

EARTH 351 FORMING A HABITABLE PLANET

Seth Stein & Donna Jurdy



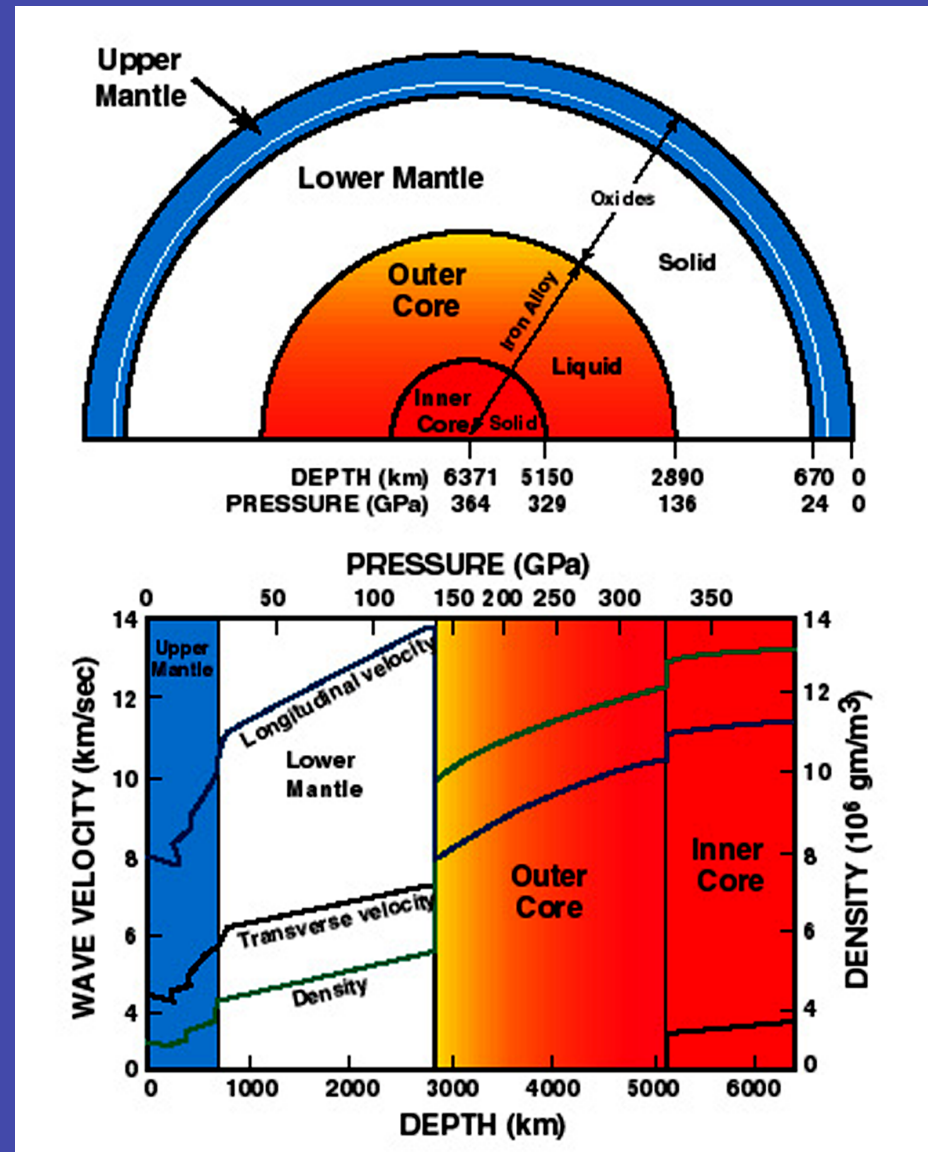
Are
We
Alone?

Why is Earth habitable, but not Venus and Mars?



To explore what conditions make planets habitable,
start with the most familiar case (which we
don't fully understand)

EARTH'S COMPOSITION AND THERMAL STRUCTURE CONTROL ITS DYNAMICS & EVOLUTION



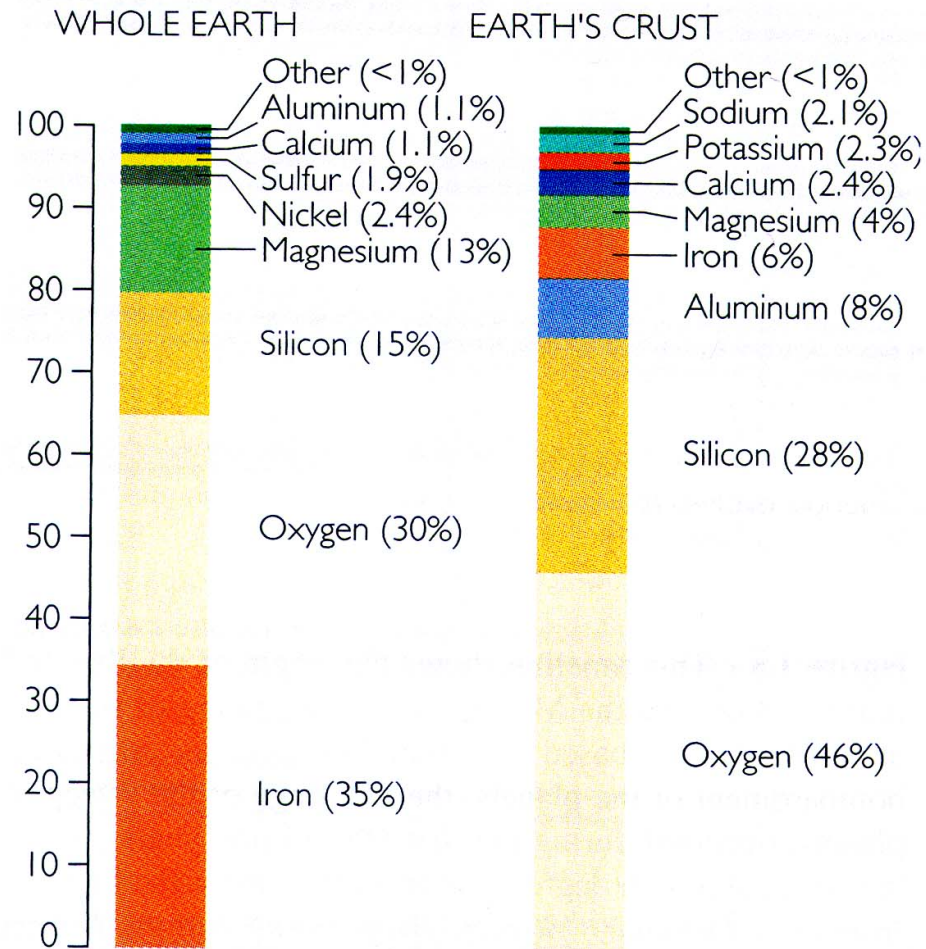
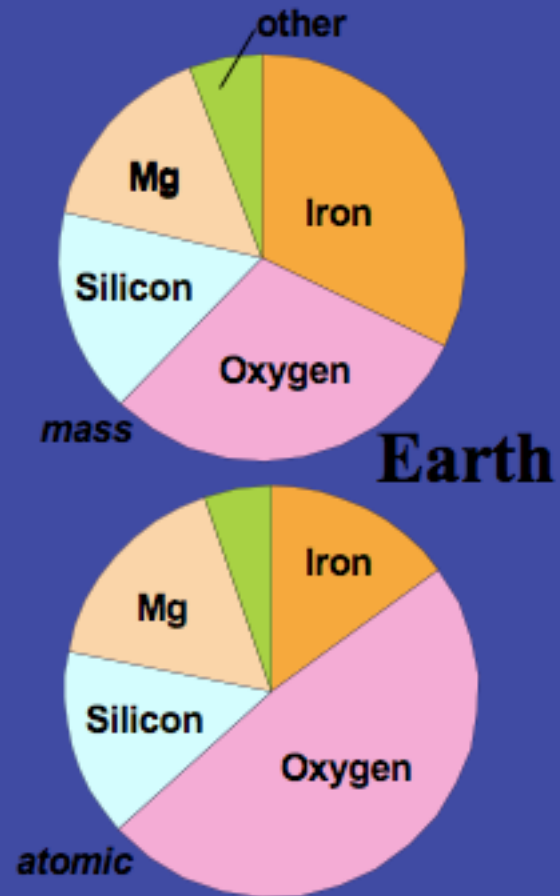
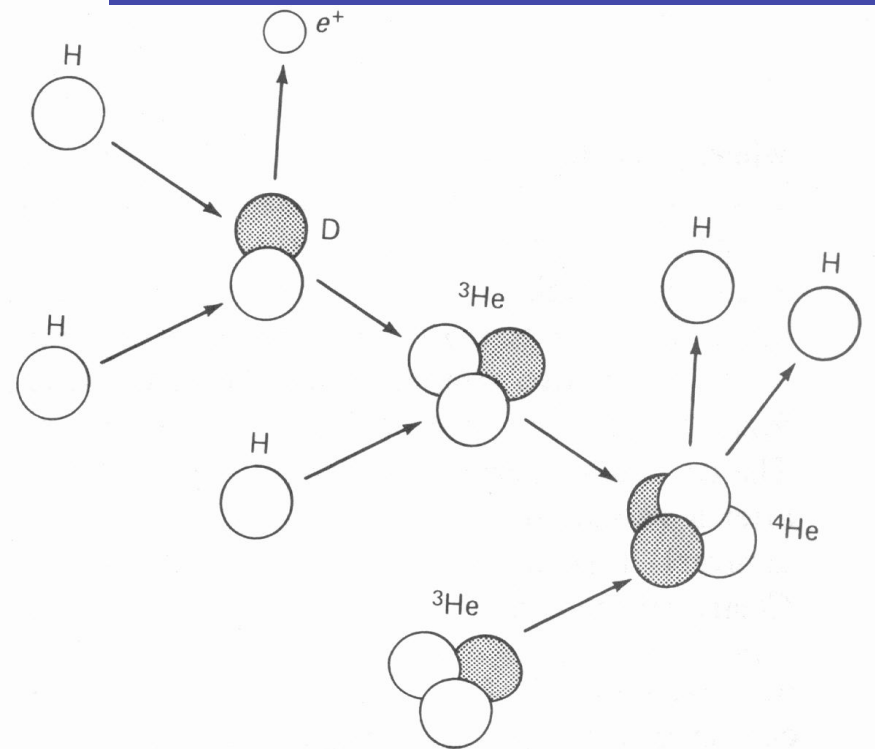
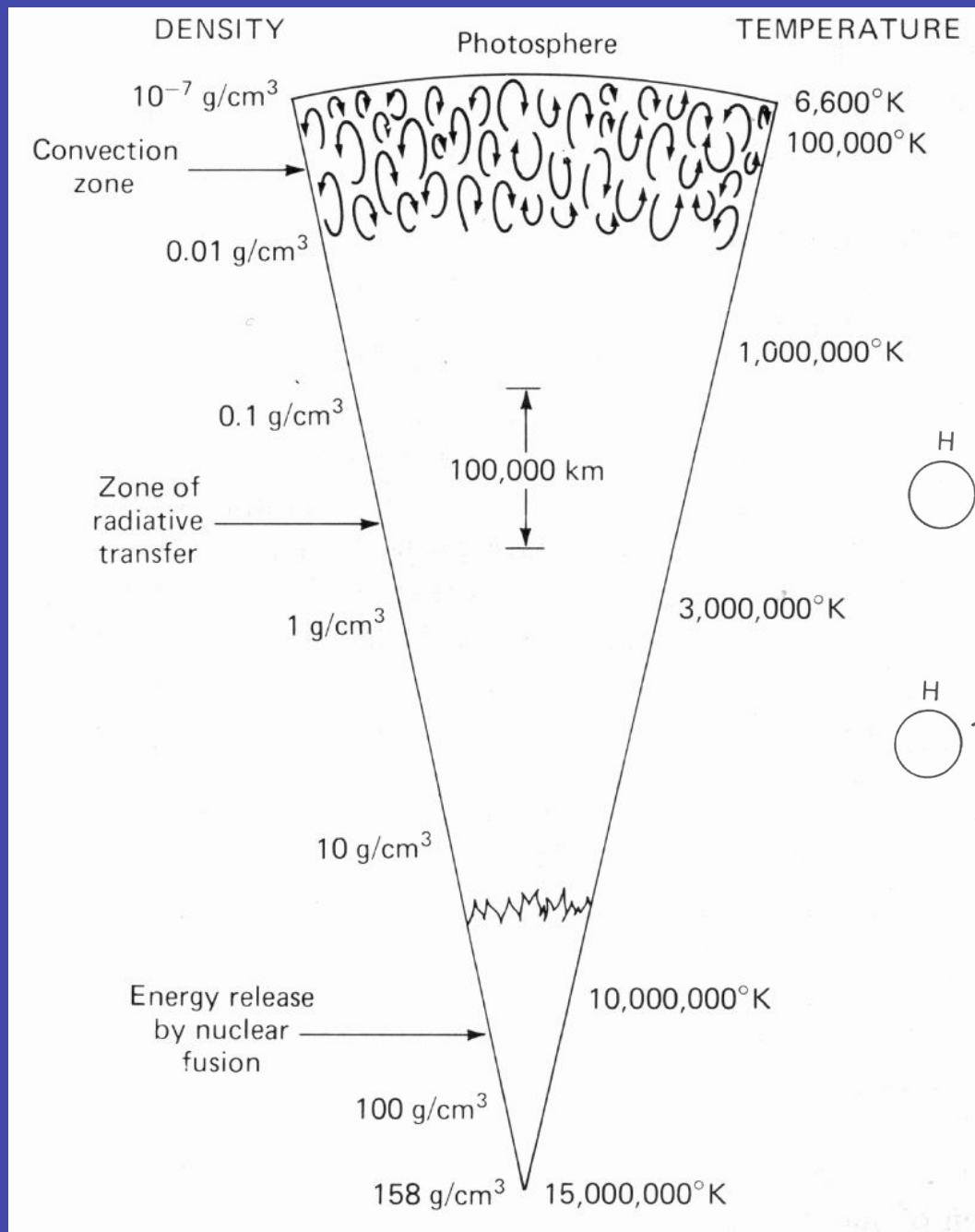
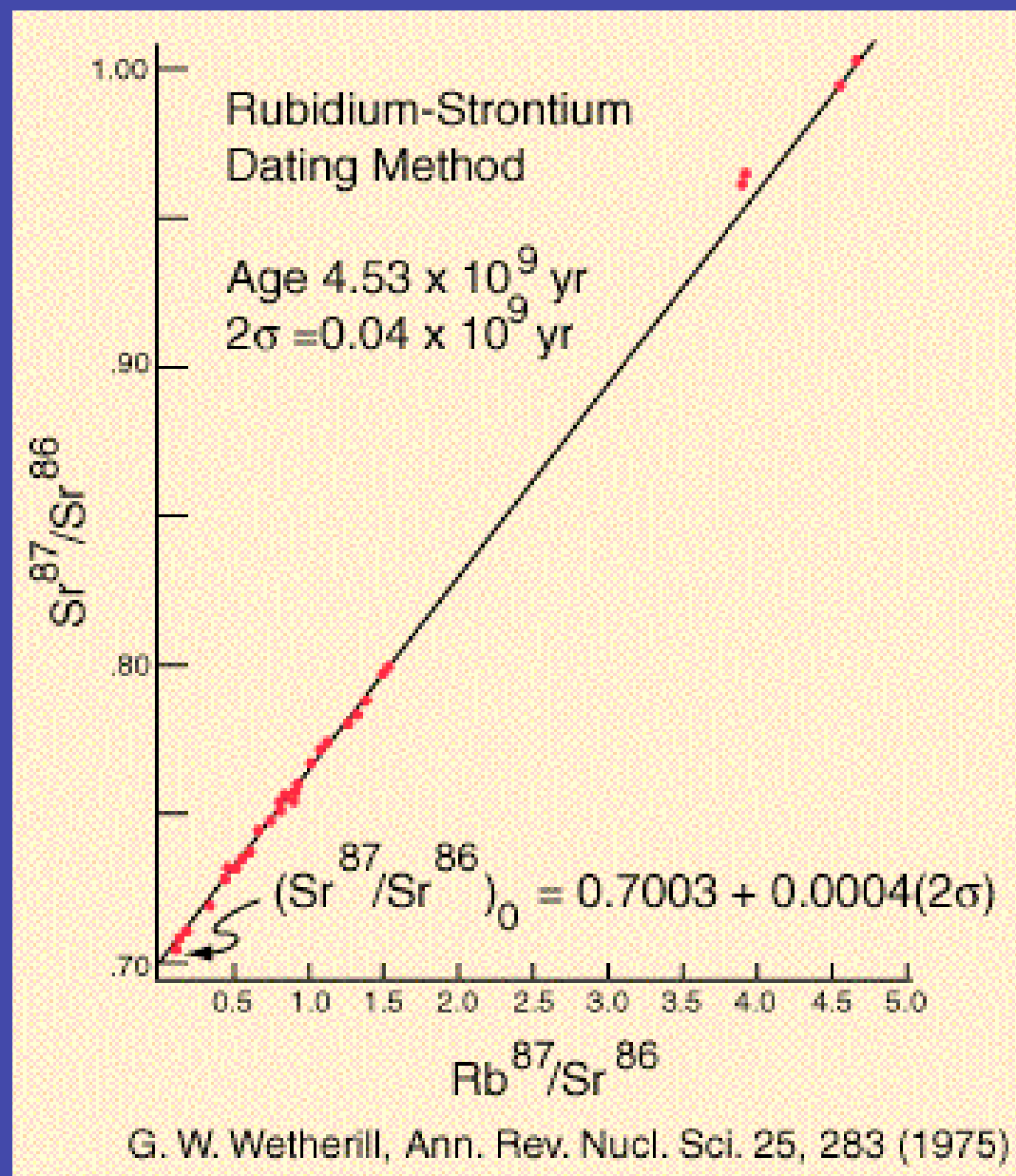
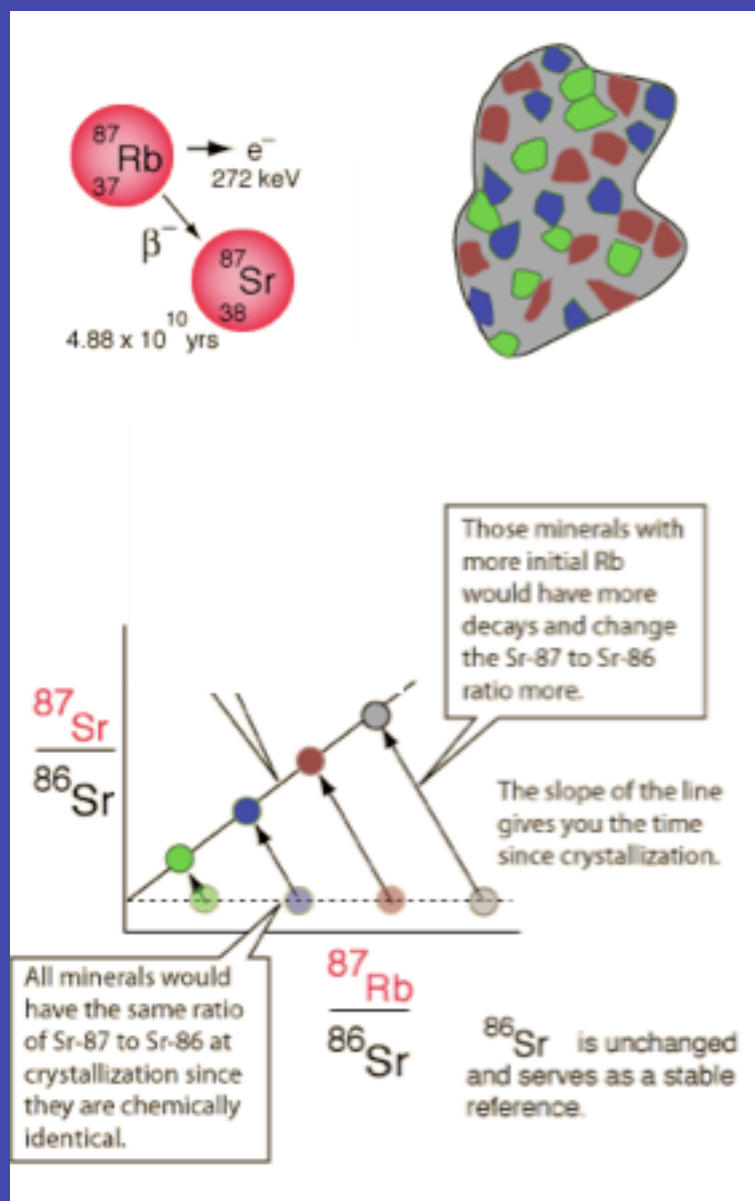


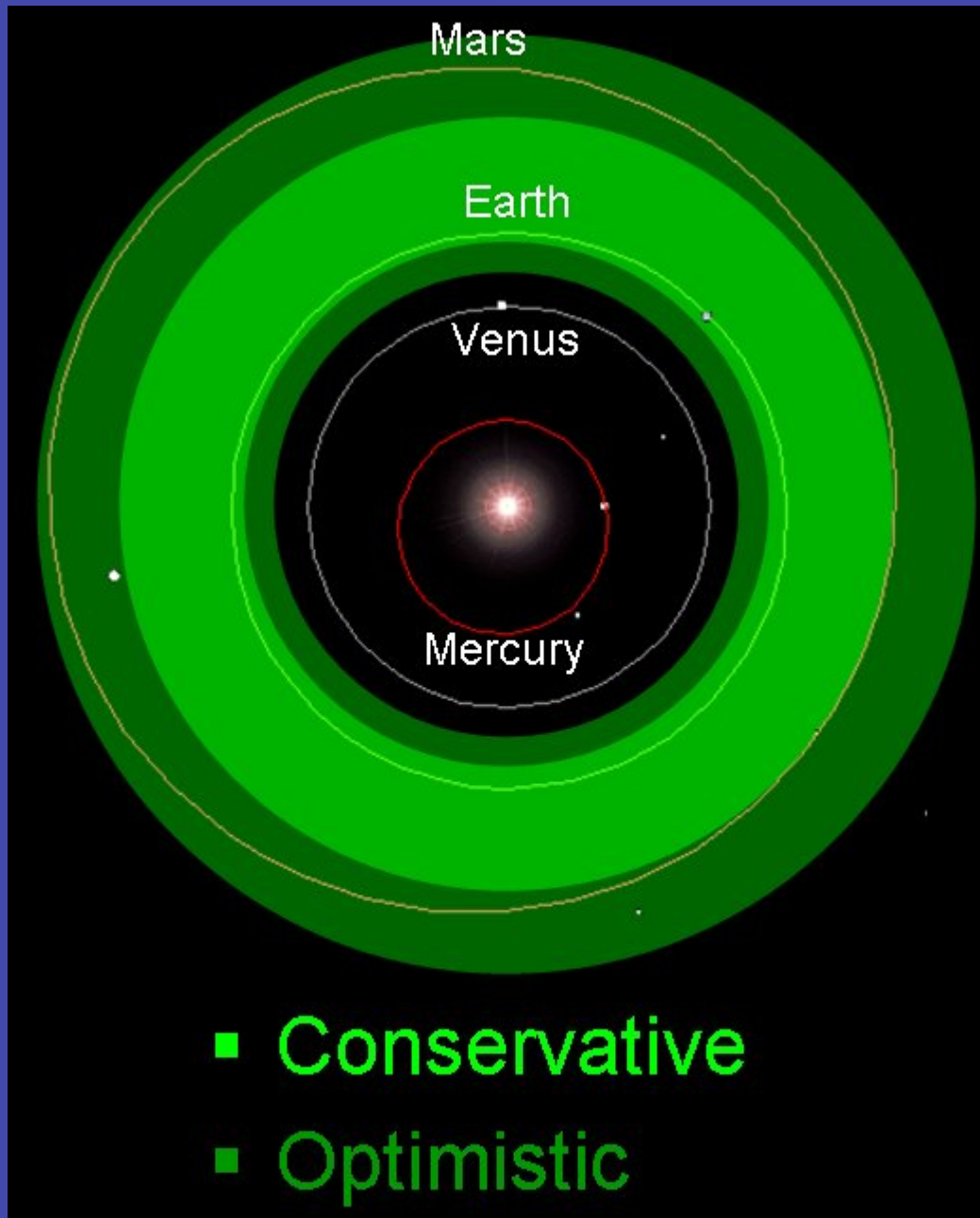
Figure 1.7 The relative abundance of elements in the whole Earth compared with that of elements in Earth's crust, given as percentages by weight. Differentiation has created a light crust, depleted of iron and rich in oxygen, silicon, aluminum, calcium, potassium, and sodium. About 90 percent of Earth consists of only four elements: iron, oxygen, silicon, and magnesium. Note also that oxygen, silicon, and aluminum alone account for more than 80 percent of the crust.



