

HANFORD, WASHINGTON

LIVINGSTON, LOUISIANA

Colloque GANIL 2023, Soustons, Sept. 2023



RINGDO

### Nuclear symmetry energy and neutron stars

How dense matter properties could be constrained by nuclear experiments and astrophysics?

INSPIRAL

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#### Take-home message:

Above n<sub>sat</sub>, there is a strong interplay between the **symmetry energy** and **phase transition(s)**.

# Compact stars and the early universe

The present understanding of the **early universe** (million years after the Big Bang) is challenged by the recent observations of the JWST.

**Compact stars** (Black Holes and Neutron Stars) are expected to be massively formed in the early universe, since massive stars are expected to be more numerous than nowadays.

The **formation rate of early compact stars** will be measured by the **third generation of GW interferometers** (Einstein Telescope and Cosmic Explorer are expected to operate after 2035). It will provide **complementary information** to the JWST.

The understanding of GW from neutron stars require an **accurate modelling** of their properties.

This accurate modelling can be **calibrated** based on the neutron stars observed in **our galaxy** and from **nuclear physics facilities**.

We therefore have about **10 years in front of us** to realise this goal.



How nuclear physics could be employed to better understand neutron star properties?

### Nuclear physics and astrophysics in the same boat!

In order to employ nuclear physics and astrophysics for accurate modelling of neutron stars, we need a **common language**, which annihilate possible misunderstanding.

Exemple: Symmetry energy Equation of state

We may also massively employ **bayesian statistics** to estimate accurately the connection between **hypotheses** and **uncertainties** in the modelling (ex: **null hypothesis**).

### The nuclear symmetry energy in NS/finite nuclei

[Somasundaram, Drischler, Tews, JM, Phys. Rev. C 103, 045803 (2022)]

Definition: 
$$e_{\text{sym}}(n) = e_{\text{NM}}(n) - e_{\text{SM}}(n)$$

It is the cost in energy to convert SM into NM.

Other authors label it as S(n)

Remark: it has a density dependence. Its value at  $n_{sat}$  is also call the symmetry energy:  $E_{sym} = e_{sym}(n = n_{sat})$  Other authors label it as  $J_0$ 

In asymmetric matter: (Taylor expansion in  $\delta$ )  $e_{\text{tot}}(n, \delta) \approx e_{\text{SM}}(n) + e_{\text{sym},2}(n)\delta^2 + e_{\text{sym},4}(n)\delta^4 + \dots$ 

Quadratic dependence of the symmetry energy:  $e_{\text{sym},2}(n) = -\frac{1}{2}$ 

$$e_{2}(n) = \frac{1}{2} \frac{\partial^2 e_{\text{tot}}(n,\delta)}{\partial \delta^2}$$

Remark:  $e_{\text{sym},2}$  is the quantity which is measured by **nuclear experiments**.

If 
$$e_{\text{sym},4} \ll e_{\text{sym},2}$$
, then:  $e_{\text{sym}} \approx e_{\text{sym},2}$ 

Be careful: may not be satisfied at all densities.

### The nuclear empirical parameters

Definitions:  
(Taylor expansion  
in density)
$$e_{\text{sym}}(n) = E_{\text{sym}} + L_{\text{sym}}x + \frac{1}{2}K_{\text{sym}}x^2 + \dots \qquad \text{with}$$

$$x = (n - n_{\text{sat}})/(3n_{\text{sat}})$$

$$e_{\text{sym},2}(n) = E_{\text{sym},2} + L_{\text{sym},2}x + \frac{1}{2}K_{\text{sym},2}x^2 + \dots$$

The coefficients of this Taylor expansion are the nuclear empirical parameters (NEP).

(Taylor

NEP provide an efficient representation of nuclear physics knowledge and lack of knowledge (uncertainties).

NEP could be employed to estimate the global neutron star properties (meta-model) compatible with nuclear physics knowledge —> possible null hypothesis.

### The nuclear equation of state

The nuclear empirical parameters (NEP) capture the



Various nuclear modeling (Skyrme, Gogny, RMF, ...).

