

# Relativistic description of neutron star matter with latest experimental and observational constraints

Prasanta Char

*Space sciences, Technologies and Astrophysics Research (STAR) Institute,  
University of Liège*

Collaborators: Chiranjib Mondal, Francesca Gulminelli, Micaela Oertel

19th International Conference on QCD in Extreme Conditions  
(XQCD 2023)

July 26-28, 2023, Department of Physics (University of Coimbra)

# Outline

- A very brief introduction to neutron stars (NSs)
- Description of nuclear matter
- Models specific to this work and the constraints used
- Results
- Summary

# Structure of a Neutron Star

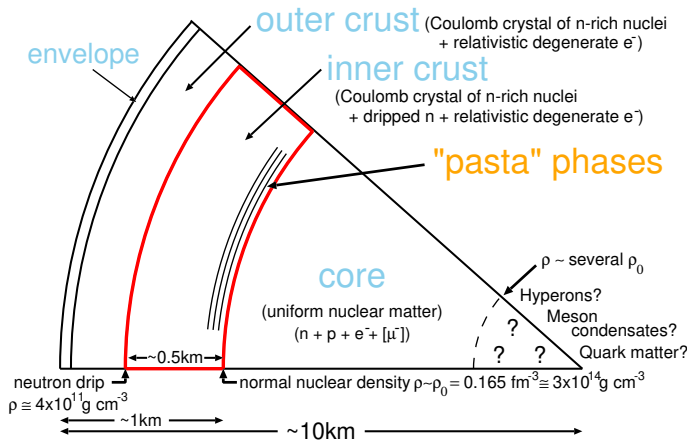
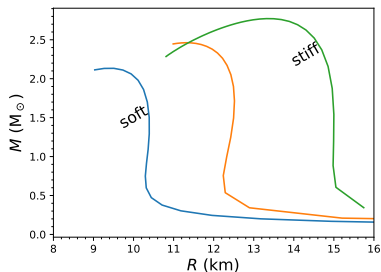
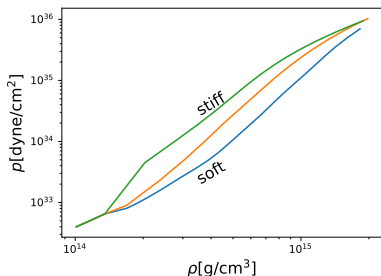


Figure: Schematic picture of a NS Interior

# Equation of State and Mass-Radius

$$P = P(\rho)$$

$$M = M(R)$$



**One to one correspondence between Equation of State (EOS) and mass-radius**

# Tidally Deformed Stars

- If a static spherically symmetric star of mass  $M$  and radius  $R$  is placed in a time-independent external tidal field  $\mathcal{E}_{ij}$ , a quadrupole moment  $Q_{ij}$  is induced onto the star and to linear order

$$Q_{ij} = -\lambda \mathcal{E}_{ij},$$

- Tidal deformation parameter  $\lambda$  related to the  $l = 2$  dimensionless Love number  $k_2$

$$\lambda = \frac{2}{3} k_2 R^5.$$

- Observational parameter in LIGO-Virgo, ET:  $\Lambda = \lambda/M^5$

# NS Observations that an EOS must satisfy

- Precise mass-measurement of massive NSs:

$(1.908 \pm 0.016)M_{\odot}$  Arzoumanian et al, ApJS 235, 37 (2018).

$(2.01 \pm 0.04)M_{\odot}$  Antoniadis et al, Science 340, 448 (2013).

$(2.08 \pm 0.07)M_{\odot}$  E. Fonseca et al, ApJL 915 L12 (2021).

- BNS merger event GW170817 provides bounds on tidal deformability ( $\Lambda$ ), and pressure at  $2\rho_0$ ; Abbott et al, PRL 121, 161101 (2018):

$$\Lambda_{1.4} = 190_{-120}^{+390} \Rightarrow \Lambda_{1.4} \leq 580, P(2\rho_0) = 3.5_{-1.7}^{+2.7} \times 10^{34} \text{ dyn/cm}^2$$

- NICER collaboration provided:

## 1) Simultaneous mass-radius measurements of PSR J0030+0451

$M = 1.34_{-0.16}^{+0.15}M_{\odot}, R = 12.71_{-1.19}^{+1.14}\text{km}$  Riley et al, ApJL, 887, L21 (2019).

