

NGC 1068

This composite image of NGC 1068, one of the nearest and brightest galaxies containing a rapidly growing supermassive black hole, contains X-rays from Chandra (pink), optical data from Hubble (blue), and radio data from the Very Large Array (gold). Spectra—the distribution of low and high energy X-rays—reveal that a strong wind is being driven away from the black hole at the center of NGC 1068 at a rate of about a million miles per hour. This wind is likely produced as surrounding gas is accelerated and heated as it swirls toward the black hole. Other information—such as the amount of material being deposited by this wind and how far it extends—was obtained using the Chandra data.

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