Hubble Telescope



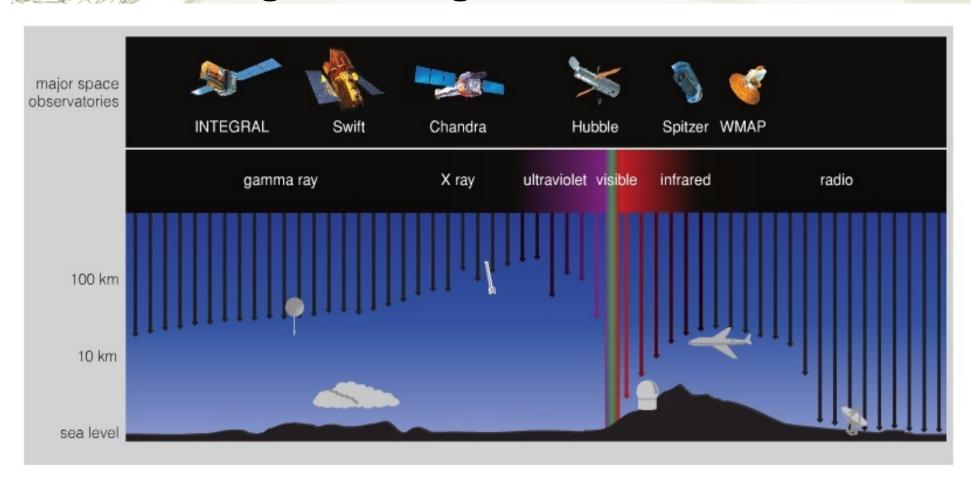
Hubble Telescope

- + Looks at the Visual 400nm 700nm
- + http://hubblesite.org/
- + First Proposed by Lyman Spitzer in 1946
 - + More push by Spitzer in 1962
 - +Funding agencies began in 1970
 - +Original launch date 1983
 - + Pushed back repeatedly
 - + Challenger blows up 1986
 - + Finally launched on Discovery, October 24th, 1990

Why go to space?

- Angular resolution how fine a detail can you see?
- ◆On earth, shifting turbulent atmosphere limits resolution to around 1 arcsecond which is the angular size of a half dollar 3.3 miles away
- → Theoretical resolution of something like Keck is ~.01", in reality .04"-.4" (adaptive optics)

- *Atmosphere messes up seeing
- Atmosphere also blocks a lot of radiation (this is a good thing)



Enter Hubble

- +2.4 Meter Diameter ~ 8 ft across
- *Angular Resolution is .05" As good as Keck but 4 times smaller and no tricky adaptive optics

Hubble

- Low Earth Orbit 347 miles
- + Orbits at ~ 17000 miles per hour
- + 25000 lbs, about the dimensions of a bus
- + Uses gyros to stabilize and point
- + Been going for 21 + years
- + Primary Mission Pin Down the Hubble Constant (how fast is the universe expanding, find distance to cephied variables)
 - + Secondary Mission explore space nearby

Initial Problems

- → Initial mirror polished to an accuracy of 10 nanometers (generally polished to 1/10th wavelength but Hubble was to be used for NUV as well)
- + Edges were off by about 2.2 microns serious image problems
 - + Spherical Aberration light doesn't come to a focus
- * Corrected by COSTAR in first servicing mission





Servicing Missions

- + Several, go to Wikipedia for details
- * The last one was a god send for astronomy
 - + Installed Cosmic Origins Spectrograph
 - + Installed Wide Field Planetary Camera 3
 - + Replaced guidance units
 - + Replaced 6 125 lb batteries that were 13 years past their expected service life
 - + Repaired the Advanced Camera For Surveys
 - + Repaired The Space Telescope Imaging Spectrograph

COS

- + Designed by Jim Green at CU
- * Ultraviolet Spectrograph
- + http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Cosmic_Origins_Spectrograph
- + http://cos.colorado.edu/
- → This is the type of device that would make a good paper to write about, especially if you explain what it would be looking at and how it advances science

