Modes & States ín Quantum Optícs

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IUF

modes in classical and quantum optics

What is a mode ?

mode : a normalized solution $f_1(r,t)$ of Maxwell equations

$$(\Delta - \frac{1}{c^2} \frac{\partial^2}{\partial t^2}) \mathbf{f}_1(\mathbf{r}, t) = 0, \quad \nabla \cdot \mathbf{f}_1(\mathbf{r}, t) = 0$$

$$\frac{1}{V} \int_V d^3 r \, |\mathbf{f}_1(\mathbf{r}, t)|^2 = 1$$

$$(1)$$

mode basis :

a complete orthonormal set (f_n) of modes

$$\frac{1}{V} \int_{V} d^{3}r \, \mathbf{f}_{m}^{*}(\mathbf{r},t) \cdot \mathbf{f}_{m'}(\mathbf{r},t) = \delta_{m \, m'}$$

Description of a classical multimode field

general expression for the complex electric field:

$$\mathbf{E}^{+}(\mathbf{r},t) = \sum_{n} E_{n} \mathbf{f}_{n}(\mathbf{r},t)$$
complex amplitude

$$(\mathbf{r},t) = \sum (E_{n,X} + iE_{n,P}) \mathbf{f}_{n}(\mathbf{r},t)$$

Separation spatial/temporal modes

z-propagating, multi-transverse, multi-temporal mode field:

$$\mathbf{E}^{(+)}(\mathbf{r},t) = \epsilon_1 \sum_{j} f_j^{(s)}(\mathbf{r}) \sum_{r} \mathcal{E}_{j,r} f_r^{(t)}(\tau)$$
$$\tau = t - z/c$$

propagating time

if there is a single transverse mode:

$$\begin{split} E_{long}^{(+)}(\tau) &= \sum_{r} \mathcal{E}_{r} f_{r}^{(t)}(\tau) \\ \text{with} \quad \frac{c}{L} \int d\tau f_{r}^{(t)}(\tau) f_{r'*}^{t}(\tau) &= \delta_{rr'} \end{split}$$

Description of a **quantum** multimode field

general expression for the complex electric field operator:

$$\hat{\mathbf{E}}^{+}(\mathbf{r},t) = E_{0} \sum_{n} \hat{a}_{n} \mathbf{f}_{n}(\mathbf{r},t)$$
$$[\hat{a}_{n}, \hat{a}_{n'}^{\dagger}] = \delta_{n,n'}$$
$$\hat{\mathbf{E}}^{+}(\mathbf{r},t) = \sum_{n} (\hat{E}_{n,X} + i\hat{E}_{n,P}) \mathbf{f}_{n}(\mathbf{r},t)$$
$$\mathbf{QUANTUM} \quad \mathbf{OPTICS}$$

$$[\hat{E}_{nX}, \hat{E}_{n'P}] = 2iE_0^2\delta_{n,n'}$$

the double linearity of quantum optics

$$\hat{\mathbf{E}}^+(\mathbf{r},t) = \sum_n (\hat{E}_{n,X} + i\hat{E}_{n,P}) \mathbf{f}_n(\mathbf{r},t)$$

-linearity of Quantum Mechanics -linearity of Maxwell equations

Two Hilbert spaces to consider

- the modal Hilbert space H^{mod} of solutions of Maxwell equations optical coherence
- the quantum Hilbert space H^q of quantum states of light quantum coherence

Different mode bases plane wave $\rho^{i(\mathbf{k}.\mathbf{r}-\omega t)}$

- the travelling plane wave
- transverse/spatial modes
- Hermite Gauss modes
- the pixel modes
- temporal modes

-the temporal Hermite Gauss pulses

odes





-the time bin modes





Different mode bases

- the travelling plane wave
- transverse/spatial modes
- Hermite Gauss modes
- the pixel modes



-the multi-frequency Hermite Gauss modes



-the "frequency band" modes or 'frexels'