Semi-agnostic approach (Meta-model):



We can combine together **nuclear** (neutrons and protons) with **lepton** (electrons and muons) composents to produce an **equation of state** for dense matter,

injected in the **general relativity static** equations (TOV),

producing **global properties of neutron stars**: masses, radii, tidal deformabilities,...

### Sensitivity analysis: (M,R) <-> NEP

We vary the empirical parameters are analyse their influence on the MR relation for neutron stars:



### The nuclear equation of state



# Are nuclear matter properties correlated with neutron star observables?

Wei, Lu, Burgio, Li, Schulze, EPJA 56, 63 (2020)



The authors concluded that there is no correlations at all.

This conclusion is maybe too strong, e.g., the correlation is maybe present for L?

—> we have done a slightly different analysis.

### Low-energy nuclear physics and neutron stars

#### To what extent present low-energy nuclear data constrain NS properties?

We assess the capacity of **415** relativistic and non-relativistic phenomenological models to reproduce lowenergy nuclear properties of spherical nuclei (binding energies, charge radii, ISGMR).



#### Global assessment of all nuclei:

**Detailed assessment where** N = Z and  $N \neq Z$ **nuclei are treated equally:** 



Carlson, Dutra, Lourenço, JM, PRC 107 (2023)

### Low-energy nuclear physics and the symmetry energy



### Links with neutron star observables

## Inhomogeneous matter (crust of NS)



### Low-energy nuclear physics and the symmetry energy



### Thermal emission from qLMXB

#### quiescent Low Mass X-ray binaries

Black body like emission: F #  $T^4(R_{inf}/D)^2$ 

with  $R_{inf} = R/\sqrt{1 - 2GM/(Rc^2)}$ 

-> get information on M and R

[Rutledge et al. 1999]

7 sources (**quiescent Low Mass X-ray binaries**) in globular clusters:

- constant flux, purely H atmosphere,
- Low magnetic fields —> almost pure thermal components,
- In globular clusters
  - —> accurate distances.





Recent GAIA publications DRII 2018

### Confronting the thermal emission from qLMXB with nuclear EoS



**Bayesian analysis with prior:** Lsym = 50 ± 10 MeV Ksym [-400:200] MeV Qsat [-1300:1900] MeV

MCMC Posteriors: Lsym =  $38 \pm 10$  MeV Ksym =  $-91 \pm 80$  MeV Qsat =  $350 \pm 500$  MeV

First extraction of Ksym and Qsat from data.

An analysis of BE, neutron skin and GMR concludes [Sagawa 2019]: Lsym = 53.5 + 15 MeV (FRDM), Lsym = 42 + 15 MeV (n skin) Ksym =  $-120 \pm 80$  MeV

# BNS GW [astro] <=> EoS [nuclear]



### New data from GW + NICER X-ray observatory



# Phase transition(s) at high density

### Phase transition(s) in NS

Data: GW170817 and NICER (J0030 + J0740).

EoS modelings:

- SLy4 (often used in GW papers).
- First order phase transition to exotic matter.
- Cross-over quarkyonic matter (McLerran & Reddy PRL 2020, JM+ PRC 2022).

[Somasundaram, JM, EPL 138 (2022)]



—>First order phase transition softens the EoS: It produces smaller neutron stars!





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unless the FOPT occurs at low density —> masquerade Qyc and produce bigger stars.





### Are GW170817 and NICER compatible?

Guven+, arXiv:2303.18133, PRC 2023



Two nuclear EoSs: **SLy5** (iso-soft,  $L_{sym} \approx 50$  MeV), **PKDD** (iso-stiff,  $L_{sym} \approx 80$  MeV).

+ First order phase transition:

$$\varepsilon(p) = \begin{cases} \varepsilon_{\rm NM}(p) & \text{3 parameters:} \quad p < p_{\rm PT} \\ \varepsilon_{\rm NM}(p_{\rm PT}) + \Delta \varepsilon_{\rm PT} + (p - p_{\rm PT}) \alpha & p \ge p_{\rm PT} \end{cases}$$

GW170817 prefers soft EOS. NICER prefers stiff EOS.