WFC3 200nm-1700nm



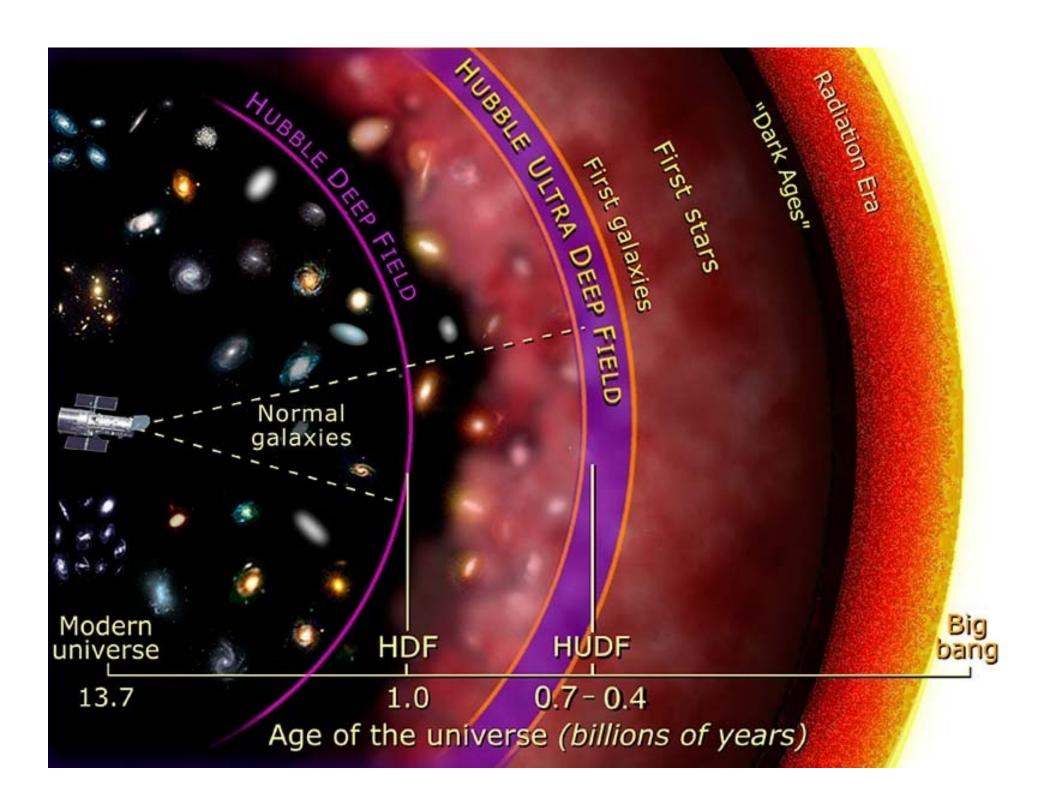
Hubble WFPC2 image of Bug Nebula

Hubble WFPC3 image of Bug Nebula

ACS - more optimized for Visible

- +Hubble ultra deep field 1,000,000 seconds, 192 orbits
- + Deepest image ever, looked back 13 billion years





Primary Results

- *Reduced errors in cepheid variable (standard candles) distances from 50% to 10% giving us a Hubble Constant of 72 (Km/s)/Mpc 1/H ~ age of universe
- + Found type 1a supernovae light curves suggested dark energy new and strange fate for the universe
 - + Type 1a are standard candles also, more on this later
- + Helped show black holes are in galaxy cores

