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NGC 4194: Also known as Medusa, this galaxy lies about 110 million light years away (Credit: X-ray: NASA/CXC/Univ of lowa/P.Kaaret et al.; Optical: NASA/ESA/STScl/Univ of lowa/P.Kaaret et al.)

Caption: This image of NGC 4194 is a composite of X-rays from Chandra (blue) and optical light data from Hubble (orange). Located above the center of the galaxy, the "hair" of the Medusa is a tidal tail formed by a collision between galaxies. The bright X-ray source found on the left side of Medusa's hair is a black hole. A recent study of the Medusa galaxy and nine other galaxies measured the correlation between the formation of stars and the production of X-ray binaries. These X-ray binaries appear as the bright blue point-like sources in this image of Medusa.

Scale: Image is 2.5 arcmin across.

Chandra X-ray Observatory ACIS Image

CXC operated for NASA by the Smithsonian Astrophysical Observatory

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