

Chandra solar array batteries





Overview

Chandra generates its electrical power from the solar arrays, stores it in three banks of batteries, and distributes it in a carefully regulated manner to the Observatory. How much power does Chandra use?

The electrical power required to operate the Chandra spacecraft and instruments is about 600 watts, less power than a hair dryer uses. The light from some of the quasars observed by Chandra will have been traveling through space for ten billion years.

What is the Chandra X-ray Observatory?

NASA fuels discoveries that make the world smarter, healthier and safer. Named in honor of the late Indian-American Nobel laureate, Subrahmanyan Chandrasekhar, the Chandra X-Ray Observatory provides information on the nature of objects ranging from comets in our Solar System to quasars at the edge of the observable universe.

What are the components of Chandra X-ray Observatory?

The Chandra X-ray Observatory has three major elements: the spacecraft system, the telescope system and the science instruments. The spacecraft module contains computers, communication antennas and data recorders to transmit and receive information between the observatory and ground stations.

What X-ray light does Chandra produce?

The X-ray light from the fainter object (blue) produces an X-ray source ("C") that has been amplified by the galaxy to be as much as 300 times brighter than it would have been without the lensing. The Chandra image is shown in the inset.

What is the Chandra program?

Chandra, which was launched by the Space Shuttle on July 23, 1999, is helping



scientists to better understand the hot, turbulent regions of space and answer fundamental questions about the origin, evolution, and destiny of the Universe. The Chandra program is managed by the Marshall Space Flight Center for NASA's Science Mission Directorate.

How sharp is Chandra X-ray telescope?

The images Chandra makes are twenty-five times sharper than the best previous X-ray telescope. Chandra, which was launched by the Space Shuttle on July 23, 1999, is helping scientists to better understand the hot, turbulent regions of space and answer fundamental questions about the origin, evolution, and destiny of the universe.



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[Chandra :: About Chandra :: Chandra Specifications](#)

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AXAF-I (Chandra, CXO)

Power generated by the solar panels is stored in three banks of batteries. The 10 m focal length X-ray telescope consists of four nested paraboloid-hyperboloid X-ray mirror ...

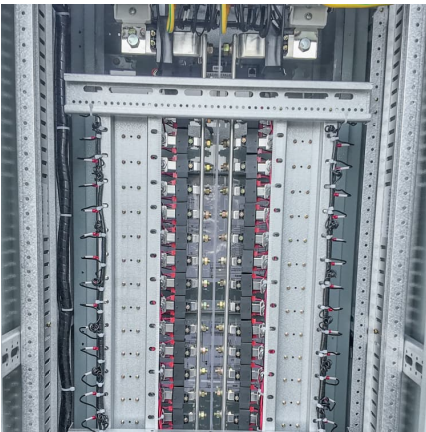
Chandra

Solar arrays generated over 2 kW and recharged three 40 AHr nickel hydrogen batteries. Six reaction wheels provided attitude control, with the control system fed by four 2-degree-of-freedom dry tuned rotor gyros.



AXAF-I (Chandra, CXO)

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THE CHANDRA X-RAY OBSERVATORY

Electrical power is obtained from two 3-panel silicon solar arrays that provide over 2000 watts. Three 40-ampere-hour nickel-hydrogen batteries supply power during the rare eclipses.



Chandra Specifications

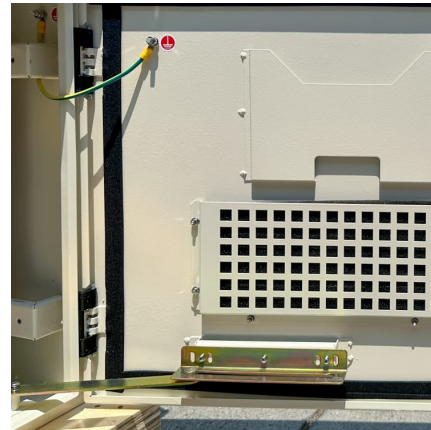
Chandra's resolving power is equivalent to the ability to read a stop sign at a distance of twelve miles. The electrical power required to operate the Chandra spacecraft and instruments is ...





Chandra

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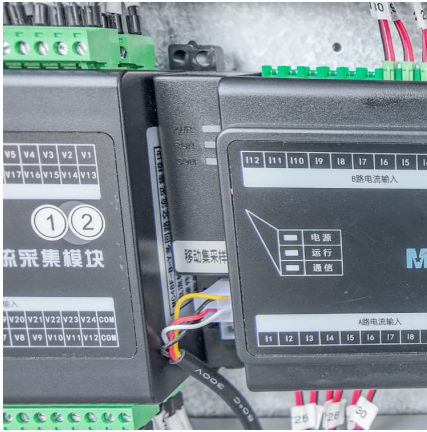
[Adapting to the Challenges of Extended Mission: How ...](#)

Chandra's electrical power is provided by two solar array wings. The energy generated is distributed by the Electrical Power Subsystem (EPS), which also includes a bank of three ...



Chandra X-ray Observatory

Power is generated by solar cells mounted on two solar array wings (three panels each), sized to provide a 15% end-of-life power margin. Electrical power is stored in three, NiH 2, 30-Ampere ...



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