$M = 1.44_{-0.14}^{+0.15}M_{\odot}, R = 13.02_{-1.06}^{+1.24}\text{km}$  Miller et al, ApJL, 887, L24 (2019).

## 2) Radius measurements of J0740+6620

$R = 12.39_{-0.98}^{+1.30}\text{km}$  Riley et al, ApJL, 918, L27 (2021).

$R = 13.7_{-1.5}^{+2.6}\text{km}$  Miller et al, ApJL, 918, L28 (2021).

## Description of Nuclear Matter:

pressure as a function of energy

energy per particle of nuclear matter

$$P(\rho, \delta) = \rho^2 \frac{d}{d\rho} (E_0(\rho, \delta))$$

symmetric nuclear matter

symmetry energy

$$E_0(\rho, \delta) \approx E_0(\rho) + E_{\text{sym}} \delta^2$$

$$E_0(\rho) = E_0(\rho_0) + \frac{K_0}{2} \chi^2 + \frac{Q_0}{6} \chi^3$$

$$E_{\text{sym}}(\rho) = E_{\text{sym}}(\rho_0) + L_{\text{sym}} \chi + \frac{K_{\text{sym}}}{2} \chi^2 + \frac{Q_{\text{sym}}}{6} \chi^3$$

$$\delta = \text{“Isospin asymmetry”} = (\rho_n - \rho_p)/\rho, \quad \chi = (\rho - \rho_0)/3\rho_0$$

# EOS of Dense Matter from Nuclear Physics

## Difficulties

- Constituents are not known.
- Interaction between constituents are not fully known.
- Uncertainties in the many-body description.

⇒ EOS is model dependent.

Phenomenological approaches are most widely used.

- Based on effective Interaction.
  1. Non-relativistic Skyrme-Interaction ( $\sim 240$ )
  2. Relativistic Mean Field (RMF) models ( $\sim 270$ )

Dutra et al. PRC 85, 035201 (2012); Dutra et al. PRC 90, 055203 (2014);

Oertel et al. RMP 89, 015007 (2017)

*Our main objective: Exploring the parameter space to quantify the uncertainties.*



## RMF model

- Interaction between baryons is described via exchange of mesons.
- The most general form of the interaction Lagrangian density:

$$\begin{aligned}\mathcal{L}_{\text{DD}} = & \bar{\psi}(i\gamma^\mu\partial_\mu - M)\psi + \Gamma_\sigma(\rho)\sigma\bar{\psi}\psi - \Gamma_\omega(\rho)\bar{\psi}\gamma^\mu\omega_\mu\psi - \frac{\Gamma_\rho(\rho)}{2}\bar{\psi}\gamma^\mu\boldsymbol{\rho}_\mu\cdot\boldsymbol{\tau}\psi \\ & + \frac{1}{2}(\partial^\mu\sigma\partial_\mu\sigma - m_\sigma^2\sigma^2) - \frac{1}{4}F^{\mu\nu}F_{\mu\nu} + \frac{1}{2}m_\omega^2\omega_\mu\omega^\mu - \frac{1}{4}\vec{B}^{\mu\nu}\vec{B}_{\mu\nu} + \frac{1}{2}m_\rho^2\rho_\mu\cdot\rho^\mu,\end{aligned}$$

$\sigma$ ,  $\omega_\mu$ , and  $\boldsymbol{\rho}_\mu$  are meson fields.

- For the density dependent (DD) models, the coupling parameters  $\Gamma_\sigma$ ,  $\Gamma_\omega$ , and  $\Gamma_\rho$  are density dependent and do not have nonlinear terms.

$$\Gamma_i(\rho) = a_i + (b_i + d_i x^3)e^{-c_i x},$$

for  $i = \sigma, \omega, \rho$ , and  $x = n/n_0$ .

