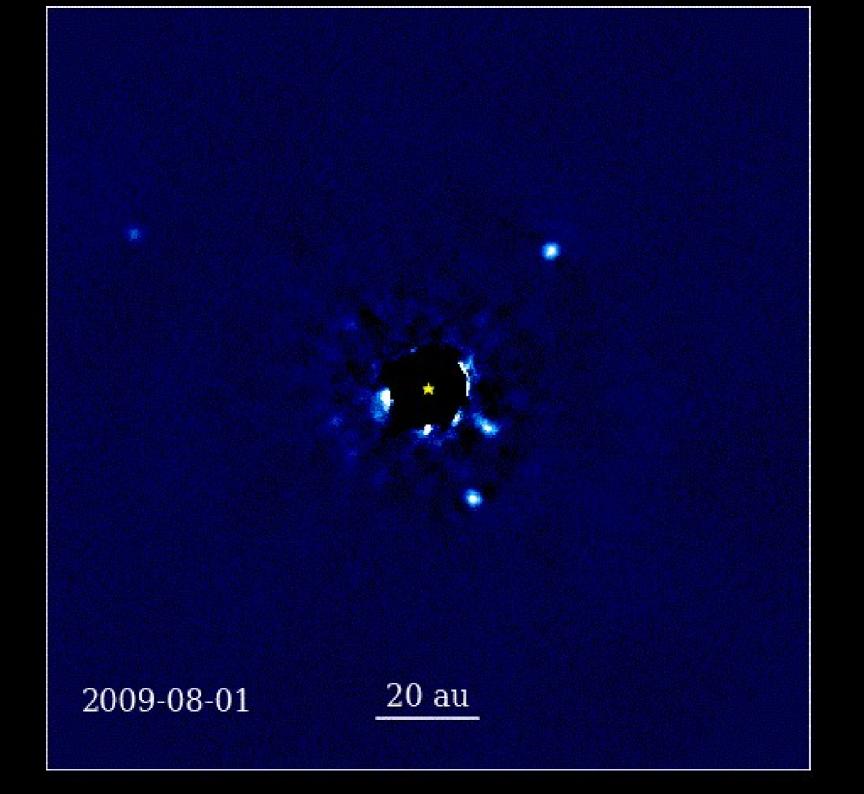
Option 2: A 'swirl' in the disk collapse altogether to form a gas giant planet in 1 step.



