

$U(1)$ gauged boson stars

Ya Shnir

**Thanks to my collaborators:
J Kunz, C. Herdeiro, V Loiko,
A. Mikhaliuk, I. Perapechka, and E Radu**

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AQFT'25, Dubna, 14.08.2025

Outline

- **Boson Stars & Q-balls**
- **U(1) gauged boson stars**
- **Boson stars and hairy BHs**
- **Einstein-Maxwell BHs with scalar hairs**
- **Einstein-Maxwell-Fridberg-Lee-Sirlin model**
- **EMFLS BHs vs RN BHs**
- **Summary**

Q-balls

G. Rosen (1968),
R. Friedberg, T.D. Lee
& A. Sirlin (1976)
S. Coleman (1985)

$$L = |\partial_\mu \phi|^2 - V(|\phi|)$$

$$Q = i \int d^3x (\phi \partial_t \phi^* - \phi^* \partial_t \phi)$$

$$\phi = f(r) e^{i\omega t}$$

Spherically symmetric Q-ball



$$Q = 8\pi\omega \int_0^\infty dr r^2 f^2$$

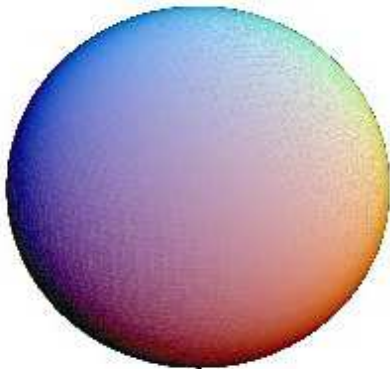
Field equation:

$$\frac{d^2 f}{dr^2} + \frac{2}{r} \frac{df}{dr} + \omega^2 f = \frac{1}{2} \frac{dV}{df}$$

$$f \sim \frac{1}{r} e^{-\sqrt{m^2 - \omega^2} r}$$

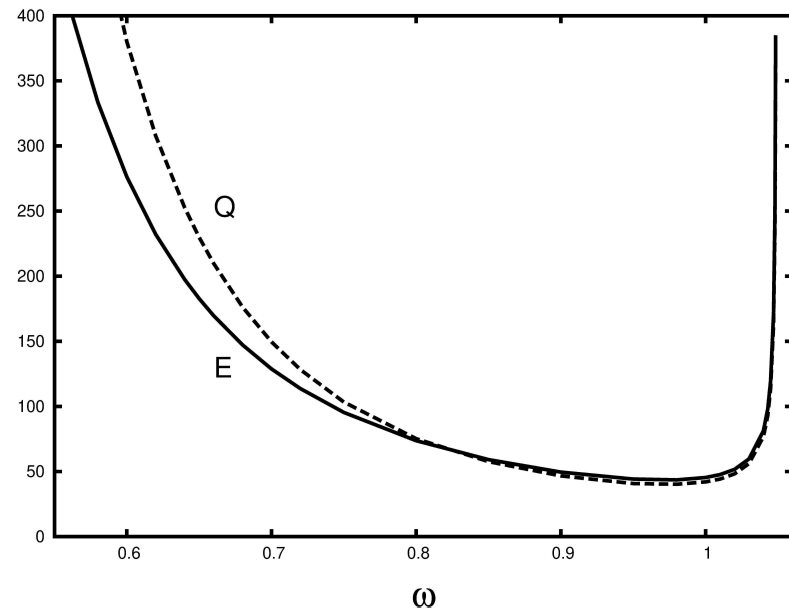
Potential:

$$V = a|\phi|^2 - b|\phi|^4 + |\phi|^6$$



Angular frequency
is restricted:

$$\omega_{min} \leq \omega \leq \omega_{max}$$



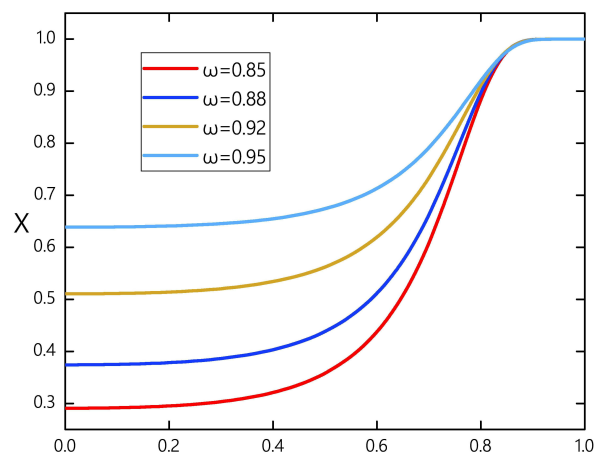
Friedberg-Lee-Sirlin Q-balls

$$L = (\partial_\mu \xi)^2 + |\partial_\mu \phi|^2 - m^2 \xi^2 |\phi|^2 - \mu^2 (1 - \xi^2)^2$$

$$Q = i \int d^3x (\phi \partial_t \phi^* - \phi^* \partial_t \phi)$$

$$\xi = X(r); \quad \phi = Y(r) e^{i\omega t}$$

Spherically symmetric FLS Q-ball

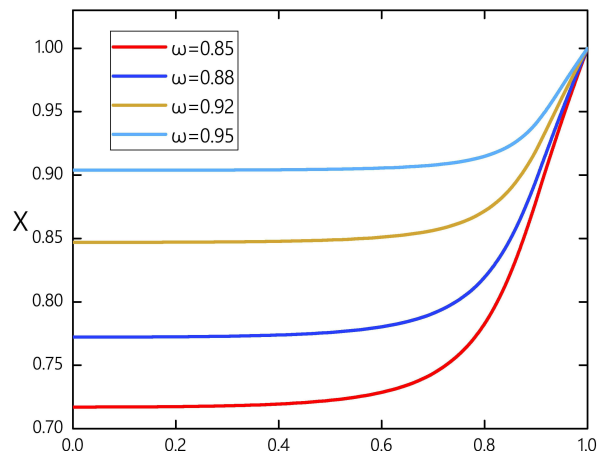
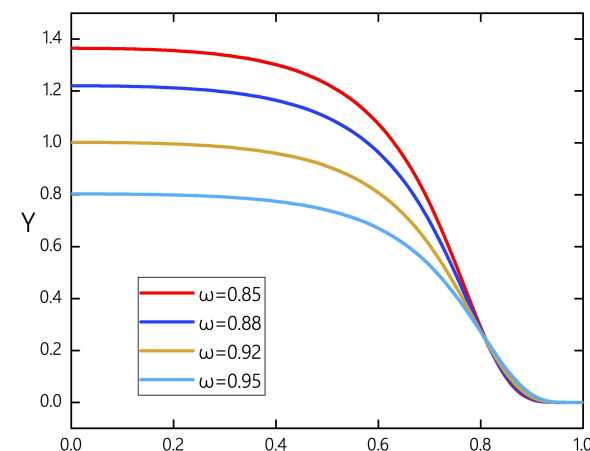