 $(\mathbf{0})$

any solution of Maxwell equations is an element of a mode basis





$$e^{i(\mathbf{k}.\mathbf{r}-\omega t)}$$

Quantum state in mode basis change

$$\{ \mathbf{f}_n \} \longleftrightarrow \{ \mathbf{g}_\ell \}$$

$$\{ \hat{\mathbf{g}}_n \} \longleftrightarrow \{ \hat{b}_\ell \}$$

$$|\Psi\rangle = \sum_{p_1} \sum_{p_2} \dots A_{p_1, p_2, \dots} |p_1 : \mathbf{f}_1, p_2 : \mathbf{f}_2, \dots \rangle$$

$$= \sum_{q_1} \sum_{q_2} \dots B_{q_1, q_2, \dots} |q_1 : \mathbf{g}_1, q_2 : \mathbf{g}_2, \dots \rangle$$

the same quantum state $|\Psi\rangle~$ has different expressions in different mode bases

two-mode example:

$$\begin{split} |\Psi\rangle &= |squeezed\,vac: \mathbf{f}_1\rangle \otimes |squeezed\,vac: \mathbf{f}_2\rangle \quad \begin{array}{l} \textbf{factorized} \\ |\Psi\rangle &= |EPR\,entangled\,state\rangle & \textbf{entangled} \\ \textbf{on basis} \quad \mathbf{g}_{\pm} &= (\mathbf{f}_1 \pm \mathbf{f}_2)/\sqrt{2} \end{split}$$

mode basis-independent, or "intrinsic", quantities:

- total photon number:

$$\hat{N}_{tot} = \sum_{\ell} \hat{b}_{\ell}^{\dagger} \hat{b}_{\ell} = \sum_{n} \hat{a}_{n}^{\dagger} \hat{a}_{n}$$

- Wigner function values:

$$W_b(\beta_1, \ldots) = W_a(\alpha_1, \ldots)$$

with
$$(\beta_1, ...)^T = U(\alpha_1, ...)^T$$

W(0) does not depend on mode basis "negativity" of W is intrinsic hypervolume of negative part is conserved

$$d^{N}\alpha(W(\alpha_{1},\ldots)-|W(\alpha_{1},\ldots)|)$$

- P function values:

"non-classicality " is intrinsic



counting modes

the number of excited modes is depends on the mode basis is there a minimum number of modes in which a state lives?

coherence matrix:
$$C_{coherence}^{i,j} = \langle \hat{a}_i^{\dagger} \hat{a}_j \rangle$$

the coherence matrix can be diagonalized by a **mode basis change**

counting modes

example: case of three modes, two non-zero eigenvalues

$$C_{complex} = \begin{bmatrix} N_1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & N_2 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

 $|\Psi\rangle = \sum_{p_1,p_2} A_{p_1,p_2} |p_1:\mathbf{g}_1,p_2:\mathbf{g}_2,0:\mathbf{g}_3\rangle$ intrinsic two-mode state

the number of non-zero eigenvalues (rank) of covariance matrix is the minimum number of modes needed to describe the quantum state

the corresponding Hilbert space is the smallest space in which the state is living

useful for example to make full tomography of the state

intrinsic single mode state

its coherence matrix has only one nonzero eigenvalue

there is a mode basis
$$\{ \mathbf{g}_\ell \}$$
 in which it is single mode

$$|\Psi\rangle = \left(\sum A_{q_1}|q_1:\mathbf{g}_1\rangle\right) \otimes |0:\mathbf{g}_2\rangle \otimes |0:\mathbf{g}_3\rangle \otimes \dots$$

the **single photon** state: an intrinsic single mode state

defined as eigenstate of N_{tot} with eigenvalue 1

$$|\Psi_1\rangle = \sum_n A_n |1:\mathbf{f}_n\rangle$$

can be written: $|\Psi_1
angle = |1:\mathbf{g}_1
angle \otimes |0,0,...
angle$

with
$$\mathbf{g}_1 = \sum_n A_n \mathbf{f}_n$$

a single photon state is always a single mode state

a single photon state cannot be defined independently of the mode in which it is defined

its properties depend on this mode

example: single photon through beamsplitter

$$\begin{array}{c} \mathbf{f}_r\\ (|1:\mathbf{f}_r\,,\,0:\mathbf{f}_t\rangle+|0:\mathbf{f}_r\,,\,1:\mathbf{f}_t\rangle)/\sqrt{2}\\ |1\rangle & \mathbf{f}_t \end{array}$$

single photon in single mode $\mathbf{g}_1 \equiv (\mathbf{f}_r + \mathbf{f}_t)/\sqrt{2}$

single mode states and optical coherence

in any single mode state :

$$|g^{(1)}| = 1$$

with

$$g^{(1)} = \frac{\langle E^{(-)}(\mathbf{r},t)E^{(+)}(\mathbf{r}',t') \rangle}{(\langle E^{(-)}(\mathbf{r},t)E^{(+)}(\mathbf{r},t) \rangle \langle E^{(-)}(\mathbf{r}',t')E^{(+)}(\mathbf{r}',t') \rangle)^{1/2}}$$

interferences are of perfect visibility whatever the quantum state

interference visibility: a mode property, not a state property

(R. Glauber)

