

Galilean Nights Event ID: gn275

Number of telescopes: 1 satellite

Number of organisers: 6

Number of attendees: 50

Event Report:

Observing black-holes

During the days around the Galilean nights INTEGRAL, the gamma-ray observatory of the European Space Agency, observed

GRS 1915+105, a black-hole 10 times more massive than the Sun;
an ultra-luminous X-ray source in the galaxy M82, possibly a black hole weighting 1000 times the Sun; and
finally Mrk 509 a galaxy containing a massive black-hole weighting about 1'000'000 the Sun.

Stellar-mass and massive black-holes are well known objects in the Universe. The existence of Intermediate mass (100-10000 Sun) black-holes is still to be confirmed.

INTEGRAL data are received and analyzed in real time at the INTEGRAL Science Data Centre in Versoix, Switzerland. The public could see the observations on-going and get explanation on the results as well as on other sources of high-energy photons in the Universe.

Satellite observations are independent from the Earth weather, so even if the local weather was not good, the observations were not affected.