 **massive**

$$\mu^2 = 1/4$$

$$m^2 = 1$$

$$X \sim 1 - e^{-\sqrt{\mu^2 - \omega^2} r}$$

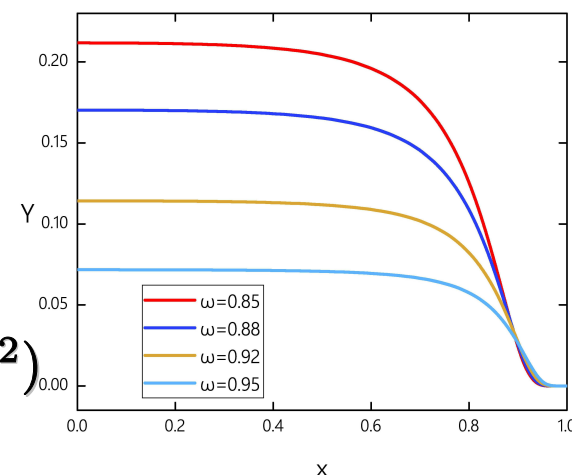


 **massless**

$$\mu^2 = 0$$

$$m^2 = 1$$

$$X(r) \sim 1 - \frac{C}{r} + O(r^{-2})$$



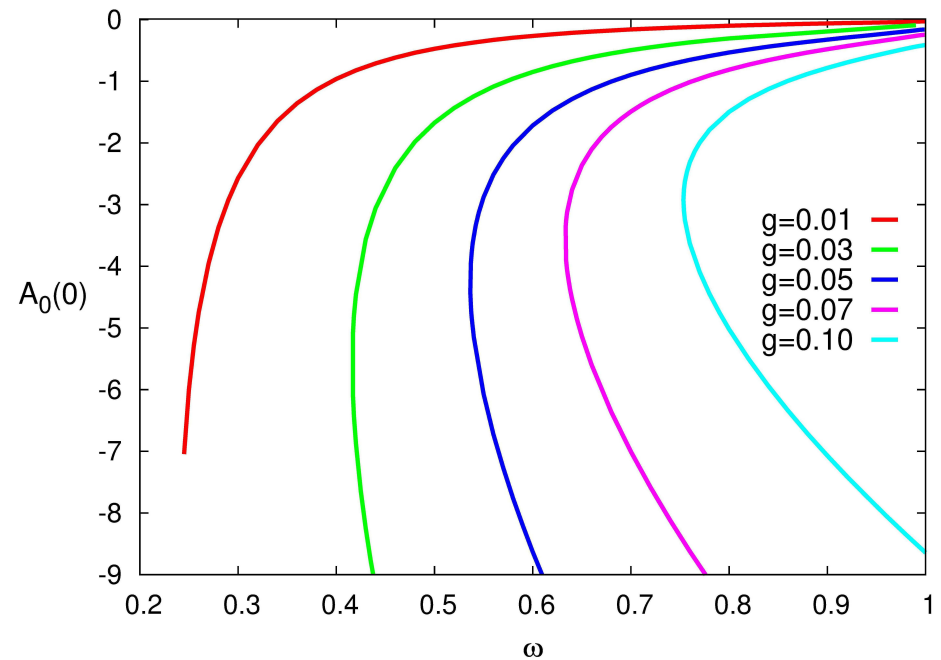
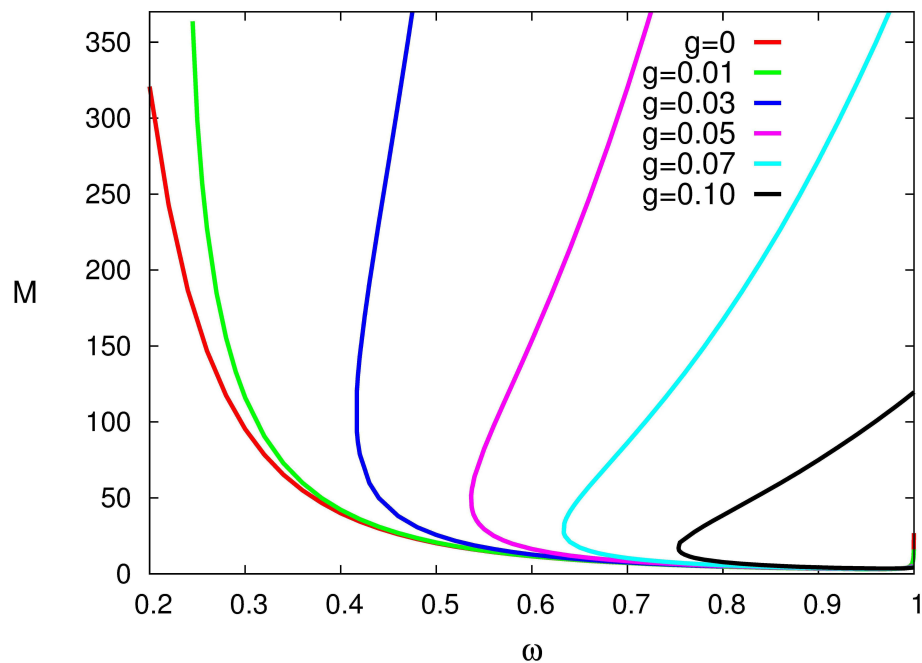
U(1) gauged Friedberg-Lee-Sirlin Q-balls

$$L = -\frac{1}{4}F_{\mu\nu}F^{\mu\nu} + (\partial_\mu\xi)^2 + |D_\mu\phi|^2 - m^2\xi^2|\phi|^2 - \mu(1 - \xi^2)^2$$

$$D_\mu = \partial_\mu + igA_\mu, \quad F_{\mu\nu} = \partial_\mu A_\nu - \partial_\nu A_\mu$$

● **U(1) current:** $j_\mu = i(\phi D_\mu\phi^* - \phi^* D_\mu\phi)$

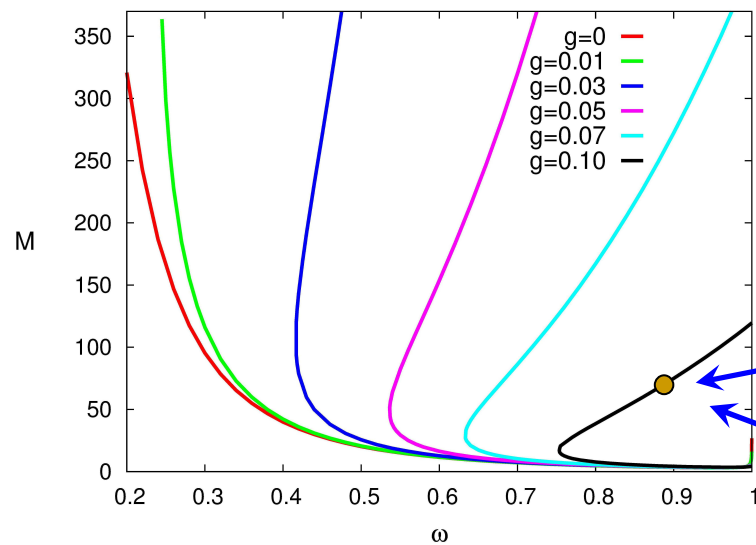
$$Q = \int d^3x (gA_0 + \omega)|\phi|^2$$



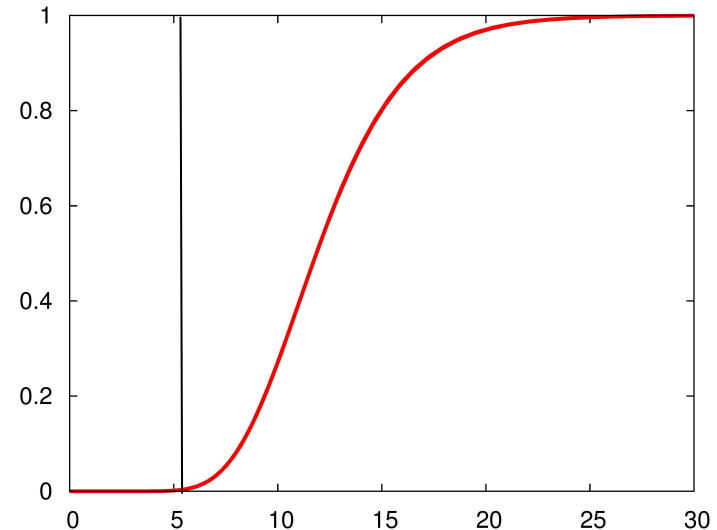
U(1) gauged Friedberg-Lee-Sirlin Q-balls

$$L = -\frac{1}{4}F_{\mu\nu}F^{\mu\nu} + (\partial_\mu\xi)^2 + |D_\mu\phi|^2 - m^2\xi^2|\phi|^2 - \mu(1 - \xi^2)^2$$

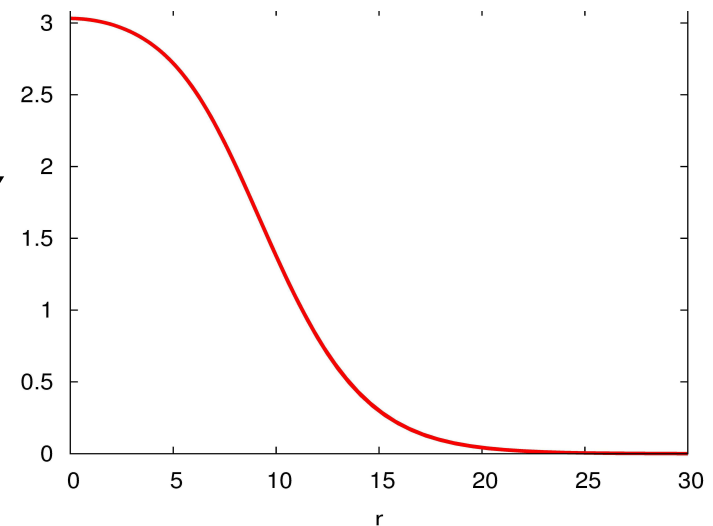
$$\xi = X(r); \quad \phi = Y(r)e^{i\omega t}$$



X



Y



Bubble of the massless charged complex scalar field ϕ

Localised solitons: Gravity vs Klein-Gordon

Pure gravity (attraction)

$$L = -\frac{R}{16\pi G}$$

Lichnerowicz (1955): there are black holes but there are no gravitational solitons, the only globally regular, asymptotically flat, static vacuum solution to the Einstein eqs with finite energy is Minkowski space.

Klein-Gordon massive theory

$$L = |\partial_\mu \phi|^2 + \mu^2 |\phi|^2$$

Derrek theorem: Complex Klein-Gordon theory in 3+1 dim do not admit localised soliton solutions.

**Stationary spinning configurations:
a way to evade Derrick's theorem**

I Z Fisher (1948): Solution of the coupled Einstein-Klein-Gordon model
(Thanks to **K.Zloschastiev**, **gr-qc/9911008 [gr-qc]**)

Kaup (1968): Dispersion can be balanced by the gravitational attraction

The Boson Stars: $\phi(\mathbf{r}, t) = f(\mathbf{r})e^{i\omega t}$

Boson Stars

$$S = \int d^4x \sqrt{-g} \left\{ \frac{R}{16\pi G} - |\partial_\mu \phi|^2 - \mu^2 |\phi|^2 \right\}$$

$$R_{\mu\nu} - \frac{1}{2} R g_{\mu\nu} = 2\alpha^2 T_{\mu\nu}; \quad (\square - \mu^2) \phi = 0 \quad \alpha^2 = 4\pi G$$

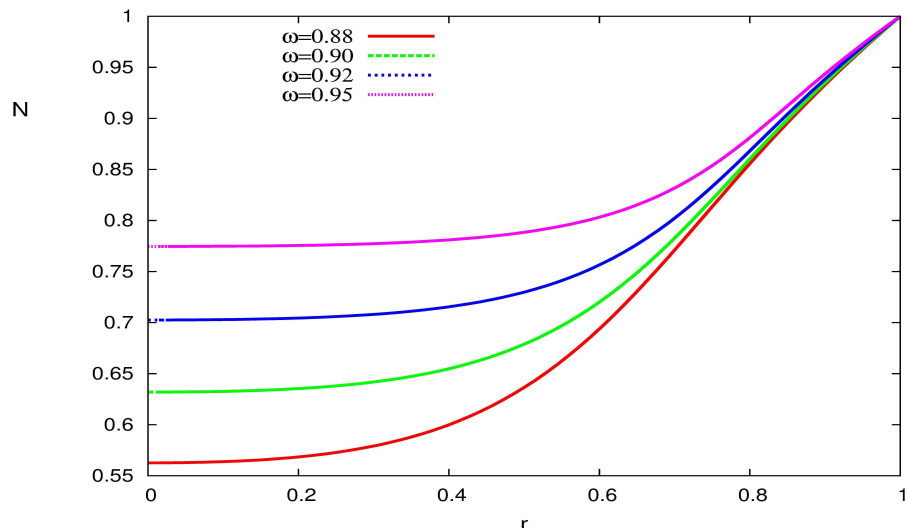
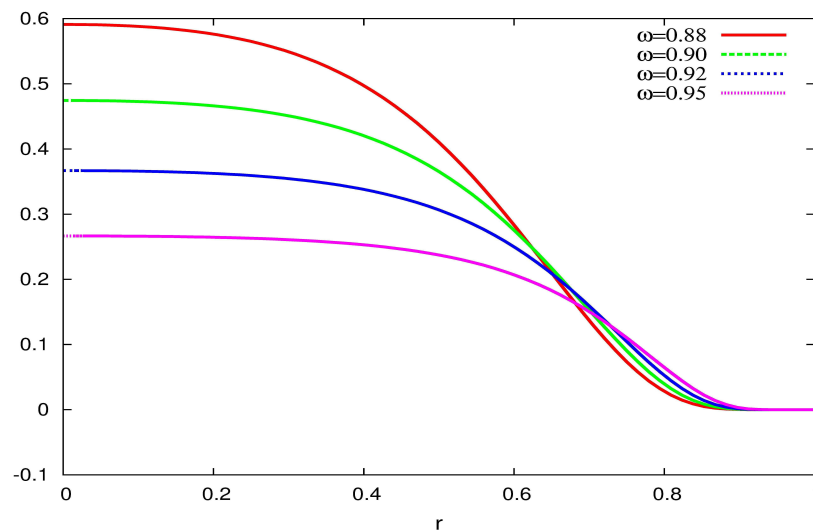
● **U(1) current:** $j_\mu = i(\phi \partial_\mu \phi^* - \phi^* \partial_\mu \phi)$

