Introducing: The Universe!

Part 1: A Tour of The Universe

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Smithsonian Astrophysical Observatory

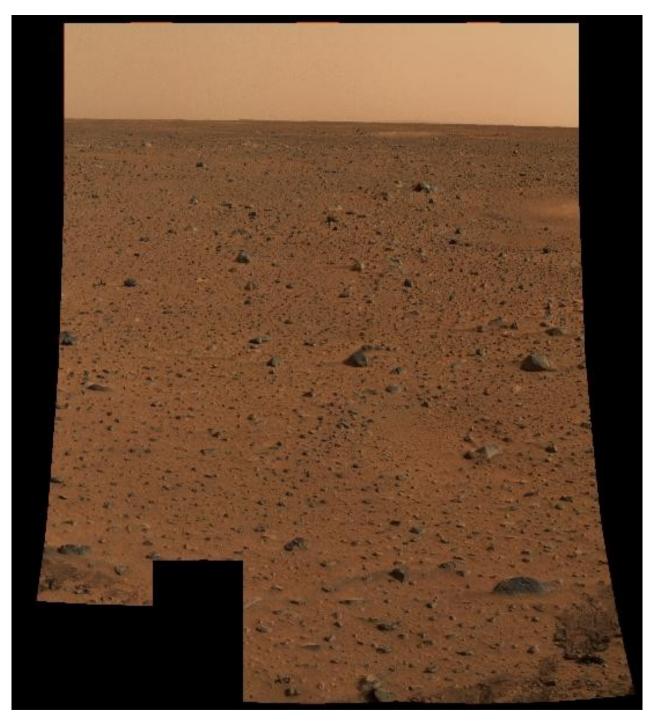


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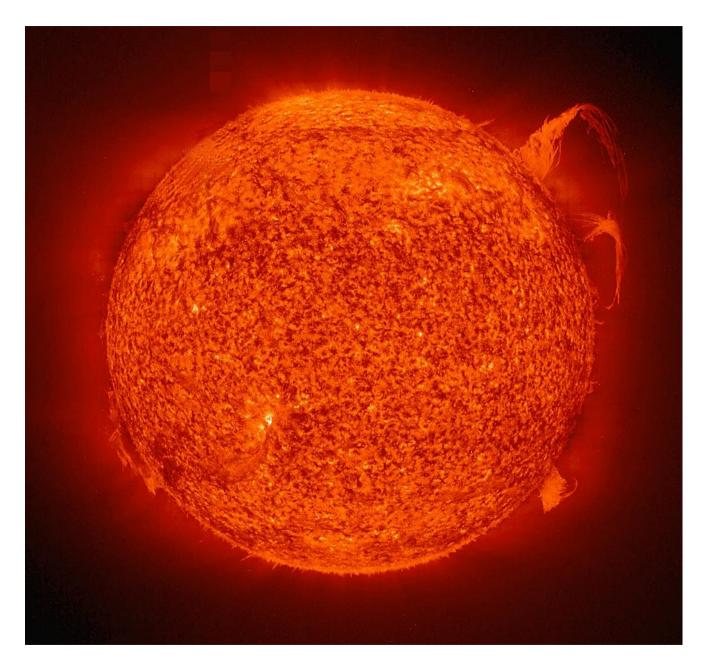


