# Chiral EFT and neutron-star structure from crust to core



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## Motivation



Present theoretical predictions for nuclear systems are limited by:

- > our understanding of nuclear interactions,
- and our ability to reliably calculate these strongly interacting systems.



For nucleonic matter and nuclei, we need a consistent approach with:

- a systematic theory for strong interactions
- advanced many-body methods
- controlled theoretical uncertainty estimates.

# Outline



What are the fundamental interactions that govern strongly interacting matter? Chiral effective field theory: e.g. Epelbaum *et al.*, PPNP (2006) and RMP (2009)

• Systematic basis for nuclear forces, naturally includes many-body forces. Quantum Monte Carlo methods.

#### > How does subatomic matter organize itself?

Results of Quantum Monte Carlo calculations with chiral interactions

- for neutron matter,
- for light to medium-mass nuclei.

> How can we understand astrophysical phenomena?

Results for astrophysical applications:.

- Neutron-star equation of state and structure.
- Neutron-star mergers

#### Summary

# Chiral effective field theory for nuclear forces





# Chiral effective field theory for nuclear forces





Weinberg, van Kolck, Kaplan, Savage, Wise, Epelbaum, Kaiser, Machleidt, Meißner, Hammer ...

# Chiral effective field theory for nuclear forces





k<sub>F</sub> [fm<sup>-1</sup>] Coraggio, Holt, Itaco, Machleidt, Marcucci, Sammarruca, PRC (2014)





Epelbaum et al., Eur. Phys. J (2015)

Systematic expansion of the nuclear forces:

- Can work to desired accuracy
- Can obtain systematic error estimates



Cast many-body Schrödinger equation as diffusion equation:

$$\lim_{\tau \to \infty} e^{-H\tau} \left| \Psi_T \right\rangle \to \left| \Psi_0 \right\rangle$$

Basic steps:

Choose trial wavefunction which overlaps with the ground state

$$|\psi(R,0)\rangle = |\psi_T(R,0)\rangle = \sum_i c_i |\phi_i\rangle \to \sum_i c_i e^{-(E_i - E_0)\tau} |\phi_i\rangle$$

- $\blacktriangleright$  Evaluate propagator for small timestep  $\Delta \tau$ , in practice only for local potentials
- Make consecutive small time steps using Monte Carlo techniques to project out ground state

$$|\psi_T(R,\tau)\rangle \rightarrow |\phi_0\rangle \quad \text{for} \quad \tau \rightarrow \infty$$

More details:

Carlson, Gandolfi, Pederiva, Pieper, Schiavilla, Schmidt, Wiringa, RMP (2015)

## Quantum Monte Carlo method





Lynn, IT, Carlson, Gandolfi, Gezerlis, Schmidt, Schwenk, PRC (2017)

- Very precise method for strongly interacting systems.
- Many-body uncertainty is statistical.

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#### Recent results for Quantum Monte Carlo calculations of nuclei:



Excellent description of binding energies and charge radii for A  $\leq$ 16.

Lonardoni et al., arXiv:1709.09143 and 1802.08932

#### Results





- ➤ Chiral interactions at N<sup>2</sup>LO simultaneously reproduce the properties of A≤16 systems and of neutron matter (uncertainty estimate as in E. Epelbaum et al, EPJ (2015)).
- Uncertainty from nuclear interactions grows fast with density and limits applicability of nuclear ab initio calculations.

#### Results





- Good agreement between various microscopic approaches to neutron matter.
- Uncertainty originates mainly in many-body interactions.

## EOS for asymmetric matter





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### Neutron Star EOS





> Extend results to beta equilibrium (small  $Y_{e,p}$ ) and include crust EOS

Extend to higher densities, e.g.,

- using piecewise polytropic expansion Hebeler et al., PRL (2010) and APJ (2013)
- using speed-of-sound IT, Carlson, Gandolfi, Reddy, arXiv:1801.01923
- Meta-EOS based on empirical parameters Margueron et al., PRC 97, 025805 & 025806 (2018)





IT, Carlson, Gandolfi, Reddy, arXiv:1801.01923

Kurkela et al. (2010) Bedaque & Steiner (2015) Use the speed of sound to extend EOS:



- Assume some general form for speed of sound above transition density, e.g. Gaussians, linear segments, etc.
- Sample many different curves and reconstruct EOS.
- Can easily include phase transitions.
- Loose information on degrees of freedom.

# Meta-EOS based on the nuclear empirical parameters (MM)





Some empirical parameters are not well constrained by nuclear physics experiments:

- Generate uncertainties in the extrapolation to high density and large isospin asymmetry.
- The impact of these uncertainties on the nuclear EOS are determined from a meta-modelling.

