Multi-Messenger Astrophysics and the Nuclear Symmetry Energy

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9/21/2023, NuSym23: XIth International Symposium on Nuclear Symmetry Energy



Overview of the talk

What can ab-initio theories like chiral EFT tell us about the EOS at low densities?

Can chiral EFT help constrain density functional methods that can be extended to higher densities?

Are there any direct implications for NS properties, such as the NS crust?

INSIDE A NEUTRON STAR

A NASA mission will use X-ray spectroscopy to gather clues about the interior of neutron stars — the Universe's densest forms of matter.



What can we learn about the EOS and the symmetry energy at high densities from multi-messenger data?

Crucially, how can it be combined with low-density nuclear physics input?

Chiral EFT combined with a Metamodeling approach

 Chiral EFT is the modern approach to describe the nuclear interaction that allows for robust uncertainty quantification.

See talks by R. Machleidt, A. Gezerlis, etc.

EFT results can be combined with density functionals such as the metamodel. This allows for Bayesian
uncertainty quantification and practical applications for NSs.



$$e(n,\delta) = t^*(n,\delta) + e^{\text{pot}*}(n,\delta)$$



J. Margueron et al. , Phys.Rev.C 97 (2018) 2, 025805 3

An application to symmetry energy: How good is the 'Quadratic approximation'?



The non-quadratic contribution to the symmetry energy is around 1 MeV.

The Landau Effective Mass: Metamodel fit to Chiral EFT calculations





RS et al., PRC 103 (2021) 4, 045803

Extension to arbitrary isospin asymmetries:

$$\left(\frac{m_{\tau}^*}{m}(n,\delta)\right)^{-1} = 1 + \left(\frac{\kappa_{\text{sat}}}{n_{\text{sat}}} + \tau_3 \delta \frac{\kappa_{\text{sym}}}{n_{\text{sat}}}\right) n + \left(\frac{\kappa_{\text{sat},2}}{n_{\text{sat}}^2} + \tau_3 \delta^2 \frac{\kappa_{\text{sym},2}}{n_{\text{sat}}^2}\right) n^2$$

Results for the NS crust

The Equation of State



Modeling of the NS crust



G. Grams et al. [incl. RS], EPJA 58 (2022) 3, 56



EFT models perform significantly better than phenomenological interactions in the modeling of the inner crust.

Results for the crust-core transition $(n \sim 0.08 \text{ fm}^{-3})$ and the inner-outer crust transition $(n \sim 0.002 \text{ fm}^{-3})$ are consistent with other approaches.

Improved chiral interactions for QMC at N²LO

 Quantum Monte Carlo (QMC) methods are among the most accurate many-body methods to solve nuclear systems, but they require local interactions as input.



Can we do the same at N³LO?

As the next step, we aim to construct chiral interactions at N³LO that can be used for QMC calculations. However, the short-range part of the NN interaction contains pieces that are inevitably non-local.



Our idea is to compute H^{local} exactly in QMC and treat H^{non-local} perturbatively, $\Delta E = \langle \psi_0 | H^{
m non-local} | \psi_0 \rangle$





Can we do the same at N³LO?



The NN interaction is calibrated to scattering data using the method of Bayesian inference. This allows us to incorporate EFT truncation uncertainties using order-by-order calculations.

$$P = \frac{\mathcal{L} \times \Pi}{Z}, \quad \mathcal{L} \propto \prod_{i} \exp\left\{-\frac{1}{2}\left(\frac{X_{i}^{\exp} - X_{i}^{\mathrm{theo}}}{\sigma_{i}}\right)^{2}\right\},$$
$$\sigma^{2} = \sigma_{\exp}^{2} + \sigma_{\mathrm{theo}}^{2}, \qquad \left[\begin{array}{c} \Delta X^{\mathrm{N}^{j}\mathrm{LO}} = Q^{j+2}\mathrm{max}(|c_{0}|,|c_{1}|,\ldots,|c_{j+1}|),\\ \mathrm{where} \ Q = \frac{\mathrm{max}\left(m_{\pi},p\right)}{\mathrm{min}(\Lambda_{c},\Lambda_{B})} \text{ and } \Lambda_{B} = 600 \text{ MeV}\right]$$



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Multi-Messenger NS observations



The first binary NS merger

Virgo GW detector

The NICER experiment

Neutron Stars emit Gravitational waves, neutrinos and photons (thermal x-rays, radio waves, etc).

