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57th International Winter Meeting on Nuclear Physics Bormio, Italy, Jan. 21–25, 2019

Neutron-Star Merger Modelling after GW170817

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Outline

- **Observations:** GW170817 as a NS+NS merger event
- Theoretical predictions and models for NS mergers
- NS mergers as sources of r-process elements
- Role of neutrinos for r-process production
- Constraints for NS and nuclear EOS properties from binary NS mergers

NS+NS Binaries: Coalescence with Final Merger



17. August 2017:

First gravitational wave from merger event of two neutron stars: GW170817

Closest ever short gamma-ray burst: GRB170817A

First unambiguous detection of kilonova: AT2017gfo

Celestial Position of Gravitational Wave Source



Gravitational Wave Detection



Optical and X-Ray Counterparts

Optical/infrared and X-ray images of counterpart of GW170817



Distance of galaxy NGC 4993 ~ 40 Mpc

Troja et al., Nature (2017)

Gamma-Ray Burst Detection



Short GRB ~1.7s after gravitational-wave measurement

Observed Energy: $E_{\gamma} \sim 10^{47}$ ergs, ~10000 times lower than typical short GRBs

Spectral peak: $E_p = 240^{+130}_{-70}$ keV, on soft side of usual short GRBs

10²

Short

Long

10³



100%

90%

80%

70%

60%

50%

60%

70%

80%

90%

100%

Classification Probability

Kilonova in Elliptical Galaxy NGC 4993

Distance: "only" 130 million light years







Observable signals:

Gravitational waves, neutrinos, gamma-ray bursts, mass ejection, r-process elements, electromagnetic transients

Phases & Signals of NS+NS/BH Mergers



Figure 1

Phases of a neutron star (NS) merger as a function of time, showing the associated observational signatures and underlying physical phenomena. Abbreviations: BH, black hole; GRB, γ -ray burst; GW, gravitational wave; ISM, interstellar medium; *n*, neutron; UV, ultraviolet; Y_e , electron fraction. Coalescence inset courtesy of D. Price and S. Rosswog (see also Reference 15).

Dynamical Mass Ejection from NS+NS Mergers



(Bauswein, Goriely, Janka, Marek; ApJ 773 (2013) 78)

Dynamical Mass Ejection from NS+BH Mergers

NS-BH merger: 1.45 M_{sun} + 2.9 M_{sun}



NS-BH merger: 1.40 M_{sun} + 5.1 M_{sun}



(Just et al, MNRAS 448 (2015) 541)

Outflows from Magnetized BH-torus



Magnetohydrodynamic simulation With M1 ALCAR neutrino transport

(Just, PhD Thesis 2012)

 $\mathbf{v} + \mathbf{v} \longrightarrow \mathbf{e}^+ + \mathbf{e}^- \checkmark \mathbf{\gamma} + \mathbf{\gamma}$



Neutrinos as energy souce of ultrarelativistic, collimated outflow z / km

Extremely hot torus radiates high neutrino luminosities into polar lowdensity funnels.



Can the Extreme Magnetic Fields Power Jet Outflows?

THE ASTROPHYSICAL JOURNAL LETTERS, 824:L6 (5pp), 2016 June 10

RUIZ ET AL.



Figure 1. Snapshots of the rest-mass density, normalized to its initial maximum value $\rho_{0,\text{max}} = 5.9 \times 10^{14} (1.625 \, M_{\odot}/M_{\text{NS}})^2 \text{ g cm}^{-3}$ (log scale) at selected times for the P case. The arrows indicate plasma velocities, and the white lines show the *B*-field structure. The bottom middle and right panels highlight the system after an incipient jet is launched. Here $M = 1.47 \times 10^{-2} (M_{\text{NS}}/1.625 \, M_{\odot}) \text{ ms} = 4.43 (M_{\text{NS}}/1.625 \, M_{\odot}) \text{ km}.$

Ruiz, Lang, Paschalidis, & Shapiro, ApJL 824 (2016) L6





Figure 4. Same as Figure 2, but for NS-BH merger model TM1_1451 and with partially different spatial and color scales.



