

Govind Menon, Ph. D.
Brief Biography

After completing his schooling in India, Govind Menon moved to the United States in 1997 to pursue an undergraduate degree in Mathematics at Troy University. Subsequently, he joined the Physics Department at the University of Alabama in Birmingham for his master's and doctoral degrees in Physics to specialize in General Relativity. His Ph.D. dissertation focused on developing a non-axisymmetric spacetime that permitted gravitational repulsion. During the last year of his graduate training, Menon procured a lectureship at his alma mater—Troy University. Now, in his twenty third year at the university, he is professor of physics, and chair of the Department of Chemistry and Physics. Recently, Menon was appointed the founding director of the School of Science and Technology at Troy University.

Menon's summer sabbaticals at the Naval Research Lab in Washington D.C. have consumed a large portion of his research efforts in the recent years. He works on the active magnetospheres of supermassive black holes, and along with his collaborator Dr. Charles Dermer (Naval Research Lab), has produced the only known exact analytical solution to a stationary, axis-symmetric, force-free magnetosphere in a Kerr (rotating black hole) background. Their efforts have led to a manuscript entitled *High-Energy Radiation From Black Holes: Gamma Rays, Cosmic Rays and Neutrinos* published by Princeton University Press. When Menon is not working on Physics or spending time with his family, he can be found in his study playing classical guitar.