



**Chandra X-Ray  
Observatory Center**

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**3C273:** A quasar over 3 billion light years from Earth.

**Credit:** NASA/CXC/SAO/H. Marshall et al.

Chandra's image of 3C273 shows important new details in the extremely powerful jet that probably originates from gas that is falling toward a supermassive black hole but is then redirected by strong electromagnetic fields. This Chandra image has enabled scientists, for the first time, to detect a continuous X-ray flow in 3C273 from the core (upper left) to the jet. This discovery may reveal insight into the physical processes that power these long-puzzling energetic jets.

**Scale:** Image is approx. 24 arcsec on each side.

*Chandra X-ray Observatory HRC/ACIS image*

*CXC operated for NASA by the Smithsonian Astrophysical Observatory*