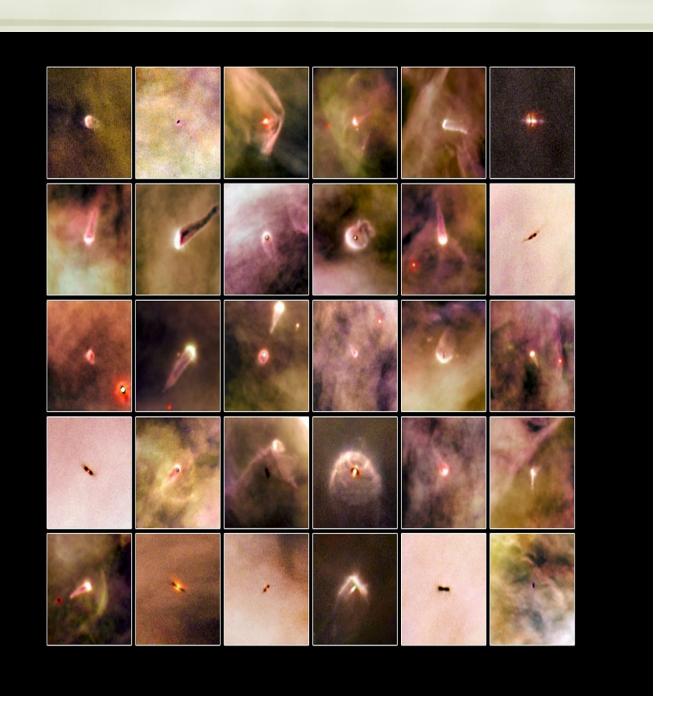
+ Imaged

protoplanetary
disks (new
solar
systems)