$$Q = \int \sqrt{-g} j^t d^3x$$

Spherical symmetry:

$$\phi = f(r) e^{-i\omega t}$$

$$ds^2 = -\sigma^2(r) N(r) dt^2 + \frac{1}{N(r)} dr^2 + r^2 (d\theta^2 + \sin^2 \theta d\phi^2)$$



Boson Stars

$$S = \int d^4x \sqrt{-g} \left\{ \frac{R}{16\pi G} - |\partial_\mu \phi|^2 - \mu^2 |\phi|^2 \right\}$$

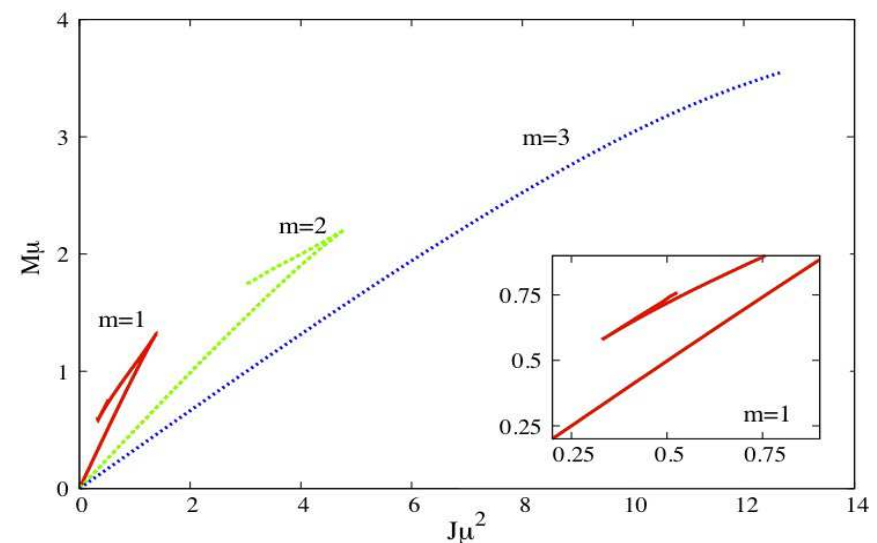
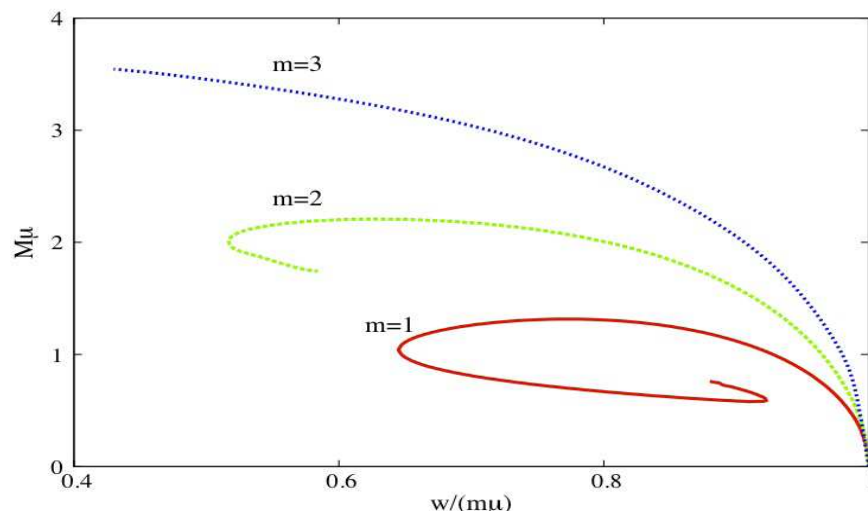
$$R_{\mu\nu} - \frac{1}{2} R g_{\mu\nu} = 2\alpha^2 T_{\mu\nu}; \quad (\square - \mu^2) \phi = 0 \quad \alpha^2 = 4\pi G$$

● **U(1) current:** $j_\mu = i(\phi \partial_\mu \phi^* - \phi^* \partial_\mu \phi)$

$$Q = \int \sqrt{-g} j^t d^3x$$

Axial symmetry: $\phi = f(r, \theta) e^{i(m\varphi - \omega t)}$

*Volkov & Wohnert (2002),
Kleihaus, Kunz and List (2005)*



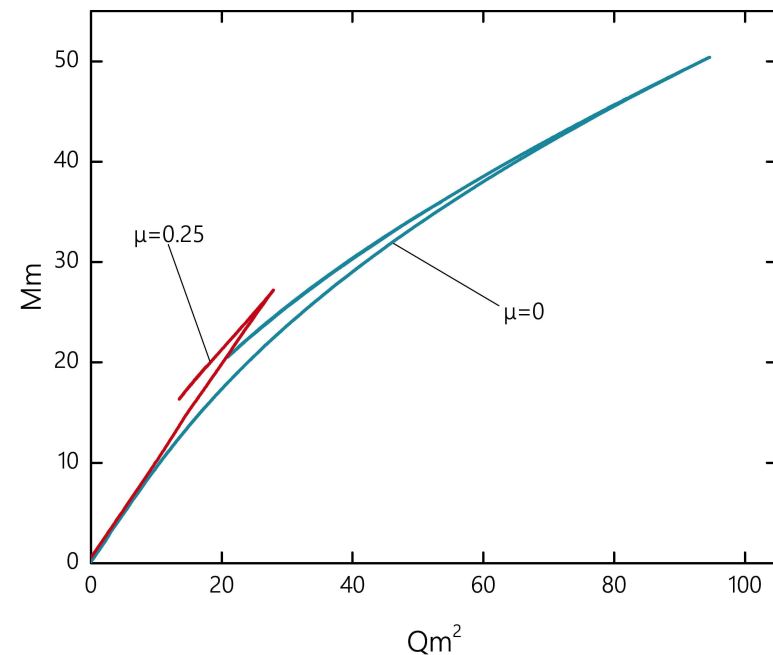
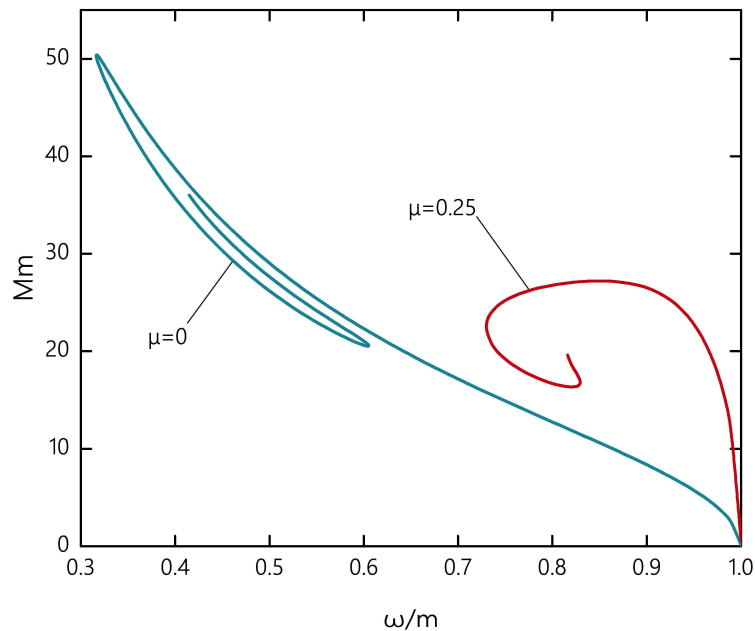
FLS Boson Stars

Friedberg-Lee-Sirlin model (1976):

$$\mathcal{L}_m = \frac{1}{2} (\partial_\mu \xi)^2 + |\partial_\mu \phi|^2 + m^2 \xi^2 |\phi|^2 - \mu^2 (1 - \xi^2)^2$$

$$ds^2 = -F_0 dt^2 + F_1 (dr^2 + r^2 d\theta^2) + r^2 \sin^2 \theta F_2 \left(d\varphi - \frac{W}{r} dt \right)^2$$

$$\xi = X(r, \theta), \quad \phi = Y(r, \theta) e^{i\omega t + n\varphi}$$



How large the boson stars are?

