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# Sufficient and Necessary Conditions for Collective Neutrino Instabilities

Based on Dasgupta & Mukherjee  
2505.03886



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Tata Inst. of Fundamental Research



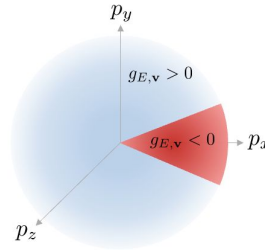
# Crossings in distribution function

- Neutrinos evolve via the QKE,

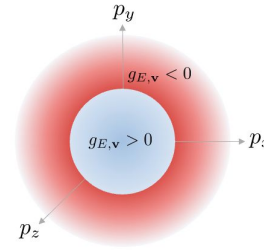
$$i(\partial_t + \mathbf{v} \cdot \partial_{\mathbf{x}})\rho_{\mathbf{p}} = [\mathbf{H}_{\mathbf{p}}, \rho_{\mathbf{p}}]$$

- Off diagonal components,

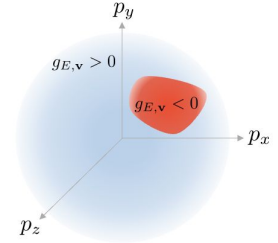
$$S_{\mathbf{p}} \sim \tilde{S}_{\mathbf{p}} e^{-i(\omega t - \mathbf{k} \cdot \mathbf{x})}$$



Fast Crossing



Slow Crossing



Mixed Crossing

B Dasgupta,  
DM (2025)

- Dispersion relation (for some eigenvector):

$$\mathcal{D}(\omega, \mathbf{k}) \equiv 1 + \int d\Gamma \frac{g_{\Gamma}}{\omega - \mathbf{k} \cdot \mathbf{v} - w_E} = 0$$

$$w_E = \frac{\Delta m^2}{2E}$$

$$g_{\Gamma} = g(w_E, \mathbf{v}) = \begin{cases} f_{\nu_e}(\mathbf{p}) - f_{\nu_{\mu}}(\mathbf{p}) & \text{for } w_E > 0 \\ f_{\nu_{\mu}}(\mathbf{p}) - f_{\nu_e}(\mathbf{p}) & \text{for } w_E < 0 \end{cases}$$

- Singularity at  $h_{\Gamma} = \mathbf{k} \cdot \mathbf{v} + w_E$

$$\mathcal{D}(\omega, \mathbf{k}) \equiv 1 + \mathcal{I}_{\text{PV}}(\omega) + i\mathcal{I}_{\delta}(\omega)$$

# The Conditions and Proof

## A. Statement of Sufficiency Condition

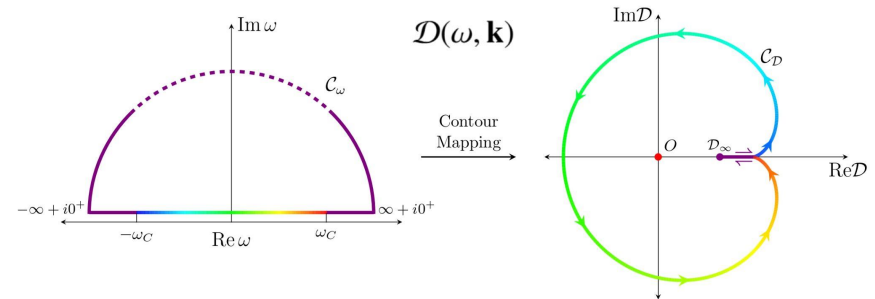
The dispersion relation  $\mathcal{D}(\omega, \mathbf{k}) = 0$ , admits a complex root  $\omega$  with  $\text{Im } \omega > 0$  at some wave-vector  $\mathbf{k}$ , for a time-like eigenvector and the inverted mass ordering, *if*

**1a:** the distribution function  $g_{\Gamma}$  has a zero-crossing at *some* point  $\mathbf{\Gamma}_0 = (w_{E_0}, \mathbf{v}_0)$ , i.e.,  $g(w_{E_0}, \mathbf{v}_0) = 0$  and  $g_{\Gamma}$  takes both signs in the neighborhood,