> Future detections of GW will help to understand better this tension.

### Nature of GW170817?

Guven+, arXiv:2303.18133

Two nuclear EoSs: SLv5 (iso-soft), PKDD (iso-stiff). + First order phase transition:  $\varepsilon(p) = \begin{cases} \varepsilon_{\rm NM}(p) & 3 \text{ parameters:} \quad p < p_{\rm PT} \\ \varepsilon_{\rm NM}(p_{\rm PT}) + \Delta \varepsilon_{\rm PT} + (p - p_{\rm PT})/\alpha & p \ge p_{\rm PT} \end{cases}$ Binary Neutron Star: the 2 stars are nucleonic (no phase transition), Binary Hybrid Star: the 2 stars have a quark core (with phase transition), **Neutron Star - Hybrid Star:** 1 NS + 1 star with guark core. Overlap between data and model predictions:  $c_s^2$ EOS BHS NSHS BNS 1/30.00 SLv5 0.000.00 asy-soft 2/30.07SLy5 0.070.040.08 SLy5 0.120.06 1 PKDD 1/30.00 asy-stiff 0.000.00 PKDD 2/30.00 0.00 0.280.65 PKDD 0.00 0.00 1

GW170817 was most probably the merger of 2 hybrid stars.



### Expectations from O4 observations

# Future GW detections (O4)

O4 has started for 18 months (beg. May 2023).

J.-F. Coupechoux et al., PRD 107, 124006 (2023)

#### How GW170817 was measured:



#### <u>How it will be measured nowadays:</u> Simulation of GW170817 (w O4 noise):





#### How all events will be measured:

Simulation of GW170817 (w O4 noise) at various distances:





—> an event similar to GW170817 with D<100 Mpc will bring new information.

### Conclusions

#### From nuclear physics:

#### Complementarity

- Better determination of the density dependence of the EoS (Heavy ion collisions, collective motion).
- Better or new measurements of  $L_{\text{sym}}$ ,  $K_{\text{sym}}$ ,  $Q_{\text{sat}}$ .



#### From astrophysics:

- Future detections by Advanced LIGO and Virgo (O4 and O5): expect several BNS at long distance, not always with electromagnetic counterparts.
- NICER: release of new pulsars or updated analyses on existing results.

Future new data from nuclear physics and from astrophysics are highly expected.

observations Neutron stars, supernovae, kilonovae...

Symmetry energy at high density and phase transition(s) are strongly coupled together and shall be treated on equal footing.

### Work in collaboration

#### **France**

IP2I Lyon: Guy Chanfray, Hubert Hansen, Mohamad Chamseddine (PhD).
IP2I Lyon Virgo group: Viola Sordini, Roberto Chierici, Jean-François Coupechoux (Post-doc).
IJCLab Orsay: Elias Khan, Nguyen Van Giai.
GANIL: Anthea Fantina.
LPC Caen: Francesca Gulminelli.
IRAP Toulouse: Sébastien Guillot, Natalie Webb.

#### <u>Belgium</u>

IAA Bruxelles: Nicolas Chamel, Stephane Goriely, Guilherme Grams (Post-doc).

#### Italy

Milano U.: Gianluca Colò. Biccoca U. (Milano): Bruno Giacomazzo. Ferrara U.: Alessandro Drago, Giuseppe Pagliara. Catania INFN: Hans-Josef Schulze, Isaac Vidaña.

#### <u>USA</u>

LANL: Ingo Tews, Rahul Somasundaram (Post-doc). INT Seattle: Sanjay Reddy. UTK: Andrew Steiner, Zidu Lin (Post-doc).

#### A lighthouse in the Universe.



#### <u>China</u>

Lanzhou U.: Wenhui Long. Southwest U. (Chongqing): Jiajie Li.

#### **Turkey**

Yildiz TU: Kutsal Bozkurt, Hasim Güven.

