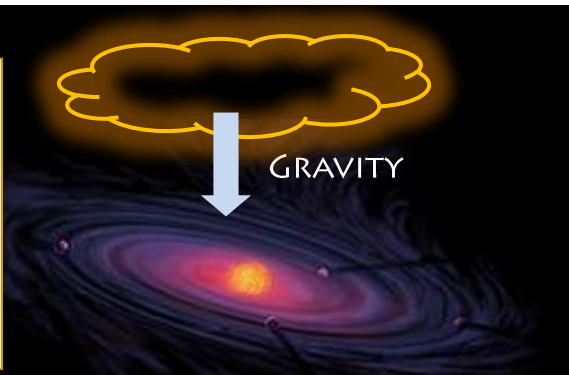


# WHERE DO METEORITES COME FROM?

## SOLAR NEBULA

~4.568 billion years ago in the solar nebula, dust and ice particles in a "proto-planetary cloud" collapsed through gravity into a rotating "proto-planetary disc".

This material then accreted to form our solar system, including asteroids and planetary bodies such as Mars and the Earth.

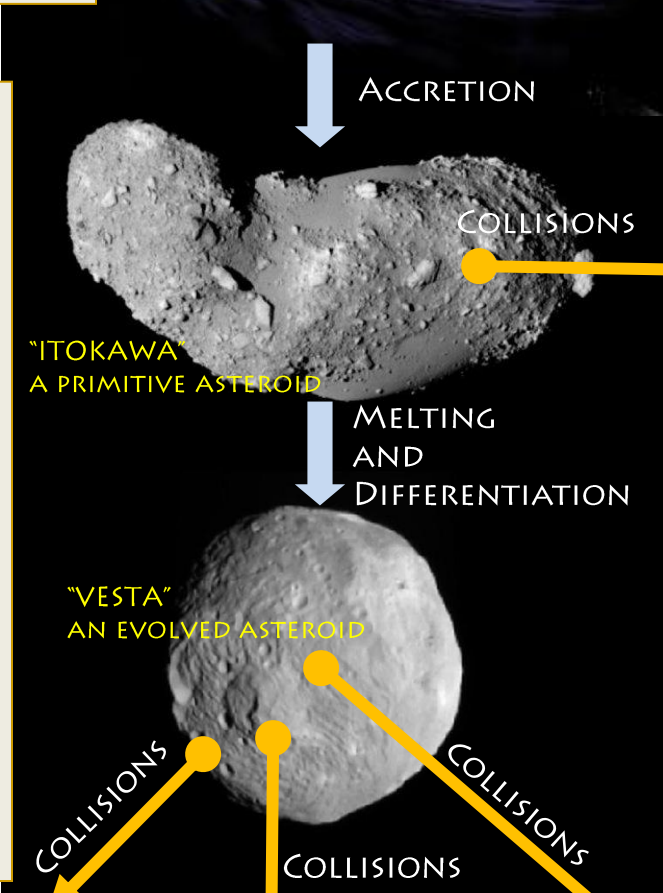


## ASTEROIDS

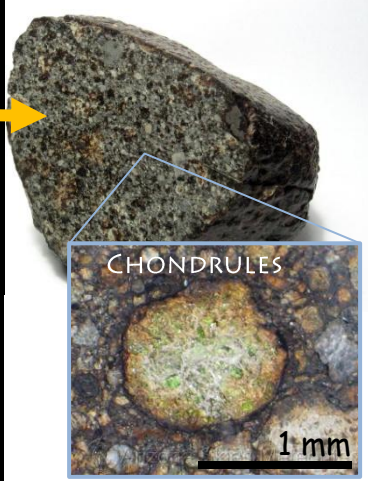
Asteroids can be either primitive like the asteroid "Itokawa", or evolved like the asteroid "Vesta".

Primitive asteroids have not undergone any melting or differentiation since their formation. The meteorites that are derived from these asteroids are called "chondrites" and these are *primitive meteorites*.

The evolved asteroids, on the other hand, have undergone both melting and differentiation since their formation, and have therefore segregated into different layers. These asteroids produce *evolved meteorites*: "achondrites", "stony irons" or "irons", depending on which layer in the evolved asteroid the meteorite come from.



## PRIMITIVE METEORITES CHONDRITES



## EVOLVED METEORITES

### ACHONDRITES (STONES)



### STONY IRONS



### IRONS