+ Provided

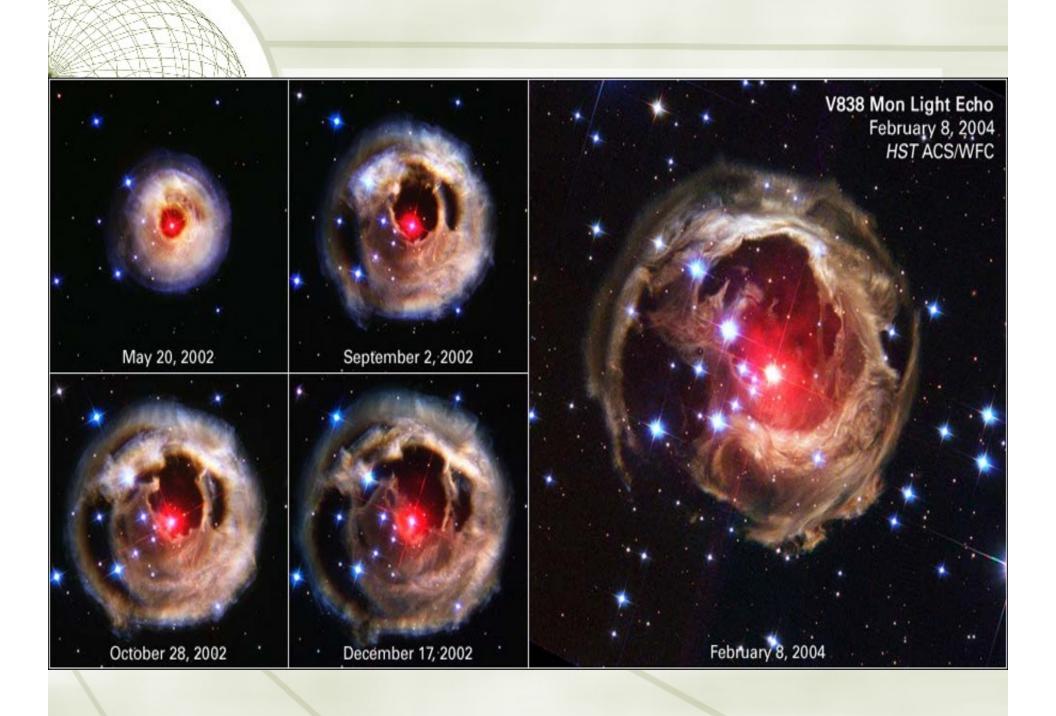
evidence of

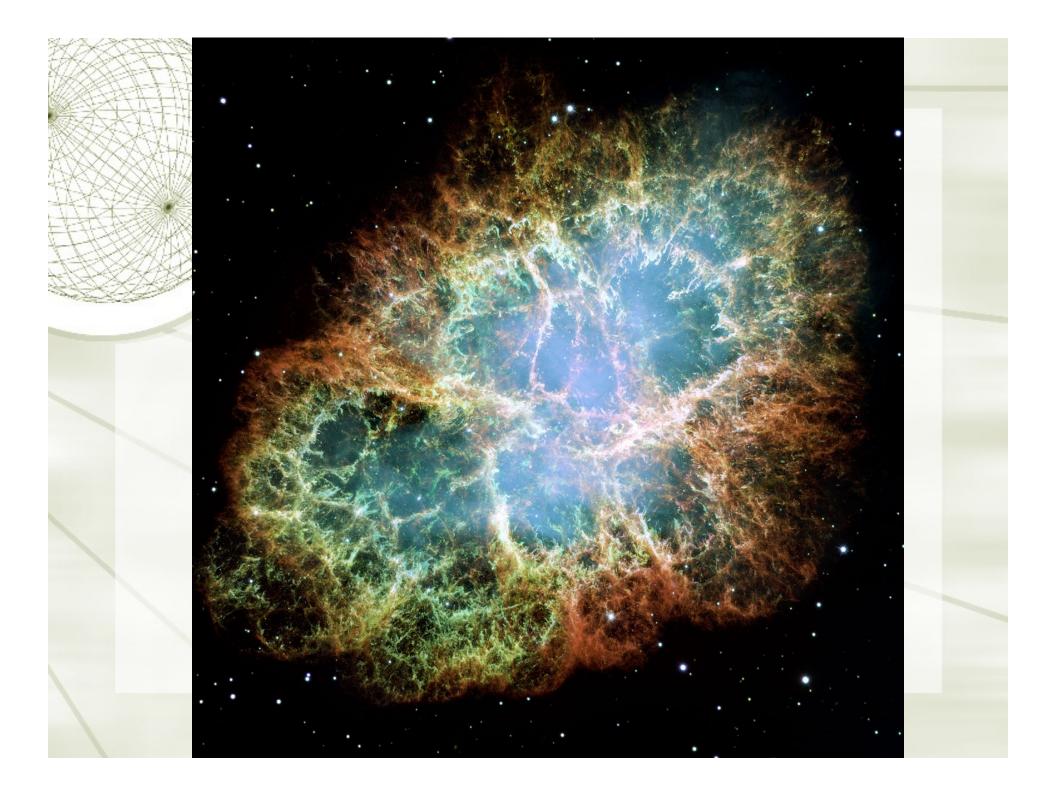
exoplanets



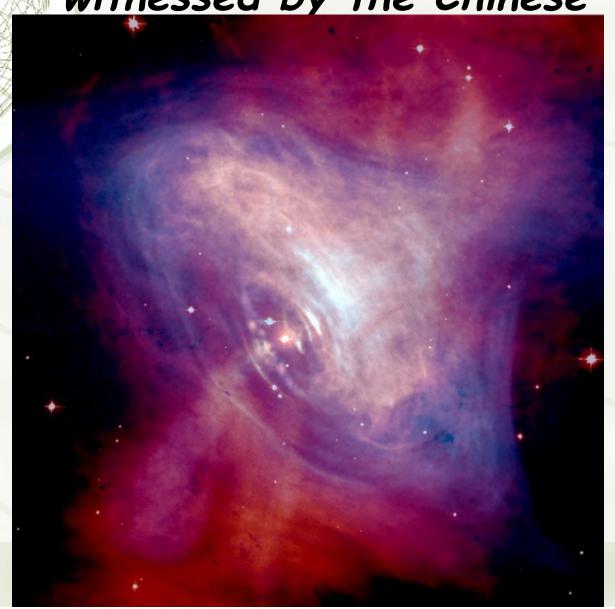
Random Pictures

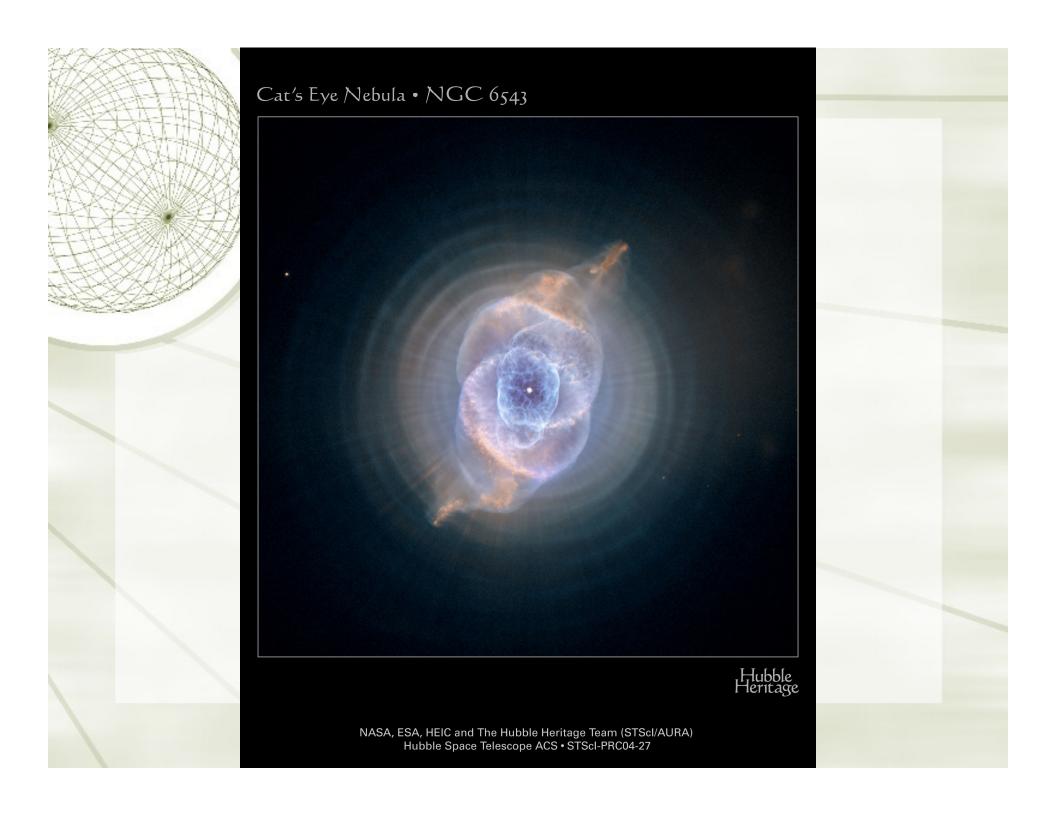
- + V838 Monoceros burping red giant