Figure 3. Same as Figure 2, but for model SFHO_1218 and with partially different spatial and color scales.

Jets and Outflows from Compact Binary Mergers



Nucleosynthesis in Dynamical Merger Ejecta



r-process Nucleosynthesis



For BH-disk ejecta, see also Wu+ (2016); for HMNS winds, see Perego+ (2014), Martin+ (2015)

Light Curve of Kilonova AT2017gfo

Theoretical models reproduce observation if heavy trans-iron elements dominate composition of ejecta



Smartt, Chen, Jerkstrand, et al., Nature (2017)

Components of Outflows from Compact Binary Mergers



Figure 1 | Schematic illustration of the components of matter ejected from neutron-star mergers. Red colours denote regions of heavy r-process elements, which radiate red/infrared light. Blue colours denote regions of light r-process elements which radiate blue/optical light. During the merger, tidal forces peel off tails of matter, forming a torus of heavy r-process ejecta in the plane of the binary. Material squeezed into the polar regions during the stellar collision can form a cone of light r-process material. Roughly spherical winds from a remnant accretion disk can also contribute, and are sensitive to the fate of the central merger remnant. **a**, If the remnant survives as a hot neutron star for tens of milliseconds, its neutrino irradiation lowers the neutron fraction and produces a blue wind. **b**, If the remnant collapses promptly to a black hole, neutrino irradiation is suppressed and the winds may be red. **c**, In the merger of a neutron star and a black hole, only a single tidal tail is ejected and the disk winds are more likely to be red.

(Kasen, Metzger et al., Nature 2017)

Ye > 0.25: Lanthanide-poor "blue" ejecta (low photon opacity) Ye > 0.25: Lanthanide-rich "red" ejecta (high photon opacity)

Light Curve of Kilonova AT2017gfo



Figure 5 | A unified kilonova model explaining the optical/infrared counterpart of GW170817. The model is the superposition of the emission from two spatially distinct ejecta components: a 'blue' kilonova (light r-process ejecta with $M = 0.025 M_{\odot}$, $v_k = 0.3c$ and $X_{lan} = 10^{-4}$) plus a 'red' kilonova (heavy r-process ejecta with $M = 0.04 M_{\odot}$, $v_k = 0.15c$ and $X_{lan} = 10^{-1.5}$). Composite broadband light curves. The light r-process component produces the rapidly evolving optical emission while the heavy r-process component produces the extended infrared emission. The composite model predicts a distinctive colour evolution, spectral continuum shape and infrared spectral peaks, all of which resemble the properties of AT 2017gfo.



Time since gravitational-wave trigger (days)

Temporal evolution of the optical and infrared transient AT 2017gfo compared with the theoretical predictions (solid lines) for a kilonova seen off-axis with viewing angle $\theta_v \approx 28^\circ$. For comparison with the groundbased photometry, Hubble Space Telescope measurements (squares) were converted to standard filters. Our model includes the contribution from a massive, high-speed wind along the polar axis ($M_w \approx 0.015 M_{\odot}$, $v \approx 0.08c$) and from the dynamical ejecta ($M_{ej} \approx 0.002 M_{\odot}$, $v \approx 0.2c$). The presence of a wind is required to explain the bright and long-lived optical emission, which is not expected otherwise (see dashed line).

