



**Chandra X-ray
Observatory Center**

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

NGC 5315: A planetary nebula about 7,000 light years from Earth in the constellation of Circinus
(Credit: NASA/CXC/RIT/J. Kastner et al.)

Caption: This image of NGC 5315 shows the box-shaped outlines for two of the detectors on Chandra, plus the so-called aimpoint of the telescope, where the Chandra images are the sharpest (the spatial resolution of Chandra images, like those for other X-ray telescopes, decreases with distance from the aimpoint). For optimal imaging of Hen 2-99, Chandra was pointed so that this planetary nebula would fall near the aimpoint. Although Hen 2-99 was too faint to be detected, the planetary nebula NGC 5315 was serendipitously detected a large distance away from the aimpoint, where the image is not as sharp.

Scale: Inset is approx. 5 arcmin across.

Chandra X-ray Observatory ACIS Image

CXC operated for NASA by the Smithsonian Astrophysical Observatory