



**Chandra X-ray  
Observatory Center**

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**AM 0644-741:** A ring galaxy located about 300 million light years from Earth.  
(Credit: X-ray: NASA/CXC/INAF/A. Wolter et al; Optical: NASA/STScI)

**Caption:** Combining X-rays from Chandra (purple) with optical data from Hubble (red, green, and blue), this image reveals a ring of dense compact objects. The Chandra data show very bright X-ray sources, which are most likely binary systems powered by either a stellar-mass black hole or neutron star that are siphoning material from companion stars. This ring may help scientists better understand what happens when galaxies smash into one another in catastrophic impacts.

**Scale:** The image is about 3.25 arcmin (280,000 light years) across.

*Chandra X-ray Observatory ACIS Image*

*CXC operated for NASA by the Smithsonian Astrophysical Observatory*

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