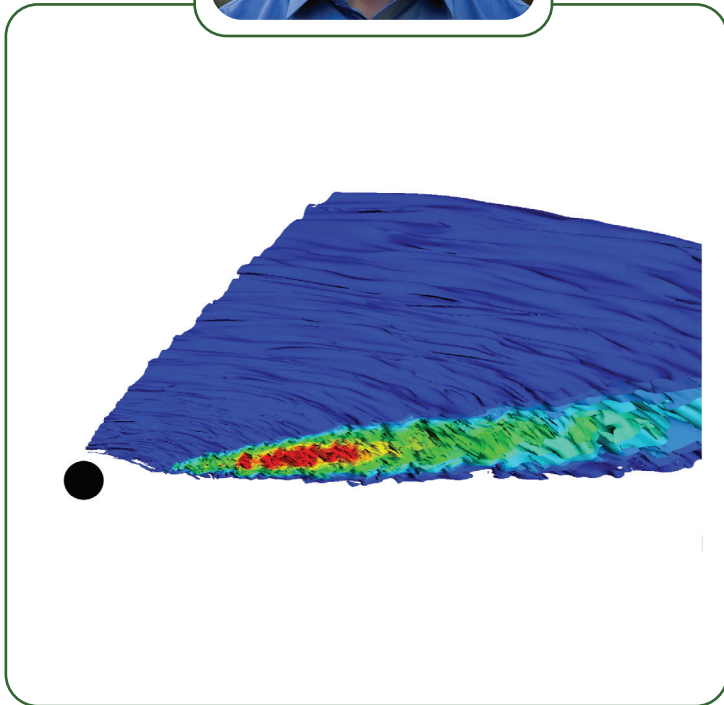


Athena Community People



Iso-density contours from a simulated magnetohydrodynamic (MHD) accretion disk around a black hole by Hogg & Reynolds (2018, ApJ, vol 861, pp 24). A precipitous drop in density at the innermost stable circular orbit can be seen; this sets an inner edge to the observable accretion disk which can be used to constrain black hole spin.

Chris Reynolds

Chris Reynolds is currently the Plumian Professor of Astronomy at the [University of Cambridge](#), UK. Before moving to Cambridge in 2017, he had a 21 year career in the United States; five years as a postdoctoral research associate in JILA at the [University of Colorado](#), and then 16 years on the professorial faculty of the Astronomy Department at the [University of Maryland College Park \(UMD\)](#). While there, he founded and was the first Director of the [UMD/NASA-Goddard Joint Space Science Institute \(JSI\)](#).

Chris has broad interests in observational and theoretical high-energy astrophysics. Much of his previous work has been on black hole accretion disk theory, X-ray studies of strong gravity (including black hole spin) and AGN feedback. More recently, he has developed interests in the use of X-ray astronomy for constraining new particle physics.

Chris has recently become the co-Chair of the new *Athena* Topical Panel on Physics Beyond the Standard Model.