Herdeiro and Radu (arXive 2205.05395)

• Back to physical units: $\square\phi = \frac{m^2 c^2}{\hbar^2} \phi$; $R_{\alpha\beta} - \frac{1}{2} R g_{\alpha\beta} = \frac{8\pi G}{c^4} T_{\alpha\beta}$

The inverse Compton wavelength: $\mu = mc/\hbar$

$$M_{Pl} = \sqrt{\hbar c/G}$$

$$S = \frac{c^3}{16\pi G} \int d^4x \sqrt{-g} R + \hbar \int d^4x \sqrt{-g} (-g^{\alpha\beta} \partial_\alpha \phi^* \partial_\beta \phi - \mu^2 \phi^* \phi)$$

$$Q = \frac{8\pi\omega}{c} \int dr \frac{r^2 \phi^2}{N(r)\sigma(r)} \Rightarrow S_\phi \sim \hbar \int d^4x r^2 \sin\theta \sigma(r) [-g^{00} \partial_0 \phi^* \partial_0 \phi] = \frac{\hbar\omega}{2} Q \Delta t$$

• **Q-ball: a very large collection of particles in the same quantum state**

Heisenberg's uncertainty principle: $\Delta x \Delta p \geq \hbar$

$$\Delta x \sim R, \Delta p \sim mc = \mu\hbar$$

$$\Rightarrow \mu R_{min} \sim 1; R_{min} \sim R_{Sch} \sim GM_{max}/c^2 \Rightarrow$$

$$\frac{m M_{max}}{M_{Pl}^2} \sim 1$$

$$M_{max} = m Q_{max}$$

$$Q_{max} \sim \left(\frac{M_{Pl}}{m} \right)^2 \sim 10^{76} \left(\frac{M_{max}}{M_\odot} \right)^2$$

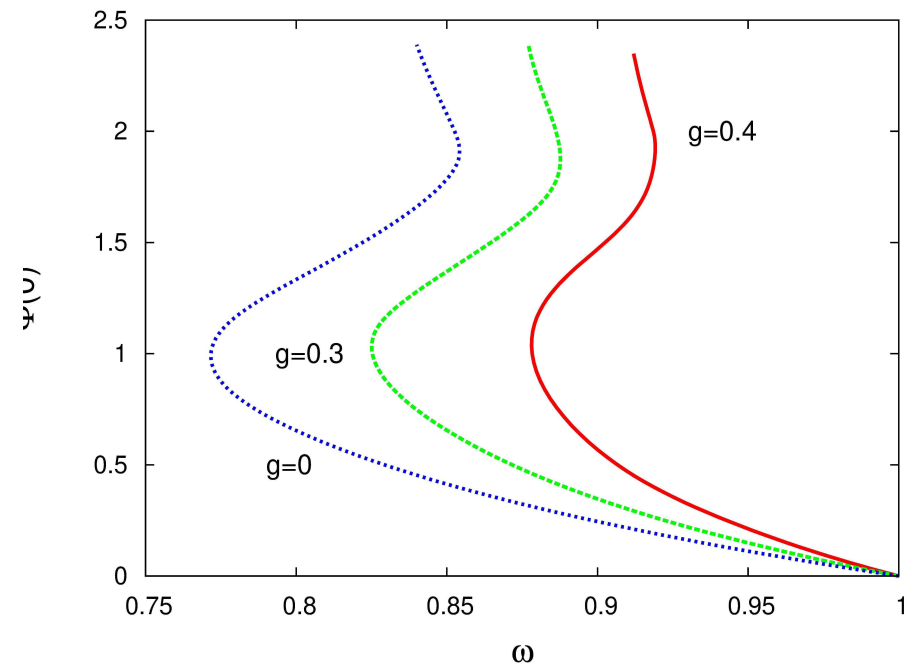
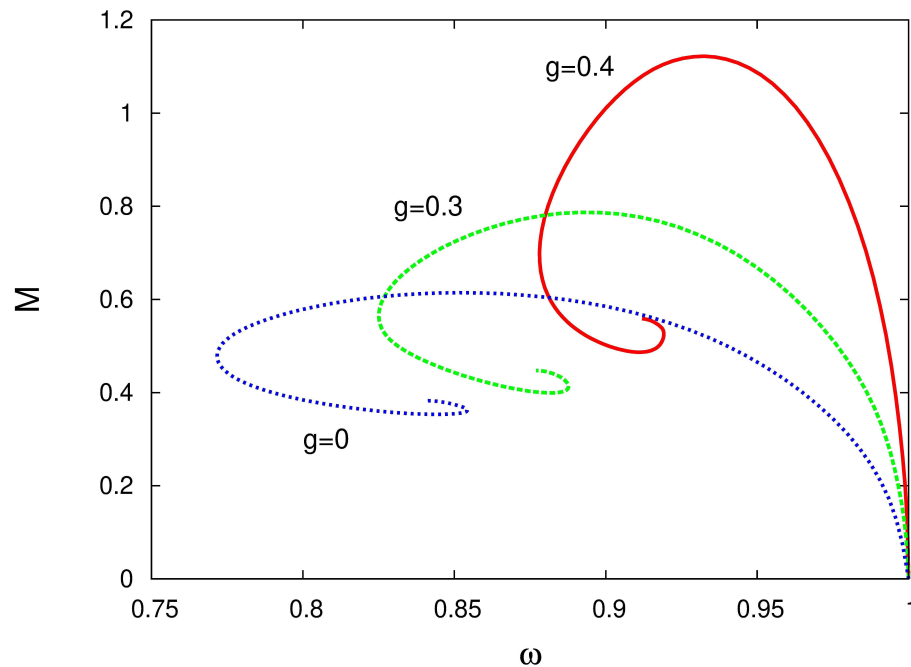
U(1) gauged Boson Stars

P.Jetzer and J.J.van der Bij (1989), D.Pugliese, H.Quevedo, J.Rueda and R.Ruffini (2013):
Boson stars in the Einstein-Klein-Gordon-Maxwell model:

$$S = \int d^4x \sqrt{-g} \left\{ \frac{R}{16\pi G} - \frac{1}{4} F_{\mu\nu} F^{\mu\nu} - |D_\mu \phi|^2 - \mu^2 |\phi|^2 \right\}; \quad D_\mu \phi = \partial_\mu \phi - ig A_\mu \phi$$

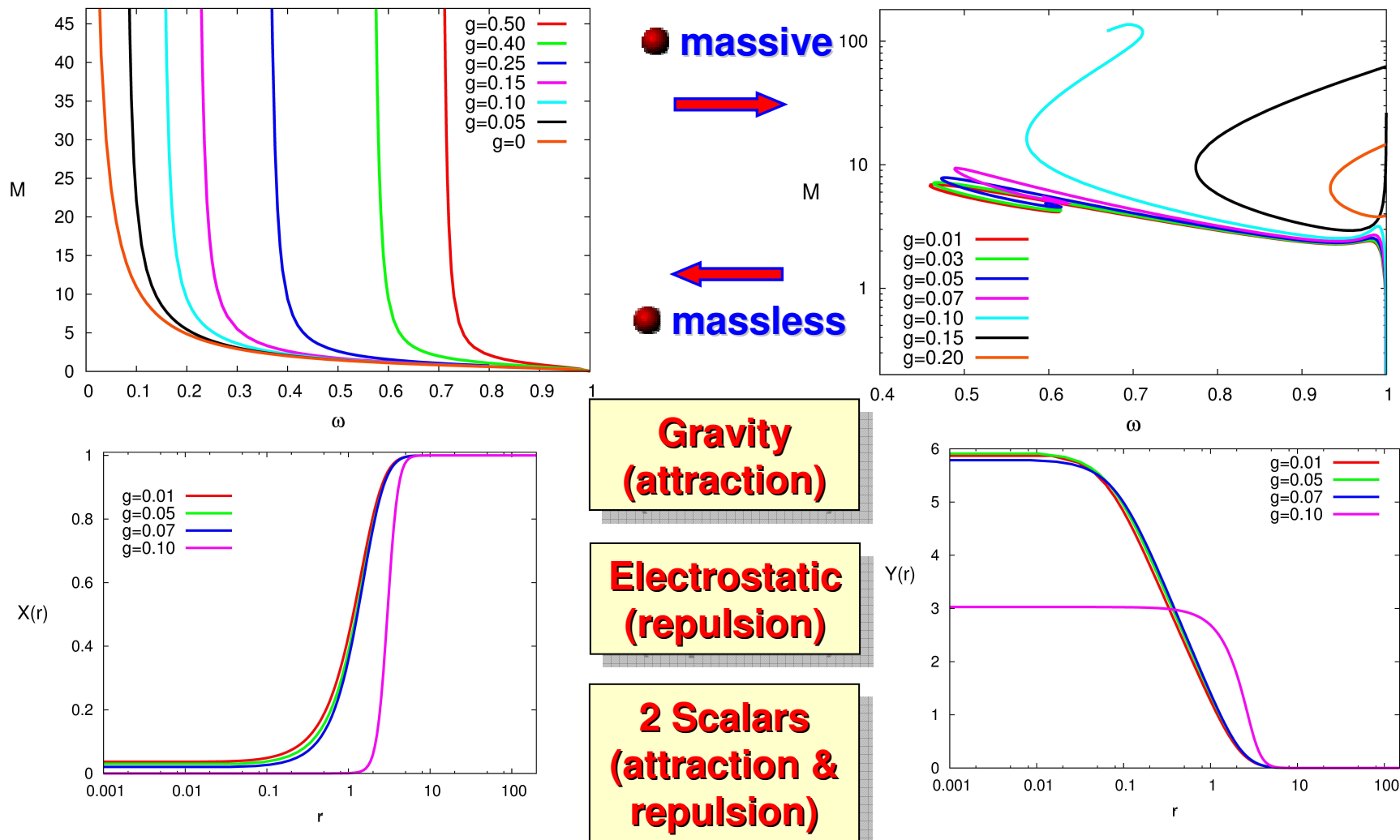
● **U(1) current:** $j_\mu = i(\phi D_\mu \phi^* - \phi^* D_\mu \phi)$

$$Q = \int d^3x (g A_0 + \omega) |\phi|^2$$



U(1) gauged FLS Boson Stars

$$S = \int d^4x \sqrt{-g} \left\{ \frac{R}{16\pi G} - \frac{1}{4} F_{\mu\nu} F^{\mu\nu} + (\partial_\mu \xi)^2 + |D_\mu \phi|^2 - m^2 \xi^2 |\phi|^2 - \mu(1 - \xi^2)^2 \right\}$$



From Boson Stars to Black Holes

no-scalar-hair theorem (Pena & Sudarsky, 1997): there are no static black hole analogues of the spherically symmetric regular boson stars

