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00:00:00,790 --> 00:00:04,720

\h The Chandra X-ray Observatory orbits high above the Earth,

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00:00:04,720 --> 00:00:07,620

\h peering into the blackest reaches of space.

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00:00:07,620 --> 00:00:10,440

\h Exploring the most menacing and magnificent features of the

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00:00:10,440 --> 00:00:14,490

\h cosmos, this remarkable telescope is revealing what our eyes

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00:00:14,490 --> 00:00:30,090

\h can't, taking us beyond visible light.

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00:00:30,090 --> 00:00:36,620

\h Peering into the dark with its X-ray vision, NASA's Chandra X-ray Observatory is helping

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00:00:36,620 --> 00:00:41,310

\h to unravel one of astronomy's most perplexing enigmas.

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00:00:41,310 --> 00:00:48,870

\h Clusters of starlit galaxies and searing hot gas somehow stay together, even though the stars and gas

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00:00:48,870 --> 00:00:54,700

\h themselves don't have enough mass -- or gravity -- to explain their bond.

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00:00:54,700 --> 00:01:01,380

\h What cosmic ingredient is lurking in the darkness, undetectable by any of our telescopes,

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00:01:01,380 --> 00:01:06,370

\h holding these spinning groups together when they should be flung apart?

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00:01:06,370 --> 00:01:10,170

\h TANANBAUM: And, to hold the gas and the galaxies in place, you have to have this additional material.

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00:01:10,170 --> 00:01:20,870

\h You can compute how much there is -- it's about, again, close to 10 times more than we see in the gas a

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00:01:20,870 --> 00:01:27,500

\h And this material, because it doesn't radiate x-rays, it doesn't radiate light, it doesn't radiate in the infrared

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00:01:27,500 --> 00:01:33,550

\h we feel the force of its gravity, we know it's there but we can't see it. So we call it dark material, dark ma

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00:01:33,550 --> 00:01:39,330

\h Light waves from normal matter can be detected by a variety of telescopes, such as optical,

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00:01:39,330 --> 00:01:44,090

\h X-ray, infrared, gamma-ray and more.

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00:01:44,090 --> 00:01:52,190

\h Dark matter, on the other hand, is visible only through its gravitational effects on the matter we can see

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00:01:52,190 --> 00:01:59,160

\h In August 2006, Chandra and other telescopes working together found direct proof of dark

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00:01:59,160 --> 00:02:05,680

\h matter with a breakthrough discovery in a galaxy cluster known as the Bullet Cluster.

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00:02:05,680 --> 00:02:12,600

\h When the Bullet Cluster's galaxies merged, the clouds of gas slowed down due to friction,

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00:02:12,600 --> 00:02:17,090

\h but the galaxies themselves slipped through the collision.

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00:02:17,090 --> 00:02:21,400

\h TANANBAUM: The galaxies and the dark matter, they act more like individual particles,

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00:02:21,400 --> 00:02:23,980

\h and so they interact through the force of gravity.

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00:02:23,980 --> 00:02:29,770

\h But they don't behave like a gas or a fluid, and it tells us something about the interactions of the dark ma

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00:02:29,770 --> 00:02:33,180

\h it doesn't interact with itself other than through the force of gravity.

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00:02:33,180 --> 00:02:38,750

\h And we have actually physically separated -- -we haven't personally separated, but in this Bullet Cluster

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00:02:38,750 --> 00:02:46,550

\h the dark matter and gas have been separated -- and you actually can see the concentration of the dark

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00:02:46,550 --> 00:02:52,230

\h offset from the concentration of the gas. And it's a very visual demonstration that the dark matter

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00:02:52,230 --> 00:02:57,400

\h is real and it's different from the ordinary material, the baryons, the gas.

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00:02:57,400 --> 00:03:02,390

\h The mystery deepened once more in August 2007.

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00:03:02,390 --> 00:03:08,840

\h Chandra and optical telescopes revealed that in the Abell 520 galaxy cluster,

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00:03:08,840 --> 00:03:13,820

\h dark matter behaved in an opposite manner from the Bullet Cluster.

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00:03:13,820 --> 00:03:19,640

\h Instead of staying with the galaxies, the dark matter collected in the center of the cluster

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00:03:19,640 --> 00:03:24,630

\h while the bright galaxies collected outside the core.

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00:03:24,630 --> 00:03:29,520

\h Undaunted by this new finding, astronomers are not giving up.

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00:03:29,520 --> 00:03:35,660

\h VIKLINHIN: Also for studying dark matter, it's important because most of the cluster

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00:03:35,660 --> 00:03:42,550

\h mass turns out to be in the form of dark matter. So, clusters are so big that the composition

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00:03:42,550 --> 00:03:49,370

\h of the clusters is exactly the same as that of the entire universe.

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00:03:49,370 --> 00:03:55,120

\h Using valuable tools like Chandra, the best scientific minds are working to reveal what