Strangeness in Compact Stars

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Introduction to Astronomy@PKU

• DoA (Dept. of Astronomy, School of Physics)

DoA



•KIAA (Kavli Inst. for Astro. & Astrophys. at PKU) An *international platform* for research of A&A

Astro-programs @ Peking Univ.



• Why *strangeness* in compact stars?

• *Strangeness* manifested in the form of

> Hyperon

- Strange quark matter
- > Strangeon

Conclusions

- Why strangeness in compact stars?
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Why strangeness in compact stars?

•Physics (standard): particles and interactions



Why strangeness in compact stars?

- •Why are we *loving* strangeness? the scale-energy... For compact star with mass $M \sim 1.5 M_{\odot}$ and radius $R \sim 10$ km, the separation between quarks is $\Delta \ell$, order of 0.5 fm:
- $\Delta \ell \approx (3M/m_p)^{-1/3}R \approx (3M_{\odot}/m_p)^{-1/3}10$ km = 0.5 fm. From Heisenberg's uncertainty relation, $\Delta \ell \cdot \Delta p \approx \hbar$, one has an energy scale for dense matter inside compact star:

$$E_{\text{scale}} \approx \hbar c / \Delta \ell \approx 0.2 \text{GeV} \cdot \text{fm} / 0.5 \text{ fm} = 0.4 \text{ GeV}.$$

Therefore, we may confidently expect that strangeness would not be negligible because

$$E_{\rm scale} >> (m_{\rm s} - m_{\rm ud})c^2!$$

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Strangeness manifested: Hyperon?

•Stiff nucleon matter \Rightarrow high M_{max} of nucleon star, but hyperon seems unavoidable and soften the EoS!



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Strangeness manifested: SQM?

•Witten's impact on dense matter/strangeness phys.

PHYSICAL REVIEW D

VOLUME 30, NUMBER 2

Cosmic separation of phases

Edward Witten* Institute for Advanced Study, Princeton, New Jersey 08540 (Received 9 April 1984)

A first-order QCD phase transition that occurred reversibly in the early universe would lead to a

surprisingly rich cosmological scenario. Although survive, it is at least conceivable that the phase tracess in dense, invisible quark nuggets, providing a QCD effects only. This possibility is viable only if c MeV. Two related issues are considered in appendiquark-matter component of cosmic rays, and the have produced a detectable gravitational signal.

Strange quark matter in bulk may constitute the true ground state of the strong-interaction matter rather than ⁵⁶Fe.



15 JULY 1984

Strangeness manifested: SQM?

•An intuitional explain of *Witten's conjecture*



General Conj.

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Strangeness manifested: SQM?

•but...**free** quarks (SQM) seems also **soften** the EoS... MIT-bag-based EoS tends to be too soft, but stiff EoS could be possible if introducing *repulsive forces* between quarks,

forming hybrid stars.

The vector coupling constant g_v is treated as a *free parameter*. Lenzi & Lugones (2012)

Yes, massive hybrid stars could be stable, but... any tests independent?



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•A *generalized* Witten's conjecture ($E_{\text{scale}} < 1 \text{GeV}!$)

Strangeon matter in bulk constitutes the true ground state of the strong-interaction matter rather than ⁵⁶Fe.

Strange <u>quark</u> matter in bulk constitutes the true ground state of the strong-interaction matter rather than ⁵⁶Fe.

(strange nucleon)

Strangeon

Strangeon Matter (strangeon number ~ 10⁵⁷ for star) Strange *Quark* Matter (quark number ~ 10⁵⁷ for star)

strangeon['streid_310n] = strange + nucleon with strangeness S = -B

•Different models of pulsar's nature in the market



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Mon. Not. R. Astron. Soc. 398, L31–L35 (2009)

doi:10.1111/j.1745-3933.2009.00701.x

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Lennard-Jones quark matter and massive quark stars

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ABSTRACT

NR & hard core \rightarrow Stiff EoS Self-bound \rightarrow Low mass

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Any tests independent?

