First-order hadron-to-quark phase transitions and g-mode oscillations in compact stars

C. Constantinou

INT Workshop INT-22r-2a
Neutron Rich Matter on Heaven and Earth
28 June 2023

Collaborators: S. Han (TDLI), T. Zhao (OU), M. Prakash (OU)

- The size of nucleons (uncertain as it may be) implies that deconfined quark matter can exist in the cores of NSs.
- However, such a possibility lacks observational and theoretical support:
  - Measurements of M, R, Λ cannot differentiate normal and hybrid stars.
  - LQCD and PQCD not applicable to NS conditions.
- Possible solution: identify an observable with strong dependence on composition.
- Enter g-modes!

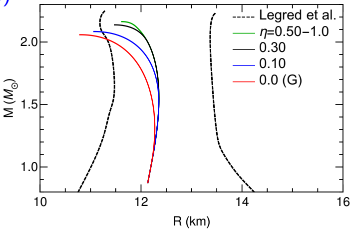
g-modes

- Global, long-lived, nonradial fluid oscillations resulting from fluid-element perturbations in a stratified environment.
- Slow chemical equilibration generates buoyancy forces to oppose dispacement.
- In stably-stratified systems the opposing force sets up oscillations with a characteristic frequency [Brunt-Väisälä, $N^2 = g^2\Delta(c^{-2})\mathrm{e}^{\nu-\lambda}$] which depends on both the equilibrium and the adiabatic sound speeds [$\Delta(c^{-2}) = c_{\mathrm{eq}}^{-2} - c_{\mathrm{ad}}^{-2}$].
- g-mode oscillations couple to tidal forces; they can be excited in a NS merger and provide information on the interior composition.
- Detection remains a challenge; but within sensitivity of 3rd generation detectors.

- Nucleons: Zhao - Lattimer

$$\epsilon_B = \sum_{h=n,p} \frac{1}{\pi^2} \int_0^{k_{Fh}} k^2 \sqrt{M_B^2 + k^2}\, dk + n_B V(u,x)$$

$$V = 4x(1-x)(a_0 u + b_0 u^{\gamma}) + (1-2x)^2 (a_1 u + b_1 u^{\gamma_1})$$

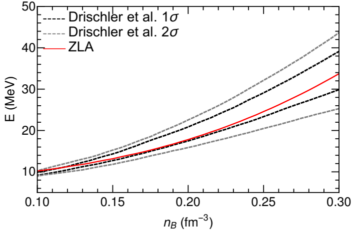


- Quarks: vMIT

$$\mathcal{L} = \sum_{q=u,d,s} \left[\bar{\psi}_q \left(i\partial\!\!\!/ - m_q - B\right) \psi_i + \mathcal{L}_{\rm int}\right] \Theta$$

$$\mathcal{L}_{\rm int} = -G_v \sum_q \bar{\psi} \gamma_\mu V^\mu \psi + \left(m_V^2/2\right) V_\mu V^\mu$$

$$\epsilon_Q = \sum_q \epsilon_{\rm FG,q} + \frac{1}{2}\left(\frac{G_v}{m_V}\right)^2 n_Q^2 + B$$

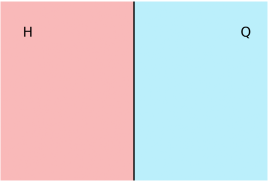


- Leptons: noninteracting, relativistic fermions

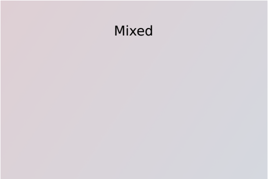
$$\epsilon_L = \sum_{l=e,\mu} \frac{1}{\pi^2} \int_0^{k_{Fh}} k^2 \sqrt{m_L^2 + k^2}\, dk$$

Hybrid Matter: 1st Order Transitions

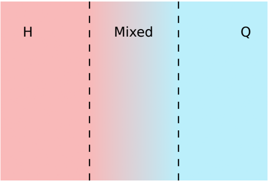
- Maxwell ("strong", "stiff", ...)
  - Infinite interface tension
  - No phase mixing
  - Local charge neutrality
  - $\varepsilon = f(\varepsilon_H + \varepsilon_{eH}) + (1 - f)(\varepsilon_Q + \varepsilon_{eQ})$



- Gibbs ("weak", "soft", ...)
  - Zero surface tension
  - Complete phase mixing
  - Global charge neutrality
  - $\varepsilon = f\,\varepsilon_H + (1 - f)\,\varepsilon_Q + \varepsilon_{eM}$

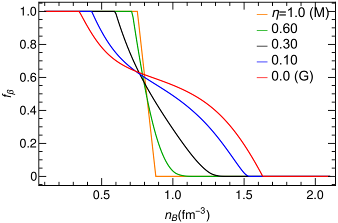


- Intermediate case
  - Some phase mixing
  - Charge neutrality is partially local and partially global
  - $\varepsilon = f(\varepsilon_H + \eta\,\varepsilon_{eH}) + (1 - f)(\varepsilon_Q + \eta\,\varepsilon_{eQ}) + (1 - \eta)\varepsilon_{eM}$

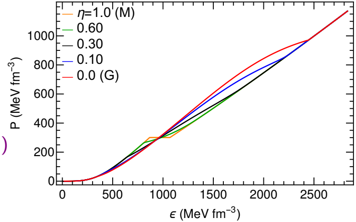


Hybrid Matter: 1st Order Transitions (cont'd)

