



## RESEARCH

### **GAMMA RAYS PRODUCED IN THE RADIATION WINDS EMITTED BY BLACK HOLES DISCOVERED**

Thanks to the observations of NASA's Fermi satellite telescope, an international team of researchers has, for the first time, identified the gamma rays emitted, in certain galaxies close to ours, by the so-called UFOs. UFOs (acronym of Ultra Fast Outflows) are winds of gas and particles produced at very high speeds by supermassive black holes found in the central regions of galaxies, and scientists believe that they play a decisive role in regulating the growth of black holes and the galaxies that host them.

The study was carried out thanks to the data collected by LAT (Large Area Telescope), an instrument on board Fermi, designed and built with a decisive contribution from Italy, thanks to the Italian Space Agency, INFN and the National Institute for Astrophysics.

The results of this survey, in which Italian researchers from ASI, INFN and INAF also participated, were published on 10 November in The Astrophysical Journal and will also allow a better understanding of the history of our Milky Way. Indeed, they could explain why, above and below our galaxy, there are spheroidal structures of hot gas called "Fermi bubbles": according to the model just published, these structures could be the remains of a past UFO activity of Sagittarius A\*, the supermassive black hole that lies at the centre of our galaxy.■