



# M101

This Chandra image of M101 is one of the longest exposures ever obtained of a spiral galaxy in X-rays. The point-like sources include binary star systems containing black holes and neutron stars, and the remains of supernova explosions. Other sources of X-rays include hot gas in the arms of the galaxy and clusters of massive stars. These X-ray observations of M101 will be used to establish a valuable X-ray profile of a galaxy similar to the Milky Way. This will help astronomers better understand the evolutionary paths that produce black holes, and provide a baseline for interpreting the observations of distant galaxies.

## FEBRUARY 2009

Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
01	▶ 02	03	04	05	06	07
08	● 09	10	11	12	13	14
15	◐ 16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	○ 25	26	27	28