

The Abdus Salam International Centre for Theoretical Physics



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WINTER COLLEGE on QUANTUM AND CLASSICAL ASPECTS of INFORMATION OPTICS

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Fiber-optic Quantum Communication and Applications

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Fiber-optic Quantum Communication and Applications

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Winter College on Quantum and Classical Aspects of Information Optics ICTP, Trieste, Italy February 9, 2006





- Fiber nonlinearity for quantum communication
- Entanglement generation in fibers
- Quantum cryptography with fiber systems
- Keyed communication in quantum noise.
 - Cryptographic objective: direct data encryption
 - Cryptographic objective: key generation





- Realistic long-distance quantum communication must integrate with existing optical-fiber networks
- Fiber offers several advantages over c⁽²⁾:
 - Excellent modal purity, highly desirable for schemes requiring multiple quantum interactions
 - Possible to wavelength multiplex several entangled channels on existing fiber plant
 - Avoids coupling photons from $c^{(2)}$ crystals into fiber
 - Long interaction lengths possible, owing to high quality of commonly available optical fibers
- Side benefit: Allowing us to investigate fundamental limits of practical optical communication technology



Four-Wave Mixing and Parametric Fluorescence in Optical Fiber





Quantum Mechanically:

- FWM is nondegenerate optical parametric amplification (OPA), as in c⁽²⁾ crystals
- Signal and idler photons are created in pairs
- They should exhibit entanglement properties similar to signal and idler photons created in c⁽²⁾ parametric downconversion



Photon Counting of Parametric Fluorescence



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Coincidence Counting Results





- We tested the parametric fluorescence at the single photon level
- The counted photon number depends quadratically on the injected pump
 Photon pumber
 Fiorentino, Voss, Sharping, and Kumar,
 IEEE Photon. Technol. Lett.
 14, 983 (2002)
- We measure coincidences for signal and idler photons generated by one pump pulse
- Coincidence rate is greater than that measured for two adjacent pulses
- The latter fit well with the theory for two independent pump sources





How do we create Polarization Entanglement?

Isotropic nature of Kerr nonlinearity gives

$$|HH\rangle$$
 or $|VV\rangle$

How to get:

$$\frac{\left|\boldsymbol{H}\,\boldsymbol{H}\right\rangle \pm e^{2i\phi} \left|\boldsymbol{V}\,\boldsymbol{V}\right\rangle}{\sqrt{2}}$$



Fiber Source of Polarization-Entangled Photons



Single Counts (20s)



Bell State	S	Violation
HH + VV	2.75 ± 0.077	10 σ
HH - VV	2.55 ± 0.070	8σ
HV + VH	2.48 ± 0.078	6σ
HV - VH	2.64 ± 0.076	8σ

X. Li *et al.*, *PRL* **94**, 053601 (2005).









Quantum Memory and Distribution of Polarization-Entangled Photons







X. Li, P. L. Voss, J. Chen, J. E. Sharping, and P. Kumar, Optics Letters 30, 1201 (2005).



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What is the cause and nature of the observed background photons?

Evidence from the excess noise figure of fiber-optical parametric amplifiers being developed for telecom systems suggests the reason to be the Raman effect.

Nonlinear Optics in Fiber

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Fiber Optical Parametric Amplifier (FOPA): An Example of a PIA

- 1 km linear FOPA configuration
- Gain as high as 20 dB
- 1537.5 nm pump
- 1.3 W pump peak power
- 700 ns pump pulses
- 8 kHz pump pulse rate
- CW signal

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Measurement of the Photon Statistics and Noise Figure of a Fiber PIA

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NF Limit Due to Raman Effect

Voss and Kumar, "Raman-noise induced noise-figure limit for c⁽³⁾ parametric amplifiers," *Optics Letters*, Vol. 29, 2004, pp. 445–447.

