

**Reading:** OpenStax, Chapter 21, Sections 21.3 and 21.5

**NOTE:** The Oct 13 and 15th lectures will be delivered [synchronously](#) (while still being recorded for anyone who cannot attend) — *we will talk about black holes!!!*

**EXAM #2:** Wednesday, October 21 in recitation.

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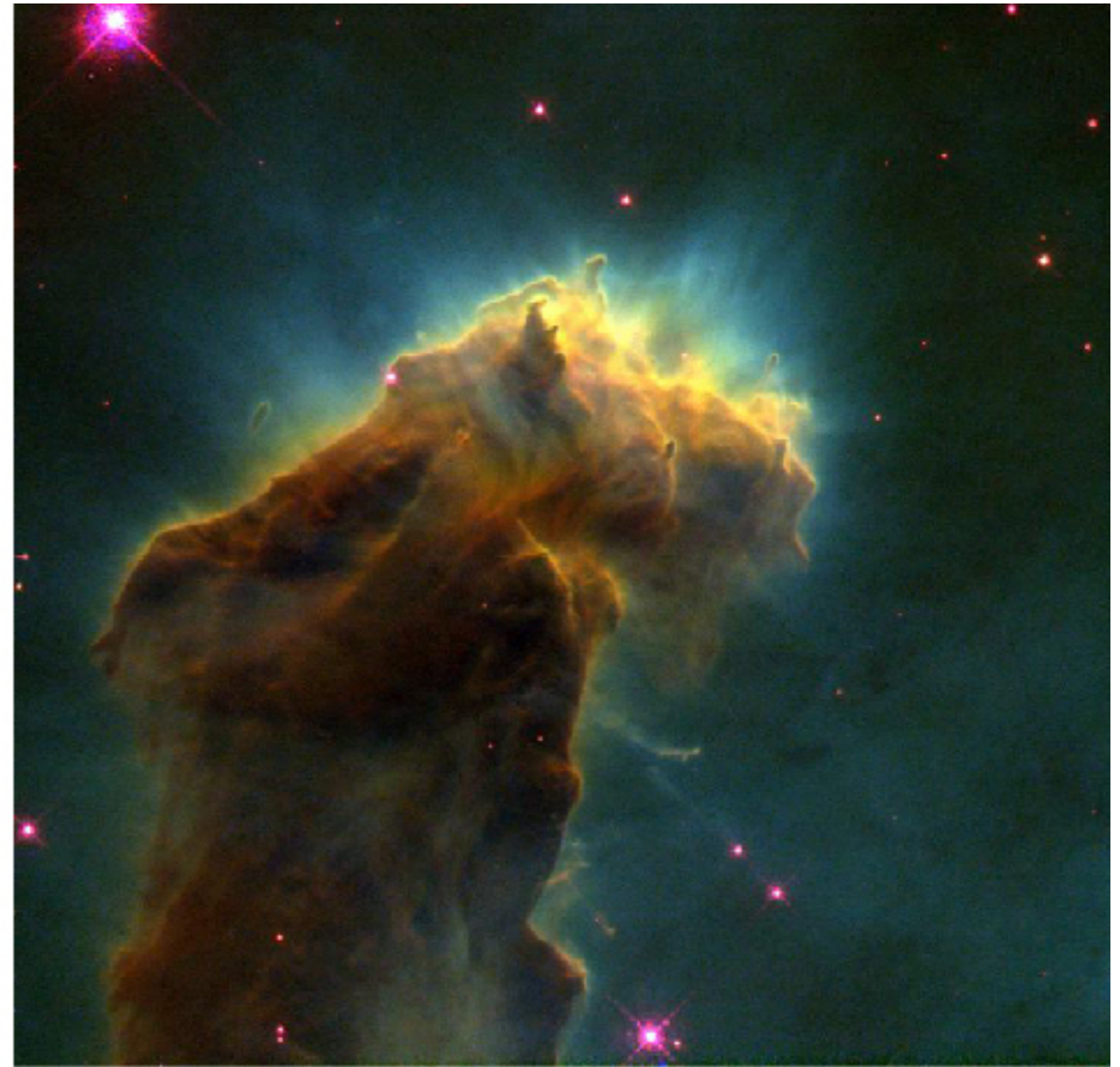
## Previously: **Star Formation I: the Interstellar Medium and Cloud Collapse**

- The interstellar medium is not uniform; different types of gas clouds
- Dust makes up only 1% of the material but has a very large impact on what we can observe.
- Gas in giant molecular clouds collapse to form stars

## Today: **Star Formation II: Clouds, disks, and planets**

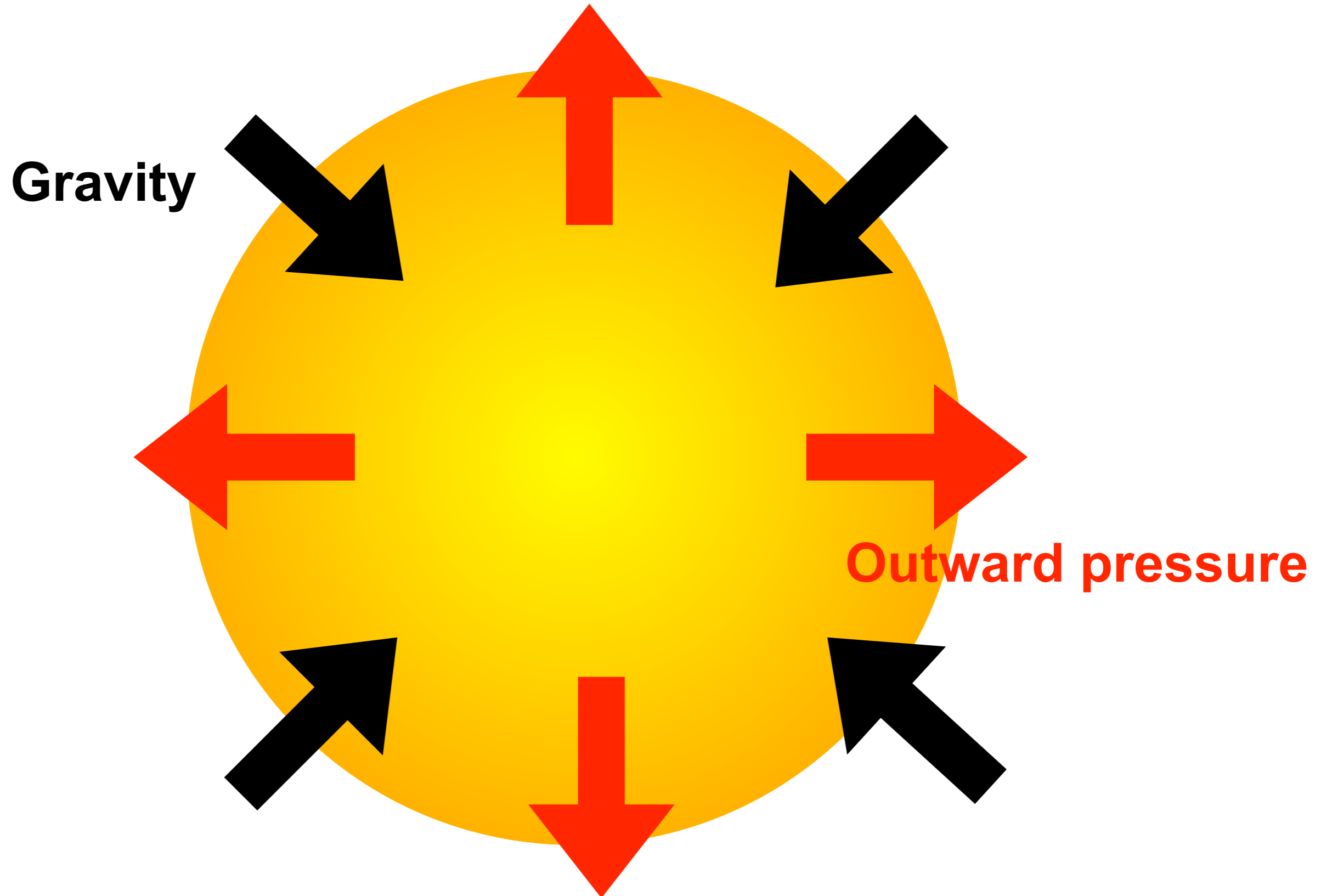
- Rotation and conservation of angular momentum leads to disks being formed around protostars
- Small dust grains within these disks grow all of the way to planets
- Nearly every star has at least one planet, and many of these exoplanet systems are different than our Solar System

# Star formation



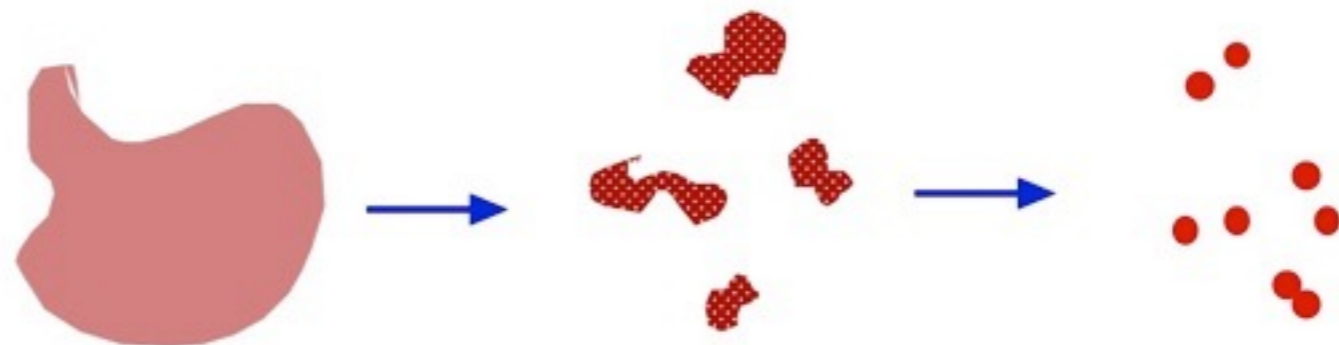
Giant molecular clouds have filamentary structures (kind of like Cirrus clouds on Earth): denser parts are called clumps and even denser parts are cores

# Star formation occurs within the densest regions: *cores*

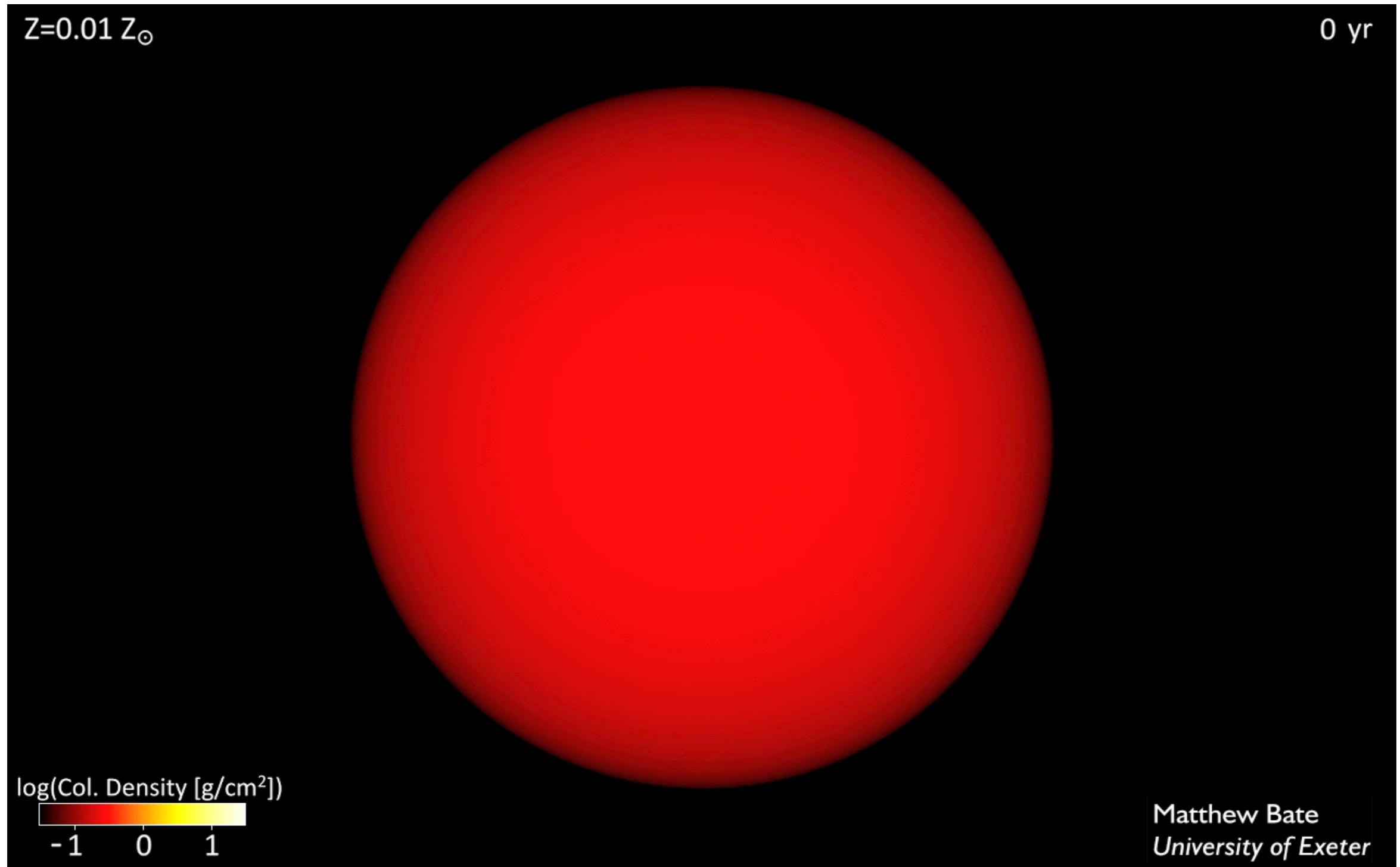


# Gravitational collapse

- How do you initiate the collapse?
  - **increase density** (kick the cloud)
    - cloud collisions
    - stellar wind sweeping
    - nearby supernovae
    - turbulence within the cloud (like a super bumpy airplane ride)
  - **fragmentation**
    - initial collapse of large cloud ( $M > 300 M_{\text{sun}}$ )
    - density increases
    - smaller fragments begin their own collapse
    - a star cluster?



