

# TAAD Project

Deciphering the Dark: A Machine Learning Approach to Detecting Dark Matter  
Influence in Neutron Star Observables

Afonso Ávila

University of Coimbra

January 9, 2024



# What is a Compact Star?

Compact stars (CSs) are the final stage in the evolution of ordinary stars, they are formed when a star ceases its nuclear fuel. This star must have between **8-20  $M_{\odot}$**  to form a **neutron star (NS)**. Below this, we get a white dwarf.

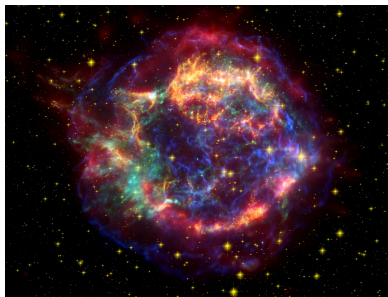


Figure 1: Cassiopeia A (SNR)  
[Chandra, 2017]

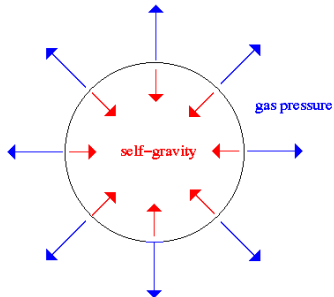


Figure 2: Illustration of Hydrostatic Equilibrium

# Neutron Star Composition

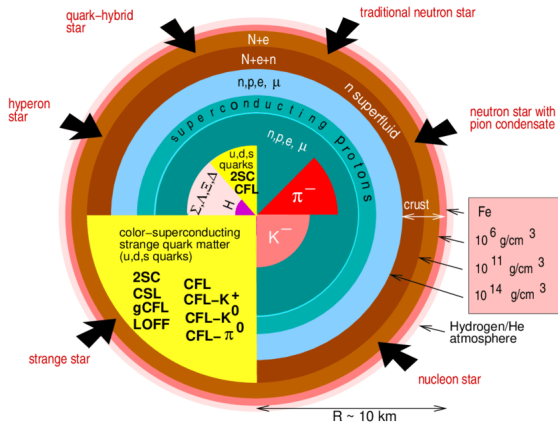
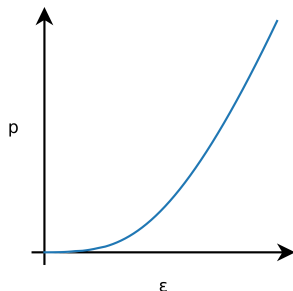


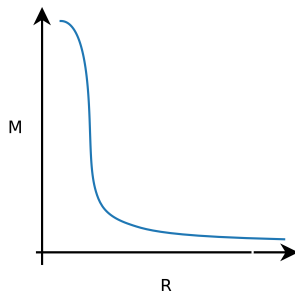
Figure 3: Internal composition of neutron stars (schematic) [Weber (2005)].

# How to model such objects?

Equation of State (EoS)



Observable Mass-Radius



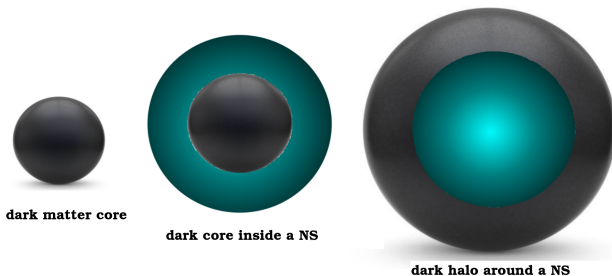
The **Tolman–Oppenheimer–Volkoff (TOV) equation** constrains the structure of a spherically symmetric body of isotropic material which is in static gravitational equilibrium [ $\hbar = G = c = 1$ ].

$$\frac{dp}{dr} = -\frac{(\epsilon + p)(M + 4\pi r^3 p)}{r^2 (1 - 2M/r)}$$

$$M(r) = 4\pi \int_0^r \epsilon(r') r'^2 dr' \quad (1)$$

# Why DM in NSs?

- The proto-cloud may already present traces of DM
- DM could be accreted by the main sequence star
- In the supernova explosion, DM might be created and accrued inside the remnant
- **DM is trapped in the gravitational field of a NS** [Brito et al. (2015); Kouvaris and Tinyakov (2011)]



# Initial Dataset

Our initial dataset have **17810** nucleonic (without DM) and **66002** with DM mass-radius- $\Lambda$  (MRA) observables.

