

11 June 2024



(Picture credits: NASA)

Fermi launch anniversary (2008)

Space agency/country: NASA

Mission: *Fermi*

On this day in 2008, NASA launched the *Gamma-ray Large Area Space Telescope* (later renamed the *Fermi Gamma-ray Space Telescope*) on a *Delta II* rocket into low-Earth orbit. The project is a collaboration with the US Department of Energy and many European contributors, including Germany, France and Italy. The satellite, composed of the Large Area Telescope (LAT) and the Gamma-Ray Burst Monitor (GBM), was used to study gamma-ray bursts. The first five years of the *Fermi* mission were so successful, that NASA decided to extend its operational lifetime by five more years, hoping to obtain even more information on blazars, neutron stars, supernova explosions, supermassive black holes and dying stars.

For more information:

<https://www6.slac.stanford.edu/news/2013-08-22-universe-through-fermis-eyes>

<https://www.ift.uam-csic.es/en/news/fermi-gamma-ray-space-telescope-celebrates-its-15th-anniversary>