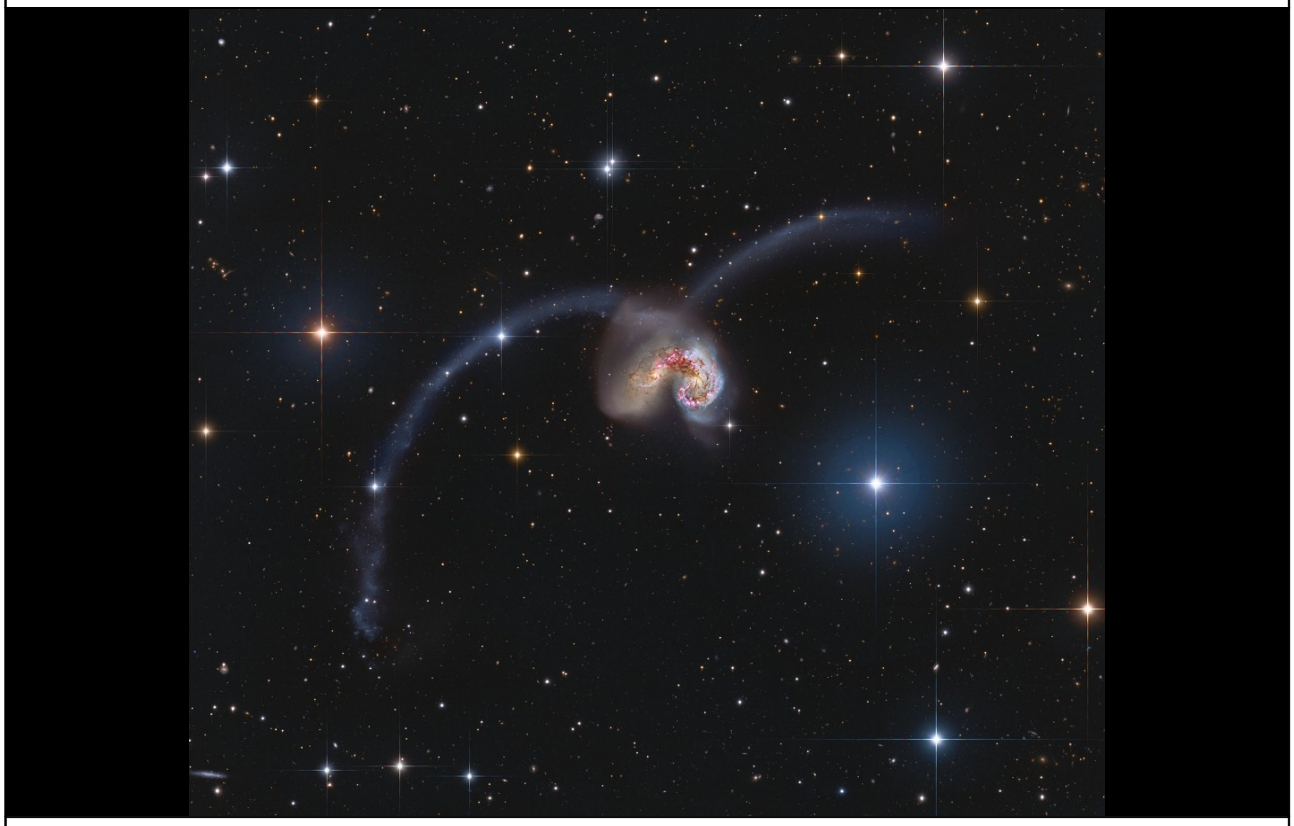
Antenna Galaxies



Quick Facts:
Distance: 60 million Light-years.
Size: 500,000 Light-years.
Constellation: Corvus.
Two colliding spiral galaxies, NGC 4038 and NGC 4039. Streams of stars, gas and dust are being ripped out of each galaxy by gravitational interaction. Though stars don't collide, gas and dust clouds do and trigger massive bursts of star formation. Find it: Locate the trapezoid of Corvus and its west side forms an almost equilateral triangle with a 5th mag star farther west. Look for the pair ¾ deg north of this star.
GOTO: NGC (New General Catalog).

Photo: Subaru, NAOJ, NASA/ESA/Hubble. Quick reference card by Derek Wallentinsen.