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Constraining Quark Matter in Neutron Stars

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08/10/24: Yukawa Hall, YITP



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 Constrain Quark Matter (QM) model and hybrid equation of state (EoS) using multi-disciplinary physics constraints





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- Probe the existence and phase of QM inside Neutron Stars



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- Observations: M_{max} and tidal deformability of GW170817 can constrain EoSs
- 4) Strong evidence of quark matter core in NSs





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MOTIVATION

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However, most make use:

- 1) Parametric EOSs
 - Speed of sound parametrization, piecewise polytropes, interpolation methods for mixed phase, etc.
- 2) Select phenomenological EOSs / select parameters varied
- Deploy maxwell construction with no mixed phase (Mixed hadron-quark phase is allowed - Glendenning 1992)

WHAT WE DO

- Employ realistic phenomenological EoS that can be used to constrain not just EoS but also physical parameters.
 - a) Relativistic Mean Field model for nuclear matter
 - b) Original MIT Bag model (Farhi & Jaffe 1984) along with first-order correction in strong-coupling constant (α_s)
- 2) Allow for a mixed phase (Gibbs construction)
- Vary the model parameters to span the full parameter space rather than studying select cases
- 4) This formalism allows us to
 - a) Constrain the original bag model parameters
 - b) Check the effect of various constraints (we focus on pQCD)
 - c) Study the existence of any physical correlations between model parameters
 - d) Comment on the phase of matter present in NS cores

MODEL MINT MINT

Hadronic Matter Phase: Relativistic Mean-Field Model (RMF) [Hornick+ 2018]
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• Quark Matter Phase: MIT Bag Model (with 1st order correction) [Farhi & Jaffe 1984, Glendenning 1997]

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• Range of parameters: (Uniform Priors within their uncertainty ranges) [Suprovo Ghosh+ EPJA 2022]

n_{sat}	E_{sat}	K_{sat}	E_{sym}	L_{sym}	m^*/m	a_4	$B^{1/4}$
(fm^{-3})	(MeV)	(MeV)	(MeV)	(MeV)			(MeV)
0.14 - 0.17	-16.0 ± 0.2	200 - 300	28 - 34	40 - 70	0.55 - 0.75	0.4 - 1.0	100 - 300

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 - 3. Very-high density: pQCD at μ_B = 2.6 GeV (Fraga+ ApJL 2014, Komoltsev+ PRL 2022)



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Side note: We also find a peak in speed of sound!











- a₄ > 0.48 B^{1/4} > 153 MeV
- **Region I:** No Hybrid Star solutions
- **Region II:** Pure Quark-Matter Core
- **Region III:** Mixed-Phase Core
- **Region IV:** No Phase Transition
- Mixed-phase favoured at the core of NSs and not the pure quark phase
- Evidence for quark matter in NS core



SUMMARY

- **Realistic** phenomenological RMF model (hadronic phase) and MIT Bag model (quark phase) via **Gibbs phase transition**
- Vary all the parameters (100,000 EOSs!)
- Multi-disciplinary physics constraints
 - CEFT
 - Multi-messenger astrophysical observations
 - pQCD
- **Constraints** on microscopic parameters, EoS and properties at the NS centre
- Study of **physical correlations** (can discuss later)
- pQCD + Astro filters significantly restricts B-a₄ quark parameter space
- pQCD constrains the QCD strong coupling constant (a_4/α_s)
- Astrophysical observations disfavour pure quark matter core in NSs
- pQCD calculation disfavours hadronic matter -> hadron-quark mixed-phase core in NSs is preferred (evidence for existence for hybrid stars)