Press & Siever



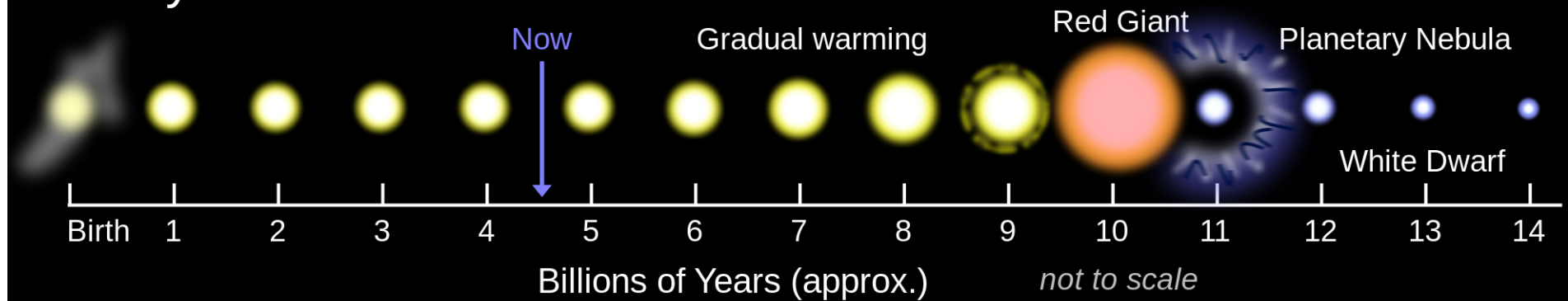




Habitable Zone Today

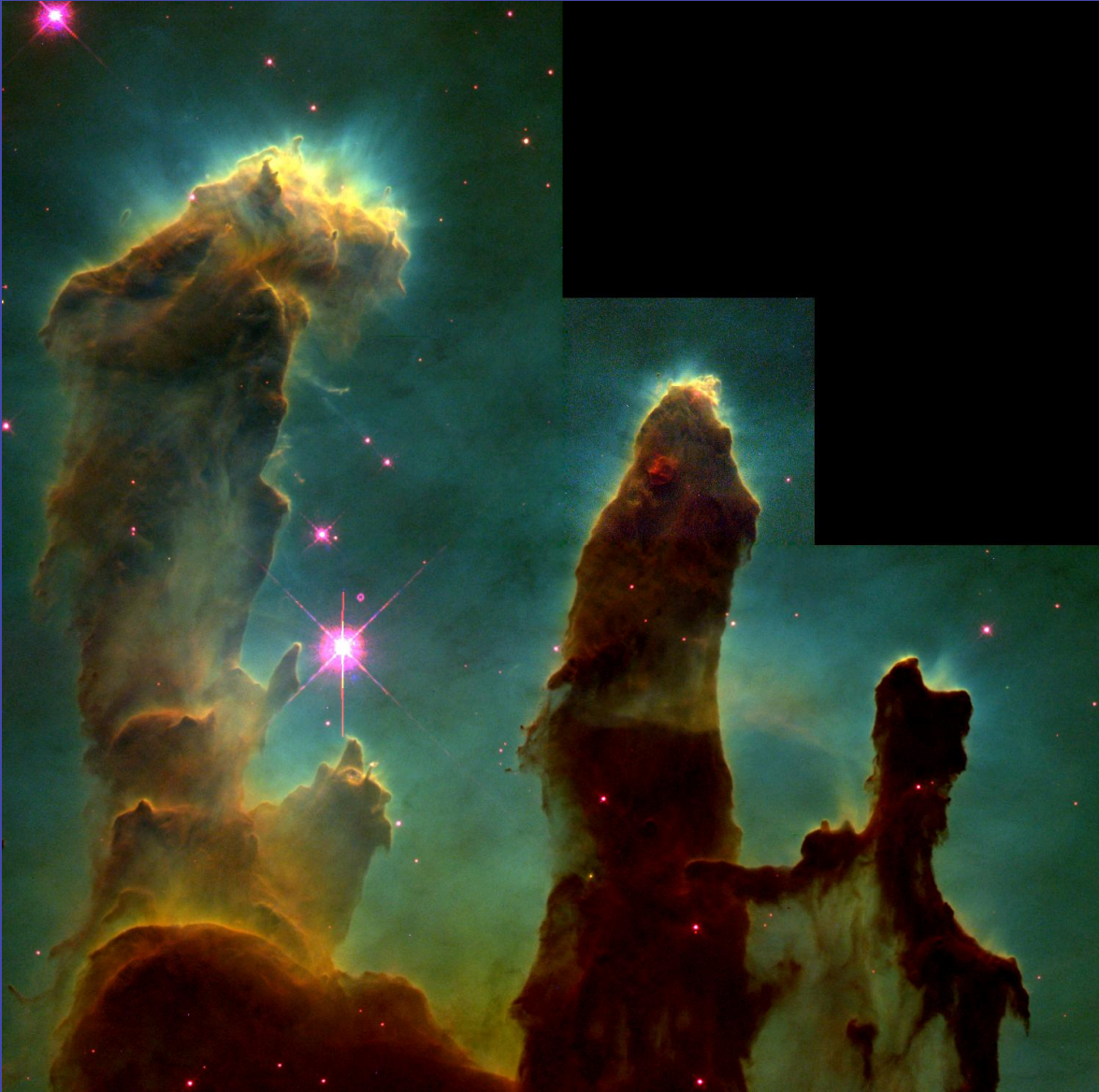
<http://www.astronomy.ohio-state.edu/~thompson/161/HabitableZone.jpg>

Life Cycle of the Sun

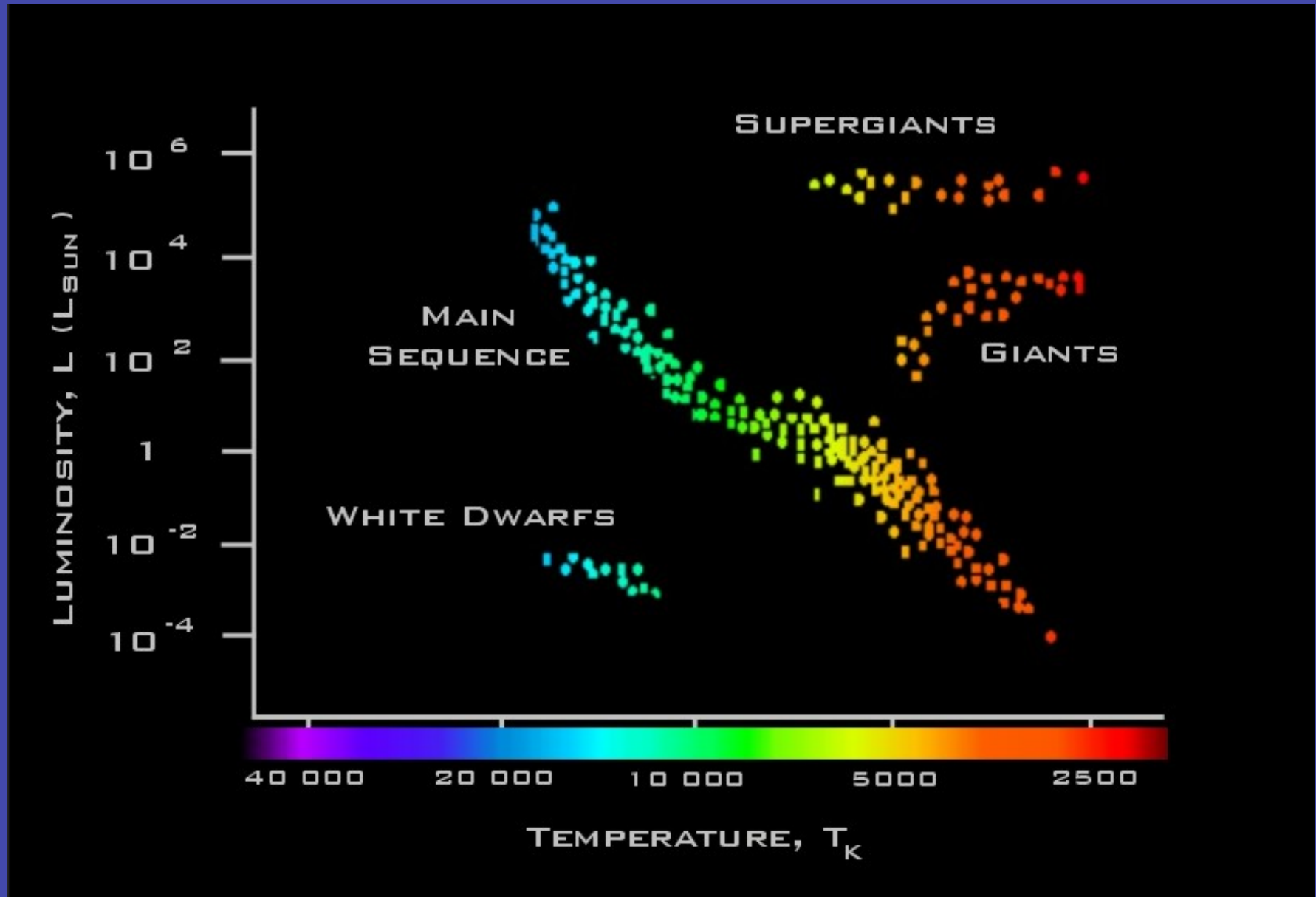


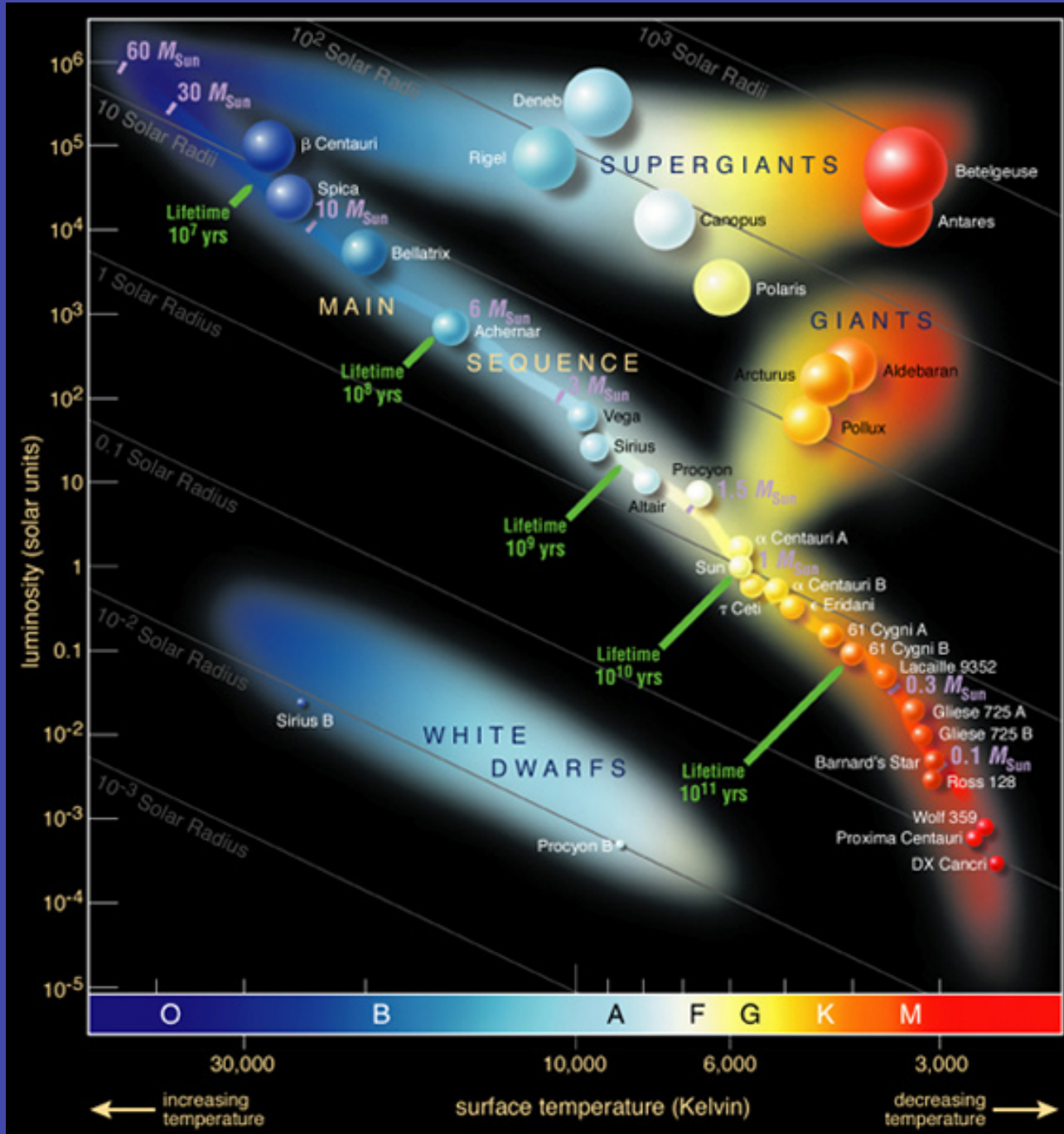
http://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/thumb/5/55/Solar_Life_Cycle.svg/2000px-Solar_Life_Cycle.svg.png

Star birth in Eagle Nebula



Hertzsprung-Russell diagram





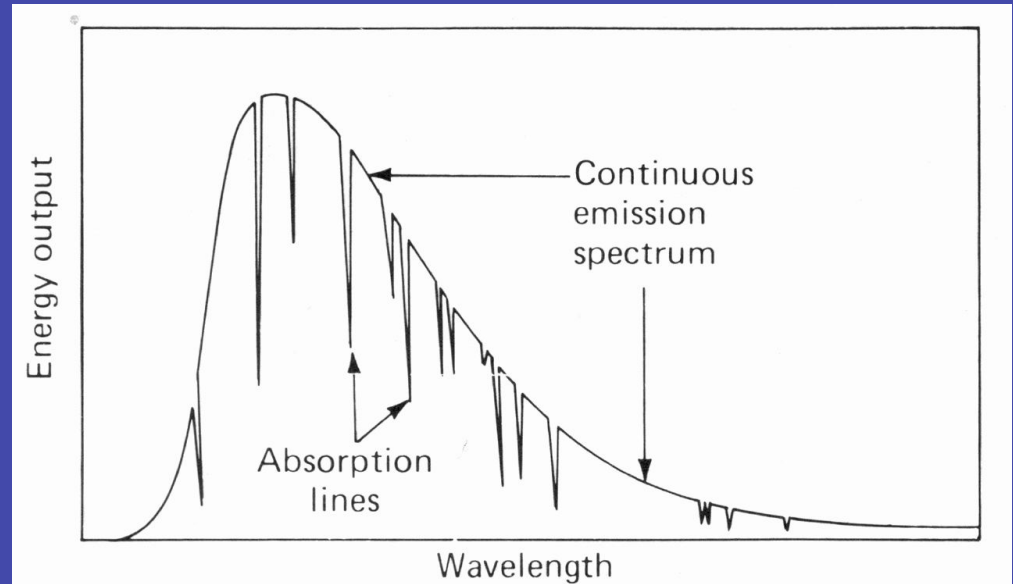
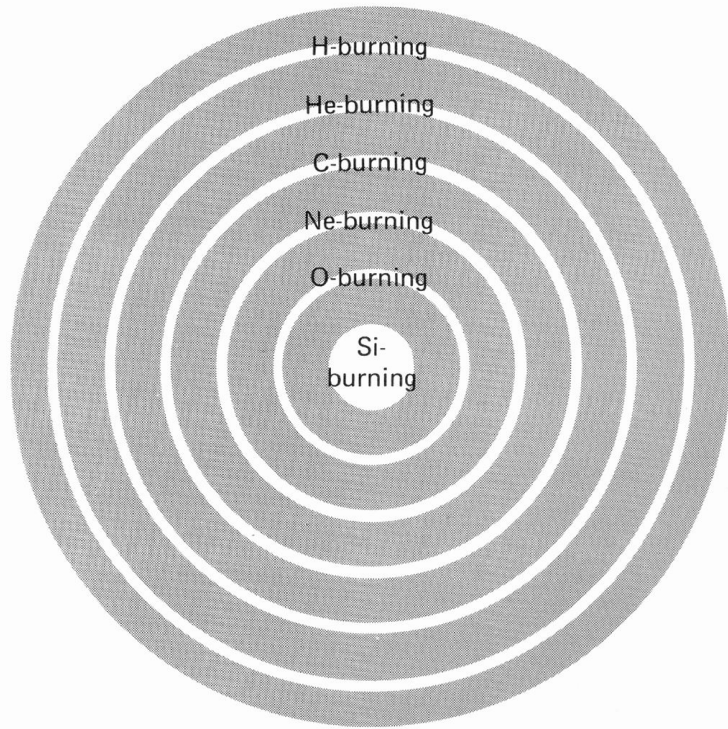


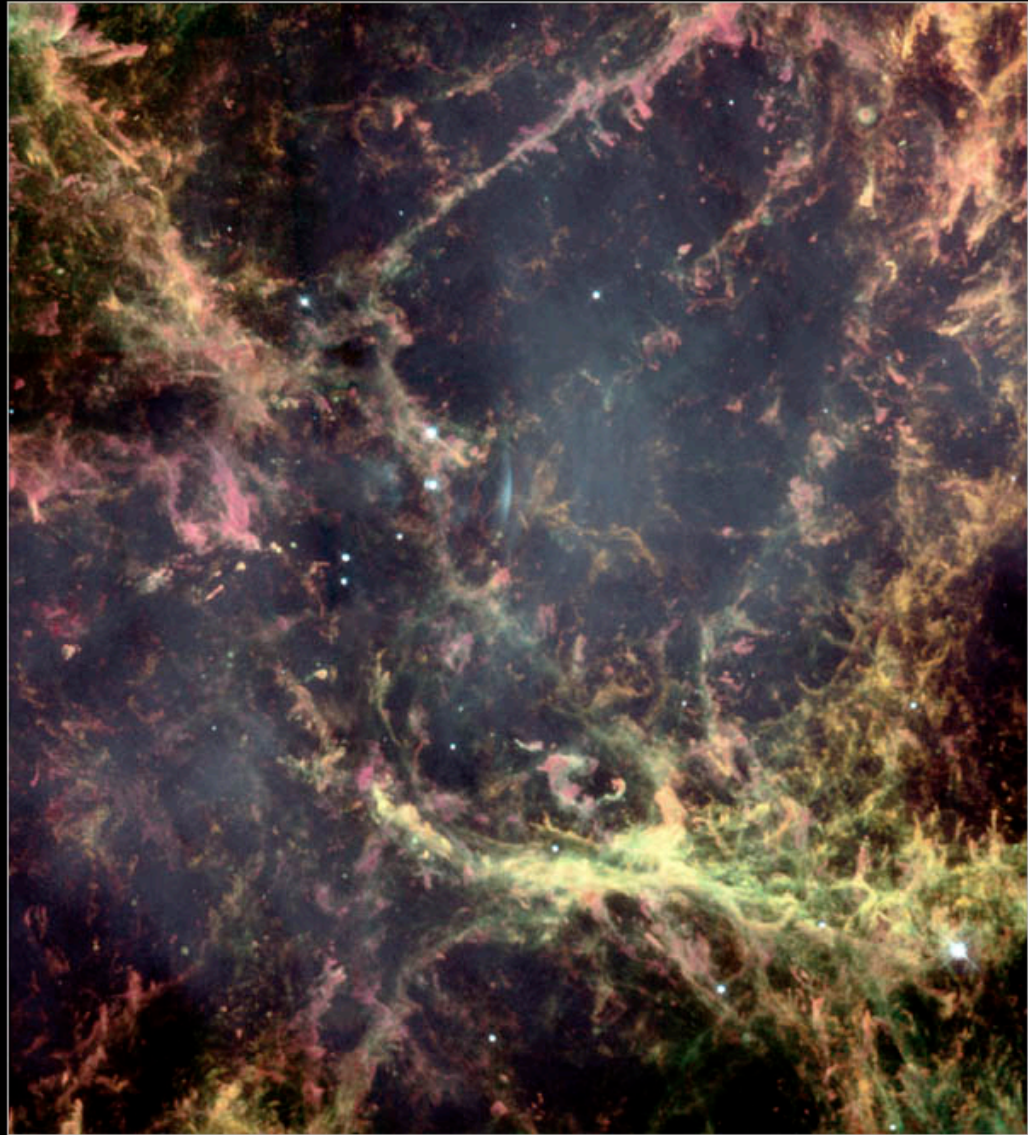
Table 6-1 Stages of Nuclear Energy Generation

Name of Process	Fuel	Products	Approximate Temperature ($^{\circ}\text{K}$)
HYDROGEN-BURNING	H	He	$1-3 \times 10^7$
HELIUM-BURNING	He	C, O	2×10^8
CARBON-BURNING	C	O, Ne, Na, Mg	8×10^8
NEON-BURNING	Ne	O, Mg	1.5×10^9
OXYGEN-BURNING	O	Mg to S	2×10^9
SILICON-BURNING	Mg to S	Elements near Fe	3×10^9

From A. G. W. Cameron, 1976, in Frontiers of Astrophysics, E. H. Avrett ed. (Harvard University Press), 554 pp.