P. Gogelein, E. N. E. van Dalen, C. Fuchs, and H. Muther, Phys. Rev. C 77, 025802 (2008)

## Saturation properties of nuclear matter:

Parameter sets are obtained by exploring the uncertainties of the saturation properties of nuclear matter:

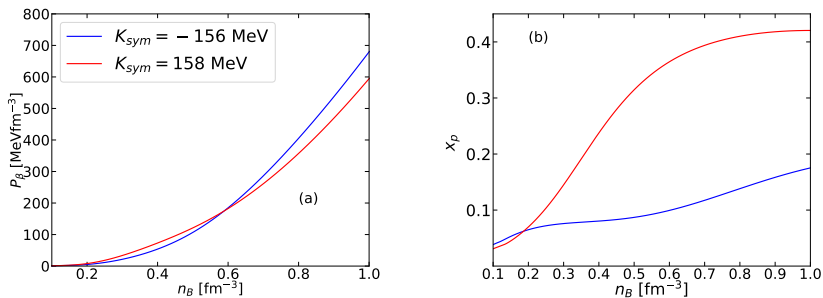
- Saturation density:  $\rho_{sat} = (0.135, 0.195) \text{ fm}^{-3}$
- Binding energy per nucleon:  $E_{sat} = (-14, -17) \text{ MeV}$ .
- Incompressibility:  $K_{sat} = (150, 350) \text{ MeV}$ .
- Symmetry energy:  $E_{sym} = (20, 45) \text{ MeV}$ .
- Symmetry energy slope :  $L_{sym} = (20, 180) \text{ MeV}$ .

Additionally, we use the constraints coming from chiral EFT calculations from [Drischler et al., Phys. Rev. C 93, 054314 \(2016\)](#)

## Results: Unified EOS

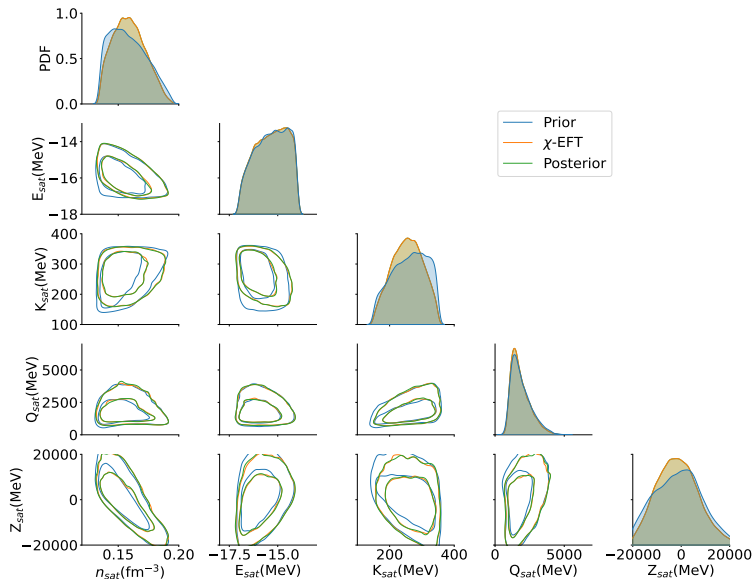
- High density EOS is constructed for a set of model parameters corresponding to a unique set of nuclear matter parameters
- Low density EOS is calculated within the compressible liquid drop model (CLDM) model for the aforementioned set of nuclear matter parameters.
- $\beta$ -equilibrium is applied over the whole range.
- The crust and the core are matched with the continuity of pressure and chemical potential.
- For more details, see [arXiv:2307.12364](https://arxiv.org/abs/2307.12364).

## Results:

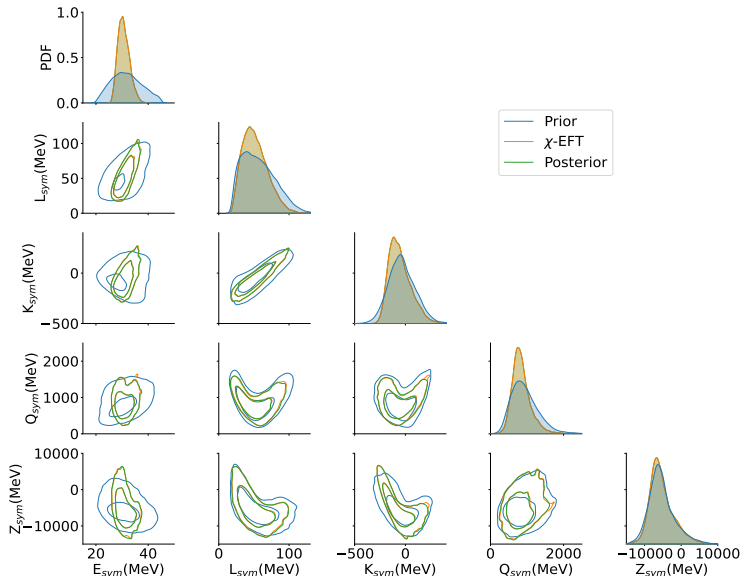


**Figure:** Pressure (panel a) and proton fraction (panel b) as a function of baryon density  $n_B$  for two example EOS models with negative and positive  $K_{sym}$ , respectively.

