



Quantum Uncertainty of Light Fields and Energy Quantization

- how comes light is best described by operators and what does it mean?

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pre view

- field quantization
- coherent state
- real laser
- generation of high power light beams
- relevance of quantum uncertainty
- modification of the quantum uncertainty by light matter interaction
- quantum dynamics & Wigner flow
- effect of losses
- designing material with high nonlinear coefficient
- quantum metrology with high power laser
- nonlinear optics with squeezed vacuum
- the quantum vacuum



Fig. 1: optical resonator

$$\left(\vec{\nabla}^2 - \frac{1}{c^2} \frac{\partial^2}{\partial t^2} \right) \vec{E}(\vec{r}, t) = 0$$

$$\vec{E}(\vec{r}, t) = \vec{u}(\vec{r})q(t) \quad \longrightarrow \quad \int_V \epsilon_0 \vec{u}^2(\vec{r}) dV = 1$$

$\rightarrow q^2$ has dimension **energy**

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} (a) \quad \vec{\nabla}^2 \vec{u}(\vec{r}) - R\vec{u}(\vec{r}) = 0 \\ (b) \quad \frac{1}{c^2} \frac{\partial^2}{\partial t^2} q(t) - Rq(t) = 0 \end{array} \right.$$

Maxwell's equations

$$\vec{\nabla} \cdot \vec{E} = \frac{\rho}{\epsilon_0}$$

$$\vec{\nabla} \cdot \vec{B} = 0$$

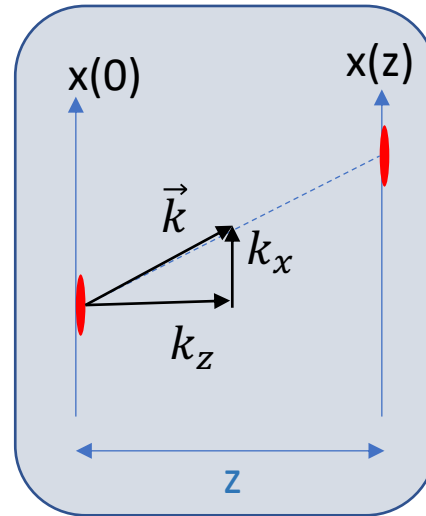
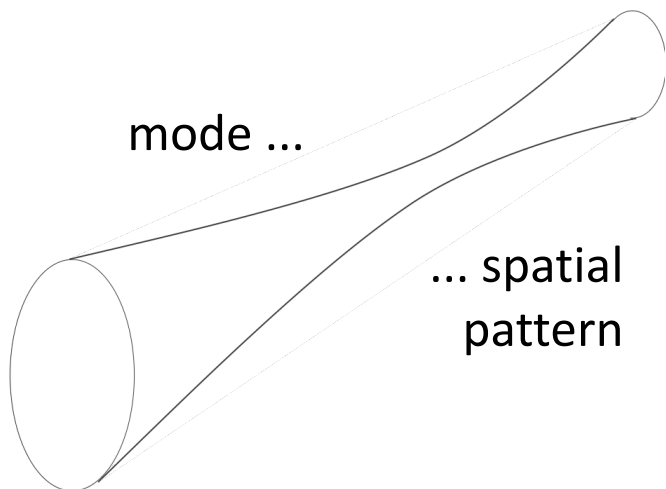
$$\vec{\nabla} \times \vec{E} = -\frac{\partial \vec{B}}{\partial t}$$

$$\vec{\nabla} \times \vec{B} = \mu_0 \vec{j} + \mu_0 \epsilon_0 \frac{\partial \vec{E}}{\partial t}$$



Helmholtz - Equation

$$\begin{cases} (a) & \vec{\nabla}^2 \vec{u}(\vec{r}) - R\vec{u}(\vec{r}) = 0 \\ (b) & \frac{1}{c^2} \frac{\partial^2}{\partial t^2} q(t) - Rq(t) = 0 \end{cases}$$



$x(0), k_x(0)$

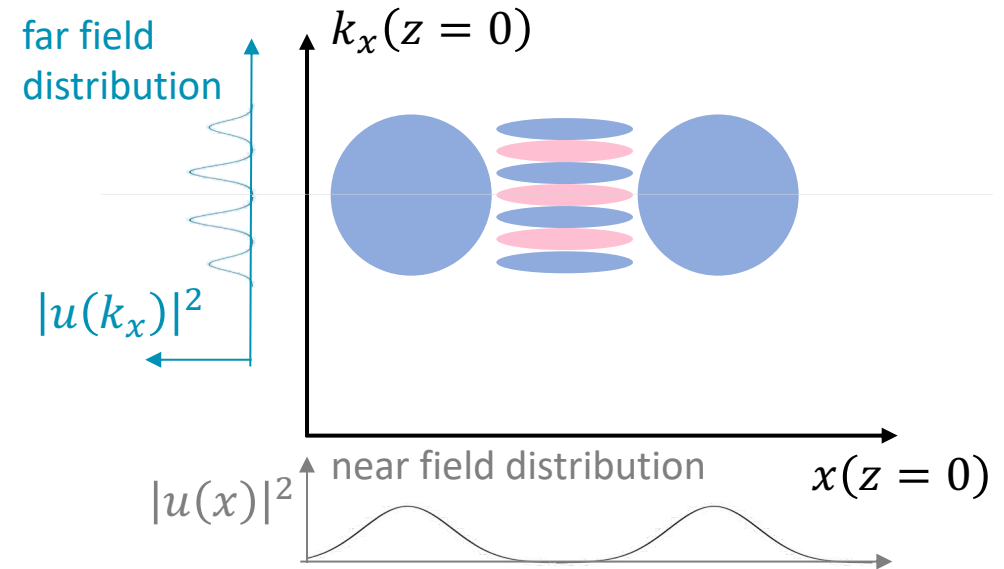
$$x, \quad \frac{\partial x}{\partial z} = \frac{k_x}{k_z} \approx \frac{k_x}{k}$$

$$I(x), \quad I(k_x)$$

$$u(x), \quad u(k_x)$$

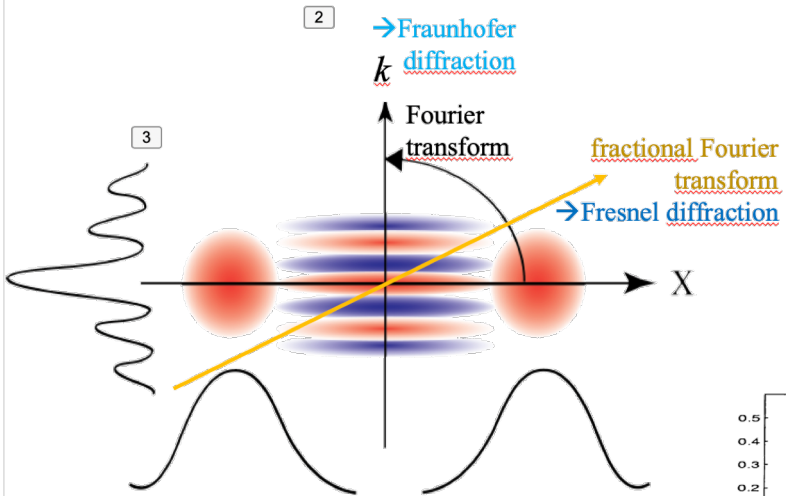
(fractional) **Fourier transform**

“lab” phase space of classical optics

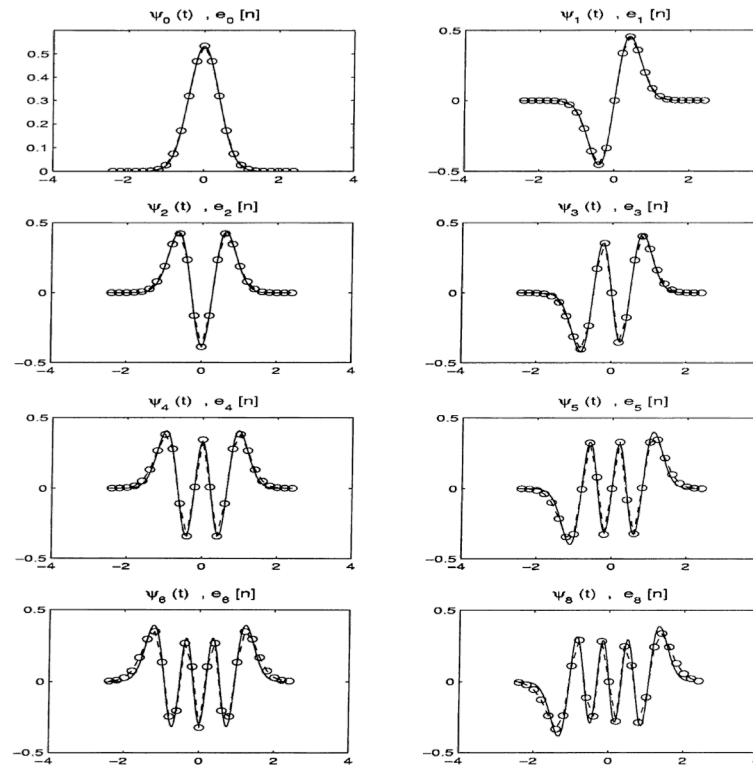


Phase space distribution function:
Wigner function

$W(x,k) \rightarrow$ Wigner function

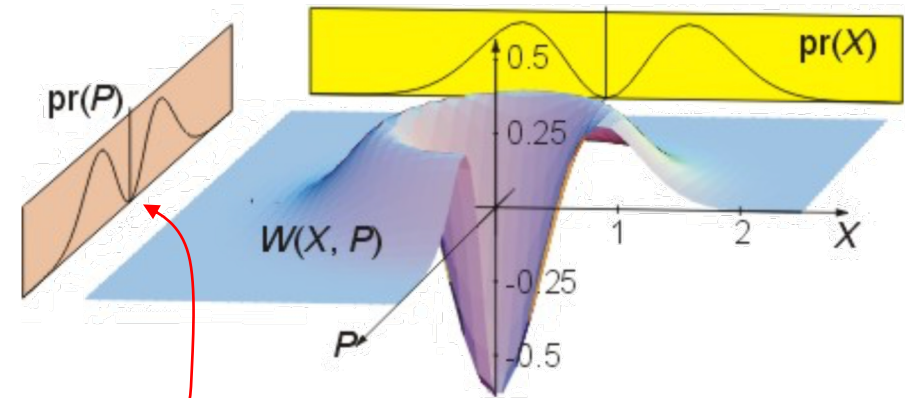


Hermite Gaussian functions



Transverse mode pattern in lasers

- \rightarrow invariant under propagation
- \rightarrow invariant under Fourier transformation
- \rightarrow rotationally symmetric Wigner function



zero requires negative values of $pr(P)$

Equation describing temporal evolution

$$\begin{cases} (a) & \vec{\nabla}^2 \vec{u}(\vec{r}) - R\vec{u}(\vec{r}) = 0 \\ (b) & \frac{1}{c^2} \frac{\partial^2}{\partial t^2} q(t) - Rq(t) = 0 \end{cases}$$

