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Abstract for an Invited Paper
for the APR15 Meeting of
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The Kerr Metric: 50 Years Later¹

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I will describe the events leading up to the discovery of the Kerr metric in 1963 and the enormous impact the discovery has had in the subsequent 50 years. The talk will emphasize the “miraculous” nature of the solution, both as a simple analytic formula describing the most general rotating black hole, and as having unexpected mathematical properties that make many calculations tractable.

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