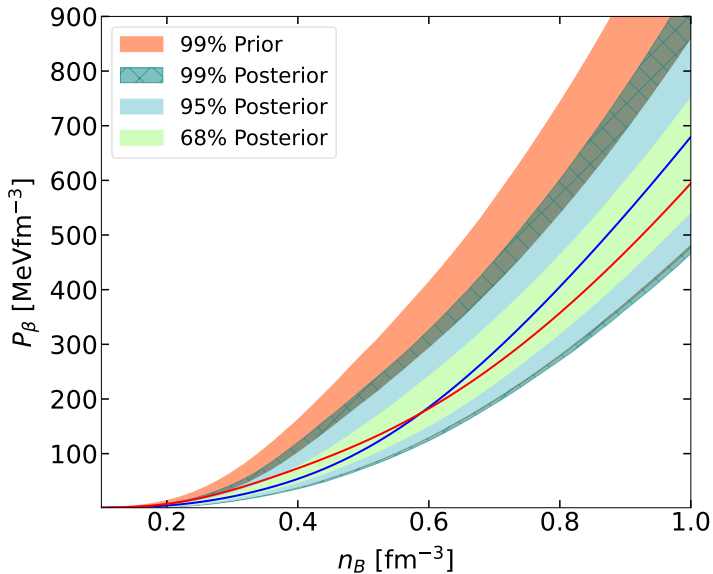
# Results: SNM Parameters



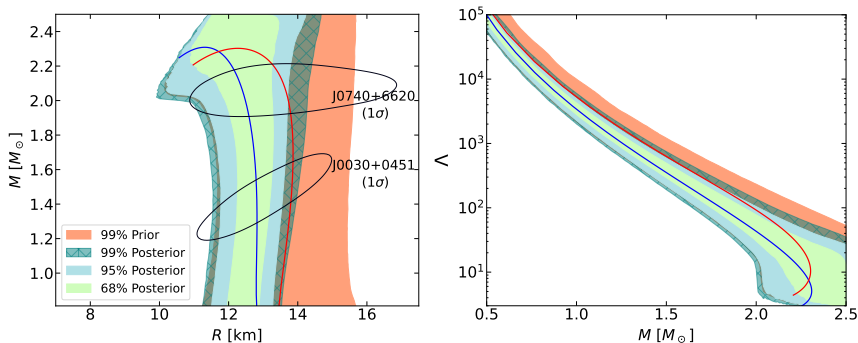
# Results: Isospin Parameters



## Results: EOS at $\beta$ -equilibrium



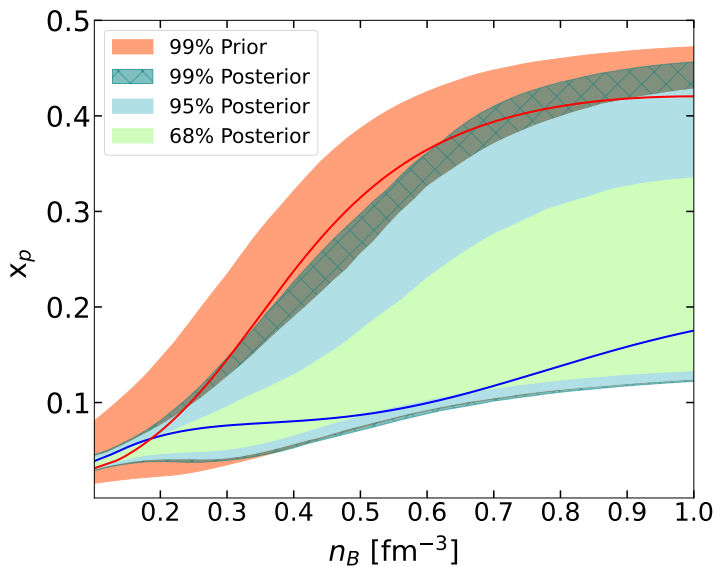
## Results: Mass - Radius



**Figure:** Mass-radius (left) and mass-tidal deformability (right) relations along with the Model I and II obtained in the present study.  $1\sigma$  constraints from the NICER observations are also indicated in the mass-radius panel.



