

TABLE OF CONTENTS

LIST OF FIGURES	xiii
LIST OF TABLES	xix
INTRODUCTION	xxi
1. OVERVIEW	1
1.1 Neutron stars	1
1.2 History: from prediction to discovery	2
1.3 Internal structure and processes – Theoretical outlook	11
1.3.1 Structure	11
1.3.2 The main mystery: The equation of state in neutron star cores	14
1.3.3 Neutron star models	16
1.3.4 Superfluidity	17
1.3.5 Neutrino processes	19
1.3.6 Thermodynamics and kinetics	21
1.3.7 Cooling of neutron stars	25
1.3.8 Magnetic fields	26
1.3.9 Seismology	28
1.4 Observations versus theory	28
1.4.1 Telescopes	28
1.4.2 Birth in supernova explosions. Supernova connection	31
1.4.3 Evolutionary scenarios: Three driving forces	34
1.4.4 Pulsars	34
1.4.5 Isolated neutron stars	41
1.4.6 Neutron stars in binary systems – X-ray binaries	44
1.4.7 Neutron stars in the Galaxy	49
1.5 Neutron stars as “superstars” in physics and astrophysics	50
1.6 About the rest of this book	51
2. EQUILIBRIUM PLASMA PROPERTIES. OUTER ENVELOPES	53
2.1 Plasma parameters	55
2.1.1 Overall parameters	55
2.1.2 Electrons	56
2.1.3 Ions	60

2.2	Free energy and thermodynamic quantities	63
2.2.1	Fully ionized dense plasma. The basic decomposition	65
2.3	Fully ionized plasma without electron correlations	66
2.3.1	Ideal electron gas. Fermi-Dirac integrals	67
2.3.2	Coulomb liquid of ions	72
2.3.3	Coulomb crystal	77
2.3.4	Melting	88
2.3.5	The pressure of degenerate electrons with electrostatic corrections	90
2.4	Intermediate-density regime. Electron response	91
2.4.1	Interpolation	91
2.4.2	Thomas-Fermi-like theories	92
2.4.3	Electron exchange and correlation effects	93
2.4.4	Electron polarization in ion liquid	96
2.4.5	Electron polarization in ion solid	99
2.4.6	The heat capacity	103
2.4.7	Multi-ionic mixtures	106
2.5	Low densities. Partial ionization	107
2.5.1	Ionization equilibria in the “chemical picture”	107
2.5.2	An example: Partially ionized hydrogen plasma	111
3.	STRUCTURE AND EOS OF NEUTRON STAR CRUSTS	115
3.1	The formation of the crust in a newly born neutron star	116
3.2	Ground state of the outer crust	118
3.3	Ground state of the inner crust at $\rho \lesssim 10^{14}$ g cm ⁻³	125
3.3.1	Hartree-Fock calculations	126
3.3.2	Extended Thomas-Fermi (ETF) calculations	130
3.3.3	Compressible liquid drop model (CLDM)	133
3.4	Ground state of the bottom layers of the crust	140
3.4.1	The bulk approximation	140
3.4.2	Unusual nuclear shapes	142
3.4.3	Quantum corrections to the CLDM energy	147
3.5	Reaching the crust-core interface from the core side	148
3.6	The equation of state of the neutron star crust	150
3.7	Elastic properties of neutron star crust	153
3.7.1	From bcc lattice to isotropic solid	156
3.7.2	Exotic nuclei	159
3.8	Deviations from an idealized ground state model	161
3.8.1	Crust formation in a newly-born neutron star	162
3.8.2	Accreted crust	164

TABLE OF CONTENTS

vii

4. ENVELOPES WITH STRONG MAGNETIC FIELDS	167
4.1 Fully ionized plasmas	168
4.1.1 Free electron in a magnetic field	168
4.1.2 Thermodynamic functions of the ideal electron gas	170
4.1.3 Magnetic oscillations	175
4.1.4 The effects of the magnetic field on plasma ions	176
4.1.5 Weakly non-ideal Coulomb plasma	178
4.1.6 Strongly coupled Coulomb plasma	180
4.2 Bound species in strong magnetic fields	184
4.2.1 Atoms	184
4.2.2 Molecules and chains	188
4.2.3 Effects of motion	190
4.2.4 Magnetic condensation	192
4.3 Models of strongly magnetized outer envelopes of neutron stars	193
4.3.1 Strongly magnetized iron envelopes	194
4.3.2 Strongly magnetized hydrogen atmosphere	196
5. NEUTRON STAR CORES: NUCLEONS AND HYPERONS	207
5.1 Introduction	207
5.2 Before the discovery of pulsars: 1932–1967	208
5.3 After the discovery of pulsars: 1968–2005	213
5.3.1 Nucleons	213
5.3.2 Nucleons and hyperons	215
5.4 The properties of nuclear matter	217
5.5 The Hamiltonian	221
5.5.1 Phenomenological nucleon-nucleon interaction	221
5.5.2 Three-body interaction	223
5.5.3 Relativistic corrections and three-body interaction	225
5.6 Meson-exchange nucleon-nucleon interaction	226
5.6.1 Three- and more-nucleon interactions	230
5.7 The hyperon interactions	231
5.8 Solving the many-body problem – an overview	233
5.9 Energy of nucleon matter	235
5.9.1 Brueckner-Bethe-Goldstone (BBG) theory	235
5.9.2 Green's Function Theory	240
5.9.3 Variational method	243
5.9.4 Relativistic mean-field model	246
5.9.5 Effective energy density functionals	253
5.10 Energy of hyperon-nucleon matter	254
5.10.1 Brueckner-Bethe-Goldstone theory	254

