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G344.7-0.1: A supernova remnant about 19,600 light years from Earth (Credit: X-ray: NASA/CXC/Tokyo Univ. of Science/K. Fukushima, et al.; IR: NASA/JPL/Spitzer; Radio: CSIRO/ATNF/ATCA)

Caption: This composite image shows G344.7-0.1, a supernova remnant created by a so-called Type la supernova, depicting X-rays from Chandra (blue), infrared data from Spitzer (yellow and green) and radio data from the Very Large Array and the Australia Telescope Compact Array (red). Type la supernovas can occur when a white dwarf pulls material from a companion star until the white dwarf grows so much that it becomes unstable and explodes. Studies of the elements left behind by the explosion like this are some of the best tools available to scientists to better understand the details of Type la supernovas.

Scale: The image is about 17.6 arcmin (100 light years) across.

Chandra X-ray Observatory ACIS Image

CXC operated for NASA by the Smithsonian Astrophysical Observatory