The EOS of neutron matter, and the effect of Λ hyperons to neutron star structure

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The 13th International Conference on Hypernuclear
and Strange Particle Physics (HYP2018)
Renaissance Portsmouth-Norfolk Waterfront Hotel, June 24-29, 2018

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NUCLEI Nuclear Computational Low-Energy Initiative

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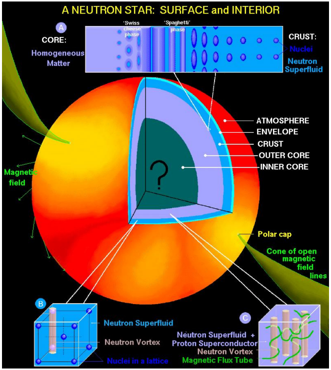
Neutron stars

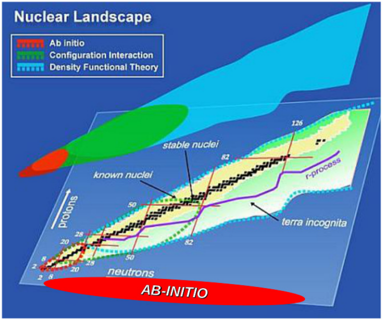
Neutron star is a wonderful natural laboratory

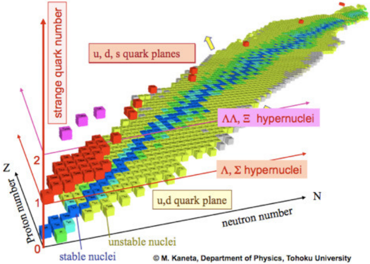


D. Page

- Atmosphere: atomic and plasma physics
- Crust: physics of superfluids (neutrons, vortex), solid state physics (nuclei)
- Inner crust: deformed nuclei, pasta phase
- Outer core: nuclear matter
- Inner core: hyperons? quark matter? π or K condensates?

Nuclei and hypernuclei



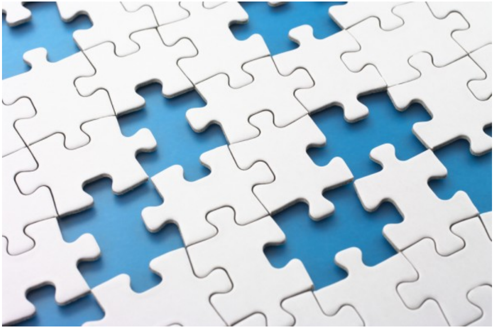


Few thousands of binding energies for normal nuclei are known.

Only few tens for hypernuclei.

A Non-claim

- Am I going to claim today that we solved the puzzle? **NO!!!**
- Can we add together some of the pieces? **MAYBE...**
- Can we find the missing pieces in the near future? **Probably!**



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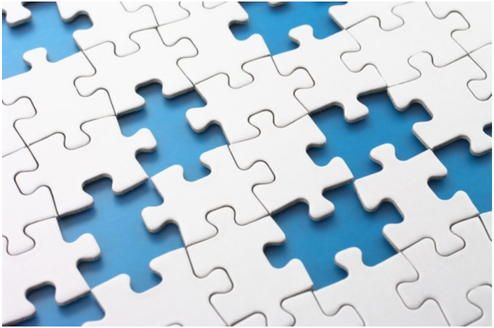


Outline

- The model and the method
- Equation of state of neutron matter
- Neutron star structure (I) - radius
- Λ-neutron matter
- Neutron star structure (II) - maximum mass
- Conclusions

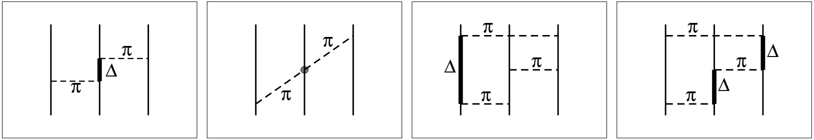
Model: non-relativistic nucleons interacting with an effective nucleon-nucleon force (NN) and three-nucleon interaction (TNI).

$$H = -\frac{\hbar^2}{2m}\sum_{i=1}^{A}\nabla_i^2 + \sum_{i<j} v_{ij} + \sum_{i<j<k} V_{ijk}$$

v_{ij} NN (Argonne AV8') fitted on scattering data. Sum of operators:

$$v_{ij} = \sum O_{ij}^{p=1,8} v^p(r_{ij})\,, \quad O_{ij}^p = (1, \vec{\sigma}_i \cdot \vec{\sigma}_j, S_{ij}, \vec{L}_{ij} \cdot \vec{S}_{ij}) \times (1, \vec{\tau}_i \cdot \vec{\tau}_j)$$

Urbana–Illinois V_{ijk} models processes like



$+$ short-range correlations (spin/isospin independent).

