



NWA 5491 Meteorite Fragment

Age approx. 4.5 billion years

(Found in Northwest Africa. Year unknown)

Chondrites are stony meteorites that have not melted since their aggregation early in the history of the Solar System. They are close to the composition of the Sun, and thus of the original material from which the Solar System formed. Chondrites are the most significant meteorites for understanding early Solar System chronology, since they are the most primitive of all meteorites. They contain many of the carbon based building blocks of life, such as amino acids.