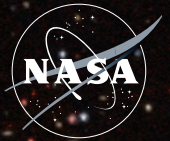


National Aeronautics and  
Space Administration



## Abell 2256

Abell 2256 is a chaotic scene where at least three galaxy clusters are colliding. X-ray data from NASA's Chandra X-ray Observatory and ESA's XMM-Newton (blue) shows superheated gas within the clusters, while three radio telescopes (red) show, among other things, particles blasting away from supermassive black holes. This jumbled scene of mergers and collisions represents the main way that galaxy clusters grow into some of the Universe's largest structures.

Credit: X-ray: Chandra: NASA/CXC/Univ. of Bologna/K. Rajpurohit et al.; XMM-Newton: ESA/XMM-Newton/Univ. of Bologna/K. Rajpurohit et al. Radio: LOFAR: LOFAR/ASTRON; GMRT: NCRA/TIFR/GMRT; VLA: NSF/NRAO/VLA; Optical/IR: Pan-STARRS

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