

LABORATORI NAZIONALI DEL GRAN SASSO

SEMINAR ANNOUNCEMENT

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Strangelet dwarfs

Quark matter is usually thought to be self-bound by strong interactions, but if the surface tension of quark matter is low enough, it is not self-bound. At sufficiently low pressure and temperature, quark matter will then take the form of a crystal of positively charged strangelets in a neutralizing background of electrons---similar to ordinary matter. In this case there will exist, in addition to the usual family of strange stars, a family of low-mass large-radius objects analogous to white dwarfs, which we call "strangelet dwarfs".

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