CRAB NEBULA -
the remnant of a
star about 10
times the mass
of our sun that in
1054 exploded
as a supernova

Crab Nebula



Hubble
Heritage

PRC00-15 • Space Telescope Science Institute • NASA and The Hubble Heritage Team (STScI/AURA)



HST image of the Orion Nebula, located in the same spiral arm of our Galaxy, showing five young stars surrounded by gas and dust trapped as the stars formed, that might evolve to planets.

The nebula flattens

Brown & Mussett

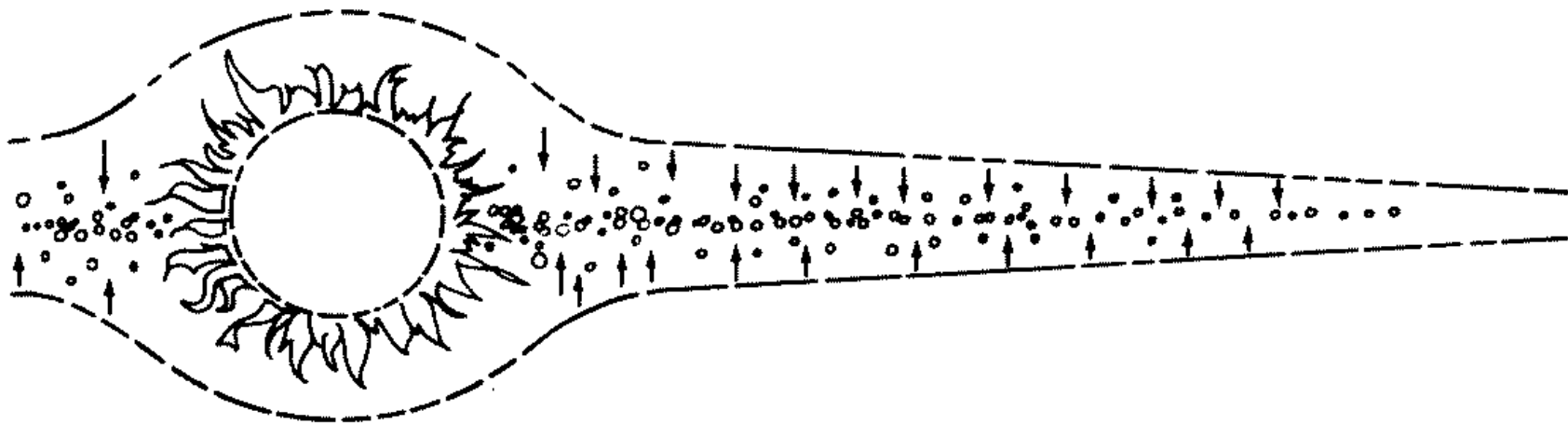
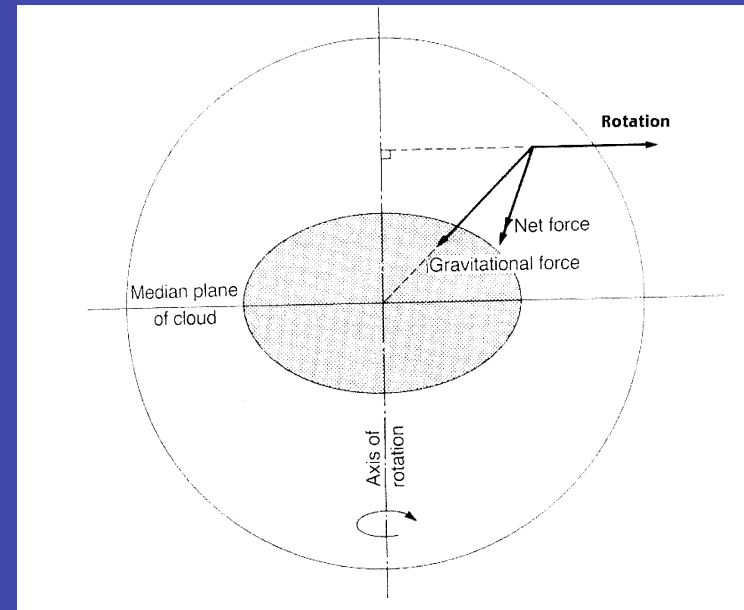


FIG. 7-8 Motion of solid particles, drawn by gravitational attraction of the nebula and protosun toward the midplane of the nebula (schematic).

COSMIC DUST BUNNIES

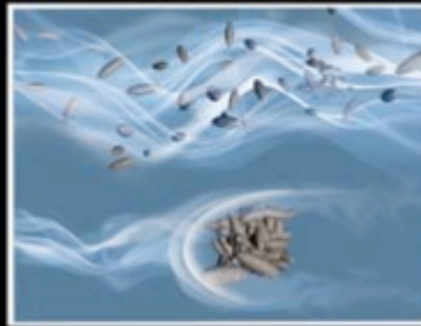
Even the mightiest planets have humble roots: as micron-size dust grains (the ashes of long-dead stars) embedded in a swirling disk of gas. The disk's temperature falls with distance from

the newborn star, defining a "snow line" beyond which water stays frozen. In our solar system, the snow line marks the boundary between the inner rocky planets and outer gas giants.

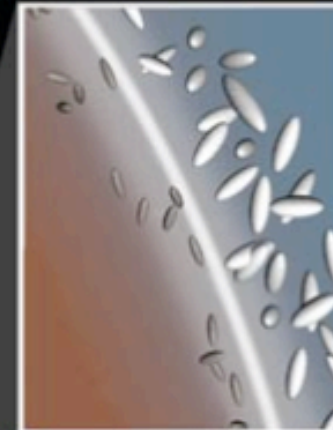
- 1 Grains collide, clump and grow.



- 2 Small grains are swept along by the gas, but those larger than a millimeter experience a drag force and spiral in.



- 3 At the snow line, local conditions are such that the drag force reverses direction. Grains tend to accumulate and readily coagulate into larger bodies called planetesimals.



Disk of gas and dust

2-4 AU

Protosun

Snow line

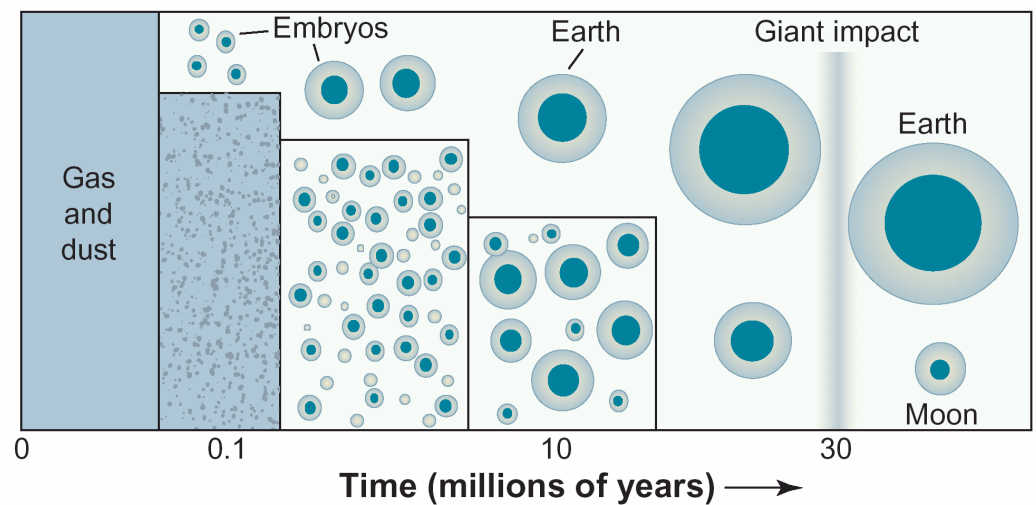
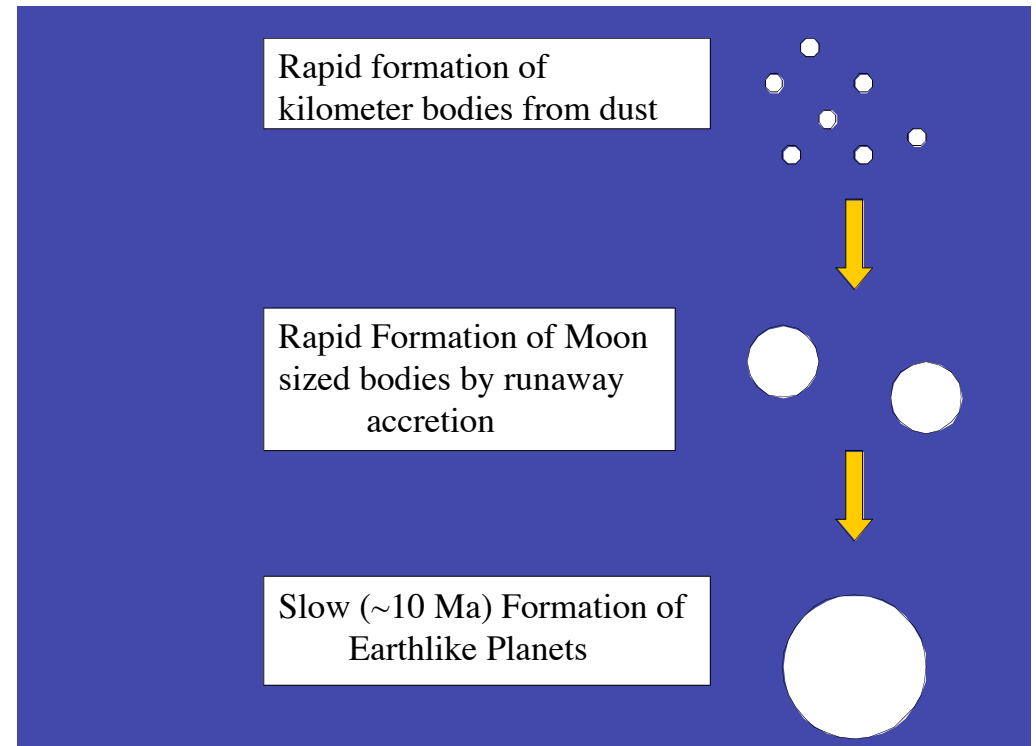
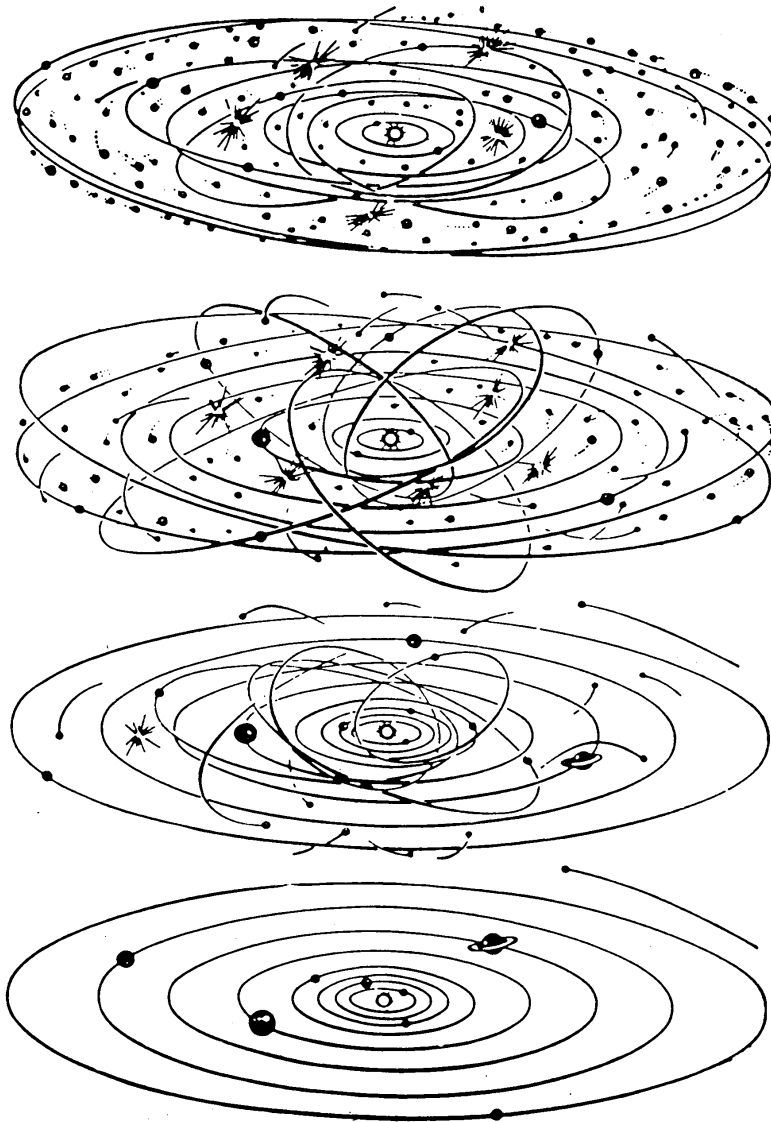
Dust spirals inward

PLANETESIMAL ACCRETION





COURTESY LARRY BLOCHER/JOHN IREPORT



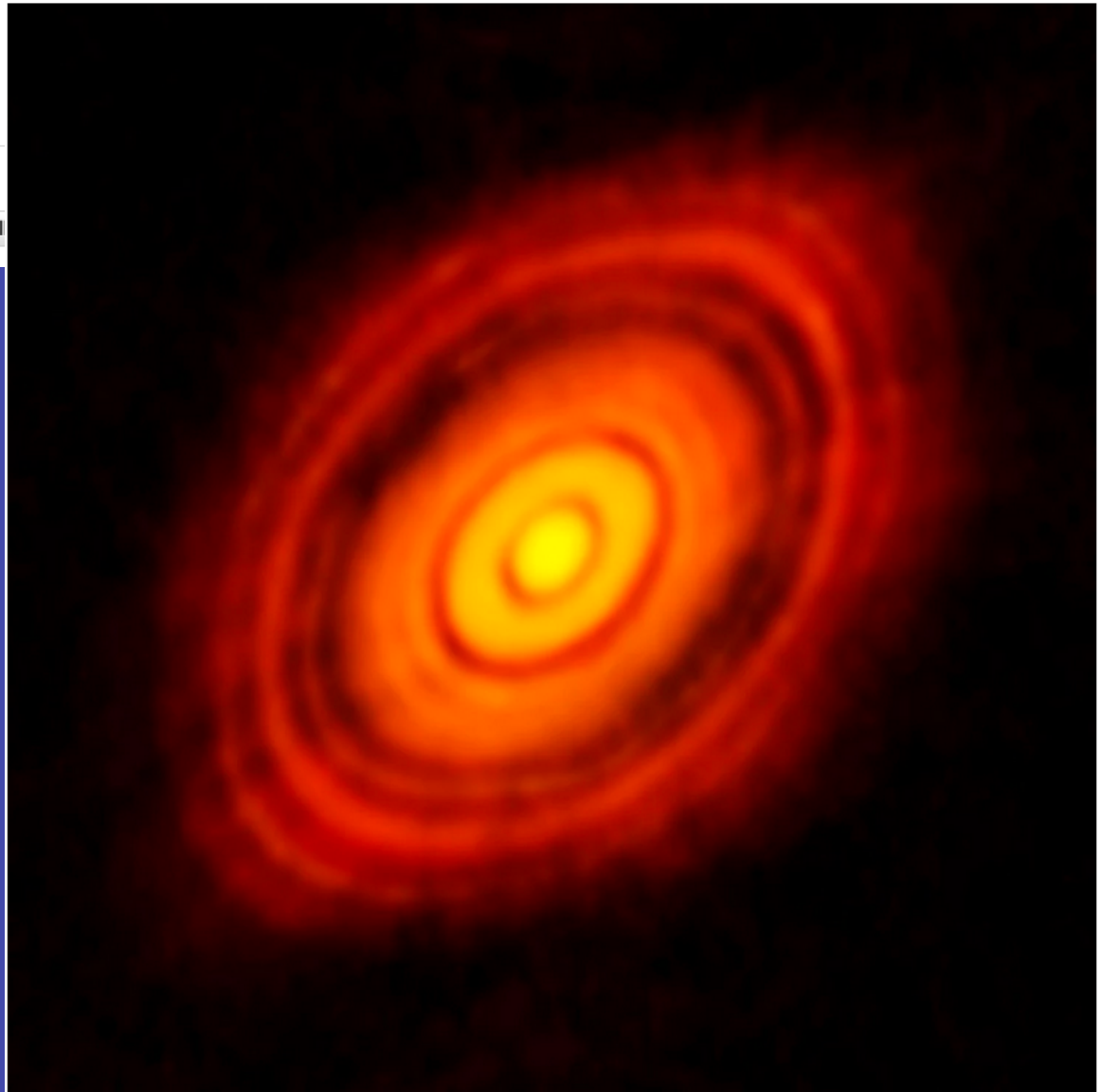
Planet formation

Planetary birth revealed in best image yet from world's most powerful telescope



By [Rachel Feltman](#) November 6, 2014 [✉](#) [Twitter](#) [Follow](#)

WP

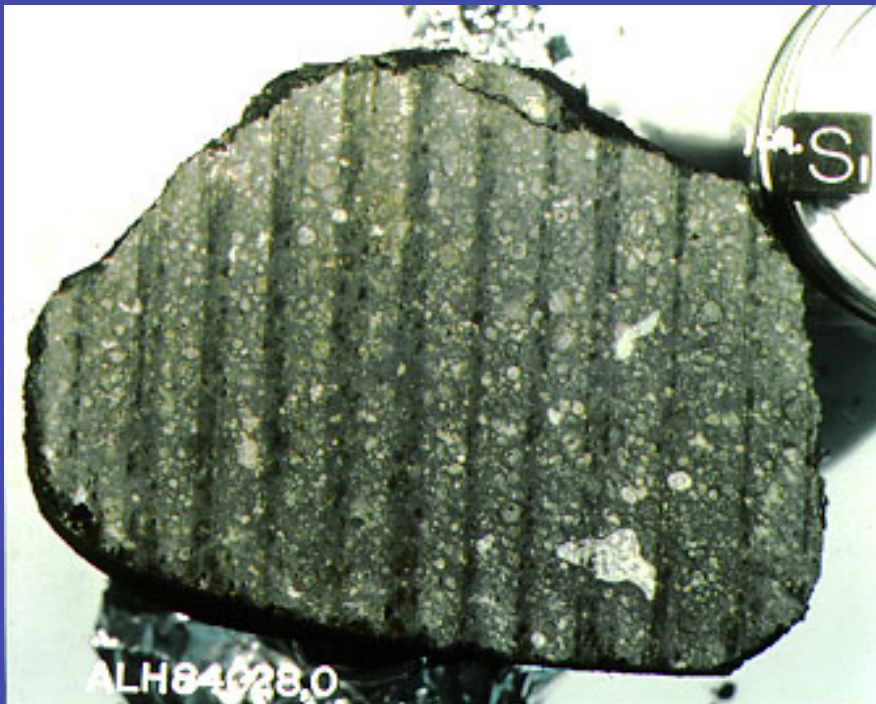


Meteorites

Iron



Carbonaceous
chondrite



Black-Market Trinkets From Space

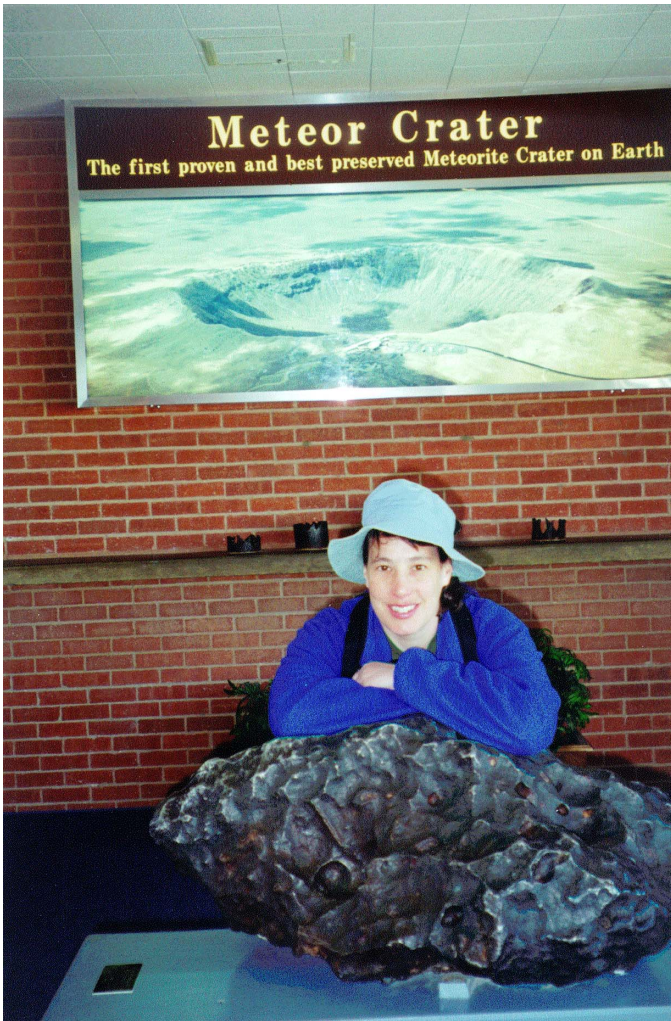


Mario Di Martino

LOOTED The Gebel Kamil crater in Egypt has been scoured for fragments prized by collectors and researchers.

