



**Chandra X-Ray
Observatory Center**

Harvard-Smithsonian Center for Astrophysics
60 Garden Street, Cambridge, MA 02138
<http://chandra.harvard.edu>

Zeta Orionis: An O-star in the belt of Orion, the Hunter.

Credit: NASA/CXC/W. Waldron, J. Cassinelli

The X-ray spectrum of the O-star Zeta Orionis taken by NASA's Chandra X-ray Observatory reveals clues about the structure of massive stars. Chandra's spectral data suggest that such massive O-stars may have magnetic loop structures on their surfaces similar to those found on the Sun. The color-coded CCD image to the upper right shows that Zeta Orionis is a binary star system. The HETG spectra was taken from the larger "A" component.

Scale: Image is 27 arcsec on a side.

Chandra X-ray Observatory ACIS/HETG Image

CXC operated for NASA by the Smithsonian Astrophysical Observatory