Introduction to Quantum Metrology

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Quantum picture



Photocount number difference:

$$n_{-} = n_a - n_b$$



Shot noise





To identify a phase shift $N\delta\phi\gtrsim\sqrt{N}$

hence phase resolution







Fisher information

$$\mathsf{F}(\phi) = \sum_{r} p(r|\phi) \left(\frac{\partial}{\partial \phi} \ln p(r|\phi)\right)^{2}$$



Cramér-Rao bound: for unbiased estimators







Proof of the Cramér-Rao bound

Start from the Cauchy-Schwarz inequality:

$$\left(\sum_{r} A_{r}^{2}\right) \left(\sum_{r} B_{r}^{2}\right) \ge \left(\sum_{r} A_{r} B_{r}\right)^{2}$$

Take:

$$A_r = \sqrt{p(r|\phi)} [\Phi(r) - \phi]$$
$$B_r = \frac{1}{\sqrt{p(r|\phi)}} \frac{\partial}{\partial \phi} p(r|\phi)$$

and use on the right hand side the *unbiasedness* condition:



 $\sum p(r|\phi)\Phi(r) = \phi$





For statistically independent variables $p(r_a, r_b | \phi) = p(r_a | \phi) p(r_b | \phi)$

Fisher information is additive:

$$\mathsf{F}(\phi) = \mathsf{F}_a(\phi) + \mathsf{F}_b(\phi)$$

One photon sent into the Mach-Zehnder interferometer $\mathsf{F}_1(\phi) = 1$

Hence for N independently used photons $F_N(\phi) = N$ and precision is bounded by *shot noise limit*:



$$\Delta ilde{\phi} \geq rac{1}{\sqrt{N}}$$



Interferometer with photon pairs







Two-photon interference

&

Probability amplitudes:



Only if photons are indistinguishable!



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Two-photon interferometry







Fringe spacing





Two photons sent one-by one: F = 2

Two-photon interference: F = 4





Second harmonic generation

P.A. Franken et al., Phys. Rev. Lett. 7, 118 (1961)



34 35 36 37 38 39 40 **45 50 55 60 65 70 75 80**

FIG. 1. A direct reproduction of the first plate in which there was an indication of second harmonic. The wavelength scale is in units of 100 A. The arrow at 3472 A indicates the small but dense image produced by the second harmonic. The image of the primary beam at 6943 A is very large due to halation.





Three-wave mixing

Sum frequency generation:



Parametric down-conversion:







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Two-photon interference





C. K. Hong, Z. Y. Ou, and L. Mandel, Phys. Rev. Lett. 59, 2044 (1987)



Experiment

J. G. Rarity et al., Phys. Rev. Lett. 65, 1348 (1990)





Photon wavelength 826.8 nm

General picture



 $|\partial_{\phi}\psi
angle\delta\phi$

Local (inifinitesimal) phase estimation:

 $|\psi(\phi)
angle$



 $|\psi(\phi + \delta\phi)\rangle \approx |\psi(\phi)\rangle + |\partial_{\phi}\psi\rangle\delta\phi$



Quantum Fisher information



Probability of outcome r: $p(r|\phi) = \langle \psi_{\phi} | \hat{M}_r | \psi_{\phi} \rangle$

For any measurement

$$\mathsf{F}(\phi) \leq \mathsf{F}_Q(\phi)$$

where quantum Fisher information

$${\sf F}_Q(\phi)=4ig(\langle\partial_\phi\psi|\partial_\phi\psi
angle-|\langle\psi(\phi)|\partial_\phi\psi
angle|^2ig)$$
 depends only on $|\psi(\phi)
angle$



Uncertainty relation



Phase measurement: $|\psi(\phi)
angle={
m e}^{{
m i}\widehat{n}_s\phi}|\psi
angle$

Explicit expression $F_Q(\phi) = 4(\Delta n_s)^2$ yields:

$$\Delta ilde{\phi} \Delta n_s \geq rac{1}{2}$$

- Δn_s photon number uncertainty in the sensing arm
 - $\Delta \widetilde{\phi}\,$ precision of phase estimation



Task: maximize Δn_s for a fixed total number of N photons.