Margueron, Casali, Gulminelli, PRC 97, 025805 & 025806 (2018)

### Assumptions



(2010)

(2013)

A two-solar-mass neutron star measured using

**Compact Relativistic Binary** 

John Antoniadis,\* Paulo C. C. Freire, Norbert Wex, Thomas M. Tauris, Ryan S. Lynch, Marten H. van Kerkwijk, Michael Kramer, Cees Bassa, Vik S. Dhillon, Thomas Driebe,

Jason W. T. Hessels, Victoria M. Kaspi, Vladislav I. Kondratiev, Norbert Langer, Thomas R. Marsh, Maura A. McLaughlin, Timothy T. Pennucci, Scott M. Ransom, Ingrid H. Stairs, Joeri van Leeuwen, Joris P. W. Verbiest, David G. Whelan

P. B. Demorest<sup>1</sup>, T. Pennucci<sup>2</sup>, S. M. Ransom<sup>1</sup>, M. S. E. Roberts<sup>3</sup> & J. W. T. Hessels<sup>4,5</sup>

A Massive Pulsar in a



IT, Carlson, Gandolfi, Reddy, arXiv:1801.01923

Generate thousands of EOSs that:

> Are consistent with low-density results from chiral effective field theory up to 1-2  $n_0$ .

Shapiro delay

- Are causal ( $c_s^2 \le 1$ ) and stable ( $c_s \ge 0$  inside neutron stars).
- Support 1.9 solar-mass neutron stars.

#### April 17, 2018

# Comparison of models: $n_{tr} = n_0$





Chiral EFT constraint up to saturation density:

- Good agreement of different models!
- Different degrees of generalization: from nuclear degrees of freedom (black band) up to very general model with regions of softening and phase transition, etc.

# Comparison of models: $n_{tr} = 2n_0$





Chiral EFT constraint up to two times saturation density:

- Good agreement of different models!
- Different degrees of generalization: from nuclear degrees of freedom (black band) up to very general model with regions of softening and phase transition, etc.

# Extension using speed of sound

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Varying transition density  $n_{tr}$  and using for  $n > n_{tr}$ :





IT, Carlson, Gandolfi, Reddy, arXiv:1801.01923

See also Bedaque & Steiner (2015)

# Extension using speed of sound

Allow speed of sound to vary between 0 and 1: 1.0 1.0 0.8 0.8 0.6 0.6 c\_S<sup>2</sup> [c]  $c_{\rm S}^2$  [c] 0.4 0.4 0.2 0.2 0.0 0.0 0.2 0.4 0.6 0.8 1.0 1.2 0.2 0.4 0.6 0.8 1.0 1.2 0.0 0.0 n [fm<sup>-3</sup>] n [fm<sup>-3</sup>]

IT, Carlson, Gandolfi, Reddy, arXiv:1801.01923

See also Bedaque & Steiner (2015)



# Constraint from GW170817





GW170817 provides constraints on the tidal polarizability  $(n_{tr} = n_0)$ :

Constrains the radius of a typical neutron star to be less than 13.6 km.

See also Annala et al., Most et al.

### Predictions based on GW170817 posterior for NS masses





LIGO/VIRGO collaboration, PRL (2017)

Study GW170817:

- Obtain tidal polarizabilities using mass distributions of GW170817.
- > We do not include prior on  $\overline{\Lambda}$  from LIGO observation!

# Predictions based on GW170817 posterior for NS masses





Study GW170817:

- Obtain tidal polarizabilities using mass distributions of GW170817.
- $\blacktriangleright$  We do not include prior on  $\overline{\Lambda}$  from LIGO observation!

### Predictions based on GW170817 posterior for NS masses: $n_{tr}=n_0$





'Trust' nuclear physics up to saturation density:

- Large range of tidal polarizabilities allowed, depending on freedom in high-density models: 60-2170 (CSM) and 260-1060 (MM)
- > In this case, GW170817 provides constraints for the EOS.

### Predictions based on GW170817 posterior for NS masses: n<sub>tr</sub>=n<sub>0</sub>





'Trust' nuclear physics up to saturation density and enforce  $\tilde{\Lambda} \leq 800$ :

- Large range of tidal polarizabilities allowed, depending on freedom in high-density models
- In this case, GW170817 provides constraints for the EOS.

### Predictions based on GW170817 posterior for NS masses: n<sub>tr</sub>=2n<sub>0</sub>





'Trust' nuclear physics up to two times saturation density:

- Range of tidal polarizabilities drastically reduced, consistent for different high-density models: 80-570 (CSM) and 260-500 (MM)
- $\succ$  EOSs fully consistent with GW170817 without information on  $\Lambda$ .



'Trust' nuclear physics up to two times saturation density:

- Range of tidal polarizabilities drastically reduced, consistent for different high-density models: 80-570 (CSM) and 260-500 (MM)
- $\blacktriangleright$  EOSs fully consistent with GW170817 without information on  $\Lambda$ .

#### Maximum mass vs. tidal polarizability





Maximum mass of the EOS vs. combined tidal polarizability.

# Summary



- QMC calculations of matter and nuclei with local chiral potentials including NN and 3N forces are a versatile and systematic approach to *ab initio* calculations of nuclei and matter.
- ➤ Chiral interactions at N<sup>2</sup>LO simultaneously reproduce the properties of A≤16 systems and of neutron matter, commonly used phenomenological 3N interactions fail.
- > There is a sizable uncertainty for nuclear interactions.
- Systematic high-density extension needed for reliable study of astrophysical phenomena:
- Nuclear physics input between 1-2 n<sub>0</sub> will be directly probed in merger observations.
- Further improvements necessary to calculate nuclei and neutron-matter EOS with improved uncertainties.





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