**1b:** where the gradients of  $g_{\Gamma}$  and  $h_{\Gamma} = \mathbf{k} \cdot \mathbf{v} + w_E$  have a positive dot-product, i.e.,  $(\nabla_{\Gamma} g_{\Gamma})_0 \cdot (\nabla_{\Gamma} h_{\Gamma})_0 > 0$ , and

**2a:** the principal value  $\mathcal{I}_{\text{PV}}(\omega_0) < -1$  at a frequency  $\omega_0 = h_{\Gamma_0}$ , where  $\text{Im } \mathcal{I}(\omega_0) = 0$ ,

**2b:** while  $\mathcal{I}_{\text{PV}}(\omega_i) > -1$ , with  $i = 1, 2, \dots$ , for any other frequencies  $\omega_i$  where  $\text{Im } \mathcal{I}(\omega_i) = 0$ .



- Sign-flip and Localisation  
Near terms dominate
- Contour Mapping, Winding and Roots

A loop in  $\omega$  around the upper half-plane maps to  $D$ .  $D$  encircles the origin if the conditions are met.

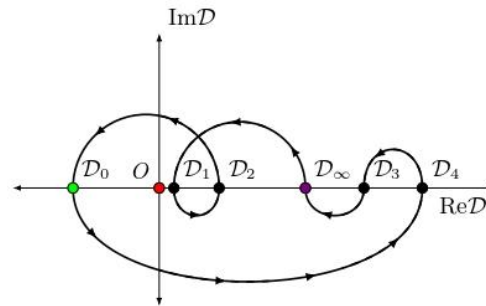
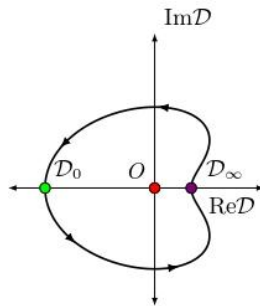
A nonzero winding guarantees a root of DR in UHP

B. Dasgupta and **D. Mukherjee**

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# Essence of the Conditions

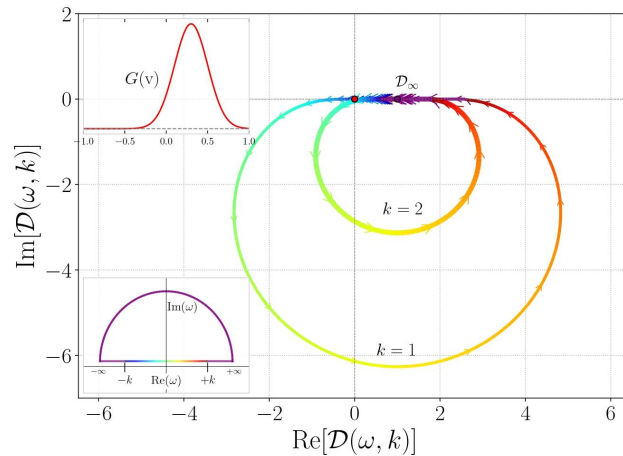
- Local Conditions:
  - Cond 1a. (crossing) requires  $g$  to change sign at some point.
  - Cond 1b. (grad-positivity) ensures D-contour goes from above-to-below (at  $\omega_0$ ).
- Global Conditions:
  - Cond 2a. (Negative PV)  $\mathcal{I}_{PV}(\omega_0) < -1$ , ensures D-0 is on the left of origin.
  - Cond 2b. (Positive PV)  $\mathcal{I}_{PV}(\omega_i) > -1$ , ensures all other points on the right of origin.



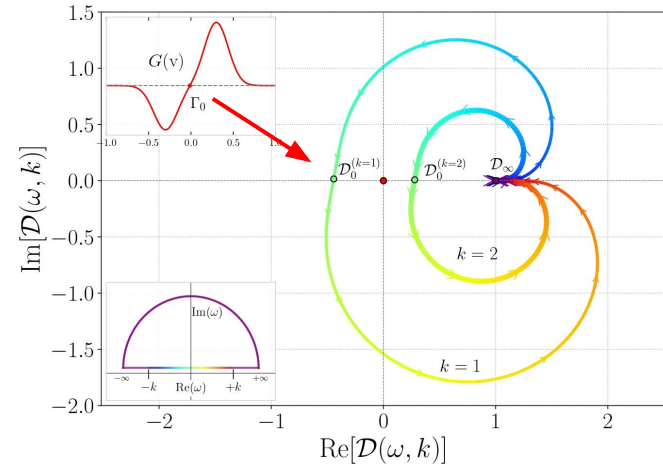
## Example: Fast Crossing

- Crossing only in velocity:

$$\mathcal{D}_{\text{fast}}(\omega, \mathbf{k}) = 1 + \int d\mathbf{v} \frac{G_{\mathbf{v}}}{\omega - \mathbf{k} \cdot \mathbf{v}} = 0$$



No crossing implies No winding.

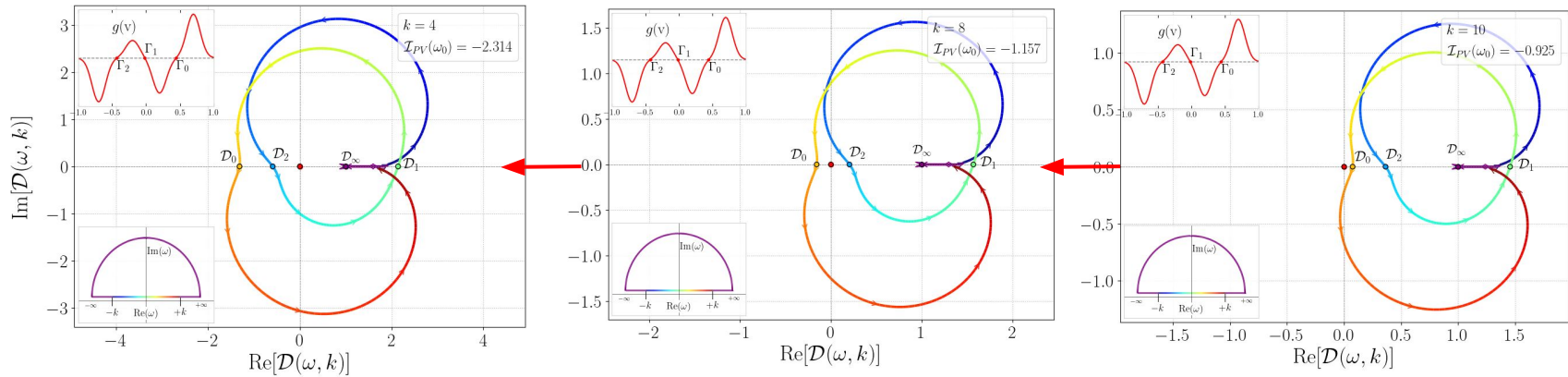


Single crossing implies winding.

- Condition 1a. (Crossing)

## Example: Fast Crossing

- Multiple crossings: Scale  $\mathbf{k} \rightarrow \lambda \mathbf{k}$  to get  $\mathcal{I}_{PV}(\omega_i) \rightarrow \frac{1}{\lambda} \mathcal{I}_{PV}(\omega_i)$
- Need  $PV < 0$  for one of the crossing; can be satisfied for
 
$$\max(0, -\kappa_1) \equiv \lambda_{\min} < \lambda < \lambda_{\max} \equiv -\min(0, \kappa_0)$$

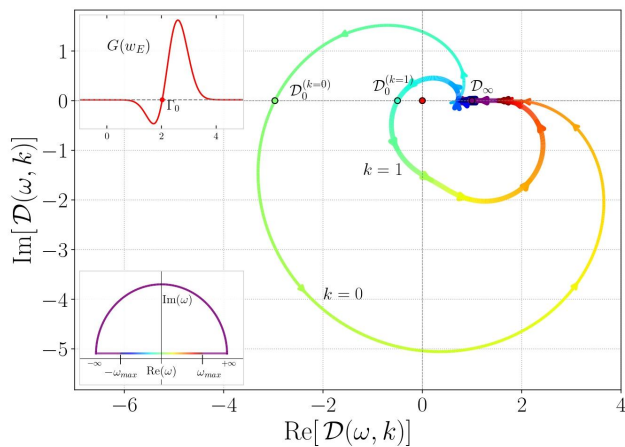


- Condition 2a. and 2b. (Negative PV and Scaling)