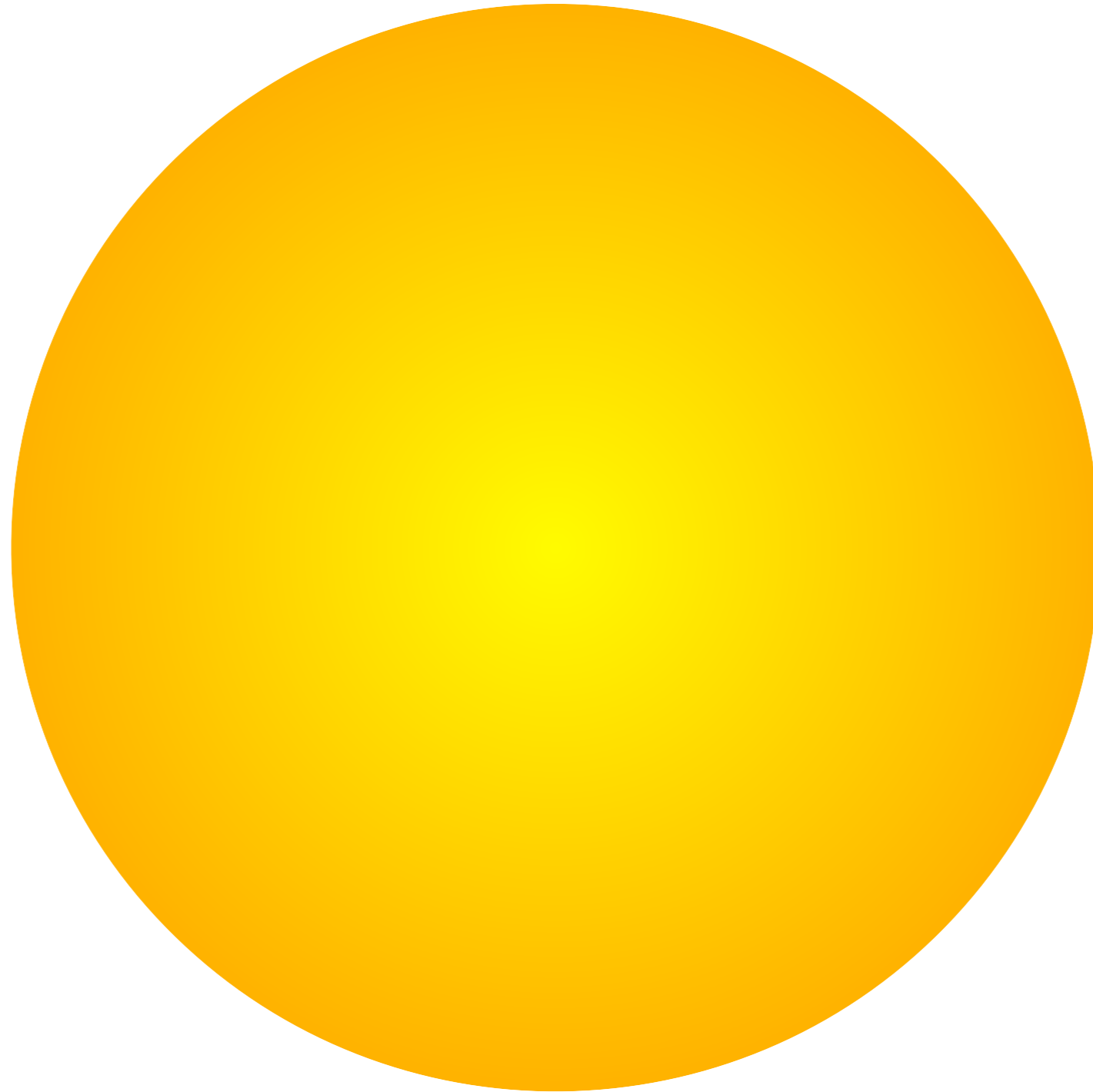
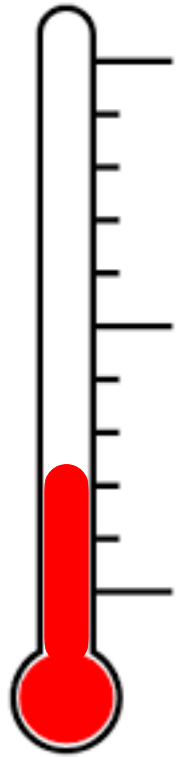
# Gravitational collapse



# From Cloud to Star

- Cloud Cores:
  - Dense knots within fragments; seeds of protostars
- The Protostar Phase
  - initial collapse is fast ( $< 10^5$  yr)
  - core heats up  $\rightarrow$  pressure balances gravity
  - slow contraction  $\rightarrow$  grav. energy ( $10^6$ ) yr
- The Pre-Main Sequence Phase
  - larger (still) than M.S. stars
  - more luminous than M.S. stars
  - cooler than M.S. stars
  - still too cool for nuclear burning
- $10^7$  yr - core hot enough  $>$  H ignition (in pre-Sun)
- $3 \times 10^7$  years -  $1 M_{\text{sun}}$  star settles onto M.S.
- more massive stars reach M.S. faster

# Protostar shines not from nuclear fusion but from gravitational contraction!

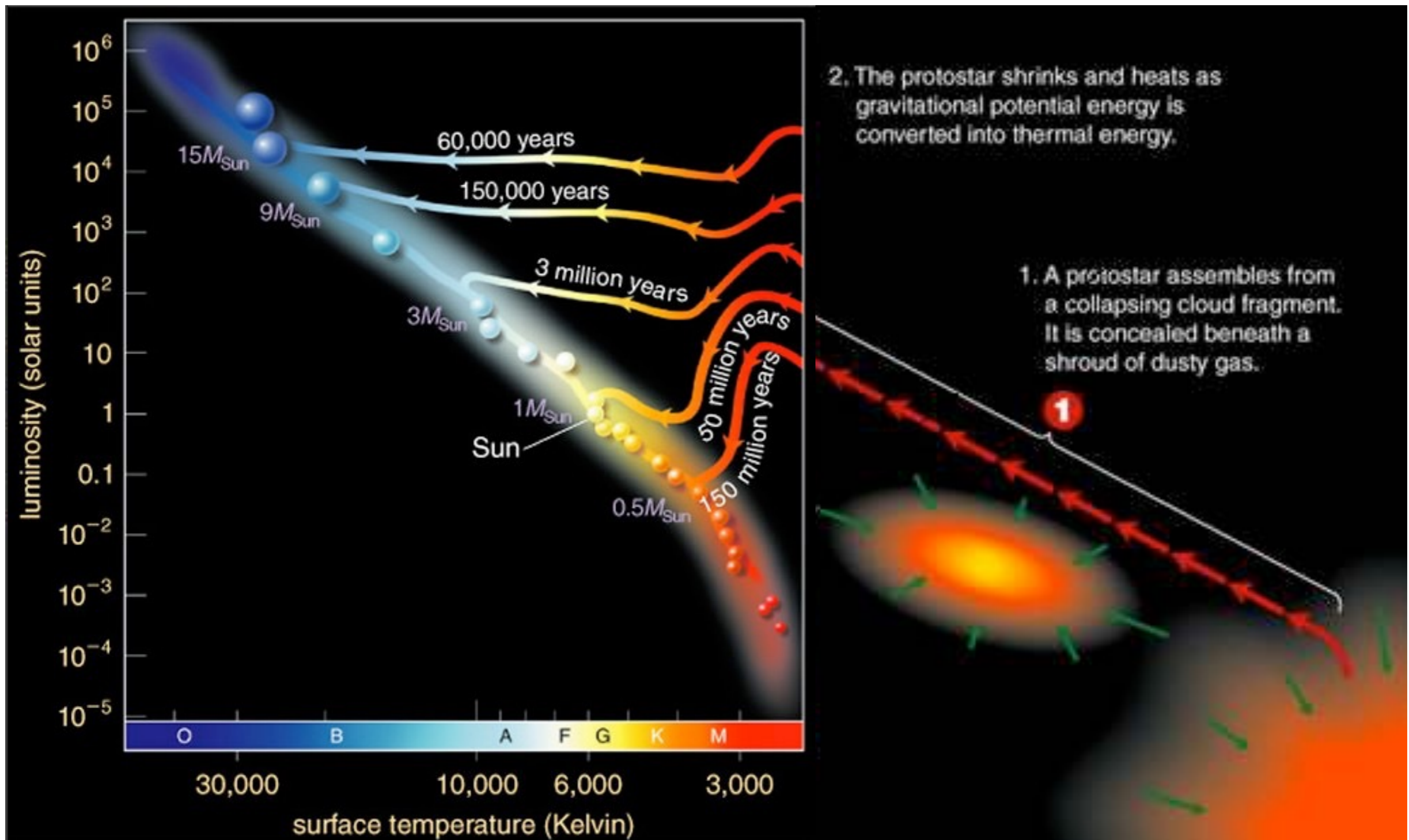


# From Cloud to Star

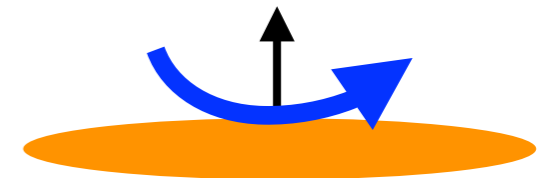
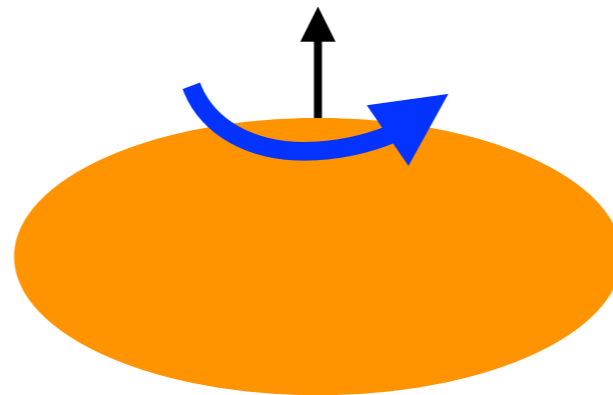
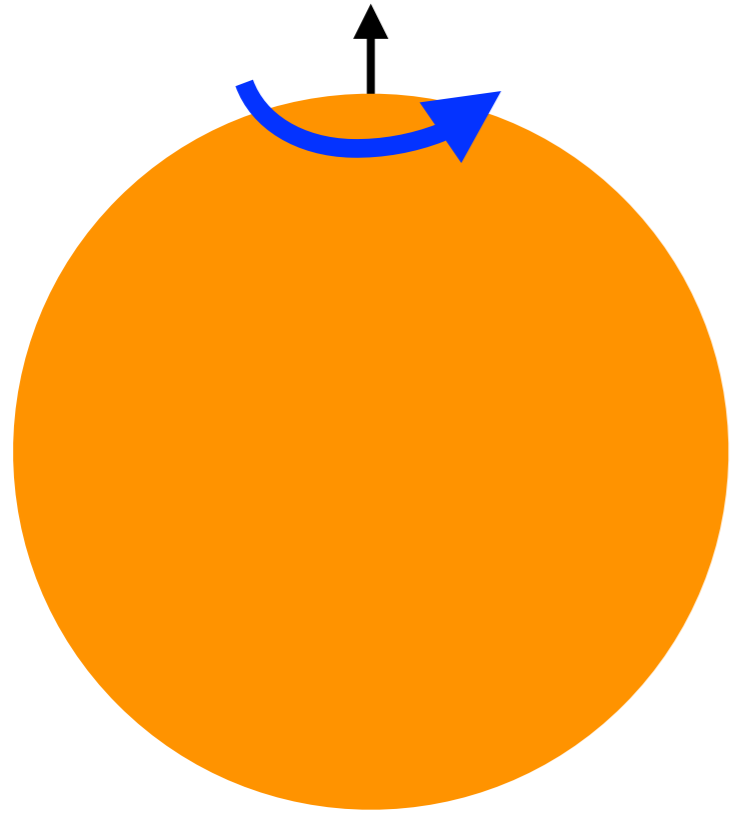
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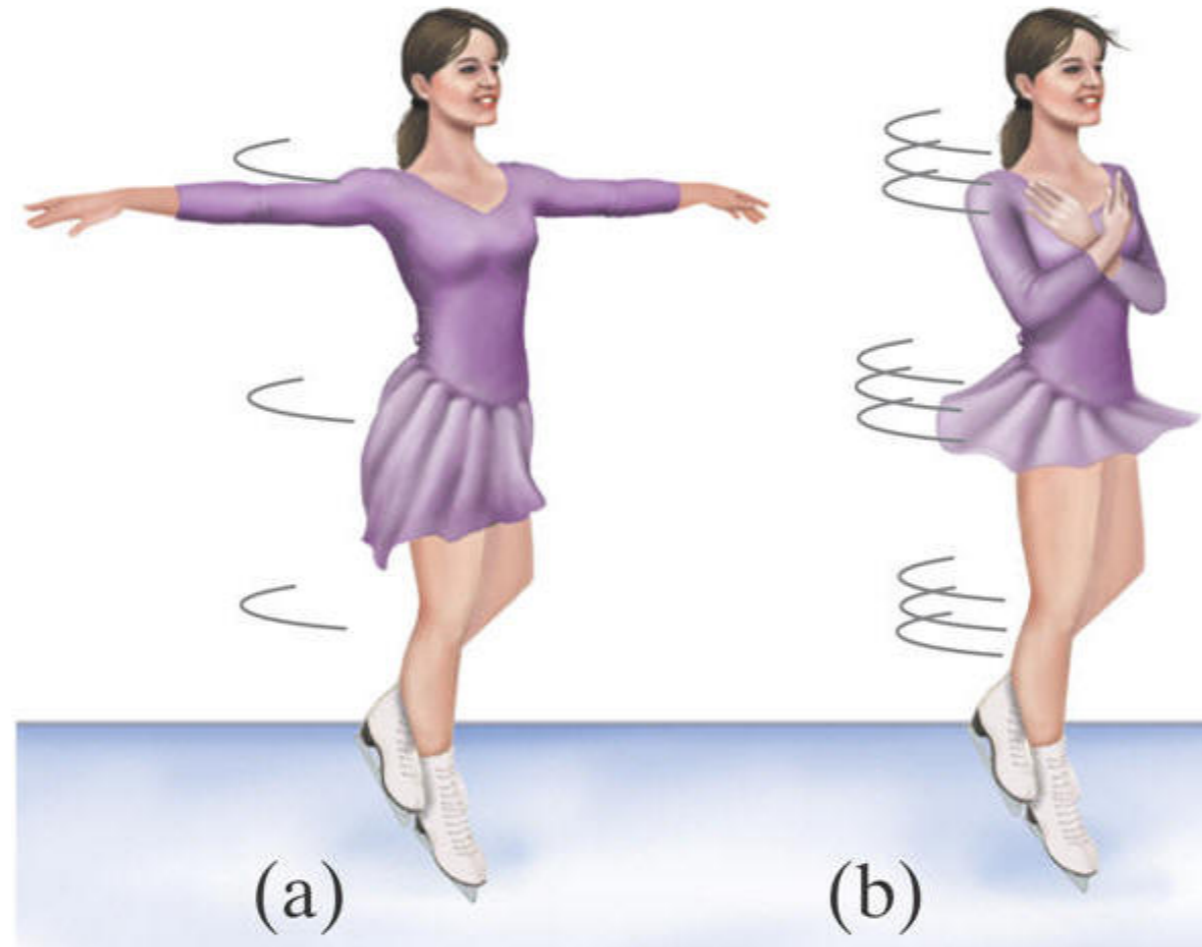
# From Cloud to Star