Zel'dovich (1971): "Generation of waves by a rotating body", JETP Lett, 14, 270

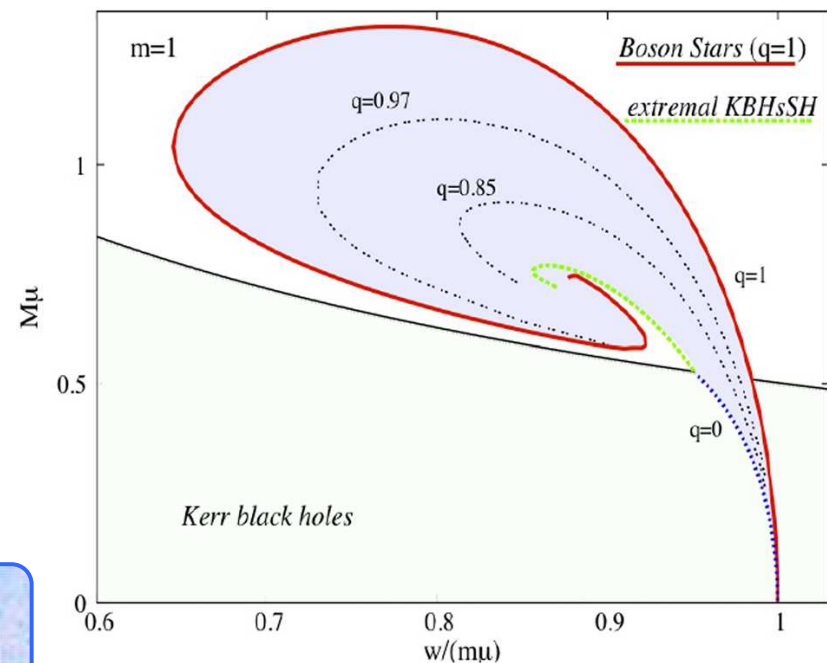
*Hod (2012), Herdeiro and Radu (2014): **Kerr BHs with scalar hair***

Synchronisation condition: $w = m\Omega_H$

- **Two Killing vectors:** $\zeta = \partial_\varphi; \quad \xi = \partial_t$
- **Symmetry of the solution:** $\chi = \xi + \frac{\omega}{m}\zeta$

there is no flux of scalar field into the BH: $\chi^\mu \partial_\mu \phi = 0$

Superradiant instability of the Kerr spacetime: Black hole bomb mechanism



A loophole in the no-hair theorem: *rotation*

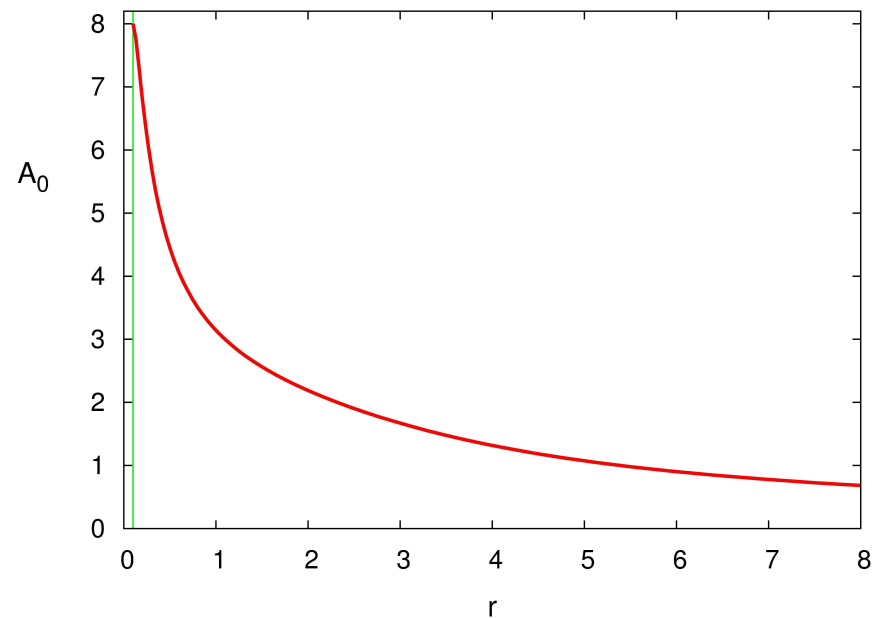
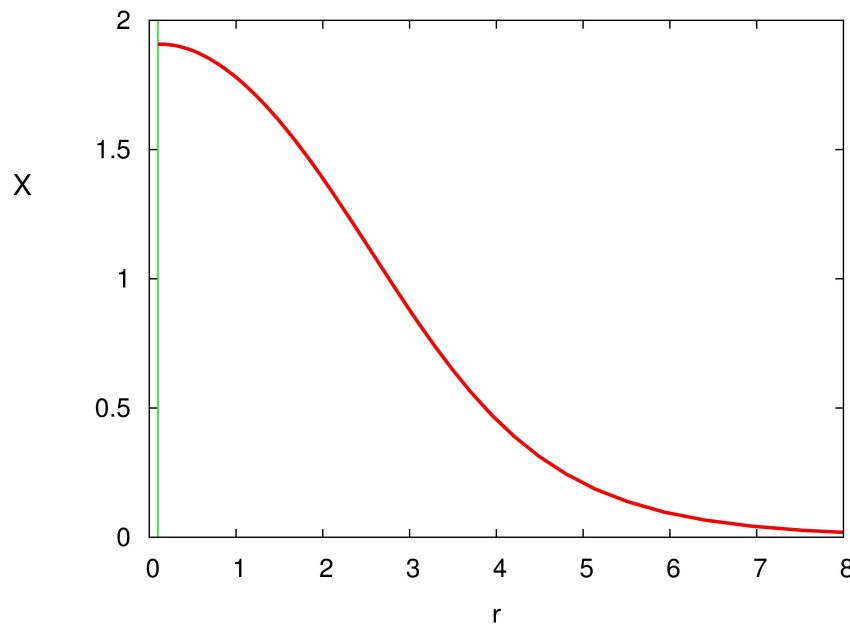
From Boson Stars to Black Holes

J.P. Hong et al (2020), Herdeiro and Radu (2020): RN BHs with charged **scalar hair**

$$S = \int d^4x \sqrt{-g} \left\{ \frac{R}{16\pi G} - \frac{1}{4} F_{\mu\nu} F^{\mu\nu} - |D_\mu \phi|^2 - V(|\phi|) \right\}; \quad V(|\phi|) = \mu^2 \phi^2 - \lambda \phi^4 + \beta \phi^6$$

● **Gauge fixing:** $A_0(\infty) = 0$

Resonance condition: $gA_0(r_h) + w = 0$



Yet another loophole in the no-hair theorem: *nonlinearity*

Boson Stars and hairy BHs in the O(3) sigma-model

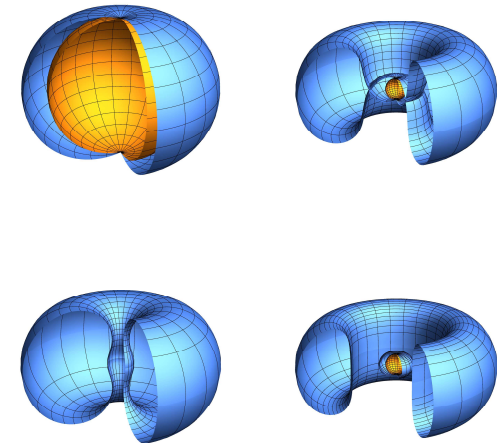
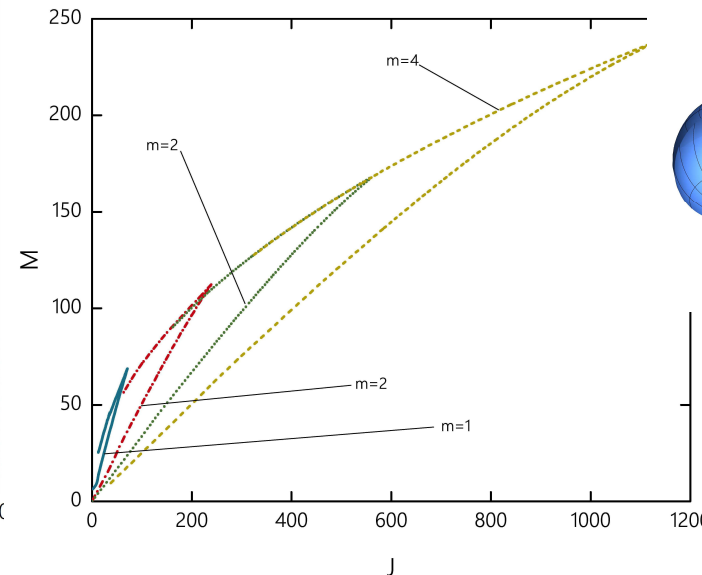
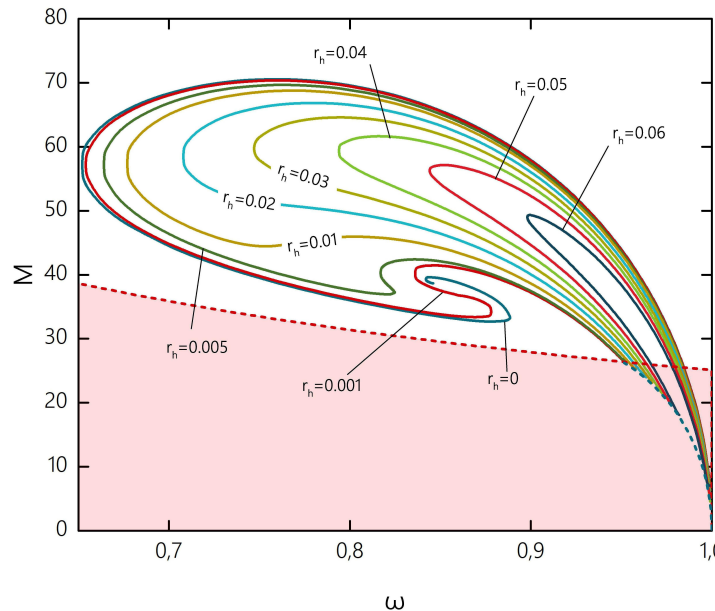
$$S = \int d^4x \sqrt{-g} \left\{ \frac{R}{8\pi G} - (\partial_\mu \phi_a)^2 - \mu(1 - \phi_3) \right\}; \quad (\phi_a)^2 = 1$$

