

JANUARY 2014

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CASSIOPEIA A

This new version of NASA's Chandra X-ray Observatory's image of the Cassiopeia A supernova remnant has been specially processed to show with better clarity the appearance of Cas A in different bands of X-rays. This will aid astronomers in their efforts to reconstruct details of the supernova process such as the size of the star, its chemical makeup, and the explosion mechanism. The color scheme used in this image is the following: low-energy X-rays are red, medium-energy ones are green, and the highest-energy X-rays detected by Chandra are colored blue.