

# Image: Hubble gazes at a dazzling spiral galaxy

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Credit: ESA/Hubble & NASA, A. Riess et al.

This image from the NASA/ESA Hubble Space Telescope features the

spiral galaxy Mrk (Markarian) 1337, which is roughly 120 million light-years away from Earth in the constellation Virgo. Hubble's Wide Field Camera 3 snapped Mrk 1337 at a wide range of ultraviolet, visible, and infrared wavelengths, producing this richly detailed image. Mrk 1337 is a weakly barred spiral galaxy, which as the name suggests means that the spiral arms radiate from a central bar of gas and stars. Bars occur in roughly half of spiral galaxies, including our own galaxy, the Milky Way.

These observations are part of a campaign to improve our knowledge of how fast the universe is expanding. They were proposed by Adam Riess, who—along with Saul Perlmutter and Brian Schmidt—was awarded a 2011 Nobel Prize in Physics for contributions to the discovery of the accelerating expansion of the universe.

Provided by NASA's Goddard Space Flight Center

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