

Exploration and Modelling of Planetary Interiors

Notes for assessed coursework:

Writing a set of lecture notes on “Giant Planet Formation”

This assignment is worth 20% of the marks for this module. You are advised to start work on this assignment at the start of the module, so that you give yourself plenty of time to complete it. The deadline for submission will be April 25th 2016 (the anticipated date of the revision session for this module).

The subject of the lecture notes is a broad one, in which more than one model has been proposed. You should first assemble a set of published background material on the subject. You can use Google Scholar as a resource for finding articles (insert “Giant Planet Formation” as the topic). Alternatively, you can start with some of the references in a short review paper by D J Stevenson which can be found at the following website (<http://authors.library.caltech.edu/9922/1/STeaipcp04.pdf>).

Once you have found your background material, you should consider what topics you are going to cover in your lecture notes. Remember that the lecture is about formation of giant planets, so you do not need to describe giant planets and their interiors in great detail. You will also need to illustrate your notes with suitable figures, which can be obtained either directly from the background reading, or which can often be found on the Web. Remember to refer to each of your figures in order in your text. You must have a list of references at the end of your notes.

Use the same general template that we have used for our lecture notes (landscape pages; Arial 14pt text), and please do not exceed 14 printed pages.