#### **Brasil**

**ITA San Jose dos Campos:** Brett V. Carlson, Mariana Dutra, Odilon Lourenço.

### **New IRL Nuclear Physics and Nuclear astrophysics (NPA)**

#### @FRIB, MSU

Four **research topics** in nuclear physics:

- 1. Nuclear structure and reactions from stability to rare isotopes,
- 2. Nuclear astrophysics from nuclear reactions in the cosmos to extreme matter equation of state
- 3. Nuclear **theory** from finite systems to uniform matter,
- 4. Instrumental developments of common interest at GANIL and FRIB.

#### In 2023:

- July 18th: Official inauguration of the IRL at MSU (with R. Pain and M. Grasso).
- September: Start of the IRL for 5 years with JM (director) and Oscar Naviliat-Cuncic (codirector).
- December 11-13th: kickoff meeting at MSU. Please connect us if you want to participate.

#### In 2024 and after:

- Host long term visits (sabbatical).
- Organise workshops on focussed questions (suggested by the community) and linked with RESANET in France.

# Backup slides

### Sensitivity analysis: (M,R) <=> NEP

Nuclear Empirical Parameters (NEP) are varied independently. -> they influence the NS mass-radius relation.



## Phase transition(s) at high density

#### Geometrical condition for phase transition:



d average distance between nucleons. R nucleon size.

If the instability condition is d=4R: The density is: 
$$n = \frac{8}{d^3} = \frac{1}{8R^3}$$

**What is the nucleon size?** If it is about 0.7 fm (=R), then  $n \approx 0.5$  fm<sup>-3</sup>  $\approx 3n_{sat}$ 

—> nucleonic matter could be replaced by quark matter at  $\approx 3n_{\text{sat}}$ .



Heavy neutron stars may have a quark core. Can it be proven by observations?

# GW post-merger signal

Phase transitions in the hypermassive NS can alter the correlation between the tidal deformability and post-merger oscillations.



Bauswein+ PRL 122 (2019)

# Connection to pQCD at high density



# Connection to pQCD at high density



Constraints from astrophysical observations are still better than pQCD. Note opposite conclusions from Gorda, Komoltsev and Kurkela, arXiv:2204.11279.

# Connection to pQCD at high density

R. Somasundaram, I. Tews and JM, arXiv:2204.14039



Constraints from astrophysical observations are still better than pQCD. Note opposite conclusions from Gorda, Komoltsev and Kurkela, arXiv:2204.11279.

### Outlooks for the future

#### From nuclear physics:

Complementarity

- Better determination of the density dependence of the EoS (Heavy ion collisions, collective motion).
- Better or new measurements of  $L_{\text{sym}}$ ,  $K_{\text{sym}}$ ,  $Q_{\text{sat}}$ .



#### From astrophysics:

- Future detections by Advanced LIGO and Virgo (O4 and O5): expect several BNS at long distance, not always with electromagnetic counterparts.
- NICER: release of new pulsars or updated analyses on existing results.

#### **Related questions:**

How changes the **nuclear interaction** with temperature? Which **new particles** appear at suprasaturation densities (phase transition)? Links between **deconfinement** and **chiral symmetry** restoration?

How **neutrinos** propagate? What are the **transport properties** of extreme matter? Are BNS the main astrophysical site for the **r-process**?

### Anatomy of a neutron star



# EoS [nuclear] <=> NS (M,R) [astro]



# Modeling homogeneous matter (core)



- \* What is the composition of the outer core?
- \* Is there a phase transition in the inner core?
- \* If yes, only one or several?
- \* What is the composition of the new phases in the inner core?
- \* Which impact they have on the equation of state?



How new data will help to answer these questions?

