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Galactic X-ray Ridge: A ridge-like structure near the center of the Milky Way of X-ray emission discovered by earlier telescopes.

(Credit: X-ray (NASA/CXC/TUM/M.Revnivtsev et al.); IR (NASA/JPL-Caltech/GLIMPSE Team))

Caption: This extremely deep Chandra X–ray Observatory image has resolved a long-standing mystery about an X-ray glow along the plane of the Milky Way. The Chandra results show that the X-ray emission in the region is caused by hundreds of point-like sources, implying that the glow along the plane of the Galaxy is due to millions of such sources. In this image, the Chandra field-of-view, a region located only about 1.4 degrees from the Galactic Center, is pulled out from an infrared image from the Spitzer Space Telescope.

Scale: Inset Image is 5.1 arcmin across.

Chandra X-ray Observatory ACIS Image

CXC operated for NASA by the Smithsonian Astrophysical Observatory