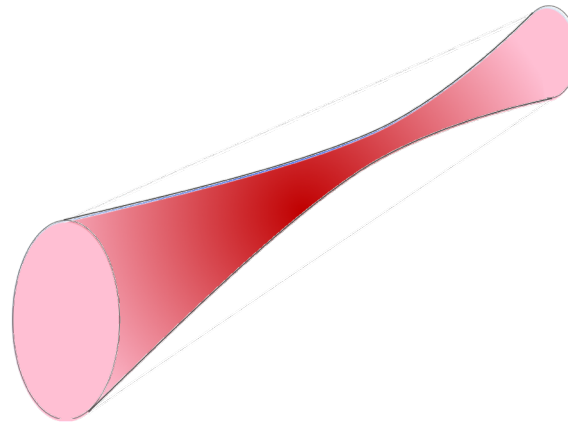
→ Harmonic oscillator

→ q^2 has dimension energy

$$q(t) = q(0)\cos(\omega t) + \frac{\dot{q}(0)}{\omega}\sin(\omega t)$$

$$(b) \rightarrow \frac{1}{\omega^2} (\dot{q}(0))^2 + (q(0))^2 = S$$

excitation of mode



phase space diagram

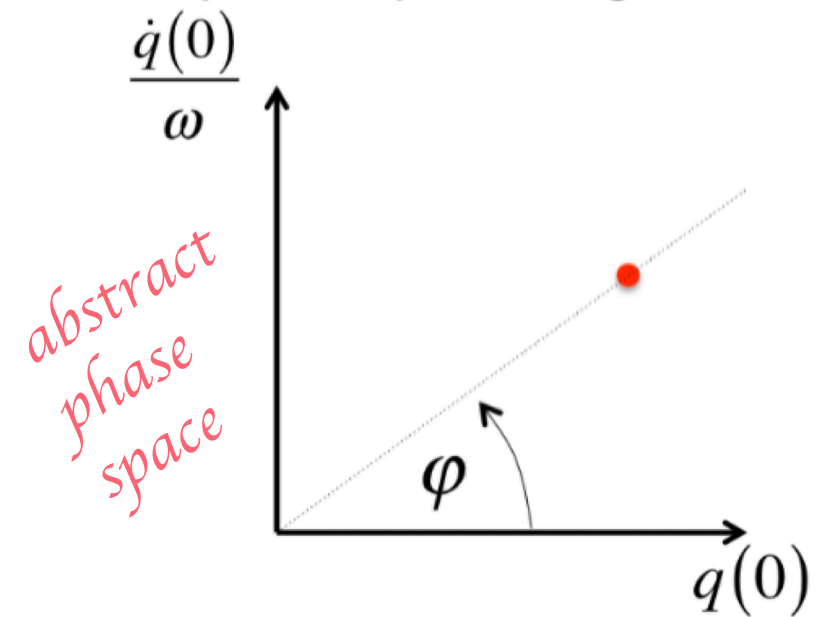
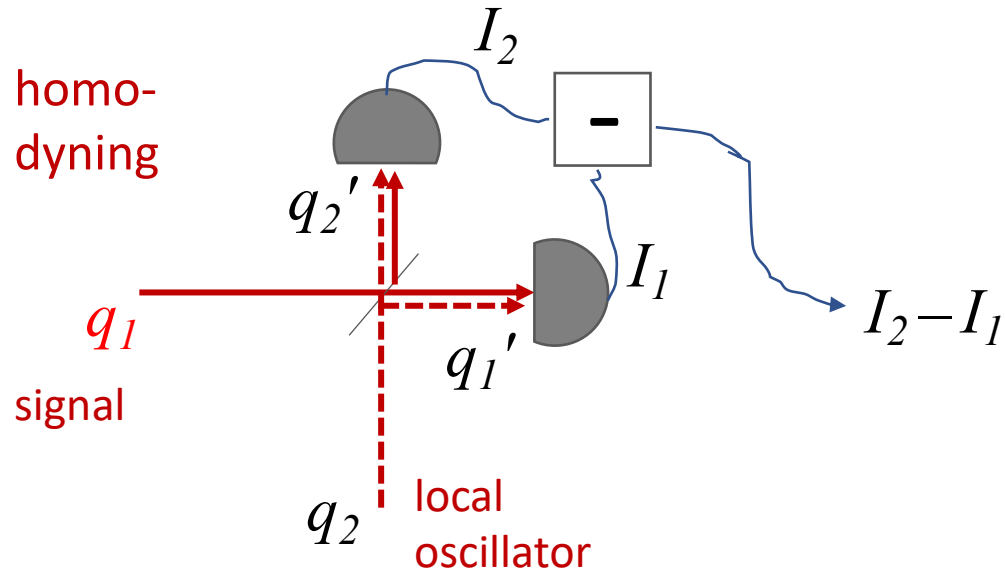


Fig. 2: phase space representation of a classical field: a single point.

Measurement of q and \dot{q} with homodyning

amplitude & phase measurement



$$q_1' = (q_1 - q_2)/\sqrt{2}$$

$$q_2' = (q_1 + q_2)/\sqrt{2}$$

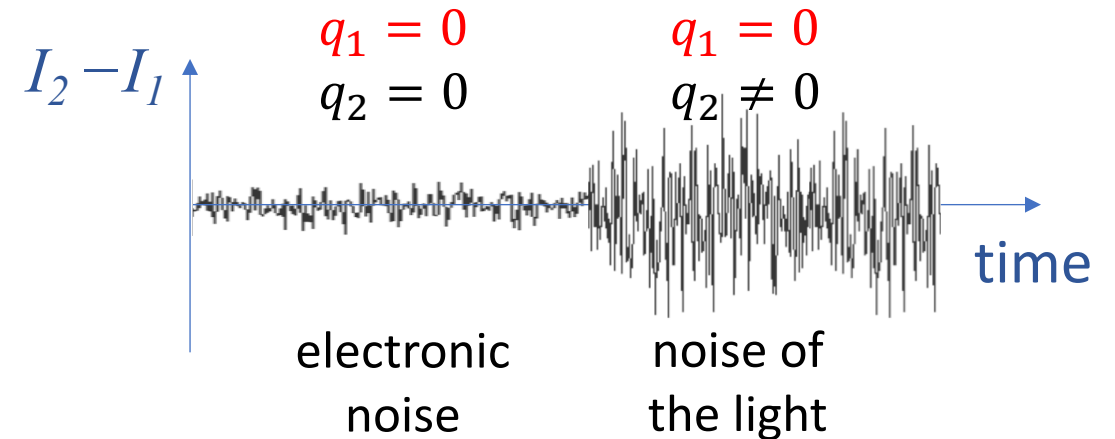
$$I_1 \propto |q_1'|^2 = (|q_1|^2 + |q_2|^2 - q_1 q_2^* - q_2 q_1^*)/2$$

$$I_2 \propto |q_2'|^2 = (|q_1|^2 + |q_2|^2 + q_1 q_2^* + q_2 q_1^*)/2$$

$$I_2 - I_1 \propto 2 \cdot \Re\{q_1 q_2^*\}$$

If $q_1=0 \rightarrow I_2 - I_1 = 0$

But experiment shows noise:

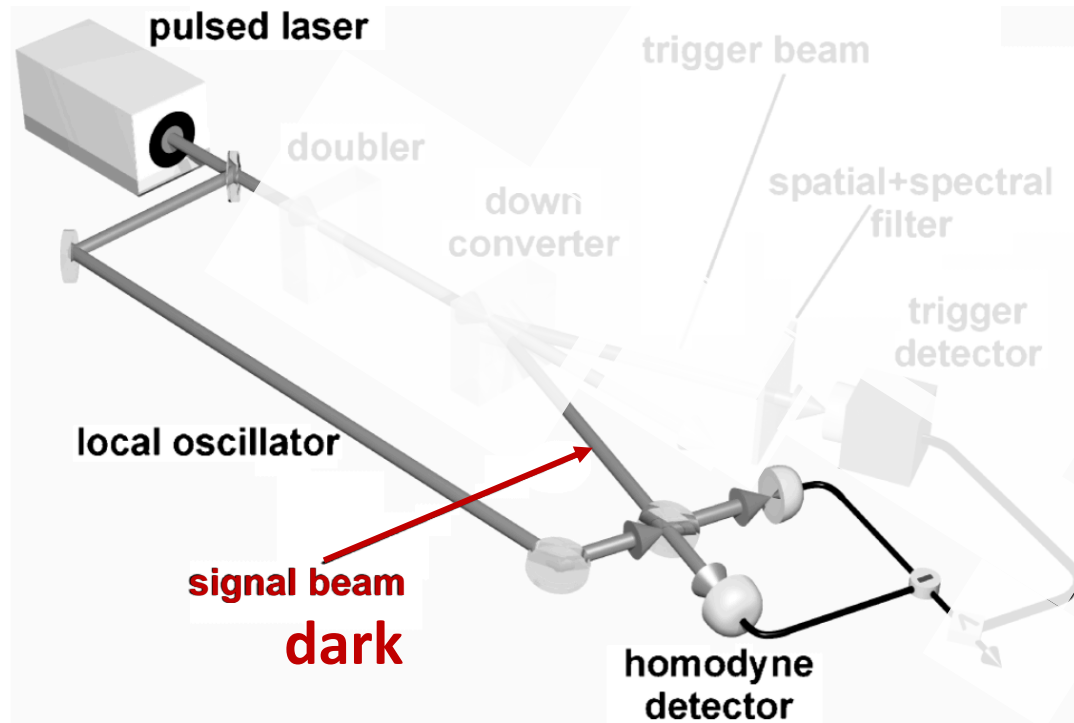


→ obviously:

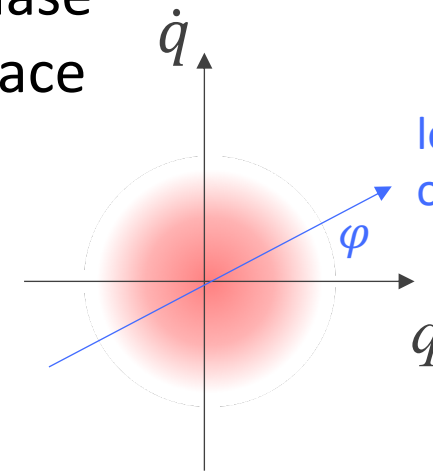
$$\langle q_1 \rangle = 0 \text{ and } \langle q_1^2 \rangle \neq 0$$

quantum state reconstruction of the vacuum state (zero-photon Fock state)

A I Lvovsky et al., Phys. Rev. Lett. 87, 050402 (2001)



