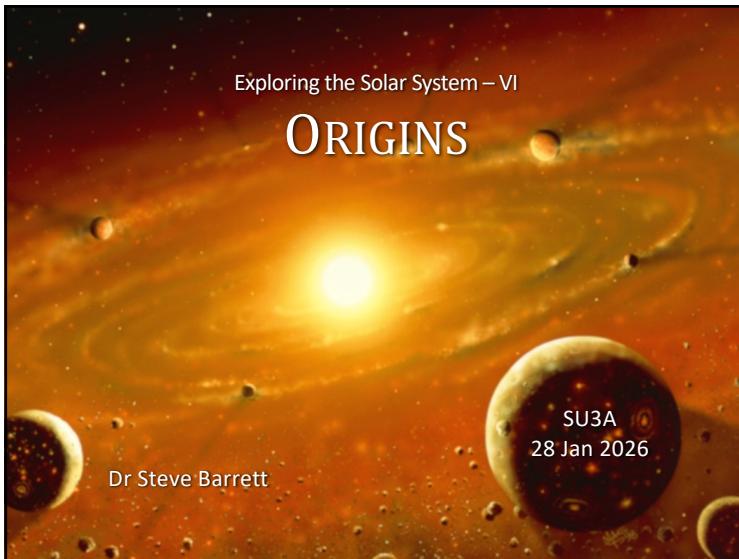


Exploring the Solar System VI – Origins



Exploring the Solar System VI

Origins

How Did Our Solar System Form?

What Clues Do We Have?

What Do Simulations Tell Us?

What Questions Remain?

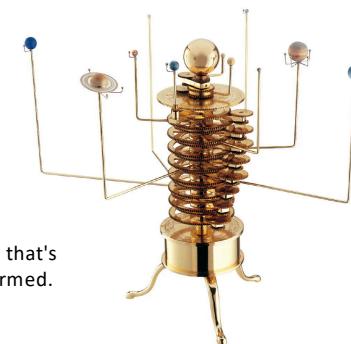


2

How To Build a Solar System

When you build a model of the solar system (an orrery) it is built from the inside out.

Start with the Sun, then add Mercury, then add Venus, then add Earth, ...



That's fine for an orrery, but that's not how the solar system formed.



3



Rho Ophiuchi Cloud

At a distance of only 400 ly the Rho Ophiuchi cloud is the nearest star-forming region to our solar system.

Hundreds of new stars are forming and the total mass of the cloud is enough to make thousands of solar systems.