# Disks form with protostars



# Why does this happen?



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VmeM0BNnGR0>

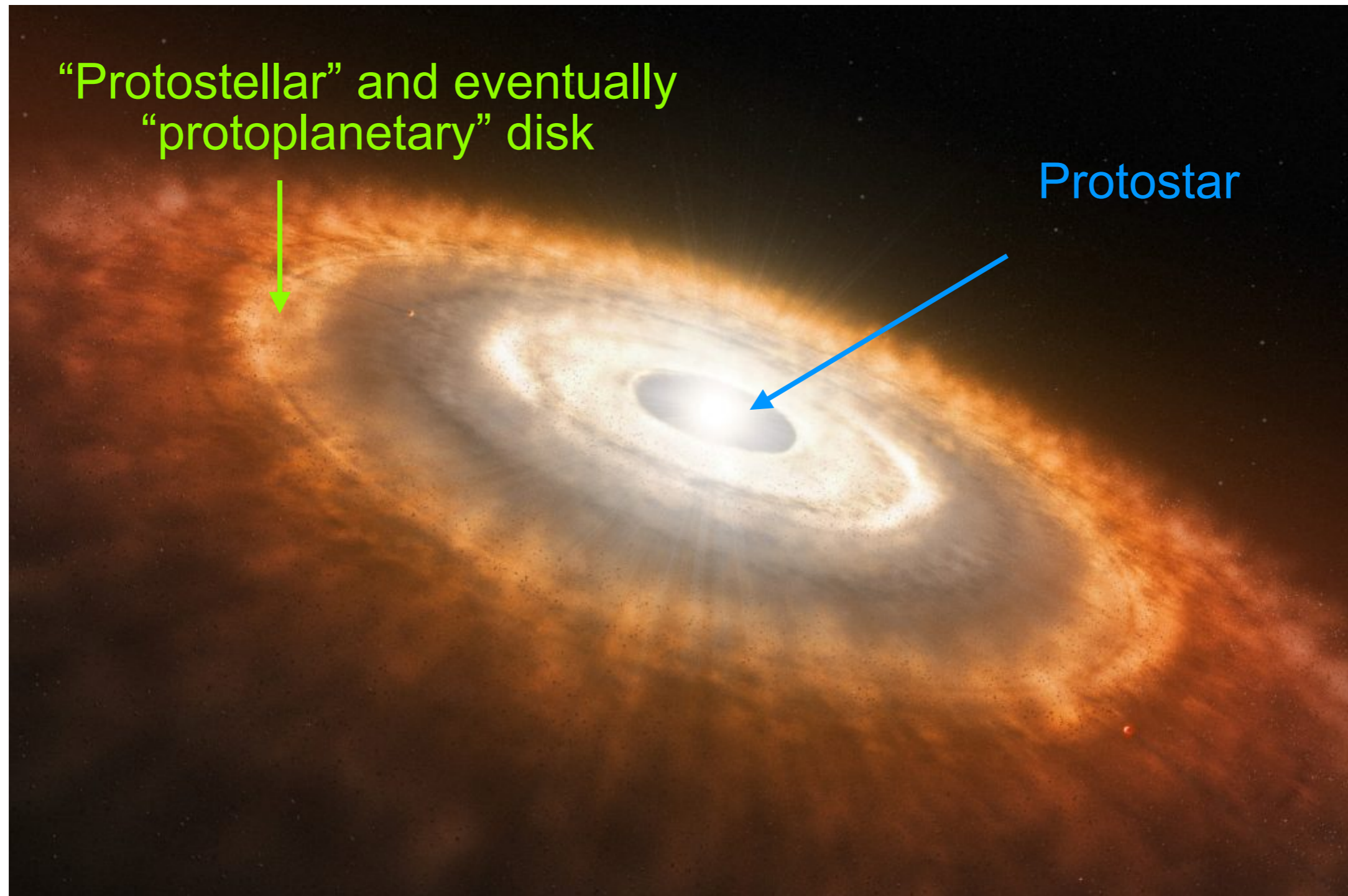
**So, the blob spins faster as it collapses  
to conserve angular momentum!**

# As the spin increases, material gets “flung” outward



<https://www.wired.com/2011/09/spinning-merry-go-round-of-death/>

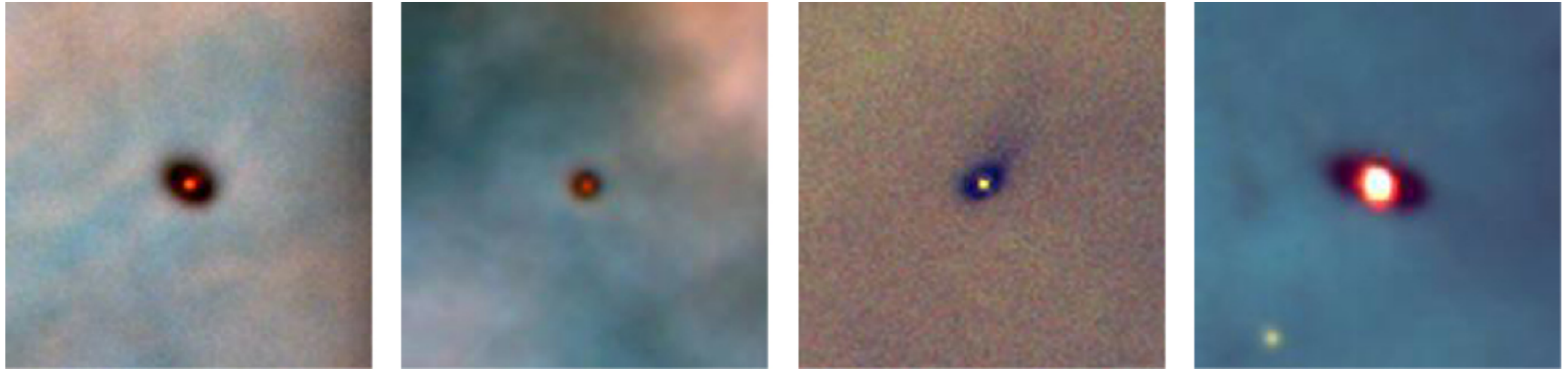
# Some material is flung outward and forms a disk



