

Relevance of the Kohn-Luttinger Effect for Superfluidity in Neutron Stars

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Based on Phys. Rev. C **110**, 025804 [arXiv:2405.12243] (MK, Reddy 2024)



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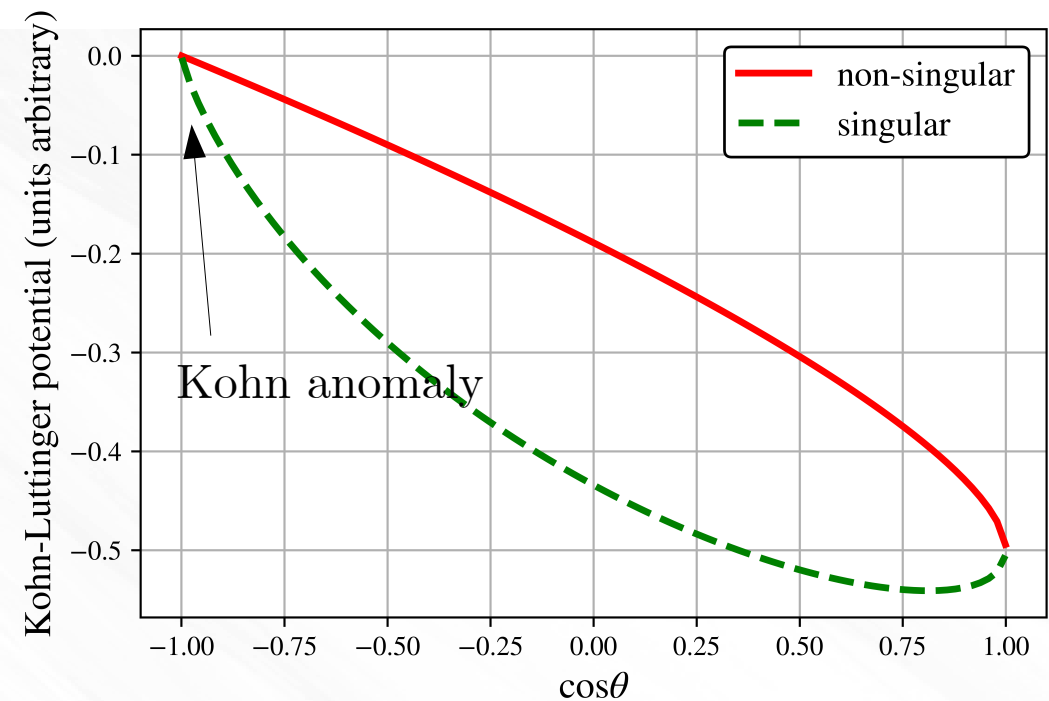
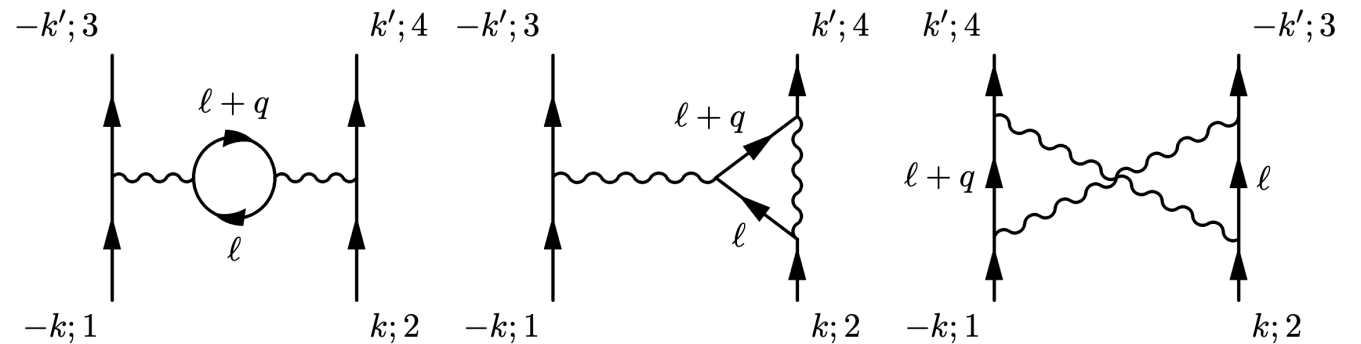
What is the Kohn-Luttinger effect?