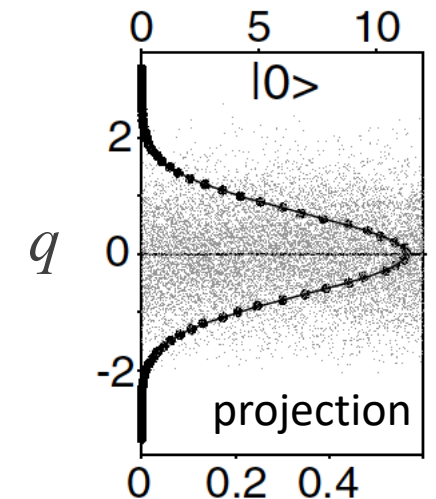
phase space



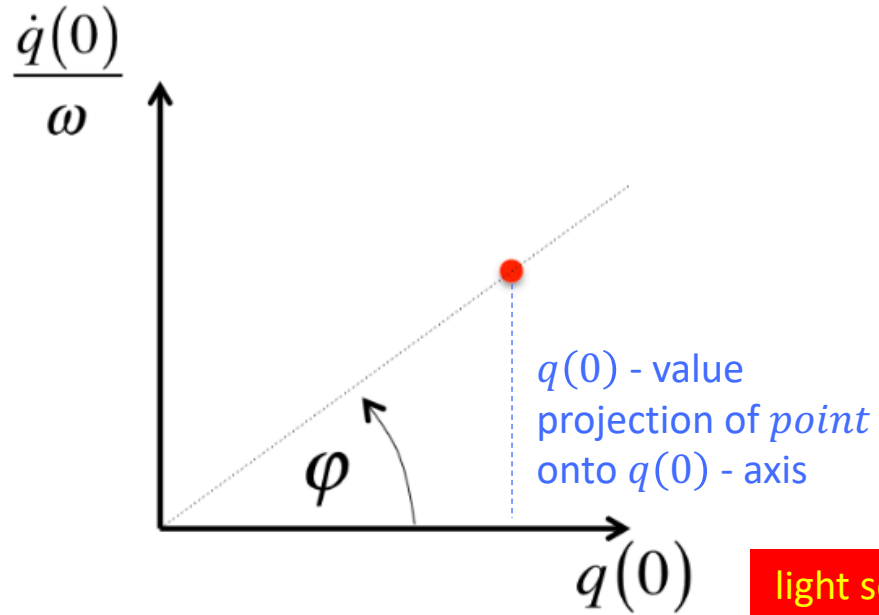
Homodyning \rightarrow projection of phase space distribution onto " φ "

local oscillator

Measure for different φ and reconstruct Wigner function, e.g. by Radon transformation

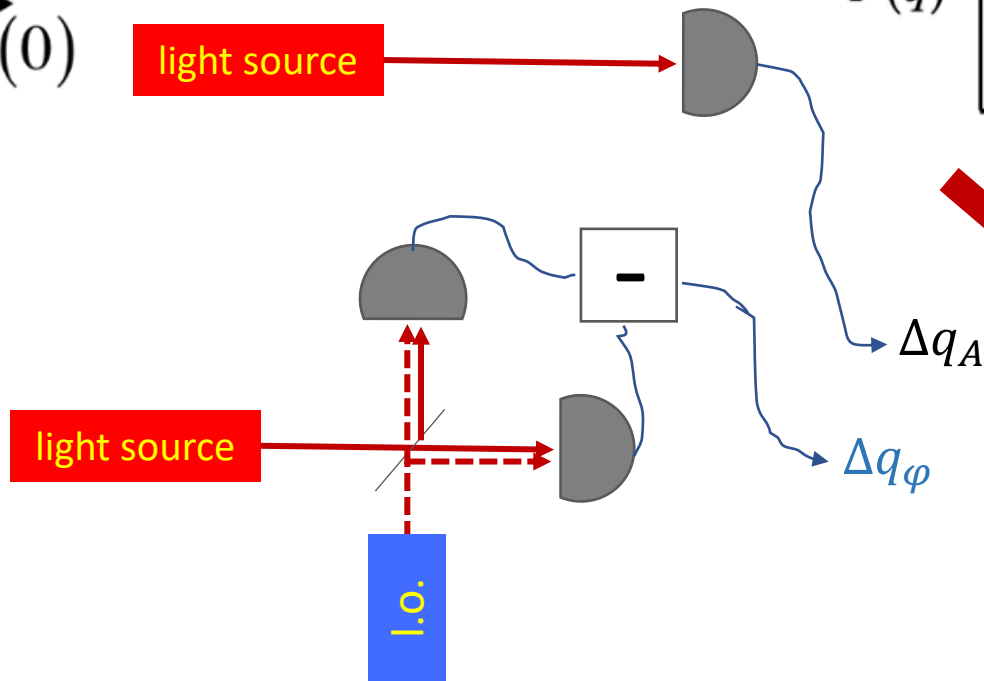
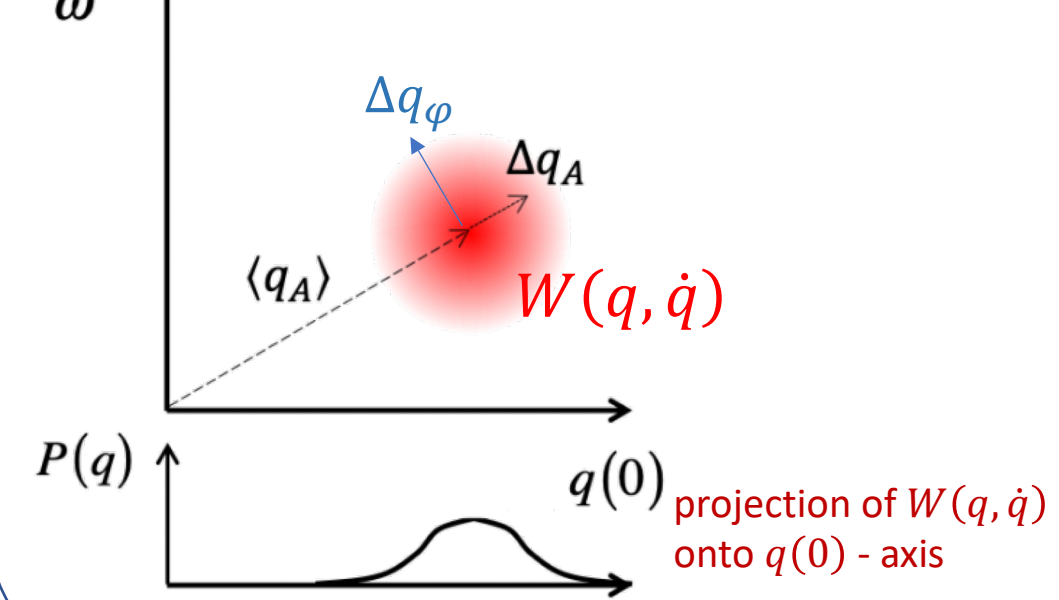


phase space diagram



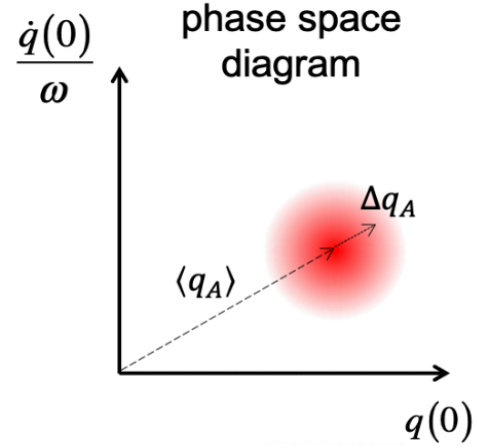
experiment

phase space diagram



- distributions $P(q), P(\dot{q})$
- minimum area in phase space
- for laser: symmetric
- $P(q)$ dependent on $P(\dot{q})$

abstract phase space where excitation “lives”



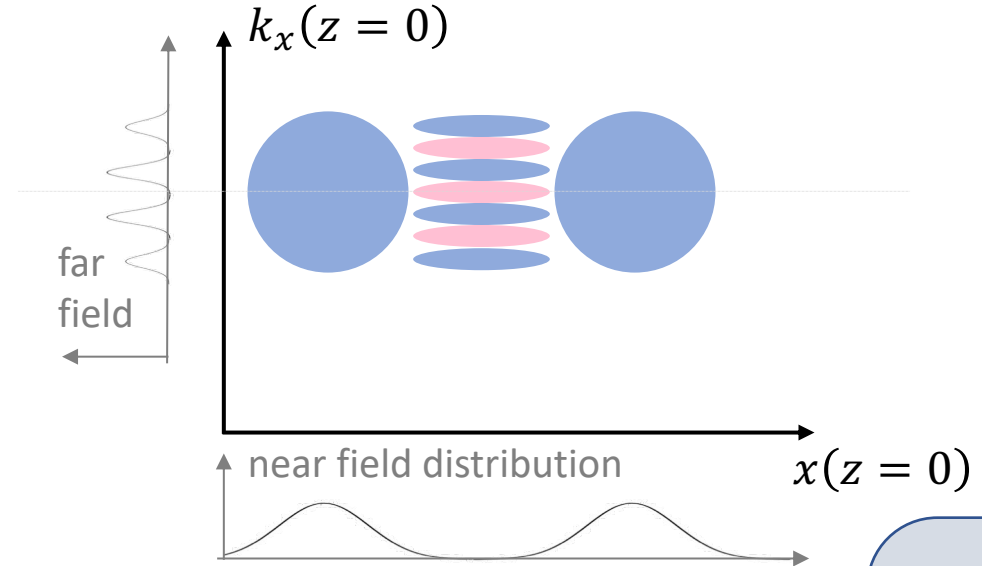
$q(t), \dot{q}(t)$
 $q = q(0), \dot{q} = \dot{q}(0)$

$P(q), P(\dot{q})$
 $\psi(q), \psi(\dot{q})$

(fractional) Fourier transform

$t \iff z$

“lab” phase space of classical optics



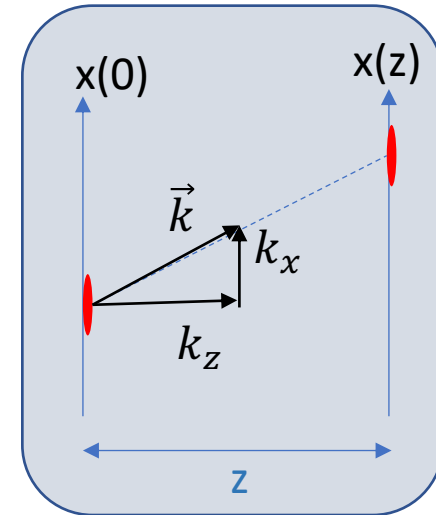
$x(0), k_x(0)$

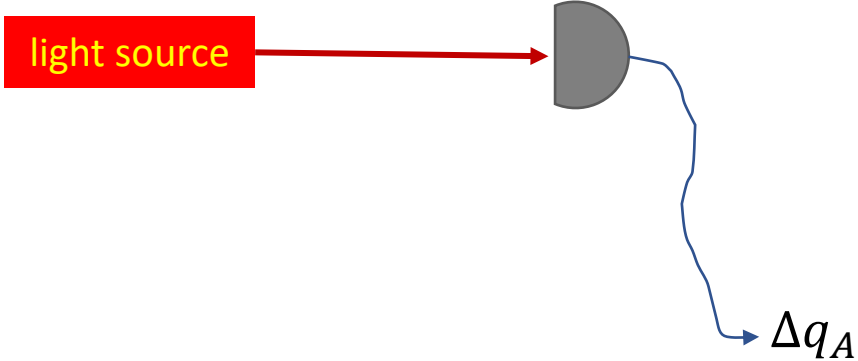
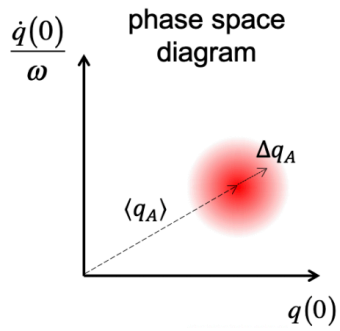
$x, \frac{\partial x}{\partial z} = \frac{k_x}{k_z} \approx \frac{k_x}{k}$

$I(x), I(k_x)$

$u(x), u(k_x)$

(fractional) Fourier transform





quantitative result:

He Ne laser of 1mW

root mean square
power fluctuations in
radio frequency band of
1 MHz:

