M82 Galaxy





William Herschel Telescope + ACAM

This image of the Cigar Galaxy, Messier 82 (M82) or NGC 3034, was obtained using ACAM on the William Herschel Telescope (WHT). It is a colour composite made from data collected using red (including hydrogen alpha), green and blue filters. M82 is an irregular prototype starburst galaxy, which is believed to be undergoing an intensive star forming episode in its center. ACAM instrument is an optical imager and spectrograph at the Cassegrain focus of the WHT which adds more versatility and flexibility to the operation of the telescope.

Credit: Pablo Rodríguez-Gil (ING/IAC) and Pablo Bonet (IAC).