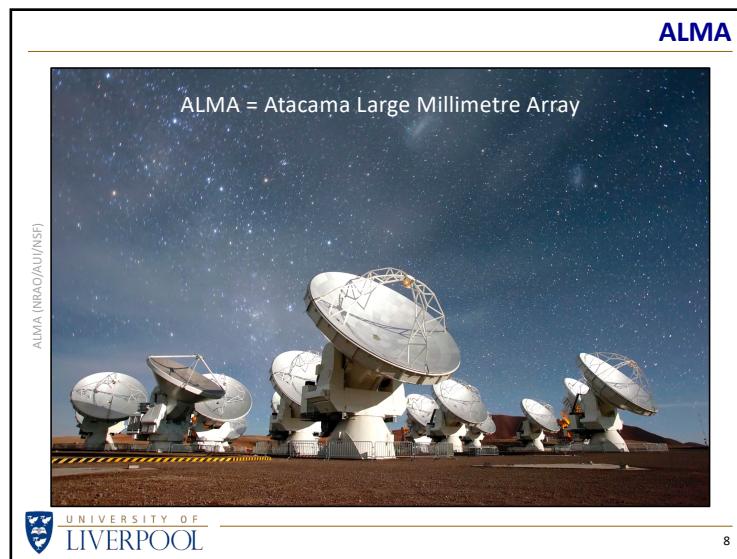
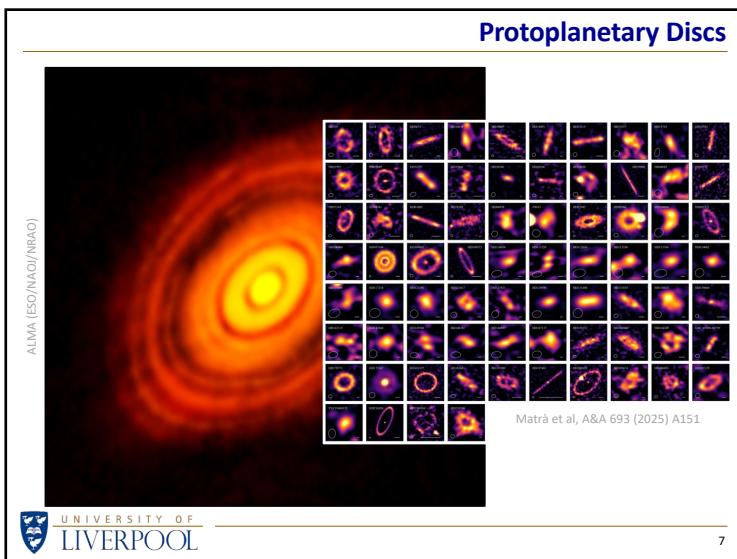
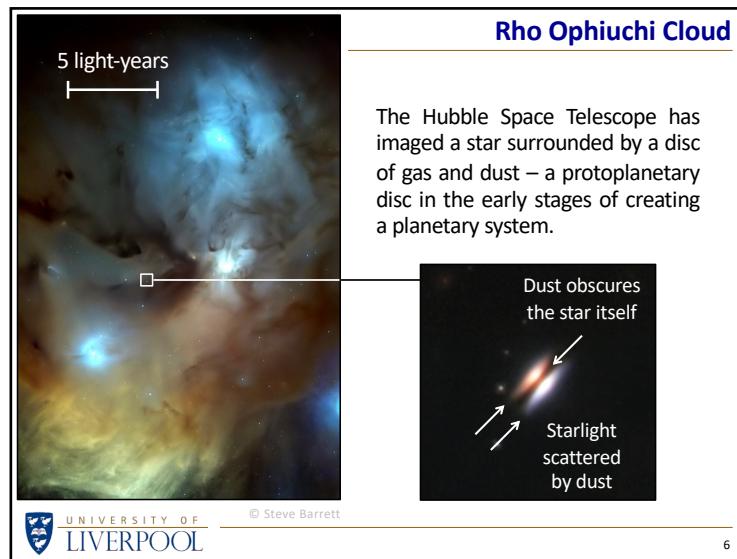
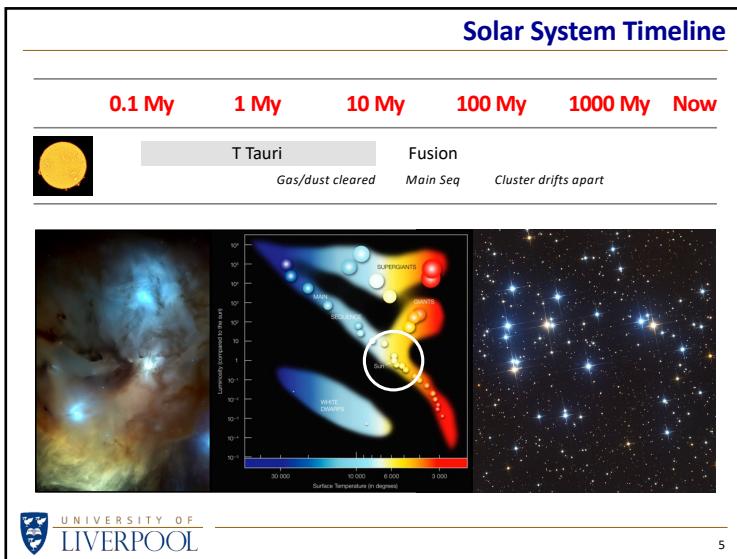
Our Sun and planets formed from a cloud similar to this one.



