Equation of State Constraints from Neutron Stars

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Credit: Dany Page, UNAM J.M. Lattimer, Isolated Neutron Stars, London, 27 April 2006

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Observable Quantities (1)

- Mass
 - Limits softening from 'exotica' (hyperons, Bose condensates, quarks).
 - Limits highest possible density in stars: $\rho < 1.4 \times 10^{16} (M_{\odot}/M)^2 \text{ g cm}^{-3}$.
 - New evidence for $M_{max} > 1.5 \text{ M}_{\odot}$.

Observed Masses



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Observed Masses



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Maximum Possible Density in Stars

Causality limit for compactness: $R \ge 3GM/c^2$ (Lattimer, Masak, Prakash & Yahil 1990; Glendenning 1992)

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Uniform Density:

$$\rho_{c,UD} = \frac{3M}{4\pi R^3} \le \frac{3}{4\pi} \left(\frac{c^2}{3G}\right)^3 \frac{1}{M^2} = 5.4 \times 10^{15} \left(\frac{M_{\odot}}{M}\right)^2 \text{g cm}^{-3}$$

But UD solution violates causality and $\rho_{surface} \neq 0$. No realistic EOS has greater ρ_c for given M than Tolman VII solution ($\rho = \rho_c [1 - (r/R)^2]$) (Lattimer & Prakash 2005)

Tolman VII:
$$\rho_{c,VII} = \frac{5}{2} \rho_{c,Inc} \le 13.6 \times 10^{15} \, (M_{\odot}/M)^2 \, \mathrm{g \, cm^{-3}}$$

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- Radius
 - Limits isospin dependence of EOS (Lattimer & Prakash 2001)

 $1 < n/n_0 < 2, x \simeq 0$: $P(n) \propto [dE_{sym}(n)/dn] \propto R_{1-1.5 M_{\odot}}^4$

- $P(n_0)$ currently uncertain to factor ~ 6
- Proposed neutron skin $(R_n R_p)$ measurements of ²⁰⁸Pb could constrain $E_{sym}(n < n_0)$
- Involves different physics than M_{max}

Main Classes of Equations of State

• Non-relativistic potential models

- Momentum- and density-dependent potential
- Power-series density expansion
- Density-dependent effective nucleon masses
- Generally have relatively slowly varying symmetry energies, smaller radii
- Can become acausal
- Can be constrained to fit low-density matter properties
- Relativistic field-theoretical models
 - Interactions mediated by bosons (ω, σ, ρ)
 - Implicitly causal
 - Generally have linearly increasing symmetry energies, larger radii
 - Not easily constrained to fit low-density matter properties

Recently proposed Skyrmion force (Ouyed & Butler 1994, Jaikumar & Ouyed 2005), a variation of RFT, designed to maximize neutron star radii, was fit with incorrect saturation properties.

• Self-bound models

- Strange quark matter with a lower binding energy than hadronic matter (iron) at zero pressure
- Radii of high mass stars not necessarily smaller than hadronic stars



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Neutron Star Matter Pressure

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 $P \simeq K \rho^{1+1/n}$ $n^{-1} = d \ln P / d \ln \rho - 1 \sim 1$ $R \propto K^{n/(3-n)} M^{(1-n)/(3-n)}$ $R \propto P_*^{1/2} \rho_*^{-1} M^0$ $(1 < \rho_* / \rho_0 < 2)$ (MeV fm⁻³)

Wide variation: $1.2 < \frac{P(\rho_0)}{MeV \text{ fm}^{-3}} < 7$

GR phenomenological result (Lattimer & Prakash 2001)

 $R \propto P_*^{1/4} \rho_*^{-1/2}$



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The Role of the Symmetry Energy



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- Involves different physics than M_{max} .
- Spin Frequency
 - Naive Newtonian Roche model (Shapiro & Teukolsky) suggests

$$P_{min}^{Roche} = 1.0 \left(\frac{R}{10 \text{ km}}\right)^{3/2} \left(\frac{M_{\odot}}{M}\right)^{1/2} \text{ ms}$$

• Axisymmetric GR calculations (Lattimer & Prakash 2004) yield

$$P_{min} = 0.96 \pm 0.03 \left(\frac{R}{10 \text{ km}}\right)^{3/2} \left(\frac{M_{\odot}}{M}\right)^{1/2} \text{ ms}$$

where M and R refer to non-rotating values (EOS-independent relation).

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Observable Quantities (2)

Radiation Radius

Combination of flux and temperature measurements yield

 $R_{\infty} = R/\sqrt{1 - 2GM/Rc^2}$

- Uncertainties include distance ($R_{\infty} \propto d$), interstellar H absorption (hard UV and X-rays), atmospheric composition
- Best chances are from
 - Nearby isolated neutron stars (parallax measurable)
 - Quiescent X-ray binaries in globular clusters (reliable distances, low B H-atmosperes)

Optical flux on Rayleigh-Jeans tail 5-7 times extrapolated X-ray BB and $T_{opt} \sim T_X/2$:

$$F_{opt} = 4\pi \left(\frac{R_{opt}}{d}\right)^2 T_{opt} = 4\pi f \left(\frac{R_X}{d}\right)^2 T_X$$

$$R = \sqrt{R_{opt}^2 + R_X^2} = \sqrt{1 + 2f}R_X$$



RX J1856-3754:

Walter & Lattimer 2002 Braje & Romani 2002 Truemper 2005 D=120 pc

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- Redshift $z = (1 2GM/Rc^2)^{-1/2} 1$
 - Possible lines from active X-ray bursters XTE J1814-338 z < 0.38, 4U1820-30 0.20 < z < 0.30, EXO 0748-676 $z \simeq 0.35$ (Cottam, Paerels & Mendez 2002)
 - $R = R_{\infty}(1+z)^{-1}$, $M = R_{\infty}c^2(1+z)^{-1}[1-(1+z)^{-2}]/2G$
- Pulsar Glitches
 - Global transfer of angular momentum, possibly from weak coupling between crustal n superfluid and star.