“Protostellar” and eventually  
“protoplanetary” disk

Protostar

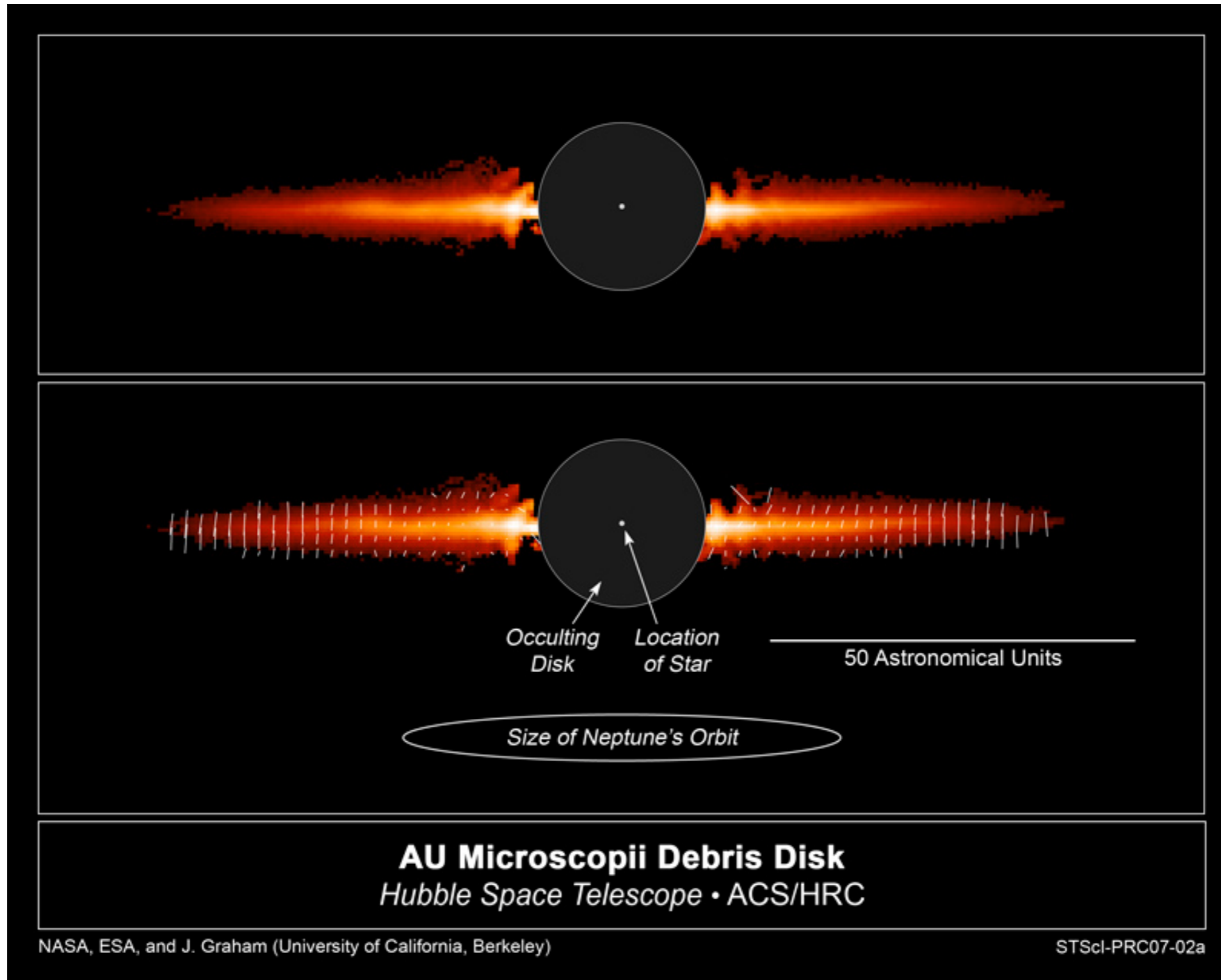
# Observations of protoplanetary disks



*They are easiest to see by looking at the dust (infrared and mm emission!)*

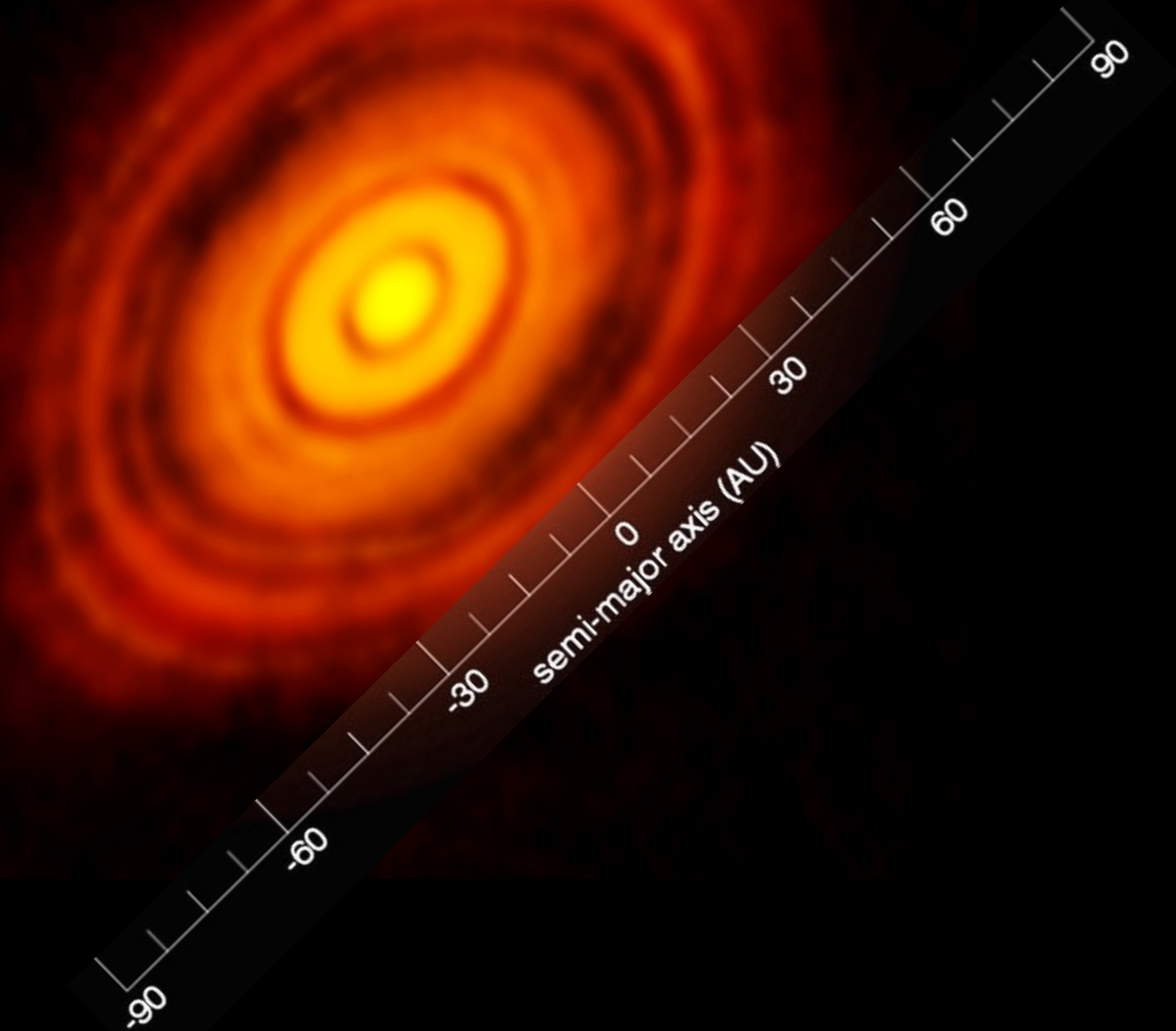
*But you can see them in \*emission lines\* too!*

# Observations of protoplanetary disks





HL Tau - a planetary system in formation  
imaged in sub-mm by ALMA interferometer

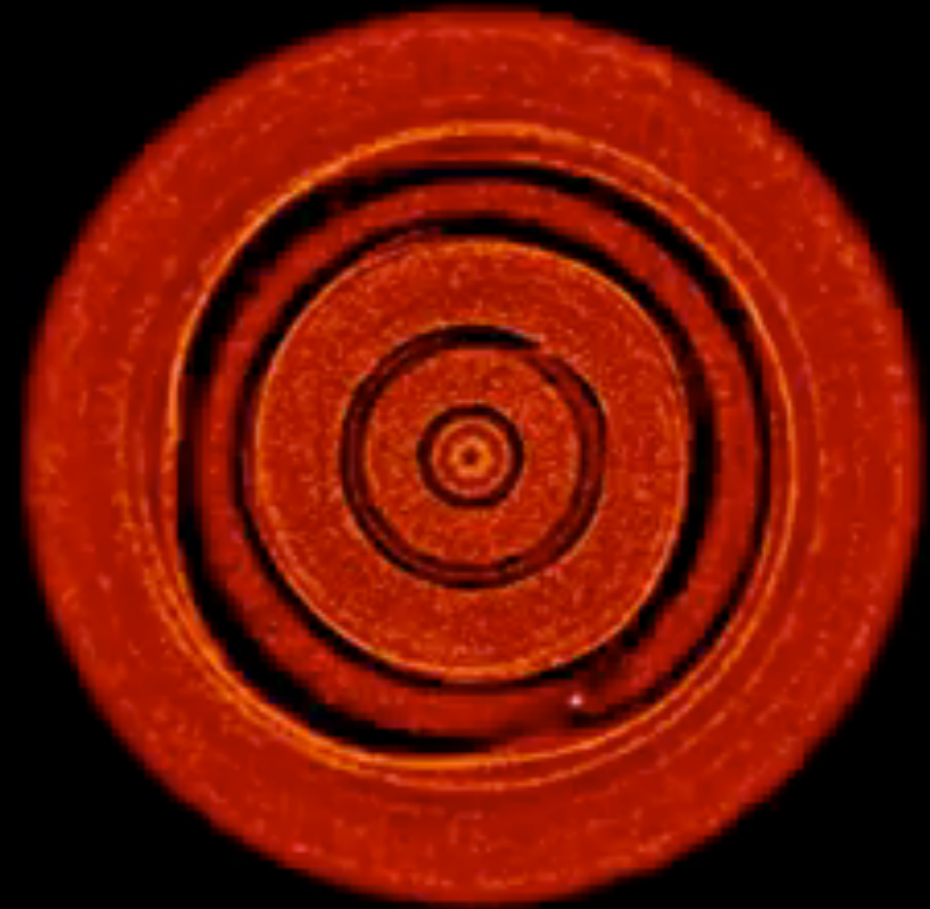
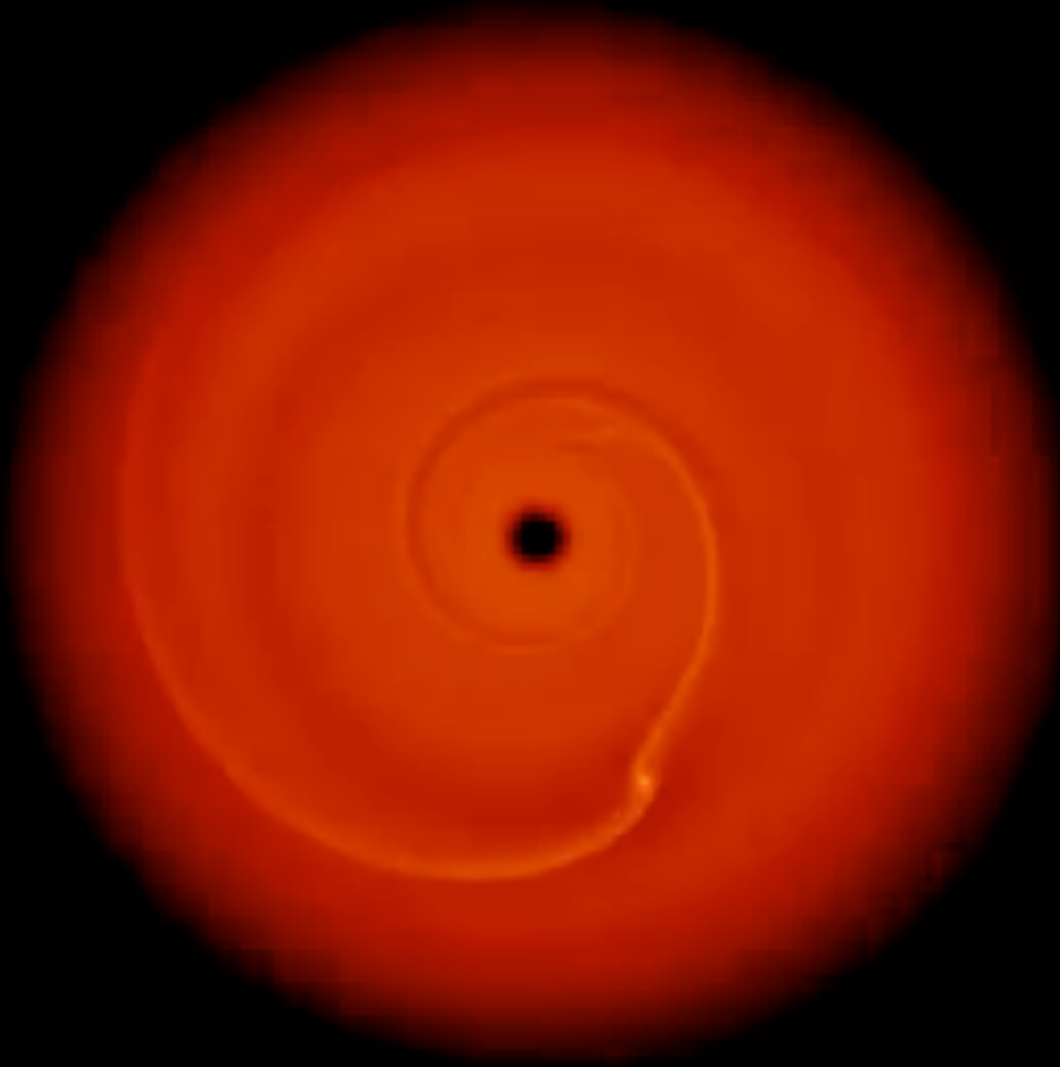


