

# Hubble Space Telescope working again after 3-week shutdown

October 29 2018, by Marcia Dunn

---



Credit: CC0 Public Domain

The Hubble Space Telescope is studying the cosmos once again after a three-week shutdown.

NASA says the orbiting observatory resumed scientific observations over the weekend.

Hubble's pointing system was compromised earlier this month when an old gyroscope finally failed. The backup did not kick in properly, forcing [flight controllers](#) to come up with a fix. Controllers managed to coax the backup gyroscope into operation through a variety of maneuvers and switches. Three gyroscopes need to be working for optimal performance.

Launched in 1990, Hubble has made more than 1.3 million observations of stars, galaxies, [black holes](#) and other celestial targets. Some are more than 13 billion light-years away.

The telescope resumed operations Saturday by staring down a distant star-forming galaxy in the infrared.

© 2018 The Associated Press. All rights reserved.

Citation: Hubble Space Telescope working again after 3-week shutdown (2018, October 29)  
retrieved 3 May 2024 from  
<https://phys.org/news/2018-10-hubble-space-telescope-week-shutdown.html>

<p>This document is subject to copyright. Apart from any fair dealing for the purpose of private study or research, no part may be reproduced without the written permission. The content is provided for information purposes only.</p>
--