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•Strangeon is not new...speculated 14 years ago

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SOLID QUARK STARS?

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School of Physics, Peking University, Beijing 100871, China Received 2003 July 9; accepted 2003 August 22; published 2003 September 15

ABSTRACT

It is conjectured that cold quark matter with very high baryon density could be in a solid state, and strange stars with low temperatures should thus be solid stars. The speculation could be close to the truth if no peculiar polarization of thermal X-ray emission (as in, e.g., RX J1856) or no gravitational wave in postglitch phases are detected in future advanced facilities or if spin frequencies beyond the critical ones limited by *r*-mode instability are discovered. The shear modulus of solid quark matter could be $\sim 10^{32}$ ergs cm⁻³ if the kilohertz quasi-periodic oscillations observed are relevant to the eigenvalues of the center star oscillations.

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Subject headings: dense matter — elementary particles — pulsars: general — stars: neutron

condensation in *x*-space, rather than *p*-space, in *solid* state...astrophy.
former names: strange cluster, quark cluster, solid quark...

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•To understand observations with strangeon star

	Peculiarity	Manifestation	Mechanism	Ref.
Surface	binding energy.	drifting subpulse, µstructure	gap sparking in RS75	Xu et al. (1999), Yu & Xu (2011)
		clean fireball for SNE/SGR	photon-driven explosion	Chen et al. (2007), Dai et al. (2011)
	self-bound	mass as low as $\sim 10^{-2} M_{\odot}$	bound not by gravity	Xu & Wu (2003), Xu'05 Li et al.'15
	none-atomic X	Plankian radiation of X-ray	no-atmosphere if bare	Xu (2002)
		absorption in thermal spec.	hydrodynamics of e-sea	Xu et al. (2012)
	strangeness bar.	low-z emission, type-I XRB	2f matter separated from 3f	Xu (2014)
		optical/UV exce. of XDINS	bremsstrahlung radiation	Wang et al. (2017)
nhal	stiff EoS	high $M_{\rm max} (2 \sim 3 M_{\odot})$	NR strangeons, hard core	Lai et al. (09ab, 13) Guo et al. (2014)
	anisotropic P	SGR/AXP's burst and flare	quake-induced ener. release	Xu et al.'06, Zhou et al.'14, Lin et al.'16
Ъ	rigidity	precession, GW radiation	solid, mountain building	Xu (2003) Xu (2006)

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•Accreting strangeon star: *strangeness barrier*

Trumper et al. (2005): The main *puzzle* of RXJ1856 is the observational fact that its X-ray spectrum is completely featureless.

van Kerkwijk et al. (2008): RX J1856.5-3754 is the X-ray brightest among the nearby isolated neutron stars. Its X-ray spectrum is thermal, and is reproduced remarkably well by a black-body, but its interpretation has remained *puzzling*.



A strangeon star could have an **atmosphere** which could simply be regarded as the **upper layer** of a normal neutron star, that is

thin in X-ray band \Rightarrow dimmer, featureless

thick in optics \Rightarrow brighter (Optical excess)

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The Optical/UV Excess of X-Ray-dim Isolated Neutron Stars. I. Bremsstrahlung Emission from a Strangeon Star Atmosphere



•Mass-radius constrained by PRE bursts?



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Conclusions

•Strangeness would play an important role in the physics of compact star, and thus a key to solve the EoS problem of dense matter.

•Strangeness could have three manifestations in compact stars: hyperon, strange quark matter, and strangeon.

•We proposed fourteen years ago that the nature SN-produced compact star are strangeon star, which fits observations and ...

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Conclusions

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•To identify strangeon star in the future by ...

- Chinese FAST/SKA 2+1"2" = HI & PSR
 - "1" = others

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Scientific Objectives of eXTP:

One singularity (BH) Two stars (NS or SS) Three extremes (gravity, density, magnetism)

PFA*2



LAD*40

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