# Simulation of HL Tau

gas

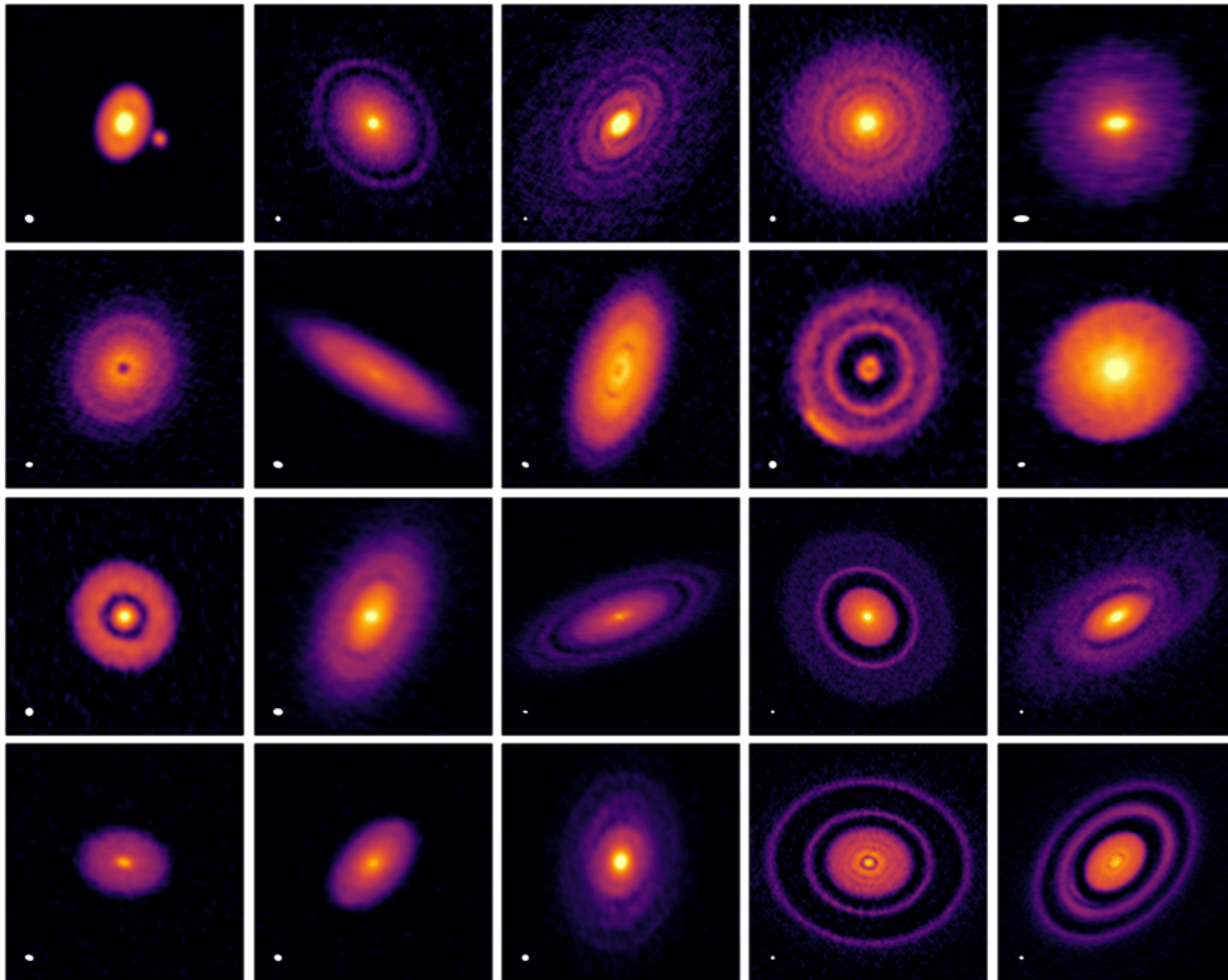
dust

3406 yrs



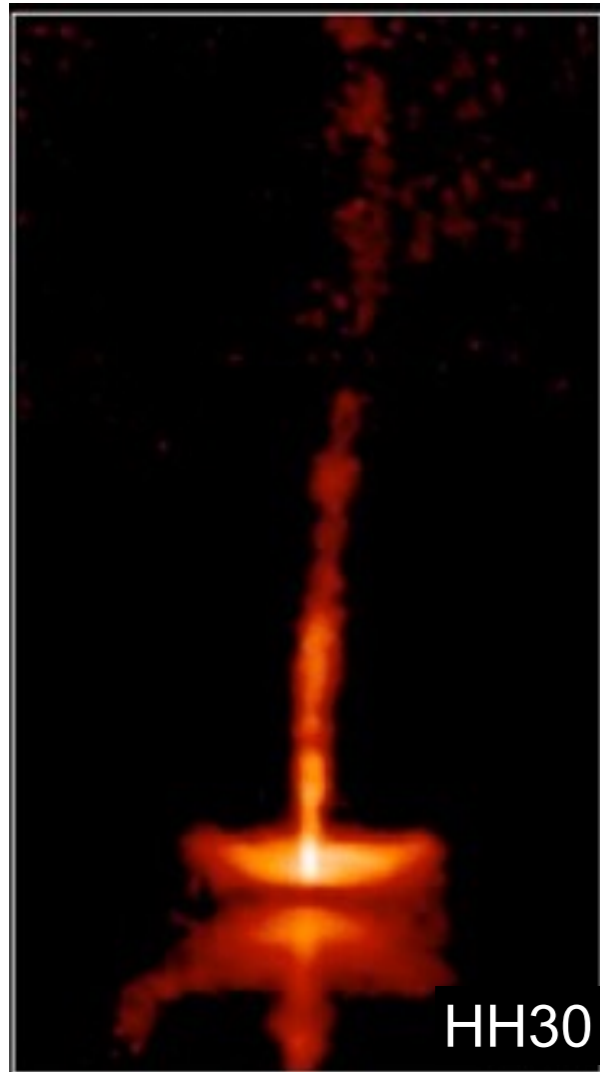
Dipierro, Price, Laibe, Hirsh, Cerioli and Lodato