- Addition of Raman noise can be treated analytically
 - $\hat{a}_{s}(z) = \mu_{s}(z) \hat{a}_{s}(0) + \nu_{s}(z) \hat{a}_{a}^{\dagger} + c_{s1}(z) \hat{t}_{1}^{\dagger}$ $\hat{a}_{a}(z) = \mu_{a}(z) \hat{a}_{a}(0) + \nu_{a}(z) \hat{a}_{s}^{\dagger} + c_{a1}(z) \hat{t}_{1} + c_{a2}(z) \hat{t}_{2}$

Excess noise terms due to Raman effect

Matches PIA noise figure data with no fitting parameters

Correlated Photon Pairs with Low Background

X. Li, J. Chen, P. L. Voss, J. E. Sharping, & PK, Optics Express, Vol. 12, No. 16, 2004, pp. 3737–3744.

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Raman Photons vs. Temperature

Stokesn+1Bose PopulationAnti-StokesnFactor:

$$n = \frac{1}{\exp\left(\frac{h\,\Delta\nu}{kT}\right) - 1}$$

$$\Delta v = \frac{C}{\lambda^2} \Delta \lambda$$
 : $\Delta \lambda = 4.8 \text{ nm}$

At T =300 K (room); At T =195 K (dry-ice); At T =77 K (LN_2);

S \rightarrow 10.8S \rightarrow 7.2S \rightarrow 3.16AS \rightarrow 9.8AS \rightarrow 6.2AS \rightarrow 2.16

Ratio (300 K) = 28/1

$$S_{RF}(195K) = \frac{10.8}{7.2} = 1.5$$
$$AS_{RF}(195K) = \frac{9.8}{6.2} = 1.6$$

Ratio (195 K) = $\frac{28}{1 / 1.6}$ = 48.

$$S_{RF}(77K) = \frac{10.8}{3.6} = 3.0$$

$$AS_{RF}(77K) = \frac{9.8}{2.16} = 4.5$$

Ratio (195 K) = 28/(1/4.0)= 112.

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Average visibility > 98%; meets the ARDA roadmap criteria

Presented as a postdeadline paper to FiO'2005, Tucson, AZ

System Under Development at NU

- The telecom band (around 1550 nm) polarization entangled photon pair source delivers photon *a* to Alice and photon *b* to Bob.
- The auxiliary DFB laser light is chopped into pulses which do not overlap with photon *a* and photon *b* in time. Its wavelength is several nm away from photons *a* and *b*.
- The <u>commercially available</u> endless polarization controllers compensate the polarization fluctuations by monitoring the polarization state of the auxiliary light.
- Alice and Bob's polarization modulators (their principle axis are 45° to the system's principle axis) apply the modulation according to randomly chosen measurement bases.

- Protocols allow two parties to remotely agree on a string of binary random numbers known only to each other (a cryptographic key)
- The parties use the key either with mathematical encryption algorithms such as 3DES or AES or with Vernam Cipher (one-time pad)
- Mathematical encryption algorithms are not proven to be secure and may have difficulty keeping up with the data rates on high-speed optical networks
- One-time pad is proven to be information theoretically secure on public channels, but it requires one key bit for every data bit → data rate = key generation rate
 Best results to date: ~20km at ~1kbps → Rate-distance ~0.02Mbps-km

AlphaEta Direct Data Encryption Protocol

Lab Demonstration of Difference Between Bob's and Eve's Measurements

E. Corndorf, G. Barbosa, C, Liang, H. Yuen, and P. Kumar, *Optics Letters* 28, 2040 (2003); CLEO'04 postdeadline paper.

Bob's and Eve's Eye Patterns, 200km

- 200km in-line amplified line
- 650Mbps data rate
- 2¹⁵-bit PRBS
- M = 2,047
- -25dBm (~40,000 ph/bit) at launch

E. Corndorf, G. Kanter, C. Liang, and P. Kumar, CLEO'04 postdeadline paper; to appear in PTL.

- Eve located at source (Alice)
- Simulated by Bob with incorrect secret key
- Eve's PDF is uniform
 - Bursty, not streaming!
 - No clock recovery, common clock!

622 Mbps Streaming System

Bob's Eye: DPSK data without encryption

Bob's Eye: DPSK data with encryption & decryption with recovered clock

Only 0.2dB encryption penalty

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Quantum Data Encryption over ATDnet in Washington, DC

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- With proposed satellite up-down link
- Potentially 100-200 km apart with KCQ or fiber generated entanglement (recent NU work) using BB84 type protocols