Earthrise over the Moon: 1969

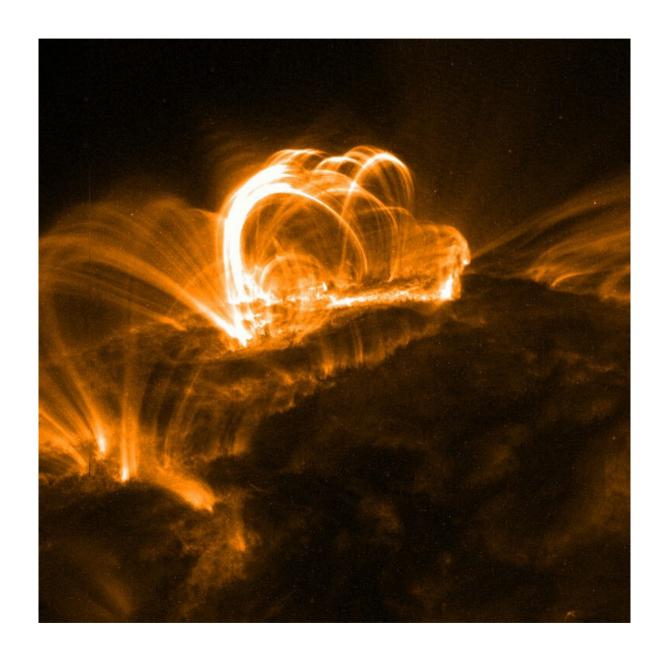
1.3 seconds away at the speed of light



Columbia Station at Gusev Crater: 5min 30sec away



The Sun: 8 minutes away



Surface of the Sun

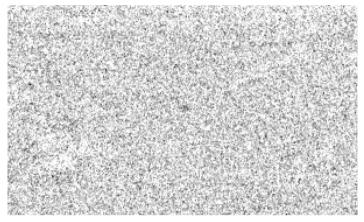


Saturn: 1 hour 15 min away



Comet Halley: as seen in 1986, 10 minutes away

Halley in 2003 at 4 hours distance ESO Very Large Telescope, Chile



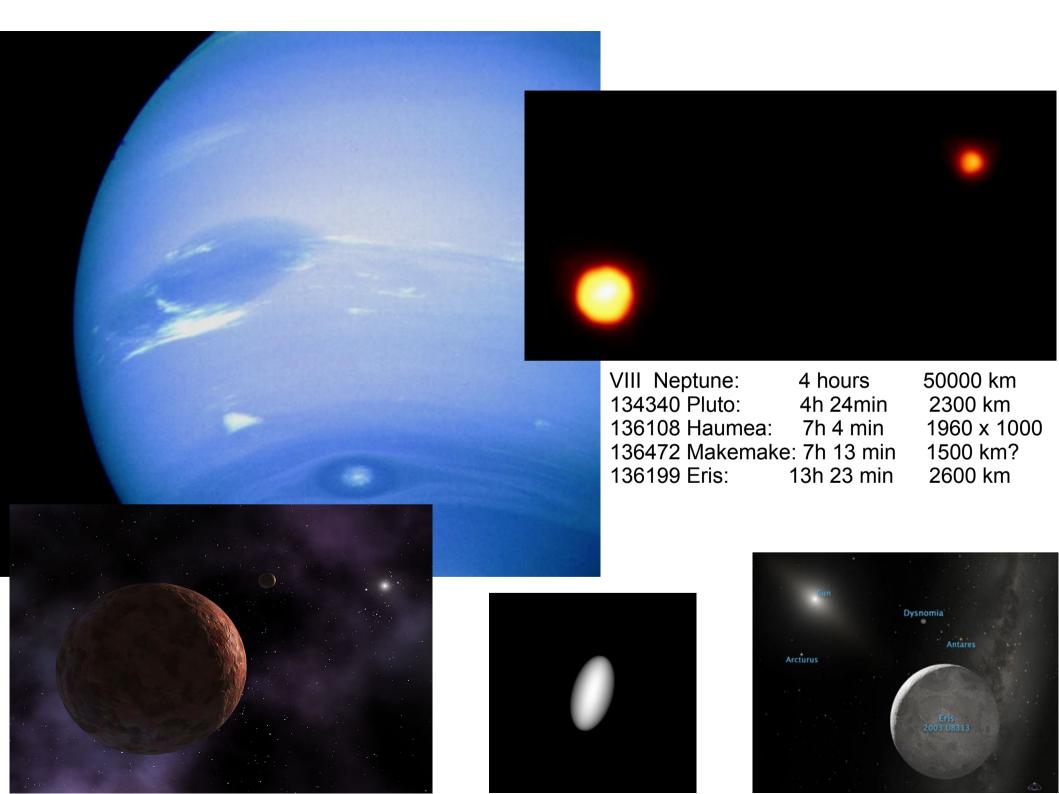
Comet Halley at 28 AU Heliocentric Distance (VLT ANTU/FORS1 + MELIPAL/VIMOS + YEPUN/FORS2)

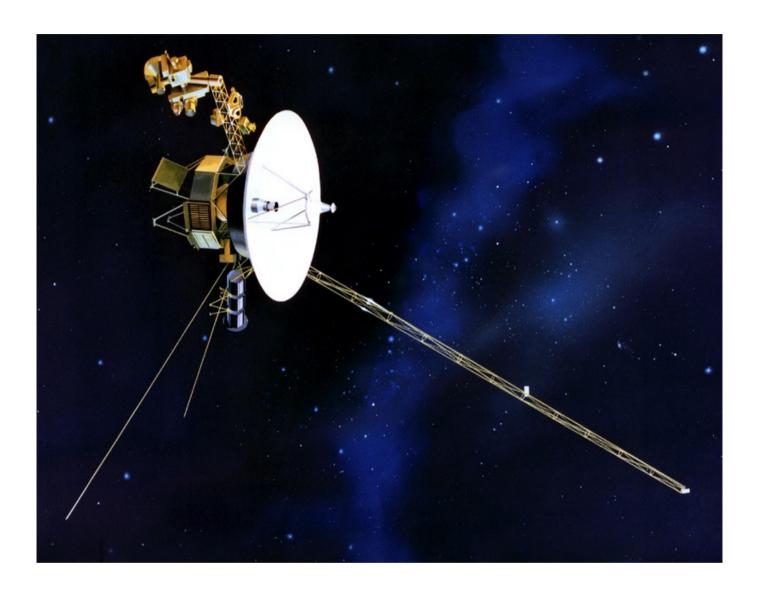
ESO PR Photo 27a/03 (1 September 2003)



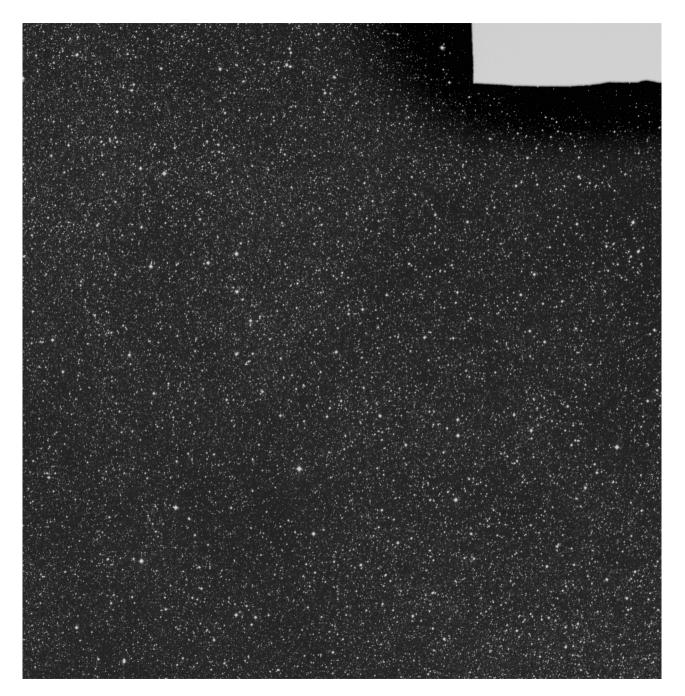
Halley in 1986 from 600 km (2 millisec) European Space Agency 'Giotto' probe