- Crab Nebula pulsar left after supernova in 1054
- + Cats Eye Nebula Planetary Nebula
- + Whirlpool Galaxy
- + Sombrero Galaxy
- + Eagle Nebula
- + Supernova 1987a





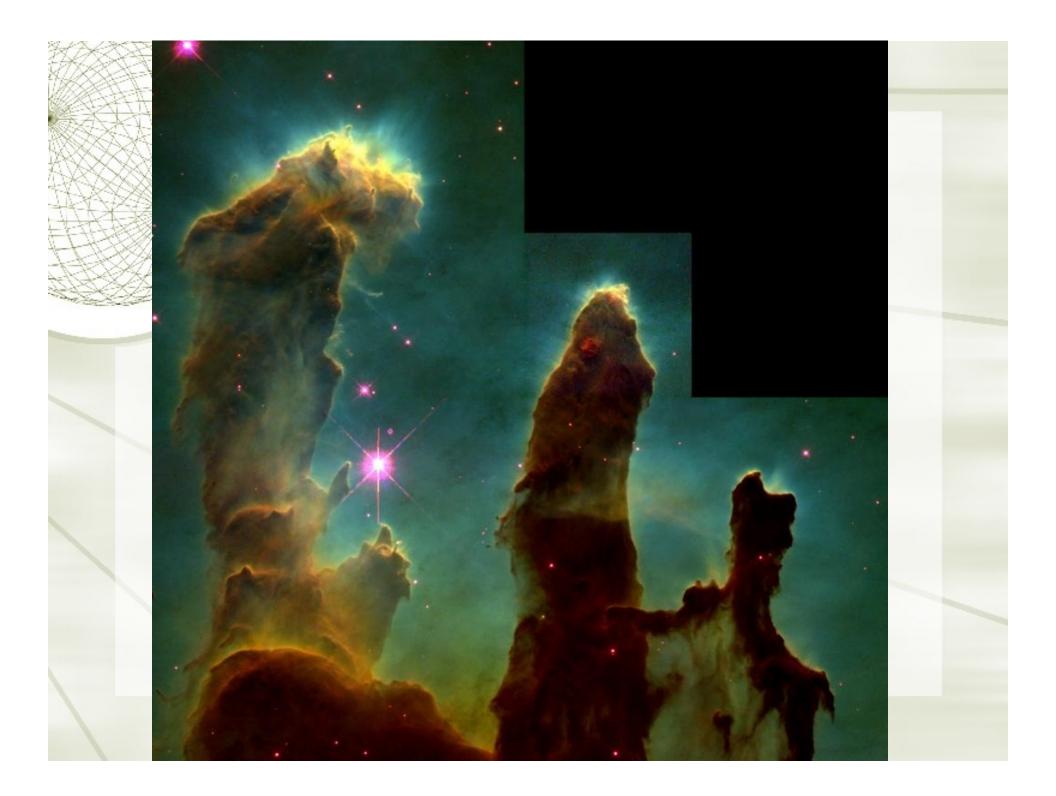
Crab Nebula - 1054 AD supernovae witnessed by the Chinese

