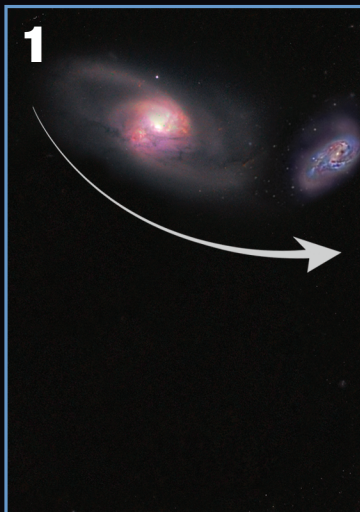


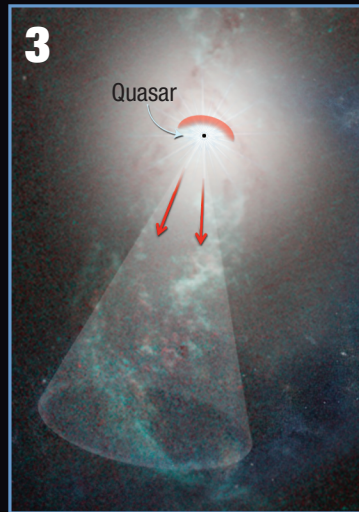
# Formation of Extragalactic Streamers of Ionized Gas



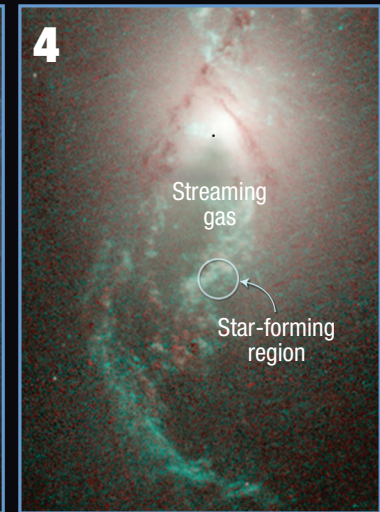
Two spiral galaxies move close enough together to exert gravitational tidal forces on each other.



A large tail of stars and gas is pulled out of the smaller galaxy.



A black hole in the center of the larger galaxy is fueled by infalling gas from the collision and glows as a quasar. A beam of radiation from the quasar ionizes a portion of the extragalactic tidal tail.



After the quasar dies down the ionized tidal streamer continues to glow as forensic evidence of the quasar outburst that happened many thousands of years earlier.