Interpretation of Kilonova AT2017gfo of GW170817



(Perego, Radice, & Bernuzzi, ApJL 2017)

Nucleosynthesis in Neutrino-heated Ejecta

Crucial parameters for nucleosynthesis in neutrino-irradiated outflows:

- * Electron-to-baryon ratio Y_e (<---> neutron excess)
- * Entropy (<----> ratio of (temperature)³ to density)
- * Expansion timescale

Determined by the interaction of neutrinos in the stellar gas and ejecta of merger remnant:

$$\nu_{\rm e} + n \checkmark e^- + p$$
$$\bar{\nu}_{\rm e} + p \checkmark e^+ + n$$

$$Y_e^{\infty} \simeq \frac{L_{\nu_e} \langle E_{\nu_e} \rangle f_{\nu_e}^{\mathrm{mr}}}{L_{\nu_e} \langle E_{\nu_e} \rangle f_{\nu_e}^{\mathrm{mr}} + L_{\bar{\nu}_e} \langle E_{\bar{\nu}_e} \rangle f_{\bar{\nu}_e}^{\mathrm{mr}}}$$

Nucleosynthesis in Neutrino-processed Merger Ejecta

- Compact NSs produce strongly shock-heated ejecta.
- Electron fraction increases considerably in hot ejecta, mostly due to positron capture.
- Heavy r-process is still produced, but also A < 130 nuclei.





Nucleosynthesis in Neutrino-processed Dynamical NS-NS Merger Ejecta



Goriely et al., MNRAS 452 (2015) 3894)

Nucleosynthesis in Neutrino-processed Dynamical NS-NS Merger Ejecta



(Goriely et al., MNRAS 452 (2015) 3894)

Strength of r-process depends on antineutrino luminosity (also: Roberts et al. 2016, Foucart et al. 2016)

Improved Leakage-Equilibration-Absorption Scheme (ILEAS)

Leakage



- Neutrino β-equilibrium EoS

- Equilibration step

- Neutrino absorption rates
 - Ray tracing

R. Ardevol-Pulpillo, PhD Thesis; Ardevol-Pulpillo, Janka, Just & Bauswein (arXiv:1808.00006)



NS+NS Merger Results with ILEAS

Merger remnant 5 ms after collision of symmetric (1.35+1.35 M_{sun}) NS-NS binary









Ardevol-Pulpillo, Janka, Just & Bauswein (arXiv:1808.00006

NS+NS Merger Results with ILEAS

Y_e in dynamical ejecta from symmetric (1.35+1.35 M_{sun}) NS-NS merger



Bauswein (arXiv:1808.00006

BUT: Neutrino-flavor oscillations might have an important impact



Neutron-Star Binary Mergers for Constraining Neutron Star Masses, Radii, and EOS Properties

Gravitational Waves from NS+NS Mergers



- L: 1.35+1.35 M_{sun}
- M: 1.5+1.5 M_{sun}
- H: 1.6+1.6 M_{sun}



(AEI Golm, Buonnano et al.)

Present Constraints on NS Properties



Present Constraints on NS Properties

GW analysis consistent with astrophysical arguments based on KN observation



Future Constraints on NS Properties



Ring-down GW emission will also contain information on phase transitions in supranuclear medium (e.g. hyperons, quark phase).

(Sekiguchi et al. (2011), Radice et al. (2017), Bauswein et al. (2018), Most et al. (2018))



- <u>GW170817</u>: First GW detection from two merging neutron stars; first-ever identification of cosmic source of r-process elements
- Enormous diversity of phenomena in NS-NS/BH mergers
- Dependent on many degrees of freedom: total system mass, mass ratio, spins, nuclear EOS
- Large sets of computational models needed!
- One observed event is not enough to explore physics of mergers; do not generalize too quickly!
- Dynamical ejecta: < 0.02-0.03 M_{sun} for NS+NS
 Secular (remnant) ejecta: can be even more
- Y_e and its evolution and directional dependence are still uncertain
- More work is needed on the complex neutrino physics

Future Perspectives

- Advanced LIGO/VIRGO sensitivity will be increased by factor of ~2 until 2019/2020
 ~10 times more sources out to distance of <~130 Mpc!
 Perspective: 1-50 NS-NS merger events per year!
- Kilonovae will be detectable to distance of ~100-200 Mpc; good localization of GW source will be important.
- GRB detectable for maybe ~1/30 of all GW/KN cases;
 But: Searches in archival data for events similar to GW170817.

GW Detector Sensitivities

