# Color Superconductivity and Exotic matter in Neutron stars

Simin Mahmoodifar July 2011 **QCD** The theory describing the interactions between quarks and gluons



Asymptotic Freedom The force between quarks goes to zero at asymptoticly short distances (very large energy scales).

### **Confinement** Quarks are confined inside baryons and mesons.

# **BCS** Theory

No interaction  $\rightarrow$  Adding or subtracting particles or holes near the fermi surface would cost zero free energy.

In the presence of an attractive potential, no matter how weak, cooper pairs will form.



 $F = E - \mu N$ 

# Color Superconductivity

Barrois and Frautschi 1977 Bailin and Love 1979

> In QCD the "color Coulomb" interaction is attractive between quarks whose color wave function is antisymmetric.

Asymptotic freedom + BCS theory  $\rightarrow \frac{\text{Color}}{\text{Superconductivity}}$ 

Matter at sufficiently large densities and low temperatures is a color superconductor, which is a degenerate Fermi gas of quarks with a condensate of Cooper pairs near the Fermi surface.

### Unpaired quarks

## CFL





Highest densities Color-flavor-locked phase favored

#### All quarks are gapped.

## 2SC



Intermediate densities Quarks of two colors and two flavors (ones with the most phase space near their Fermi surface) pair.

## CFL-K0

"Switching on" strange quark mass
→ modifying the CFL pairing by inducing a flavor rotation of the condensate Kaon condensation

K0 meson carries negative strangeness  $\rightarrow$  Relieves the stress on the CFL phase

## Conjectured QCD phase diagram



# Compact Stars

### The only "laboratory" for the study of colorsuperconductivity



Mass ~  $1.4M_{\odot}$ Radius ~ O(10 km)Density >  $\rho$ nuclear Initial temp ~ 30 MeV

# Signatures of quark matter in compact stars

Pairing energy affects Equation of state.
Mass-Badius

•Gaps in quark spectra and Goldstone bosons affect Transport properties: emissivity, heat capacity, viscosity (shear, bulk), conductivity (electrical, thermal), ...

Computing thermodynamical and transport properties of different phases

 $\Rightarrow$ 

Predicting the behavior of the star with a quark matter core in the respective phase

Comparing these predictions with the actual astrophysical observations

Mapping the phases of QCD at high densities.

### Can a neutron star contain quark matter?

The appearance of new degrees of freedom at and above the nuclear saturation density, such as quarks, hyperons, or bosons, softens the equation of state and lowers the maximum mass of the star.



Recent measurement of a 2 M $\odot$  star (Demorest et. al. arXiv:1010.5788).



$$P(\mu) \sim a_4 \mu^4 - a_2 \mu^2 - B_{eff}$$
$$a_4 = \frac{3}{4\pi^2} (1 - c)$$
$$a_2 = \frac{3}{4\pi^2} (M_s^2 - 4\Delta^2)$$

Fixing  $B_{eff}$  so that the transition from nuclear matter to quark matter occurs when  $n = 1.5n_{sat}$ 

> Özel et.al. arXiv:1010.5790 Alford et. al. nucl-th/0411016

The maximum neutron star mass as a function of two parameters of quark matter EOS



All forms of dense matter are good heat conductors  $\longrightarrow$ 

Neutron star interiors are isothermal  $\rightarrow$ 

Cooling is dominated by properties of the phase which has highest neutrino emissivity and highest specific heat

$$C\frac{dT}{dt} = -\epsilon_{\nu} + \epsilon_h$$

### Neutrino emissivity in dense matter:

### • Direct Urca: $\epsilon \propto T^6$

- Unpaired quarks
- Baryonic matter containing hyperons
- Pion or kaon condensed nuclear matter
- Ordinary nuclear matter at sufficiently high densities where x\_p>0.1

### •Modified Urca: $\epsilon \propto T^8$

•CFL quark matter:  $\epsilon \propto T^{15}$ 

 $|C_{CFL} \propto T^3|$ 

specific heat are both dominated by the contribution of outer layers

Total emissivity and

 $C \propto T$  in all other phases of dense matter

## r-modes in neutron stars

A bulk flow in a rotating star that couples to gravitational radiation and radiates away energy and angular momentum of the star in the form of gravitational waves.

- grow unstabl by emission of gravitational radiation
- spin down the star within months
- fast rotating stars are observed!

There must be some damping mechanism
Bulk and Shear Viscosity



The amplitude of the r-mode evolves as  $e^{i\omega t - rac{t}{ au}}$ .

$$\frac{1}{\tau} = \frac{-1}{|\tau_{GR}|} + \frac{1}{\tau_S} + \frac{1}{\tau_B}$$

The fastest process dominates!

- R-mode is unstable as long as its growth time is shorter than the damping time due to the viscosity, i.e. when the damping timescale is negative.
- Bulk viscosity timescale is given by:

$$\frac{1}{\tau_B} \approx \frac{(\omega + m\Omega)^2}{2\tilde{E}} \int \zeta \left(\delta n/n\right) \left|\frac{\delta n}{n}\right|^2 d^3x$$

- $E\colon {\rm Energy} \ {\rm of} \ {\rm the} \ {\rm mode}$
- $\zeta$  : Bulk viscosity
- $\omega$  : Oscillation frequency
- $\Omega$  : Rotation frequency of the star
- $\frac{\delta n}{n}$ : Density fluctuation amplitude

$$m = 2$$

$$rac{\delta n}{n} \propto lpha$$

#### r-mode instability window for strange quark, hadronic and hybrid stars



Alford et. al. <u>arXiv:1012.4883</u>

### The critical frequency vs. temperature for CFL-K0 phase



G. Rupak, P. Jaikumar, arXiv1005.4161, 2010

# A pure quark star in the CFL or CFL-K0 phase is ruled out by observed LMXB spin rates.

## Conclusion

Phases between CFL and hadronic matter are unknown

• By computing transport properties of different phases and comparing the effect of them on the behavior of the star with the astrophysical observations, one can confirm or rule out the presence of different phases in the star.

# Thank You!

