

Here is M51, the Whirlpool Galaxy, located some 27 million light years distant in the Constellation Canes Venatici. It is interacting with its smaller companion galaxy NGC 5195. This shot is the result of approximately 100 separate 180 second exposures taken over several evenings from my home. Interesting to note about this galaxy is that 3 supernovas have been observed there since 1994, which is unusual; on average in our galaxy one occurs only about every hundred years.