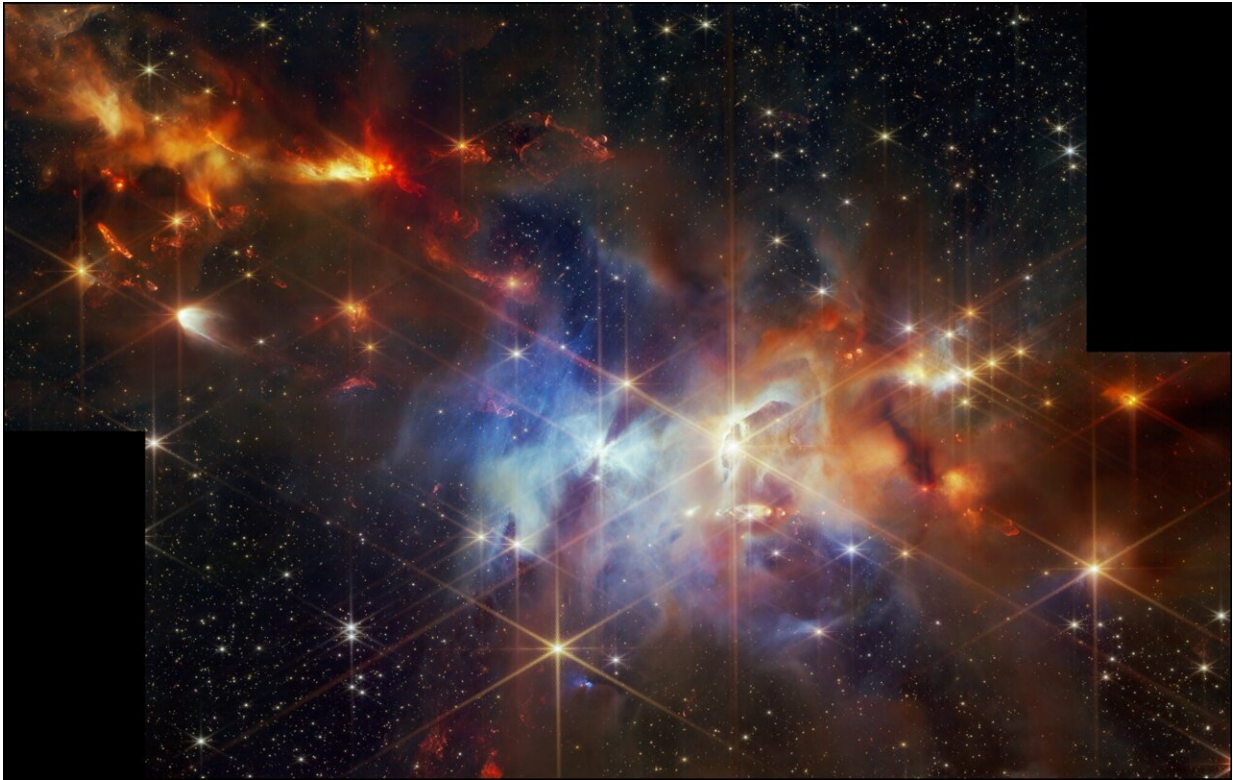


Webb captures new image of gassy baby stars

August 12 2024, by Monika Luabeya



In this image of the Serpens Nebula from NASA's James Webb Space Telescope, astronomers found a grouping of aligned protostellar outflows within one small region (the top left corner). Serpens is a reflection nebula, which means it's a cloud of gas and dust that does not create its own light, but instead shines by reflecting the light from stars close to or within the nebula. Credit: NASA, ESA, CSA, STScI, Klaus Pontoppidan (NASA-JPL), Joel Green (STScI)

NASA's James Webb Space Telescope has captured a phenomenon for

the very first time. The bright red streaks at top left of this June 20, 2024, image are aligned protostar outflows—jets of gas from newborn stars that all slant in the same direction.

This image supports astronomers' assumption that as [clouds](#) collapse to form stars, the stars will tend to spin in the same direction.

Previously, the objects appeared as blobs or were invisible in optical wavelengths. Webb's sensitive infrared vision was able to pierce through the thick dust, resolving the stars and their outflows.

Provided by NASA

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