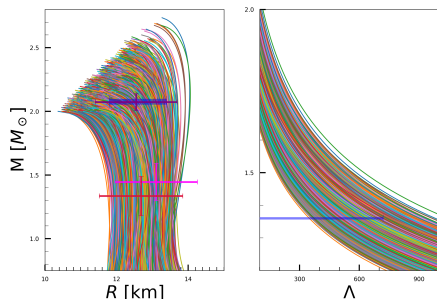


Figure 4: Nucleonic MRA

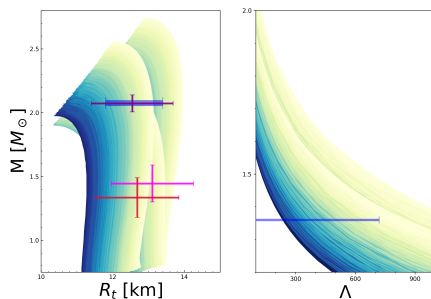


Figure 5: With DM MRA

# Generation of Datasets

From the initial data, it was randomly selected **17000** nucleonic and **17000** with DM MRA observables.

## Training and Testing

## Class Prediction

$$30k \text{ (15k + 15k)} \Leftarrow 34000 \text{ EoSs} \Rightarrow 4k \text{ (2k + 2k)}$$

The **train and test** and the **class prediction** datasets were constructed by extrating 5 random MRA points ( $[1, M_{\max}] M_{\odot}$ ), in which

- It it **doesn't have DM**  $\Rightarrow y = 0$
- If it **has DM**  $\Rightarrow y = 1$

$$\mathbf{X}_i = [M_1, \dots, M_5, R_1, \dots, R_5, \Lambda_1, \dots, \Lambda_5, y]$$

[Carvalho et al. (2023)]

# Generation of Datasets

$$\mathbf{X}_i = [M_1, \dots, M_5, R_1, \dots, R_5, \Lambda_1, \dots, \Lambda_5, y]$$
$$[1, M_{\max}] M_{\odot}$$

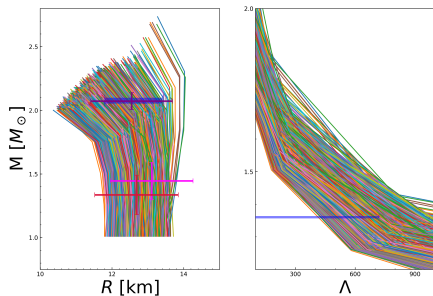


Figure 6: Nucleonic 5p MRA

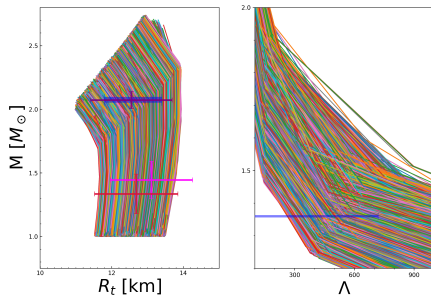


Figure 7: With DM 5p MRA

# Train and Test Dataset

This dataset was mixed up randomly in order for the training to not be bias.

$$\mathbf{X}_i = [M_1, \dots, M_5, R_1, \dots, R_5, \Lambda_1, \dots, \Lambda_5, y]$$

