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# Non-Parametric Constraints on the Neutron Star Equation of State with Multi-messenger Data

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# Physical motivation

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- Inner Core behavior unknown
- Proposed phenomenologies lead to varying evolution scenarios



R. Nandi et al, 2013

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- Neutron Stars: Cold, dense nuclear matter laboratories
- Inner Core behavior unknown
- Proposed phenomenologies lead to varying evolution scenarios
- Equation of State:

$$P(\rho) = ?$$



R. Nandi et al, 2013

#### **Equation of State Parametrization**

• Piecewise Polytropes [1]

$$p(\rho) = K_i \rho^{\Gamma_i}$$

• Spectral Decomposition [2]

$$\Gamma(x) = \exp\left(\sum_{k} \gamma_k x^k\right)$$

[1] - L. Lindblom, "Causal representations of neutron-star equations of state," Phys. Rev. D 97, 123019 (2018)
 [2] - J. S. Read, B. D. Lackey, B. J. Owen, and J. L. Friedman, "Constraints on a phenomenologically parametrized neutron-star equation of state," Phys. Rev. D 79, 124032 (2009)

#### **Equation of State Parametrization**

![](_page_5_Figure_1.jpeg)

### **Equation of State Parametrization**

• Piecewise Polytropes [1]

 $p(\rho) = K_i \rho^{\Gamma_i}$ 

• Spectral Decomposition [2]

 $\Gamma(x) = \exp\left(\sum_{k} \gamma_k x^k\right)$ 

• Small number of parameters

 $\underline{p}(\theta;s) = \frac{\mathcal{L}(s;\theta)\pi(\theta)}{z}$ 

- Model dependent-bias
- Difficulty with phase transitions

[1] - L. Lindblom, "Causal representations of neutron-star equations of state," Phys. Rev. D 97, 123019 (2018)
 [2] - J. S. Read, B. D. Lackey, B. J. Owen, and J. L. Friedman, "Constraints on a phenomenologically parametrized neutron-star equation of state," Phys. Rev. D 79, 124032 (2009)

## Analysis Framework

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#### • Data:

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- 2 NS Interior Composition Explorer (NICER) Mass-Radii Posteriors
- 104 NS Mass Observations
- $\chi EFT$  and pQCD theoretical calculations

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- 2 NS Interior Composition Explorer (NICER) Mass-Radii Posteriors
- 104 NS Mass Observations
- $\chi EFT$  and pQCD theoretical calculations
- Novel methodology

## Constructing a Gaussian Process EoS

• Gaussian Processes model the EoS as a multivariate Gaussian distribution [3]:

$$f_i \mid x_i \sim \mathcal{N}\left(\left\langle f_i \right\rangle, \operatorname{Cov}(f_i, f_j)\right)$$

# Constructing a Gaussian Process EoS

![](_page_11_Figure_1.jpeg)

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$$f_i \mid x_i \sim \mathcal{N}\Big( \langle f_i \rangle, \operatorname{Cov}(f_i, f_j) \Big)$$

• GP Regression resamples tabulated EoSs to create a smooth interpolation pre-equipped with error estimates.

[3] - P. Landry and R. Essick, "Non-parametric inference of the neutron star equation of state from gravitational wave observations", Phys. Rev. D 99, 084049 (2019)

![](_page_12_Figure_0.jpeg)

![](_page_13_Figure_0.jpeg)

## Gaussian Mixture Models of EoSs

• A Gaussian Mixture Model (GMM) is built from the 75 individual GPR resampled EoSs

![](_page_15_Figure_0.jpeg)

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- Hyperparameter optimization with cross-validation likelihood [4]

#### [4] - R. Essick, P. Landry, and D. E. Holz, "Nonparametric inference of neutron star composition, equation of state, and maximum mass with GW170817 ", Phys. Rev. D 101, 063007 (2020)

#### Gaussian Mixture Models of EoSs

- A Gaussian Mixture Model (GMM) is built from the 75 individual GPR resampled EoSs
- Hyperparameter optimization with cross-validation likelihood [4]
- GMM can be stitched unto known models at low pressure

![](_page_16_Figure_5.jpeg)

### Sampling a Gaussian Mixture

• EoS Prior = GMM Draws

![](_page_18_Figure_0.jpeg)

# Sampling a Gaussian Mixture

# • Trained on all EoSs directly

![](_page_19_Figure_0.jpeg)

#### Sampling a Gaussian Mixture

Trained on all EoSs directly

or

3 Separate GMMs based on:

- 32 Hadronic (Blue)
- 17 Hyperonic (Orange)
- 26 Quark (Red)

# **Bayesian Updating and Prior Sorting**

- Order distribution before drawing e.g. by predicted tidal deformability
- 2. Nested Sampling with some data-stream e.g. GW170817 BNS merger

![](_page_20_Figure_4.jpeg)

# Bayesian Updating and Prior Sorting

- Order distribution before drawing e.g. by predicted tidal deformability
- 2. Nested Sampling with some data-stream e.g. GW170817 BNS merger

![](_page_21_Figure_3.jpeg)

4. Bayesian updating (prior becomes new a posterior)

Repeat with new likelihoods!

