

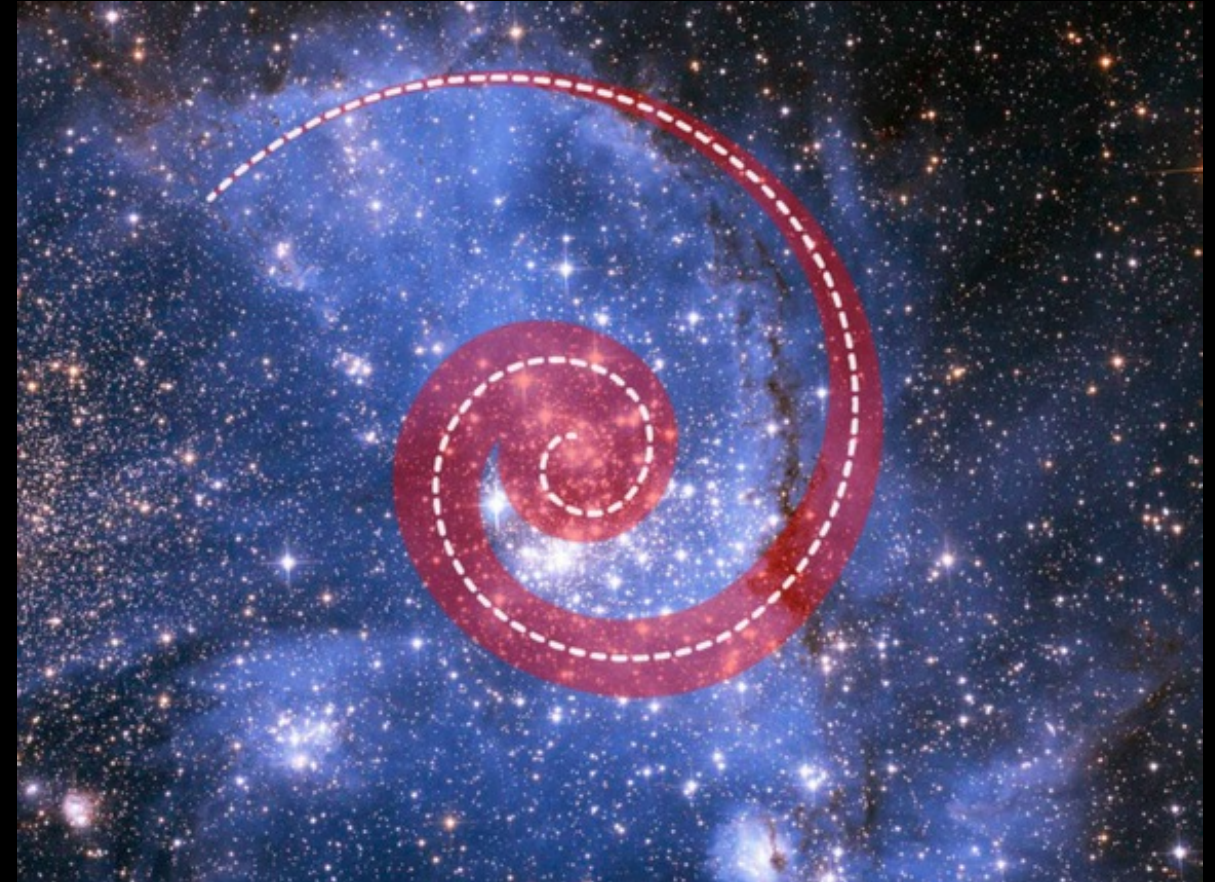
# NASA's Hubble Finds Spiraling Stars, Providing Window into Early Universe

Astronomers have discovered young stars that are spiraling into the center of a massive cluster of stars in the Small Magellanic Cloud (SMC), a satellite galaxy of the Milky Way.

The SMC has a chemical composition like galaxies found in the younger universe, when heavier elements were scarcer. Learning how stars form in the SMC offers insight on how a firestorm of star birth may have occurred early in the universe's history, when it was undergoing a "baby boom" about 2 to 3 billion years after the big bang

Thanks to Hubble and the European Southern Observatory's Very Large Telescope, scientists now know that the process of star formation in the SMC is similar to the one in our own Milky Way.

NASA's Goddard Space Flight Center in Greenbelt, Maryland, manages the Hubble telescope.



[www.nasa.gov/feature/goddard/2022/nasas-hubble-finds-spiraling-stars-providing-window-into-early-universe](https://www.nasa.gov/feature/goddard/2022/nasas-hubble-finds-spiraling-stars-providing-window-into-early-universe)

Paper: <https://iopscience.iop.org/article/10.3847/1538-4357/ac8004>