	M1	M2	M3	M4	M5	R(M1)	R(M2)	...	R(M5)	LAM(M1)	LAM(M2)	LAM(M3)	LAM(M4)	LAM(M5)	y
0	1.010	1.26125	1.5125	1.76375	2.015	12.708444	12.637214	...	11.297831	2953.802516	837.588252	279.737802	85.285676	15.304562	0
1	1.061	1.34375	1.6265	1.90925	2.192	12.160000	12.280000	...	11.540000	1510.689413	417.139150	140.828908	43.520143	7.424024	1
2	1.033	1.45850	1.8840	2.30950	2.735	13.510000	13.770000	...	12.950000	3500.271067	509.882566	132.665325	38.058792	4.380459	1
3	1.010	1.26875	1.5275	1.78625	2.045	12.597349	12.552588	...	11.068980	2698.392396	789.074739	253.127438	73.610589	11.171262	0
4	1.010	1.28000	1.5500	1.82000	2.090	12.269663	12.287386	...	11.096665	2508.137098	691.695553	210.606651	62.408135	10.344236	0
...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
29995	1.003	1.33850	1.6740	2.00950	2.345	12.470000	12.630000	...	11.870000	2705.160896	509.000785	163.328537	41.585915	6.030242	1
29996	1.008	1.40300	1.7980	2.19300	2.588	13.150000	13.320000	...	12.570000	3293.379720	762.882509	146.930261	37.987680	4.892461	1
29997	1.010	1.28375	1.5575	1.83125	2.105	12.623463	12.553645	...	11.235397	2612.669839	715.349636	203.380552	60.038648	10.388661	0
29998	1.050	1.39525	1.7405	2.08575	2.431	12.810000	12.980000	...	12.360000	2159.068434	501.875428	136.804005	41.145024	6.741356	1
29999	1.010	1.27250	1.5350	1.79750	2.060	12.380717	12.301033	...	10.653555	2499.312324	702.881166	203.541722	56.764788	7.478324	0

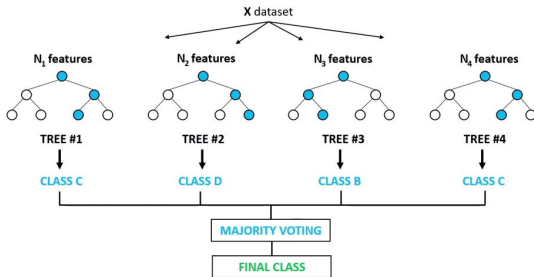
[30000 rows x 16 columns]

**Random Forest: 80% (24k) Training and 20% (6k) Testing**

# Random Forest Classifier

- A **random forest** is a meta estimator: fits a number of decision tree classifiers on various sub-samples of the dataset.
- A **decision tree** is a flowchart-like structure in which each internal node represents a "test" on an attribute of the dataset  $\implies$  **It uses classification and regression tasks**

## Random Forest Classifier



# Train and Test Dataset - 30k

The accuracy obtained with the **default parameters**<sup>1</sup> was 99.967 %.

-----  
TRAINING AND TESTING  
-----

Accuracy: 0.9996666666666667

Confusion Matrix:

[[3024 1]  
[ 1 2974]]



Classification Report:

	precision	recall	f1-score	support
0	1.00	1.00	1.00	3025
1	1.00	1.00	1.00	2975
accuracy			1.00	6000
macro avg	1.00	1.00	1.00	6000
weighted avg	1.00	1.00	1.00	6000

<sup>1</sup>max\_depth: None, n\_estimators: 100

# Train and Test Dataset with Best Hyperparameters

The accuracy obtained **now** with the **the best hyperparameters**<sup>2</sup> was 99.983 %.

-----  
WITH BEST HYPER-PARAMETERS  
-----

Accuracy: 0.9998333333333334

Confusion Matrix:

[[3024 1]  
[ 0 2975]]



Classification Report:

	precision	recall	f1-score	support
0	1.00	1.00	1.00	3025
1	1.00	1.00	1.00	2975
accuracy			1.00	6000
macro avg	1.00	1.00	1.00	6000
weighted avg	1.00	1.00	1.00	6000

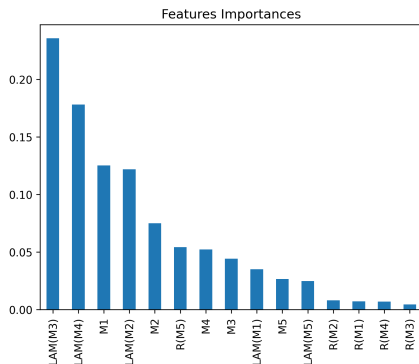
<sup>2</sup>max\_depth: 19, n\_estimators: 191

# Features Importances

- Provides a way to rank the features based on **their contribution** to the final prediction