![](_page_21_Figure_6.jpeg)

## Gravitational Wave Likelihood

- Complete analysis of GW170817
  - 17 parameter space (orbital, location etc.)
  - EoS index/category is but one of them
  - Ordered by tidal deformability:

# Gravitational Wave Likelihood

![](_page_23_Figure_1.jpeg)

- Complete analysis of GW170817
  - 17 parameter space (orbital, location etc.)
  - EoS index/category is but one of them
  - Ordered by tidal deformability:

# Gravitational Wave Likelihood

![](_page_24_Figure_1.jpeg)

- Complete analysis of GW170817
  - 17 parameter space (orbital, location etc.)
  - EoS index/category is but one of them
  - Ordered by tidal deformability:

$$\tilde{\Lambda} = \frac{16}{13} \frac{(m_1 + 12m_2)m_1^4 \Lambda_1 + (m_2 + 12m_1)m_2^4 \Lambda_2}{(m_1 + m_2)^5}$$

$$\boldsymbol{\Delta} \Psi_{5PN}^{tidal} = -\frac{117}{256} \frac{M^2}{m_1 m_2} \tilde{\Lambda} \left(\frac{v}{c}\right)^5.$$

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 NS mass observations mainly impact predicted EoS's maximum supported mass

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- NS mass observations mainly impact predicted EoS's maximum supported mass
- Massive pulsar observations:

• NICER mass-radius measurements [5,6]:

![](_page_26_Figure_4.jpeg)

[5] - Miller, M. C., Lamb, F. K., Dittmann, "PSR J0030+0451 Mass and Radius from NICER Data and Implications for the Properties of Neutron Star Matter," A. J., et al. (2019)
[6] - Miller, M. C., Lamb, F. K., Dittmann, "The Radius of PSR J0740+6620 from NICER and XMM-Newton Data," A. J., et al. (2021)

# Bayesian Updating with NS observations

- NS mass observations mainly impact predicted EoS's maximum supported mass
- Massive pulsar observations:

 $\mathcal{L}_{M_j}(\vec{\alpha}) = \int_0^{M_{\max}(\vec{\alpha})} P(M_j) dM$ 

• NICER mass-radius measurements [5,6]:

$$\mathcal{L}_{R}(\vec{\alpha}) = \int dMq(M) \mathcal{L}_{l}(M, R(M, \vec{\alpha}))$$

![](_page_27_Figure_6.jpeg)

[5] - Miller, M. C., Lamb, F. K., Dittmann, "PSR J0030+0451 Mass and Radius from NICER Data and Implications for the Properties of Neutron Star Matter," A. J., et al. (2019)

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## Introducing theoretical constraints

• Perturbative QCD informs the EoS at ~40 nuclear saturation density [7]:

$$P(\text{QCD} | \text{EoS}) = \int d\vec{\beta}_H P(\vec{\beta}_H) \mathbf{1}_{[\Delta p_{\min}, \Delta p_{\max}]}(\Delta p)$$

- Affected mainly by:  $P(10\rho_{sat})$
- Nuclear symmetry energy constraints (χEFT) [8]:

$$S = \epsilon(n_s)/n_s - E_{\rm sym}$$

[7] - Gorda, Tyler, Oleg Komoltsev, and Aleksi Kurkela. "Ab-initio QCD Calculations Impact the Inference of the Neutron-star-matter Equation of State." The Astrophysical Journal 950, no. 2 (2023)
[8] - Drischler, C., R. J. Furnstahl, J. A. Melendez, and D. R. Phillips. "How well do we know the neutron-matter equation of state at the densities inside neutron stars? A Bayesian approach with correlated uncertainties." Physical Review Letters 125, no. 20 (2020)

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# Results for model agnostic overarching GP

![](_page_30_Figure_1.jpeg)

## Results for separate GMMs prior

![](_page_31_Figure_1.jpeg)

# Conclusion

- Analysis framework permits fast and scalable EoS inference with minimal assumptions both on standard NS posterior data, but also raw detector data
- Multi-messenger data constrains different EoS regimes, from ~2-4 sat. density by NS observations, pQDC calculations inform ~10 sat. density regime
- Future work should make use of non-parametric EoS constructions to avoid both parametrization bias and facilitate model-agnostic/informed priors