Abstract Submitted for the MAR13 Meeting of The American Physical Society

Spin and mass currents on the surface of the topological superfluid, ³He-B¹ HAO WU, JAMES SAULS, Northwestern University — The surface excitation spectrum of superfluid ³He-B is discussed for a translationally invariant interface (specular surface). We report calculations of surface spectral spin-current and mass current densities originating from the Andreev bound state and the continuum response. Two branches of gapless Fermions, bound to the surface, disperse linearly with momentum \vec{p}_{\parallel} along the surface. These states are spin polarized transverse to their direction of propagation, \vec{p}_{\parallel} . The spectral functions reveal the subtle role of the spin-polarized surface states in relation to the ground-state spin current. By contrast, these states do not contribute to the ground-state mass current density. However, the surface states do give rise to a power law suppression of the superfluid mass current for $0 \ll T \ll T_c$, providing a direct signature of the Majorana branches of surface excitations in the fully gapped 3D topological superfluid, ³He-B.

¹Supported by National Science Foundation Grant DMR-1106315.

Hao Wu Northwestern University

Date submitted: 09 Nov 2012

Electronic form version 1.4