Determination of the mode of a single photon state

Determination of the mode of a heralded single photon

O. Morin, C. Fabre, J. Laurat PRL 111, 213602 (2013)



related work : A. Mc Rae, T. Brannan , R. Rachal, A. Lvovsky PRL 109, 033601 (2012)



only one eigenvalue different from vacuum fluctuations the generated state is indeed single mode

the corresponding eigenstate gives the shape of the temporal mode of the single photon

Complete characterization of multimode Gaussian states



The covariance matrix

the coherence matrix $C_{coherence}^{i,j} = \langle \hat{a}_i^{\dagger} \hat{a}_j \rangle$ can be used to count modes on any quantum state, Gaussian or not, but it gives partial information

in contrast Gaussian states are completely characterized by the covariance matrix

$\Delta^2 E_{X1}$	$\langle E_{X1}E_{X2} \rangle$	$\langle E_{X1}E_{P1} \rangle$	$\langle E_{X1}E_{P2} \rangle$
$\langle E_{X2}E_{X1} \rangle$	$\Delta^2 E_{X2}$	$\langle E_{X2}E_{P1} \rangle$	$\langle E_{X2}E_{P2} \rangle$
$\langle E_{P1}E_{X1} \rangle$	$\langle E_{P1}E_{X2} \rangle$	$\Delta^2 E_{P1}$	$\langle E_{P1}E_{P2} \rangle$
$< E_{P2}E_{X1} >$	$\langle E_{P2}E_{X2} \rangle$	$< E_{P2}E_{P1} >$	$\Delta^2 E_{P2}$

of dimension $(2N_{modes}) \times (2N_{modes})$

it can be diagonalized, but the corresponding linear transformation is not a mode basis change

characterization of a multimode Gaussian quantum state:

for a pure state:



Bloch Messiah (or Singular Value) decomposition

characterization of a multimode Gaussian quantum state:

for a mixed state:



Bloch Messiah Williamson reduction

characterization of a multimode Gaussian quantum state:

- all pure multimode Gaussian states are **factorizable** there is a mode basis in which:

$$W(x_1, p_1, ..., x_n, p_n) = W_1(x_1, p_1) \times ... \times W_n(x_n, p_n)$$

- all mixed multimode Gaussian states are **separable** there is a mode basis in which

$$W(x_1, p_1, \dots, x_n, p_n) = \int d\lambda p(\lambda) W_{1,\lambda}(x_1, p_1) \times \dots \times W_{n,\lambda}(x_n, p_n)$$

there are no intrinsically entangled Gaussian states

How to measure the covariance matrix?

balanced homodyne detection gives information about the **projection** of the multimode state on the local oscillator mode





How to measure the off-diagonal part of the covariance matrix?

make homodyne measurements using the sum of two modes

Generation and characterization of a highly multimode Gaussian non-classical state



Frequency modes of a mode-locked laser: about 100.000

a quantum frequency comb?

generation by parametric down conversion of a mode-locked laser



the 10⁵ frequency modes : are they entangled ?

Generation of a multimode quantum state from multimode pump

parametric down conversion of a monochromatic pump gives rise to EPR entangled signal and idler beams



A liitle bit of theory ...





G. De Valcarcel, G. Patera, N. Treps, C. Fabre, Phys. Rev. A**74,** 061801(R) (2006) Shifeng Jiang, N. Treps, C. Fabre, New Journal of Physics, **14** 043006 (2012)

Diagonalizing the interaction



Eigenstates:

linear combinations of frequency modes « supermodes »

$$\hat{b}_{k} = \sum_{\ell} U_{k}^{\ell} \hat{a}_{\ell}$$
 eigenvalues Λ_{k}

: multi-squeezing hamiltonian

$$\hat{H} = \hbar \sum_{k=1}^{N_m} \Lambda_k \left(\hat{b}_k^2 + \hat{b}_k^{+2} \right)$$

 $|\Psi_{\text{out}}\rangle = |Squeezed\ state_k(\Lambda_1)\rangle \otimes ... \otimes |Squeezed\ state_k(\Lambda_{N_m})\rangle \otimes |0\rangle \otimes ...$

supermode shapes

Simple example: Gaussian variation of $G_{\ell,\ell'}$



Eigenmodes: combs with Hermite-Gauss modal amplitudes



supermode shapes

Simple example: Gaussian variation of $G_{\ell,\ell'}$



Eigenmodes: trains of pulses with Hermite-Gauss temporal shapes



Experimental set-up



O. Pinel et al, Phys. Rev. Letters **108**, 083601 (2012)
J. Roslund et al, Nature Photonics, **8**, 109 (2014)
R. Medeiros de Araujo et al, Phys Rev A**89**, 053828 (2014)
Yan Cai et al, Nature Com **8**, 15645 (2017)

