



**Chandra X-ray
Observatory Center**

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Kepler's Supernova Remnant: The debris of an exploded star about 13,000 light years from Earth.
(Image Credit: NASA/CXC/Univ of Texas at Arlington/M. Millard et al.)

Caption: A new sequence of Chandra images, taken over nearly a decade and a half, captures motion in Kepler's supernova remnant. Pieces of this debris field are still moving at about 23 million miles per hour over 400 years after the explosion was spotted by early astronomers. Scientists are still trying to determine whether an extremely powerful explosion or an unusual environment around it is responsible for these high speeds so long after the explosion. The Kepler supernova was triggered by a white dwarf that reached a critical mass after interacting with a companion star and exploded.

Scale: Image is about about 7 arcmin (40 light years) across.

Chandra X-ray Observatory ACIS Image

CXC operated for NASA by the Smithsonian Astrophysical Observatory
