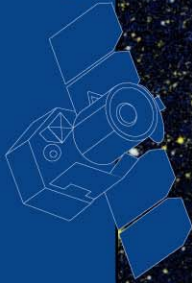


# GALEX

Galaxy Evolution Explorer

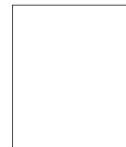


www.nasa.gov

Z Cam and Ghost

National Aeronautics and Space Administration

**Jet Propulsion Laboratory**  
California Institute of Technology  
Pasadena, California



### Z Cam and Ghost

This ultraviolet image from NASA's Galaxy Evolution Explorer shows Z Camelopardalis, or Z Cam, a double-star system featuring a collapsed, dead star, called a white dwarf, a companion star, and a ghostly shell around the system. The massive shell provides evidence of a powerful classical nova explosion. However, Z Cam is a known recurrent dwarf nova, meaning it erupts in a series of small, "hiccup-like" blasts, unlike classical novae, which undergo a massive explosion. That's why the huge shell around Z Cam provides the first evidence that some binary systems undergo both types of explosions.

Credit: NASA/JPL-Caltech/M. Seibert(OCIW)/T. Pyle(SSC)/R. Hurt(SSC)

www.nasa.gov

To:

---

---

---