$2.5 \cdot 10^{-8}$ Watt

same for phase

p is conjugate to variable q

$\rightarrow p \sim \dot{q}$

$P(q) = \Psi^*(q)\Psi(q)$

$\Psi(q) = \int dp \tilde{\Psi}(p) e^{iqp}$

$\int dq \Psi^*(q) (-i) \frac{\partial}{\partial q} \Psi(q) = \int dp \tilde{\Psi}^*(p) p \tilde{\Psi}(p)$

$p \equiv -i \frac{\partial}{\partial q}$

$$\frac{1}{\omega^2} (\dot{q}(0))^2 + (q(0))^2 = S$$

$$-\left(\frac{\hbar\omega}{2} \frac{\partial}{\partial q}\right)^2 \Psi(q) + q^2 \Psi(q) = S \Psi(q)$$

$\pi \sqrt{\langle (\Delta q)^2 \rangle} \sqrt{\langle \left(\Delta \left(\frac{q}{\omega}\right)\right)^2 \rangle} = \frac{\pi}{2} 1.56 \cdot 10^{-19} J$

$\frac{\dot{q}}{\omega} \approx 0.5 \cdot 10^{-34} [Js] \omega p$

\hbar ↗

$$\frac{1}{\omega^2} (\dot{q}(0))^2 + (q(0))^2 = S$$

$$-\left(\frac{\hbar\omega}{2} \frac{\partial}{\partial q}\right)^2 \Psi(q) + q^2 \Psi(q) = S \Psi(q)$$

interestingly enough:
eigen functions the same as for
laser modes !!!

eigen functions

$$\hat{a} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{\hbar\omega}} q + \frac{\sqrt{\hbar\omega}}{2} \frac{\partial}{\partial q} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{\hbar\omega}} q + i \frac{\sqrt{\hbar\omega}}{2} p$$

$$\hat{a}^\dagger = \frac{1}{\sqrt{\hbar\omega}} q - \frac{\sqrt{\hbar\omega}}{2} \frac{\partial}{\partial q} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{\hbar\omega}} q - i \frac{\sqrt{\hbar\omega}}{2} p$$

$$\left. \begin{aligned} \Psi_0(q) &= N_0 e^{-\frac{q^2}{\hbar\omega}} \\ \Psi_1(q) &= N_1 q e^{-\frac{q^2}{\hbar\omega}} \\ &\vdots \end{aligned} \right\} |n\rangle$$

field operators

eigen values

$$\int dq \Psi^*(q) \left(\hbar\omega \left(\hat{a}^\dagger \hat{a} + \frac{1}{2} \right) \right) \Psi(q) = S$$

$$\hat{S} = \hbar\omega \left(\hat{a}^\dagger \hat{a} + \frac{1}{2} \right)$$

$$\hat{a} |n\rangle = \sqrt{n} |n-1\rangle$$

$$S_n = \left(n + \frac{1}{2} \right) \hbar\omega$$

$$\hat{a}^\dagger |n\rangle = \sqrt{n+1} |n+1\rangle$$

field operators

$$\hat{a}|n\rangle = \sqrt{n} |n-1\rangle$$

$$\hat{a}^\dagger|n\rangle = \sqrt{n+1} |n+1\rangle$$

$$\hat{a}^\dagger \hat{a}|n\rangle = n |n\rangle$$

$$\hat{a} \hat{a}^\dagger|n\rangle = (n+1) |n\rangle$$

$$[\hat{a}, \hat{a}^\dagger] = \hat{a} \hat{a}^\dagger - \hat{a}^\dagger \hat{a} = \hat{1}$$

$\{|n\rangle, n = 0, 1, 2, \dots\}$


ortho-normal

basis of Hilbert space

eigen functions of \hat{a} ?

$$\hat{a} \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} c_n |n\rangle \stackrel{?}{=} \alpha \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} c_n |n\rangle \equiv \alpha |\alpha\rangle$$

$$|\alpha\rangle = e^{-|\alpha|^2/2} \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{\alpha^n}{\sqrt{n!}} |n\rangle$$

coherent state 

eigen functions of \hat{a}^\dagger ?

$$\hat{a}^\dagger \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} c_n |n\rangle \stackrel{?}{=} \beta \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} c_n |n\rangle \equiv \beta |\beta\rangle$$

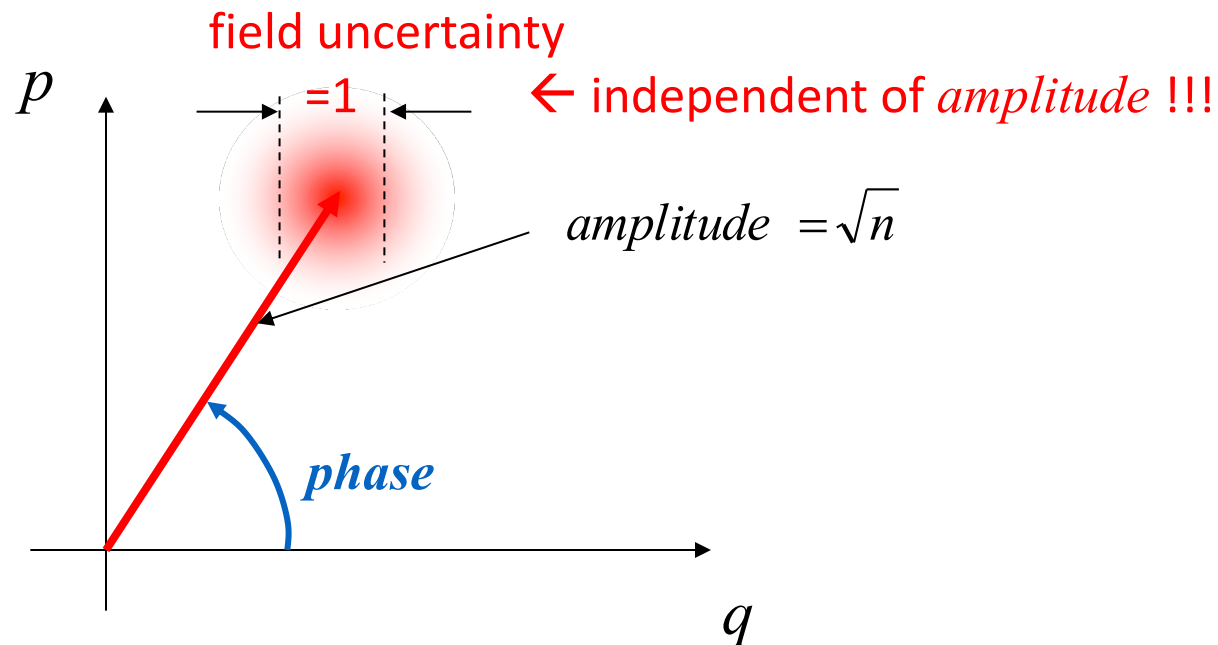
No!

end of introductory part

coherent state

phase space diagram for light field

equal and minimum uncertainty of X and P:
coherent state
→ laser



q, p - mean has continuous spectrum
- variances obey uncertainty relation

→ q, p are non-commuting operators,

$$\hat{q} = (\hat{a} + \hat{a}^\dagger)/2$$

$$\hat{p} = (\hat{a} - \hat{a}^\dagger)/(2i)$$

$$\langle (\Delta q)^2 \rangle = \frac{1}{4}$$

$$\begin{aligned} n &= \langle n \rangle + \Delta n \\ &= (\langle q \rangle + \Delta q)^2 \\ &= \langle q \rangle^2 + 2\langle q \rangle \Delta q + \langle \Delta q \rangle^2 \\ &= \langle n \rangle + \sqrt{\langle n \rangle} \cdot 2\Delta q + 1/4 \end{aligned}$$

$$\langle (\Delta n)^2 \rangle = \langle n \rangle$$

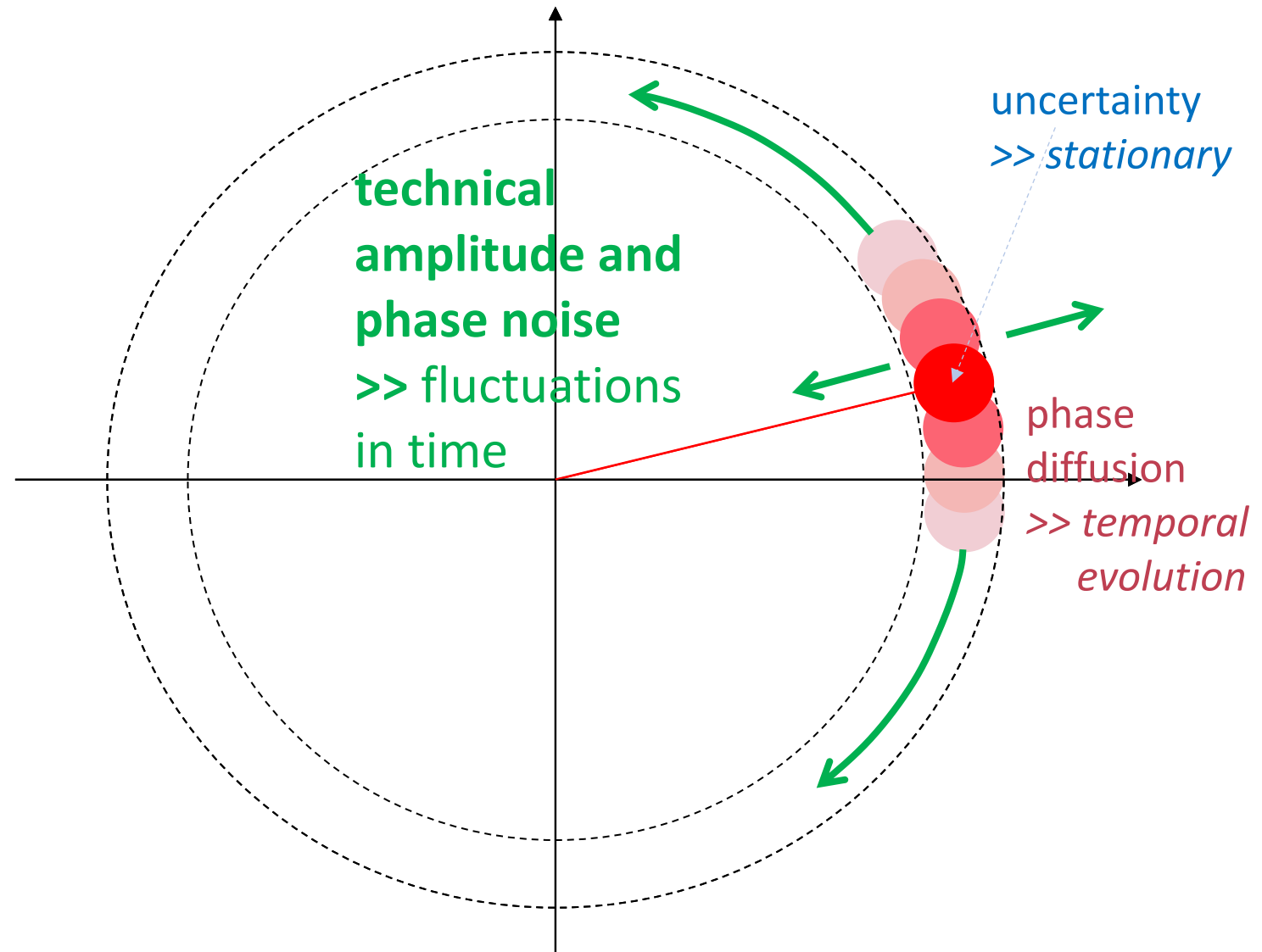
Poisson statistics

real laser

if measurement time interval
short enough
>>> **coherent state**

short enough:

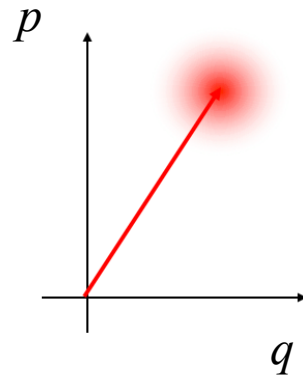
→ shorter than time constant of
fluctuation and phase diffusion



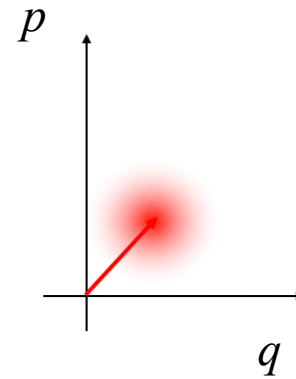
generation of high power light beams

laser resonator emitting high power

(& injection locking with seed laser)

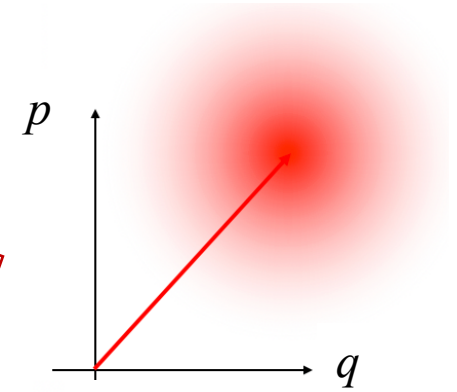


amplification of laser radiation

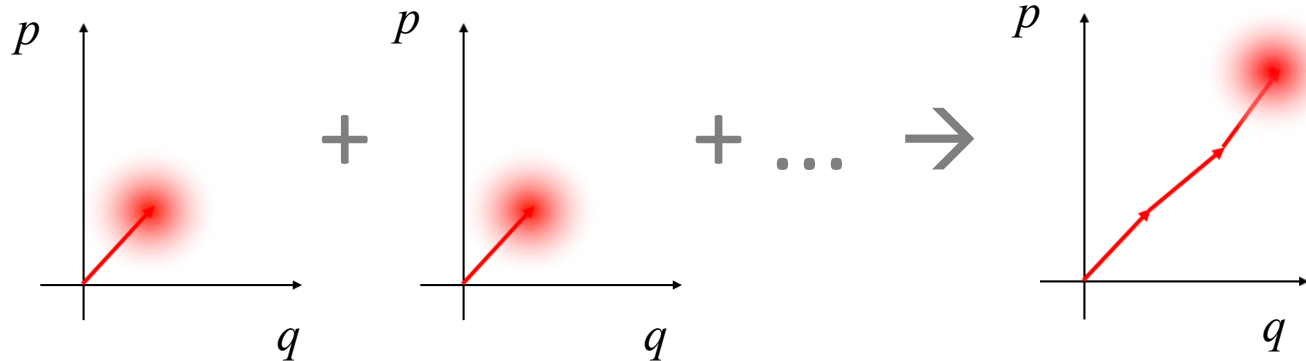
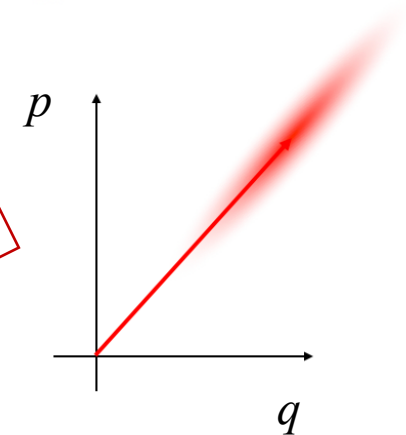


phase insensitive

phase sensitive



coherent combination

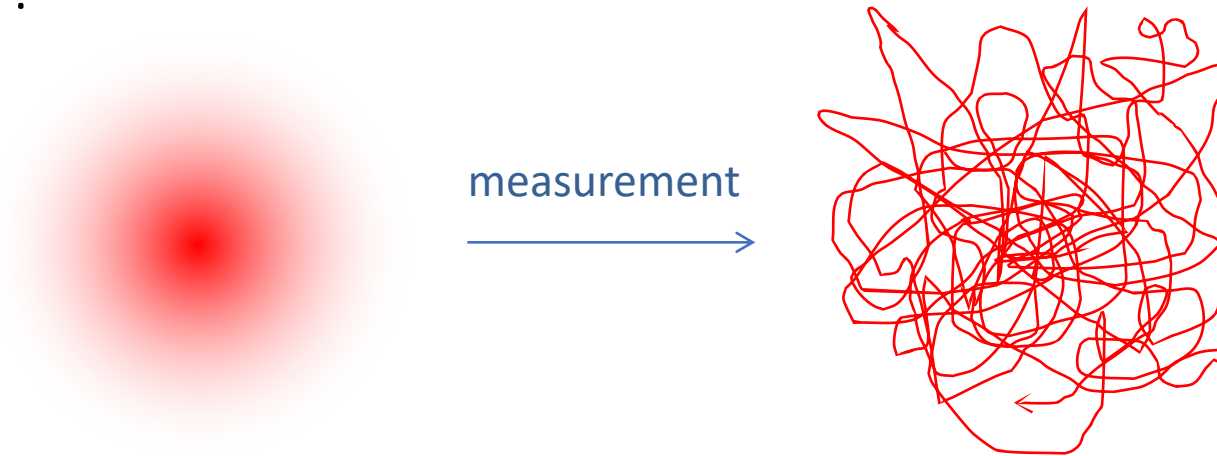


The standard quantum limit of coherent beam combining C.R. Müller, F. Sedlmeir, V.O. Martynov et al. New J. Phys. 21, 093047 (2019)

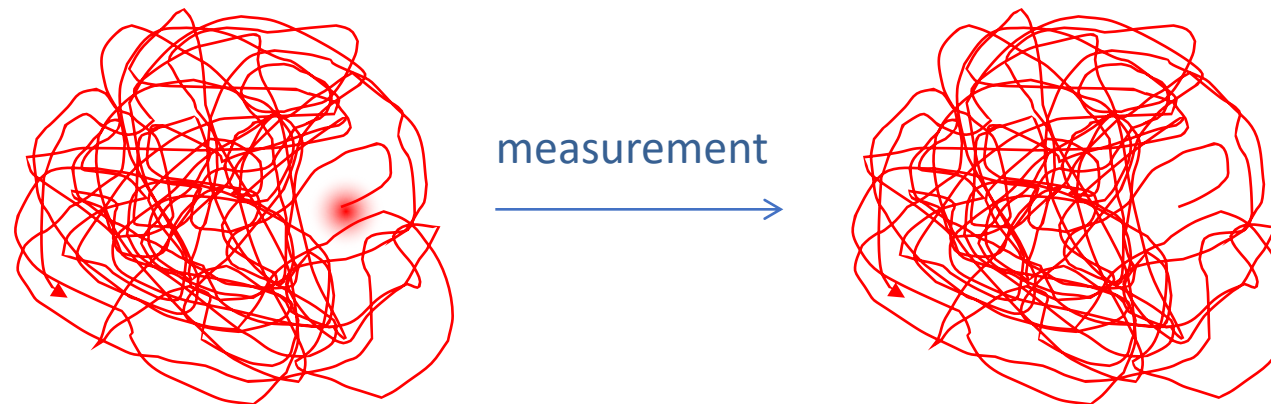
Relevance of quantum uncertainty

pure state versus mixed state

→ quantum uncertainty :



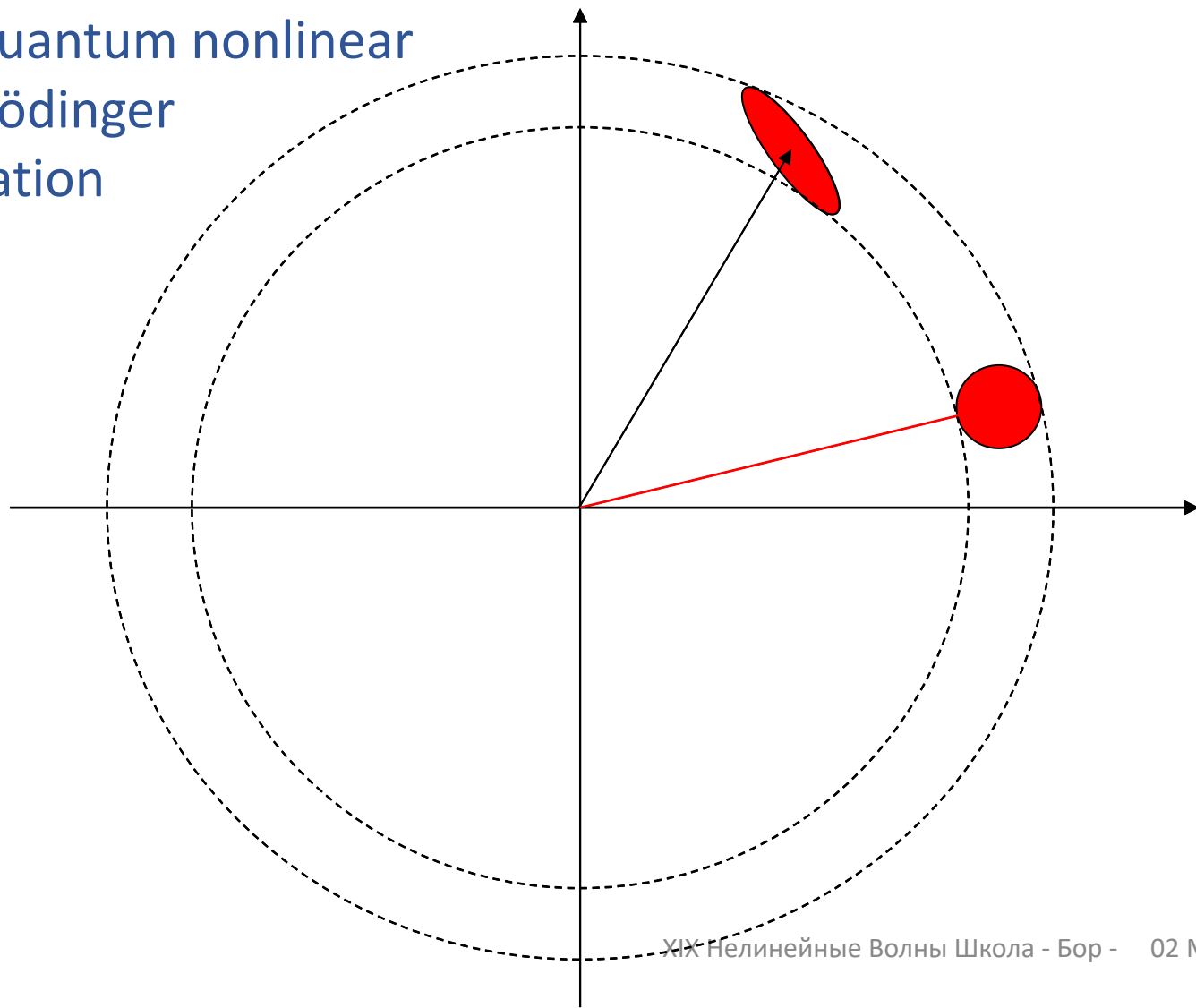
→ thermal noise :