# Many disks have rings

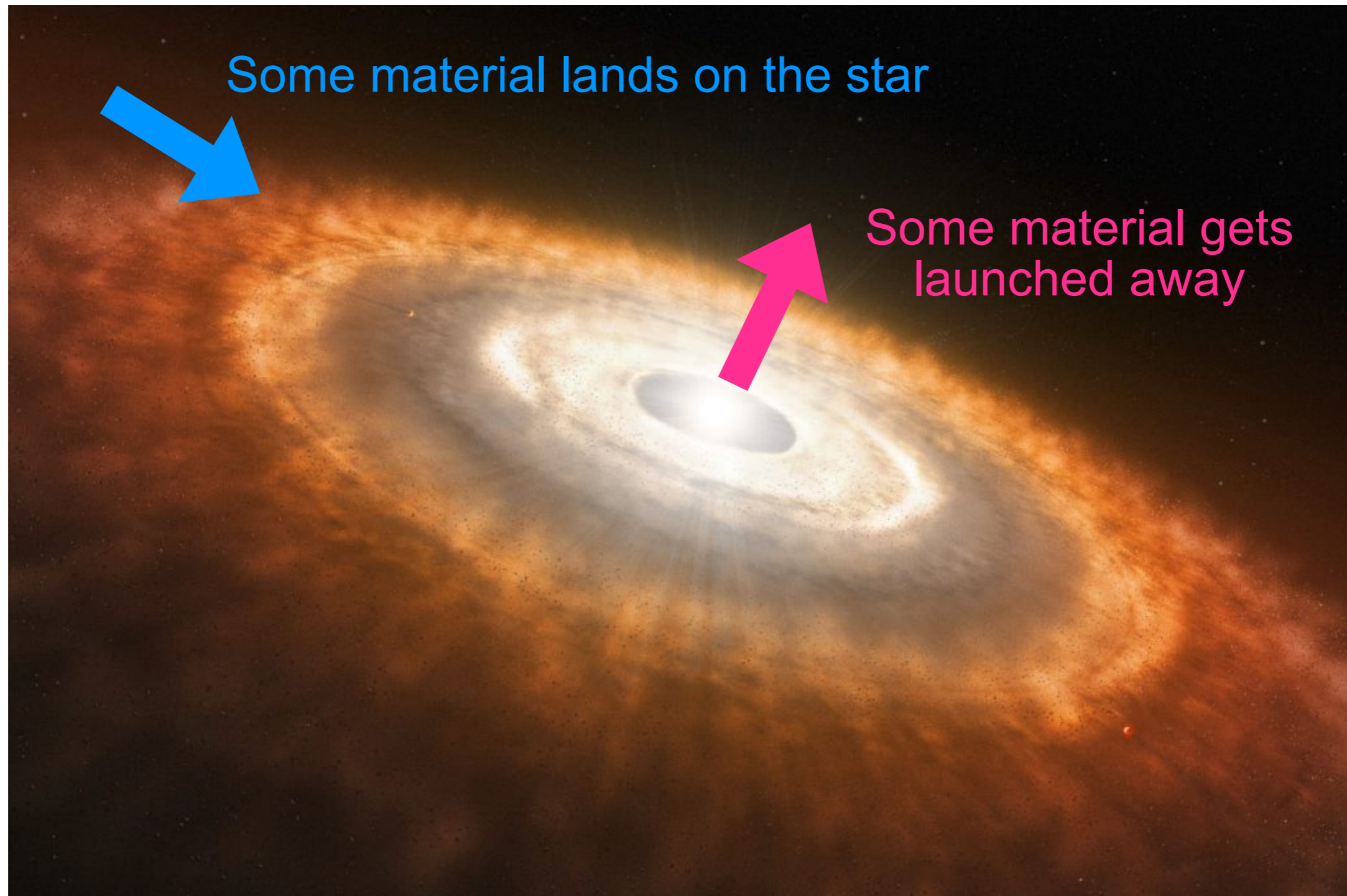


*DSHARP*

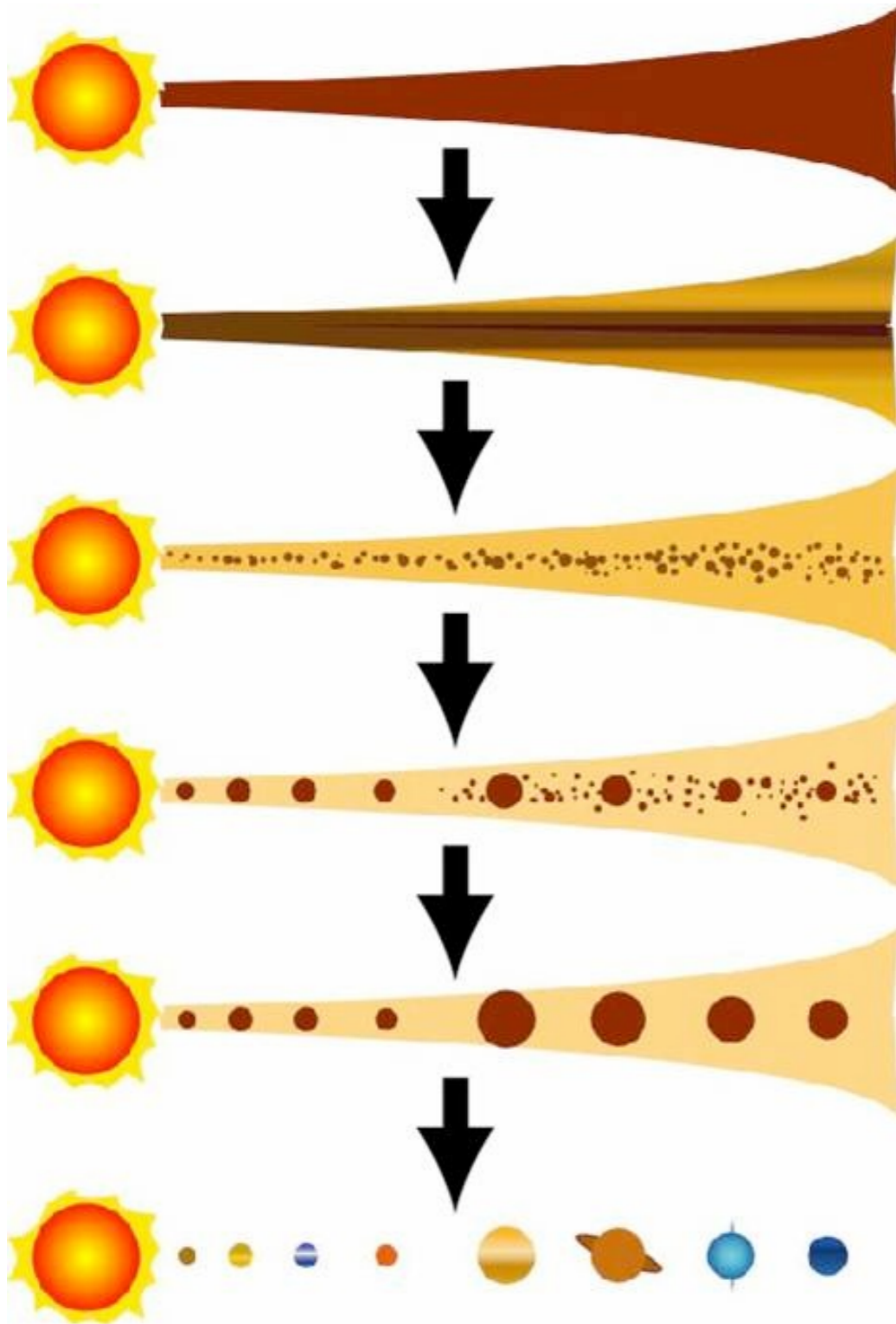
# Often times, there are also jets



# How does this work?

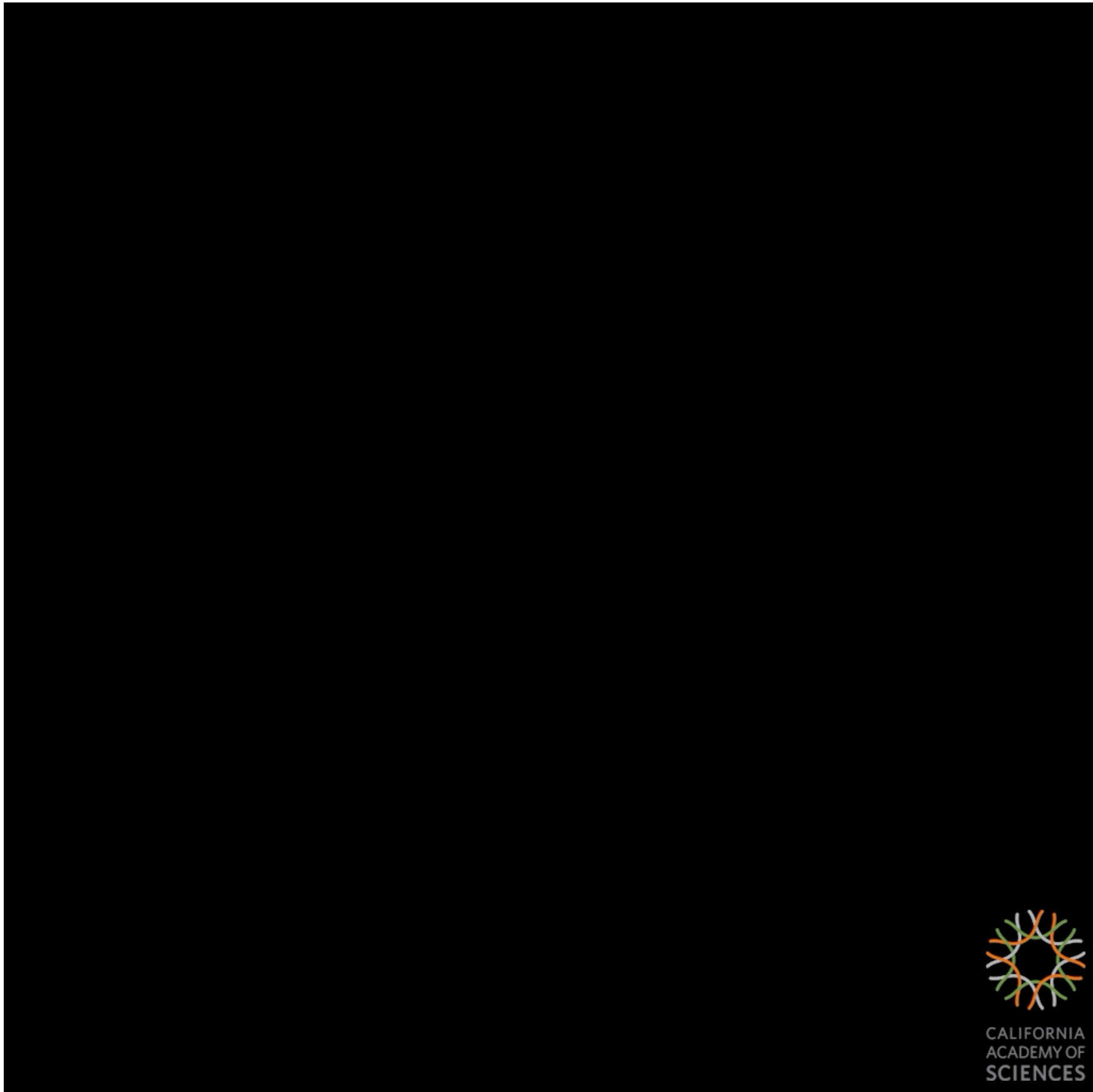


# Planet formation



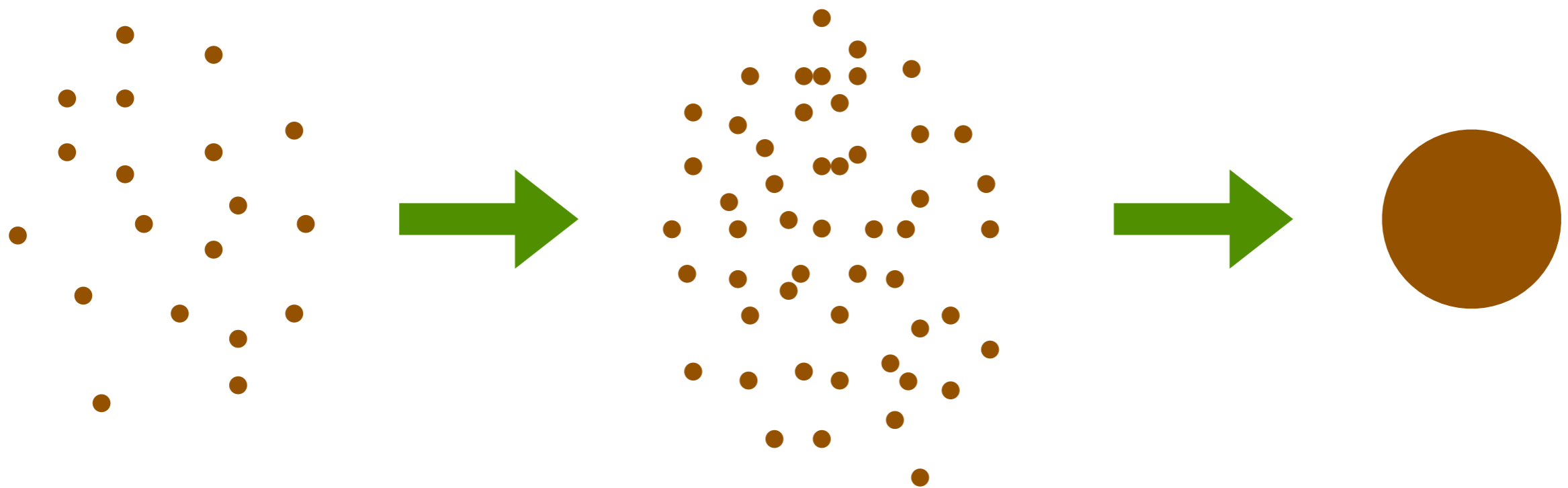
- Dust settles out (like a room that hasn't been dusted for awhile)
- Dust starts to grow to larger and larger particles (like dust bunnies in your corner). Eventually, this doesn't work anymore
- Eventually “planetesimals” form (these are small planet-like bodies, e.g., asteroids) through gravity
- Planetesimals either sweep up the remaining dust particles or merge together to form planets

# Planetesimal formation



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# Planetesimal formation



Swarming of small particles (~cm in size)

Swarming continues and grows!

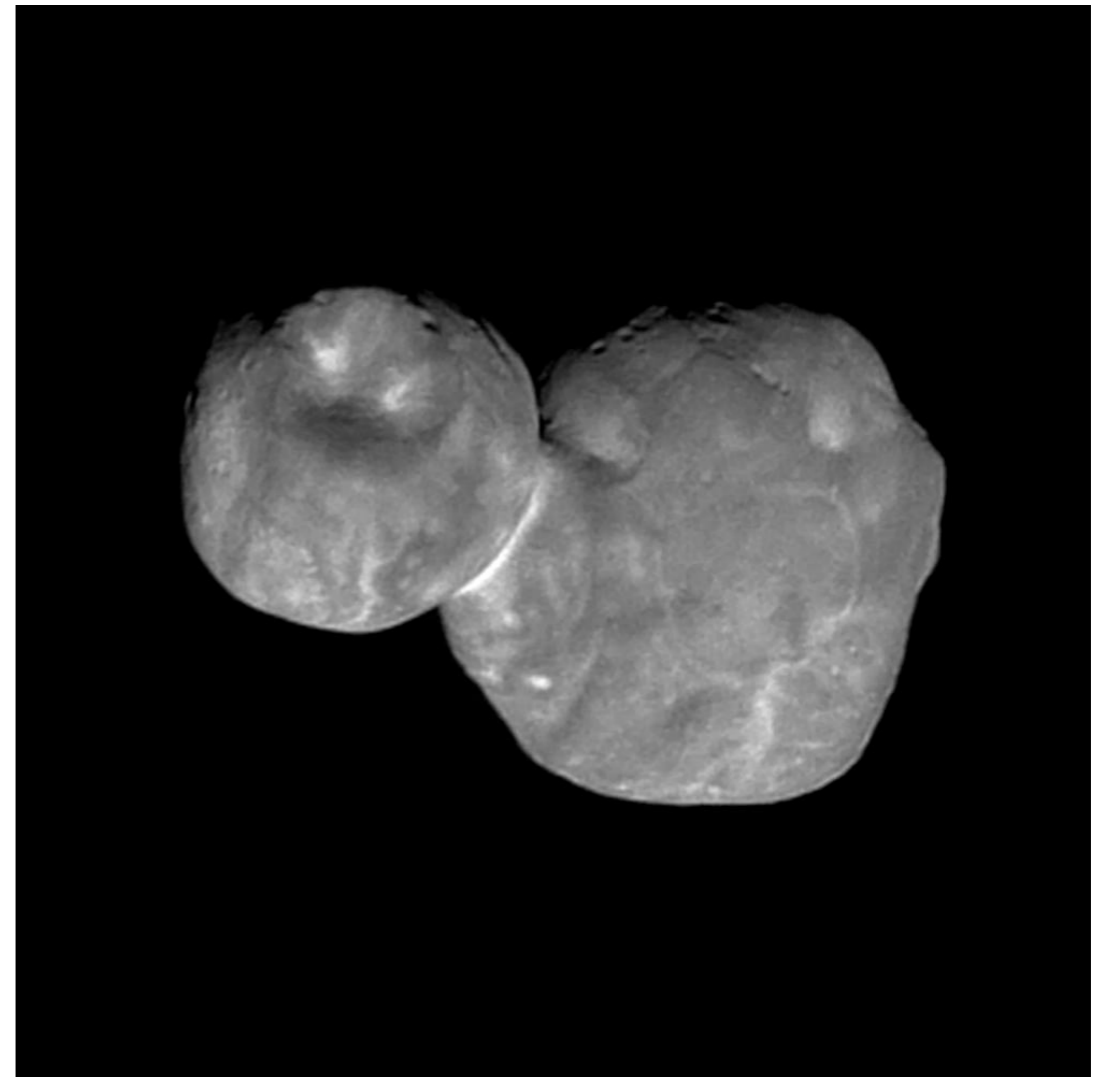
Eventually gravity takes over and a planetesimal is born!



# Planetesimals

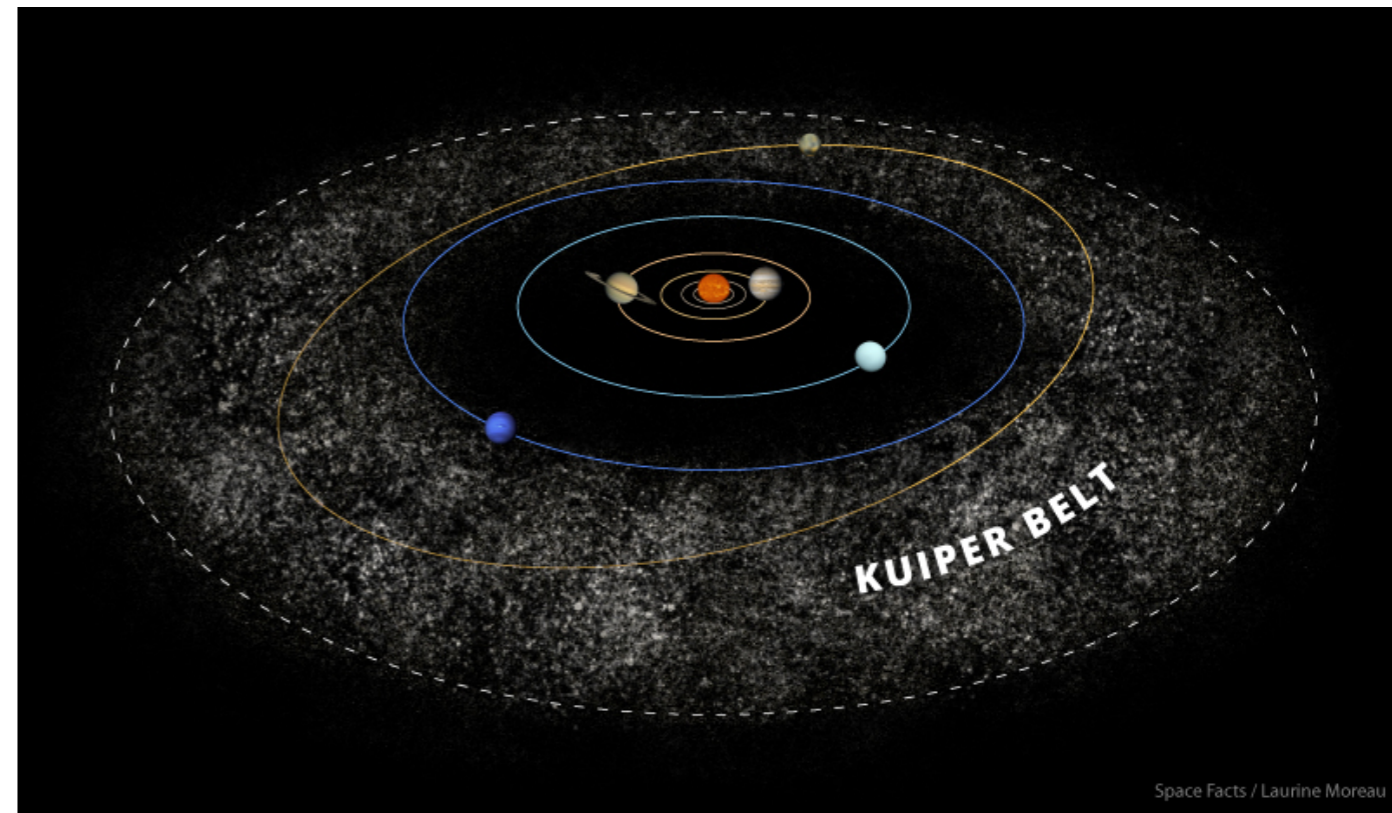
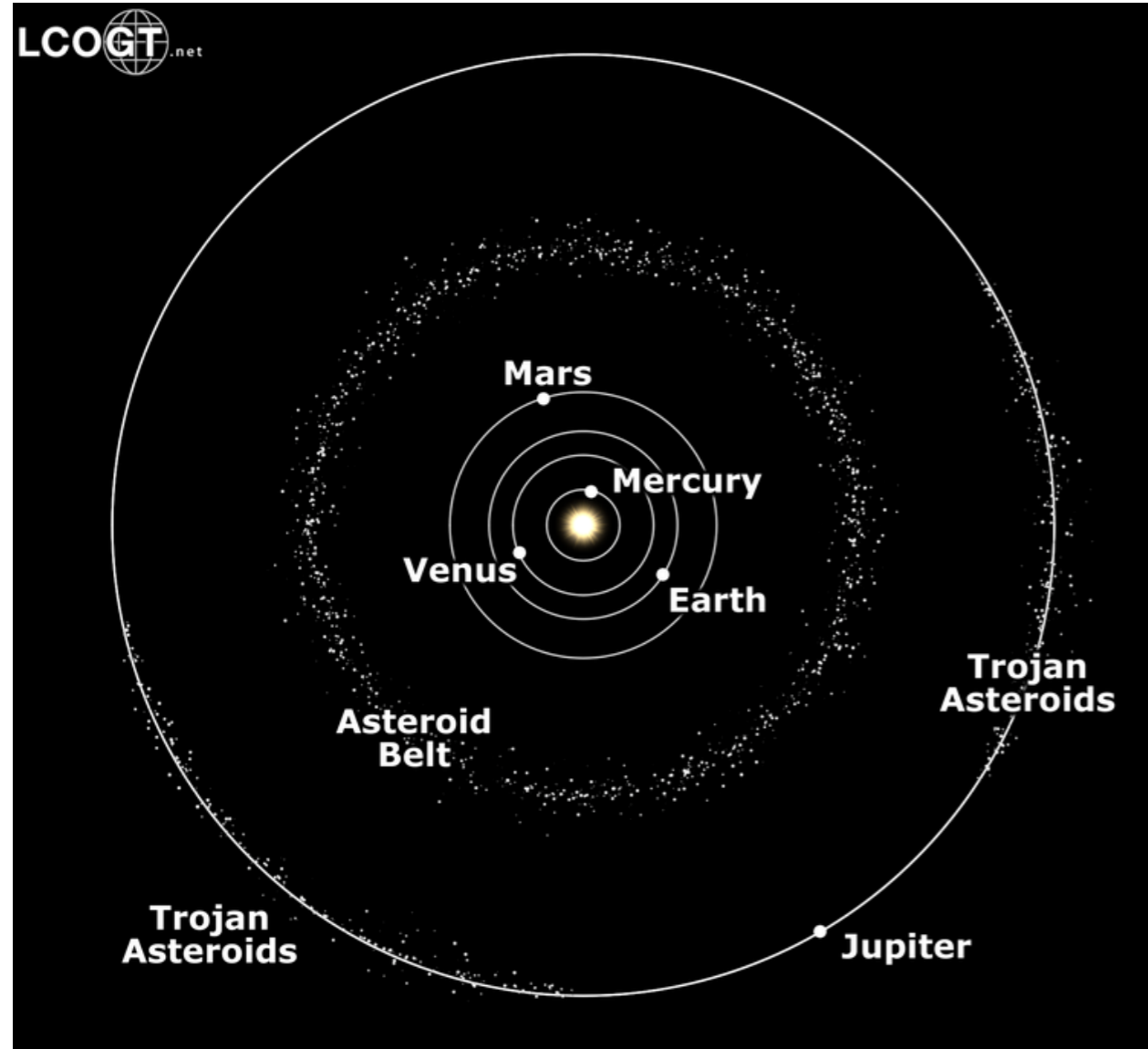


