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Supernova 1987A: Supernova 1987A: A supernova in the Large Magellanic Cloud about 160,000 light years from Earth

(Credit: X-ray: NASA/CXC/SAO/PSU/D. Burrows et al.; Optical: NASA/STScl; Millimeter: NRAO/AUI/NSF)

Caption: Thirty years have passed since Supernova 1987A (SN 1987A) was first seen. Since then, telescopes around the world and in space have observed this remarkable object, including Chandra. This new composite contains X-rays from Chandra (blue), visible light data from Hubble (green), and submillimeter wavelength data from ALMA (red). The latest data from these telescopes indicate that SN 1987A has passed an important threshold. The supernova shock wave is moving beyond the dense ring of gas produced late in the life of the pre-supernova star.

Scale: Image is about 20 arcsec (about 14 million light years) across

Chandra X-ray Observatory ACIS Image

CXC operated for NASA by the Smithsonian Astrophysical Observatory