# Quantum Frequency Conversion and Temporal-Mode Multiplexing of States of Light

M. G. Raymer and Dileep Reddy University of Oregon

### C. J. McKinstrie Alcatel-Lucent Bell Laboratories

Lasse Mejling and Karsten Rottwitt Technical University of Denmark

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**Quantum Frequency Conversion (QFC):** 

The complete or partial exchange of quantum states between two spectral bands.



$$|\psi\rangle_{g}|vac\rangle_{b} \mapsto |vac\rangle_{g}|\psi\rangle_{b}$$



$$|\psi\rangle_{g}|\phi\rangle_{b} \mapsto \alpha|\psi\rangle_{g}|\phi\rangle_{b} + \beta|\phi\rangle_{g}|\psi\rangle_{b}$$

note: need phase coherence for the latter

# Potential Uses of Single-Photon States

# A. Many Classical Bits in Single Photon

(common carrier freq)

$$|shape 1\rangle$$

$$|shape 2\rangle$$

$$\bigwedge$$
 shape 3

$$\swarrow$$
 |shape 4

## B. Spectral-Temporal Photonic Qubit



Need Pulse-Shape Multiplexing

Commonly used multiplexing schemes in radio technology





### The Mythical Device



### The Mythical Device with Optional Output Shape Control





Three-wave mixing: Eckstein, Brecht, Silberhorn, Opt. Express 19, 13770 (2010) Four-wave mixing: McKinstrie, Mejling, Raymer, Rottwitt, Phys. Rev. A 85, 053829 (2012)

## Methods for Quantum Frequency Conversion



from: MR and KS, Physics Today, 65, 32 (2012)

## Methods for Quantum Frequency Conversion



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Signal 1 has same group velocity as Pump 1. Signal 2 has same group velocity as Pump 2.









### Modeling QFC by Nonlinear Wave Mixing

$$\begin{pmatrix} \frac{\partial}{\partial z} + \frac{1}{v_g} \frac{\partial}{\partial t} \end{pmatrix} A_g(z,t) = i\gamma P(z,t) A_b(z,t)$$

$$\begin{pmatrix} \frac{\partial}{\partial z} + \frac{1}{v_b} \frac{\partial}{\partial t} \end{pmatrix} A_g(z,t) = i\gamma P^*(z,t) A_g(z,t)$$

$$P_{TWM}(z,t) = A_p^*(z,t) A_{p2}(z,t)$$

$$P_{FWM}(z,t) = A_{p1}^*(z,t) A_{p2}(z,t)$$

$$pump/coupling \gamma$$

The equations are linear in A<sub>g</sub> and A<sub>b</sub> signal field operators. Solution:

$$\begin{pmatrix} A_g(t) \\ A_b(t) \end{pmatrix}_{OUT} = \int^t dt' \begin{pmatrix} G_{gg}(t,t') & G_{gb}(t,t') \\ G_{bg}(t,t') & G_{bb}(t,t') \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} A_g(t') \\ A_b(t') \end{pmatrix}_{IN}$$

All quantum correlations can be calculated from Green functions.

Four-wave mixing: McGuinness, MR, CM, Opt. Express 19, 17876 (2011) Three-wave mixing: Reddy, MR, CM, AM, KR, Opt. Express 21, 13840 (2013) Christ, Brecht, Mauerer, Silberhorn (NJP 2013)

# Schmidt Mode Decomposition of the Green functions

(singular-value decomposition)

$$\begin{pmatrix} A_g(t) \\ A_b(t) \end{pmatrix}_{OUT} = \sum_n \int^t dt' \begin{pmatrix} \tau_n v_n(t) V_n^*(t') & i\rho_n v_n(t) W_n^*(t') \\ i\rho_n w_n(t) V_n^*(t') & \tau_n w_n(t) W_n^*(t') \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} A_g(t') \\ A_b(t') \end{pmatrix}_{IN}$$
with  $\rho_n^2 + \tau_n^2 = 1$   $\rho_n^2 =$ conversion,  $\tau_n^2 =$ nonconversion

Temporal Schmidt modes reduce problem to low-dimensional state space:

$$if \begin{pmatrix} A_g(t') \\ A_b(t') \end{pmatrix}_{IN} = \begin{pmatrix} a_g V_1(t') \\ a_b W_1(t') \end{pmatrix}$$
$$then \begin{pmatrix} A_g(t) \\ A_b(t) \end{pmatrix}_{OUT} = \begin{pmatrix} (\tau_1 a_g + i\rho_1 a_b) v_1(t) \\ (i\rho_1 a_g + \tau_1 a_b) w_1(t) \end{pmatrix}$$

Operators undergo a pair-wise beam-splitter transformation

MR, HM, SVE, CM Opt. Commun. 238, 747 (2010)

### Figure of Merit for Temporal-mode Selectivity



 $\eta_n = |\rho_n|^2 = conversion efficiency$ 

separability 
$$\equiv \frac{\eta_{Target}}{\sum_{n} \eta_{n}} \leq 1$$

$$S \equiv Selectivity \equiv separability \times \eta_{Target}$$

$$S = \frac{\left|\eta_{Target}\right|^2}{\sum_n \eta_n} \le 1$$

ideally: S = 1

Reddy, MR, CM, AM, KR, Opt. Express 21, 13840 (2013)

Apply to three-wave mixing:

#### Three-wave Mixing

Optimum case: Pump velocity matches 'green' signal velocity. Blue is slower.



Reddy, MR, CM, LM, KR, Opt. Express 21, 13840 (2013)



Separability is 0.94, but Selectivity is low when conversion efficiency is low.



# Three-wave Mixing - High conversion efficiency<br/>ultrashort pump pulseOptimum case: Pump<br/>velocity matches green<br/>signal velocity



Origin of limited Selectivity: oscillations in the Green function make it non-separable.

Consequence of 'Rabi oscillations' between blue and green.



### Four-wave Mixing

One pump selects the input mode shape; Other pump determines the output mode shape.



CM, LM, MR, KR, PRA 053829 (2012)

### Four-Wave Mixing

Much the same as TWM, with the shape of the medium replaced by the shape of the second pump.



Optimum case: pump 1 velocity matches green signal velocity and pump 2 matches blue signal velocity. Complete collision occurs.



### Four-Wave Mixing





Selectivity  $\sim 0.7$ 

### Four-Wave Mixing

$$\eta_n = |\rho_n|^2 = conversion efficiency$$

 $S \equiv Selectivity \equiv separability \times \eta_{Target}$ 



L Mejling, K Rottwitt, CM, DR, MR

## Still Mythical: a drop device with 100% Selectivity



Atomic Ensemble <u>Quantum Memory</u> with Temporal-Mode Selectivity



"Mapping broadband single-photon wavepackets into an atomic memory," J. Nunn, I. A. Walmsley, M. G. Raymer, K. Surmacz, F. C. Waldermann, Z. Wang, and D. Jaksch, Phys. Rev. A, 75, 011401R (2007)

Quantum conversion between near-frequency channels, for Quantum Internet

Temporal-mode-selective routing, shaping of single-photon qubits. Pulse-shape-division multiplexing with temporally orthogonal codes.

Dileep Reddy, University of Oregon

C. J. McKinstrie, Bell Laboratories

Lasse Mejling and Karsten Rottwitt Technical University of Denmark









unicorn