Spacecraft Voyager 1: the most distant human artifact 15 hours 32 minutes away



Proxima Centauri: 4.2 years away We are seeing Proxima as it was in November 2005

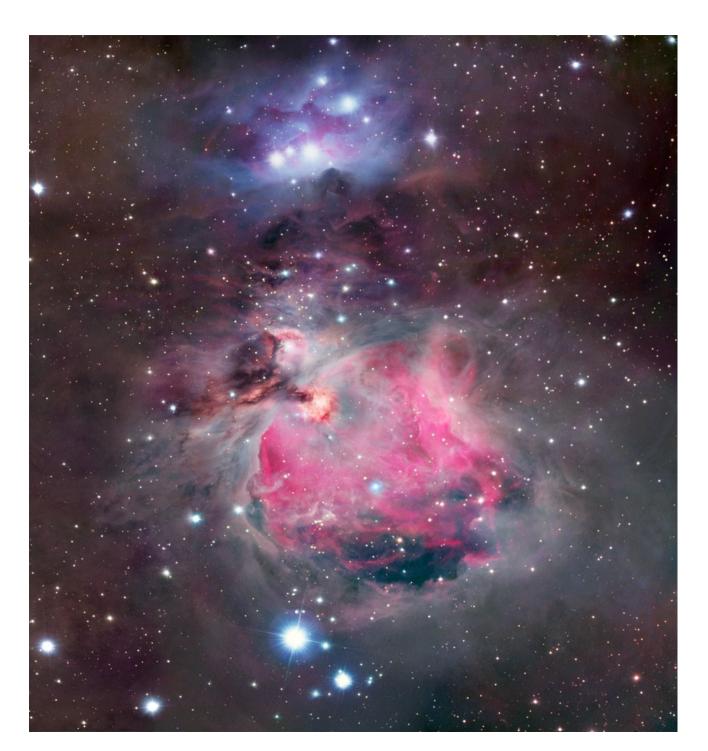


Pleiades Star Cluster in Taurus: 440 years away

Seen as it was when Shakespeare was a child

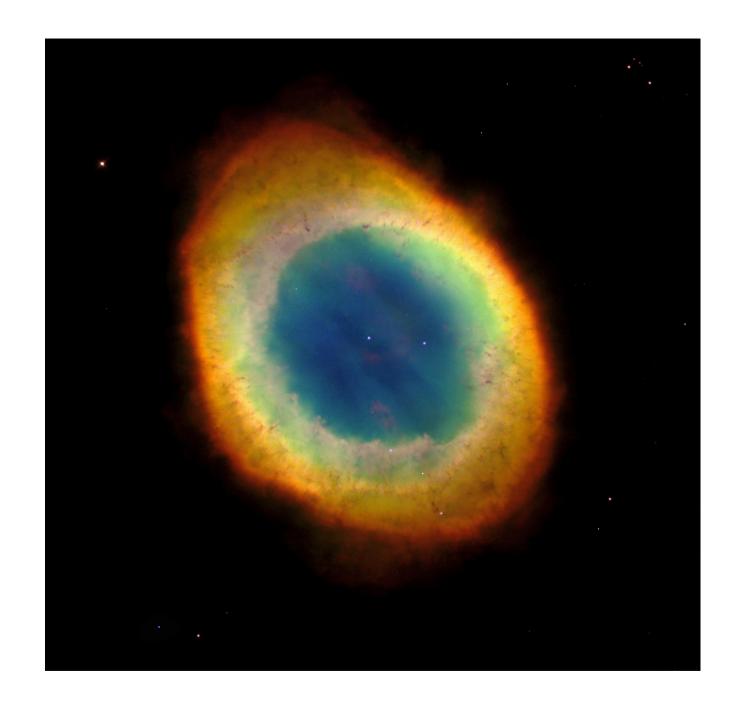


Barnard 68 Dark Cloud in Ophiuchus: 500 years away Seen as it was during the Tudor dynasty



