



NGC 3079

NGC 3079 contains two “superbubbles” — structures blown by powerful winds from massive stars and supernova explosions — that stretch out on opposite sides of the center of the galaxy. One superbubble is 4,900 light years across and the other is only slightly smaller with a diameter of about 3,600 light years. In this composite, X-rays from Chandra (pink) have been combined with optical data from Hubble (orange and blue). Chandra observations show that a cosmic particle accelerator in NGC 3079 is producing ultra-energetic particles in the rims of the superbubbles.

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