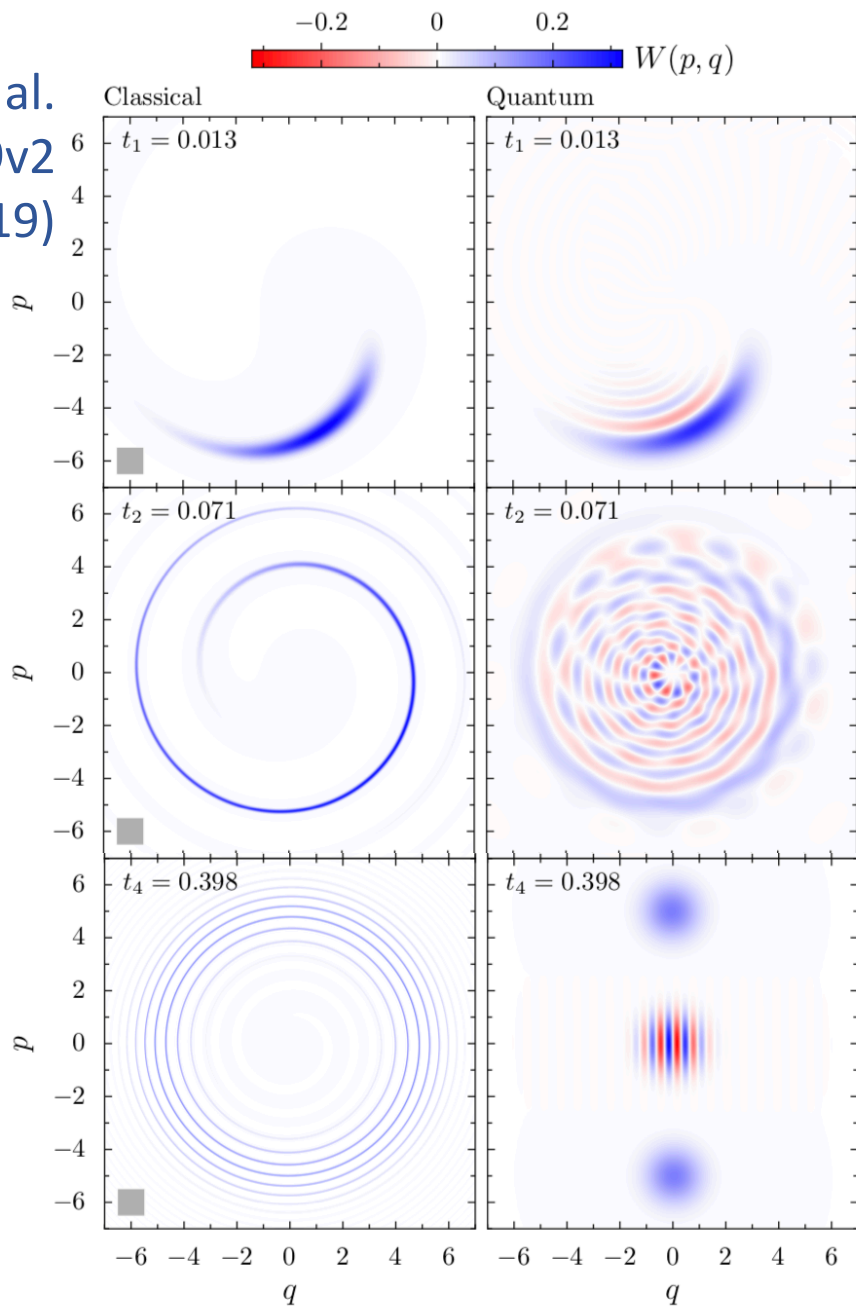
modification of the quantum uncertainty by light matter interaction

example Kerr effect

→ quantum nonlinear
Schrödinger
equation



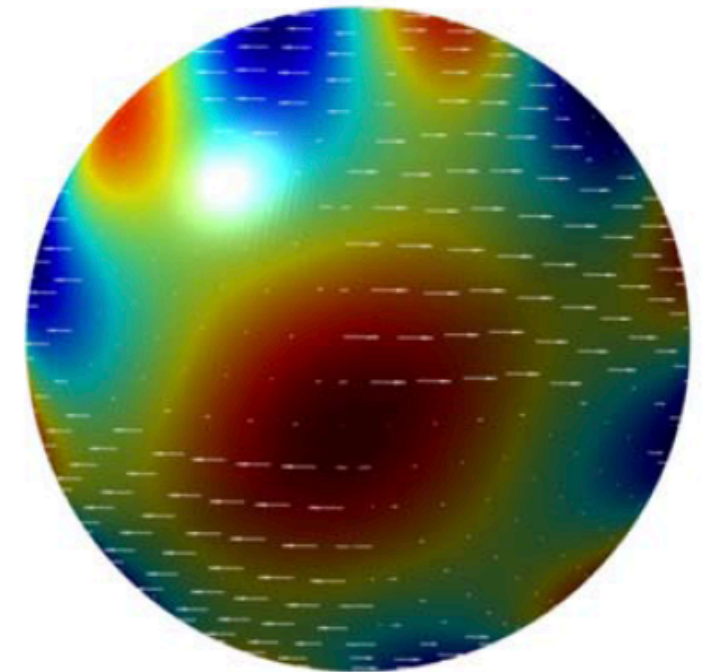
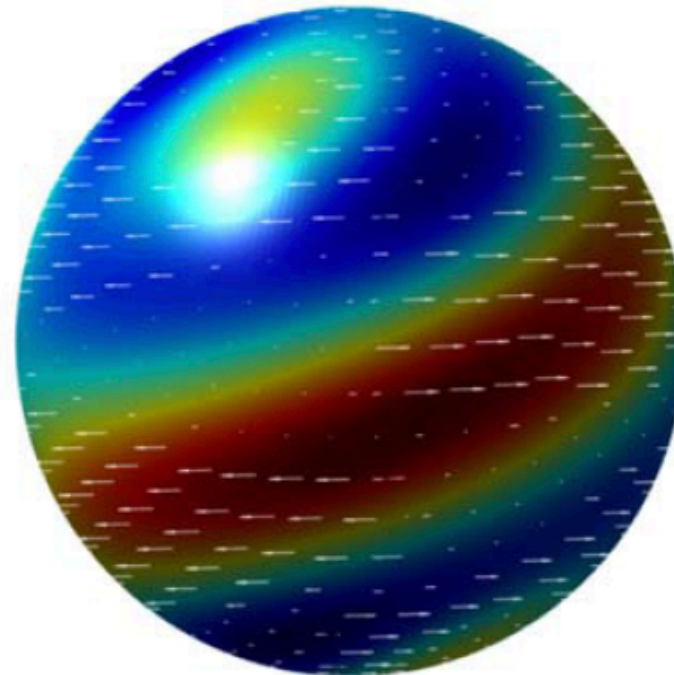
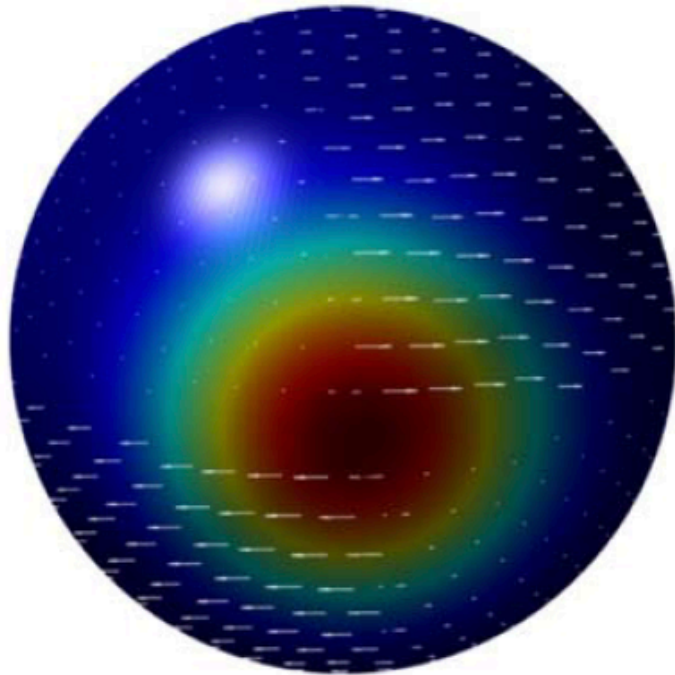
G.M. Lando et al.
arXiv:1809.04139v2
(2019)



Quantum dynamics & Wigner flow

Wigner flow on the sphere
... the SU(2) Wigner function under
nonlinear Kerr evolution

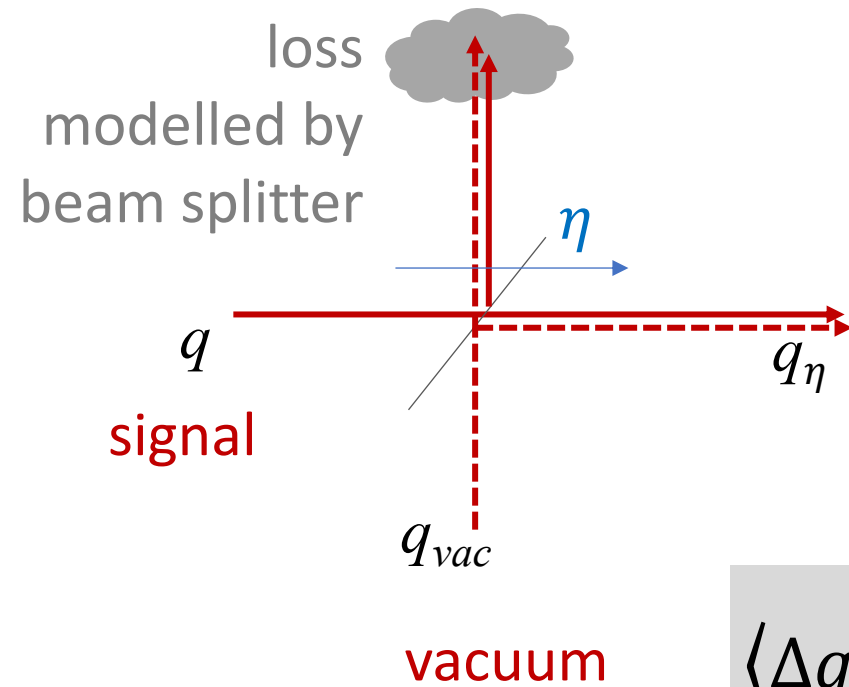
P. Yang, I.F. Valtierra, A.B. Klimov, S.-T. Wu, R.-K. Lee, L.L. Sánchez-Soto and G. Leuchs, Phys. Scr. 94, 044001 (2019)



$$\frac{\partial f(q, p|t)}{\partial t} = -\nabla \cdot J(q, p|t)$$

$$\partial_t W_\rho(\Omega) = \varepsilon \{W_\rho(\Omega), W_H(\Omega)\} + O(\varepsilon^3)$$

effect of losses



$$\langle \Delta q_{\eta}^2 \rangle = \eta \langle \Delta q^2 \rangle + \frac{(1 - \eta)}{4}$$

