



SAGITTARIUS A*

An unexpected agent for distributing heavy elements throughout a galaxy is a supermassive black hole in the center of a galaxy (such as Sagittarius A* at the center of our own Milky Way galaxy). Gas spiraling toward black holes can become overheated and produce a wind of gas that flows away from the black hole, or it can create an intense electromagnetic field that drives enriched material into the outer reaches of the galaxy and beyond.