5.10.2	Relativistic mean-field model	256
5.11	The equation of state of the outer core	257
5.11.1	Calculating the equation of state	257
5.11.2	The nuclear symmetry energy and the proton fraction	259
5.12	Equation of state and composition	260
5.13	Inner core: minimal model – nucleons and leptons	263
5.13.1	Equation of state of the $npe\mu$ matter	263
5.13.2	Proton fraction and direct Urca threshold	265
5.13.3	Adiabatic index	266
5.14	Hyperons in the inner core	267
5.14.1	Hyperonic composition	268
5.14.2	Hyperon softening of equation of state	273
5.15	Superluminal and ultrabaric equations of state	275
5.16	Effect of baryon superfluidity on equation of state	279
5.17	Effect of strong magnetic field on equation of state	279
6.	NEUTRON STAR STRUCTURE	281
6.1	Equations of hydrostatic equilibrium	281
6.2	Baryon number, mass and chemical potential. Binding energy of neutron stars	284
6.3	Proper mass and gravitational energy	287
6.4	Constructing neutron star models	287
6.4.1	Introductory remarks	287
6.4.2	Equation of state	289
6.5	Masses and stability of neutron stars	290
6.5.1	Stellar oscillations and stability	290
6.5.2	Stability criteria based on the mass-radius diagram	293
6.5.3	Neutron stars and white dwarfs	294
6.5.4	A variety of neutron star models	296
6.5.5	Maximum masses of neutron stars	297
6.5.6	The nature of the maximum mass of neutron stars	298
6.5.7	The upper bound on the maximum mass	301
6.5.8	Low-mass neutron stars and the minimum mass	302
6.6	Radii and surface redshifts	303
6.6.1	Circumferential radii	304
6.6.2	Radii of low-mass neutron stars	306
6.6.3	Gravitational redshifts	308
6.6.4	The upper bound on gravitational redshift and the lower bound on neutron star radius	308
6.6.5	The upper bound on surface gravity	309
6.6.6	Apparent radii	311

<i>TABLE OF CONTENTS</i>	ix
6.7 Binding energy	313
6.7.1 Approximate formulae	315
6.7.2 Neutron star models with $M \approx M_{\min}$	317
6.8 Basic internal structure of neutron stars	318
6.9 Universal structure of the outer envelope	319
6.9.1 The structure of magnetic envelopes	322
6.10 Moment of inertia for slow rigid rotation	323
6.10.1 Dragging of local inertial reference frames and moment of inertia	323
6.10.2 Moment of inertia versus M	324
6.10.3 Crustal moment of inertia	326
6.10.4 Moment of inertia versus M and R	326
6.10.5 Approximate formula for I_{\max}	328
6.11 Elastic shear strain, non-axial deformations, and gravitational radiation	328
6.11.1 Elastic strain and neutron stars with $M \approx M_{\min}$	330
6.11.2 Non-axial deformation of solitary pulsars and gravitational waves	330
6.12 Rotating neutron stars	333
6.12.1 Space-time metric and the equations of stationary motion	334
6.12.2 Stationary configurations of rotating neutron stars	335
6.12.3 Spinning low-mass neutron stars	341
6.12.4 Maximum mass and minimum rotation period	343
6.12.5 Rapid differential rotation and maximum mass	343
6.12.6 Approximate formulae for P_{\min}	345
6.12.7 The causal upper bound on the mass of spinning neutron stars	345
6.12.8 The lower bound on rotation period	346
6.12.9 From the upper bound on z_{surf} to the lower bound on the rigid-rotation period	346
6.12.10 Rapid rotation and gravitational-radiation instabilities	347
7. NEUTRON STARS WITH EXOTIC CORES	351
7.1 Introduction	351
7.2 Exotic phases – an overview	351
7.2.1 Meson condensates	352
7.2.2 Deconfinement of quarks	352
7.2.3 Mixed-phase state	353
7.2.4 Crystallization	353
7.2.5 Exotic self-bound states of superdense matter	354
7.3 Pion condensation	354

