

Space Chat Podcast 8th May, 2026 Topics



Topics:

• **Is the Large Magellanic Cloud a First-Time Visitor?**

Our most massive satellite galaxy, the Large Magellanic Cloud (LMC), has been the centre of a heated debate in the astrophysics community over the last few years. That debate centres on whether this is the LMC's first or second "pass" by the Milky Way itself - and it has huge implications for the evolution of our galaxy given the disruption such a large grouping of stars has.

<https://www.universetoday.com/articles/is-the-large-magellanic-cloud-a-first-time-visitor>

• **How Do Close Binary Stars Form?**

Our Sun is a bit of an outlier in the general stellar population. We typically think of stars as being solitary wanderers throughout the galaxy. But roughly half of Sun-like stars are locked in with more than one companion star.

<https://www.universetoday.com/articles/how-do-close-binary-stars-form>

• **Astronomers Witness the Awesome Power of a Black Hole's "Dancing Jets"**

Astronomers have long been fascinated by the powerful jets emanating from black holes. These jets result from gas and dust being pulled into the black hole's gravity well, forming an accretion disk that is accelerated to velocities approaching the speed of light.

<https://www.universetoday.com/articles/astronomers-witness-the-awesome-power-of-a-black-holes-dancing-jets>