C. Herdeiro, E. Radu, I. Perapechka and Ya. Shnir, JHEP 02 (2019) 111

● **Spinning Q-lump:** $\phi_1 = \sin f \cos(n\varphi + \omega t); \quad \phi_2 = \sin f \sin(n\varphi + \omega t); \quad \phi_3 = \cos f$

$$ds^2 = -F_0(r, \theta) dt^2 + F_1(r, \theta) (dr^2 + r^2 d\theta^2) + F_2(r, \theta) r^2 \sin^2 \theta [d\varphi - W(r, \theta) dt]^2$$

● **SO(2) current:** $j_\mu = -\phi_1 \partial_\mu \phi_2 + \phi_2 \partial_\mu \phi_1$



Boson Stars in the U(1) gauged O(3) sigma-model

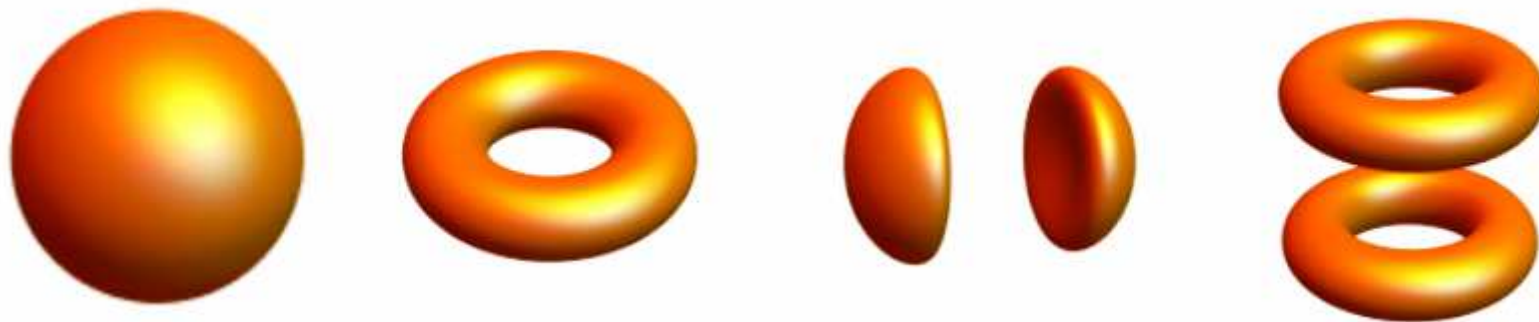
$$S = \int d^4x \sqrt{-g} \left(\frac{R}{8\pi G} + \frac{1}{4} F_{\mu\nu} F^{\mu\nu} - \frac{1}{2} (D_\mu \phi^a)^2 - \mu(1 - \phi_3) \right)$$

$$D_\mu \phi^\alpha = \partial_\mu \phi^\alpha + e A_\mu \varepsilon_{\alpha\beta} \phi^\beta, \quad D_\mu \phi^3 = \partial_\mu \phi^3, \quad \alpha, \beta = 1, 2$$

● **Noether current:** $j^\mu = -\phi^1 D^\mu \phi_2 + \phi^2 D^\mu \phi_1$

$$\phi_a = [\sin f(r, \theta) \cos(n\varphi - \omega t), \sin f(r, \theta) \sin(n\varphi - \omega t), \cos f(r, \theta)]$$

$$ds^2 = -F_0(r, \theta) dt^2 + F_1(r, \theta) (dr^2 + r^2 d\theta^2) + F_2(r, \theta) r^2 \sin^2 \theta [d\varphi - W(r, \theta) dt]^2$$



EMFLS Black holes with charged hairs

(J Kunz & Ya S 2023)

$$S = \int d^4x \sqrt{-g} \left\{ \frac{R}{16\pi G} - \frac{1}{4} F_{\mu\nu} F^{\mu\nu} + (\partial_\mu \xi)^2 + |D_\mu \phi|^2 - m^2 \xi^2 |\phi|^2 - \mu(1 - \xi^2)^2 \right\}$$

● **U(1) current:** $j_\nu = i(D_\nu \phi^* \phi - \phi^* D_\nu \phi)$ Spherical symmetry: $\xi = \partial_t$

● **Field equations:**
$$\begin{cases} \partial^\mu \partial_\mu \psi = 2\psi(m^2 |\phi|^2 + 2\mu^2(1 - \psi^2)); & D^\mu D_\mu \phi = m^2 \psi^2 \phi. \\ R_{\mu\nu} - \frac{1}{2} R g_{\mu\nu} = 8\pi G (T_{\mu\nu}^{Em} + T_{\mu\nu}^{Sc}); & \partial_\mu (\sqrt{-g} F^{\mu\nu}) = g \sqrt{-g} j^\nu \end{cases}$$

Asymptotic:
$$g_{00}(r) \xrightarrow{r \rightarrow \infty} -1 + \frac{\alpha^2 M}{\pi r} + O(r^{-2}), \quad A_0(r) \xrightarrow{r \rightarrow \infty} \frac{Q}{r} + O(r^{-2})$$

ADM mass:
$$M = M_H + M_f = -\frac{1}{2\alpha^2} \oint d\Sigma_{\mu\nu} \nabla^\mu \xi^\nu - \frac{1}{\alpha^2} \int d\Sigma_\mu (2T_\nu^\mu \xi^\nu - T \xi^\mu)$$

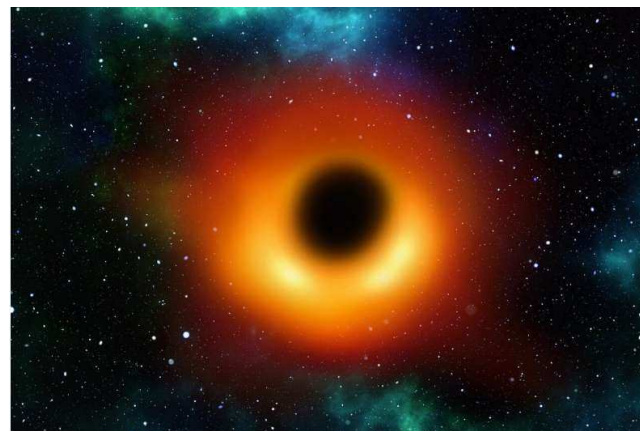
Total charge:
$$Q = Q_H + g Q_N = \frac{1}{4\pi} \oint_\Sigma d\Sigma_r F^{0r} + g \int_V d^3x \sqrt{-g} j^0$$

Hairiness:
$$h = 1 - \frac{Q_H}{Q} = \frac{g Q_N}{Q}$$

Black hole thermodynamics:

$$T_H = \frac{\kappa}{2\pi}, \quad \kappa^2 = -\frac{1}{2} \nabla_\mu \xi_\nu \nabla^\mu \xi^\nu$$

$$S = \frac{\pi A_H}{\alpha^2} \quad \mu_{ch} = A_0(r_h)$$

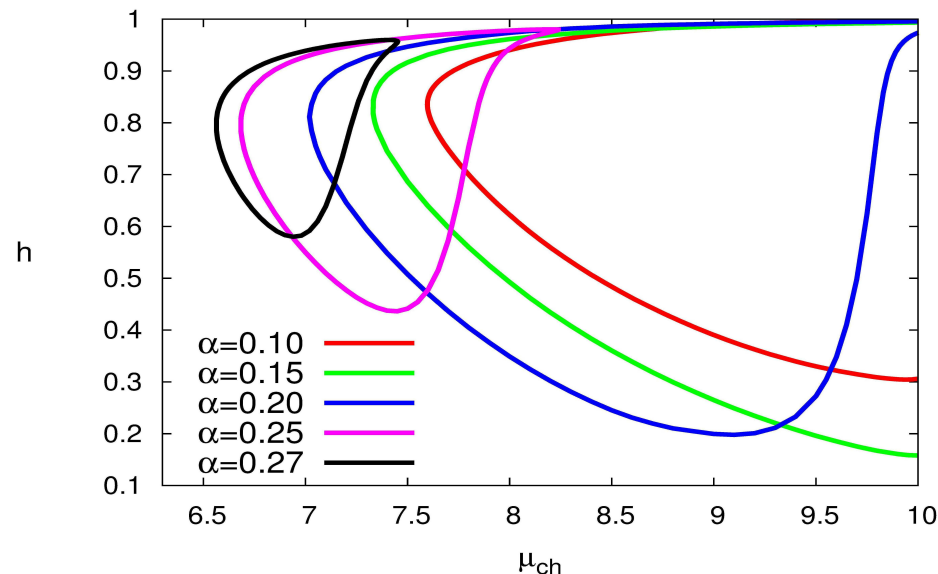
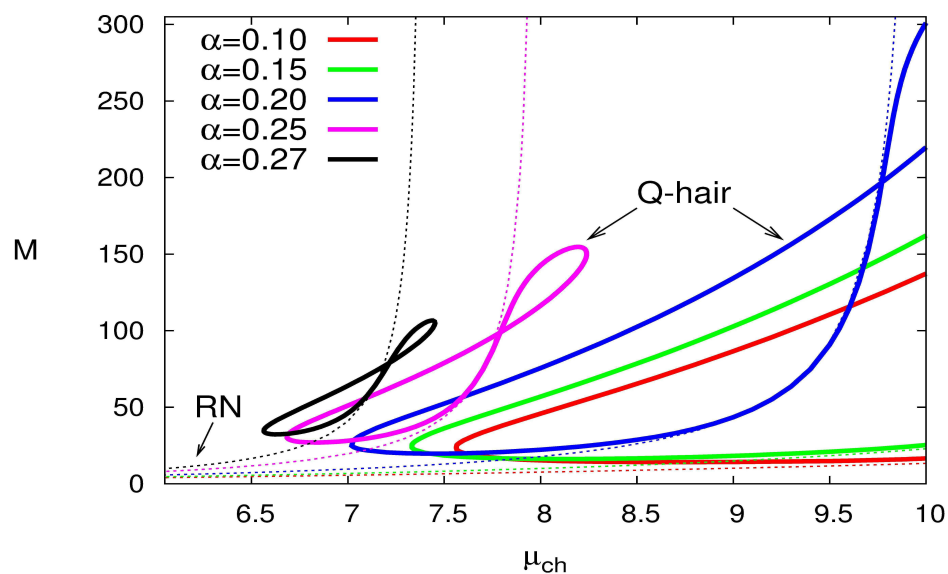