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experimental value of the 20 by 20 covariance matrix

x quadratures							p quadratures												
1.66 0.25 0.09 0.08 -0.03	0.25 1.33 0.19 0.15 0.06	0.09 0.19 1.22 0.07 -0.01	0.08 0.15 0.07 1.08 -0.02	-0.03 0.06 -0.01 -0.02 0.92	-0.05 -0.06 -0.08 -0.12 -0.13	-0.08 -0.17 -0.21 -0.21 -0.14	-0.11 -0.33 -0.34 -0.24 -0.11	-0.42 -0.59 -0.44 -0.25 -0.09	-1.23 -0.51 -0.20 -0.07 0.01	Ì									
-0.05 -0.08 -0.11 -0.42 -1.23	-0.06 -0.17 -0.33 -0.59 -0.51	-0.08 -0.21 -0.34 -0.44 -0.20	-0.12 -0.21 -0.24 -0.25 -0.07	-0.13 -0.14 -0.11 -0.09 0.01	0.89 -0.07 0.02 0.02 0.04	-0.07 1.02 0.12 0.10 0.20	0.02 0.12 1.14 0.29 0.22	0.02 0.10 0.29 1.36 0.40	0.04 0.20 0.22 0.40 1.88	ļ				[0]				
				[0]						1.66 0.25 0.09 -0.02 0.04 0.00 0.01 0.09 0.39 1.19	0.25 1.33 0.19 0.05 0.13 0.12 0.14 0.28 0.50 0.53	0.09 0.19 1.22 0.17 0.21 0.28 0.32 0.32 0.37 0.39 0.26	-0.02 0.05 0.17 1.31 0.35 0.38 0.37 0.33 0.26 0.12	0.04 0.13 0.21 1.38 0.47 0.43 0.31 0.22 0.10	0.00 0.12 0.28 0.38 0.47 1.42 0.42 0.42 0.30 0.19 0.10	0.01 0.14 0.32 0.43 0.42 1.34 0.27 0.21 0.08	0.09 0.28 0.37 0.33 0.31 0.30 0.27 1.30 0.22 0.15	0.39 0.50 0.26 0.22 0.19 0.21 0.22 1.36 0.40	1.19 0.53 0.26 0.12 0.10 0.10 0.08 0.15 0.40 1.88

characterization of the multimode state by Williamson Bloch Messiah reduction



excess noise of input thermal modes:



characterization of the multimode state by Williamson Bloch Messiah reduction





frequency shape of the squeezed eigenmodes





multipartite optimal entanglement witnesses from covariance matrix:

J. Sperling and W. Vogel, Phys. Rev. Lett. 111, 110503 (2013).



FIG. 3. The verified entanglement for all 115974 nontrivial partitions – sorted by significance Σ – for the 10-mode frequency-comb Gaussian state.

all 115 974 multipartitions are entangled !



A technique to measure simultaneously the different modes



Multiplexed determination of (part of) quadrature covariance matrix



Multiplexed determination of quadrature of any mode



as a mode is a linear combination of « frexel » modes, computer calculates the same linear combination of the recorded fluctuations

permits « live » access to the quadrature fluctuations of any mode,







What is the smallest measurable variation of p around value p_{0} , for a given mean photon number ?

Quantum Cramer Rao Bound

The minimum variance of any (unbiased) estimator is given by the inverse of quantum Fischer information

the bound is optimized over

- all the possible techniques of photodetection
- all the possible data processing strategies

It depends only

on the characteristics of the quantum state of light



choice of light state $|\psi(p)\rangle$?

best choice for an experimentalist in Quantum Optics:

- large mean photon number N

quantum limits scale as $1/N^x$

- non-classical state of light
- multimode state

$$\hat{\mathbf{E}}^{+}(\mathbf{r},t) = \sum_{n} (\hat{X}_{n} + i\hat{Y}_{n}) \mathbf{f}_{n}(\mathbf{r},t)$$
choice of multimode quantum light state
choice of mode shape

a practical choice : the multimode Gaussian pure state

includes a wide class of non-classical states

- single and multimode squeezed states
- Einstein Podolsky Rosen (EPR) state
- multipartite quadrature entàngled state
- coherent state with high photon number

optimization over :

