VLA J2130+12: A binary system containing a quiescent black hole about 7,200 light years from Earth.

Caption: By combining data from Chandra and several other telescopes, astronomers have identified the true nature of an unusual source in the Milky Way galaxy. This discovery implies that there could be a much larger number of black holes in the Galaxy that have previously been unaccounted for. The main panel shows X-rays from Chandra (purple) that have been overlaid on an optical image from Hubble. The insets show the source is bright in radio waves, but can only be giving off a very small amount of X-rays. These pieces of information indicate the source contains a black hole with a few times the mass of the Sun.

Scale: Main image is 2.6 arcmin across (about 5.4 light years); inset image is 6 arcseconds across (about 0.2 light years)