 $I_{crust}/I_{star} > 0.014 \propto P_t R^4 M^{-2}$

- $P_t < 0.65 \text{ MeV fn}^{-3}$ core-crust interface pressure
- Establishes lower limit to R^2/M (Link, Epstein & Lattimer 1999)

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EXO 0748-676: z = 0.35

Cottam, Paerels & Mendez 2002



Link, Epstein & Lattimer 1999

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Observable Quantities (3)

- QPOs
 - Possible association of observed frequency with inner radius of accretion disk $R_A > 6GM/c^2$ and $R_A > R$ (Lamb & Miller 2000)



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- Burst sources limited by Eddington luminosity $F_{edd} \propto M d^2/\kappa$
- Neutron star oscillations $\Delta R/R \simeq 0.1$ (Watts & Strohmayer)

$$\frac{GM}{Rc^2} \simeq \frac{1}{2} - \frac{\Delta R}{R} \frac{\mathcal{H}}{2} \left(\frac{\Delta R}{R} + \mathcal{H} - 1\right)^{-1} \tag{1}$$

$$\mu_n - \mu_{n0} \simeq -7 + \frac{K}{18} u_c (3u_c - 4) + S_v (u_c) + \left(\frac{dS_v}{d\ln\rho}\right)_c$$

$$u_c \simeq 2/3$$

$$\mathcal{H} = e^{2(\mu_n - \mu_{n0})/m_B} \simeq 1.03$$

$$\frac{GM}{Rc^2} \simeq 0.15$$

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- Moment of Inertia
 - Spin-orbit coupling of same magnitude as post-post-Newtonian effects (Barker & O'Connell 1975, Damour & Schaeffer 1988)
 - Precession alters inclination angle and periastron advance
 - More EOS sensitive than $R: I \propto MR^2$
 - Double pulsar PSR J0737-3037 is candidate

• Spin-orbit coupling: $\dot{\vec{S}}_A = -\dot{\vec{L}} = \frac{G(4M_A + 3M_B)}{2M_A a^3 c^2} \vec{L} \times \vec{S}_A$

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$$P_p = \frac{2(M_A + M_B)ac^2}{GM_B(4M_A + 3M_B)}P(1 - e^2) \simeq 74.9 \text{ years}$$

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$$\delta_i = \frac{|\vec{S_A}|}{|\vec{L}|} \sin \theta \simeq \frac{I_A(M_A + M_B)}{a^2 M_A M_B} \frac{P}{P_A} \sin \theta \simeq (3.6 - 7.2) \sin \theta \times 10^{-5}$$

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• Delay in Time-of-Arrival:

$$\Delta t = \left(\frac{M_B}{M_A + M_B}\right) \frac{a}{c} \delta_i \cos i \approx 0.4 - 4.0 \, \sin \theta \, \mu \mathrm{s}$$

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• Periastron Advance $\propto \vec{S}_A \cdot \vec{L}$: $A_P/A_{PN} =$

$$\frac{2\pi I_A}{P_A} \left(\frac{2 + 3M_B/M_A}{3M_A^2 + 3M_B^2 + 2M_A M_B} \right) \sqrt{\frac{M_A + M_B}{Ga}} \cos \theta \simeq (2.2 - 4.3) \times 10^{-4} \cos \theta$$

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Moment of Inertia – Mass – Radius

$$I \simeq (0.237 \pm 0.008) M R^2 \left[1 + 4.2 \frac{M \text{ km}}{R \text{ M}_{\odot}} + 90 \left(\frac{M \text{ km}}{R \text{ M}_{\odot}} \right)^4 \right]$$

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Moments of Inertia



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Observable Quantities (4)

Temperature and Age

- Growing database of cooling neutron stars.
- Atmosphere composition, magnetic field strength, distance are major uncertainties.
- Hints that some neutron stars may exhibit 'rapid' (*i.e.*, direct Urca) cooling: Vela (Pavlov et al. 2001), supernova remnants 3C58 (Slane et al. 2004), G084.2-0.8, G093.3+6.9, G127.1+0.5 & G315.4-2.3 (Kaplan et al. 2004)
- Probes superfluid properties of neutron star interior



Conclusions

- Masses may have a wide range.
- M_{max} might be > 1.7 M_{\odot}, limits EOS at high density.
- Radii remain elusive, but some R_{∞} measurements imply relatively large values.
- *R* measurement gives direct information about the EOS near the saturation density for extremely asymmetric matter, *i.e.*, the density derivative of the symmetry energy.
- Other observables (redshifts, QPOs, Eddington-limited fluxes from accreting sources, moments of inertia) could yield mass/radius measurements in near future.
- Neutron star cooling is rich source of information about interior composition, hints that rapid cooling necessary in a few cases.