Zeroth law: $\kappa = \text{const}$

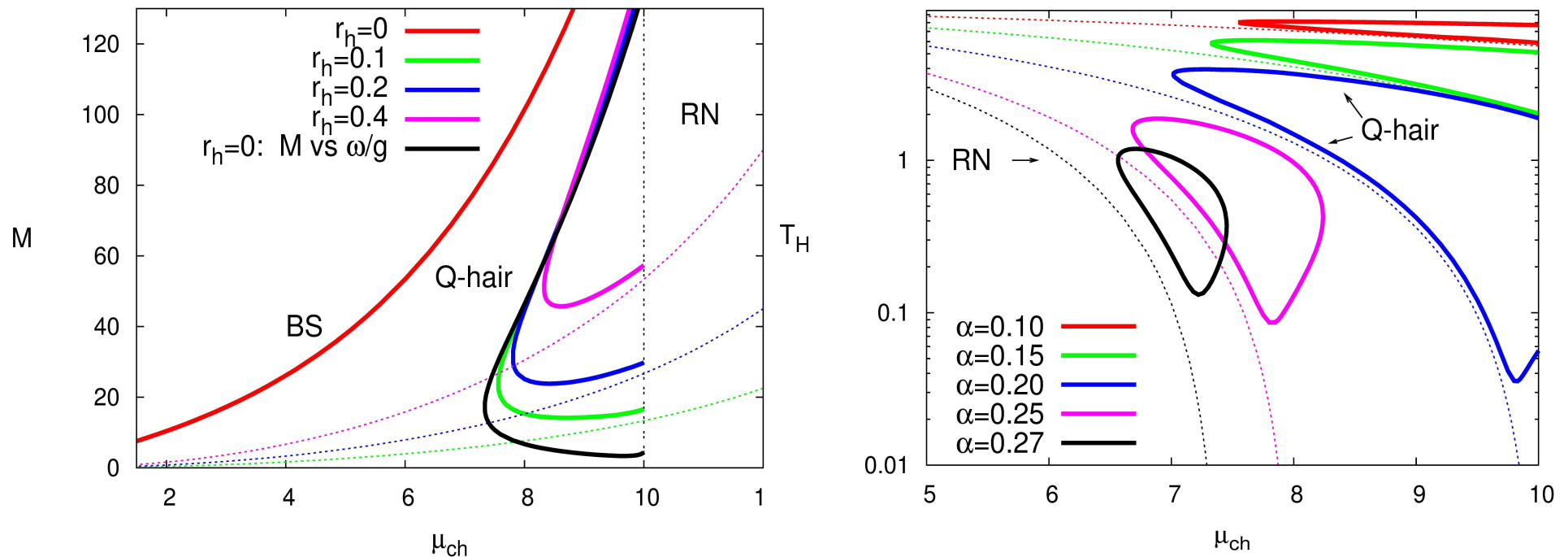
First law: $dM = TdS + \mu dQ$

Second law: $dA_H \geq 0$

Third law: the limit $T_H \rightarrow 0$ does not exist



● massive scalar fields ($\mu^2=0.25$)

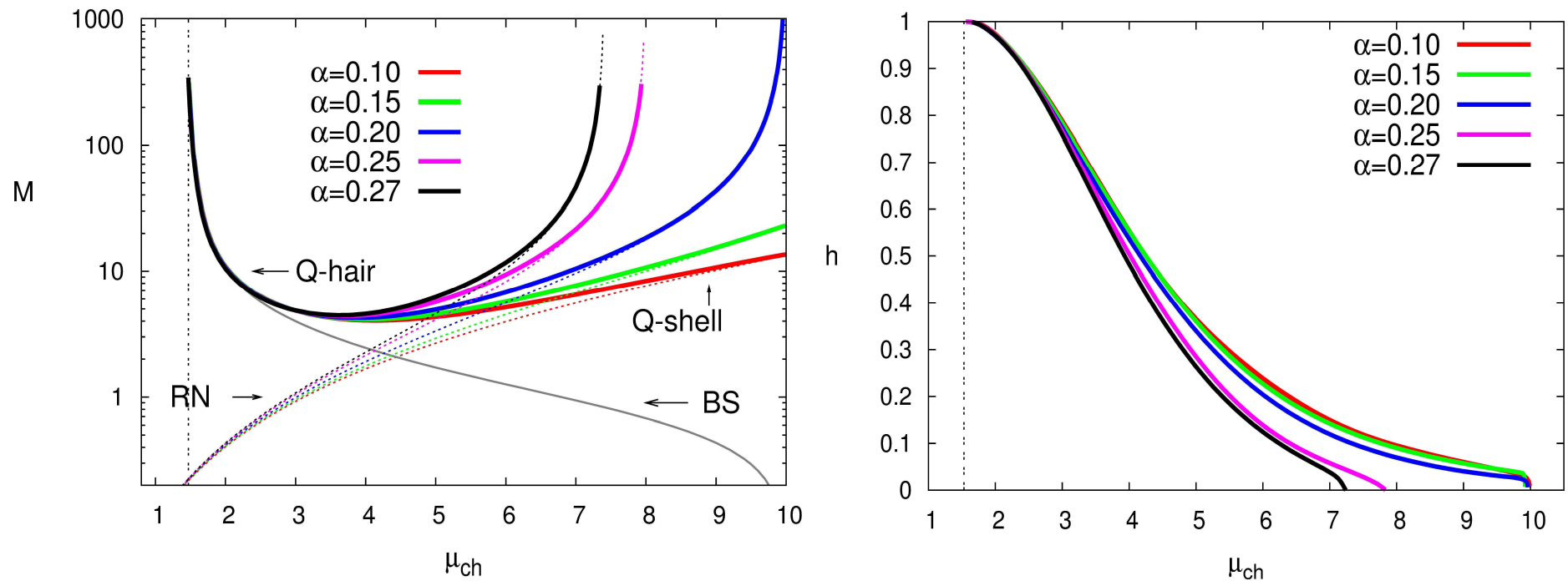


BH with charged scalar hair: a balance of the competing forces of
(i) gravitational attraction, (II) scalar interactions, (III) electrostatic repulsion

BHs with massive Q-hair are disconnected from electrovacuum RN BH

BHs with massive Q-hair are disconnected from regular charged BSs

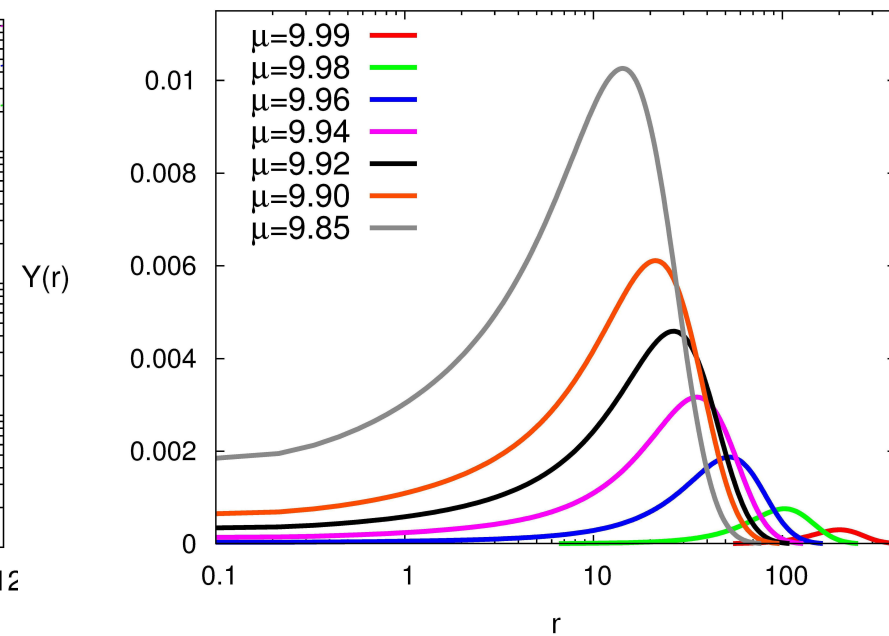
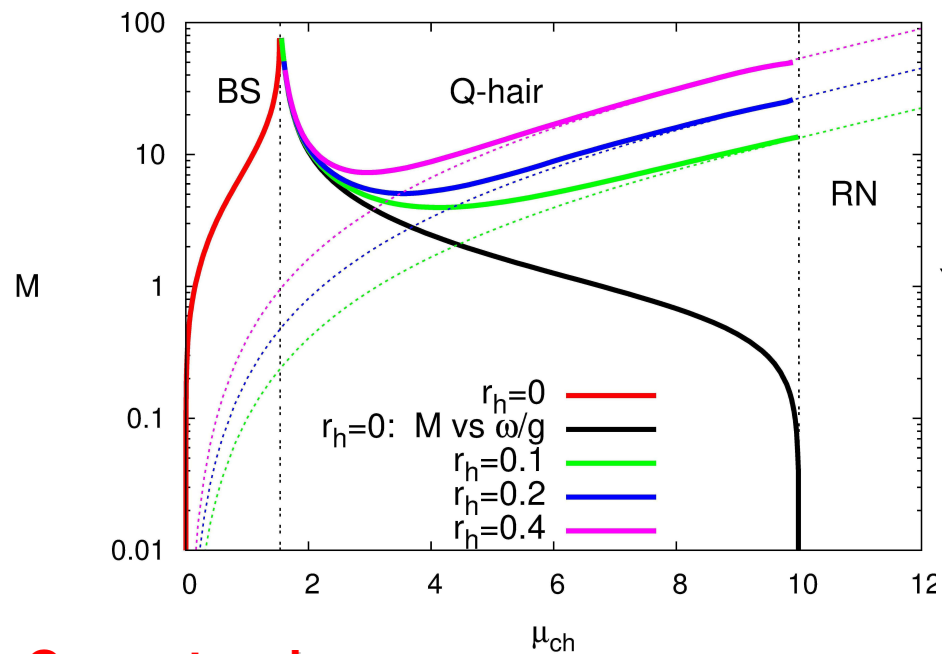
● massless scalar component ($\mu^2=0$)



