



JUNE 2017

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25	26	27	28	29	30	

RX J0603.3+4214

The phenomenon of pareidolia is when people see familiar shapes in images. This galaxy cluster has invoked the nickname of the “Toothbrush Cluster” because of its resemblance to the dental tool. In fact, the stem of the brush is due to radio waves (green), while X-rays observed by Chandra (purple) produce the diffuse emission where the toothpaste would go. Visible light data from the Subaru telescope show galaxies and stars (white) and a map from gravitational lensing (blue) reveals the concentration of the mass, which is about 80% dark matter.

X-ray: NASA/CXC/SAO/R. van Weeren et al; Radio: LOFAR/ASTRON; Optical: NAOJ/Subaru