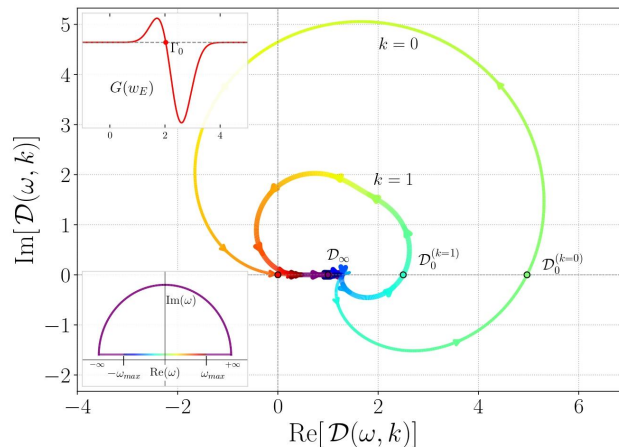
## Example: Slow Crossing

- Crossing only in energy:

$$\mathcal{D}_{\text{slow}}(\omega, \mathbf{k}) = 1 + \int d\Gamma \frac{g_{w_E}}{\omega - \mathbf{k} \cdot \mathbf{v} - w_E} = 0$$



Correct slope implies *winding*.

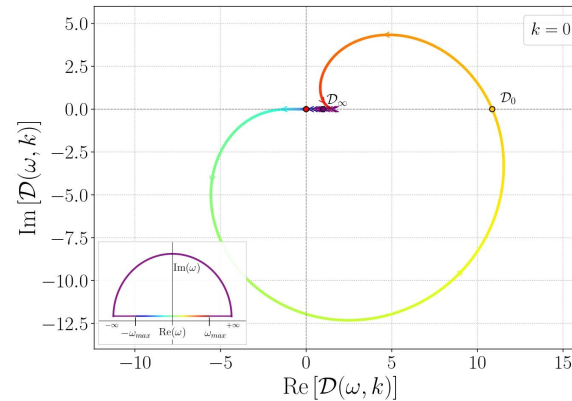
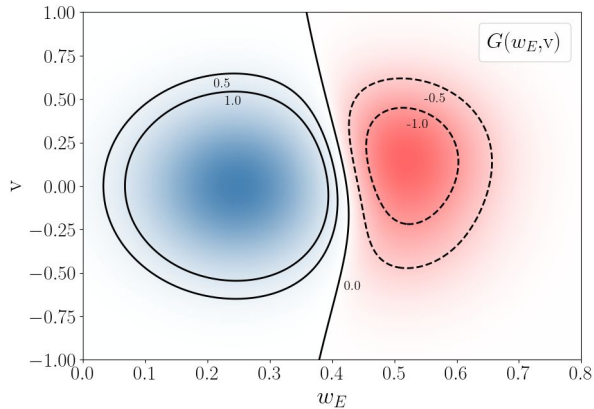


Wrong slope implies *No winding*.

- Condition 1b. (Gradient-positivity)

## Example: Mixed Crossing

- Non-trivial crossings in both energy and velocity.
- From Cond 1b,  $(\mathbf{k} - (\mathbf{k} \cdot \mathbf{v}_0)\mathbf{v}_0) \cdot (\nabla_{\mathbf{v}} g_{\Gamma})_0 > -w_{E_0}^2 \left( \frac{\partial g_{\Gamma}}{\partial w_E} \right)_0$ , for some  $\mathbf{k}$  that satisfies Cond. 2a & 2b.



Wrong slope ( $dg/dw < 0$ ) no encirclement (for  $k=0$ ).

# Summary and Remarks

- Our proof :
  - Existence proof that predicts complex roots in UHP.
  - Conditions are proven for IH (time-like eigenvectors), but can be adapted for NH with appropriate changes.
  - Conditions 1a, 1b, and 2a are also *necessary*.
- Some caveats:
  - One-to-One connection between crossing and instability is not established.
  - Not a prescription for determining all unstable modes.
  - Condition 2b is not strictly necessary.

Thank You!!

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