- squeezing and entanglement
- number of modes
- the spatio-temporal shape of modes

excludes states which are « more quantum », but not scalable to very large N value



Useful mode 1: the « illumination mode »

$$u_{mean}(x, y, t, p) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{N}} \left\langle \psi(p, t) \middle| \hat{E}^{(+)}(x, y) \middle| \psi(p, t) \right\rangle$$

contains the spatio-temporal dependence of the mean field.

for a small variation around p_0 :

 $u_{mean}(x, y, z, t, p) \simeq u_{mean}(x, y, z, t, p = p_0) + (p - p_0)\frac{\partial u_{mean}}{\partial p}$

information about p related to

 $rac{\partial u_{mean}}{\partial p}$

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 $u_{mean}(x, y, z, t, p) \simeq u_{mean}(x, y, z, t, p = p_0) + (p - p_0) \frac{\partial u_{mean}}{\partial p}$

Useful mode 2: the «detection mode »

$$u_{det}(x, y, t) = p_c \frac{\partial u_{mean}}{\partial p}\Big|_{p=p_0}$$
normalizing factor

examples of detection mode





Quantum Cramer Rao bound for Gaussian pure states



Quantum Cramer Rao bound for Gaussian pure states



 σ_n depends only on the noise of the detection mode





$$\Delta p_{CRb} = \frac{p_c}{2\sqrt{N}} \sqrt{\sigma_{\min}}$$

obtained when the detection mode contains best squeezed mode

$$\boldsymbol{\sigma}_{\min} = Min\{\boldsymbol{\sigma}_1, \boldsymbol{\sigma}_2, \dots, \boldsymbol{\sigma}_s\}$$

Instructions for the experimentalist

To get the lowest possible Quantum Cramer Rao bound

- Minimize scaling factor ρ_c
- Put maximum power in coherent mode
- Squeeze one mode only

squeezing is not « additive »

- Squeeze the right mode

squeeze the detection mode

- Do not entangle detection mode with other modes



Experiments: parameter estimation below the standard quantum limit

1) Estimation of transverse beam displacement



2) Estimation of a time delay



2 terms in the detection mode:

- **Carrier**: sensitive to phase delay, accessed by phase measurement
- Envelope: sensitive to group delay, accessed by time of flight measurement

using both information:
$$(\delta t)_{\min} = \frac{1}{2\sqrt{N}\sqrt{\omega_0^2 + \Delta\omega^2}}$$

Recent experiment

Quantum improved measurement of time transfer

Shaofeng Wang^{1,2}, Xiao Xiang^{1,2}, Nicolas Treps³, Claude Fabre³, Tao Liu^{1,2}, Shougang Zhang^{1,2}, Ruifang Dong^{1,2,*} ¹ Key Laboratory of Time and Frequency Primary Standards,

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(unpublished)





FIG. 3. Measured BHD signals with coherent and squeezed pulses as the signal arm respectively. The applied modulation voltage on PZT2 was set to 1.7 V. The data acquisition was implemented by using a spectrum analyzer with a RBW of 100 kHz and a VBW of 30 Hz.

estimation made in the coherent phase measurement case

improvement of estimation from 2.8 10⁻²⁰ s to 2.4 10⁻²⁰ s



Experiment

J. Roslund, Y. Cai, C. Fabre and N. Treps *A Quantum spectrometer*.

multimode squeezed state produced in preparation by parametric down conversion of mode locked laser:





- in many applications, the shape of the mode(s)
 in which a quantum state lives
 is as important as the quantum state itself
- possibility of change of mode basis opens many possibilites
- multiplexed detection permits to extract simultaneous information about different modes without physically extracting the modes
- manipulating multimode quantum states of light is a good starting point for up-scalable quantum information processing, in particular for measurement based quantum computing

Quantum state in mode basis change

the same quantum state $|\Psi
angle$ has different expressions in different mode bases

two-mode example:

$$\begin{split} |\Psi\rangle &= |1:\mathbf{f}_1, 1:\mathbf{f}_2\rangle & \qquad \text{factorized} \\ |\Psi\rangle &= |2:\mathbf{g}_+, 0:\mathbf{g}_-\rangle - |0:\mathbf{g}_+, 2:\mathbf{g}_-\rangle & \qquad \text{entangled} \\ \text{with} \quad \mathbf{g}_\pm &= (\mathbf{f}_1 \pm \mathbf{f}_2)/\sqrt{2} \end{split}$$