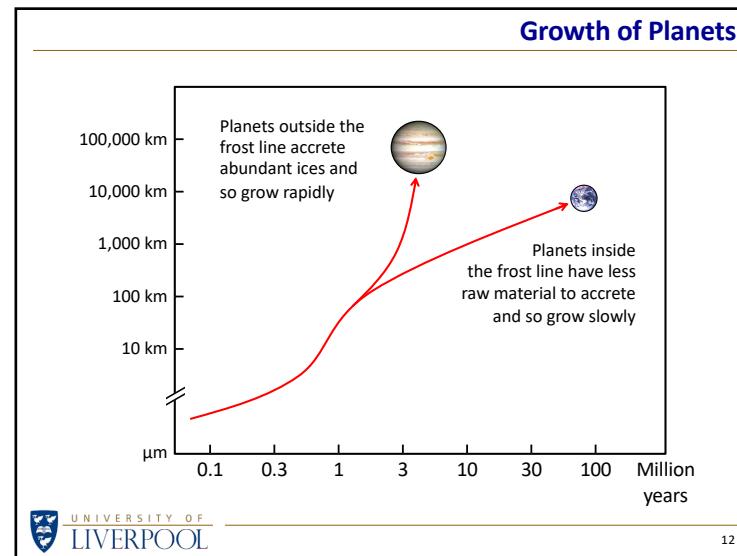
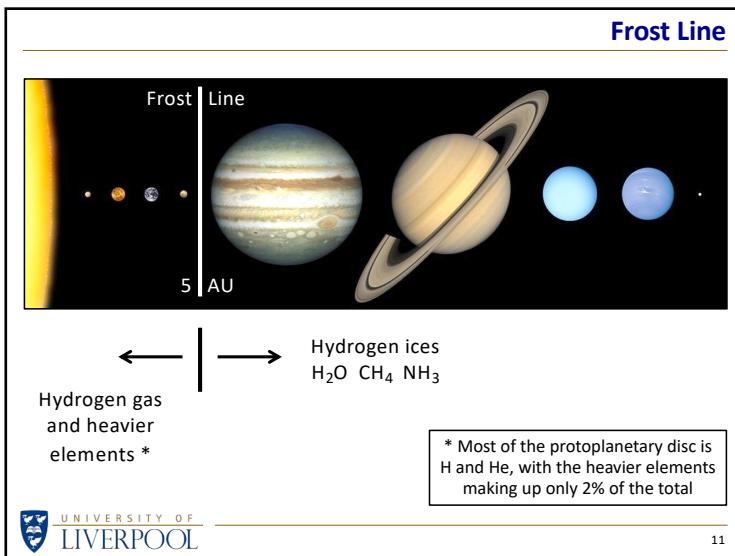
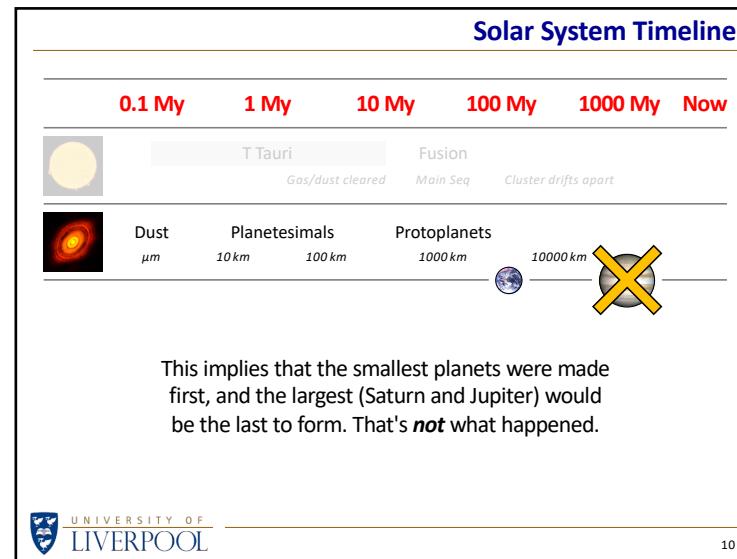
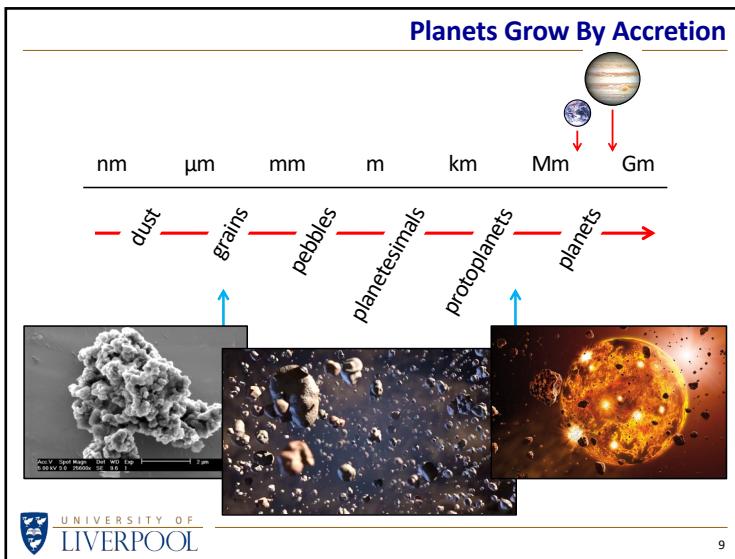
© Steve Barrett

