

March 17, 2023
MSE 2101 topics

- The nebular theory:
 - initial contraction and disk formation
 - formation of the protostar and planetesimals
 - condensation and accretion
 - clearing the nebula
- So why two types of planets?
 - refractory vs. volatile elements
- So why small bodies?
- So why exceptions?
- The role of planetary atmospheres
- The role of planetary magnetic fields
- Solar and stellar wind
 - Solar wind clears the nebula of leftover materials
 - Northern and southern lights (Aurora borealis/australis)