

Interstellar Dust Silicates and Rocky Grains

Include heavy elements such as silicon, iron, magnesium and aluminum

Combined with oxygen to form rocky materials at a temperature of about 1000 K. (Chaisson, 2008).

Interstellar Dust: Metallic Grains

Include spherical balls of minerals and metal

Grew by condensation from a gas between about 1100 °C and 1000 °C formed around the orbit of Mercury

<http://www.psrd.hawaii.edu/Sept00/primitiveFeNi.html>

Interstellar Dust: Icy Grains

Include the condensation of water, ammonia and because of the large amounts of the elements that make up these compounds they greatly outnumber the rocky and metallic grains. Icy grains formed around 5 AU (Chaisson, 2008)

Planetesimals

Planetesimals are objects in the early Solar System that are the size of small moons and have gravitational fields strong enough to influence their neighbors



Protoplanets

Protoplanets are bodies that preceded the formation of planets in the Solar System