Quantum Monte Carlo

$$H\,\psi(\vec{r}_1\ldots\vec{r}_N) = E\,\psi(\vec{r}_1\ldots\vec{r}_N) \qquad \psi(t) = e^{-(H-E_T)t}\psi(0)$$

Ground-state extracted in the limit of $t \to \infty$.

Propagation performed by

$$\psi(R,t) = \langle R|\psi(t)\rangle = \int dR' G(R,R',t)\psi(R',0)$$

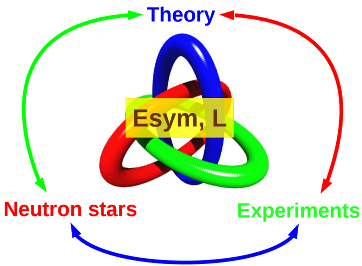
- Importance sampling: $G(R,R',t) \to G(R,R',t)\,\Psi_I(R')/\Psi_I(R)$
- Constrained-path approximation to control the sign problem. Unconstrained calculation possible in several cases (exact).

Ground–state obtained in a **non-perturbative way.** Systematic uncertainties within 1-2 %.

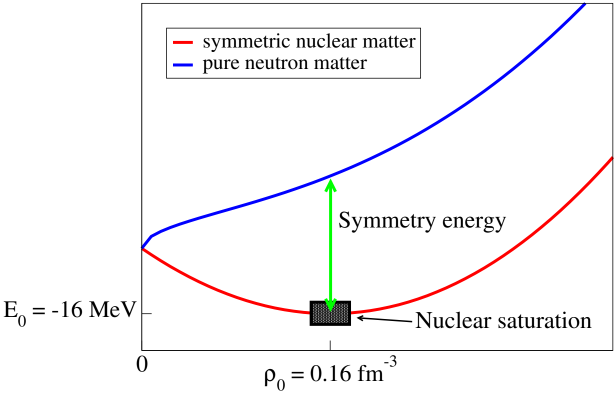
Neutron matter equation of state

Neutron matter is an "exotic" system. Why do we care?

- EOS of neutron matter gives the symmetry energy and its slope.
- The three-neutron force ($T = 3/2$) very weak in light nuclei, while $T = 1/2$ is the dominant part. No direct $T = 3/2$ experiments available.
- Determines radii of neutron stars.



What is the Symmetry energy?



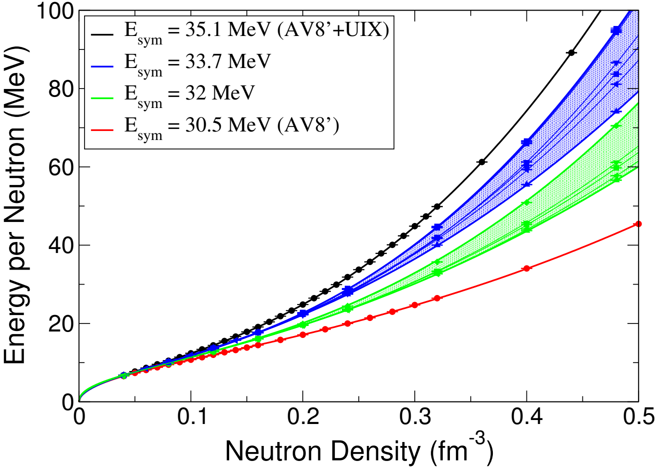
Assumption from experiments:

$$E_{SNM}(\rho_0) = -16MeV\,, \quad \rho_0 = 0.16fm^{-3}\,, \quad E_{sym} = E_{PNM}(\rho_0) + 16$$

At ρ_0 we access E_{sym} by studying PNM.