See: [Bogolyubov transformation](#)

$$\hat{a} \rightarrow \hat{a}_{\eta} = \sqrt{\eta} \hat{a} + \sqrt{(1 - \eta)} \hat{a}_{vac}$$

A.O. Caldeira and A.J. Leggett,
Phys. Rev. A 31, 1057 (1985)

if energy decays as $e^{-\gamma}$,

then quantum states
containing n photons
decay as $e^{-n\gamma}$

← formula compatible

G. Leuchs, U.L. Andersen
Laser Physics 15, 129 (2005)

designing material with high nonlinear coefficient

1 Tellurite TeO₂-WO₃-La₂O₃ (TWL) glasses have a non-linear refractive index $n_2 \sim 20$ times higher than fused silica

E.A. Anashkina , M.Y. Koptev, A.V. Andrianov et al., J. Lightwave Techn. 37, 4375 (2019)

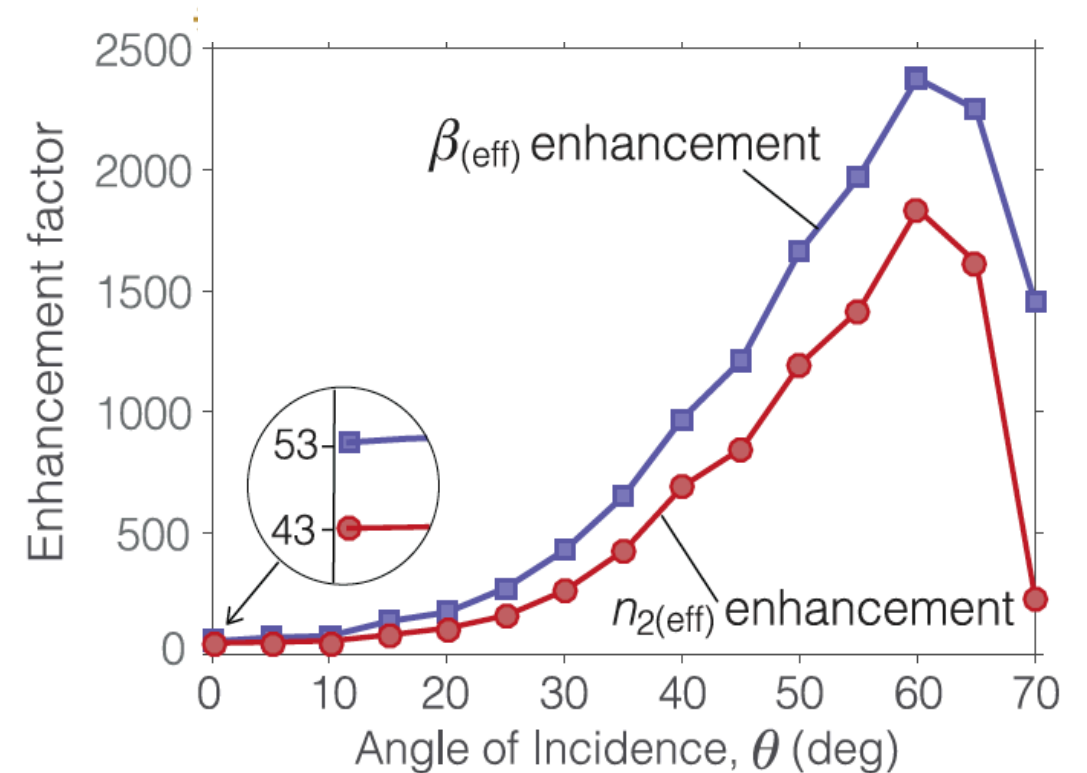
goal → high nonlinearity & low loss

2 special case: permittivity close to zero: “epsilon near zero (ENZ) material”

$$n_2 = \frac{3\chi^{(3)}}{4\epsilon_0 c n_0 \operatorname{Re}(n_0)}$$

Non-perturbative regime

$$n = \sqrt{n_0^2 + 2n_0 n_2}$$

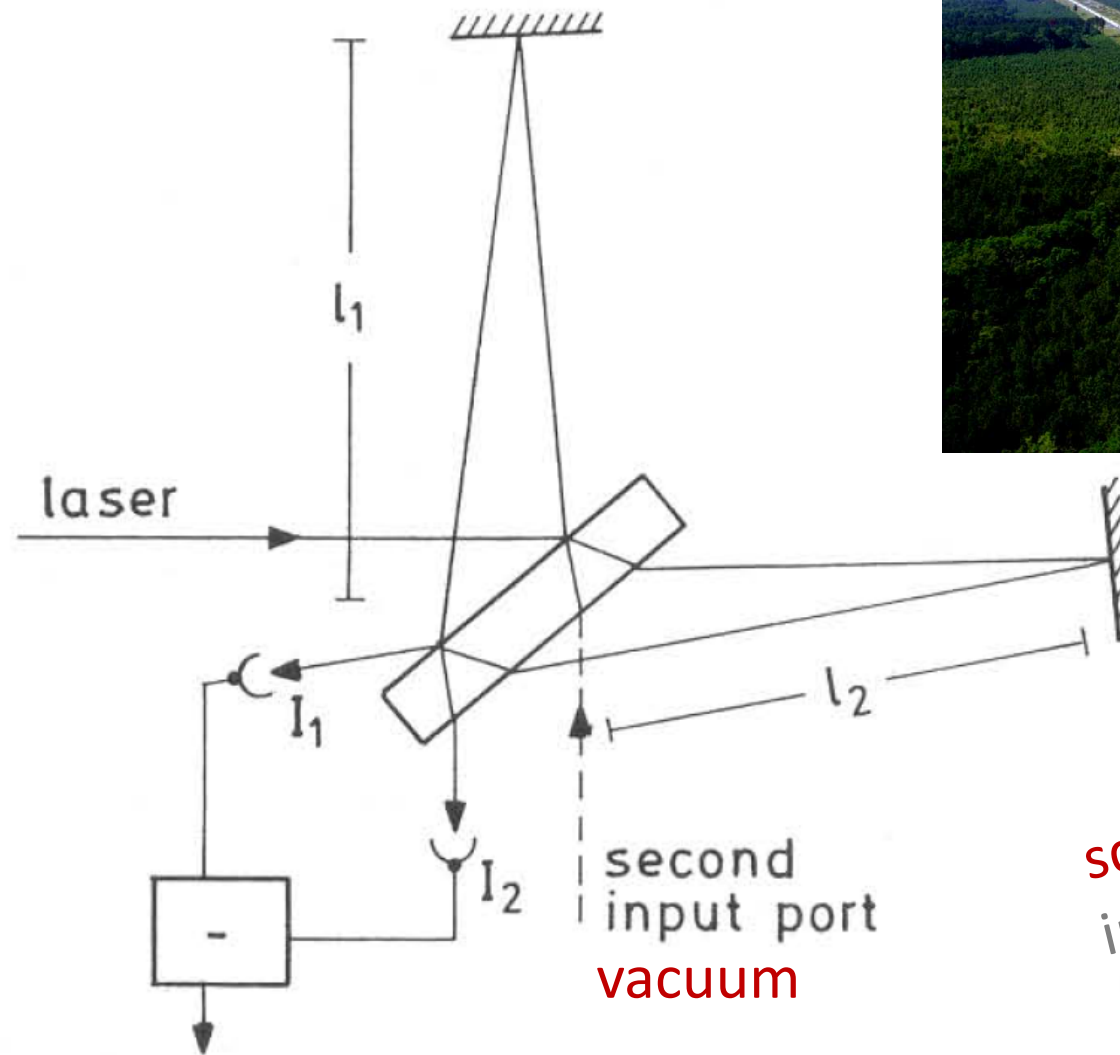


Large optical nonlinearity of indium tin oxide in its epsilon-near-zero region, M. Zahirul Alam, I. De Leon, R. W. Boyd, Science 352, 795 (2016).

quantum metrology with high power laser

gravitational waves

(interference)



squeezed vacuum
improves sensitivity !

quantum metrology with high power laser

gravitatio

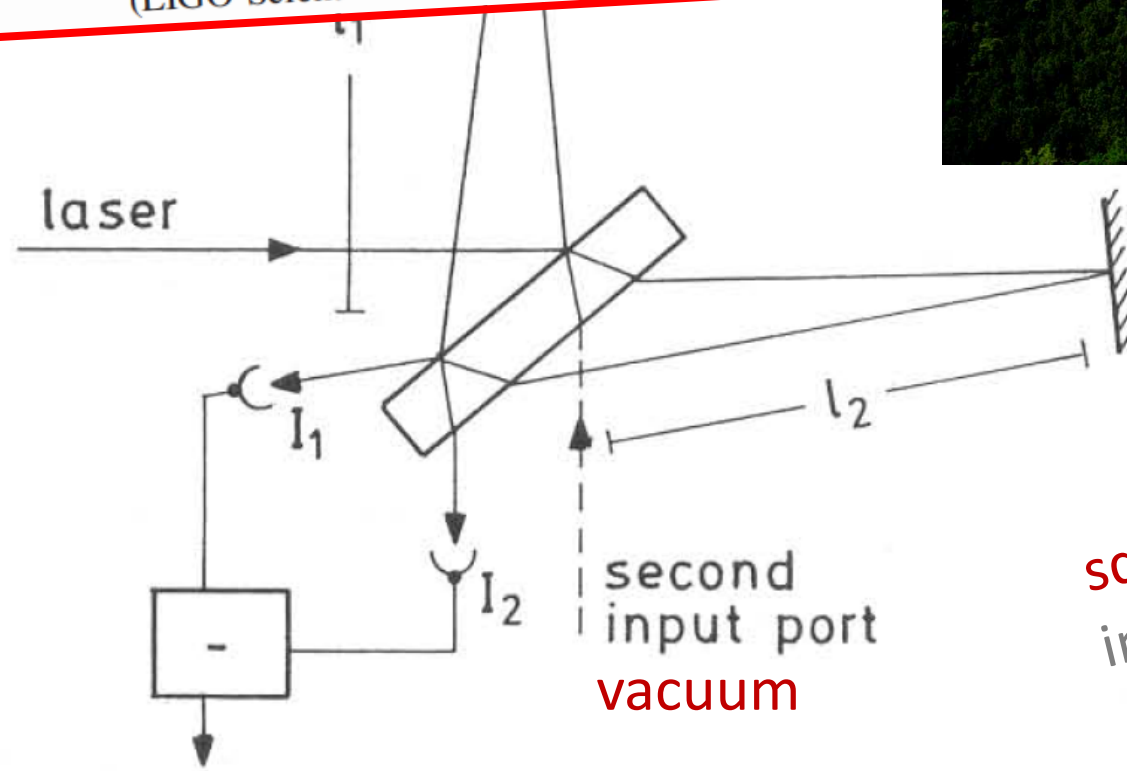
(interfere

Selected for a *Viewpoint in Physics*
PHYSICAL REVIEW LETTERS
week ending
12 FEBRUARY 2016

PRL 116, 061102 (2016)

