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Formation of millisecond pulsars and double neutron stars

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Radio millisecond pulsars (MSPs) have been spun-up to very high rotation frequencies via accretion of mass and angular momentum from a companion star in a binary system. In this talk, I will review the formation of MSPs and discuss recent observational and theoretical challenges in understanding their formation and evolution via the standard recycling scenario. I will discuss MSP properties like spin periods, masses and orbital characteristics, and also briefly discuss new developments related to our understanding of the formation of double neutron star systems.

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