## Results: Proton fraction



## Summary:

- Any study of dense matter EOS is heavily model dependent. Therefore, a metamodelling approach to dense matter is very helpful to refine our knowledge.
- Within the GDFM type density-dependent RMF model, a wide range of EOSs can be generated with diverse nuclear matter properties that will be able to satisfy present observational constraints.
- One key finding is the large variation of proton fraction within this model.
- Our future objective is to apply this model to study finite nuclei properties
- For more details, see [arXiv:2307.12364](https://arxiv.org/abs/2307.12364).

# Thank You

# Backup

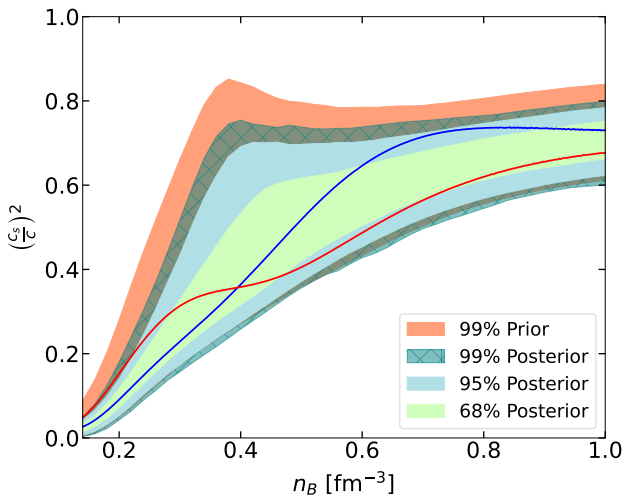


Figure: Speed of sound

# Backup

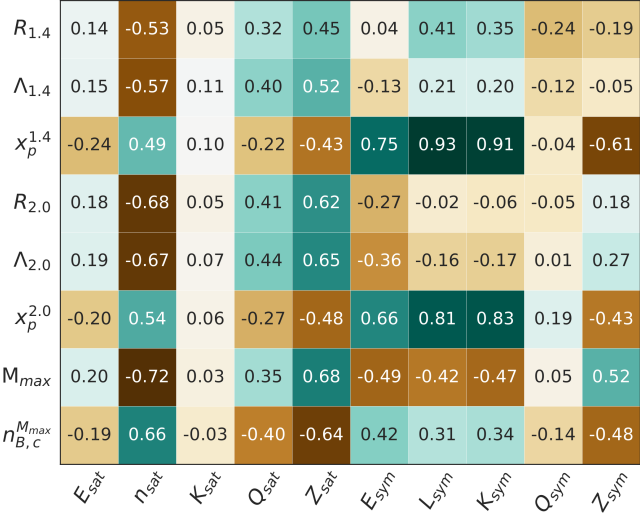


Figure: Correlations

# Backup

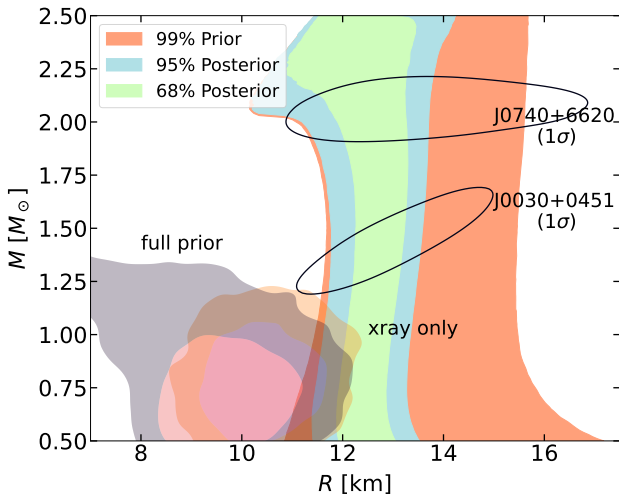


Figure: With HESS J1731-347