7.4	Kaon condensation	361
7.5	Quark matter	364
7.6	Mixed-phase state	373
7.7	Solid cores of neutron stars	378
7.7.1	Physical origins and models	378
7.7.2	Elastic shear moduli	381
7.8	Nucleation of exotic high-density phase	381
7.8.1	Pion condensation	385
7.8.2	Kaon condensation	386
7.8.3	Quark deconfinement	388
7.8.4	The nucleation of a mixed normal-exotic phase	390
7.9	Phase transitions and neutron star structure	391
7.9.1	Linear response to a phase transition in the neutron star center	391
7.9.2	Moderate softening without any density jump	393
7.9.3	Strong softening without any density jump: The third family of compact stars	394
7.9.4	Moderate softening with density jump	395
7.9.5	Strong softening with density jump: The third family of compact stars	396
7.9.6	The proof of the inequality $M^*(\mathcal{A}) < M(\mathcal{A})$	397
7.9.7	Nonequilibrium first-order phase transition and its consequences	398
7.9.8	Large-amplitude corequake and collapse	399
7.10	Changes in stellar parameters due to a corequake	401
7.10.1	Estimates of ΔR , ΔI , and ΔE in corequakes	402
7.11	Mixed-phase core and neutron star corequakes	403
8.	STRANGE MATTER AND STRANGE STARS	407
8.1	Introduction	407
8.2	Units	407
8.3	The strange matter hypothesis	408
8.4	Strange matter – history	409
8.5	The simplest “toy” MIT Bag Model	411
8.6	The Bag Model with massive strange quarks and QCD interactions	413
8.7	Other models of strange quark matter	415
8.8	The equation of state of strange matter	416
8.8.1	The linear approximation of the EOS	416
8.8.2	The adiabatic index of strange matter	417
8.8.3	The effect of quark superconductivity on the EOS	417

<i>TABLE OF CONTENTS</i>	xi
8.9 Even stranger matter	419
8.10 Strange stars – history	421
8.11 Bare strange stars	423
8.12 The nonexistence of quark stars with heavy quarks	426
8.13 Scaling properties	428
8.14 The surface of a bare strange star with electrons	430
8.15 The surface of a bare strange star without electrons	432
8.16 Strange stars with the crust	433
8.16.1 The minimum radius of strange stars with the crust	434
8.17 Apparent radii of strange stars	435
8.18 The surface gravity of strange stars	437
8.19 The conversion of neutron stars into strange stars	438
8.20 Even stranger stars of abnormal matter and Q-stars	439
8.21 Rotating strange quark stars	440
8.21.1 Uniformly rotating strange stars	441
8.21.2 The crust of rotating strange stars	446
8.21.3 Maximum mass and maximum spin frequency of strange stars	450
8.21.4 Instabilities in rotating strange stars	451
9. THEORY VERSUS OBSERVATIONS	455
9.1 Masses of neutron stars in binary systems	456
9.1.1 X-ray binaries	456
9.1.2 Double neutron star binaries	467
9.1.3 Pulsar – white dwarf binaries	481
9.1.4 Pulsars in binaries with non-degenerate stars	487
9.1.5 Summary of neutron star mass measurements	488
9.1.6 From November 2005 to August 2006 and beyond	489
9.2 Gravitational surface redshift	490
9.3 Neutron star radii	491
9.3.1 Thermal emission of isolated neutron stars	492
9.3.2 X-ray emission from accreting neutron stars in binaries	496
9.3.3 Final remarks on radius measurements	498
9.4 Millisecond and submillisecond pulsars	499
9.5 The Crab Nebula and the moment of inertia of the Crab pulsar	501
9.5.1 The energy balance of the Crab pulsar and its nebula	502
9.5.2 Observational evaluations of the Crab Nebula parameters	503
9.5.3 Bound on the moment of inertia	504
9.6 Neutrinos from Supernova 1987A and binding energy of neutron stars	506

9.7	Pulsar glitches and crustal moment of inertia	508
9.8	Pros and cons of the existence of strange stars	511
9.8.1	Con: Macrogliques of radio pulsars	511
9.8.2	Con: Strangelets in galaxies	513
9.8.3	Pro: Too small radii for some neutron stars	514
9.8.4	Pro: Submillisecond pulsars	515
	Appendices	517
A	TABLES OF EOSs IN NEUTRON STAR CRUST	517
B	ANALYTICAL MODELS OF NUCLEAR DENSITY PROFILES	521
B.1	Steplike profile model	521
B.2	Smooth Composition Model	522
B.2.1	Spherical nuclei in the inner crust	523
B.2.2	Spherical nuclei in the outer crust	524
B.2.3	Exotic nuclei	524
C	ANALYTICAL REPRESENTATIONS OF UNIFIED EOSs	527
C.1	Representation convenient for non-rotating stars	528
C.2	Representation convenient for rotating stars	530
C.3	Adiabatic index	532
D	SEMI-ANALYTICAL EOSs IN NEUTRON STAR CORES	533
E	SCALING OF STELLAR MODELS FOR LINEAR EOSs	537
E.1	The causal limit EOS with $a = 1$	537
E.2	The case of $a < 1$	541
	BIBLIOGRAPHY	543
	LIST OF SYMBOLS	597
	LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS	605
	SUBJECT INDEX	607