By WILLIAM J. BROAD

Published: April 4, 2011



50,000 years ago

Iron meteorite 50 m diameter at
~12 km/s

Crater 1200 m diameter, 160 m
deep, 45 m rim



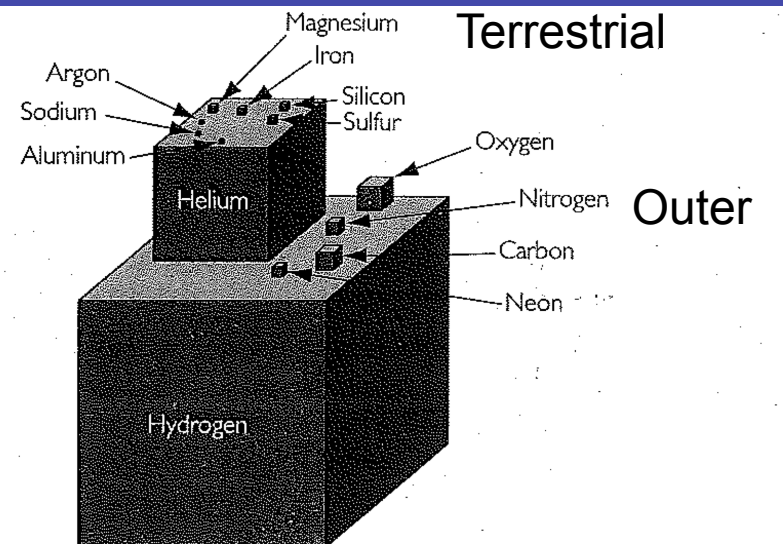
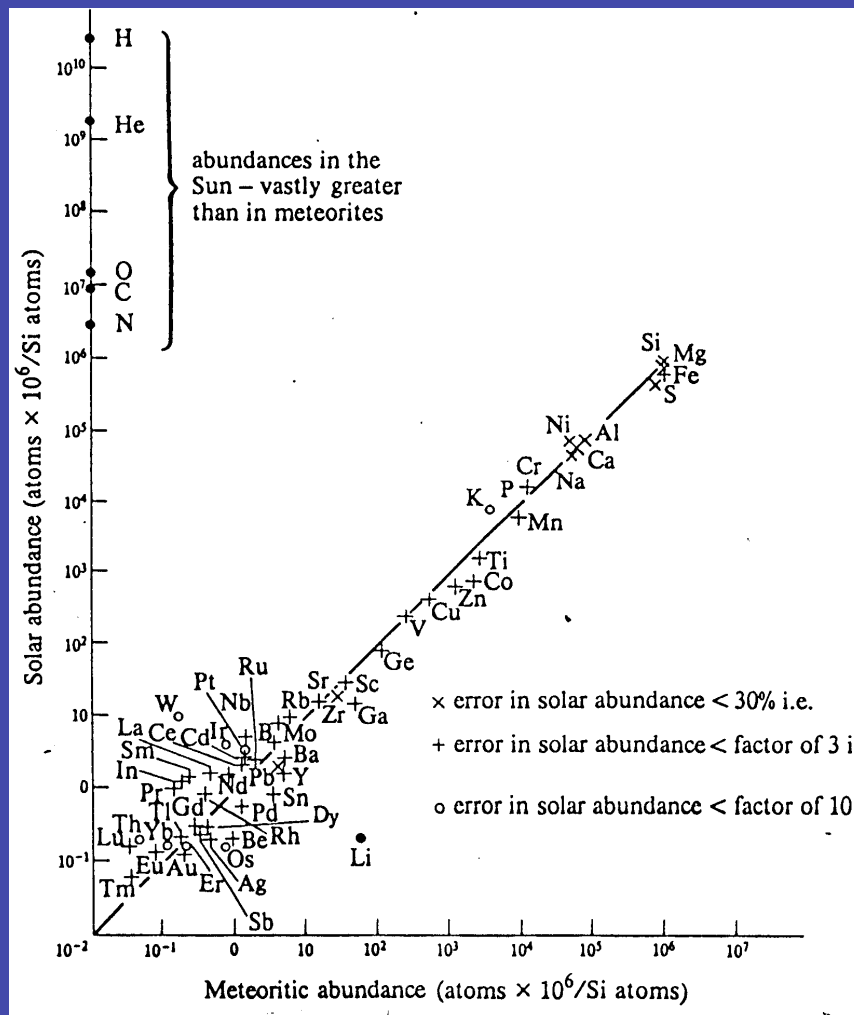
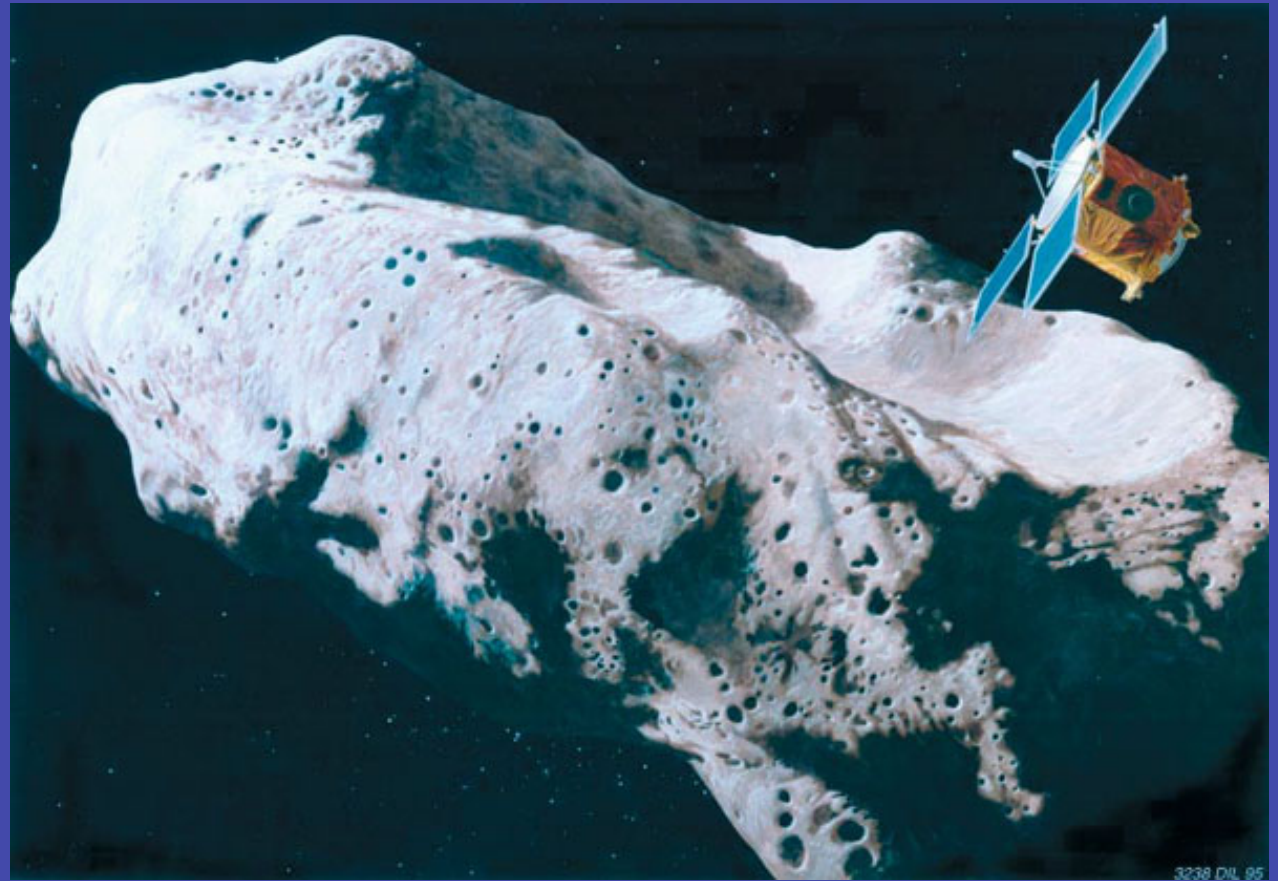


Figure 3.1 The relative proportions (by number) of the most abundant elements in the Sun. Hydrogen and helium and the elements resting directly on top of the hydrogen cube dominate the composition of stars and Jovian planets. The terrestrial planets could not efficiently incorporate these elements and are composed largely of oxygen and the elements resting on the helium cube.

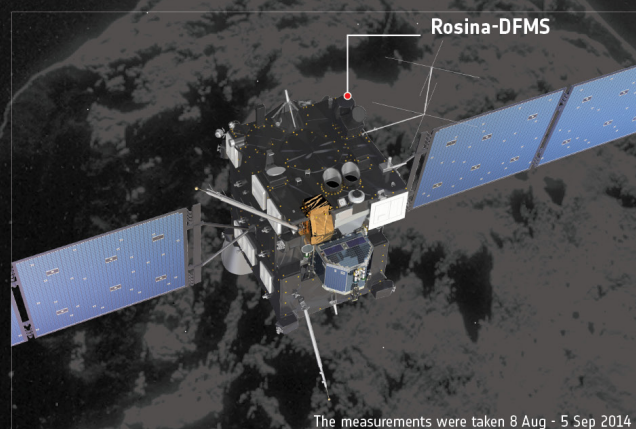
Ward & Brownlee

Near Earth Asteroid Rendezvous (NEAR) mission (2000)

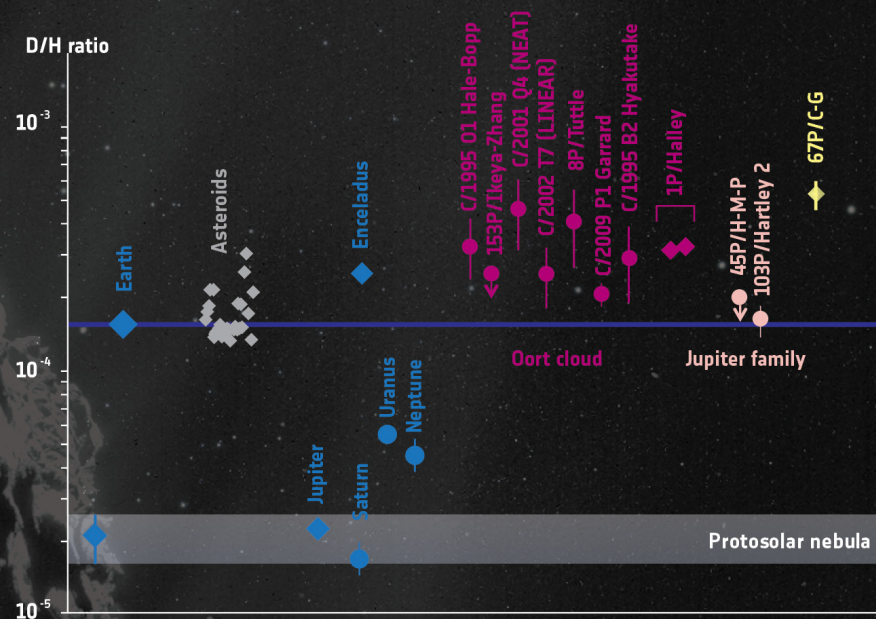
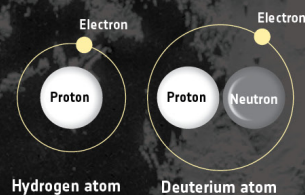


Asteroid 433 Eros is a primitive sample from the solar system's beginnings. It has homogeneous structure, so never separated into a distinct crust, mantle and core. X-ray spectrometer has detected low levels of aluminum relative to magnesium and silicon, indicating an undifferentiated composition. Eros, or the parent body it could have broken from, has not experienced the extensive melting process that planets like Earth undergo in their development. Eros may be related to the primitive ordinary chondrites, the most common type of meteorite.

Rosetta's ROSINA instrument finds Comet 67P/Churyumov-Gerasimenko's water vapour to have a significantly different composition to Earth's oceans.



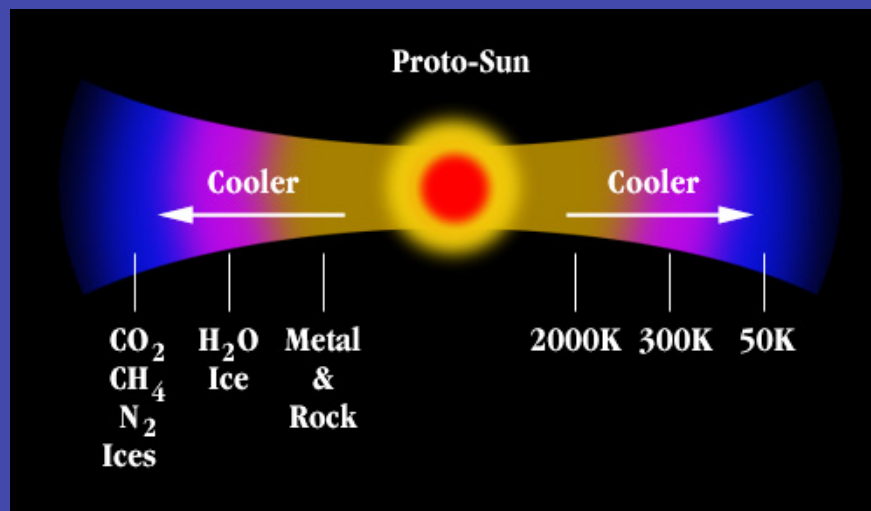
The ratio of deuterium to hydrogen in water is a key diagnostic to determining where in the Solar System an object originated and in what proportion asteroids and comets may have contributed to Earth's oceans



D/H ratio for different Solar System objects, grouped by colour as planets and moons (blue), chondritic meteorites from the Asteroid Belt (grey), comets originating from the Oort cloud (purple) and Jupiter family comets (pink). Comet 67P/C-G, a Jupiter family comet, is highlighted in yellow. ◆ = data obtained in situ ● = data obtained by astronomical methods

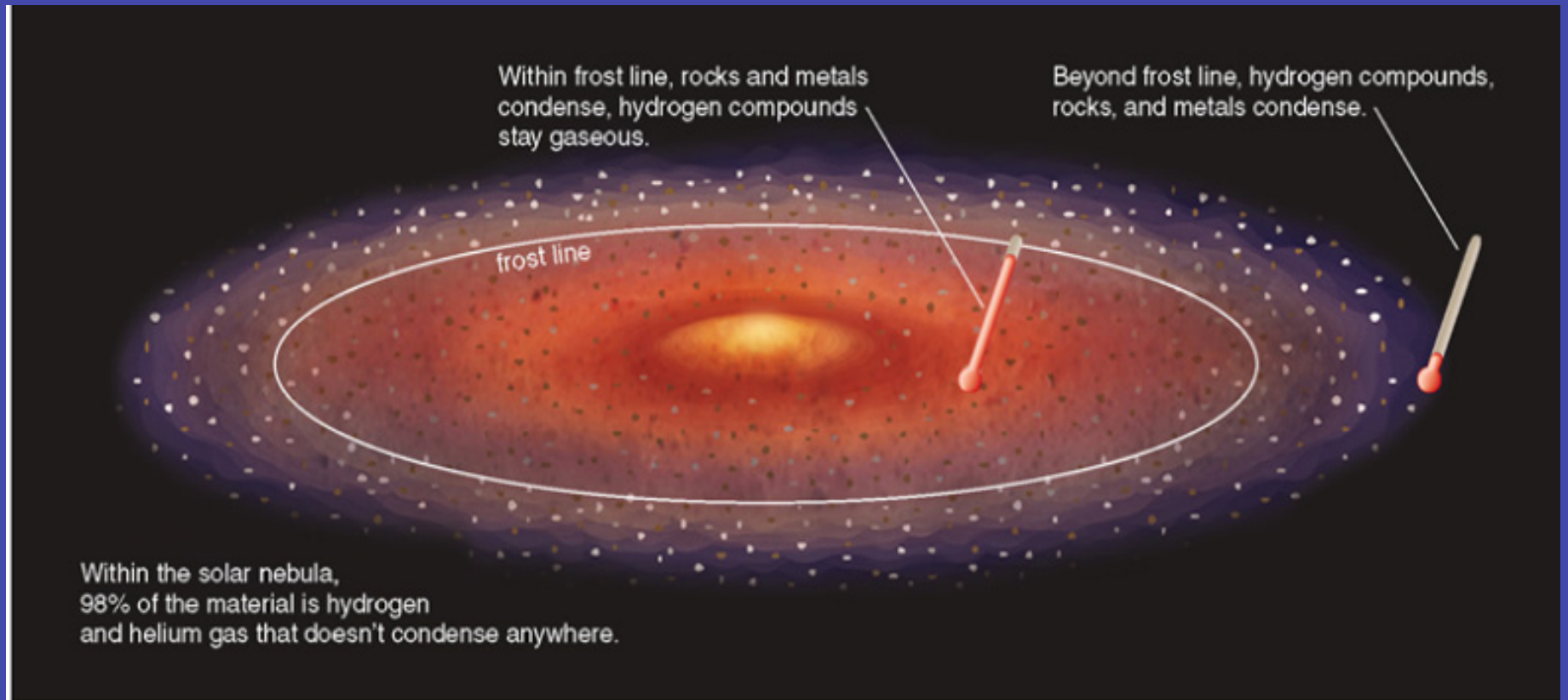
Table 5.1 Approximate condensation temperatures of Solar Nebula materials at 10^{-4} atm.
(After Grossman & Larimer 1974.)

<i>Mineral phase</i>	<i>Composition</i>	<i>Condensation temperature (°C)</i>	
corundum	Al_2O_3	1410	↑ refractory
melilite	$\text{Ca}_2\text{Al}_2\text{SiO}_7$ – $\text{Ca}_2\text{MgSi}_2\text{O}_7$	1205	
perovskite	CaTiO_3	1200	
spinel	MgAl_2O_4	1150	
metallic iron	Fe (Ni)	1130	
forsterite	Mg_2SiO_4 (– Fe_2SiO_4)	1120	
diopside	$\text{CaMgSi}_2\text{O}_6$	1100	
enstatite	MgSiO_3 (– FeSiO_3)		
anorthite	$\text{CaAl}_2\text{Si}_2\text{O}_8$		
alkali feldspar	$(\text{Na},\text{K})\text{AlSi}_3\text{O}_8$	980	
troilite	FeS	430	
magnetite	Fe_3O_4	135	
ice, methane, etc.	H_2O , CH_4 , CO_2 , O_2 , N_2 , H_2 , etc.	< 0	



Brown & Mussett

Frost line ~ 3 AU



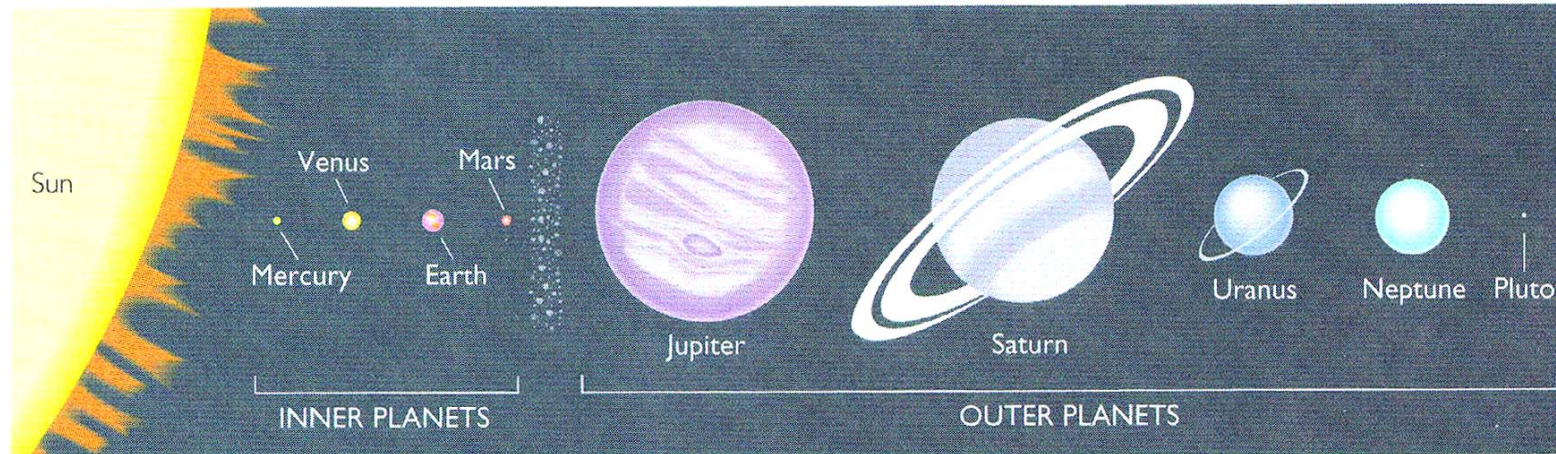
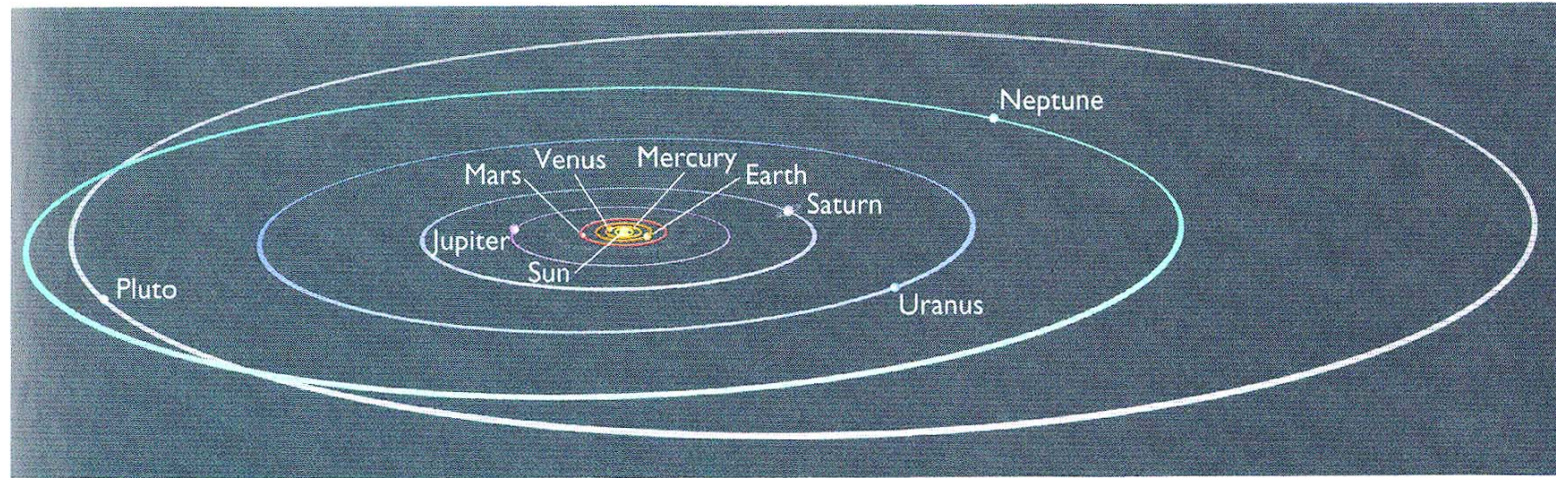


FIGURE 1.3 The solar system. The four inner planets—Mercury, Venus, Earth, and Mars—are closest to the Sun and are small and rocky. The four giant outer planets—Jupiter, Saturn, Uranus, and Neptune—and their satellites are mostly gaseous with rocky cores. The outermost planet, Pluto, is a snowball of methane, water, and rock. The upper panel shows the planetary orbits drawn roughly to scale; the distance from Pluto to the Sun averages about 5.9 billion km. The lower panel shows the relative sizes of the planets and the asteroid belt separating the inner and outer planets.

