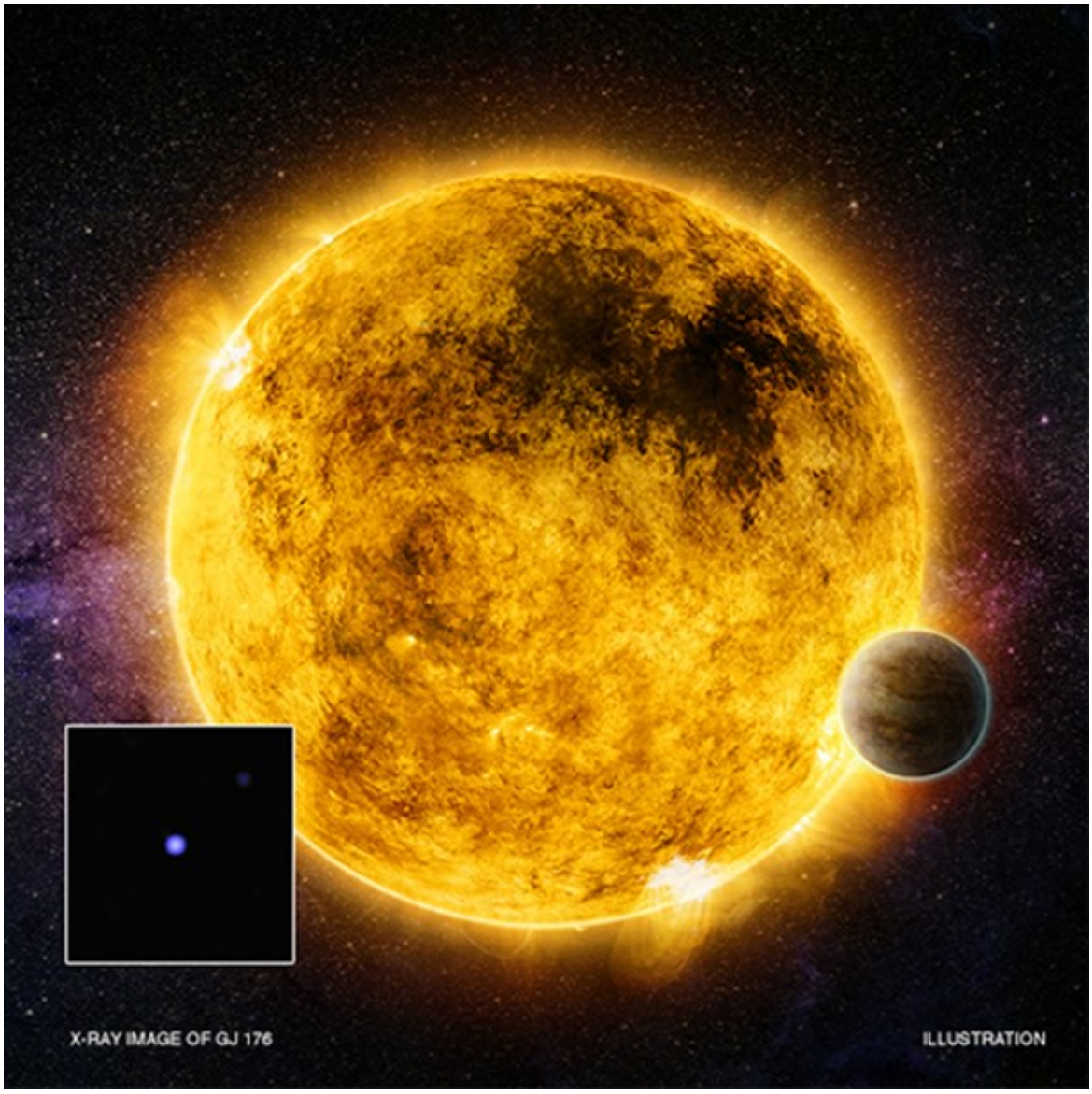

Chandra X-ray Observatory Center

Harvard-Smithsonian Center for Astrophysics
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GJ 176: Sun-like stars: A survey of 24 Sun-like stars more than a billion years old
(Credit: X-ray: NASA/CXC/Queens Univ. of Belfast/R.Booth, et al.; Illustration: NASA/CXC/M.Weiss)

Caption: A new study using data from NASA's Chandra X-ray Observatory and ESA's XMM-Newton suggests X-rays emitted by a planet's host star may provide critical clues to how hospitable a star system could be. Researchers looked at the X-ray brightness from 24 stars with masses similar to the Sun or less, each at least one billion years old. This artist's illustration depicts one of these older Sun-like stars with a planet in orbit around it, which researchers found to be relatively calm compared to younger stars. The inset box shows the Chandra data of one of the observed stars called GJ 176.

Scale: Inset image is about 9 arcmin wide (about 0.079 light years)

Chandra X-ray Observatory ACIS Image

CXC operated for NASA by the Smithsonian Astrophysical Observatory