Neutron Star EOS and Nuclear Physics

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State of the field

Introduction to the NS EOS



Masquerade problem



Raithel and Most, *Phys.Rev.Lett.* 130 (2023) 20, 201403

Introduction to the NS EOS

EOS as proxy for microscopic observables that nuclear physicists care about

Challenge of determining EOS when all nuclear theory EOS models involve phenomenology at some level

GW:

- Softness of the EOS



GW:

- Softness of the EOS
- Remnant:
 - Upper bound on TOV mass



Dietrich, Hinderer, & Samajdar, Gen Relativ Gravit 53, 27 (2021)

GW:

- Softness of the EOS

Remnant:

- Upper bound on TOV mass

Kilonova:

- Stiffness of the EOS

Coughlin et al., *Mon.Not.Roy.Astron.Soc.* 480 (2018) 3, 3871-3878



Multi-messenger astronomy on nuclear physics

GW + EM GW Only GW + EMPrior PDF 400 200600 800 1000

Radice et al., *Eur.Phys.J.A* 55 (2019) 4, 50

Multi-messenger astronomy on nuclear physics

- GW + EM
- GW + PSR



Legend et al. *Phys.Rev.D* 104 (2021) 6, 063003

Multi-messenger astronomy on nuclear physics

- GW + EM
- GW + PSR
- Astro + nuclear
 theory



Dietrich et al., Science 370 (2020) 6523, 1450-1453

Multi-messenger astronomy on nuclear physics

- GW + EM
- GW + PSR
- Astro + nuclear theory
- Astro + nuclear theory
 + experiment



Huth & Pang et al., Nature 606 (2022) 276-280

Prospects in the next-generation detector era

Binary neutron star inspirals

- XG BNS survey complete out to $z \sim 0.5$
- O(100) SNR > 100 BNSs per year [Gupta+ 23]
- Leading-order $\tilde{\Lambda}$ measurable to O(10) [Puecher+ 23]
- Measurable effects from dynamical tides [Pratten+ 19]







Postmerger GWs from binary neutron stars

- ~ 1 SNR > 5 BNS postmerger GW detection per year [Gupta+ 23]
- Lifetime of remnant constrains maximum NS mass [Rezzolla+ 17]
- Peak frequency constrains fundamental NS oscillation mode, modulo thermal, rotational & compositional corrections [Radice+ 18]



Everything else

NSBH mergers: tidal disruption?



Continuous GWs: NS ellipticity?



Kilonova counterparts: ejecta & chemical evolution

Challenges for next-generation science

Simulations vs waveforms

- Progress may be limited by theoretical waveform models.
- Statistical vs systematic/modelling errors, leading to calibration uncertainties.
- Example: Temperature problem.
- Are we missing important physics? Crustal effects, exotic phases/phase transitions, etc
- How much of this can we "ignore"?



Simulations vs waveforms

- Progress may be limited by theoretical waveform models.
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Tidal effects

- Do we understand dynamical/nonlinear tides?
- Resonance of fundamental f-mode dominates...
- ...but p/g instability, individual g-modes (composition), inertial modes (rotation), viscosity (temperature) etc.
- Also, tidal response not (yet) calculated in GR, so cannot model for real EoS.



Post-merger signals

How reliable/robust are simulations?

Importance of temperature and neutrino effects + other physics (MHD+resistivity)

Impact of turbulence (large-eddy schemes).

"EoS not EoS" + statistical convergence...

What EoS should we use?

Can we converge towards common/ comparable, perhaps phenomenological) models?



- Do we need to resort to "phenomenological" models?
- What quantities do nuclear physicists care about?
- What kind of "data product" would be the most useful?
- Should we think of this as an "experimental" problem?

- Do we have the analysis tools needed for XG EOS inference?
- Will (dark?) NSBH mergers be an important source for learning about nuclear physics in the XG era?
- How do EM observations of neutron stars complement GWs?

What will we learn about chemical evolution in the XG era?