



THROUGH A SERIES OF IMAGES TAKEN OVER A SEVEN YEAR TIME PERIOD, THE HUBBLE SPACE TELESCOPE TRACKS CHANGES IN THE BRIGHTNESS OF A BEAM OF HOT GAS - CALLED HST-1 - EMERGING FROM A BLACK HOLE IN ELLIPTICAL GALAXY M87

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Hubble's high-quality, near-ultraviolet imaging equipment - the Space Telescope Imaging Spectrograph (STIS) - allows for clear pictures in which HST-1 is quite visible and distinct from the black hole. These images show HST-1 glowing 90 times brighter than expected, prompting scientists to question whether to attribute the change to instability within the jet or to something as-yet unknown.

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