4

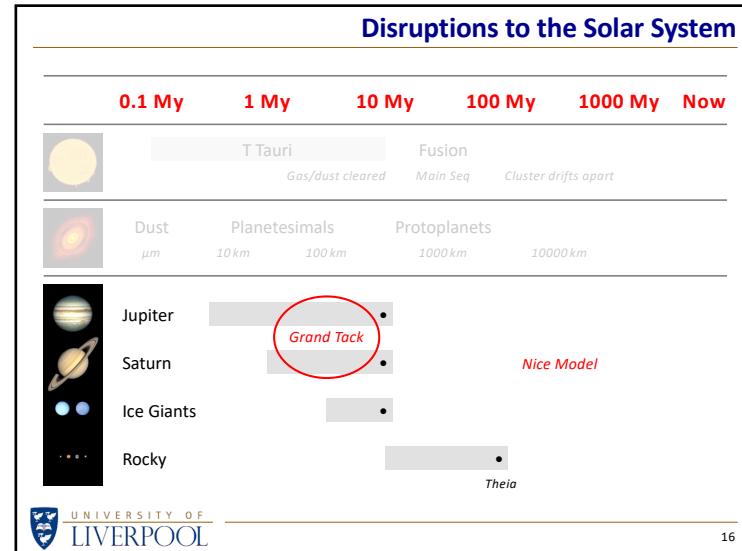
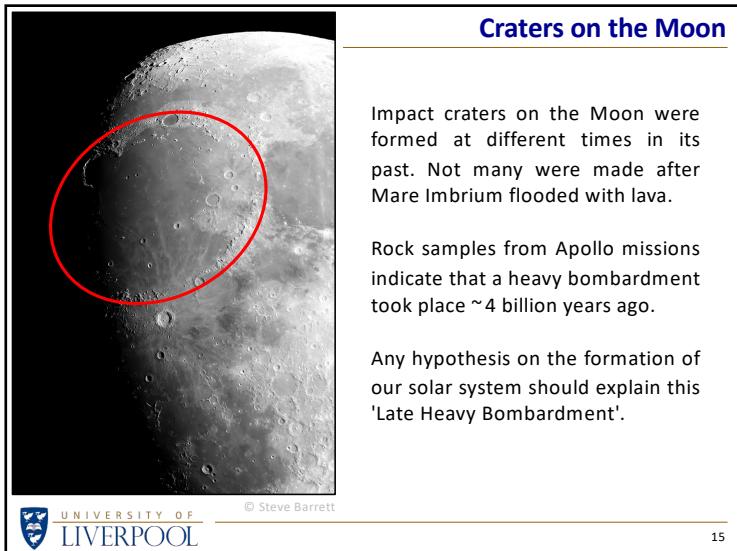
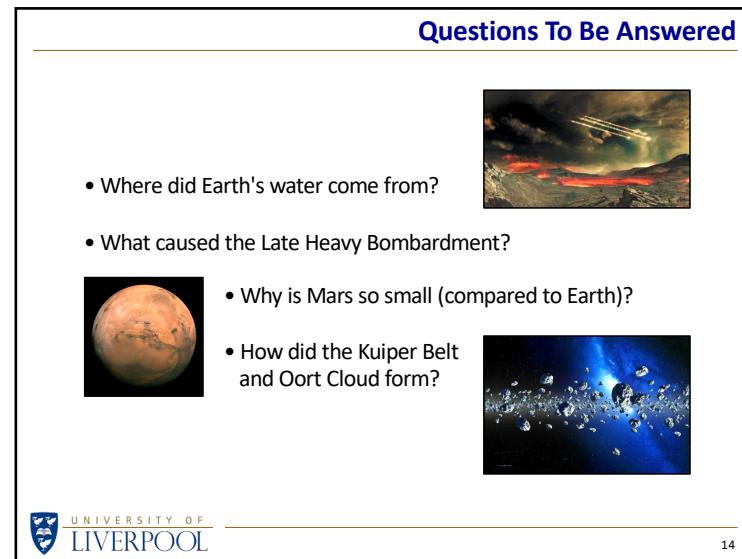
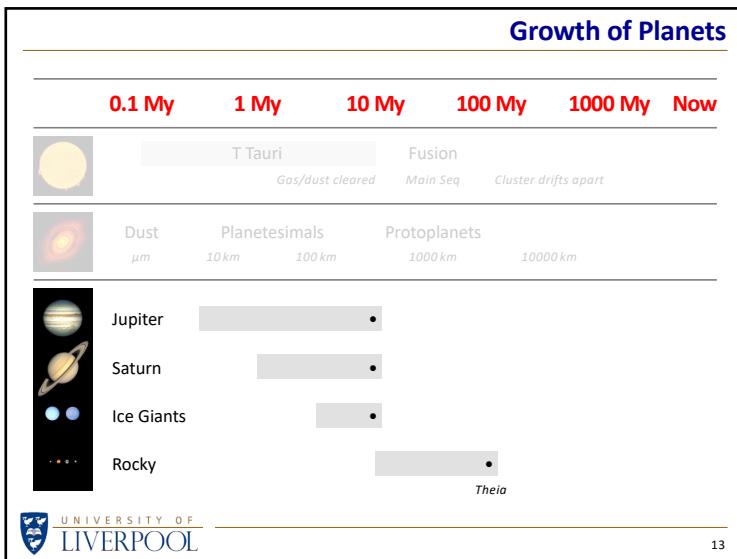