Optimal precision

Total N photons:



N independently used photons (shot noise limit):



Maximum possible Δn_s defines the Heisenberg limit:



J. J. Bollinger et al., Phys. Rev. A 54, R4649 (1996).

N00N state

Optimal N photon state:

$$|\Psi_N\rangle = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}(|N0\rangle - |0N\rangle)$$
$$\longrightarrow \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}(e^{iN\phi}|N0\rangle - |0N\rangle)$$



Review: V. Giovannetti, S. Lloyd, and L. Maccone, Science **306**, 1330 (2004)



Attainable precision







U. Dorner, R. Demkowicz-Dobrzański *et al.*, Phys. Rev. Lett. **102**, 040403 (2009)

R. Demkowicz-Dobrzański, U. Dorner *et al.*, Phys. Rev. A **80**, 013825 (2009)



Two-photon states

$$\psi\rangle = \alpha |20\rangle + \beta |11\rangle + \gamma |02\rangle$$

No photon lost: $\eta\alpha|20\rangle+\sqrt{\eta}\beta|11\rangle+\gamma|02\rangle$

One photon lost:

 $\sqrt{2\eta(1-\eta)}\alpha|10
angle+\sqrt{1-\eta}\beta|01
angle$

Two photons lost:

 $(1-\eta)lpha|00
angle$









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Experimental scheme





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Interference pattern



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Phase estimate distribution





Phase estimate uncertainty



M. Kacprowicz et al., Nature Photon. **4**, 357 (2010)









K. Banaszek, R. Demkowicz-Dobrzański, I.A. Walmsley, Nature Photon. 3, 673 (2009)





Classical simulation







Estimation precision





R. Demkowicz-Dobrzański, J. Kołodyński, and M. Guţă, Nature Comm. 3, 1063 (2012)



Asymptotic bounds

Table 1 | Precision bounds of the most relevant models in quantum-enhanced metrology.

| Channel considered | Classical simulation | Channel extension |
|-------------------------|------------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| Depolarisation | $\sqrt{(1-\eta)(1+3\eta)/4\eta^2}$ | $\sqrt{(1-\eta)(1+2\eta)/2\eta^2}$ |
| Dephasing | $\sqrt{1-\eta^2/\eta}$ | $\sqrt{1-\eta^2/\eta}$ |
| Spontaneous emission | NA | $(1/2)\sqrt{1-\eta/\eta}$ |
| Lossy interferometer | NA | $\sqrt{1-\eta/\eta}$ |
| NA. not available. | | |

The bounds are derived using the two methods discussed in the paper. All the bounds are of the form $\Delta \varphi_{N} \geq (\text{const}/\sqrt{N})$, where constant factors are given in the table. Classical simulation method does not provide bounds for spontaneous emission and lossy interferometer, as these channels are φ -extremal. For the dephasing model, it surprisingly yields an equally tight bound as the more powerful channel extension method.





Undefined photon number

When no external phase reference is used:

$$\widehat{\varrho} = \bigoplus_{N=0}^{\infty} p_n \widehat{\varrho}_N$$

Convexity of Fisher information:

$$\mathsf{F}(\hat{\varrho}) \leq \sum_{N=0}^{\infty} p_n \mathsf{F}(\hat{\varrho}_N)$$

Using the bound for a fixed photon number:

$$\leq \sum_{N=0}^{\infty} p_n \cdot \operatorname{const} \cdot N = \operatorname{const} \cdot \langle N \rangle$$





Two-arm losses





*Assuming no external phase reference is available





Shot noise revisited





Quadrature uncertainties









Gravitational wave detection



J.Abadie et al. (The LIGO Scientific Collaboration), Nature Phys. 7, 962 (2011)

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Theoretical model





When most power comes from the laser beam

 $\Delta \tilde{\phi} \approx \sqrt{\frac{1 - \eta + 2\eta (\Delta p)^2}{n \langle N \rangle}}$



Noise analysis





Overall interferometer transmission $\etapprox 62\%$

R. Demkowicz-Dobrzański, K. Banaszek, and R. Schnabel, Phys. Rev. A **88**, 041802(R) (2013)



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Optimality of squeezed states





R. Demkowicz-Dobrzański, K. Banaszek, and R. Schnabel, Phys. Rev. A **88**, 041802(R) (2013)

Operating point

probability $p_b(\phi) = p_a(\phi)$

 \square

Uncertainty of phase estimated from (n_a, n_b)





Residual distinguishability





Imaging experiment







Joint output position distribution







Imaging experiment







Joint output position distribution







Phase shift estimation

Fisher information

$$F(\phi) = F_c(\phi) + \frac{1}{p_d(\phi)} \left(\frac{\partial p_d}{\partial \phi}\right)^2$$

Contribution from spatial distribution:

$$F_{c}(\phi) = \int \mathrm{d}\xi \frac{1}{p_{c}(\xi|\phi)} \left(\frac{\partial}{\partial\phi} p_{c}(\xi|\phi)\right)^{2}$$

Local estimator:



$$\Phi[f] = \phi_0 + \frac{1}{F_c(\phi_0)} \int d\xi \frac{f(\xi)}{p_c(\xi|\phi_0)} \frac{\partial p_c(\xi|\phi)}{\partial \phi} \bigg|_{\phi=\phi_0}$$



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