



DECEMBER 2017

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A665

Merging galaxy clusters can generate enormous shock waves, similar to cold fronts in weather on Earth. This system, known as Abell 665, has an extremely powerful shockwave, second only to the famous Bullet Cluster. Here, X-rays from Chandra (blue) show hot gas in the cluster. The large white region near the center of the images shows the bow wave shape of the shock. The Chandra image has been added to radio emission (purple) and visible light data from the Sloan Digital Sky Survey showing galaxies and stars (white).

Credit: X-ray: NASA/CXC/Univ. of Alabama/S.Dasadia et al, Radio: NSF/NRAO/VLA, Optical: SDSS