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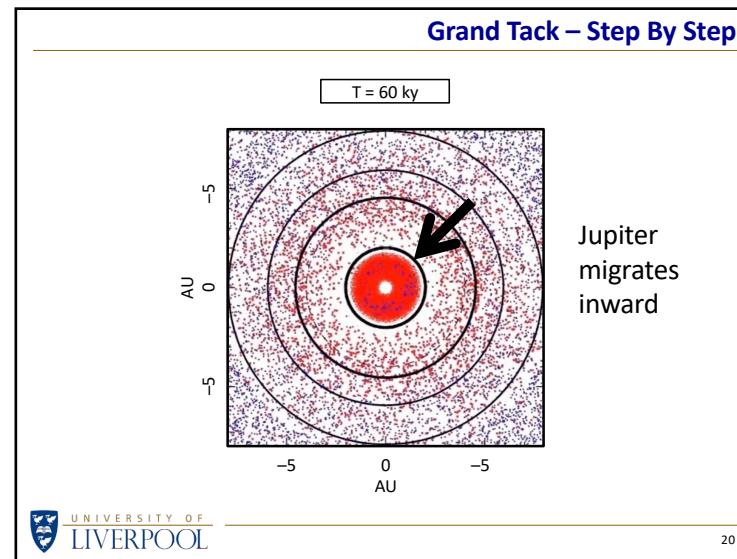
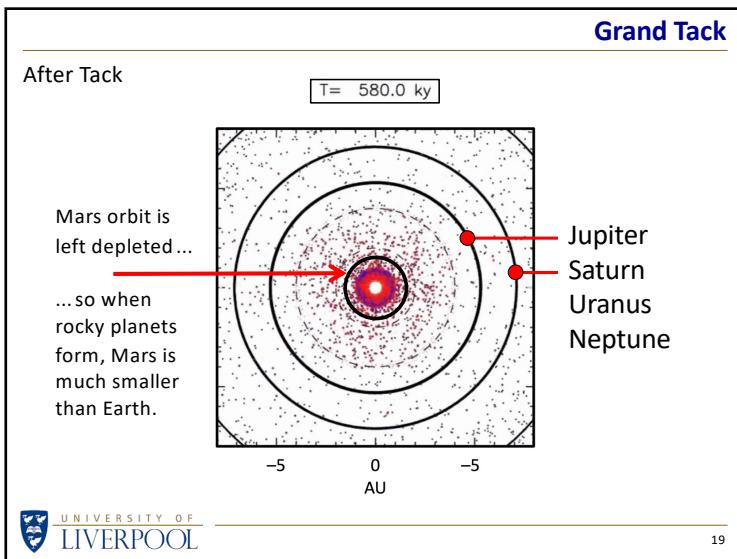
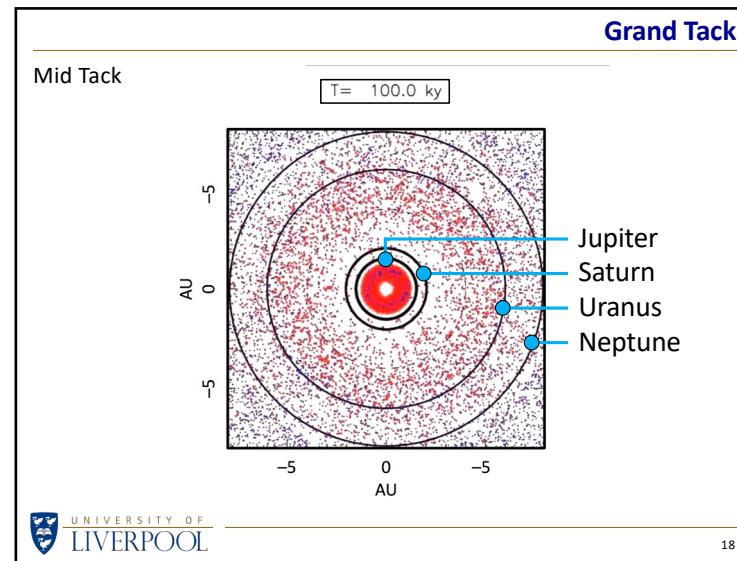