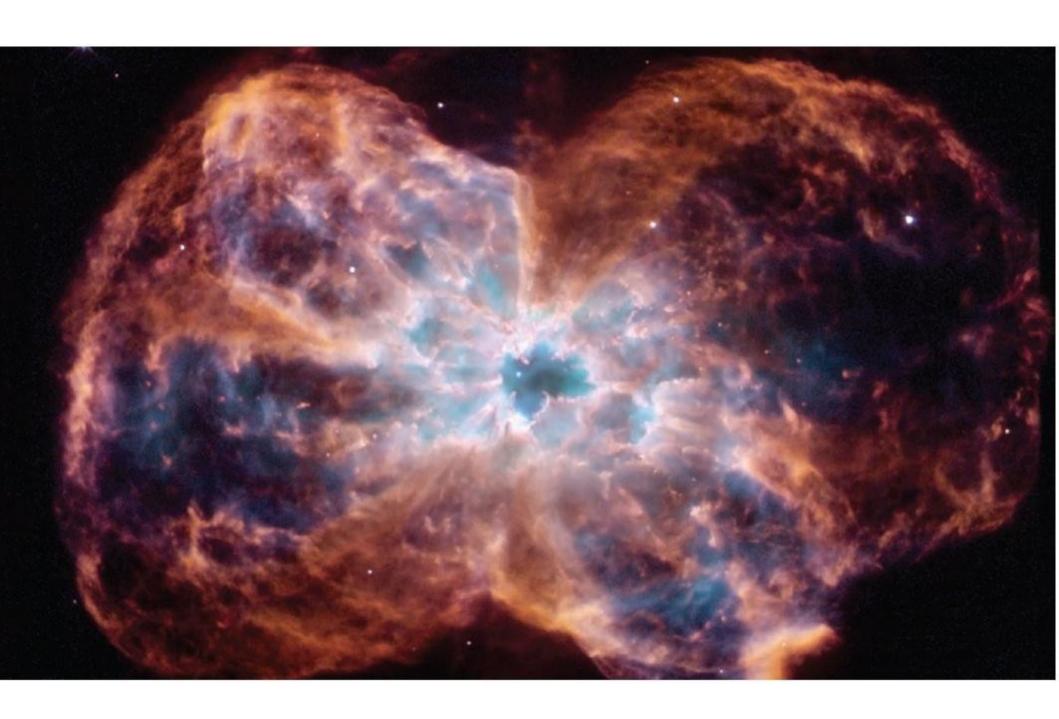
Orion Nebula 1500 years away

Seen as it was when Arthur was King of the Britons (maybe..)

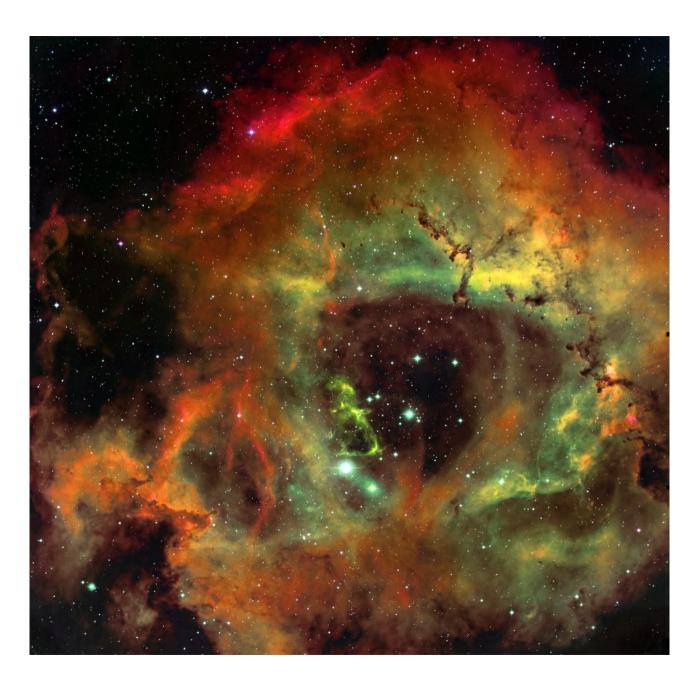


Ring Nebula in Lyra: a dying star, 2300 years away

Seen as it was when the Roman Republic was first expanding into Italy



NGC 2440 (planetary nebula) in Puppis: 4000 years away We see it as it was when Stonehenge was new