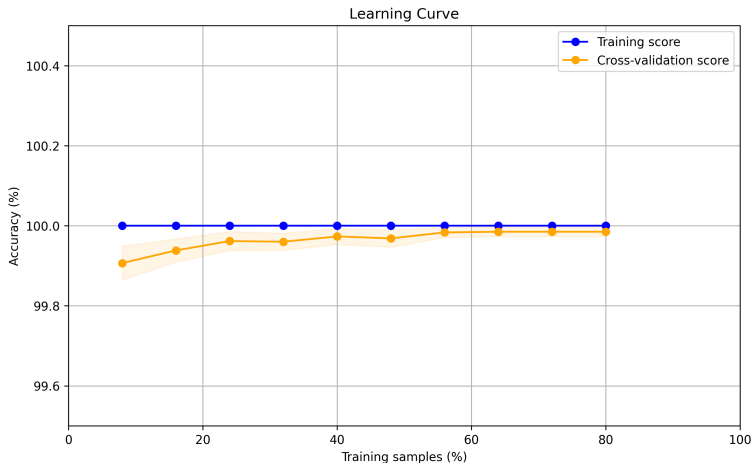
**How effective each feature is at reducing uncertainty!**



- **LAM(M3): 0.2358**
- **LAM(M4): 0.1781**
- **M1: 0.1253**
- **LAM(M2): 0.1219**
- **M2: 0.0751**
- **R(M5): 0.054**
- ...
- **R(M3): 0.004**

# Learning Curve

- `train_scores_mean`: [1. 1. 1. 1. 1. 1. 1. 1. 1.]
- `test_scores_mean`: [0.99907 0.99938 0.99962 0.9996 0.99973 0.99968 0.99983 0.99985 0.99985 0.99985]



