Chandra X-ray Observatory Center

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SDSS 1430+1339: A quasar located about 1.1 billion light years from Earth
(Credit: X-ray: NASA/CXC/Univ. of Cambridge/G. Lansbury et al; Optical: NASA/STScI/W. Keel et al.)

Caption: Nicknamed the "Teacup" because of its shape, this quasar is causing an ongoing storm. The "handle" is a ring of optical and X-ray light surrounding a giant bubble, shown in this composite of Chandra (blue) and Hubble (red and green) data. This handle-shaped feature, which is located about 30,000 light-years from the galaxy's central supermassive black hole, was likely formed by one or more eruptions powered by the black hole. New data from Chandra and XMM-Newton mission are giving astronomers an improved understanding of the history of this galactic storm.

Scale: The image is about 16 arcsec (85,000 light years) across.

Chandra X-ray Observatory ACIS Image

CXC operated for NASA by the Smithsonian Astrophysical Observatory