This leads to various observables: Mass, Radius, Tidal Deformability, Angular Momentum, Glitches, Temperature cooling curves, etc

We are living in a new era of NS observations

Posterior on Lsym from GW170817 from the metamodel approach



But NS matter does not have to be nucleonic!

See also the talk by J. Margueron



R. Somasundaram and J. Margueron, EPL 138 (2022) 1, 14002



Present astrophysical data are consistent with the nucleonic hypothesis as well as the existence of phase transitions.

Inferences of the symmetry energy from NS observations need to take this into account. 11

A more conservative approach:

- 1. Use models with nucleonic degrees of freedom, such as the metamodel, up to a certain 'breakdown density'.
- 2. Use composition agnostic models at higher densities such as Gaussian Process or the speed of sound model.







M_{TOV} prior

MTON

12 14 16

posterior

This EOS prior can be used in the Bayesian analysis of multi-messenger astrophysical observations of NSs.

Work is in progress towards extracting the symmetry energy from this analysis.

Koehn et al., In preparation

The future of GW astronomy: Precision measurement of the EOS

- Third generation GW detectors (10x more sensitive) are expected to come online by mid 2030s.
- This will lead to \sim 300 detections of neutron star mergers with signal-to-noise ratio greater than 100, leading to unprecedented, high-precision measurement of the EOS.

What do we need from the nuclear physics community?

Efficient emulators for the fast determination of many body observables (the EOS). This is required for a full propagation of nuclear uncertainties via Bayesian methods.





See also the



Credits: https://cosmicexplorer.org/

W.G. Jiang et al., 2212.13216

An Injection study of a year's worth of 3G GW detections

- We inject GW signals into a network of 3 next gen. GW detectors using 3 different EOSs.
- The GW signals are analysed using ~ 10⁴ samples calibrated to A=2-4 observables. This constitutes our prior. Each sample is given a GW likelihood using Bayesian statistics. This results in posteriors on all EOS parameters

$$P(\boldsymbol{d}|\boldsymbol{ heta}) \propto \prod_i \int P(d_i|\mathcal{M},q, ilde{\Lambda}) \, \pi(\mathcal{M},q, ilde{\Lambda}|\boldsymbol{ heta}) \, d\mathcal{M} \, dq \, d ilde{\Lambda}.$$

GW data

GW likelihood of EOS sample Θ

- Marginalizing over the high-density EOS, leads to posterior over the LECs.
- In the future, we will be able to calibrate subleading 3N, 4N and possibly YN couplings to NSs.







Conclusions and outlook

Nuclear theory:

- We have developed methods to combine powerful DFT approaches such as the metamodel with ab-initio chiral EFT methods. Work is in progress towards calibrating relativistic DFTs that have implications for PREX and CREX.
- We have developed novel (maximally) local chiral interactions at N²LO (NN+3N) and N³LO (NN) for quantum monte carlo calculations. We can expect a factor 2 reduction in uncertainties in the near future.



Applications to astrophysics:

- Combining DFT and chiral EFT approaches is important to extract the symmetry energy from multi-messenger NS observations.
- We have also shown how efficient emulators can help in the analysis of astrophysical observations of NSs. The 'golden age' of GW astronomy will allow us to measure the nuclear interaction and calibrate subleading 3N, 4N and possibly YN LECs to astrophysical data.

Thank You!