Press &
Siever

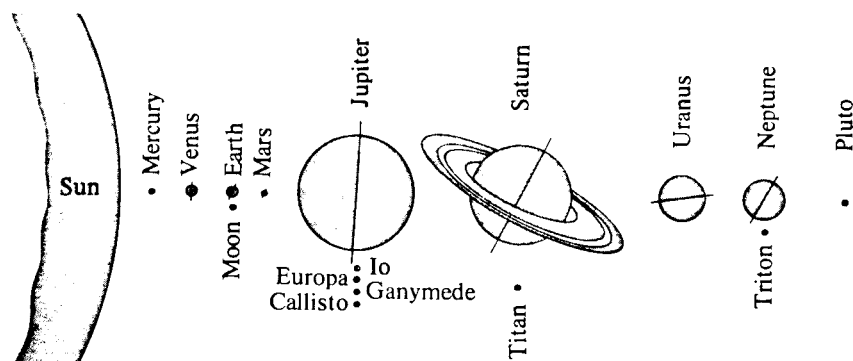


Figure 4.1 Relative sizes of the Sun, planets and moons. Only the seven largest moons are shown, as the others are shown, as the others would be mere dots. The axes of rotation, where known, are shown. The separations of the bodies are *not* to scale.

Table 4.1 Chief properties of the Sun, the planets and the Moon.

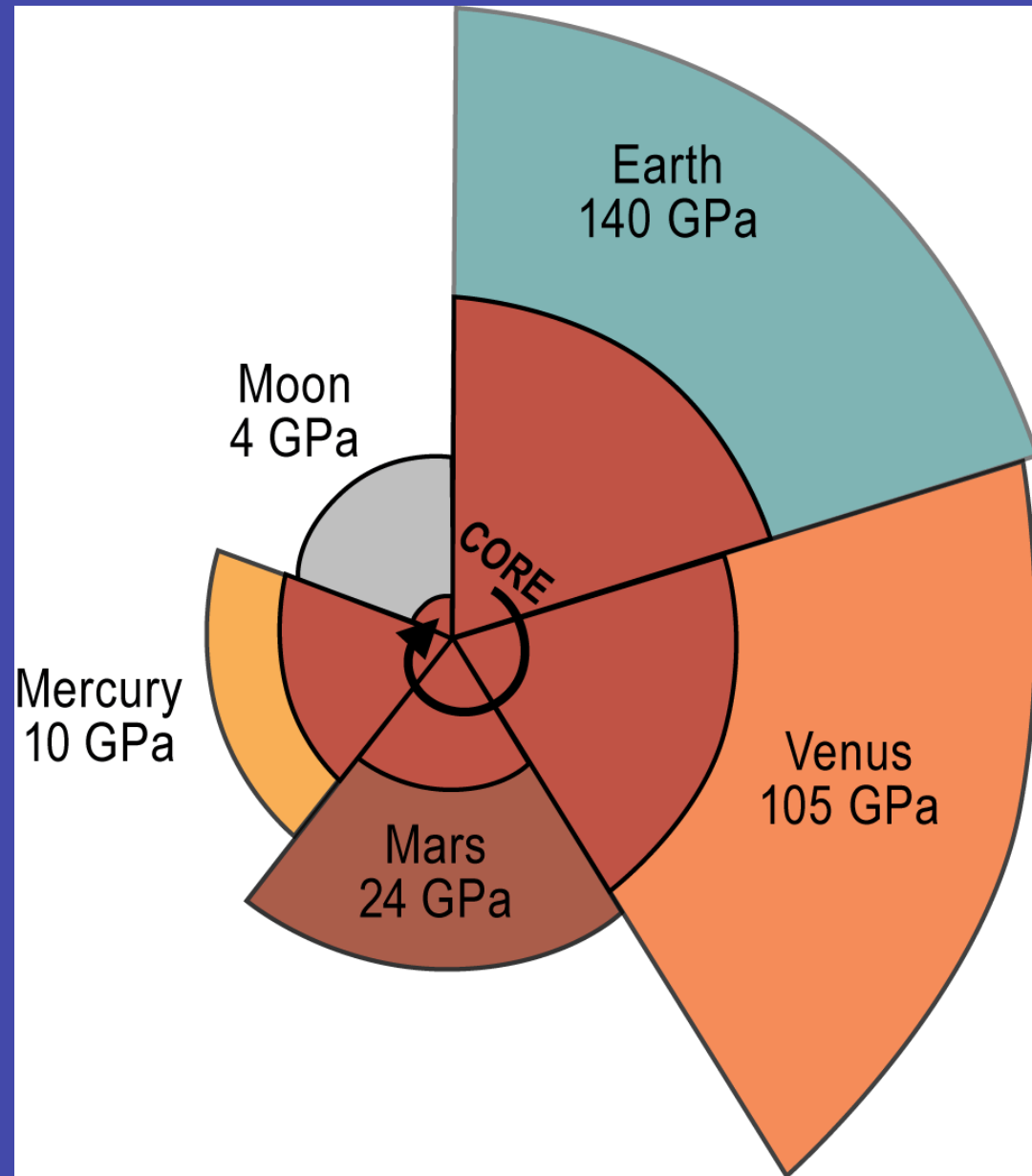
Property	Sun	Terrestrial planets					Major planets				
		Mercury	Venus	Earth	(Moon)	Mars	Jupiter	Saturn	Uranus	Neptune	Pluto
distance from Sun (mean value) (units of 10^6 km)	—	58	108	150	—	228	778	1427	2870	4497	5900
(Earth = 1)	—	0.39	0.72	1	—	1.52	5.20	9.54	19.2	30.1	39.4
mass (Earth = 1)	343 000	0.055	0.815	1	0.012	0.108	318	95	14.6	17.2	c.0.002
mean density (water = 1)	1.4	5.4	5.2	5.5	3.3	3.9	1.3	0.7	1.2	1.7	< 1.7
radius (km)	696 000	2440	6052	6378	1738	3394	71 400	60 000	25 900	24 750	1900
year, i.e. period of revolution about Sun (Earth years)	—	0.24	0.62	1	—	1.88	11.9	29.5	84.0	164	248
spin period, i.e. rotation about axis (days)	27	59	−243*	1	27.3	1.03	0.40	0.43	−0.89*	0.53	6.4
eccentricity of orbit	—	0.206	0.007	0.017	0.055	0.093	0.043	0.056	0.047	0.009	0.25
inclination of orbit, with respect to the Earth's (deg)	—	7	3.4	0	23 †	1.9	1.3	2.5	0.8	1.8	17.2
inclination of axis, with respect to axis of Earth's orbit (deg)	7	<28	3	23	23 †	24	3	27	82	29	?
number of moons known	—	0	0	1	—	2	14	10	5	2	1?
atmosphere, chief constituents	—	none	CO ₂	N ₂ , O ₂	none	CO ₂	H ₂ , He	H ₂ , He	H ₂ , He, CH ₄	H ₂ , He, CH ₄	none?
magnetic field, dipole moment ‡ (Earth = 1)	3×10^6	6.6×10^{-4}	$< 10^{-4}$	1	$< 2 \times 10^{-6}$	3×10^{-4}	1.9×10^4	?	?	?	?

* Minus sign denotes rotation is retrograde, i.e. opposite to majority direction.

† That is, orbit is in plane of Earth's equator.

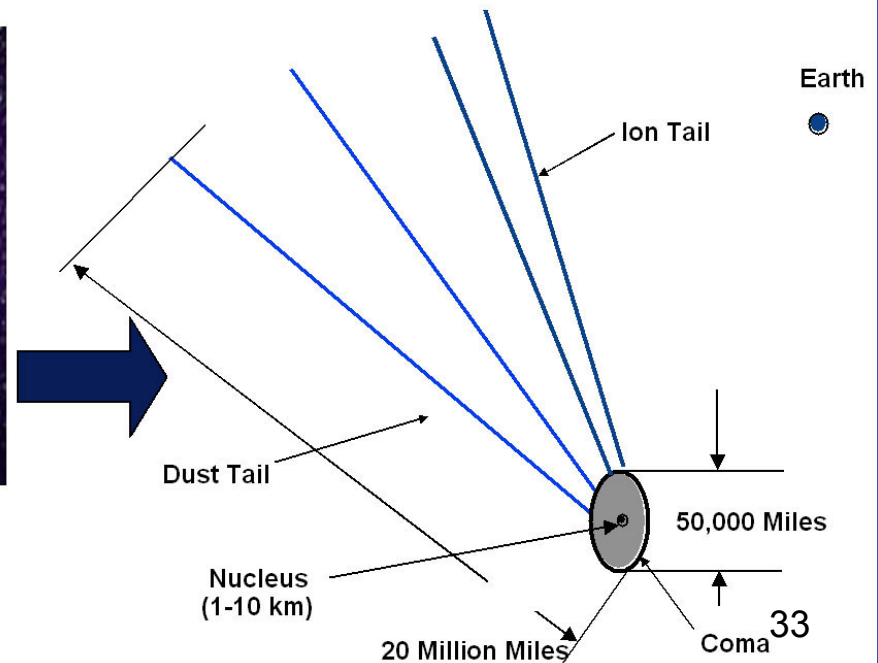
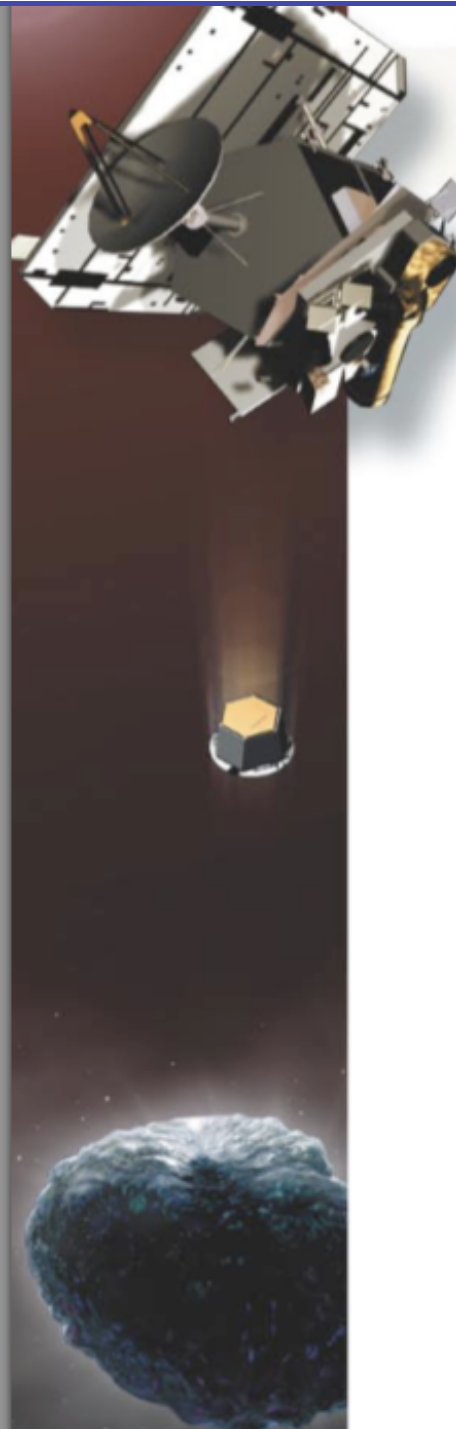
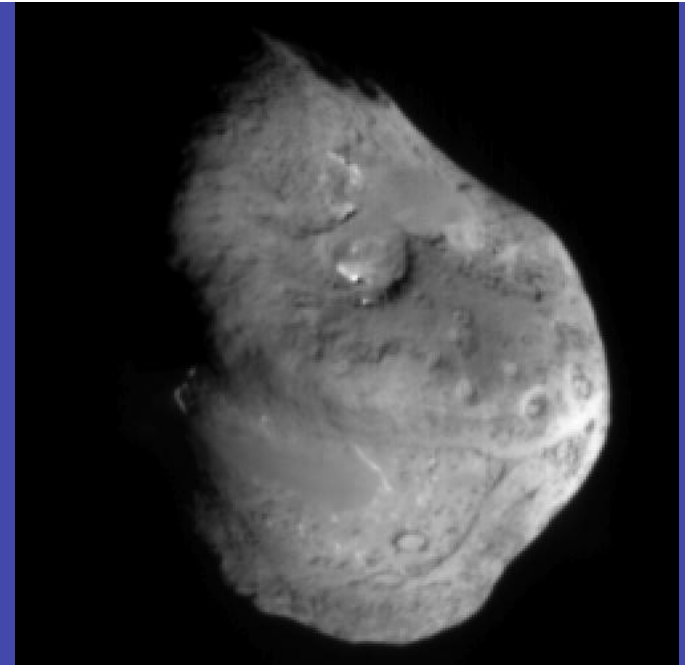
‡ That is, strength of equivalent bar magnet (but some planetary fields are poorly represented by a dipole).

Mercury's
core is too
big



Comets

Nucleus of comet Tempel 1 imaged by the Deep Impact impactor. The nucleus measures about 6 kilometers across.

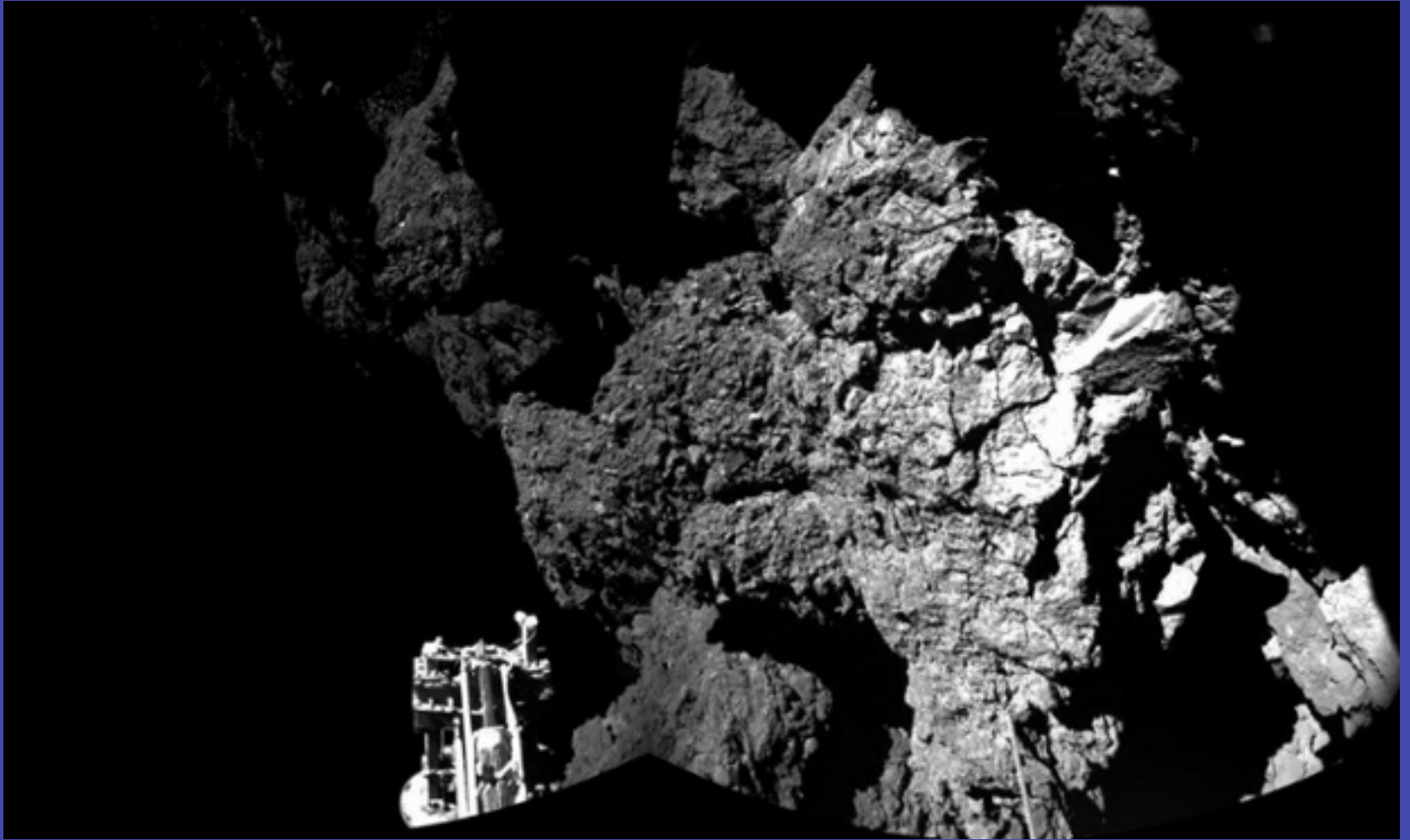


Scale of the comet (a side view)



Sources: The Washington Post, European Space Agency

@ChiTribGraphics



HOW PHILAE WILL PROBE SECRETS OF SPACE

Yesterday 8.35am GMT:
The Philae lander was
dropped from the Rosetta
mothership 13.6 miles above
the comet, landing seven
hours later

Philae communicates
via Rosetta spaceship.
Signals take 29 minutes
to travel the 316million
miles to earth

PTOLEMY:
Shoebox-sized
British-made machine
will investigate the
comet surface and
subsurface to shed light
on the origin of comets
and their link to the
creation of planets.

BATTERIES: Philae will be powered
by solar panels until it is destroyed
by the Sun's heat in March

CAMERA: Imaging system
that provided the first
close-up images of the
landing site (see below)

PHILAE LANDER FACTFILE

Size: 3ft x 3ft x 3ft

Weight: 220lb (but low
gravity means it is
equivalent to 1/30th
ounce on the comet)



Six foot man
to scale

ICE SCREWS: With the
harpoons failing, the
screws on Philae's three
feet were responsible
for anchoring the
lander to the surface.
It is unclear how
effective they have been

HARPOONS: Intended to fix
Philae to the surface of the
comet but failed to activate

PROBE: Takes samples of the surface
to a depth of 9 inches for analysis

ACOUSTIC MONITOR: Tests the mechanical
and electrical properties of the comet

SENSOR:
Multi-purpose
device for probing
surface and
sub-surface

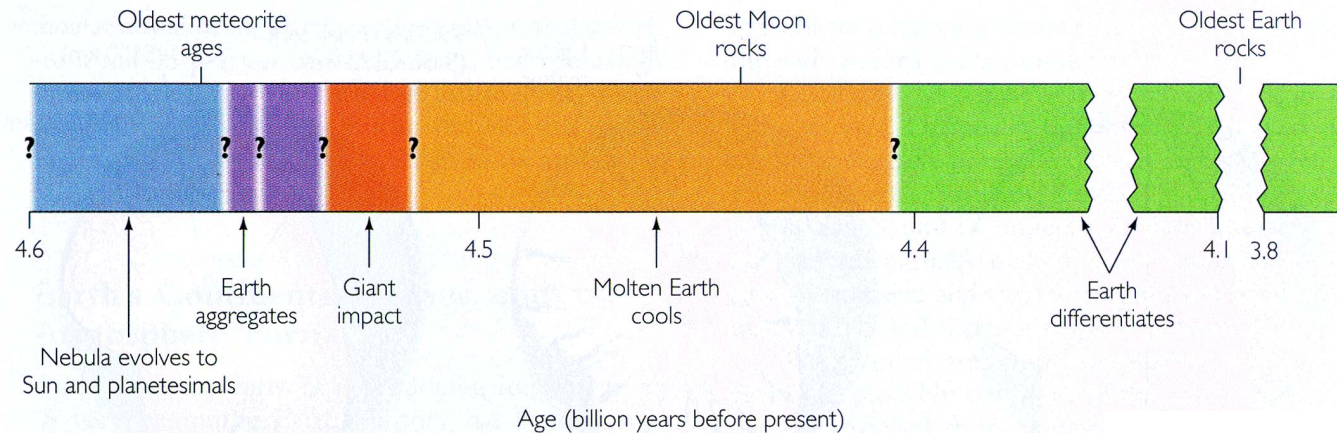
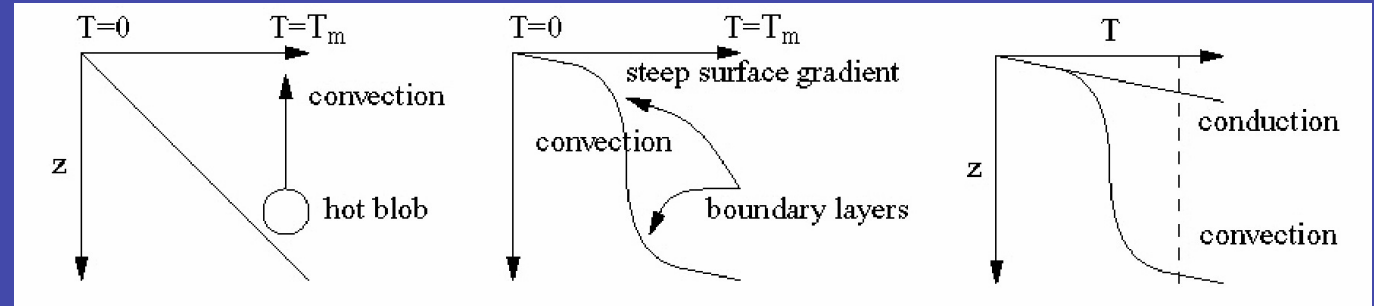


FIGURE 1.5 This timeline shows the origin of the Sun and Earth, the giant impact that melted much of the Earth and created the Moon, and the beginning of Earth's differentiation. The ages of the events listed above the bar are based on actual datings of meteorites and of lunar and Earth rocks. The question marks within the bar indicate a high degree of uncertainty about the timing of the events so marked. (Extensively modified from D. J. DePaolo, "Strange Bedfellows," *Nature*, Vol. 10, November 10, 1994, p. 131.)



FIGURE 1.4 Artist's rendering of the collision of a Mars-size body with Earth about 4.5 billion years ago. The impact energy would have caused extensive melting of Earth and would have ejected debris that aggregated to form the Moon. (Painting by Alfred T. Kamajian, *Scientific American*, July 1994, cover.)

