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Abstract for an Invited Paper for the DPP16 Meeting of the American Physical Society

Models of Dilute Relativistic Plasmas Around Black Holes ELIOT QUATAERT, UC Berkeley

In some regimes, mass flowing onto a central black hole can become sufficiently hot and low density that the collisional mean free path is appreciable compared to the size of the system. I describe new analytical and numerical models of these relativistically hot low collisionality plasmas around black holes. I also describe the application of these models to interpreting observations of the accreting black holes being observed by the Event Horizon Telescope.