- Medium effects overscreen any generic potential, leading to a singularity near $q=2k_F$ (the “Kohn anomaly”)
- Singular contributions lead to attraction in large odd partial waves. (Kohn + Luttinger Phys. Rev. Lett. 15, 524)

Non-singular: $\propto e^{-L}$

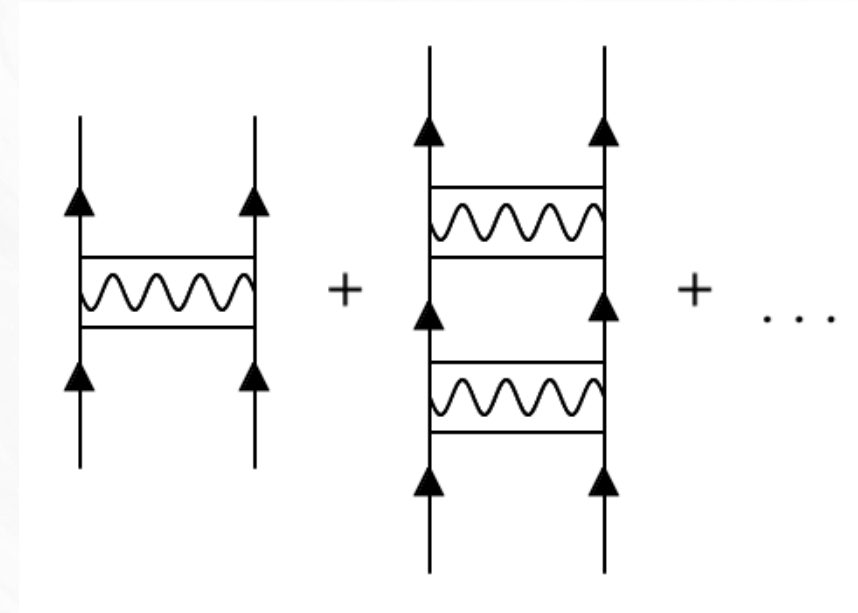
Singular: $\propto (-1)^L L^{-4}$

- While generically true only for large L , this effect persists for many potentials for $L=1$.



If you don't think about this often...