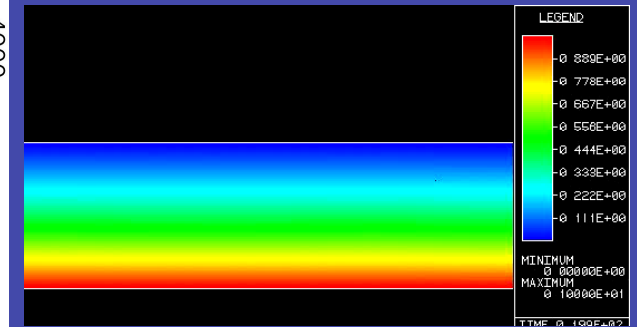
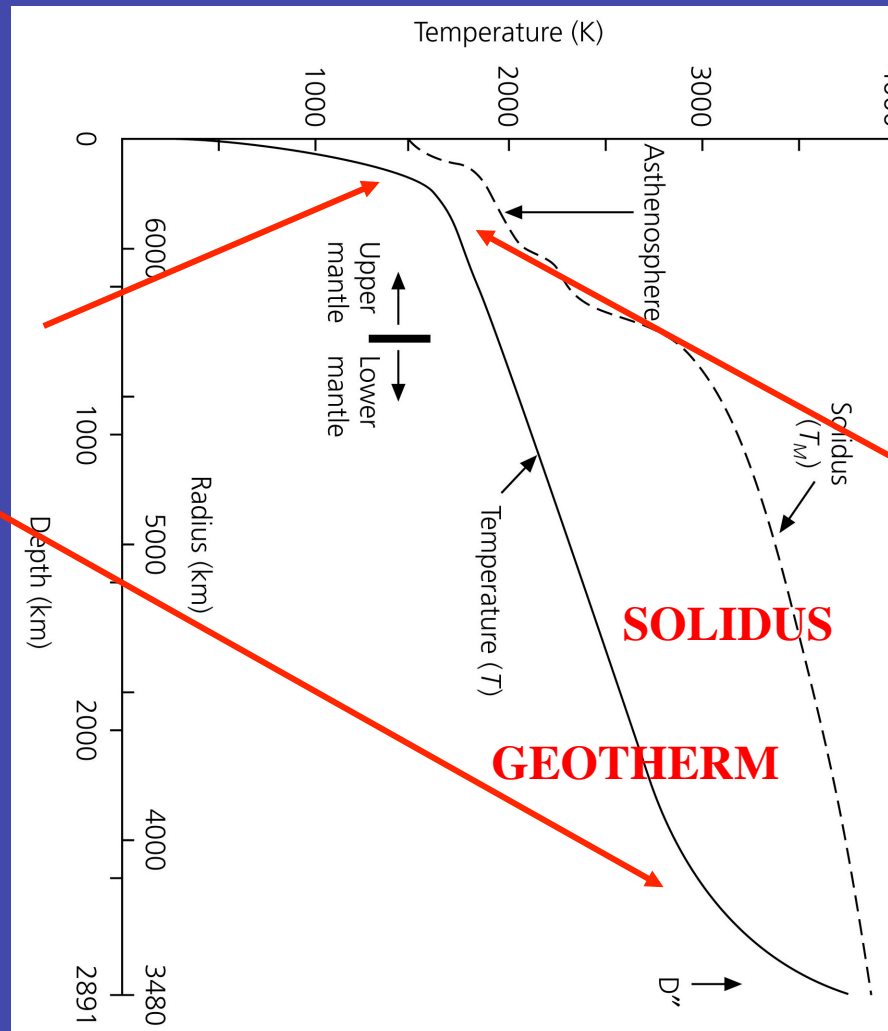
MANTLE CONVECTION GEOTHERM



Thermal boundary layers

Lithosphere

Core/mantle boundary



Asthenosphere / LVZ

Geotherm close to solidus

Earth's heat engine

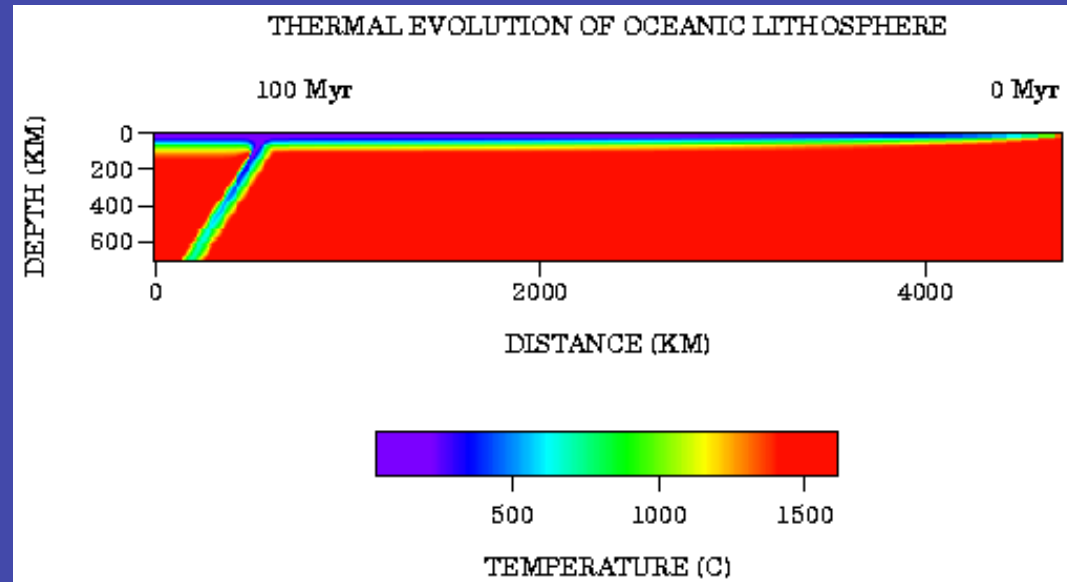
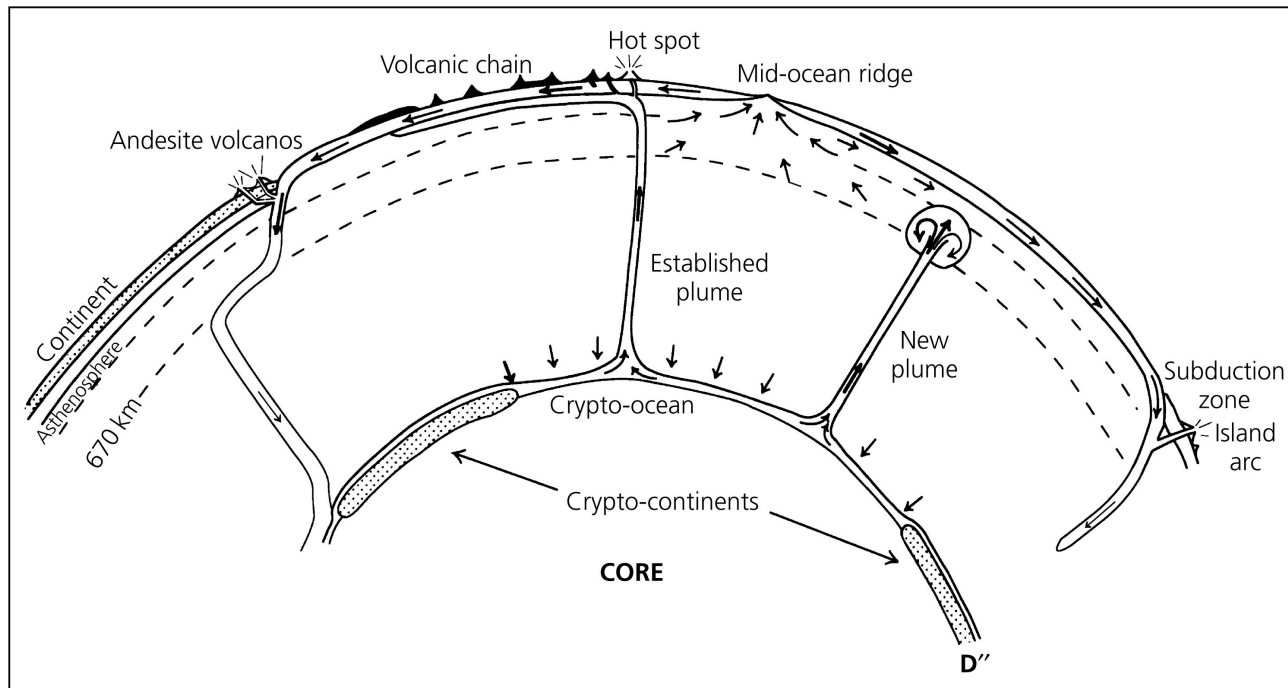
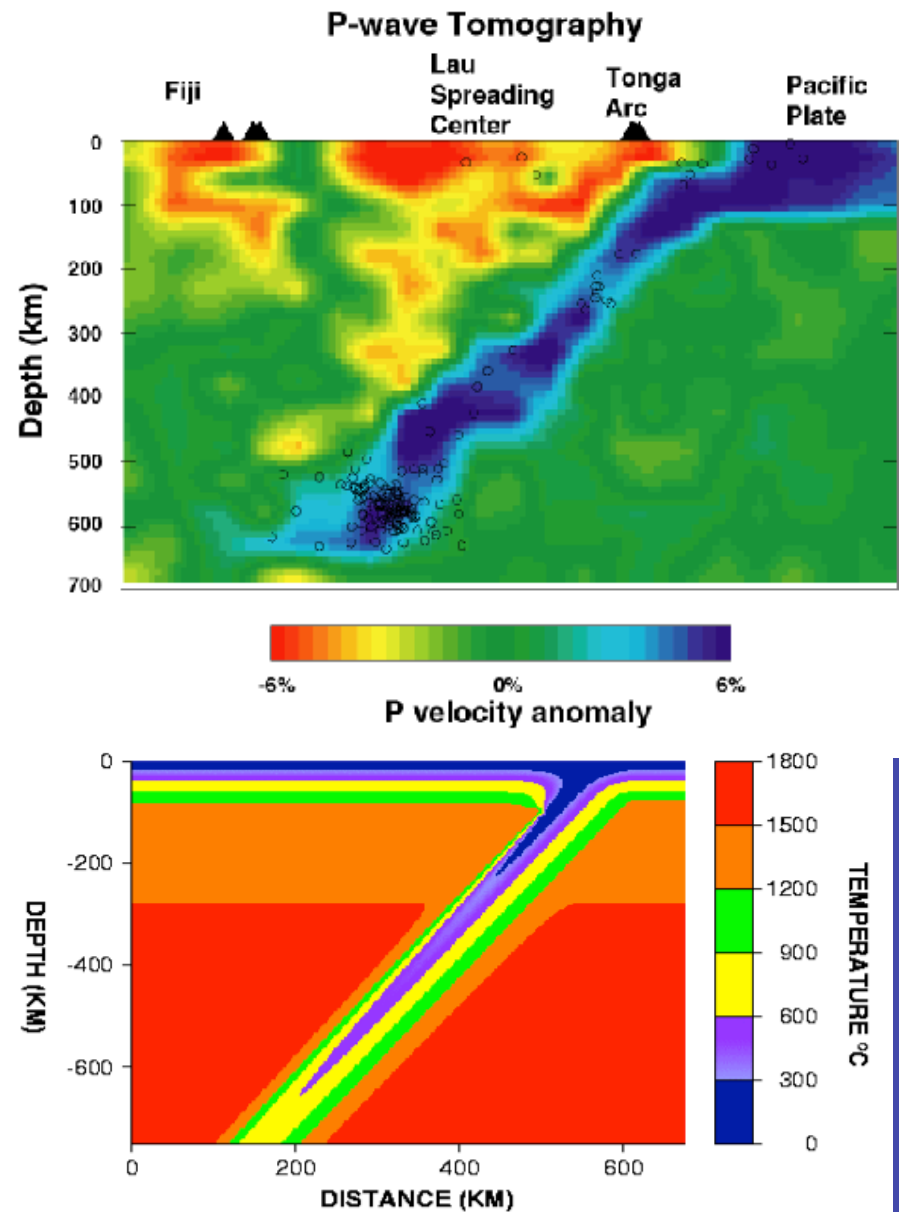
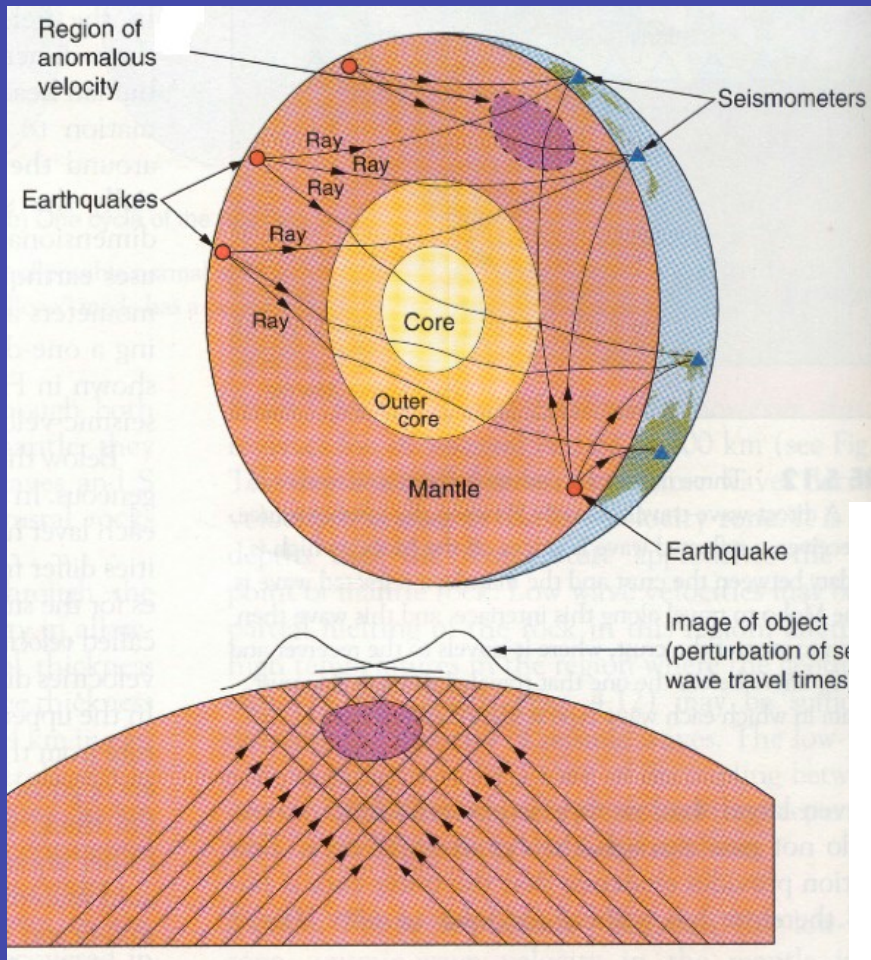


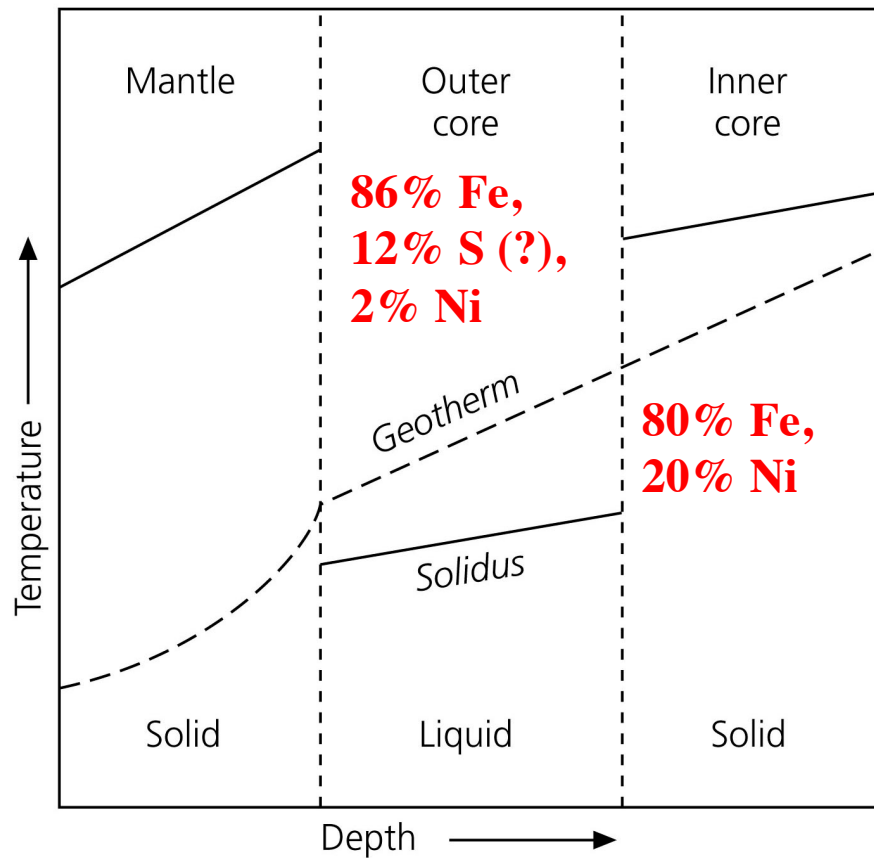
Figure 5.1-2: Diagram showing ideas about mantle convection.



Stein &
Wyssession

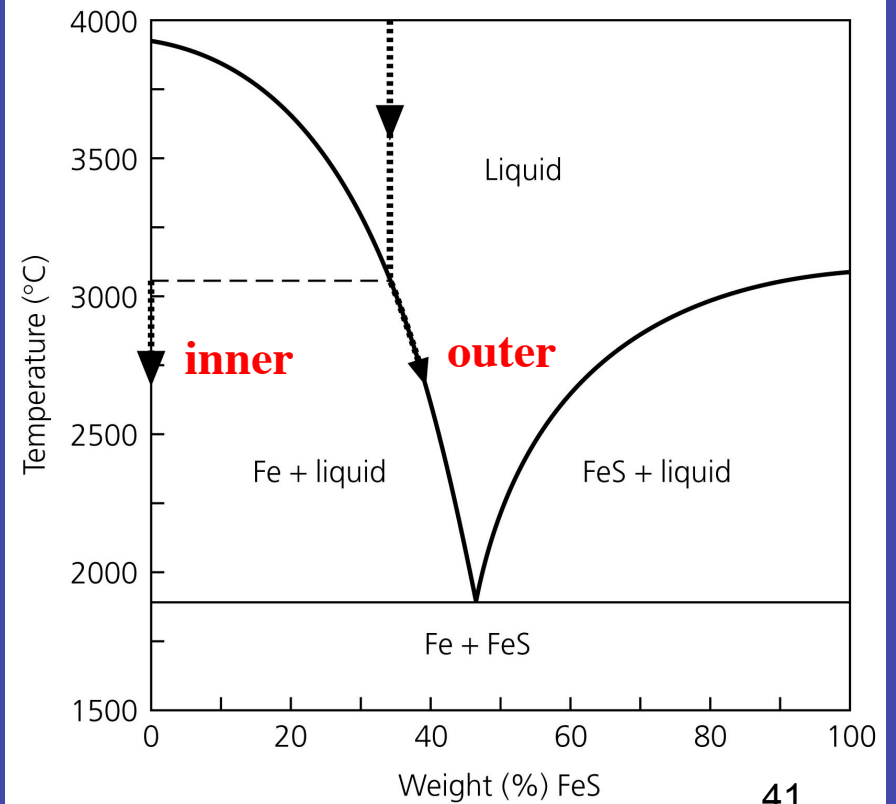


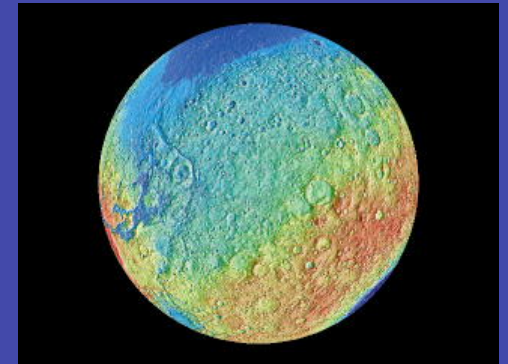
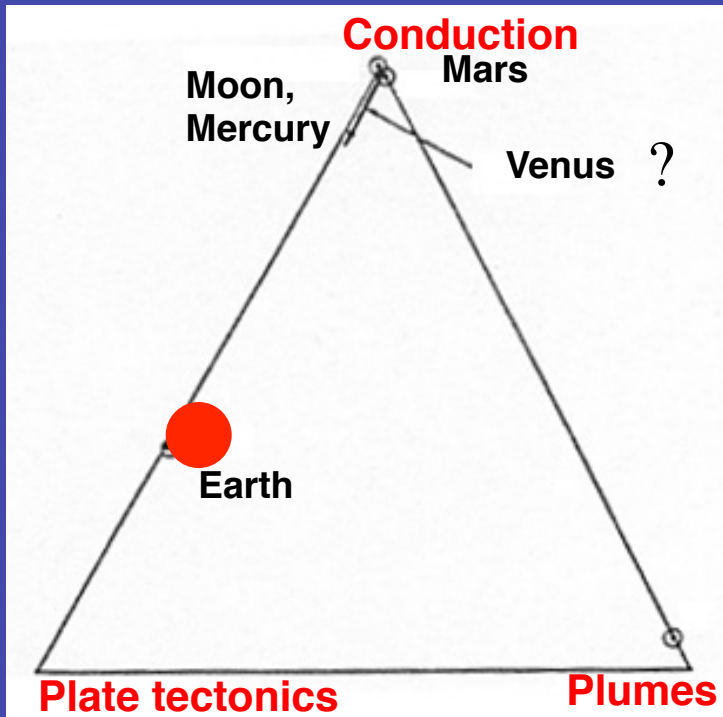
Different inner core/outer core compositions



