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Microscopic Investigation of Proton Fluxtubes and Neutron Quantum Vortices in the Neutron Star Core and its Implication to the Pulsar Glitch Phenomenon

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Neutron stars are high-density stellar objects composed mainly of neutrons and are one of the most important research targets in nuclear physics. Neutron stars are known to exhibit sudden changes of its rotational velocity, known as “pulsar glitches”. It has been believed that glitches are mainly caused by dynamic rearrangement of superfluid neutron vortices in the inner crust of neutron stars. However, importance of contributions of the outer core has been recently discussed, and further microscopic investigations of quantum vortices and flux-tubes in the outer core of neutron stars are highly desired.

In this study, we investigate the interaction between quantum vortices of 3P_2 superfluid neutrons and flux-tubes of 1S_0 superconducting protons in the outer core of neutron stars, based on a successful bosonic theory of superfluid, the Gross-Pitaevskii equation (GPE). In this talk, we will discuss the effects of the interaction between the superfluid quantum vortices and the superconducting magnetic flux-tubes on the 3P_2 superfluid quantum vortices and its implication to the mechanism of the pulsar glitch phenomenon.

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