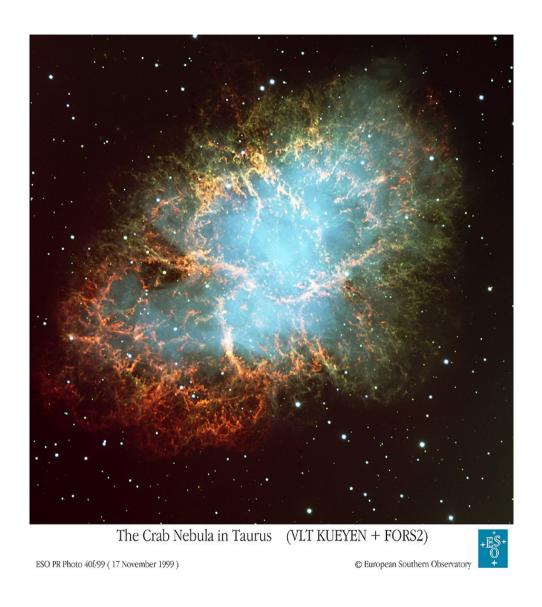


Rosette Nebula in Monoceros 4900 years away

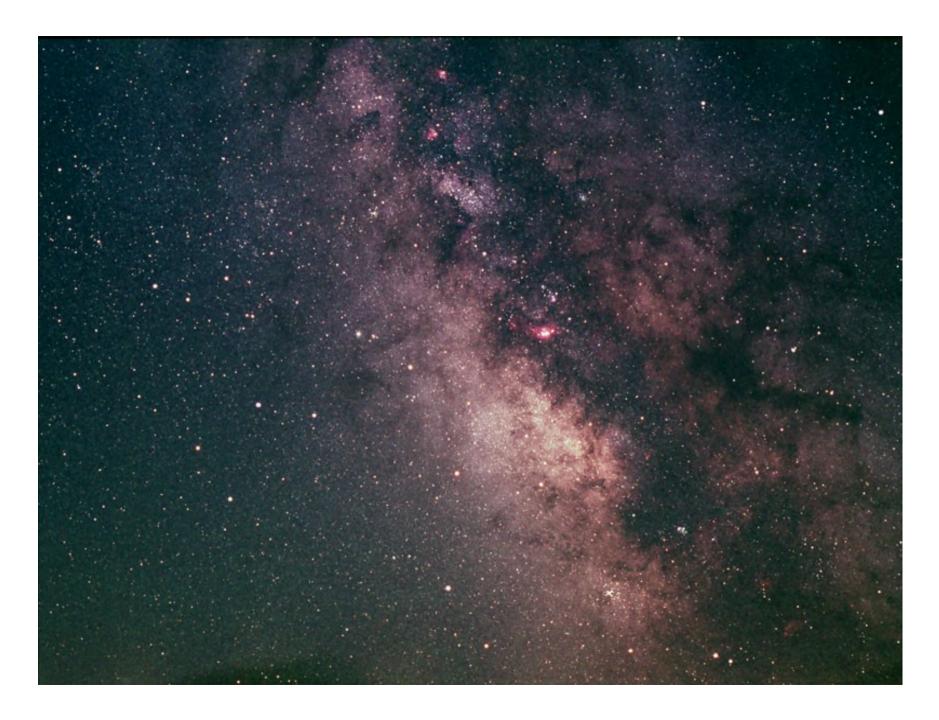
Seen as it was when the first pyramids were built in Egypt



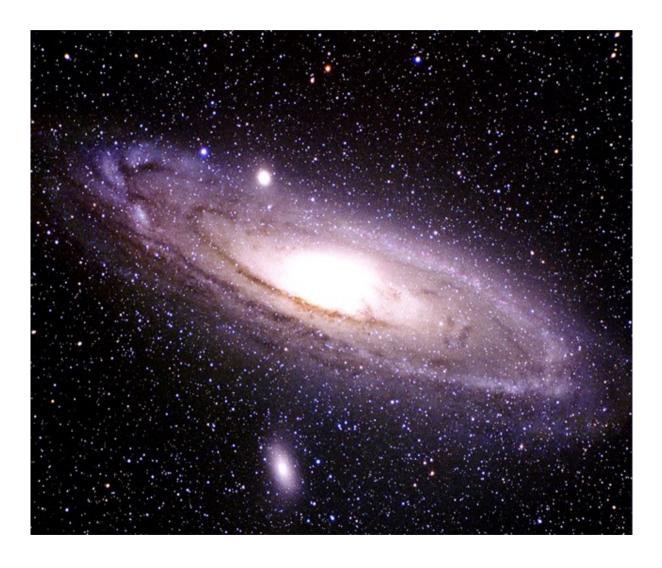
Supernova remnant IC443 in Puppis 5000 years away



Crab Nebula in Taurus, 6500 years away Seen as it was in the Neolithic



Milky Way in Sagittarius: 30000 Years Away Seen as it was when modern humans had just evolved

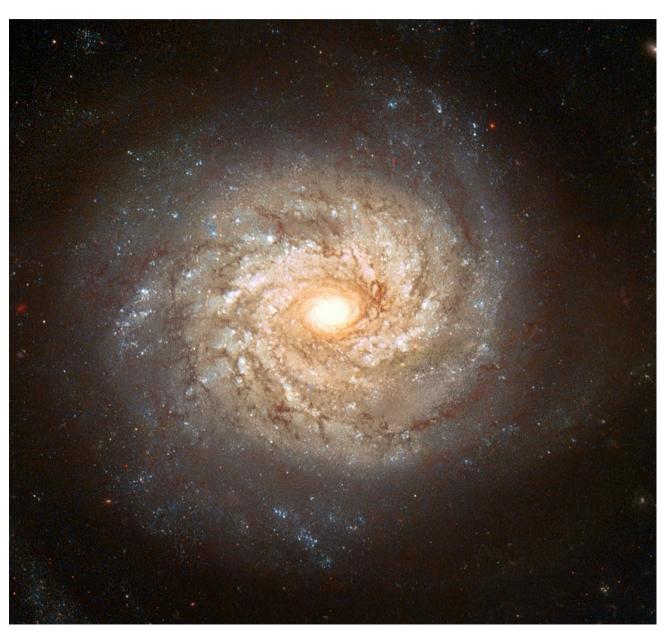


Great Galaxy in Andromeda (M31): 2 Million Years Away Seen as it was in the Pleistocene



Sculptor Galaxy NGC 253 10 Million Years Away

Miocene era



Galaxy NGC 3982 in Ursa Major – 60 Million Years Away

Tertiary (K-T boundary)