*Rosetta*

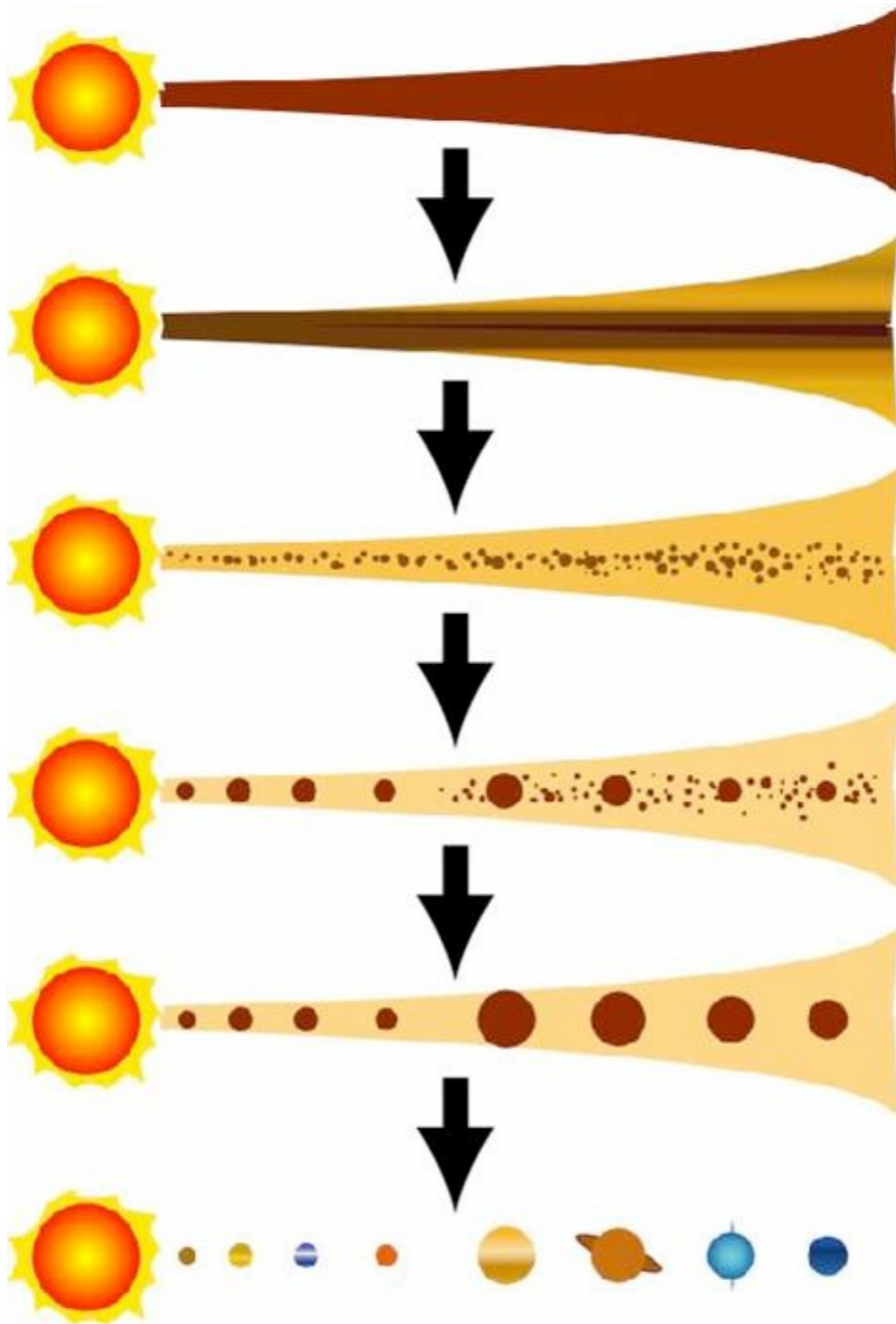


*MU69 (aka Arrokoth), credit: NASA/JHU APL/SwRI*

# Planetesimals

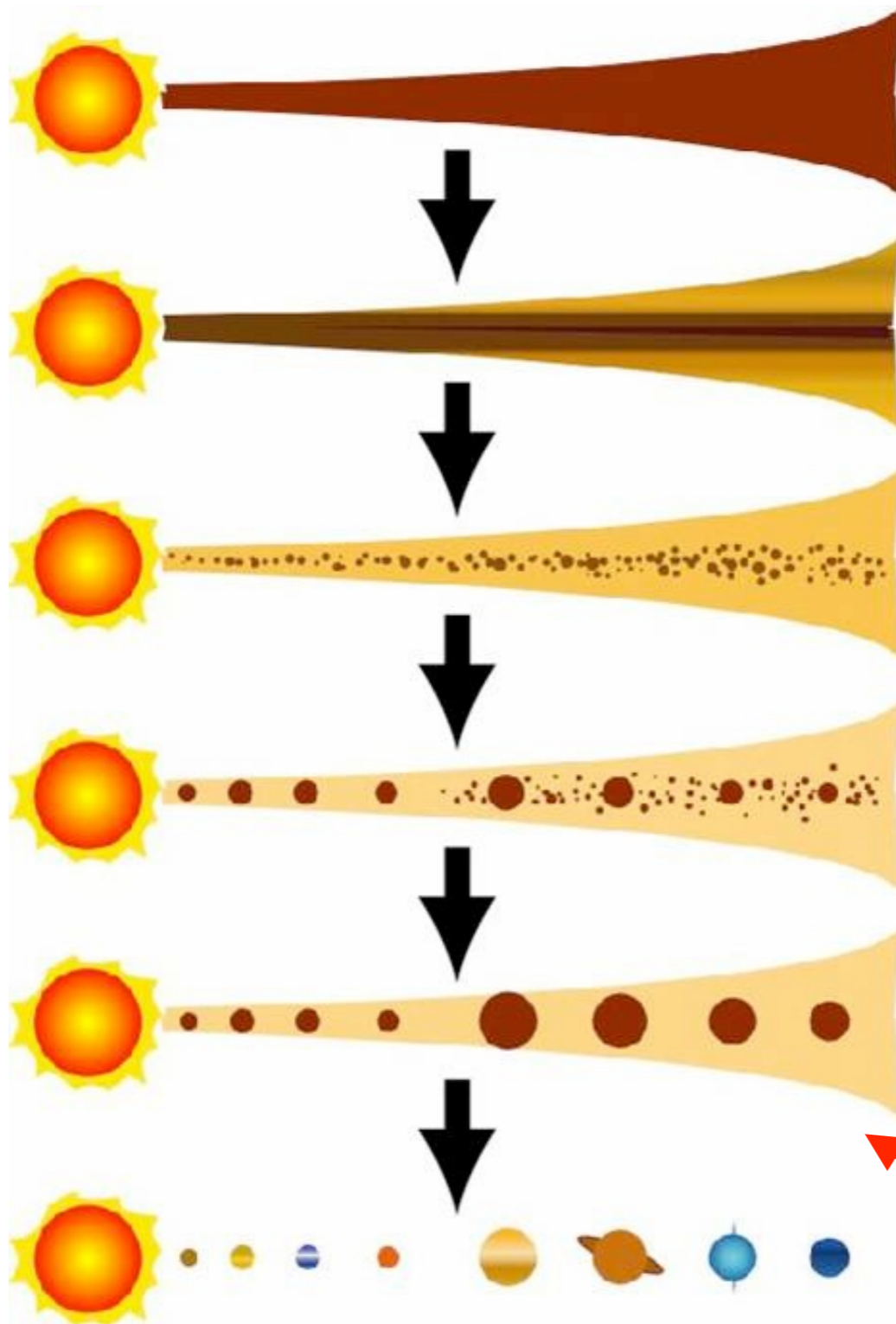


# Planet formation



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# Planet formation

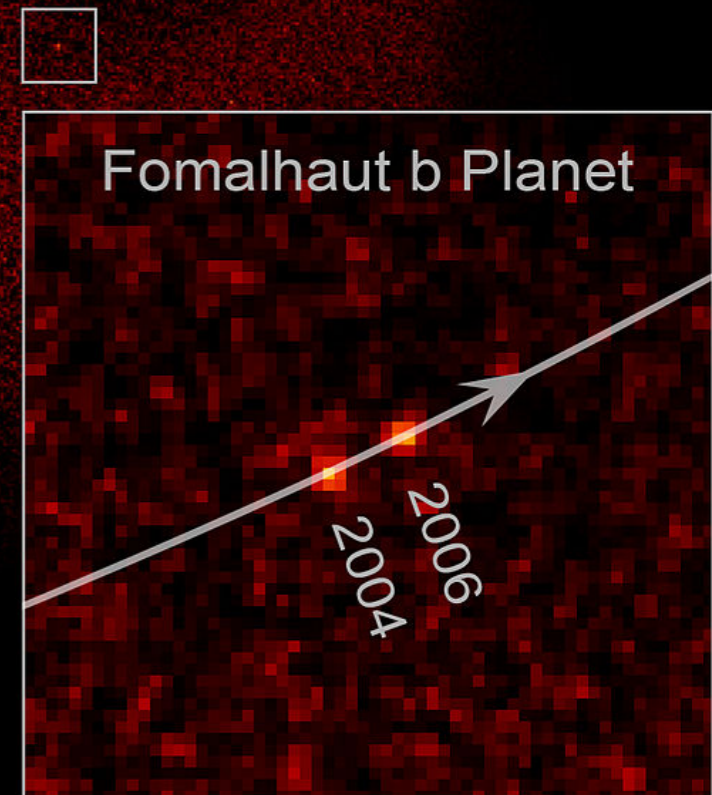


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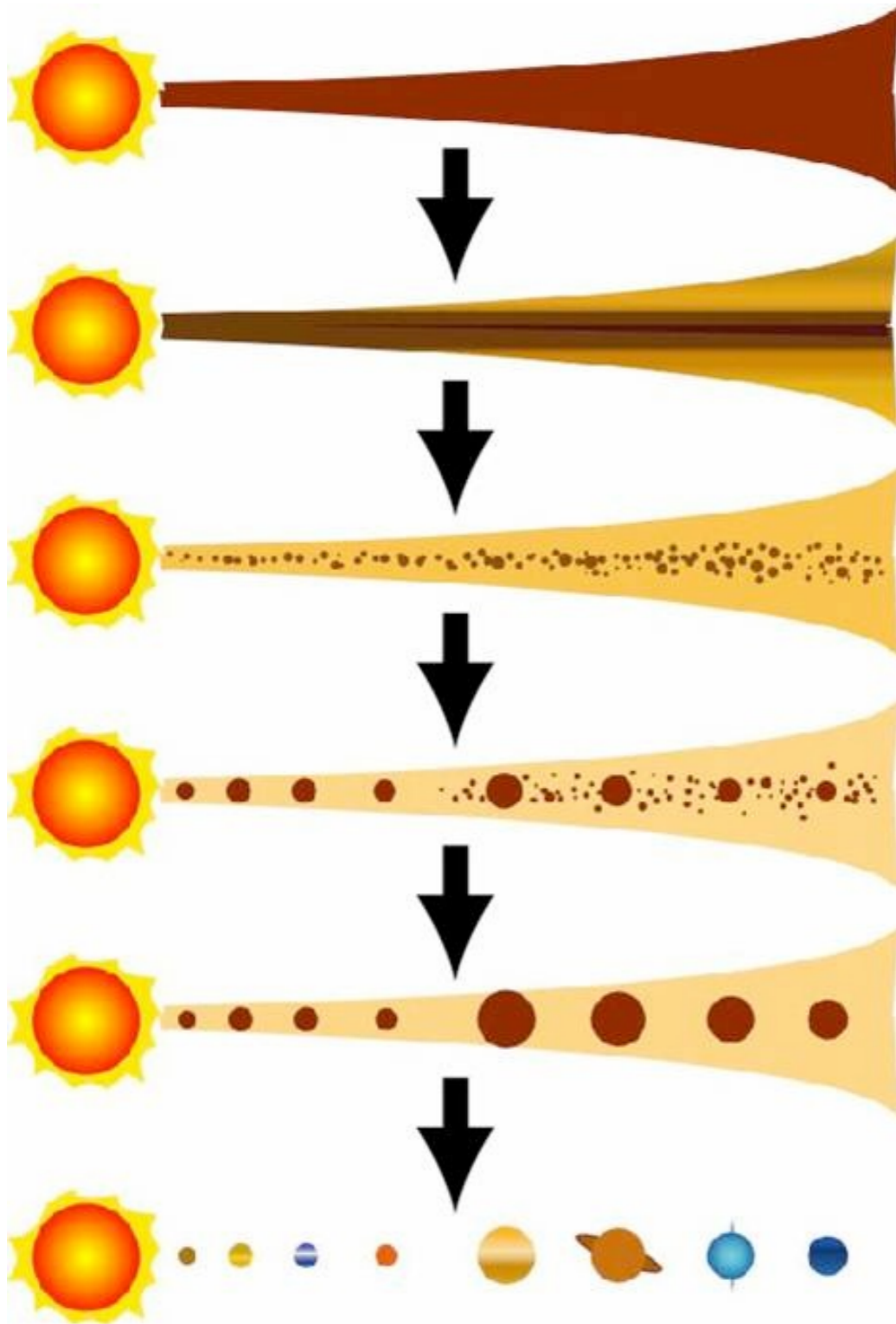
Also, radiation (and other effects) blow away the remaining gas!