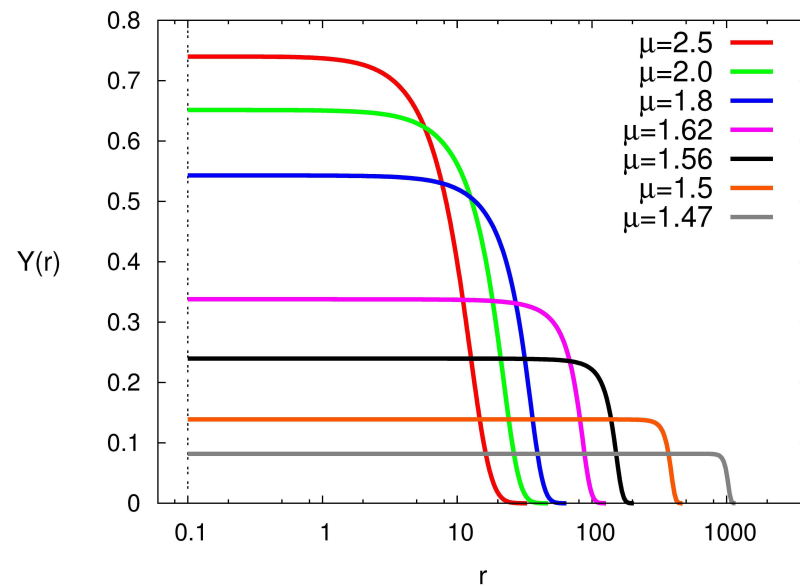
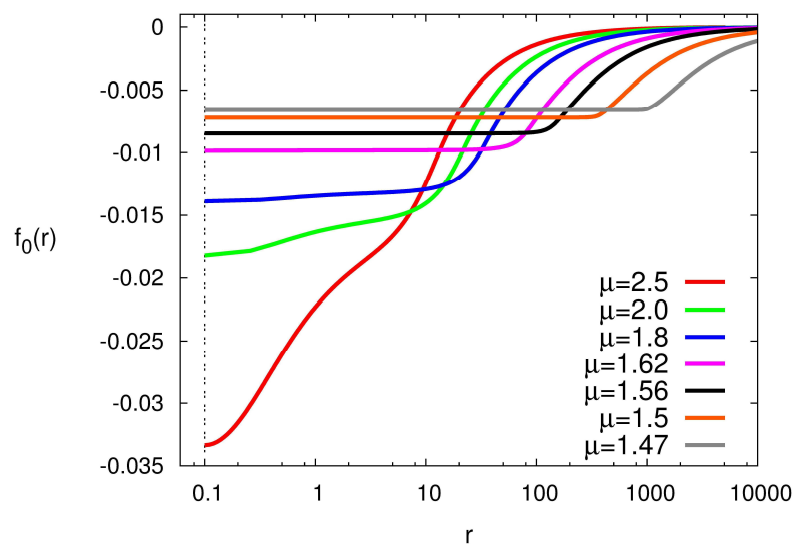
BHs with massless Q -hair bifurcate from electrovacuum RN BH

Both BHs with massless Q -hair and regular charged BSs approach the same singular limit

● massless scalar component ($\mu^2=0$)



Geometry changes



Summary

- There are spinning Kerr black holes with scalar hairs, the frequency must be synchronous with the rotational angular velocity of the event horizon → no spherical symmetry
- Black holes with charged scalar hairs are static, the condition of resonance is imposed on the horizon → spherical symmetry is allowed
- Massless long-range scalar component allows for bifurcations between the electrovacuum RN BH and BHs with resonance Q-hair.
- Boson star as light dark matter candidate?

(e.g. L.Hui, J. Ostriker, S.Tremaine, and E. Witten (*Phys. Rev. D* 95, 043541) etc)

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Stephen Hawking

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Malcolm Perry, who worked with Hawking on his final paper, explains how it improves our understanding of one of universe's enduring mysteries

Stephen Hawking's final scientific paper released



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Black Holes May Have 'Hair' That We Can See

Quantum mechanics challenges the traditional view that nothing escapes from a collapsed star



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News > Science

'Hairs' on black holes could contain information about the universe's history, new Stephen Hawking study claims

Rather than being featureless blobs in space, the new theory suggests black holes are fringed by 'hairs' that could be a rich source of information

David Raitan | @DavidRaitan | Monday 18 January 2016 18:58

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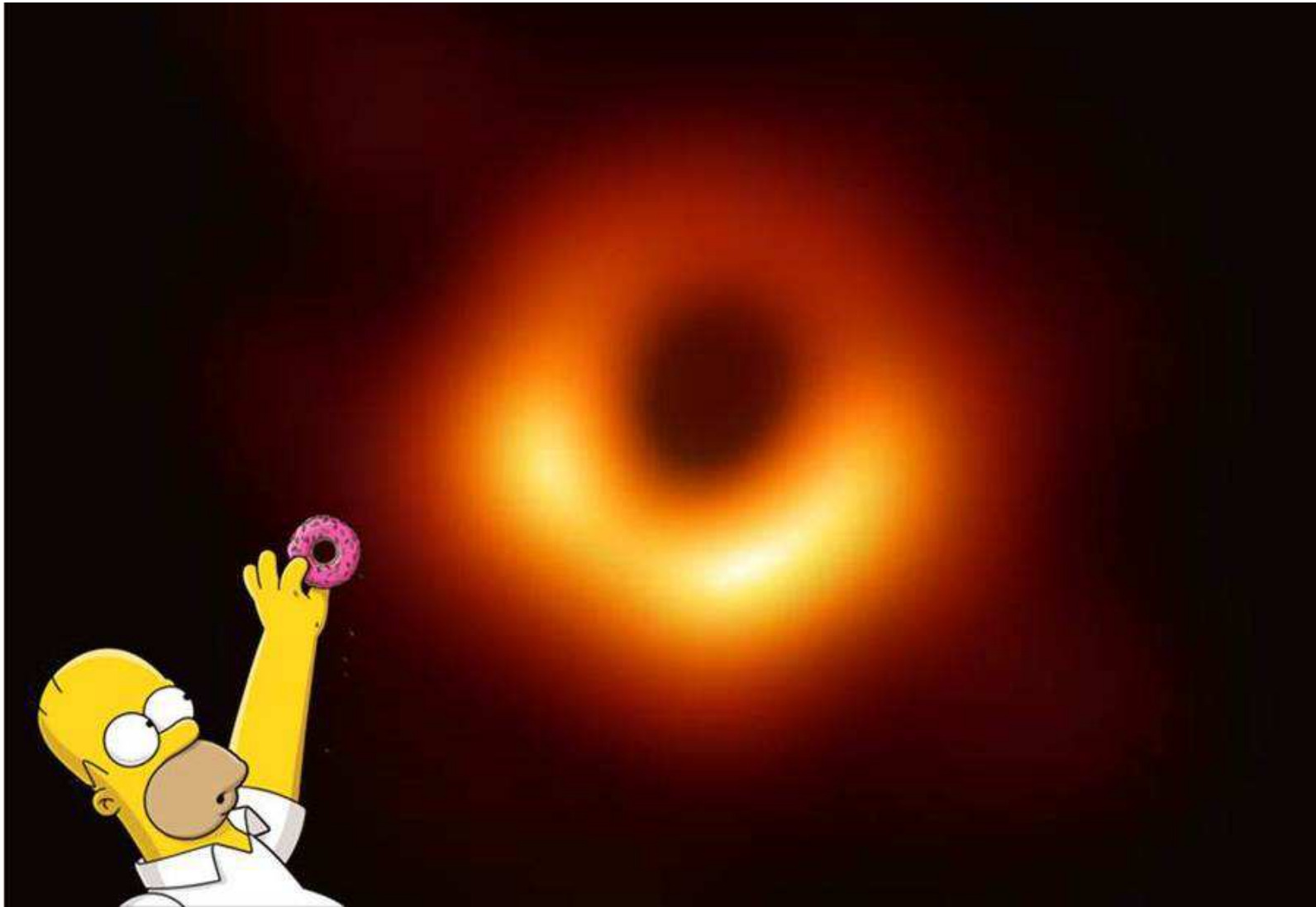
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Hairy black holes?! Black holes might be distinguishable from one another, say scientists.

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Thank you!



Einstein-deTurck Equations

(M. Headrick, S. Kitchen and T. Wiseman, *Class. Quant. Grav.* 27 (2010) 035002)

Elliptic Einstein-de Turck equations:

$$R_{\mu\nu} - \nabla_{(\mu} \xi_{\nu)} - \Lambda g_{\mu\nu} = 2\alpha^2 T_{\mu\nu}$$

DeTurck choice of ξ :

$$\xi^\mu = g^{\nu\rho} (\Gamma_{\nu\rho}^\mu(g) - \bar{\Gamma}_{\nu\rho}^\mu(\mathbf{g}))$$

Reference metric

Spacetime metric:

$$ds^2 = f_1(r, \theta) \frac{dr^2}{N(r)} + S_1(r, \theta) (rd\theta + S_2(r, \theta)dr)^2 \\ f_2(r, \theta) r^2 \sin^2 \theta d\phi^2 - f_0(r, \theta) N(r) dt^2$$

Reference metric:
(e.g. Schwarzschild)

$$ds^2 = \frac{dr^2}{N(r)} + r^2 (d\theta^2 + \sin^2 \theta d\phi^2) - N(r) dt^2$$

Have to verify *a posteriori* that $\xi = 0$,
to get a solution to Einstein equation