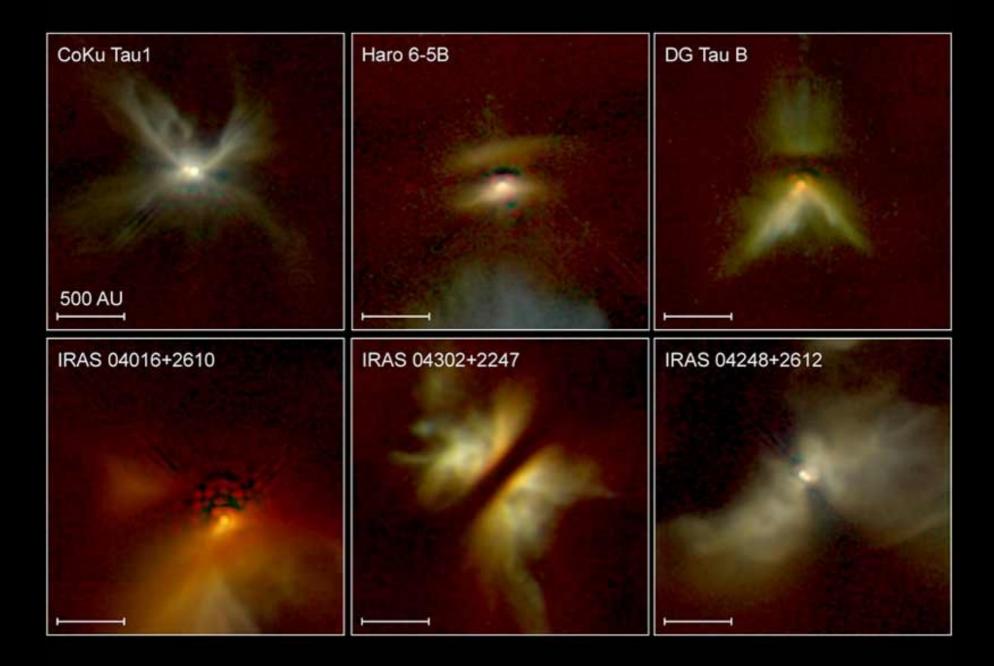
NASA and ESA

STScI-PRC13-01a





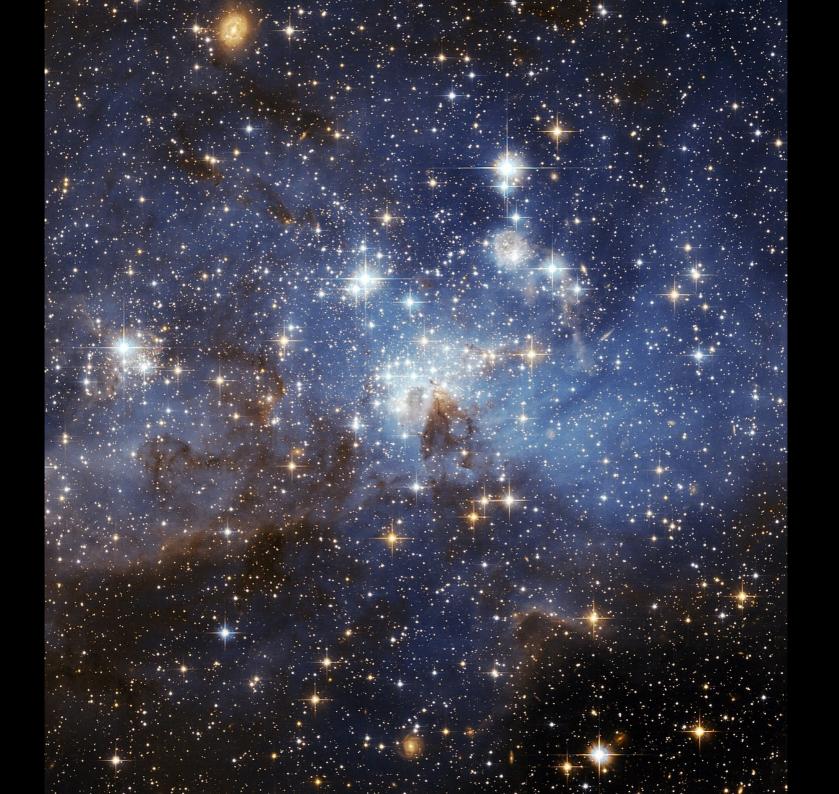
Meanwhile... in the Sun.... It has been slowly contracting and getting hotter. When the center reaches about 1 million Kelvin, nuclear fusion begins.