# Debris Disks

Fomalhaut

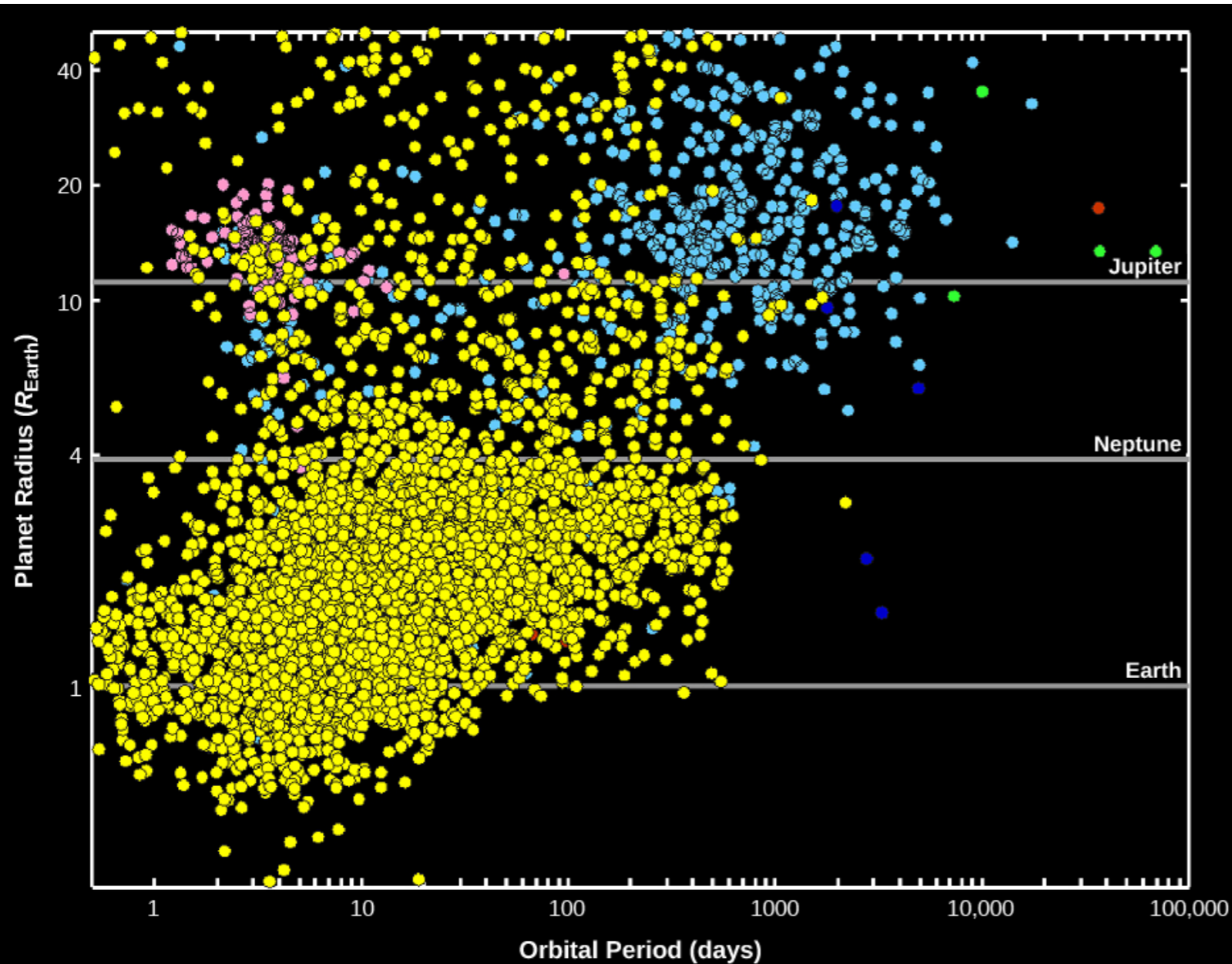


# Planet formation



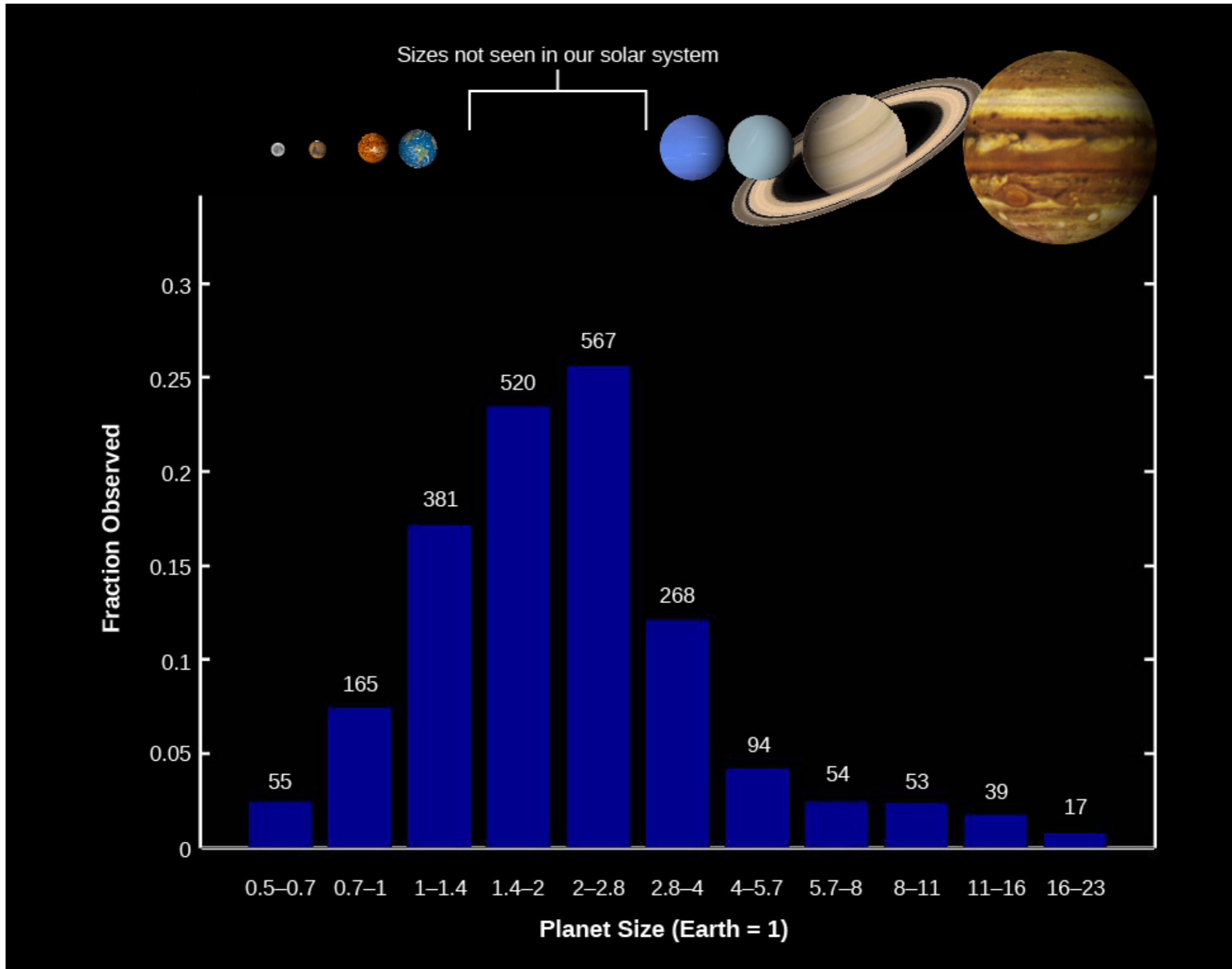
**All of this happens in < 100 million years after initial collapse!!!**

# Exoplanets



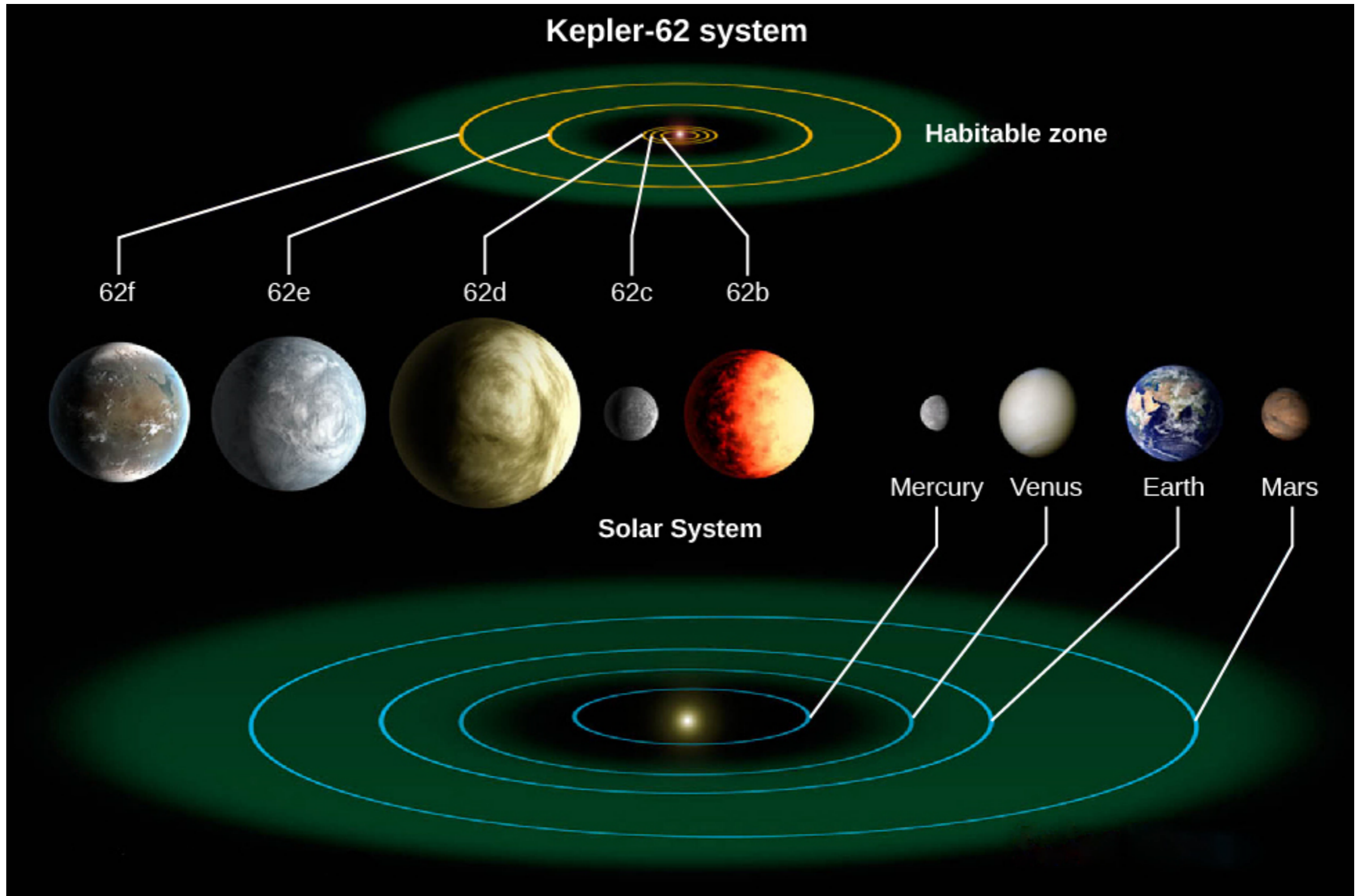
- Almost every star in the Milky Way (and probably in the Universe) has at least one planet!
- Most are between Earth and Neptune in size
- Some are as large as Jupiter or larger, and some of these are **\*VERY\*** close to their star

# Our Solar System is kind of an oddball





# Exoplanet systems can be very compact



# Summary of star and planet formation