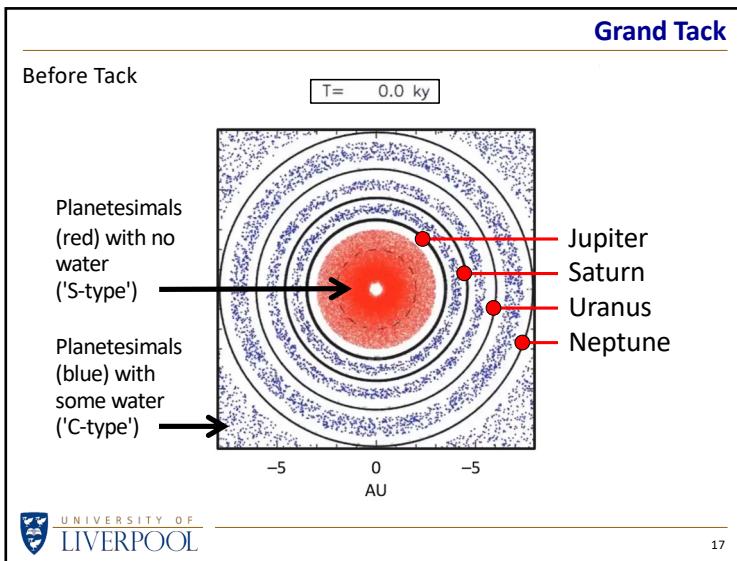
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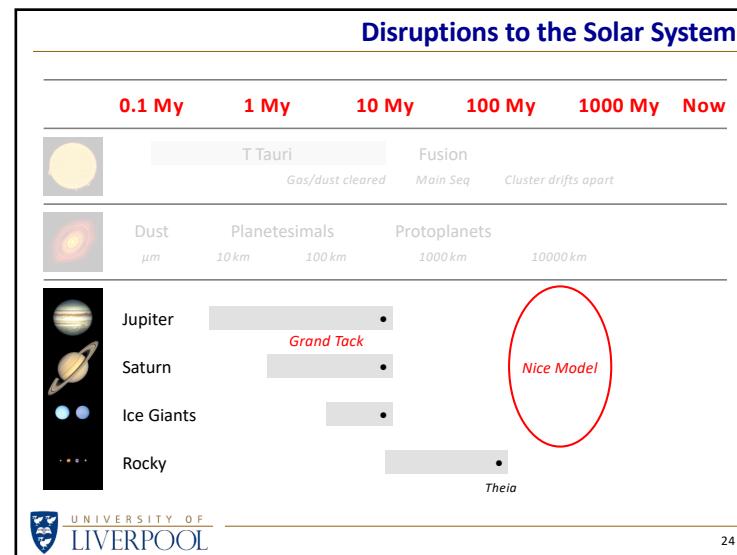
