



**Chandra X-ray
Observatory Center**

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Sagittarius A*: The 4-million-solar-mass black hole at the center of the Milky Way.
(Credit: NASA/CXC/MPE/G.Ponti et al; Illustration: NASA/CXC/M.Weiss)

Caption: The artist's illustrations in the top panels represent a possible explanation for a recent increase in X-ray flares from Sgr A* seen by three telescopes including Chandra. As part of a long monitoring campaign, astronomers observed Sgr A* as a mysterious object called G2 appeared to pass close to the Milky Way's supermassive black hole. The timing of G2's passage could suggest that material from G2 caused the surge in X-ray activity, but it is also possible that this unrelated behavior of Sgr A*. The image at the bottom of the panel is Chandra's view of the region around Sgr A*, where red, green, and blue show low, medium, and high-energy X-rays detected by Chandra,

Scale: Image is 5 by 5 arcmin (about 38 light years)

Chandra X-ray Observatory ACIS Image

CXC operated for NASA by the Smithsonian Astrophysical Observatory