



**Chandra X-ray  
Observatory Center**

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

**BP Psc:** A Sun-like star in its "red giant" phase about 1,000 light years from Earth.  
(Credit: X-ray (NASA/CXC/RIT/J.Kastner et al), Optical (UCO/Lick/STScI/M.Perrin et al); Illustration: NASA/CXC/M.Weiss)

**Caption:** BP Psc, a more evolved version of our Sun, is seen in X-rays from Chandra (purple) and optical data (orange, green, and blue) in the composite image on the left. Astronomers think BP Psc consumed either another star or a planet as it ran out of nuclear fuel and expanded into its so-called red giant phase. The likely existence of such a "cannibal" star, illustrated by an artist in the panel on the right, provides new insight into how stars and the planets around them may interact as they age.

**Scale:** Left panel is 7 arcmin across (2 light years)

*Chandra X-ray Observatory ACIS Image*

*CXC operated for NASA by the Smithsonian Astrophysical Observatory*