

NEGATIVE KOMAR MASSES IN REGULAR STATIONARY SPACETIMES

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A highly accurate multi-domain spectral method is used to study axially symmetric and stationary spacetimes containing a black hole or disc of dust surrounded by a ring of matter. It is shown that the matter ring can affect the properties of the central object drastically. In particular, by virtue of the ring's frame dragging, the so-called Komar mass of the black hole or disc can become negative. A continuous transition from such discs to such black holes can be found.

We study self-gravitating systems in equilibrium, consisting of a uniformly rotating, homogeneous perfect fluid ring surrounding a central object which is either a black hole or a rigidly rotating disc of dust. The corresponding space-time is characterized by two Killing vectors η and ξ which describe axisymmetry and stationarity respectively. For such configurations, Bardeen¹ assigns to each of the two objects a mass based on the Komar integral.² In a similar way, he assigns an angular momentum to each of the objects. This definition of mass is applicable both to matter and black holes and can be used for single components of a many-body problem in stationary spacetimes. We will refer to it here as the Komar mass even when applied to single objects.

If one deals with the Komar mass, a natural question concerns its positive definiteness. We address this question by analyzing the following formulae

$$M_h = \frac{\kappa A}{4\pi} + 2\Omega_h J_h \quad (1)$$

and

$$M_d = e^{V_0^d} M_0 + 2\Omega_d J_d, \quad (2)$$

valid for central black hole and central disc configurations respectively.

In Eqn. (1), the central black hole's Komar mass M_h is related to (i) its surface gravity κ , (ii) its horizon area A , (iii) the angular velocity Ω_h of the horizon and (iv) the black hole's (Komar) angular momentum J_h . For single black holes Eqn. (1) was given by Smarr³ but it holds true even in the presence of a surrounding ring¹ (see also Ref.⁴).

A similar expression can be derived for rigidly rotating discs of dust with and without a surrounding ring of matter (cf. III.15 in Ref.⁵). In Eqn. (2) the disc's Komar mass M_d is given in terms of (i) a constant $e^{V_0^d}$ that is related to the relative redshift Z_0^d of photons emitted from the center of the disc and observed at infinity ($Z_0^d = e^{-V_0^d} - 1$), (ii) the baryonic mass M_0 of the central disc, (iii) its angular velocity Ω_d and (iv) its (Komar) angular momentum J_d .

The first summands on the right hand sides of formulae (1) and (2) are always positive. However, either of these terms can become small if we assume the horizon area and the baryonic mass to be finite and consider the central object to be close to a degenerate black hole. In particular we find a continuous transition from the central disc to the central black hole configurations,⁶ and at the transition point the central object is a degenerate black hole for which the first terms in Eqns. (1, 2) vanish.

For the discussion of the sign of the second summands, a 'frame dragging'-effect of the central object caused by the surrounding ring is important. If the torus is highly relativistic and quickly rotating, it creates a large ergosphere (a portion of space in which the Killingvector ξ is spacelike). In this case, a counter-rotating central object (i.e. the sign of its angular momentum is opposite to that of the torus) inside the ergosphere is dragged along the direction of the motion of the ring's fluid elements. As a consequence, the corresponding angular velocity of the central object can assume the same sign as that of the surrounding ring, and thus the second summand becomes negative.

Combining the two arguments, it is possible to identify negative Komar masses by considering central objects close to a degenerate black hole and counter-rotating with respect to the torus. Note that only highly relativistic and quickly rotating tori will exert a sufficiently large frame dragging effect to bring this about. Moreover, the specific rate of counter-rotation must be limited since very strong counter-rotation would lead to opposite signs of the two angular velocities, $\Omega_{h/d}$ and Ω_{ring} , and hence to a positive second summand.

In Ref.⁶ we construct sequences of both central black hole and central disc configurations along which the Komar mass of the central object becomes negative. In addition, we show that the Komar mass can become negative on either side of the continuous parametric transition from matter to a black hole.

The results presented reveal clearly that the Komar mass is not an intrinsic property of a gravitational source but rather a feature of an object within a specific highly relativistic spacetime geometry. The interesting question about the maximally attainable ratio

$$- M^{\text{negative}}/M^{\text{positive}}, \quad (3)$$

where M^{negative} and M^{positive} are the sums of all negative and positive Komar mass components, respectively, in a given stationary space-time, will be the subject of a

future publication.^a

References

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^aNote that by virtue of the positive mass theorem (see e. g. Ref.⁷ and references therein), the ratio (3) is always less than 1 for regular physically relevant space-times obeying the dominant energy condition.