### Confronting the thermal emission from qLMXB with nuclear EoS

#### Sensitivity analysis

Framework	Sources	Distances	prior	$L_{ m sym}$	$K_{ m sym}$	$Q_{ m sat}$	$R_{1.45}$	$\chi^2_{\nu}$	nb. of	d.o.f.
			$L_{ m sym}$	(MeV)	(MeV)	(MeV)	$(\mathrm{km})$		param.	
1	all	Dist #2	yes	$37.2^{+9.2}_{-8.9}$	$-85_{-70}^{+82}$	$318^{+673}_{-366}$	$12.35 \pm 0.37$	1.08	49	1126
2	all	Dist #1	yes	$38.3^{+9.1}_{-8.9}$	$-91^{+85}_{-71}$	$353^{+696}_{-484}$	$12.42\pm0.34$	1.07	49	1126
3	all	Dist #1	yes	$38.6^{+9.2}_{-8.7}$	$-95_{-36}^{+80}$	300	$12.25\pm0.30$	1.07	48	1127
4	all	Dist #1	no	$27.2^{+10.9}_{-5.3}$	$-59^{+103}_{-74}$	$408^{+735}_{-430}$	$12.37\pm0.30$	1.07	49	1126
5	all/47-Tuc	Dist #1	yes	$43.4_{-9.3}^{+9.7}$	$-66^{+137}_{-102}$	$622^{+763}_{-560}$	$12.57\pm0.41$	1.08	43	700
6	$\mathrm{all/NGC6397}$	Dist #1	yes	$42.6^{+9.9}_{-9.5}$	$-77^{+129}_{-96}$	$623^{+757}_{-544}$	$12.58\pm0.40$	1.09	43	961
7	$\mathrm{all}/\mathrm{M28}$	Dist #1	yes	$42.5^{+9.5}_{-9.5}$	$-80^{+124}_{-91}$	$597^{+717}_{-510}$	$12.46\pm0.37$	1.07	43	846
8	А	$Dist \ \#2$	yes	$38.6^{+9.4}_{-8.9}$	$-91^{+81}_{-76}$	$343^{+805}_{-431}$	$12.18 \pm 0.29$	1.04	21	874
9	A'	$Dist \ \#2$	yes	$37.5^{+9.0}_{-8.9}$	$-88^{+76}_{-70}$	$263^{+764}_{-361}$	$12.22\pm0.32$	1.06	29	945
10	В	$Dist \ \#2$	yes	$49.12^{+10.0}_{-10.0}$	$-6.66^{+137}_{-138}$	$804^{+709}_{-675}$	$12.88 \pm 0.43$	1.19	28	255
11	В′	$Dist \ \#2$	yes	$50.3^{+9.8}_{-9.6}$	$-1^{+134}_{-143}$	$881^{+671}_{-705}$	$12.98 \pm 0.40$	1.18	23	178

#### **Outlook**:

Include phase transition Confront with other observations

N. Baillot d'Etivaux et al., Astro. J. 887, 1 (2019).

### Consequences for extreme matter EoS

Annala+, PRL 120, 172703 (2018)



Radio and GW astronomy bound the EoS.



More accurate measurement of  $\tilde{\Lambda}$  -> further reduction of EoS band.

Simple illustration of a multi-messenger analysis.

### Some basics on stars



## Stars and the equation of state...

The sun is at equilibrium between **gravity** and internal (radiative) **pressure**.



This is the case of all celestial objects. Only **different** In **pressures** create **different** In **objects**.

**Neutron stars** are also at equilibrium. Assume the density in the star is constant



The **radius** R of neutron stars reflects this equilibrium:

- large radii —> large internal pressure,
- small radii —> lower internal pressure.

Measuring neutron star **radius** is a way to measure the **internal pressure**.

The **mass** and the **radius** define the **density**:  $\rho \propto M/R^3$ 



The relation between the internal pressure and the density is called the **equation of state** (EoS).

Internal pressure originates from the **Pauli exclusion** between fermions (electrons, nucleons, quarks, ...) + **interaction (quantum mechanics)**.

A neutron star



### Low energy nuclear physics and neutron stars

Carlson, Dutra, Lourenço, JM, arXiv: 2209.03257



### Low energy nuclear physics and neutron stars

Carlson, Dutra, Lourenço, JM, arXiv: 2209.03257



Better low energy nuclear properties may not improve predictions for neutron star global properties. Reason: nuclei sit around  $n_{sat}$  while a 1.4Mo NS has 2-3  $n_{sat}$  at its center.

-> the largest source of uncertainties is the **density dependence of the EoS** (Symmetry energy, phase transitions).