



Sagittarius A*

Astronomers have long known that the supermassive black hole at the center of the Milky Way galaxy, known as Sagittarius A* (or Sgr A* for short), is a particularly poor eater. However, it now appears that Sgr A* consumes even less than expected—ingesting only about one hundredth of one percent of the material apparently available to it. Why does it consume so little? A new theoretical model based on data from nearly two weeks of Chandra observation time may help explain. This deep data set—shown here with different energy ranges colored red, green, and blue—has also been used to probe supernova remnants and lobes of hot gas extending away from the black hole.

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