# Validation Curve - max\_depth

- Recall: max\_depth = 19

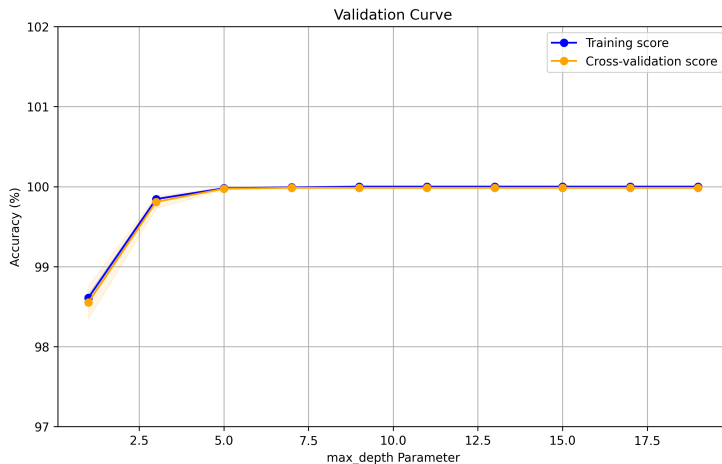


Figure 8: max\_depth validation curve

# Validation Curve - n\_estimators

- **Recall: n\_estimators = 191**

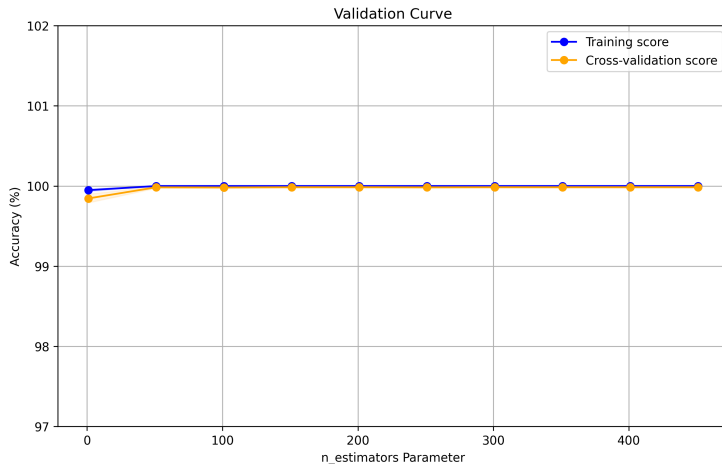


Figure 9: n\_estimators validation curve

# Class Prediction - 4k

-----  
CLASS PREDICTION  
-----

	M1	M2	M3	M4	M5	R(M1)	R(M2)	...	R(M5)	LAM(M1)	LAM(M2)	LAM(M3)	LAM(M4)	LAM(M5)	y
0	1.019	1.36800	1.7170	2.06600	2.415	12.750000	12.910000	...	12.200000	2441.437362	605.953993	139.691126	41.927249	6.186687	1
1	1.010	1.28750	1.5650	1.84250	2.120	12.660051	12.627100	...	11.477929	2697.890201	754.234736	221.995297	69.347760	12.058428	0
2	1.010	1.32125	1.6325	1.94375	2.255	12.436340	12.586854	...	11.723861	3089.608676	730.087386	202.672308	60.525458	9.598781	0
3	1.075	1.35775	1.6405	1.92325	2.206	12.210000	12.330000	...	11.600000	1417.234883	421.121385	125.596857	42.481917	7.409802	1
4	1.010	1.28750	1.5650	1.84250	2.120	12.732521	12.655193	...	11.504638	2651.386146	733.846808	214.526027	66.840817	12.203105	0
...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
3995	1.076	1.38275	1.6895	1.99625	2.303	12.380000	12.520000	...	11.740000	1809.086838	410.739129	147.570263	41.600137	6.243576	1
3996	1.010	1.28000	1.5500	1.82000	2.090	12.469007	12.471304	...	11.469575	2634.870681	733.923572	228.800539	70.934422	13.921236	0
3997	1.010	1.26125	1.5125	1.76375	2.015	12.522064	12.413655	...	11.209168	2779.868050	757.056094	247.807923	75.563499	14.812697	0
3998	1.010	1.26500	1.5200	1.77500	2.030	12.743348	12.632446	...	11.369355	2561.867507	749.933476	241.182025	76.163586	15.001370	0
3999	1.009	1.30600	1.6030	1.90000	2.197	12.130000	12.270000	...	11.510000	1963.014456	474.881562	146.574704	46.905043	7.125357	1

[4000 rows x 16 columns]

Figure 10: Class Prediction dataset

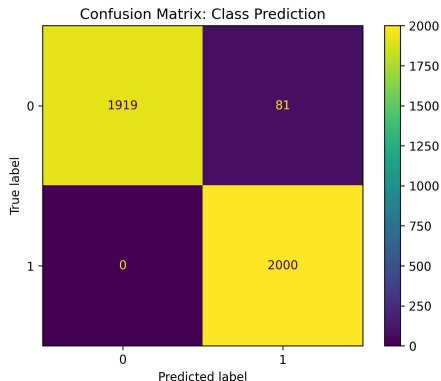
# Final Results

- The trained model was able to correctly predict **97.975 %** of the MRA observables selected.
- False Positives: 2.025 %**

Accuracy: 0.97975

Classification Report:

	precision	recall	f1-score	support
0	1.00	0.96	0.98	2000
1	0.96	1.00	0.98	2000
accuracy			0.98	4000
macro avg	0.98	0.98	0.98	4000
weighted avg	0.98	0.98	0.98	4000



# Conclusion

- Using the Random Forest Classifier, the model got an accuracy of **97.975 %**
- The "freedom" of the model allows for a fine-tune of the hyperparameters, resulting in a **high accuracy** and **preventing over-fitting**

## Regarding the physics:

- The **false positives** and the **matrix confusion** allows to state that the points collected from the nucleonic observables **mimic** the behaviour of the DM observables
- From the features importances, it's clear that the main distinction between NSs **with** and **without DM** will be on the **tidal deformability** ( $\Lambda$ ) behaviour, especilly at high mass configurations<sup>3</sup>
- The model had predicted **all the DM observables** correctly!

---

<sup>3</sup>LAM(M3), LAM(M4)

- R. Brito, V. Cardoso, and H. Okawa. Accretion of dark matter by stars. *Physical Review Letters*, 115(11), sep 2015. doi: 10.1103/physrevlett.115.111301. URL <https://doi.org/10.1103/PhysRevLett.115.111301>.
- V. Carvalho, M. Ferreira, T. Malik, and C. Providência. Decoding neutron star observations: Revealing composition through Bayesian neural networks. *Phys. Rev. D*, 108(4):043031, 2023. doi: 10.1103/PhysRevD.108.043031.
- C. Kouvaris and P. Tinyakov. Constraining Asymmetric Dark Matter through observations of compact stars. *Phys. Rev. D*, 83:083512, 2011. doi: 10.1103/PhysRevD.83.083512.
- F. Weber. Strange quark matter and compact stars. *Prog. Part. Nucl. Phys.*, 54:193–288, 2005. doi: 10.1016/j.ppnp.2004.07.001.