

Image: Hubble sees galactic glitter

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Credit: ESA/Hubble & NASA. Acknowledgement: Luca Limatola

This sprinkling of cosmic glitter makes up the galaxy known as ESO 149-3, located some 20 million light-years away from us. It is an example of an irregular galaxy, characterized by its amorphous, undefined shape—a property that sets it apart from its perhaps more photogenic spiral and elliptical relatives.



Around one quarter of all galaxies are thought to be irregular-type galaxies.

In this image taken with the NASA/ESA Hubble Space Telescope ESO 149-3 can be seen as a smattering of golden and blue stars, with no apparent central nucleus or arm structure. The surrounding sky is rich in other more distant galaxies, visible as small, colorful streaks and dashes.

Provided by NASA

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