

NGC 4535 and NGC 4526

This is an image of NGC 4535 and NGC 4526 and several other smaller galaxies. They are both around 55 million light years from Earth and are members of the Virgo Cluster. NGC 4535 is the face-on galaxy and is also known as The Lost Galaxy because of its ghostly look in the eyepiece of a small telescope. However, in an extended exposure, we are able to see quite a bit of structure and detail. NGC 4526 is a fuzzy elongated lenticular galaxy. There is not much detail there but the Hubble image of it shows a dusty disk inside that halo.

For the processors in the group - I used a blue mask on 4535 (using Game Script to erase everything else in the mask) and a red mask on 4526 (again erasing most everything else with Game Script). That way I could enhance the blue in 4535 and the red in the halo of 4526. I also used the mask that can be outputted from Dark Structure Enhance to further highlight the dark structures with a RGB Curve. I liked the way that highlighted some of the dark areas in 4535. The exposures are as follows:

Red 78 x 300 sec
Green 74 x 300 sec
Blue 67 x 300 sec
Lum 76 x 300 sec

Total 24.6 hours

Link to this image on my Astrobin page: <https://astrob.in/vog222/0/>

See the annotated version of this image below.

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