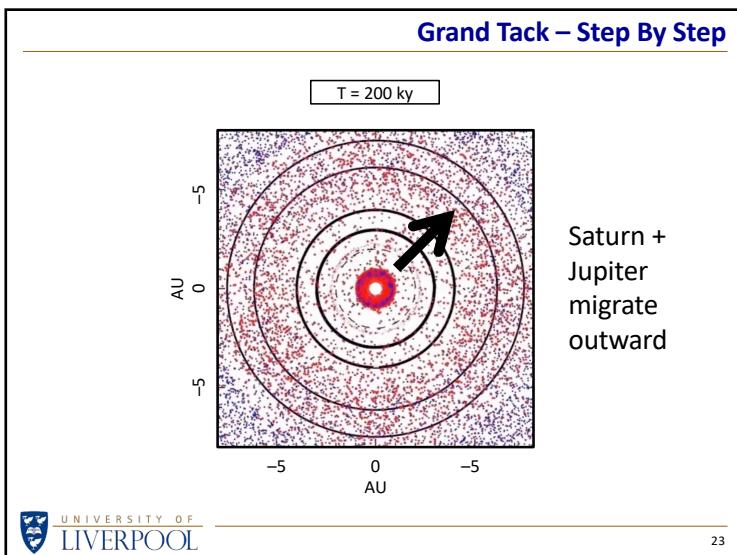
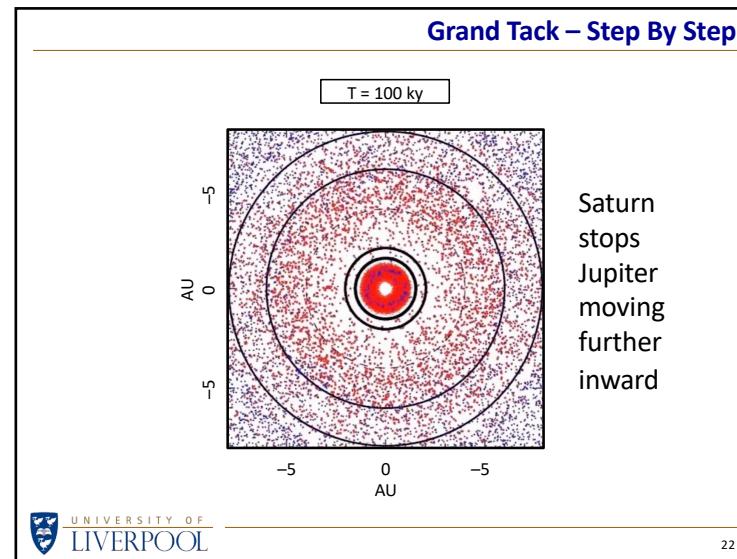
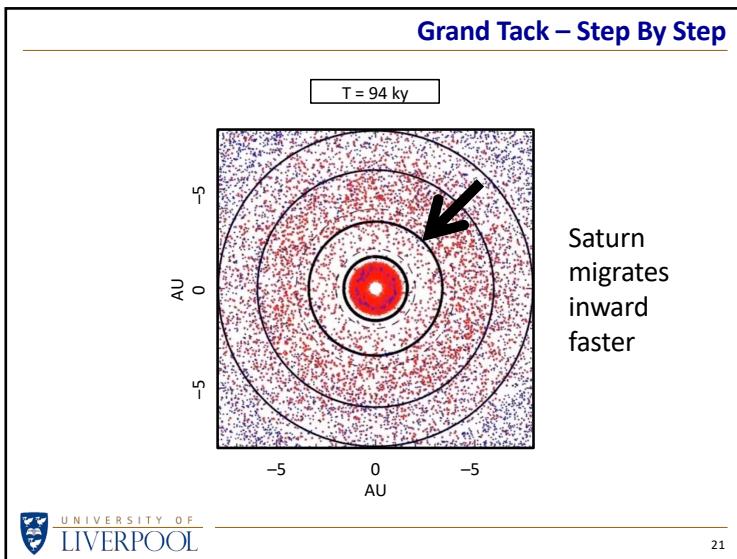
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