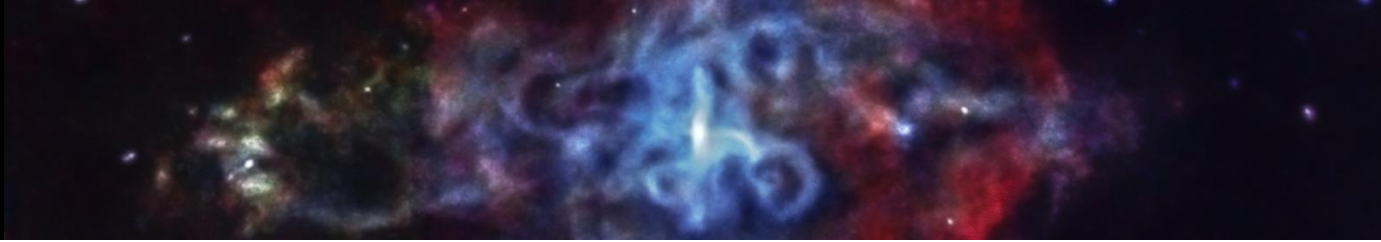


Director's Report



Quick Status

- Observatory functioning nominally. >300 HRC observing segments carried out since re-engaged.
- Data processing and delivery functioning nominally. CSC 2.1 released.
- TOO/DDT support continues on normal pace.
- Legacy Program enacted; whitepapers reviewed; proposals solicited and reviewed. Two selected.
- Cycle 26 Peer Review completed successfully. Continued high oversubscription.
- Several new operational changes implemented to ease scheduling, increase dwell times, and reduce safe mode recovery times.
- Chandra 25th Anniversary activities continue; symposium in December.
- FY24 budget issues have impacted Chandra over the past year. FY25 “settled” after OPCR. FY26 and beyond will be determined following Senior Review. Proposal due in December.

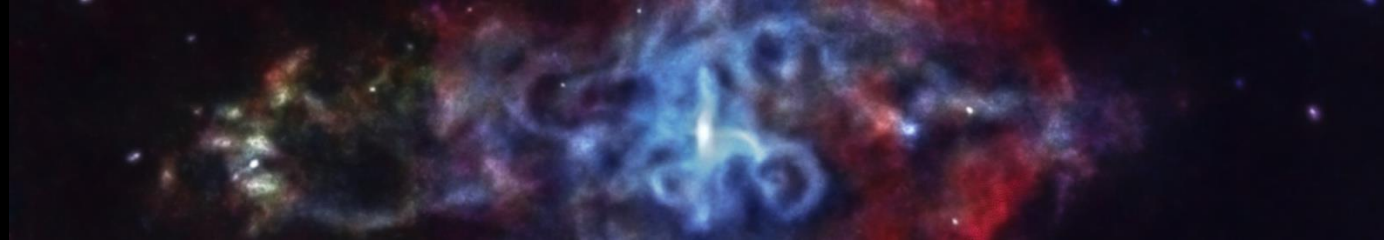


DDT Summary: 07 Oct 2023 - 07 Oct 2024

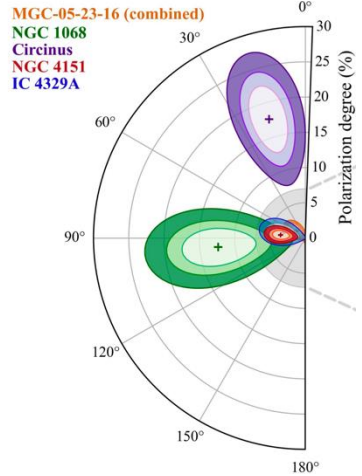
Cycle	Accepted Proposals	Accepted Time (ks)	Rejected Proposals	Rejected Time (ks)
24	5	285	4	395
25	15	372	13	566

Notes:

- 1: Rejected #s do not include informal requests that went untriggered.
- 2: Four non-transient programs were approved since 07 Oct 2023 (out of five requested).



