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Explosive kilonovae and nucleosynthesis in exotic quark models

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\begin{document}
{\small \it Nuclear Physics in Astrophysics 8, NPA8: 18-23 June 2017, Catania, Italy}

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%% % Authors and affiliations are next. The presenter should be
%% % underlined as shown below.
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The nature of strongly interacting matter inside compact stars could be an exotic form of a quark-gluon plasma termed strange quark matter".

After 30 years of work the search for signatures of this hypothesis continues.

One interesting possibility is the detection of chunks of SQM in cosmic rays (strangelets). In spite of a few candidate events (i.e. Centauros), their presence among primaries is not confirmed. The latest experiments in fact exclude a large flux predicted earlier.

One of the main sources of strangelets is expected to be the merger of SS.

We present calculations on the expected nucleosynthesis spectra for the strange star-strange star merger scenario as means to test the strange quark matter hypothesis and its realization inside such objects. We find that most of strangelets decay into ordinary hadrons due to finite temperature effects. However, the n/p ratio of the ejected matter is very large. This is very different from the typical r-process nucleosynthesis expected in neutron star mergers and the mass buildup would proceed in a dense Big-Bang nucleosynthesis-like fashion. The neutron-to-proton ratio would allow to reach the iron peak only, a very different prediction from the standard scenario. The resultant light curve is compared favorably with the existing kilonova" data.

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\noindent

[1] L. Paulucci et al. submitted to Physical Review Letters (2017).}

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