

NGC 1068

This composite image of NGC 1068, one of the nearest and brightest galaxies containing a rapidly growing supermassive black hole, contains X-rays from Chandra (pink), optical data from Hubble (blue), and radio data from the Very Large Array (gold). Spectra-the distribution of low and high energy X-rays-reveal that a strong wind is being driven away from the black hole at the center of NGC 1068 at a rate of about a million miles per hour. This wind is likely produced as surrounding gas is accelerated and heated as it swirls toward the black hole. Other information-such as the amount of material being deposited by this wind and how far it extends-was obtained using the Chandra data.

February 2011						
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