

CENTAURUS CLUSTER

Chandra is unrivaled for studying the hot gas that pervades galaxy clusters — megastructures that are the largest objects in the Universe held together by gravity. This composite image of the Centaurus Cluster, located 145 million light years from Earth, shows a vast cloud of hot gas seen by Chandra (red) surrounding high-energy bubbles revealed in radio waves (blue). These structures flank a supermassive black hole buried in the bright white area in the center. Galaxies in the cluster are shown by optical light data from NASA's Hubble Space Telescope (green).

FEBRUARY 2019

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20 YEARS OF NASA'S CHANDRA X-RAY OBSERVATORY