List of publications

The work on this thesis is based on the following publications:

- **Paper I.** Poutanen, J., Nättilä, J., Kajava, J. J. E., Latvala, O.-M., Galloway, D. K., Kuulkers, E., Suleimanov, V. F.: The effect of accretion on the measurement of neutron star mass and radius in the low-mass X-ray binary 4U 1608-52, 2014, MNRAS, 442, 3777–3790, http://dx.doi.org/10.1093/mnras/stu1139
- **Paper II.** Kajava, J. J. E., Nättilä, J, Latvala, O.-M., Pursiainen, M., Poutanen, J., Suleimanov, V. F., Revnivtsev, M. G., Kuulkers, E., Galloway, D. K.: The influence of accretion geometry on the spectral evolution during thermonuclear (type I) X-ray bursts, 2014, MNRAS, 445:4218–4234, http://dx.doi.org/10.1093/mnras/stu2073
- **Paper III.** Nättilä, J., Suleimanov, V. F., Kajava, J. J. E., Poutanen, J.: Models of neutron star atmospheres enriched with nuclear burning ashes, 2015, A&A, 581:A83, http://dx.doi.org/10.1051/0004-6361/201526512
- **Paper IV.** Nättilä, J., Steiner, A. W., Kajava, J. J. E., Suleimanov, V. F., Poutanen, J.: Equation of state constraints for the cold dense matter inside neutron stars using the cooling tail method, 2016, A&A, 591:A25, http://dx.doi.org/10.1051/0004-6361/201527416
- **Paper V.** Kajava, J. J. E., Nättilä, J., Poutanen, J., Cumming, A., Suleimanov, V., Kuulkers, E.: Detection of burning ashes from thermonuclear X-ray bursts, 2017, MNRAS, 464:L6–L10, http://dx.doi.org/10.1093/mnrasl/slw167
- **Paper VI.** Suleimanov, V. F., Poutanen, J., Nättilä, J., Kajava, J. J. E.; Revnivtsev, M. G., Werner, K.: The direct cooling tail method for X-ray burst analysis to constrain neutron star masses and radii, 2017, MNRAS, 466, 906-913, http://dx.doi.org/10.1093/mnras/stw3132
- **Paper VII.** Kuuttila, J., Kajava, J. J. E., Nättilä, J., Motta, S. E., Sanchez-Fernandez, C., Kuulkers, E., Cumming, A., Poutanen, J.: Flux decay during thermonuclear X-ray bursts analysed with the dynamic power-law index method, 2017, A&A, in press, https://arxiv.org/abs/1705.05653
- **Paper VIII.** Kajava, J. J. E., Koljonen, K. I. I., Nättilä, J., Suleimanov, V., Poutanen, J.: Variable spreading layer in 4U 1608-52 during thermonuclear X-ray bursts in the soft state, 2017, MNRAS, in press, https://arxiv.org/abs/1707.09479
- Paper IX. Nättilä, J. Pihajoki, P.: Radiation from rapidly rotating oblate neutron stars, 2017, A&A, submitted
- **Paper X.** Nättilä, J., Miller, M. C., Steiner, A. W., Kajava, J. J. E., Suleimanov, V. F., Poutanen, J.: Atmosphere model fits of thermonuclear X-ray burst cooling tail spectra: new neutron star mass and radius constraints using Bayesian hierarchical modeling, 2017, A&A, submitted
- **Paper XI.** Suleimanov, Valery V. F., Kajava, J. J. E., Molkov, S. V., Nättilä, J., Lutovinov, A. A., Werner, K. Poutanen, J.: Basic parameters of the helium accreting X-ray bursting neutron star in 4U 1820-30, 2017, MNRAS, submitted

Contents

| 1 | Summary of the original publications | | 3 |
|---|--------------------------------------|---|---|
| | 1.1 | Scientific summary — | 3 |
| | 1.2 | The author's contribution to the publications | 3 |
| 2 | Bibliography | | 5 |



1 Summary of the original publications

1.1 Scientific summary

Paper I.: The effect of accretion on the measurement of neutron star mass and radius in the low-mass X-ray binary 4U 1608-52

Paper II.: The influence of accretion geometry on the spectral evolution during thermonuclear (type I) X-ray bursts

Paper III.: Models of neutron star atmospheres enriched with nuclear burning ashes

Paper IV.: Equation of state constraints for the cold dense matter inside neutron stars using the cooling tail method

Paper V.: Detection of burning ashes from thermonuclear X-ray bursts

Paper VI.: The direct cooling tail method for X-ray burst analysis to constrain neutron star masses and radii

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Paper IX.: Radiation from rapidly rotating oblate neutron stars

Paper X.: Atmosphere model fits of thermonuclear X-ray burst cooling tail spectra: new neutron star mass and radius constraints using Bayesian hierarchical modeling

Paper XI.: Basic parameters of the helium accreting X-ray bursting neutron star in 4U 1820-30

1.2 The author's contribution to the publications

Paper I.

The author of the thesis made contributions to the manuscript, reduced and analyzed the observational X-ray data, and contributed to the scientific discussions related to the manuscript.

Paper II.

The author participated in the reduction and analysis of the observational data, made significant contributions to the development of the data reduction software, and helped in the preparation of the manuscript.

Paper III.

The author contributed to the main idea of the paper, independently redesigned the neutron star atmosphere code used for the calculations, and implemented new physical processes to this numerical framework. The author also prepared most of the manuscript.

Paper IV.

The author independently designed the Bayesian fitting framework for the cooling tail method, reduced and analyzed the X-ray observations, and finally led the equation of state modeling from the observations. The author also prepared the manuscript.

Paper V.

The author contributed to the main idea of this research and was responsible of the atmosphere modeling of the observations. The Bayesian atmosphere spectral model fitting framework was also independently designed by the author. Author also made significant contributions to the manuscript.

Paper VI.

Author helped in designing the fitting framework, based on his own previous results, and contributed to the scientific and statistical discussions of the paper. The author also contributed to the manuscript.

Paper VII.

In this paper, the author proposed the usage of the dynamic power-law method and co-supervised the project which was originally based on the Master's thesis of J. Kuuttila. Author also made significant contributions to the manuscript.

Paper VIII.

The author of the thesis took part in the discussion of the theoretical explanation for the obtained observational results and contributed significantly to the statistical analysis of data. The author also contributed to the manuscript.

Paper IX.

The author independently proposed the idea of applying the split-Hamilton method to the ray tracing problem of photons, derived the theoretical framework and all the related formulae, designed the numerical code, and prepared most of the manuscript.

Paper X.

The author independently designed the hierarchical Bayesian fitting framework, implemented it into a code together with M.C. Miller and A.W. Steiner, analyzed the data, and, finally, prepared most of the manuscript together with M.C. Miller.

Paper XI.

In this paper, the author took part in the scientific discussion of the results, helped in the statistical analysis and contributed to the manuscript.

2 Bibliography