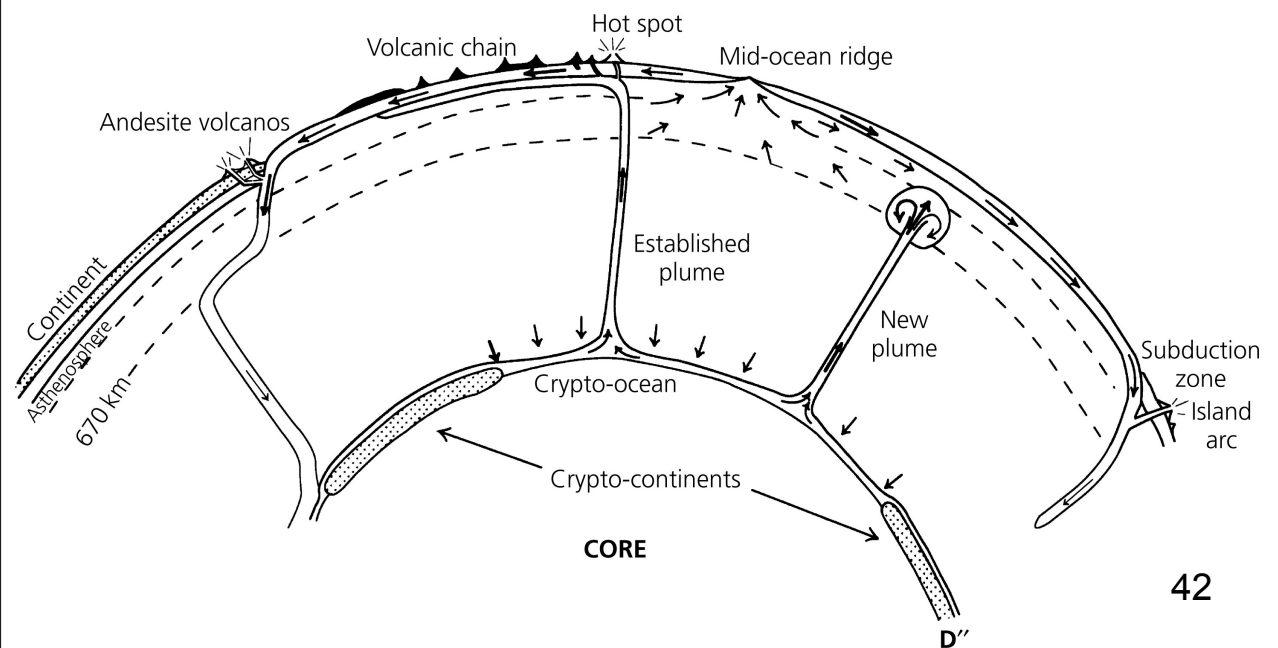
Stein &
Wyssession

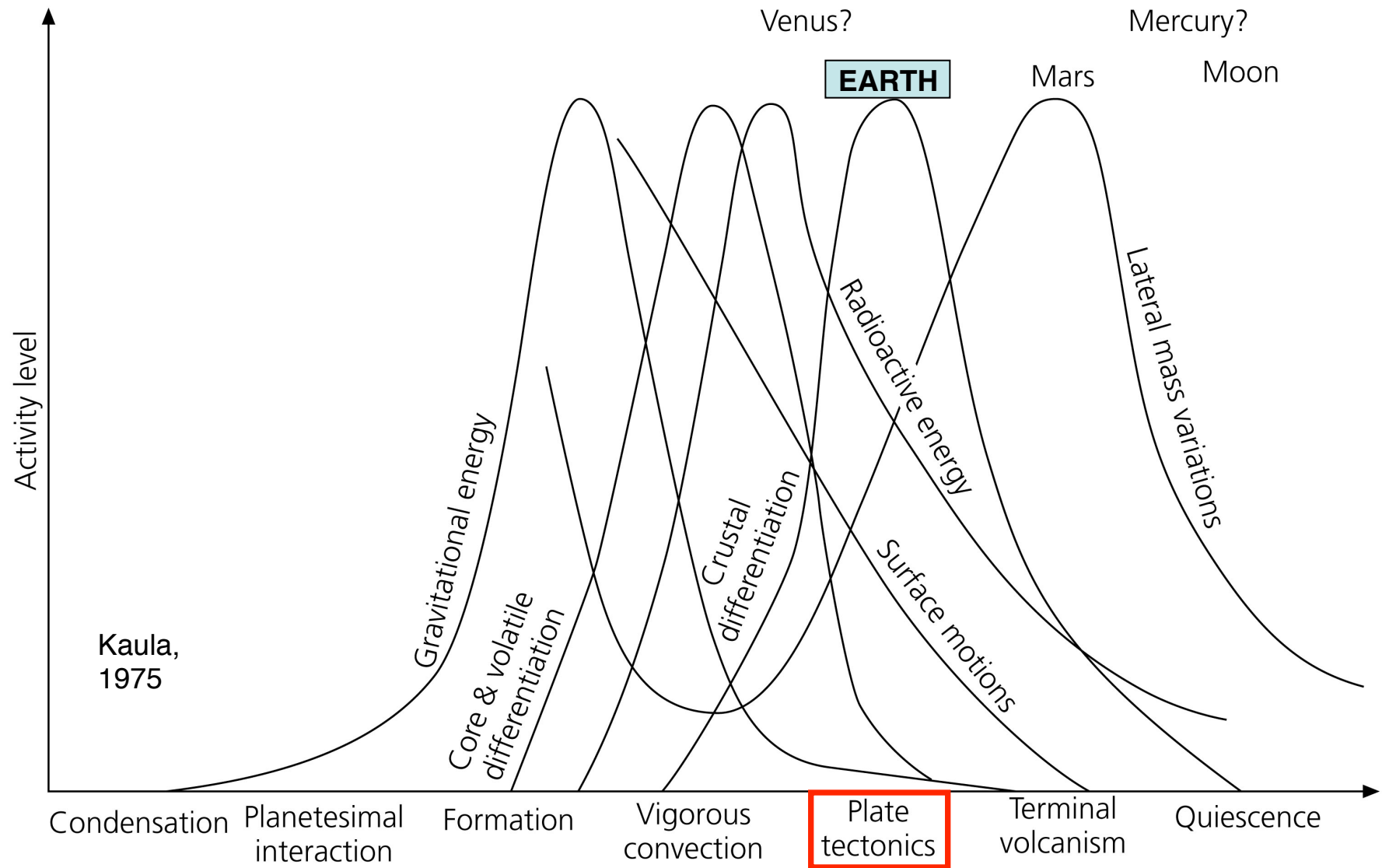
Figure 3.8-14: Melting relations for Fe-FeS at 1.4 Mbar.



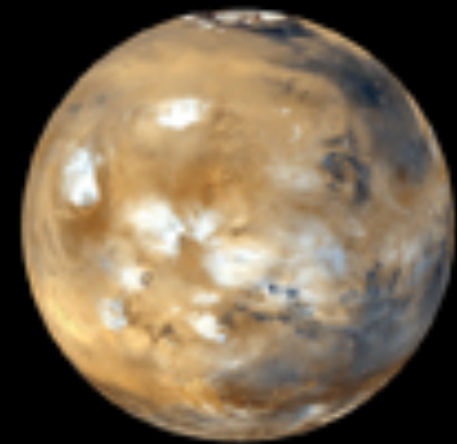


Solomon & Head, 1991

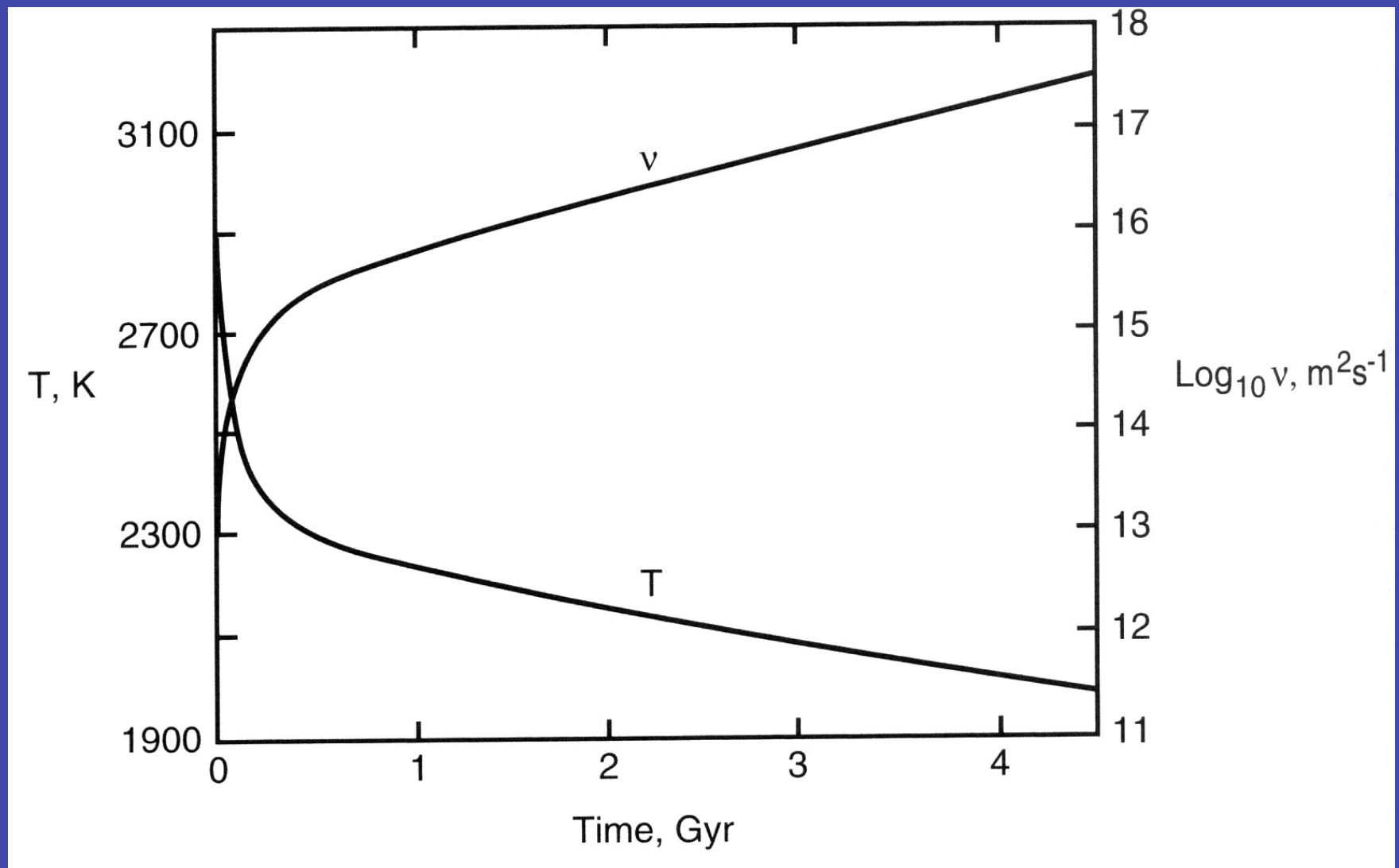




The land area of the Earth is approximately equal to the total surface of Mars.



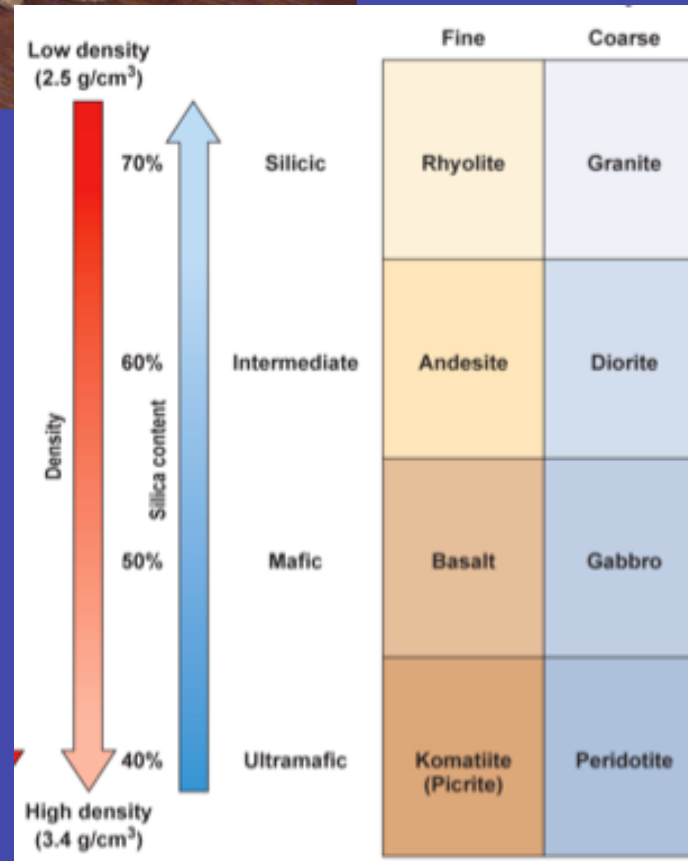
The land area of Africa is about the same as the total surface of the Moon.





<http://all-geo.org/highlyallochthonous/2007/12/a-deskrop-full-of-komatiite/>

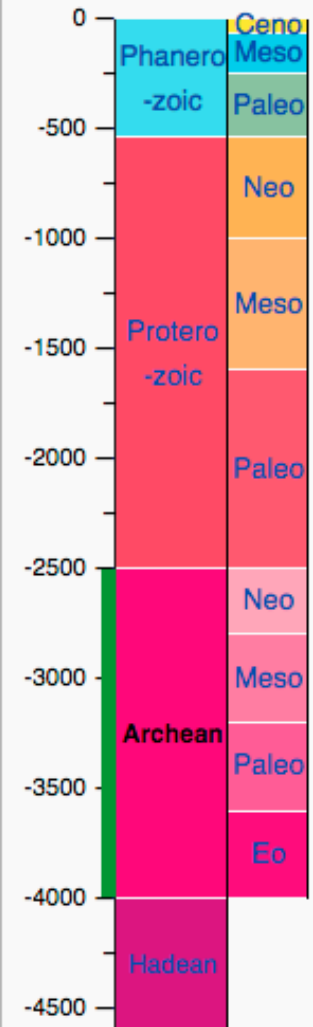
Komatiite



Archean Eon
4000 - 2500 million years ago

The geological eras

[view](#) • [discuss](#) • [edit](#)



Scale:
Millions of years

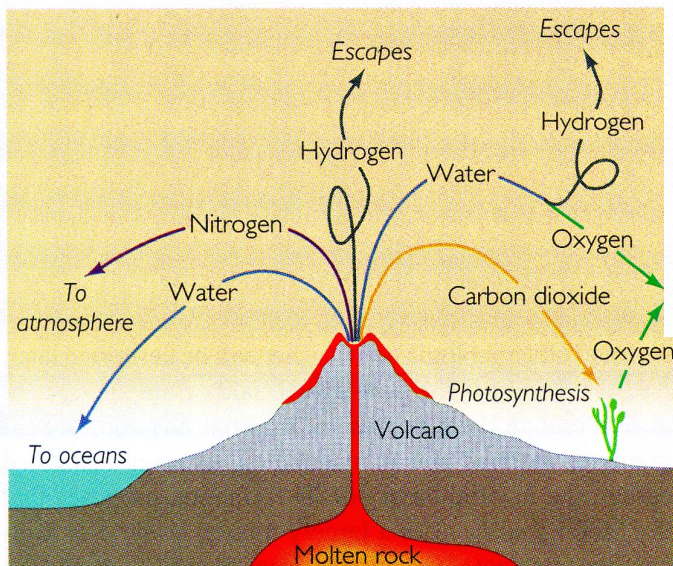
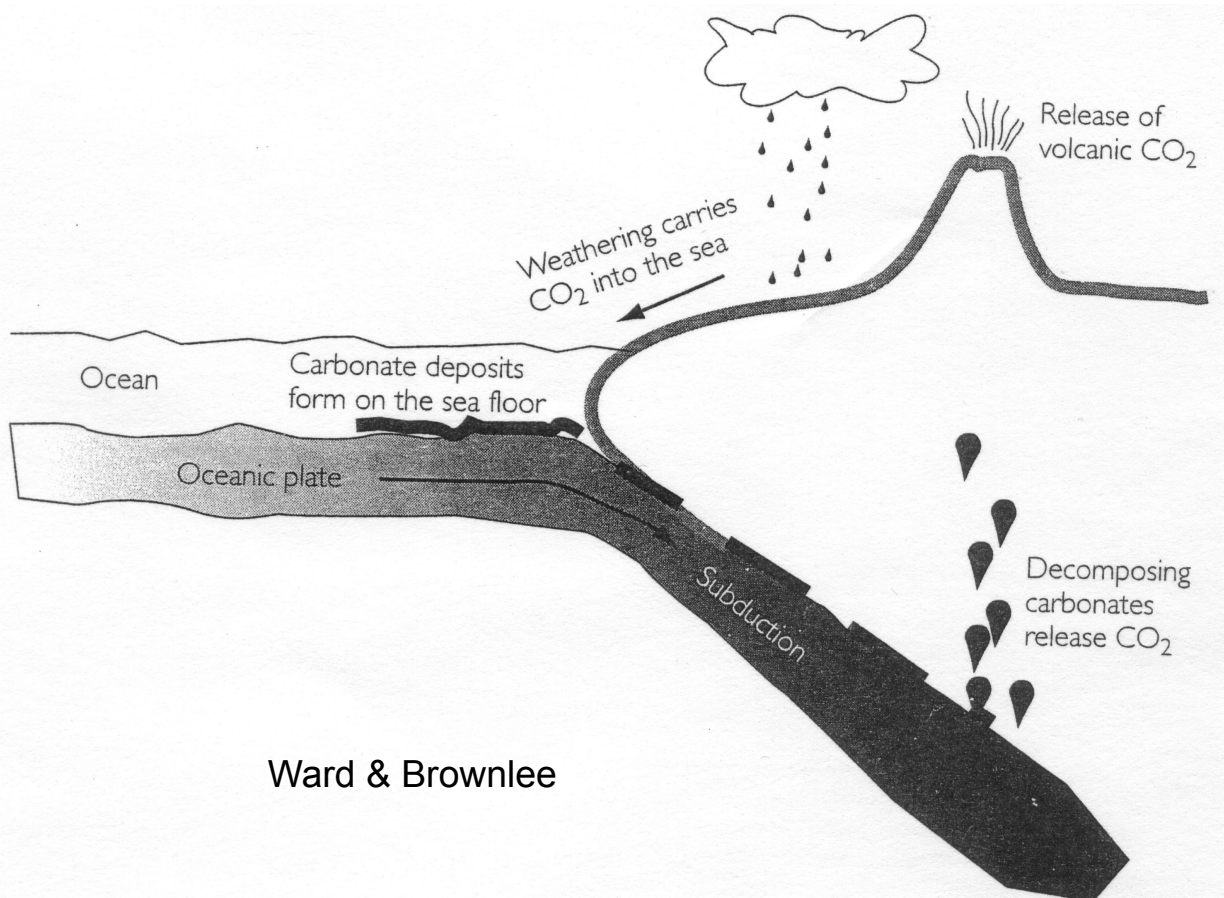
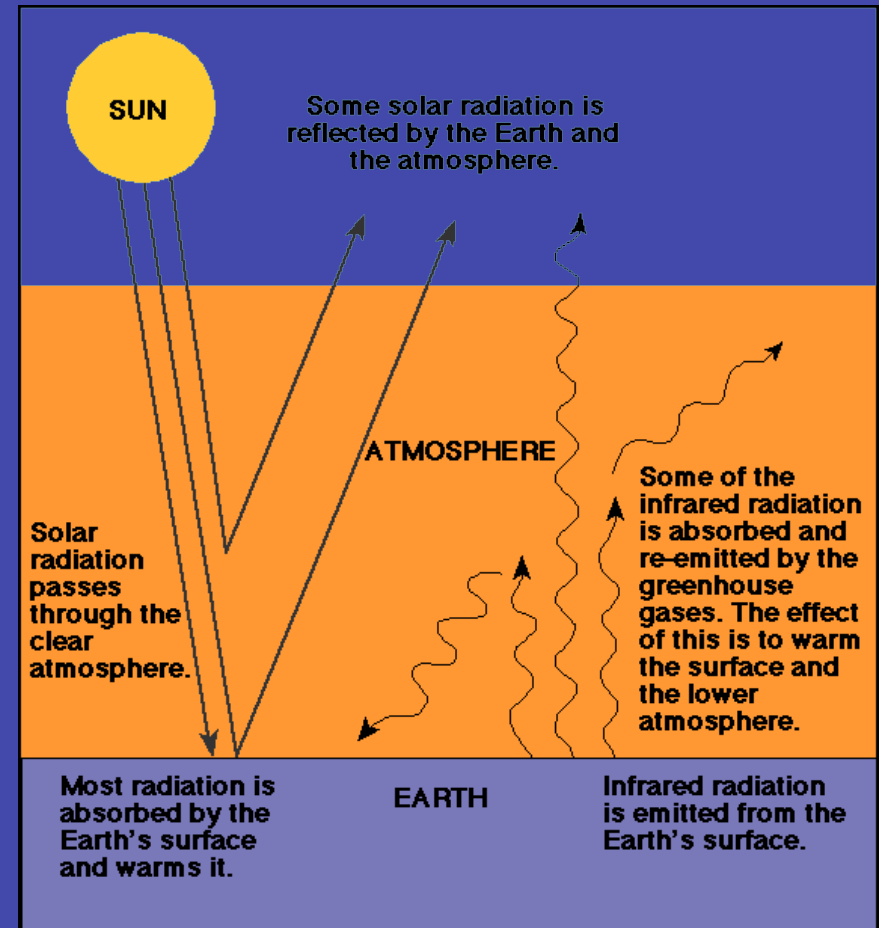
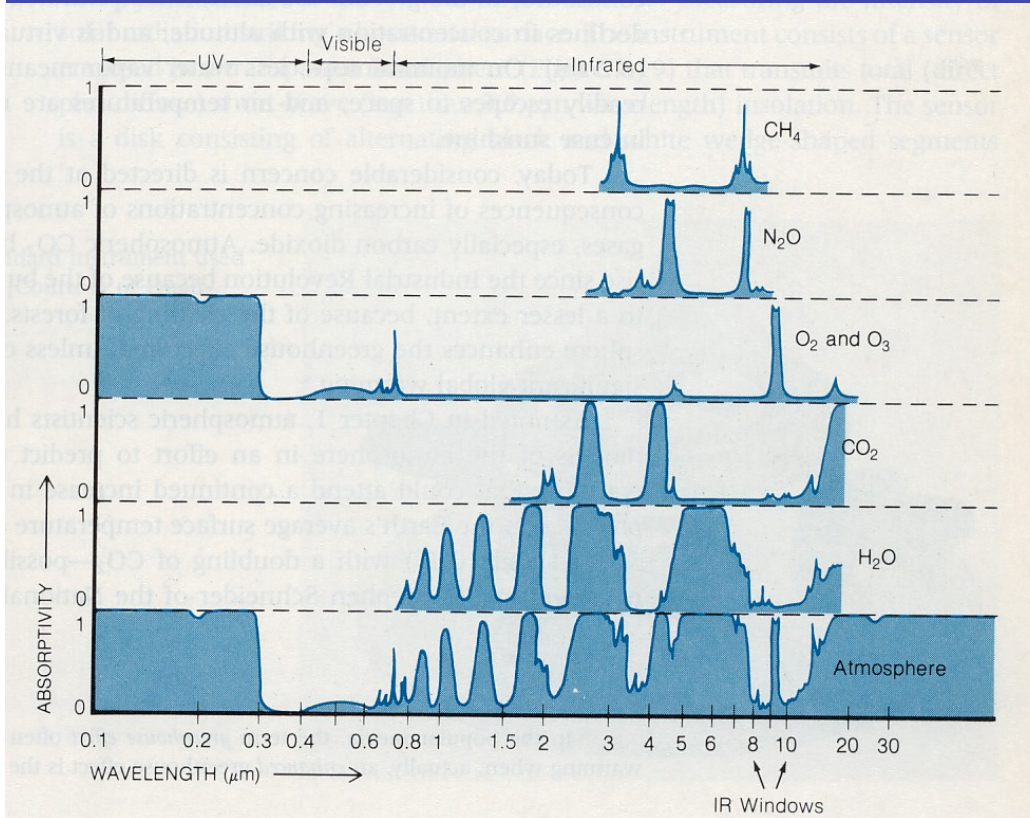


Figure 1.8 An example of interacting components of the Earth system. Volcanic activity has contributed enormous amounts of water, carbon dioxide, and other gases to the atmosphere and oceans and solid materials to the continents. Photosynthesis by plants removed carbon dioxide and added oxygen to the primitive atmosphere. Hydrogen, because it is light, easily escapes into space.