Galaxies NGC 2207 and 1C 2163



NGC 2207 and IC 2163 in Canis Major

114 million years away

Cretaceous period on Earth

Hubble Heritage



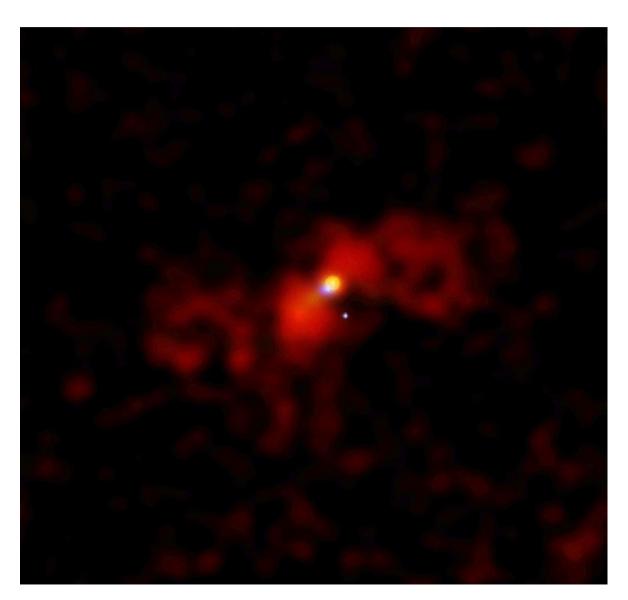
Spiral Galaxy ESO 269-57 (VLT ANTU + FORS1)



Galaxy ESO 269-57 in Centaurus

150 M yr away

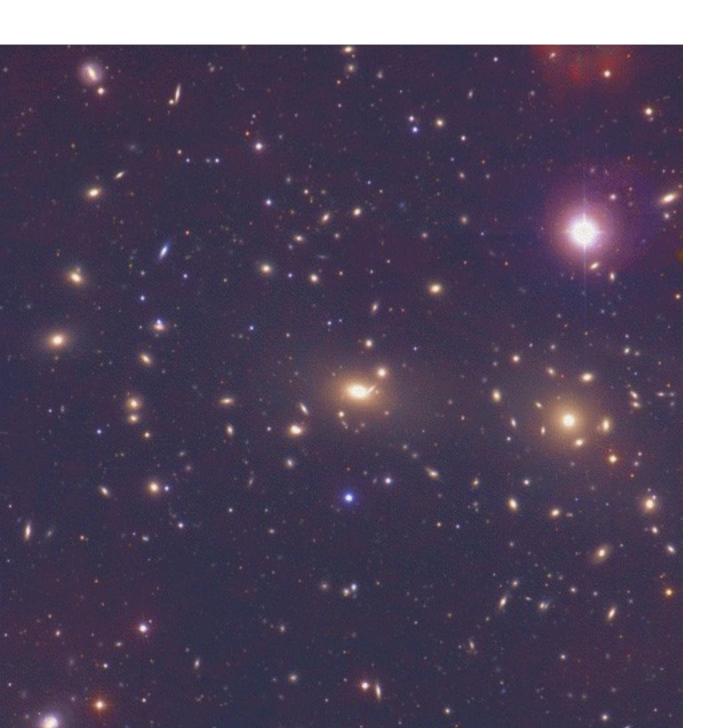
We see it as it was in the Jurassic period



Arp 220 in Serpens, 248 M yr away (Early Triassic)