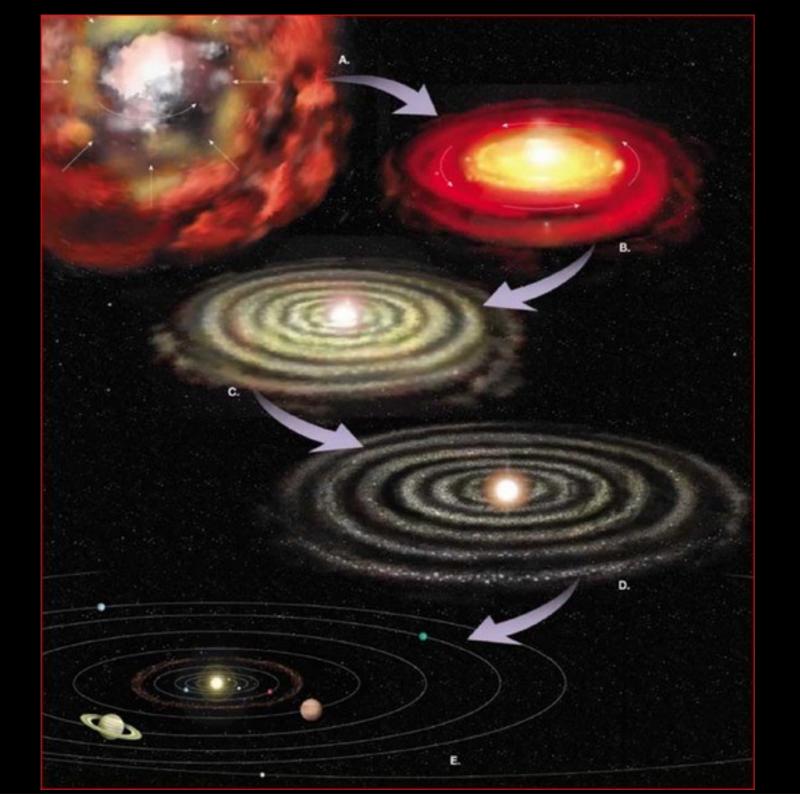


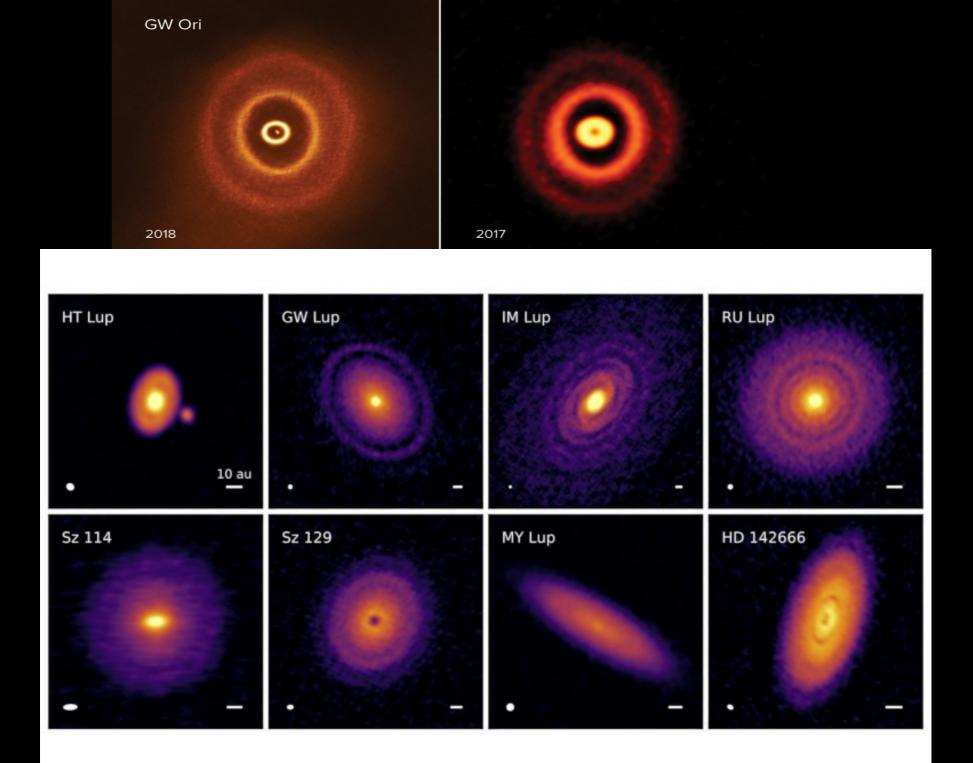
## Clean up.

Once fusion in the Sun begins, any remaining gas gets blown away, back into the galaxy.

Over time, remaining asteroids, comets, and other bits gravitationally interact with larger bits- either being ejected or swallowed.





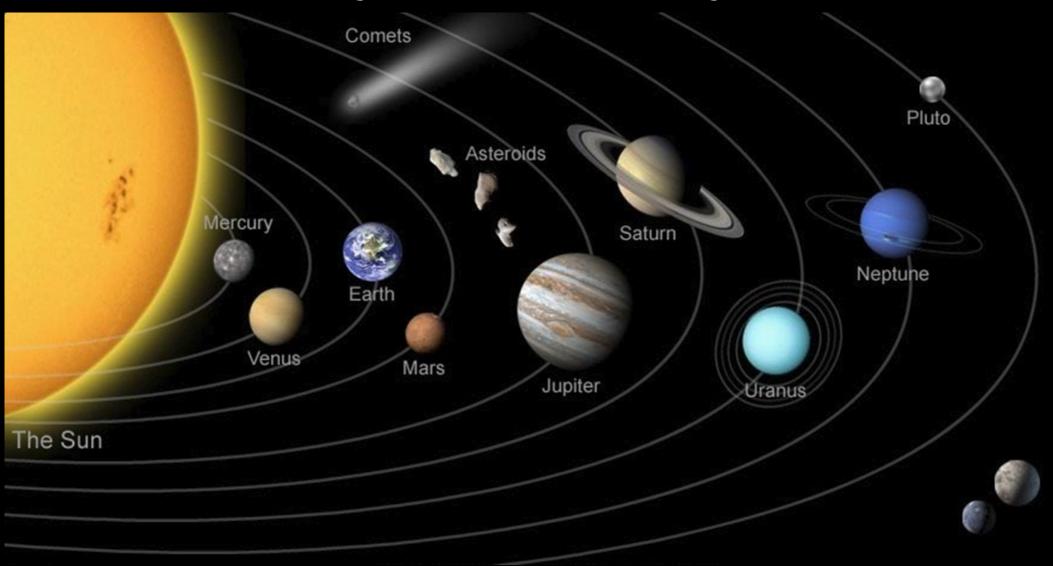


The entire solar system was forming together, at the same time.

It took roughly 50-100 million years in total.

The solar system is now 4,600 million years old.

## Our very ordered solar system.



Terrestrial planets form close to stars, where it is warm. Gas giants must form past the ice line, to gain sufficient mass to hold H.