Neutron matter

Equation of state of neutron matter using Argonne forces:



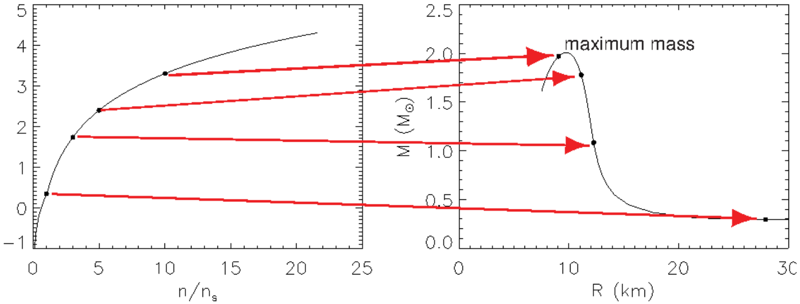
Gandolfi, Carlson, Reddy, PRC (2012)

Neutron matter and neutron star structure

TOV equations:

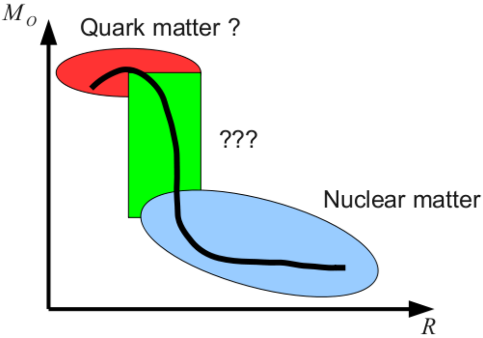
$$\frac{dP}{dr} = -\frac{G[m(r) + 4\pi r^3 P/c^2][\epsilon + P/c^2]}{r[r - 2Gm(r)/c^2]},$$

$$\frac{dm(r)}{dr} = 4\pi\epsilon r^2,$$



J. Lattimer

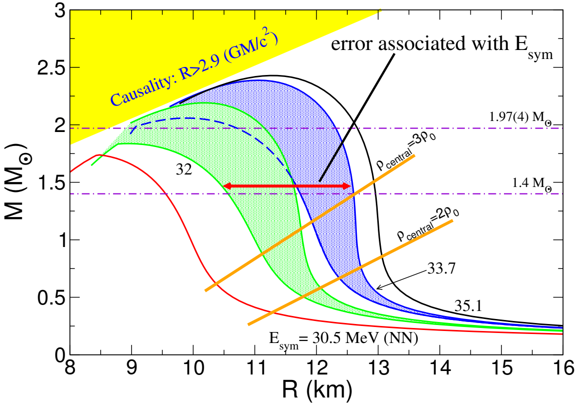
Neutron star matter



- Neutron star radius sensitive to EOS around ρ $(1-2)\rho_0$
- Maximum mass depends to higher densities

Neutron star structure

EOS used to solve the TOV equations.

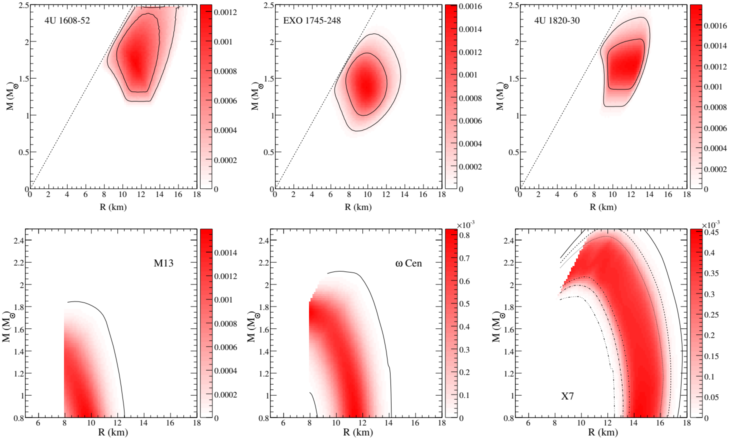


Gandolfi, Carlson, Reddy, PRC (2012).

Accurate measurement of E_{sym} put a constraint to the radius of neutron stars, **OR** observation of M and R would constrain E_{sym}!

