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W28: A supernova remnant in the Milky Way thought to be between 35,000 and 150,000 years old. (Credit: Chandra X-ray: NASA/CXC/HSC/J. Keohane et al; ROSAT X-ray: NASA/ROSAT; Optical: NOAO/CTIO/P.F. Winkler et al; Radio: NSF/NRAO/VLA/G. Dubner et al.)

Caption: This composite shows a classic example of mixed-morphology supernova remnant known as W28. The background stars and fine structure are seen in optical light (grey and white) by CTIO. The radio (orange) data is from the VLA, while the wide-field X-rays (blue) come from the ROSAT satellite. The close-up view of the center from Chandra (low-energy X-rays are red, the medium are green, and the high range is blue) show the shape and extent of the high-energy emission in that region. By studying W28 and others like it, astronomers hope to better understand the complexities involved when a star explodes in a crowded neighborhood.

Scale: Left panel: 54 arcmin across; Chandra inset: 24.7 arcmin across

Chandra X-ray Observatory ACIS Image

CXC operated for NASA by the Smithsonian Astrophysical Observatory