Image: Galaxy at the edge

August 30 2010

Image Credit: NASA, ESA, K. Cook (LLNL)

Spiral galaxy NGC 4921 presently is estimated to be 320 million light years distant.

This image, taken by the Hubble Space Telescope, is being used to identify key stellar distance markers known as Cepheid variable stars.

The magnificent spiral NGC 4921 has been informally dubbed anemic because of its low rate of star formation and low surface brightness.

Visible in the image are, from the center, a bright nucleus, a bright

central bar, a prominent ring of dark dust, blue clusters of recently formed stars, several smaller companion galaxies, unrelated galaxies in the far distant universe, and unrelated stars in our Milky Way Galaxy.

Provided by JPL/NASA

Citation: Image: Galaxy at the edge (2010, August 30) retrieved 16 April 2024 from https://phys.org/news/2010-08-image-galaxy-edge.html

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