Neutron stars

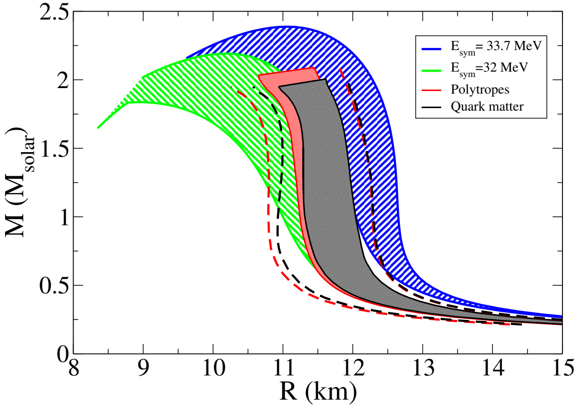
Observations of the mass-radius relation are becoming available:



Steiner, Lattimer, Brown, ApJ (2010)

Neutron star observations can be used to 'measure' the EOS and constrain E_{sym} and L. (Systematic uncertainties still under debate...)

Neutron star matter really matters!



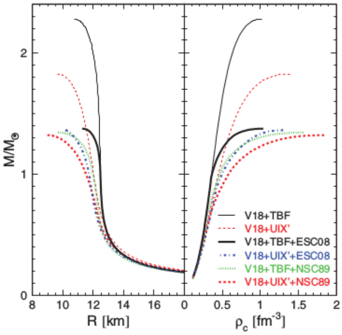
Steiner, Gandolfi, PRL (2012)

Gandolfi, Carlson, Reddy, Steiner, Wiringa, EPJA (2014)

High density neutron matter

If chemical potential large enough ($\rho \sim 2-3\rho_0$), nucleons produce Λ, Σ, ...

Non-relativistic BHF calculations suggest that available hyperon-nucleon Hamiltonians support an EOS with $M > 2M_\odot$:



Schulze and Rijken PRC (2011).

Vidana, Logoteta, Providencia, Polls, Bombaci EPL (2011).

Note: (Some) other relativistic model support $2M_\odot$ neutron stars.

$\longrightarrow$ *Hyperon puzzle*

Λ-systems, outline

Λ-hypernuclei and hypermatter

$$H = H_N + \frac{\hbar^2}{2m_\Lambda}\sum_{i=1}^{A}\nabla_i^2 + \sum_{i<j} v_{ij}^{\Lambda N} + \sum_{i<j<k} V_{ijk}^{\Lambda NN}$$

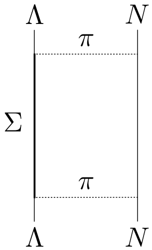
Λ-binding energy calculated as the difference between the system with and without Λ.

Λ-nucleon interaction

The Λ-nucleon interaction is constructed similarly to the Argonne potentials (Usmani).

Argonne NN: $v_{ij} = \sum_p v_p(r_{ij}) O^p_{ij}$, $O_{ij} = (1, \sigma_i \cdot \sigma_j, S_{ij}, \vec{L}_{ij} \cdot \vec{S}_{ij}) \times (1, \tau_i \cdot \tau_j)$

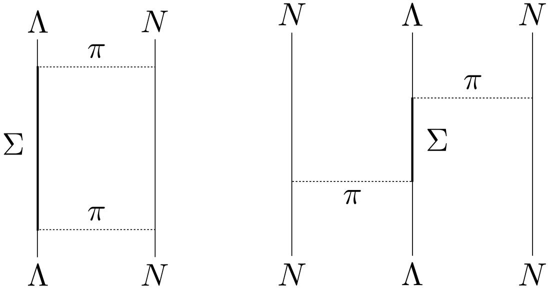
Usmani ΛN: $v_{ij} = \sum_p v_p(r_{ij}) O^p_{ij}$, $O_{\lambda j} = (1, \sigma_\lambda \cdot \sigma_j) \times (1, \tau^z_j)$



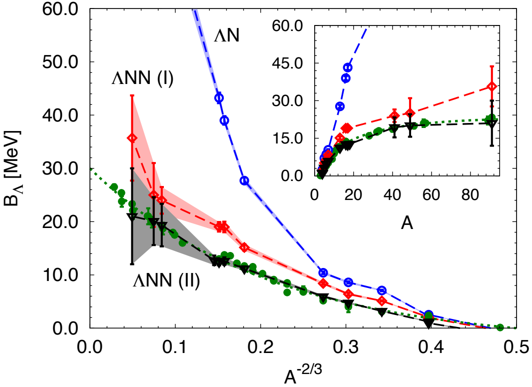
Unfortunately... ∼4500 NN data, ∼30 of ΛN data.

