

17. April 2019

GRK Colloquium – University of Oldenburg

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No hair conjecture: a review of recent results

Abstract

According to the conventional picture, black holes are extremely constrained objects, determined only by a few global charges. Such simplicity of black holes became immortalized in John Wheeler's mantra "*black holes have no hair*". In this talk, we shall start by reviewing a number of classic results which support this conjecture, as well as some well known counterexamples. Two novel mechanisms that allow black holes to have 'hair' and challenge the standard paradigm will also be discussed.