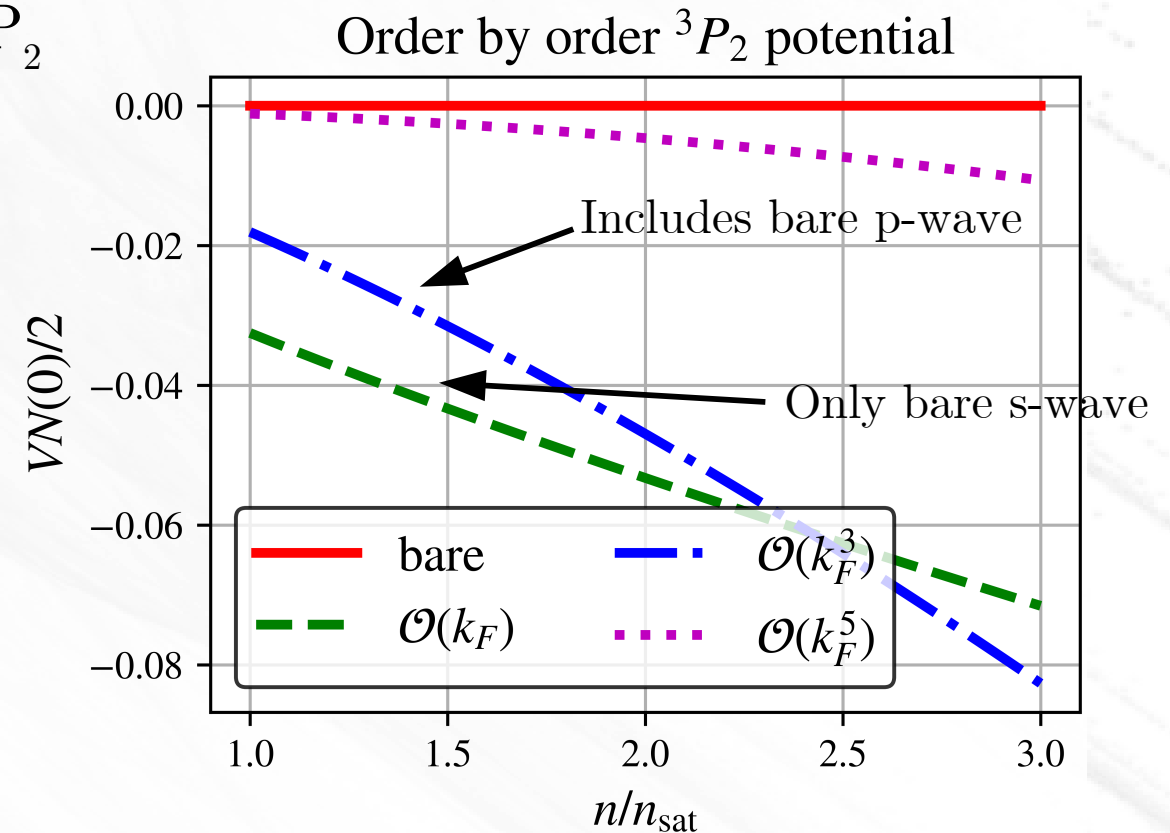
- › In the BCS approximation, the superfluid gap comes from summing over the “ladder” diagrams.
- › Any contribution to the *irreducible* vertex will contribute in the BCS approximation and should be included.
- › Generic nuclear potentials will have contributions from multiple partial waves at tree level which the Kohn-Luttinger (one loop) potential must compete with.



$$\overline{\text{wavy}} = \text{wavy} + KL + \dots$$

When might the Kohn-Luttinger effect matter?

- Short range, Lorentz invariant, non-derivative couplings (e.g. NJL models) can't generate any 3P_2 potential at tree level.
- The one loop calculation might be important!
- Typical nuclear potentials will have bare p-wave contributions which do not rely on the Kohn anomaly to contribute and are less suppressed.
- TAKEAWAY:** The one loop interaction can be important and naive power counting with momentum may get the relative importance of different contributions wrong.



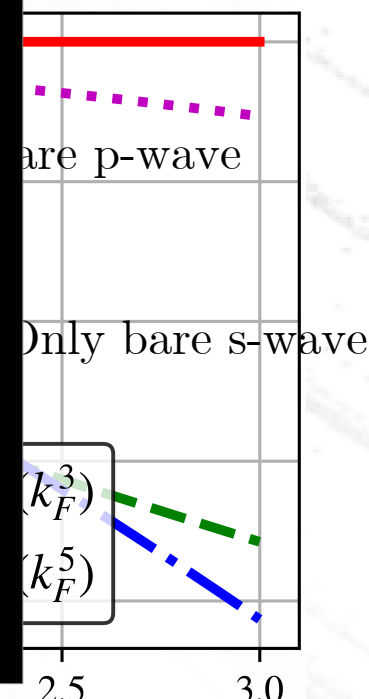
$$\mathcal{L}_{\text{int}} = -\frac{G_V}{2} (\bar{n} \gamma^\mu n)^2$$

When might the Kohn-Luttinger effect matter?

- Short range, Lorentz invariant, non-derivative couplings (e.g. NJL models) can't generate any 3P_0

Order by order 3P_2 potential

	Is it important to 3P_2 ?	Is it the Kohn-Luttinger effect?
Bare s-wave, one loop	Probably not	Yes
Bare p-wave, one loop	Probably yes	... It's semantics



momentum may get the relative importance of different contributions wrong.

$$\mathcal{L}_{\text{int}} = -\frac{G_V}{2} (\bar{n} \gamma^\mu n)^2$$