ΛN and ΛNN interactions

ΛNN has the same range of ΛN



Λ hypernuclei



Lonardoni, Gandolfi, Pederiva, PRC (2013) and PRC (2014).

$V^{\Lambda NN}$ (II) is a new form where the parameters have been readjusted.

ΛNN crucial for saturation.

Hyper-neutron matter

Neutrons and Λ particles:

$$\rho = \rho_n + \rho_\Lambda\,, \qquad\qquad x = \frac{\rho_\Lambda}{\rho}$$

$$E_{\rm HNM}(\rho,x) = \Big[E_{\rm PNM}((1-x)\rho)+m_n\Big](1-x)+\Big[E_{\rm P\Lambda M}(x\rho)+m_\Lambda\Big]x+f(\rho,x)$$

where $E_{P\Lambda M}$ is the non-interacting energy (no $v_{\Lambda\Lambda}$ interaction),

$$E_{PNM}(\rho) = a\left(\frac{\rho}{\rho_0}\right)^{\alpha} + b\left(\frac{\rho}{\rho_0}\right)^{\beta}$$

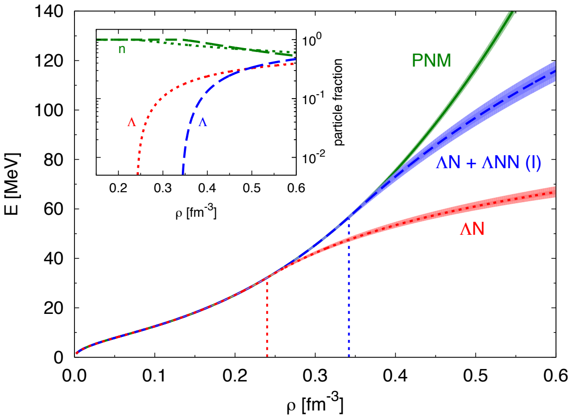
and

$$f(\rho,x) = c_1\frac{x(1-x)\rho}{\rho_0} + c_2\frac{x(1-x)^2\rho^2}{\rho_0^2}$$

All the parameters are fit to Quantum Monte Carlo results.

Λ-neutron matter

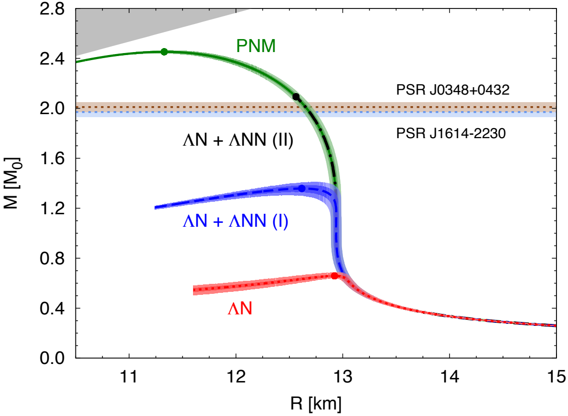
EOS obtained by solving for $\mu_\Lambda(\rho, x) = \mu_n(\rho, x)$



Lonardoni, Lovato, Gandolfi, Pederiva, PRL (2015)

No hyperons up to $\rho = 0.5$ fm^{-3} using ΛNN (II)!!!

Λ-neutron matter



Lonardoni, Lovato, Gandolfi, Pederiva, PRL (2015)

Drastic role played by ΛNN. Calculations can be compatible with neutron star observations.

Note: no $v_{\Lambda\Lambda}$, no protons, and no other hyperons included yet...

Summary

- EOS of pure neutron matter qualitatively well understood
- Λ-nucleon data very limited, but ΛNN seems very important
- Role of Λ in neutron stars far to be understood We cannot conclude **anything** for neutron stars with (at least our) present models...
  We cannot solve the puzzle, too many pieces are missing!

In progress and for the future:

- Construct more realistic interactions (chiral EFT, **local** Nijmegen)
- More accurate femtoscopy measurements (very promising results presented by L. Fabbietti and D. Mihaylov)
- Get more N-Λ or lattice QCD data
- Understand the $\Lambda - \Sigma$ mixing *vs* NNΛ
- Include protons and other hyperons into the EOS
- Solve the puzzle?!?

Acknowledgments:
J. Carlson (LANL), D. Lonardoni (LANL/FRIB), A. Lovato (ANL), F. Pederiva (Trento)