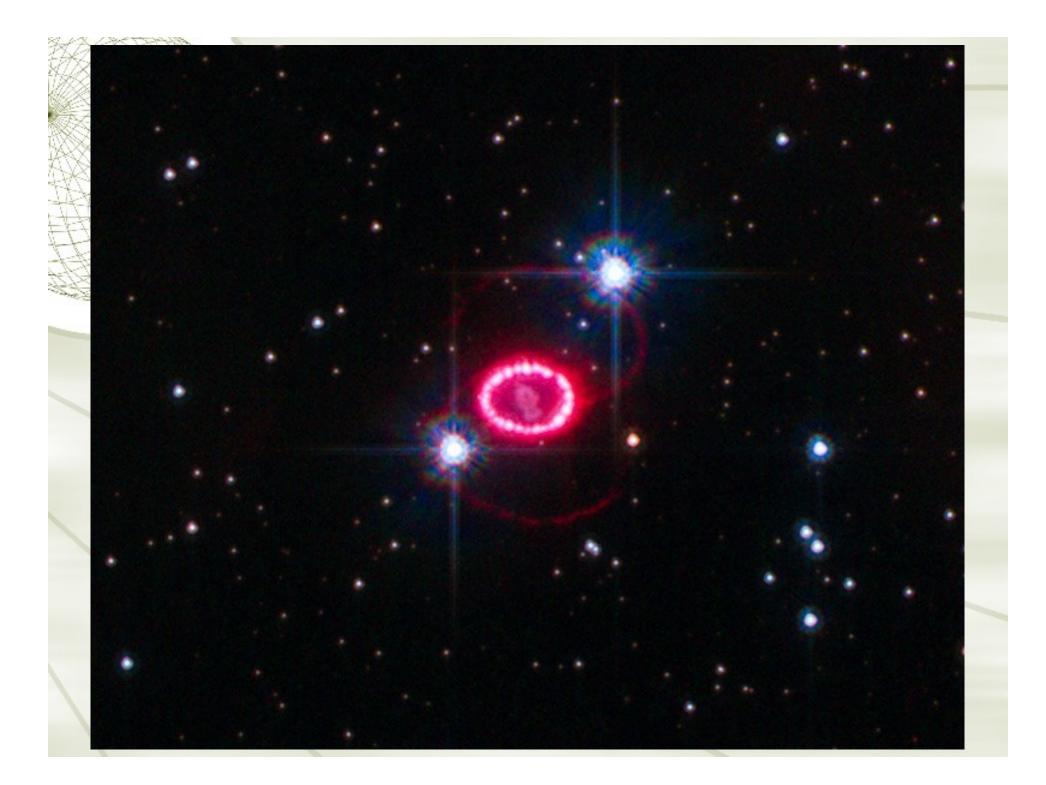












My two cents

- + We need to continue to fund these types of things
- + Useful, everyday science does come out of this but
- + On a deeper level this advances us as a civilization in the same way that the renaissance did or great music or literature does
- + Scientists need to make the connection to the public to make people care

Hubble's Successor James Webb

