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All of the content from the author Durham University. March 2011

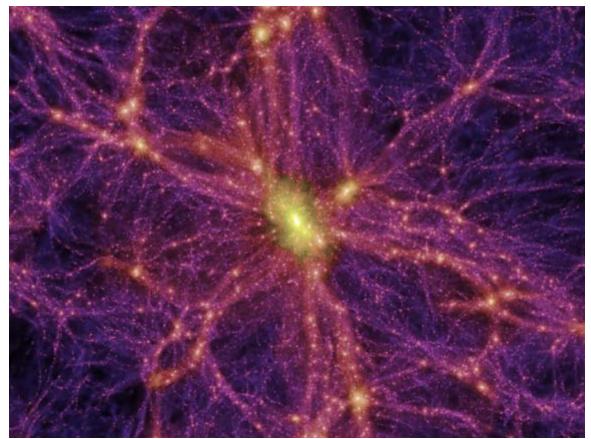
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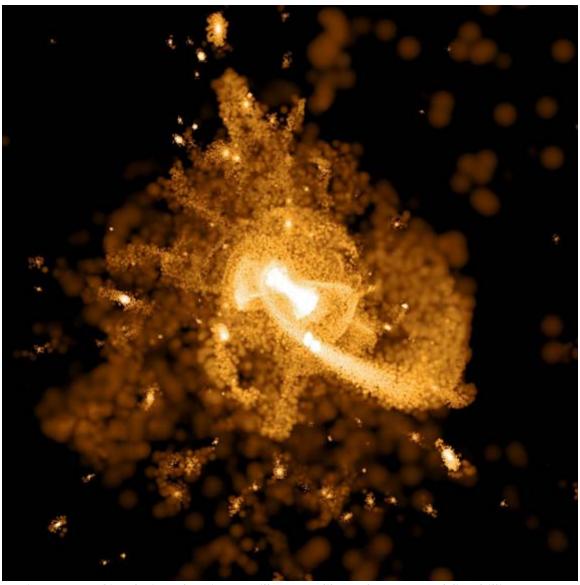




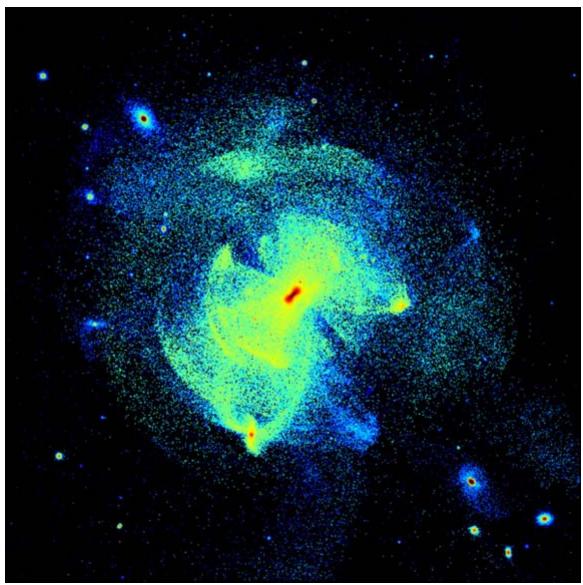
Dark matter shows a simulation of a dark matter halo taken from the international Virgo Consortium's Aquarius Project. Durham University is a key member of the Virgo Consortium.



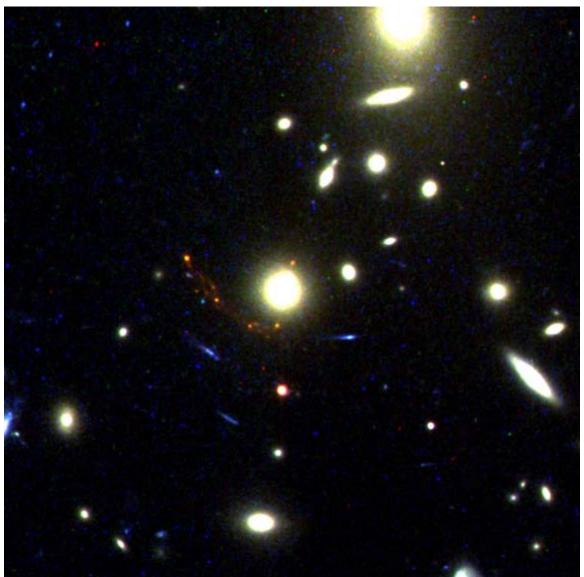
A computer simulation of the universe showing dark matter, which, according to cosmologists, is made up of exotic particles and far outweighs normal matter. The yellow colours show where there is most dark matter. (Image courtesy of the Virgo Consortium.)



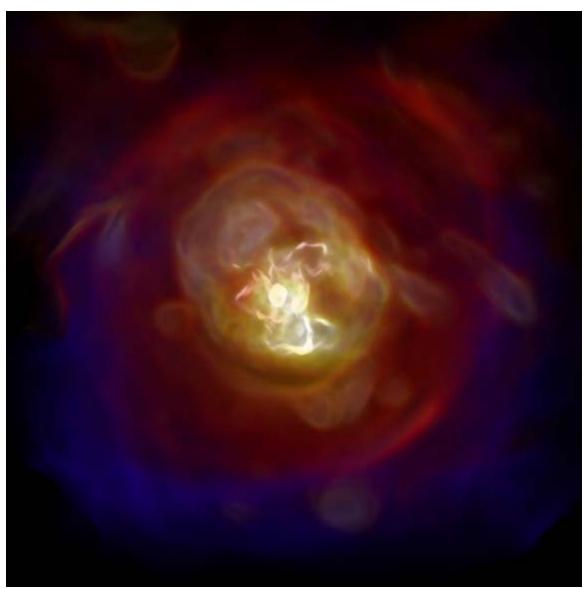
Ancient stars: Simulation showing a Milky Way-like galaxy around five billion years ago when most satellite galaxy collisions were happening. (Credit Andrew Cooper/John Helly, Durham University)



Ancient stars: Simulation showing the stellar halo around the Milky Way in the present day (Credit Andrew Cooper/Durham University)



Stars: A Hubble Space Telescope observation showing the red 'arc' of the rapid star forming galaxy MS1358arc – seen as it was 12.5 billion years ago. The galaxy is magnified by a factor of 10 by the younger foreground galaxies. (Credit: Dr Johan Richard, Durham University.)



Gas around young galaxy: A computer generated image showing the distribution and temperature of gas around a young galaxy in the chaotic process of formation. Credit: Jim Geach (Durham University) and Rob Crain (CAS/Swinburne University of Technology)