



**Chandra X-ray  
Observatory Center**

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**NGC 3079:** A galaxy located about 67 million light years from Earth.  
(Credit: X-ray: NASA/CXC/University of Michigan/J-T Li et al.; Optical: NASA/STScI)

**Caption:** The galaxy NGC 3079 contains two "superbubbles" that stretch out on opposite sides of the center of the galaxy: one is 4,900 light years across and the other is only slightly smaller with a diameter of about 3,600 light years. The superbubbles in NGC 3079 are defined by X-ray, optical and radio emission. In this composite, X-rays from Chandra (pink) have been combined with optical data from Hubble (orange and blue). Chandra observations show that a cosmic particle accelerator in NGC 3079 is producing ultra-energetic particles in the rims of the superbubbles.

**Scale:** Image is 3.2 arcmin (about 62,000 light years) across.

*Chandra X-ray Observatory ACIS Image*

*CXC operated for NASA by the Smithsonian Astrophysical Observatory*

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