Chandra image: J McDowell/D Clements

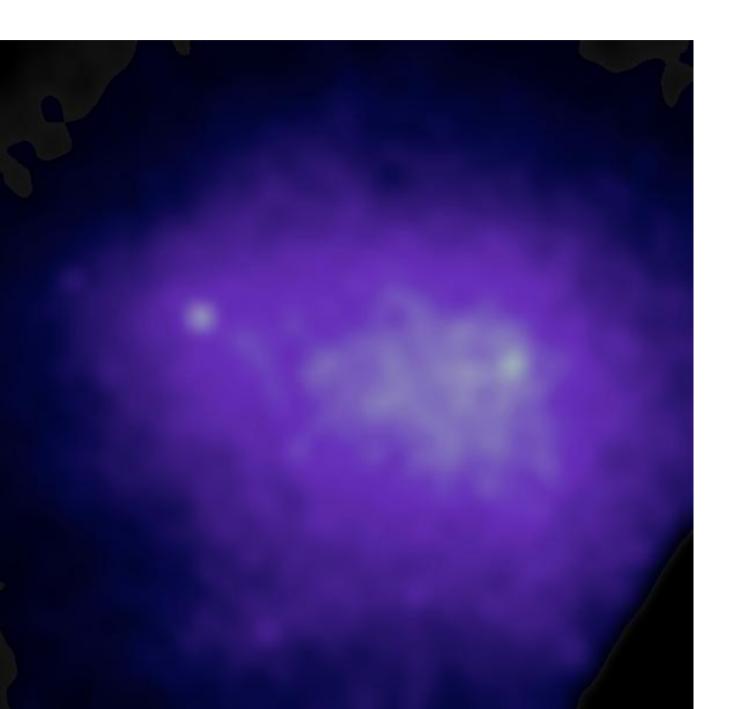




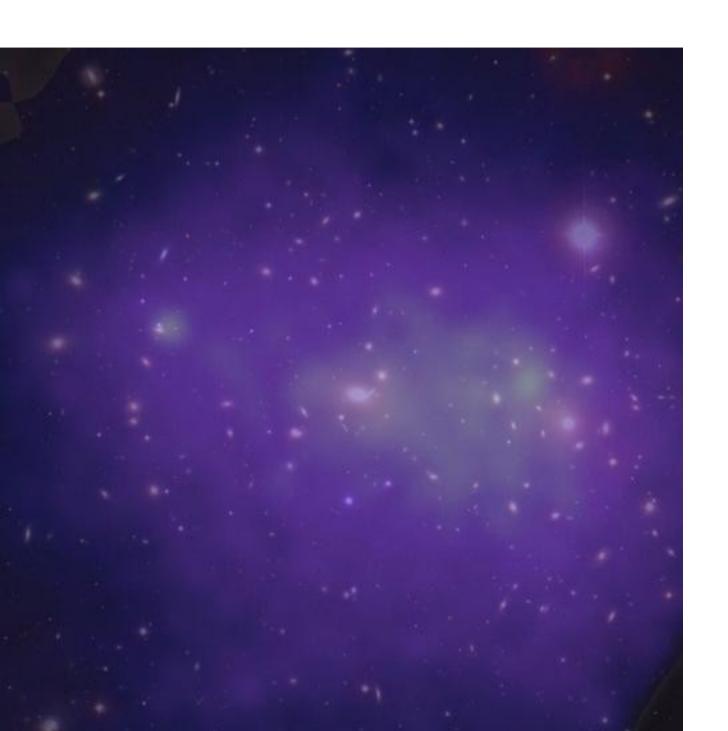
The Coma Cluster of Galaxies

340 Million Years

Carboniferous period on Earth



Coma in X-rays

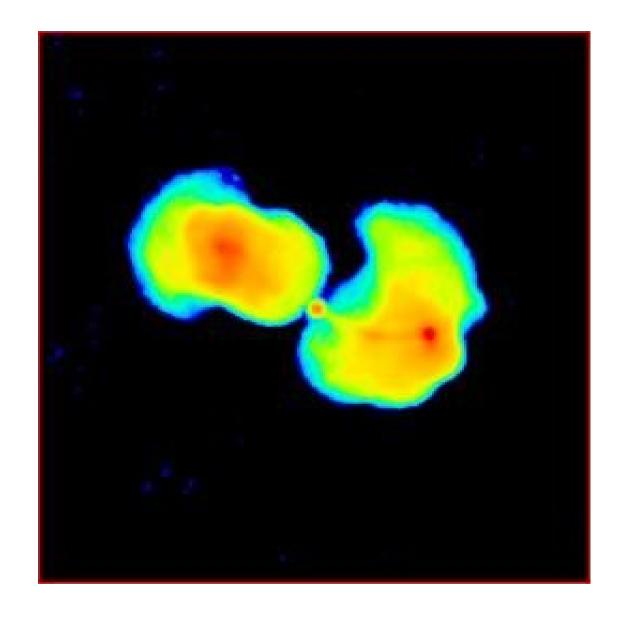


X-rays and optical



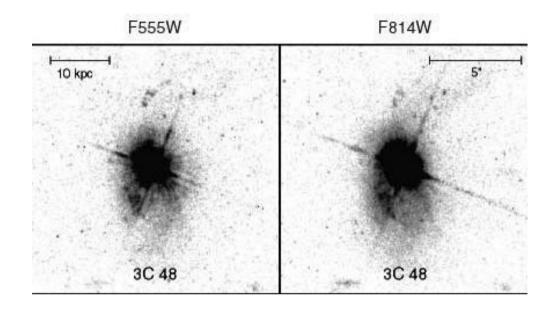
Cluster Abell S549 in Columba Distnace 539 Million years (Early Cambrian era)

Top right: Quasar PKS 0548-322, 905 Million years (on Earth in the Tonian era, supercontinent Rodinia is breaking up)



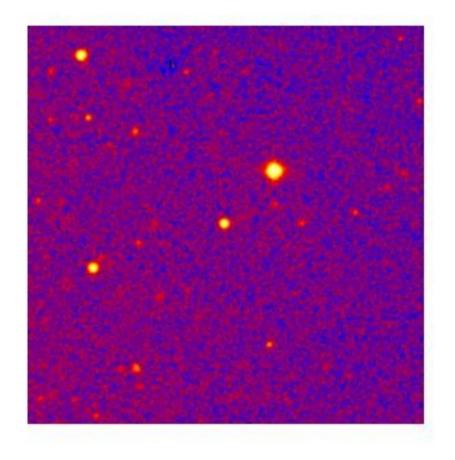
Radio Galaxy 3C 388 in Lyra, with powerful jets Distance 1175 Million Years

