

**LABORATORI NAZIONALI DEL GRAN SASSO**

**SEMINAR ANNOUNCEMENT**

On **September 24, 2009**, at **2:30 pm**, **Roy P. Kerr** from **ICRANet, Pescara, Italy**, will give a seminar entitled:

**“Supermassive Black Holes and the  
Kerr Solution”**

**Abstract**

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In the early sixties there were two events which were to have a profound effect on the future of Astronomy and Astrophysics. The first was the realisation that the newly discovered Quasars were extragalactic and that they were therefore incredibly powerful. The second was the discovery of a mathematical solution of the Einstein equations of general relativity that gave the field outside a rotating body. Like the Schwarzschild solution of 1919, this has an event horizon which can only be crossed from the outside. Furthermore, it was shown that this is the **ONLY** such "Black Hole" solution.

Over the next decade it was realised that an accretion disc around a supermassive Black Hole could be the engine for these violent extragalactic events.

**(“B. Pontecorvo” room)**