

M82

New Chandra data gives insight into the explosion that produced SN 2014J, one of the closest supernovas discovered in decades. SN 2014J is a so-called Type Ia supernova, an important class that astronomers use to measure the expansion of the Universe. This image shows M82 in the low, medium, and high-energy X-rays that Chandra can detect in red, green, and blue respectively. The lack of X-rays detected by Chandra rules out one mechanism that scientists theorized could cause the star to explode.

Credit: NASA/CXC/SAO/R.Margutti et al.

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