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Confinement effect on Anderson-Higgs modes in superfluid $^3\text{He-B}$

T. MIZUSHIMA, Osaka University, J.A. SAULS, Northwestern Univ — Superfluid ^3He is a prototype to observe the spectrum of Anderson-Higgs (AH) modes associated with spontaneous symmetry breaking. In bulk superfluid ^3He , AH modes have been observed experimentally through attenuation of zero sound, propagation of transverse sound and its acoustic Faraday rotation. Starting from a Lagrangian formulation, we examine the AH modes of $^3\text{He-B}$ confined in a restricted geometry. For bulk $^3\text{He-B}$ this formalism leads to the well known spectrum of bosonic collective modes of the bulk B-phase labelled by the quantum numbers for total angular momentum, $J = 0, 1, 2, \dots$, the projection along an axis, $J_z = -J, \dots, +J$, and the parity under particle-hole conversion, $K = \pm 1$. For the equilibrium phases of ^3He confinement induces pair breaking and leads to symmetry breaking, giving rise to a rich topological phase diagram. In terms of the bosonic excitations, we find that confinement induces symmetry breaking and leads to mixing of modes with different J , as well as to level splittings of the AH modes that are otherwise degenerate in bulk $^3\text{He-B}$. We find a new spectrum of Bosonic modes is generated that are bound to the surface of superfluid ^3He in a restricted geometry. We also report on the coupling of the AH modes to ultra-sound.

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