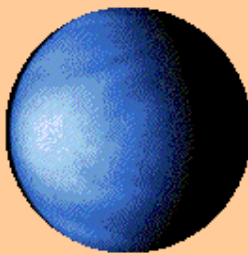




Ward & Brownlee

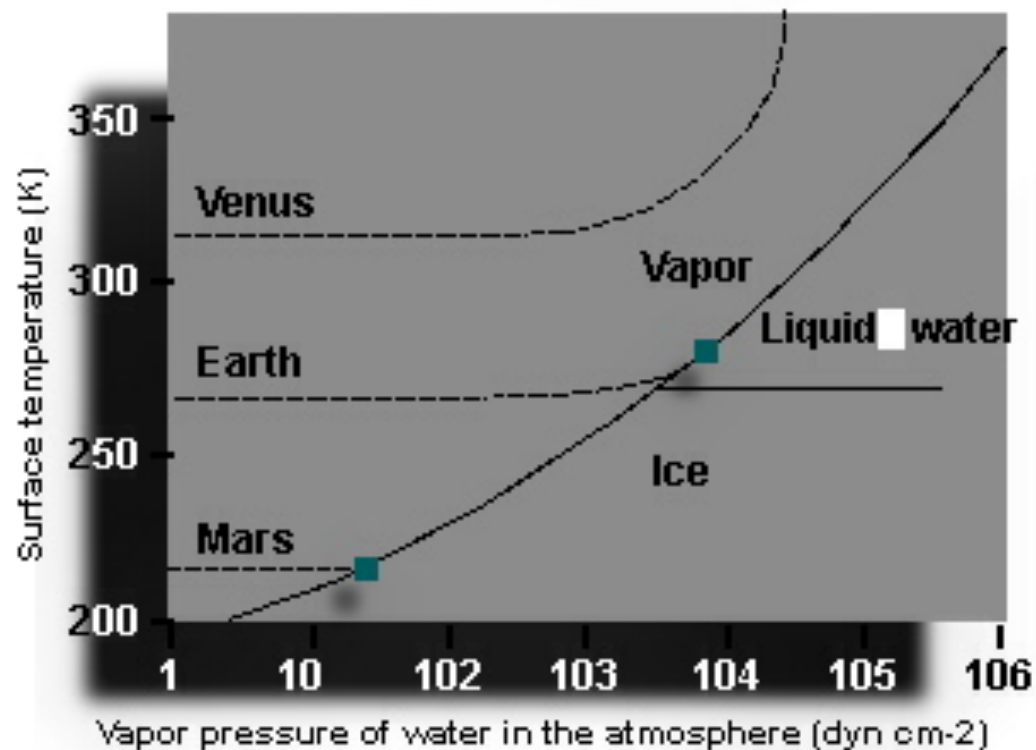
Press & Siever



	VENUS	EARTH	MARS
SURFACE PRESSURE	100,000 mb	1,000 mb	6 mb
COMPOSITION			
CO ₂	>98%	0.03%	96%
N ₂	1%	78%	2.50%
A	1%	1%	1.50%
O ₂	0.00%	21%	2.50%
H ₂ O	0.00%	0.10%	0-0.1%

12,140 km
12,753 km
6,785 km



VENUS - RUNAWAY GREENHOUSE

Dense atmosphere (90 times Earth's) composed **mostly of CO₂** (carbon dioxide).

Thick clouds of sulfuric acid obscure the surface.

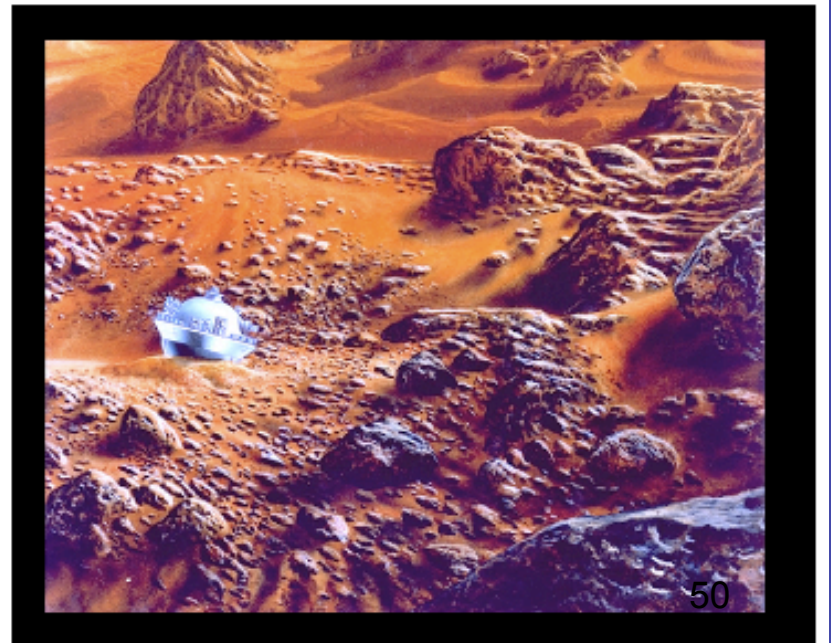
Atmosphere produces run-away greenhouse effect that **raises Venus' surface temperature** to over 450 deg C (hot enough to melt lead).

Venus' surface hotter than Mercury's despite being nearly twice as far from the Sun.

Venus probably once had lots of water like Earth that boiled away, leaving it quite dry.

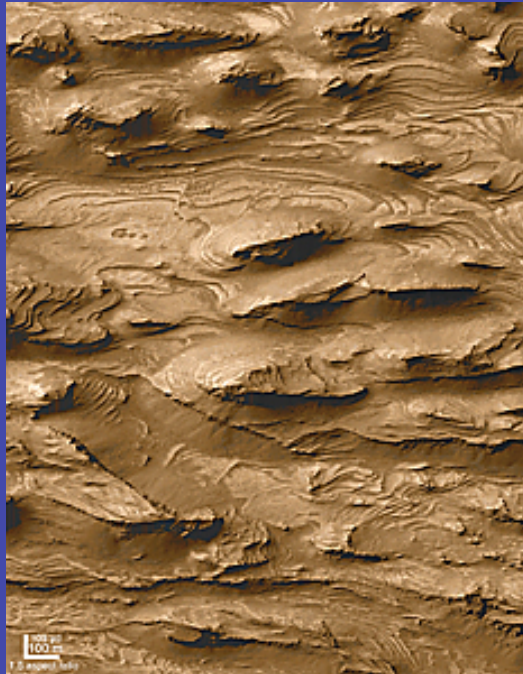
Earth might be like this if it were a little closer to the Sun.

Not yet clear why Venus turned out so differently from Earth



MARS - TOO COLD

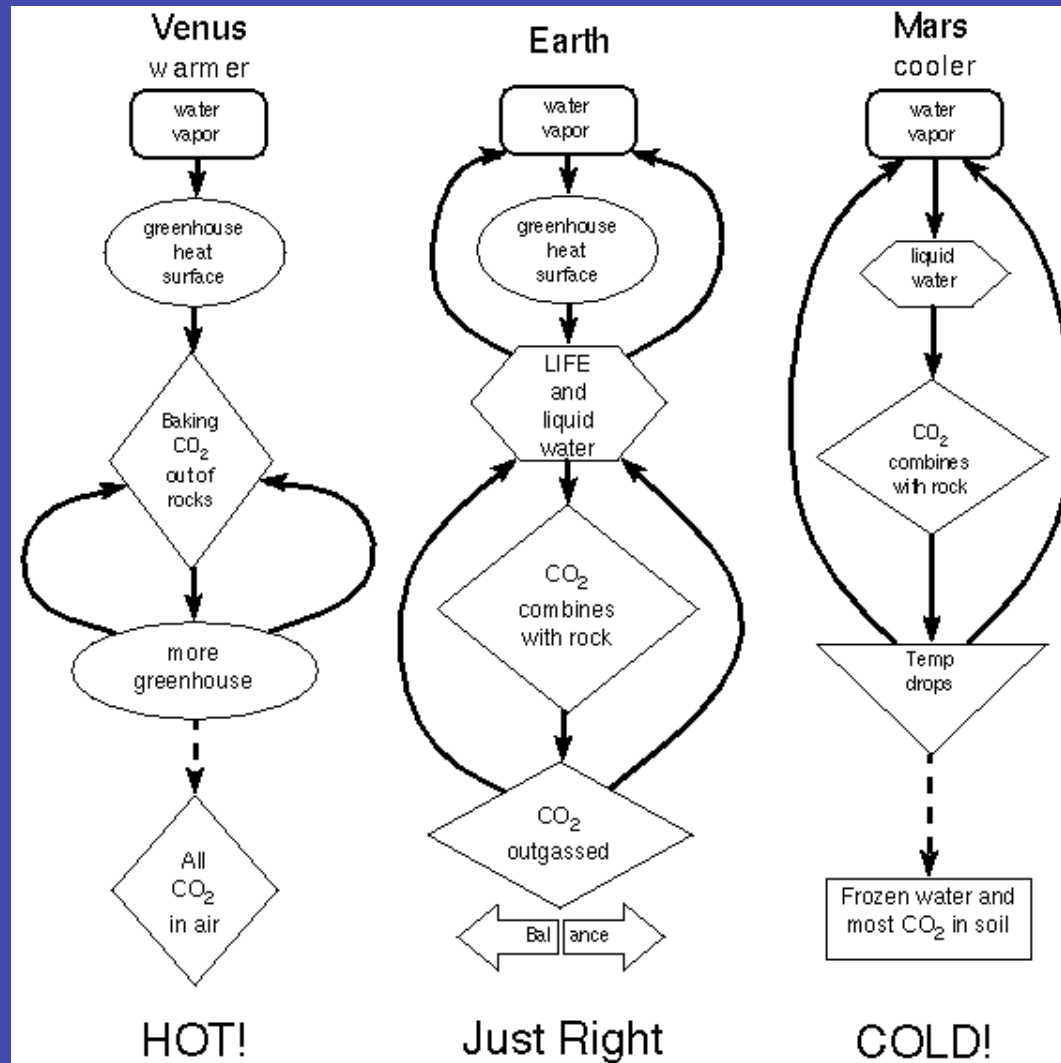
In past Mars had liquid water, as shown by sediment deposits



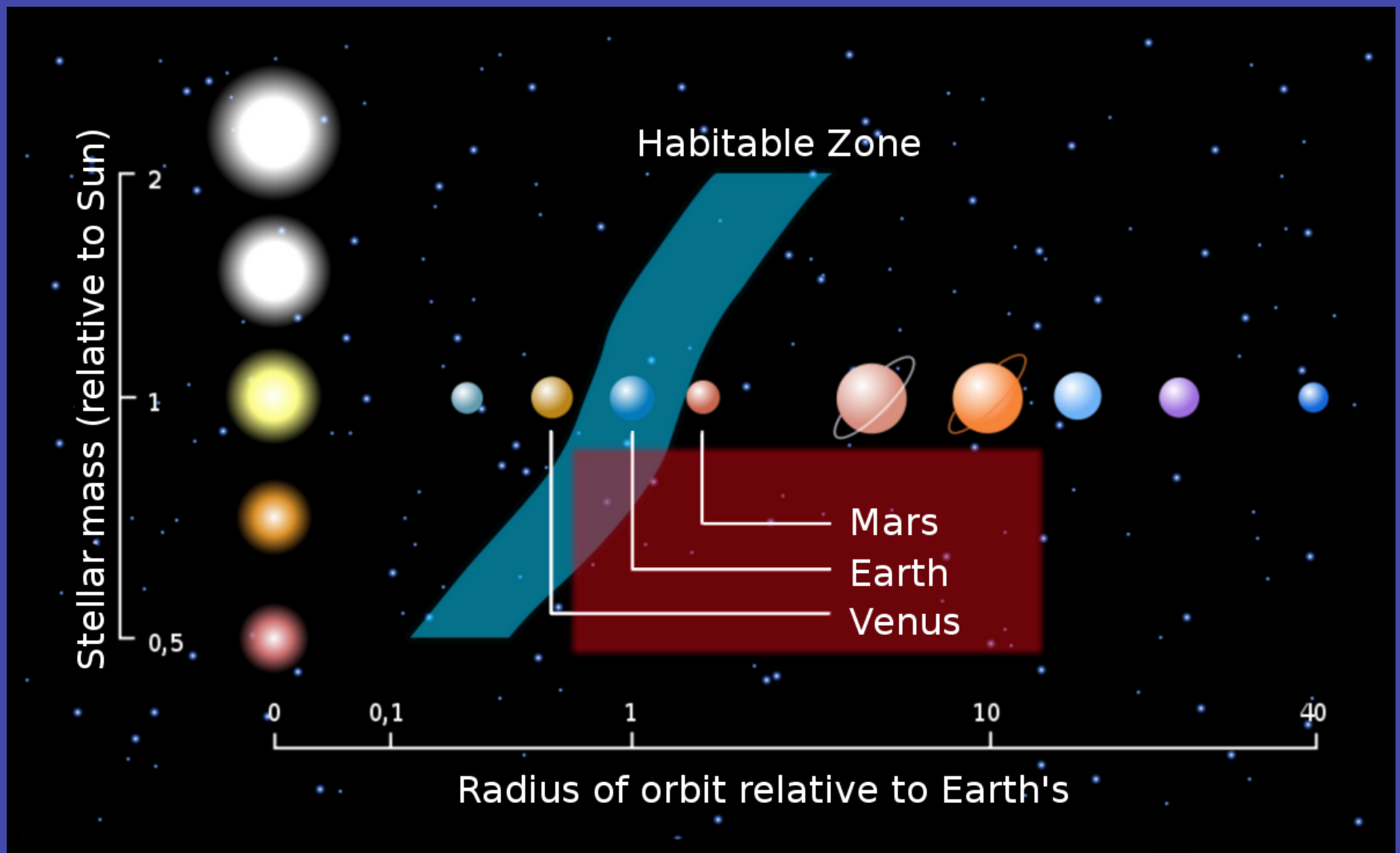
Now, however, it doesn't



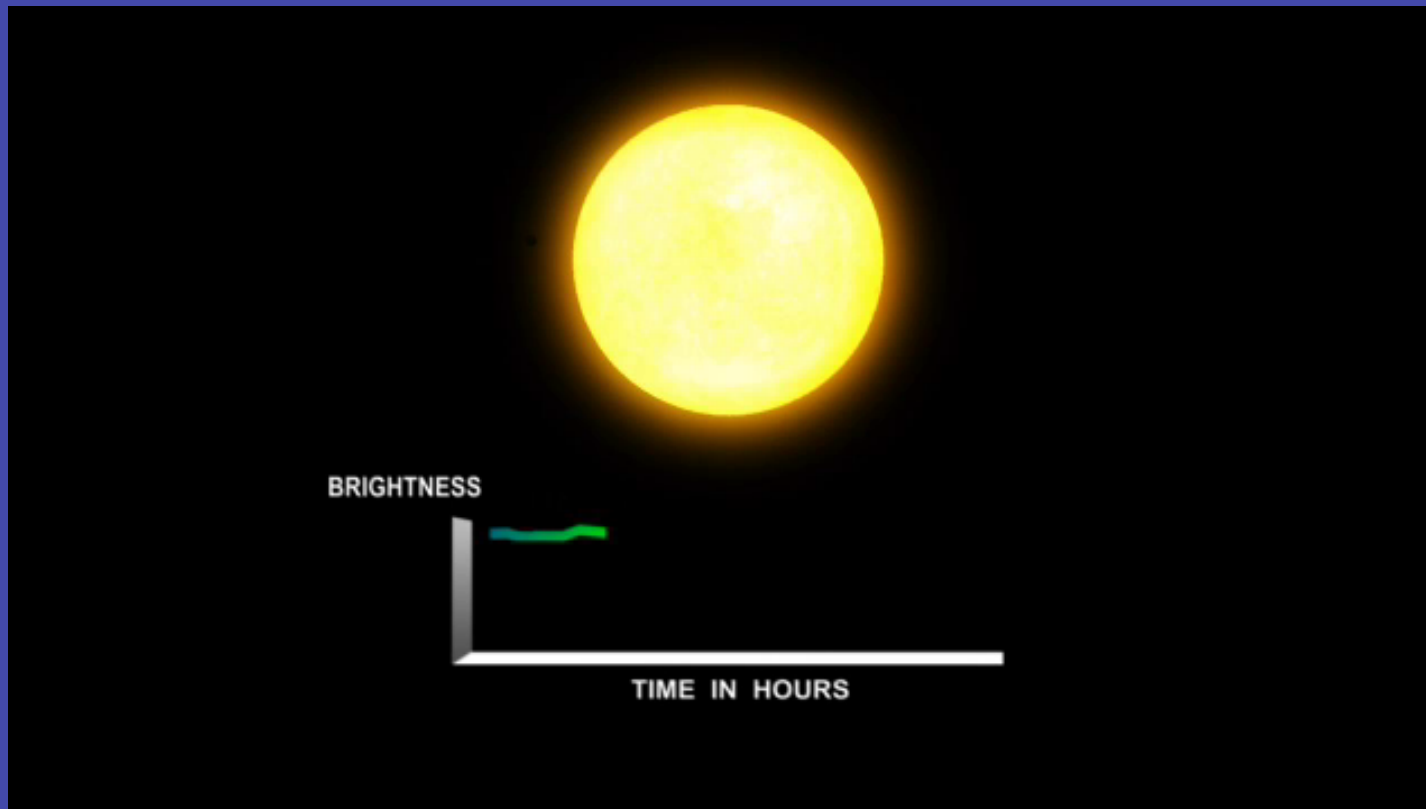
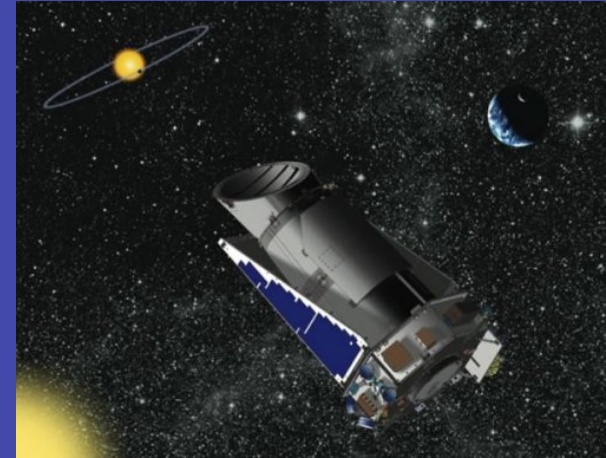
Somehow Mars climate changed, perhaps several times between hot/wet periods when "greenhouse" gases in atmosphere kept planet warm to cold/dry times without a greenhouse when the surface got too cold for liquid water and most life (if there ever was any)



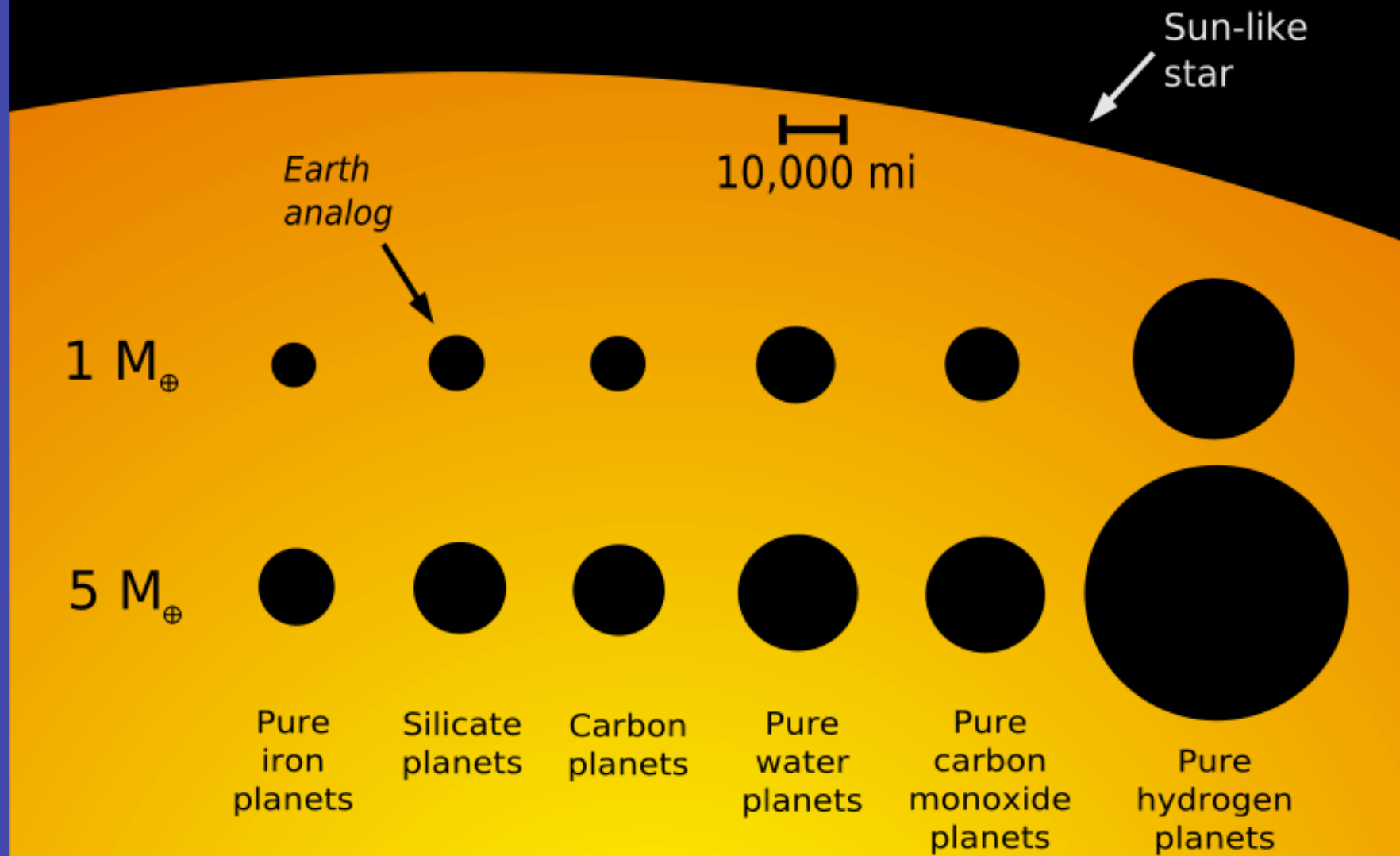
Venus has runaway greenhouse effect and no water left. Earth has life and liquid water keeping temperature balanced and most of its CO₂ in the rocks. Mars has runaway refrigerator with water frozen in permafrost layer and most of its CO₂ in the rocks or frozen on the surface.



Kepler Mission



Predicted sizes of different kinds of planets





This artist's impression shows the planet HD 85512b orbiting the Sun-like star HD 85512 about 35 light-years from Earth. This planet is about 3.6 times as massive as the Earth is at the edge of the habitable zone around the star, where liquid water, and perhaps even life, could potentially exist.