

# Image: Hubble spots a merging galactic gem

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Credit: ESA/Hubble & NASA, W. Keel

This NASA/ESA Hubble Space Telescope observation has captured the galaxy CGCG 396-2, an unusual multi-armed galaxy merger which lies

around 520 million light-years from Earth in the constellation Orion.

This observation is a gem from the Galaxy Zoo project, a [citizen science project](#) involving hundreds of thousands of volunteers from around the world who classified galaxies to help scientists solve a problem of astronomical proportions: how to sort through the vast amounts of data generated by telescopes. A [public vote](#) selected the most astronomically intriguing objects for follow-up observations with Hubble.

CGCG 396-2 is one such object, imaged here by Hubble's Advanced Camera for Surveys.

Provided by NASA's Goddard Space Flight Center

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