DDT Summary: 07 Oct 2023 - 07 Oct 2024



Constrain spectrum for IXPE
Polarization of Radio-Quiet AGN

Target	Classification	PI	t_r	t_a	SI	GRAT	P
AT2023uqf	SN, SNR AND ISOLATED NS	Stein	10	25	ACIS-S	NONE	D
HE 0230-2130	ACTIVE GALAXIES AND QUASARS	Pooley	120	120	ACIS-S	NONE	N
NGC 1068	ACTIVE GALAXIES AND QUASARS	Marinucci	20	20	ACIS-S	NONE	N
Cyg X-3	BH AND NS BINARIES	McCullough	40	20	ACIS-S	HETG	N
NGC 4151	ACTIVE GALAXIES AND QUASARS	Miller	100	100	ACIS-S	HETG	D
HR 1099	STARS AND WDs	Miller	30	30	ACIS-S	HETG	N
GRB 240218A	SN, SNR AND ISOLATED NS	Pena	20	20	ACIS-S	NONE	N
SRGA J144459.2-604207	BH AND NS BINARIES	Illiano	5	5	HRC-I	NONE	N
A0620-00	BH AND NS BINARIES	Gallo	36	36	ACIS-S	NONE	N
EP240315A	STARS AND WDs	Levan	50	30	ACIS-S	NONE	N
EP240222a	ACTIVE GALAXIES AND QUASARS	Jin	40	2	HRC-S	LETG	D

t_r = requested (ks)

t_a = approved (ks)

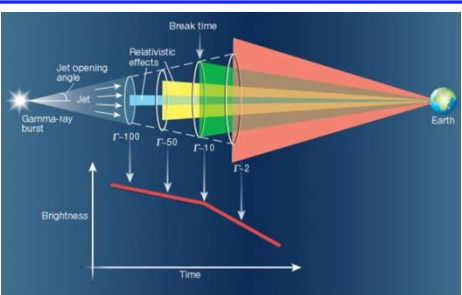
P = proprietary

N=None

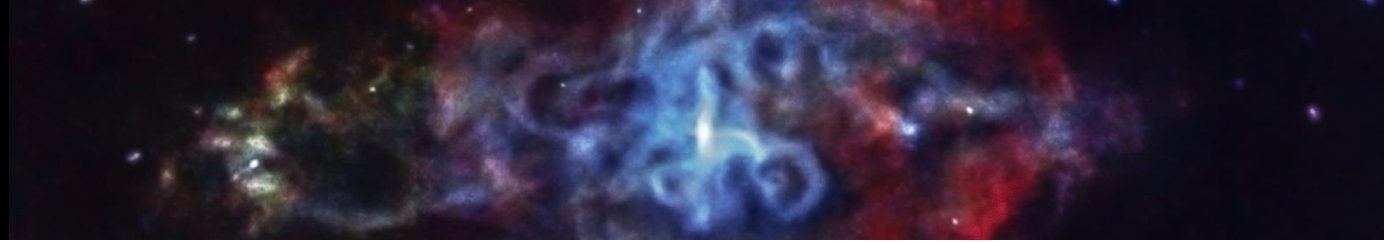
D=Default

Cycle
25

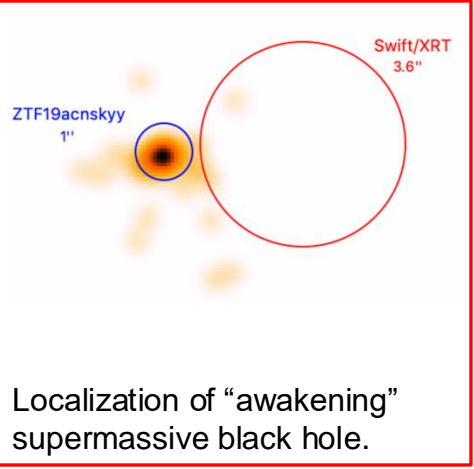
Cycle
24



Chandra detections of jet breaks in GRBs



DDT Summary: 07 Oct 2023 - 07 Oct 2024



Search for fallback accretion onto BH formed in failed supernova.

Chandra follow-up observation of AT2018cow-like Fast Blue Optical Transient (FBOT)

Target	Classification	PI	t_r	t_a	SI	GRAT	P
ZTF19acnskyy	ACTIVE GALAXIES AND QUASARS	Hernandez-Garcia	10	2	ACIS-S	NONE	D
LXT240402a	SN, SNR AND ISOLATED NS	Troja	15	15	ACIS-S	NONE	D
V1723 Sco	WD BINARIES & CVs	Sokolovsky	30	30	ACIS-S	HETG	N
SN2024ggi	SN, SNR AND ISOLATED NS	Zimmerman	30	30	ACIS-S	NONE	D
Gaia BH3	STARS AND WDS	Pacucci	50	10	ACIS-S	NONE	N
EP240414a	STARS AND WDS	Jonker	10	10	ACIS-S	NONE	N
Cen A	ACTIVE GALAXIES AND QUASARS	Bogensberger	22	22	ACIS-S	HETG	N
DIRECT V7984 M31B	SN, SNR AND ISOLATED NS	De	50	40	ACIS-S	NONE	D
AT2024wpp	SN, SNR AND ISOLATED NS	Margutti	80	80	ACIS-S	NONE	N

t_r = requested (ks)

t_a = approved (ks)