We see it as it was when Rodinia was forming during Earth's Mesoproterozoic era



Quasar 3C48 in Triangulum 3983 Million Years

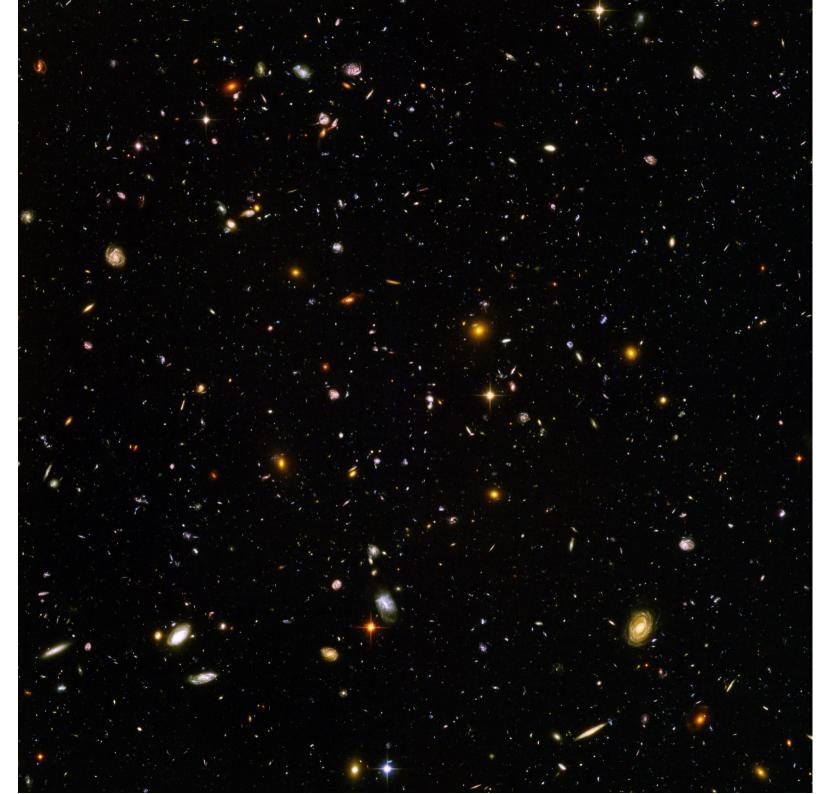
Hadean Era on Earth, Late Heavy Bombardment of solar system



Quasar PG1407+265 in Bootes

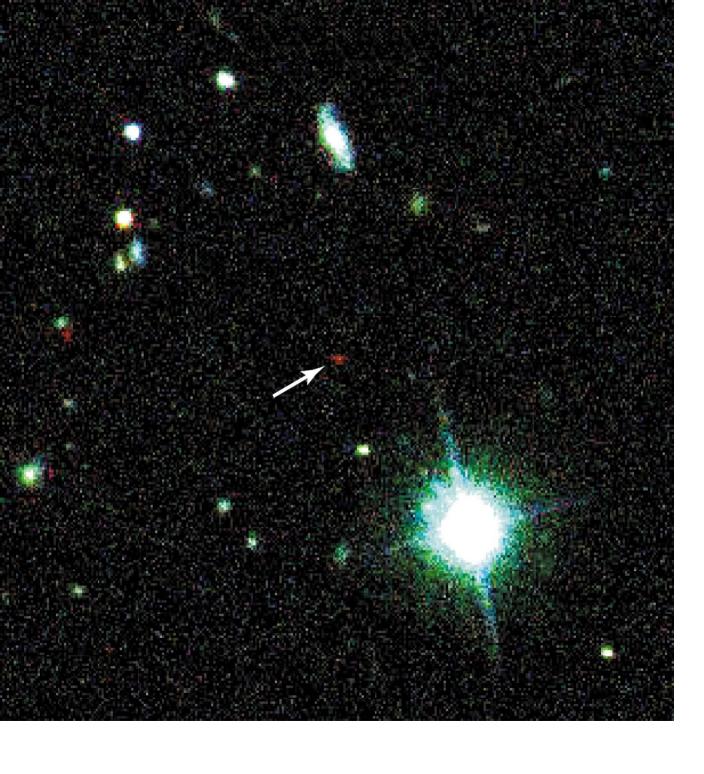
Distance 7500 Million years

We see it as it was 3 billion years before the formation of the Earth



Hubble Ultra Deep Field in Fornax

Galaxies at redshift 1 to 3 7 to 11 billion years ago

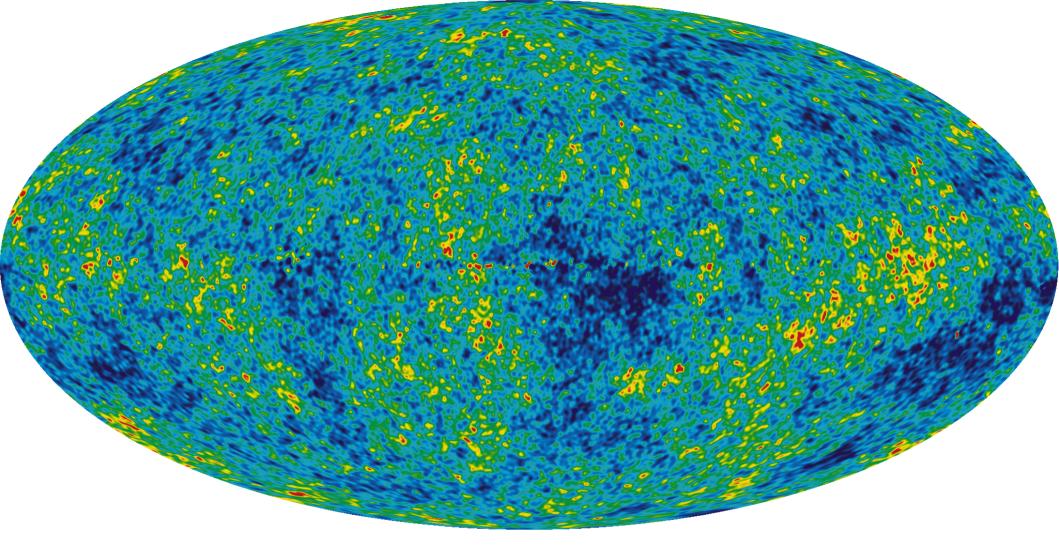


Quasar SDSSp J103027.10+052455.0 in Sextans

Redshift 6.8

12.8 Billion Years away

800 Million Years after the Big Bang



The Big Bang Fireball: 13.67 Billion Years Away

200000 years after the singularity, the universe becomes transparent