- Constraints
  - Baryon number conservation
    $1 = f(y_n + y_p) + (1-f)(y_u + y_d + y_s)/3$
  - Lepton number conservation
    $0 = y_e - f\eta y_{eH} - (1-f)\eta y_{eQ} - (1-\eta) y_{eM}$
  - Local charge neutrality
    $0 = (y_p - y_{eH}) = (2y_u - y_d - y_s)/3 - y_{eQ}$
  - Global charge neutrality
    $0 = f y_p + (1-f)(2y_u - y_d - y_s)/3 - y_{eM}$



- Equilibrium (= minimization of ε wrt f, y_i, η)
  - Mechanical, $P_H + \eta P_{eH} = P_Q + \eta P_{eQ}$
  - Quark weak, $\mu_d = \mu_s$
  - Neutral strong, $\mu_n = \mu_u + 2\mu_d$
  - Charged strong, $\mu_p = 2\mu_u + \mu_d - \eta(\mu_{eH} - \mu_{eQ})$
  - Beta $\mu_d = \mu_u + \eta\mu_{eQ} + (1-\eta)\mu_{eM}$
    -or- $\mu_p = \mu_n - \eta\mu_{eH} - (1-\eta)\mu_{eM}$
  - η optimization, $\varepsilon_{eM} = f\varepsilon_{eH} + (1-f)\varepsilon_{eQ}$



Sound Speeds

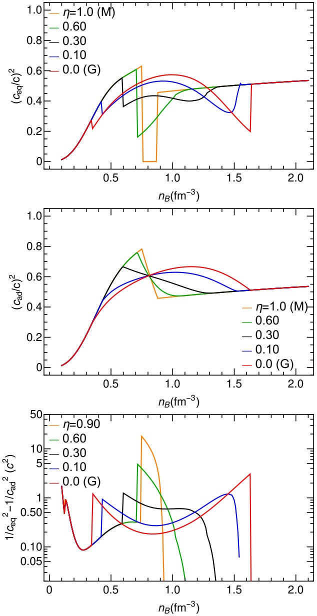
- $c_{\rm eq}^2(n_B) = \frac{dP}{d\varepsilon} = \frac{dP_\beta}{dn_{\rm B}}\left(\frac{d\varepsilon_\beta}{dn_{\rm B}}\right)^{-1}$
  mechanical equilibrium restored instantaneously.

- $c_{\rm ad}^2(n_{\rm B},x) = \left(\frac{\partial P}{\partial \varepsilon}\right)_x = \frac{\partial P}{\partial n_{\rm B}}\Big|_x \left(\frac{\partial \varepsilon}{\partial n_{\rm B}}\Big|_x\right)^{-1}$
  $c_{{\rm ad},\beta}^2(n_{\rm B}) = c_{\rm ad}^2[n_{\rm B}, x_\beta(n_{\rm B})]$
  slow restoration of chemical equilibrium because $\tau_\beta \gg \tau_{\rm oscillation}$.

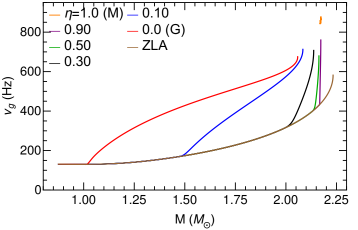
- The difference $\Delta(c^{-2}) = c_{\rm eq}^{-2} - c_{\rm ad}^{-2}$ drives the restoring force for g-mode oscillations. For example, in *npe* matter

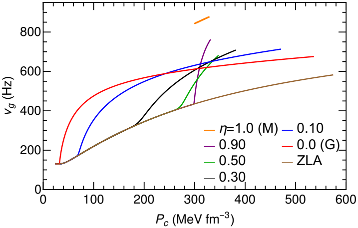
$$c_{\rm ad}^2 = c_{\rm eq}^2 + \left[n_B\left(\frac{\partial\tilde{\mu}}{\partial n_B}\right)_x\right]^2\left[\mu_n\left(\frac{\partial\tilde{\mu}}{\partial x}\right)_{n_B}\right]^{-1}$$

$$\tilde{\mu} = \mu_e + \mu_p - \mu_n \stackrel{\beta-{\rm eq.}}{\longrightarrow} 0$$



- g-modes in 1st-order hybrid matter have a larger frequency range compared to the pure-nucleon case corresponding to the behavior of $\Delta(c^{-2})$ in the mixed phase.
- Dramatic changes in ν_g require new particle species not merely a smooth change in composition.
- Discontinuity g-modes
  - Generated by the flatness of $P(n_B)$ in a Maxwell mixed phase that leads to a density jump in the core of a hybrid star.
  - Characterized by discontinuous g-mode frequencies.
  - A special case of a compositional g-mode in the limit $\eta \to 1$.





Summary

- Calculation of g-mode properties for 1st-order phase transitions and for crossovers (both with the Cowling approximation as well as linearized GR).
- Construction of a thermodynamically-consistent framework for the treatment of 1st-order phase transitions intermediate to Maxwell and Gibbs.
- g-modes can detect nonnucleonic matter in the cores of NS; assuming quark matter (by some other means), g-modes can distinguish between a first-order phase transition and a crossover.
- Discontinuity g-modes as a special case of compositional g-modes in the Maxwell limit.
- (Near) Future:
  - Extend 1st-order phase transition scheme to finite T.
  - Applications to protoneutron stars (cooling, superfluidity) and binary mergers.
  - Construct EOS that uses the same underlying description for quarks and hadrons.