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ASASSN-14li: A tidal disruption in a galaxy about 290 million light years from Earth. (Credit: Spectrum: NASA/CXC/U.Michigan/J.Miller et al.; Illustration: NASA/CXC/M.Weiss

Caption: Astronomers have observed material being blown away from a black hole after it tore a star apart, using a trio of X-ray telescopes. The artist's illustration depicts material from a shredded star (reddish-orange streak) that is pulled towards the black hole. The X-ray spectrum obtained with Chandra (inset box) provides information about how material starts falling toward the black hole, plus evidence for a wind carrying some of the material away from the black hole.

Chandra X-ray Observatory HRC Spectrum

CXC operated for NASA by the Smithsonian Astrophysical Observatory