

PHYSICS AND ASTRONOMY SPECIAL COLLOQUIUM

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"Vesta and the Chaotic Formation of Planets"

Abstract

The recent Dawn mission was sent to asteroid 4 Vesta to inspect, close up, an intact protoplanet from the origin of the solar system. Except... Vesta's overall density is too low, and its core and crust too big, to fit anything like what we expect an intact protoplanet to look like. Was it ripped apart and re-assembled? It looks like Vesta is giving us new clues to planet formation and evolution in a violent early solar system.

Thursday, November 23, 2017 3:00 p.m. Cornett Building Room A229