



Chandra X-ray **Observatory Center**

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

Perseus Cluster and Virgo Cluster: Two galaxy clusters about 250 million and 50 million light years away respectively.
(Credit: NASA/CXC/Stanford/I.Zhuravleva et al

Caption: Chandra observations of the Perseus and Virgo galaxy clusters have provided direct evidence that turbulence is helping to prevent stars from forming there. These new results could answer a long-standing question about how these galaxy clusters keep their enormous reservoirs of hot gas from cooling down to form stars. Scientists targeted Perseus and Virgo because they are both extremely large and relatively bright, thus providing an opportunity to see details that would be very difficult to detect in other clusters.

Chandra X-ray Observatory ACIS Image

CXC operated for NASA by the Smithsonian Astrophysical Observatory