

# Can a planetary collision generate solar power



## Overview

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A new study shows a deep connection between some of the largest, most energetic events in the Universe and much smaller, weaker ones powered by our own Sun. When two planets collide, the energy released makes nuclear bombs look like. This process, in which small bodies collide to form planets, is called 'accretion'. The wreckage of the collision could eventually cool and form an entirely new planet. While rare today, these catastrophic impacts were commonplace during the chaotic period of planetary formation known as the Late Heavy Bombardment. In the vastness of space, planets orbiting stars usually follow stable paths without crashing into each other.

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### What Happens When Two Planets Collide?

Learn how planet-sized impacts convert massive kinetic energy into heat, vaporizing matter and fundamentally restructuring solar systems.

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### A planetary collision afterglow and transit of the resultant debris

Giant impacts between super-Earths and mini-Neptunes can produce post-impact bodies hundreds of Earth radii across, comparable with that required to produce the observed infrared flux.

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### The formation of our solar system was a destructive process!

How did the planets and moons in our solar system form? How do we know they involve collisions called 'giant impacts'? Read on to find out more about how planets form through collisions ...

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## Can Planetary Collisions Generate

## Solar Power? The Cosmic Energy

While full-scale planetary collisions remain theoretical, scaled-down versions show promise: Let's be real - current prototypes cost \$2 million per joule produced. But consider Moore's ...

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## Cosmic Collisions: The Impact Of Celestial Bodies

They can influence atmospheres by ejecting material into space, potentially affecting climate on planetary scales. Recognizing the importance of these phenomena allows scientists to ...

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## Astronomers May Have Witnessed Worlds in Collision

Although planet-vaporizing collisions may seem like science fiction, for proof that they occur, one need look no further than Earth's moon, which was likely born from a Mars-sized impactor

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## cos\_trifold\_working

While we can't know for certain, we can get a sense of the odds by calculating the probability: the likelihood that such an event will take place. The statistical answer is one in a million in any given

## 12.8V 100Ah



year.

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## The afterglow of an explosive collision between giant planets may ...

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Publishing our findings in Nature, we propose that both sets of observations could be explained by a cataclysmic collision between two planets. Giant impacts, as such collisions are ...



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## Colossal Collisions Linked to Solar System Science

For example, the radiation produced by shocks in the solar wind can negatively impact spacecraft operation, as well as the safety of humans in space. A paper describing these results was ...

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## Can Planets Collide?

Read on to uncover the fascinating world of planetary collisions, exploring how they occur, what causes them, and the potential outcomes, from fiery

destruction to the birth of new celestial bodies.

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