Observation of Gravitational Waves from a Binary Black Hole Merger

B. P. Abbott *et al.*
(LIGO Scientific Collaboration and Virgo Collaboration)



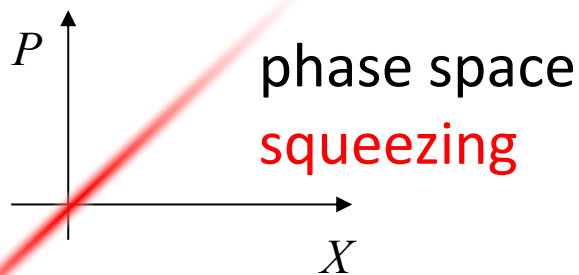
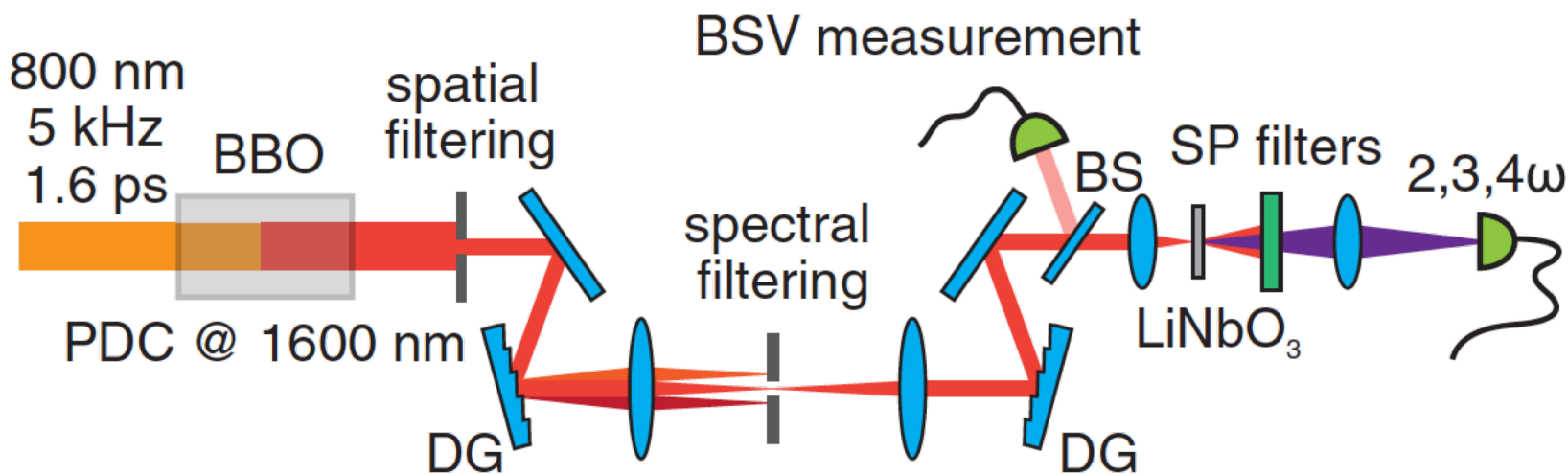
LIGO

squeezed vacuum
improves sensitivity !

nonlinear optics with squeezed vacuum

Multiphoton Effects Enhanced due to large Photon-Number Uncertainty

K.Yu. Spasibko, D.A. Kopylov, V.L. Krutyanskiy, T.V. Murzina, G. Leuchs, M.V. Chekhova, Phys. Rev. Lett. 119, 223603 (2017)

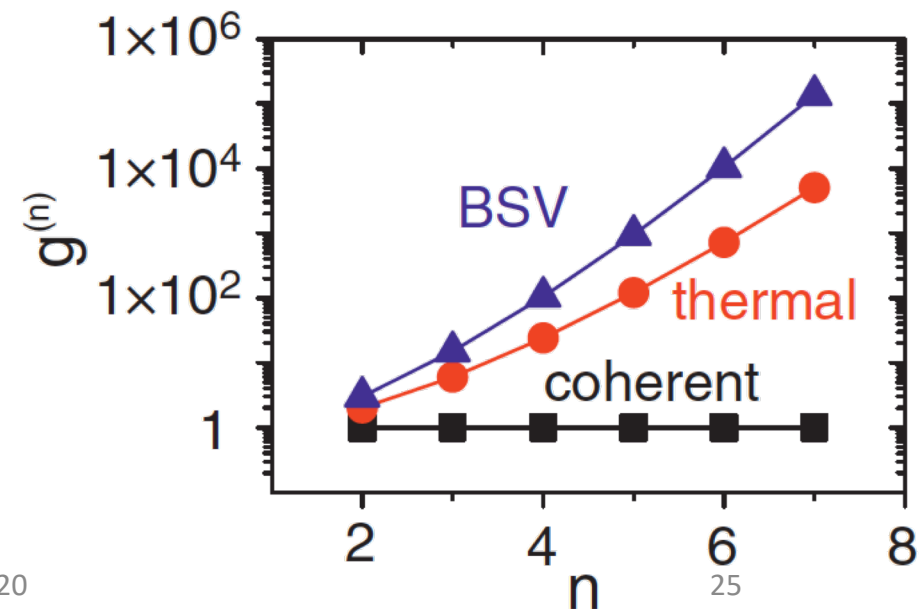


thermal statistics

$$g^{(n)} = n!$$

squeezed light statistics

$$g^{(n)} = (2n - 1)!!$$

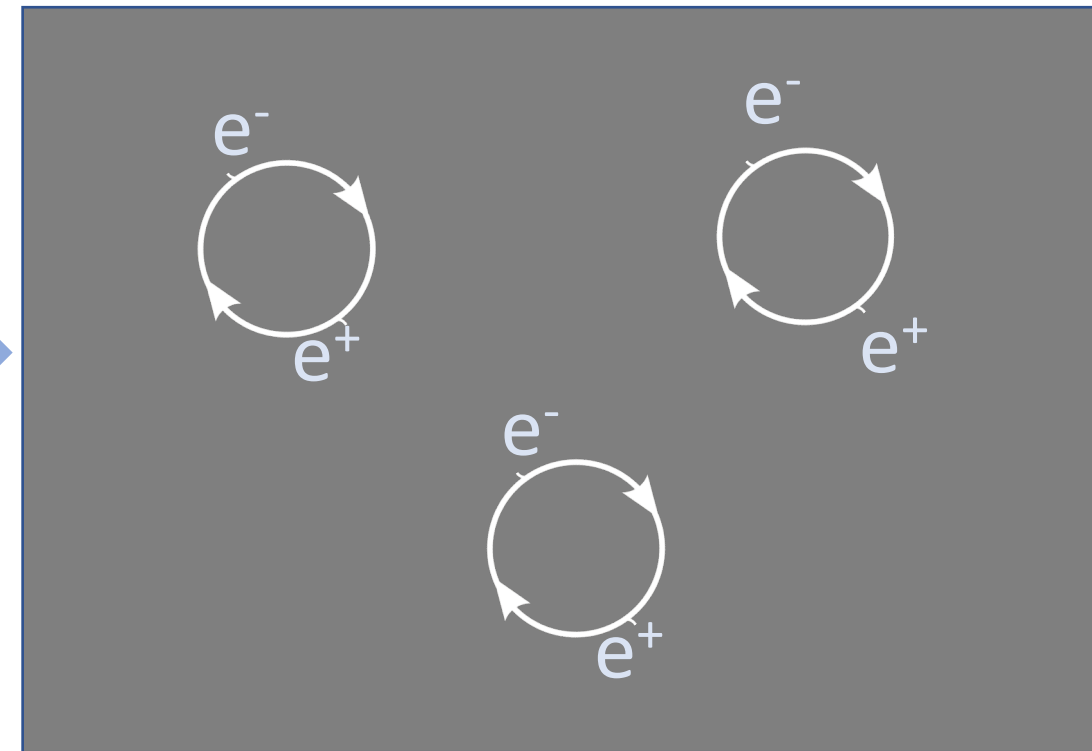
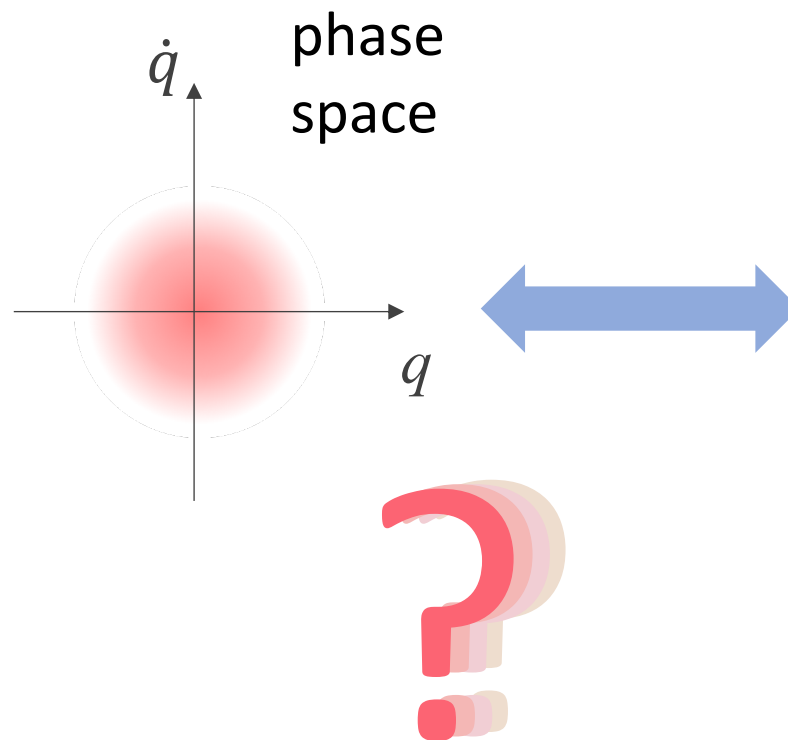
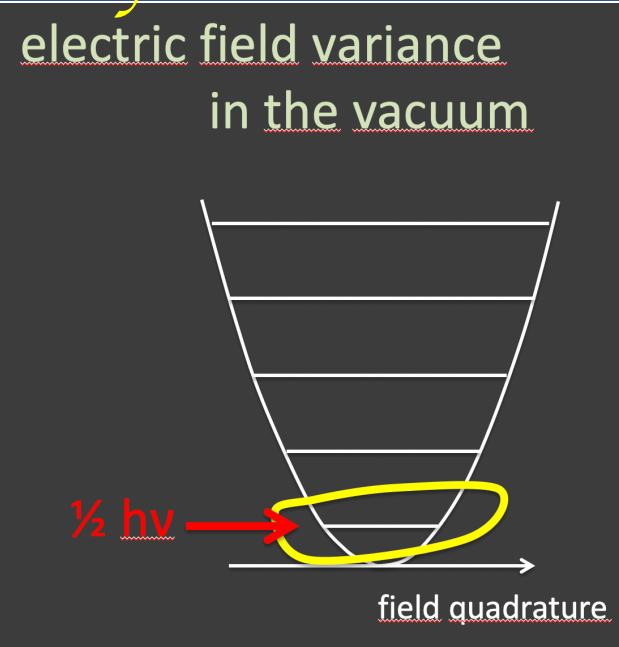


speculative

the quantum vacuum

the quantum vacuum as a dielectric-diamagnetic medium

G. Leuchs, M. Hawton, L.L. Sánchez-Soto,
Physics 2, 14 (2020) (*mdpi*)



post view

- field quantization
- coherent state
- real laser
- generation of high power light beams
- relevance of quantum uncertainty
- modification of the quantum uncertainty by light matter interaction
- quantum dynamics & Wigner flow
- effect of losses
- designing material with high nonlinear coefficient
- quantum metrology with high power laser
- nonlinear optics with squeezed vacuum
- the quantum vacuum

спасибо