P = proprietary
N=None
D=Default

Cycle
25

Cycle
24



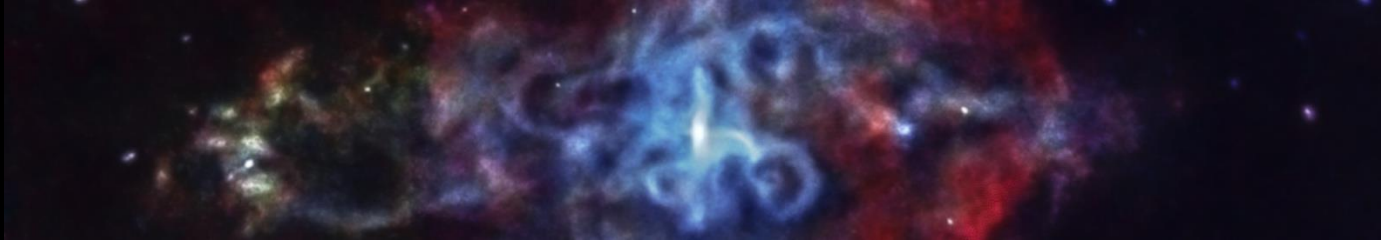
Chandra Budget Status

- Chandra budget cuts received in FY24.
 - Chandra GO funding reduced by 30% for Cycle 25, following written direction from NASA to address FY24 shortfalls by “preserving mission infrastructure while maximizing General Observer program funding.”
 - Additional savings made through hiring freezes for vacated positions, except in strategic critical areas.
- Over the past 15 months, CXC underwent three rebudgeting exercises in response to changing guidelines from NASA HQ, culminating in Operations Paradigm Change Review in which budget guidelines for FY25 and beyond were at close-out levels for observatory.



FY25 Update

- Operating Paradigm Change Review carried out.
 - Review panel provided strong support for Chandra. No formal report was provided by NASA, but APAC was briefed. Findings were that mission is operating well, that initial budget guidelines required decommissioning of observatory, and that reduced-funding options were faithful efforts at identifying minimal mission concepts (with and without GO funding), but that full operation of Chandra is desirable.
- NASA suggested budget plans to support Option III.
 - Vast reductions across entire CXC scope, including 50% reduction in observing time. GO funding included at levels scaled to reduced observing time.
- “Bridge funding” provided to support CXC staff through Dec 2024 in order to enact transition to Option III and complete Senior Review proposal (12 December 2024).
 - Additional negotiations added “buy-back” funding to reclaim lost 50% observing time (but not GO funding).
- Further efforts restored funding to eliminate layoffs through FY25. **Current CXC capacity maintained through Sep 2025.**
 - All observing (including HRC) will continue as in past over this period, but **GO funding is at reduced levels. This will impact Cycle 26 proposals.**



Cycle 26 Plans

- Chandra Cycle 26 proposals recommended by peer review will be approved and funded, but reduced funding levels require decisions on allocations.
 - **No Archive/Theory proposals were supported.**
 - ⇒ These were proposed to transition to ADAP and ATP programs under Option III. Such proposals were solicited in Cycle 26 under the assumptions that such funding would be available, but NASA's decision to support Option III eliminates this funding. With reduced funding, CXC also feels that funding new observations with Chandra needs to be prioritized.
 - ⇒ **NOTE: Latest update from NASA HQ is that Chandra Archive/Theory proposals will not transition to ADAP/ATP, at least at present. This impacts Cycle 27, where Archive/Theory proposals will again be solicited, but with uncertain ability to fund.**
 - **Funding for DDT observations has been eliminated.**
 - ⇒ DDT proposals will receive CXC review, planning, and allocation of observing time, but not funding.
 - **Funding is capped at \$300k for all proposals by US PIs (\$150k for non-US PIs with US Co-Is).**
 - ⇒ This impacted very few proposals.
 - Some modest delays (1-2 months?) in funding may result due to need for “phasing” of awards.



Senior Review

- NASA has announced Senior Review for active missions.
 - Proposals due 12 December 2024. Work is underway.
 - All missions will be reviewed by a single panel.
 - ⇒ Recommendations will be used as guidelines for NASA’s future support of Chandra.
 - **Budget guidelines are again at FY2025 PBR levels (i.e., OPCR levels for FY26 and beyond).**
 - ⇒ “Over-guide” requests can (and will) be submitted.
 - Over-guide requests are being guided by OPCR proposal and the comments from the panel and community.
 - CUC Chair will provide “red-team” review of proposal.