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## 6.453 *Quantum Optical Communication* Lecture 8

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### 6.453 *Quantum Optical Communication* — Lecture 8

- Announcements
  - Pick up lecture notes, slides
- Quantum Harmonic Oscillator
  - Positive operator-valued measurement (POVM) of  $\hat{a}$
  - Reconciling POVMs and observables
- Single-Mode Photodetection
  - Direct Detection — semiclassical versus quantum
  - Homodyne Detection — semiclassical versus quantum

## Measuring the $\hat{a}$ Operator: Definition

- Definition: Measurement of the  $\hat{a}$  Operator
  - yields an outcome that is a complex number  $\alpha = \alpha_1 + j\alpha_2$
  - joint probability density for getting this outcome is

$$p(\alpha) = \frac{|\langle \alpha | \psi \rangle|^2}{\pi}$$

- Consistency Checks:

$$p(\alpha) \geq 0$$

$$\int d^2\alpha p(\alpha) = \langle \psi | \left( \int \frac{d^2\alpha}{\pi} |\alpha\rangle\langle\alpha| \right) | \psi \rangle = 1$$

## Measuring the $\hat{a}$ Operator: Characteristic Function

- Joint Characteristic Function for the  $\hat{a}$  Measurement

$$\begin{aligned} M_{\alpha_1, \alpha_2}(jv_1, jv_2) &\equiv \int d^2\alpha e^{jv_1\alpha_1 + jv_2\alpha_2} \frac{|\langle \alpha | \psi \rangle|^2}{\pi} \\ &= \chi_A(\zeta^*, \zeta)|_{\zeta=jv/2} \end{aligned}$$

- Anti-Normally Ordered Characteristic Function of the State

$$\chi_A(\zeta^*, \zeta) \equiv \langle e^{-\zeta^* \hat{a}} e^{\zeta \hat{a}^\dagger} \rangle = \chi_W(\zeta^*, \zeta) e^{-|\zeta|^2/2}$$

## Measuring the $\hat{a}$ Operator: Examples

- Number State  $|n\rangle$ :

$$p(\alpha) = \frac{|\alpha|^{2n}}{\pi n!} e^{-|\alpha|^2}$$

- Coherent State  $|\beta\rangle$ :

$$p(\alpha) = \frac{e^{-|\alpha-\beta|^2}}{\pi}$$

- Squeezed State  $|\beta; \mu, \nu\rangle$ ,  $\mu, \nu$  real :

$$p(\alpha) = \prod_{i=1}^2 \frac{e^{-(\alpha_i - \langle \hat{a}_i \rangle)^2 / 2\sigma_i^2}}{\sqrt{2\pi\sigma_i^2}} \quad \langle \hat{a}_i \rangle = (\mu + (-1)^i \nu) \beta_i$$

$$\sigma_i^2 \equiv \frac{(\mu + (-1)^i \nu)^2 + 1}{4}$$

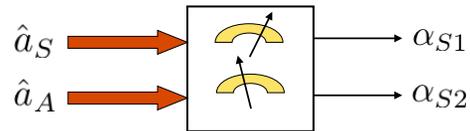
## Measuring the $\hat{a}$ Operator: Summary

State	$\langle \alpha \rangle$
$ n\rangle$	0
$ \beta\rangle$	$\beta$
$ \beta; \mu, \nu\rangle$	$\mu^* \beta - \nu \beta^*$

State	$\langle \Delta \alpha_1^2 \rangle$	$\langle \Delta \alpha_2^2 \rangle$
$ n\rangle$	$(n+1)/2$	$(n+1)/2$
$ \beta\rangle$	1/2	1/2
$ \beta; \mu, \nu\rangle$	$( \mu - \nu ^2 + 1)/4$	$( \mu + \nu ^2 + 1)/4$

## Reconciling POVMs with Observables for $p(\alpha)$

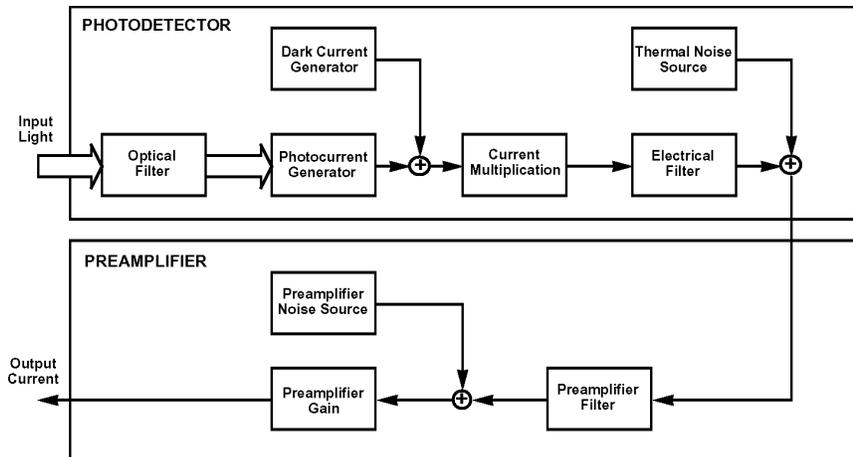
- Measure Two Commuting Observables on  $\mathcal{H} \equiv \mathcal{H}_S \otimes \mathcal{H}_A$



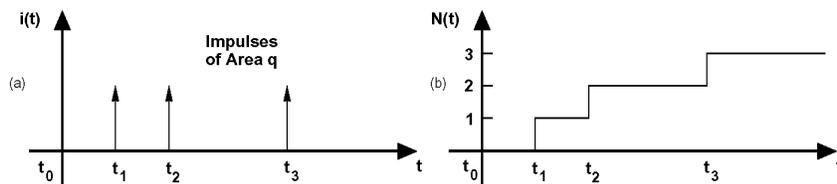
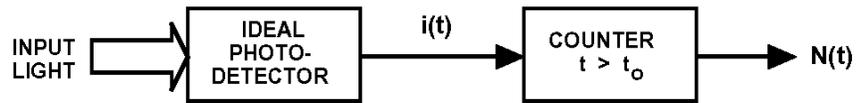
- Signal in State  $|\psi\rangle_S$ , Ancilla in Vacuum State  $|0\rangle_A$
- Commuting Observables are Real and Imaginary Parts of:

$$\hat{a}_S + \hat{a}_A^\dagger \equiv \hat{a}_S \otimes \hat{I}_A + \hat{I}_S \otimes \hat{a}_A^\dagger$$

## Real Photodetection Systems



## Ideal Photodetection System



## Single-Mode Quantized Electromagnetic Field

- Photon-Units Field Operator on Constant- $z$  Plane:

$$\hat{E}_z(x, y, t) = \underbrace{\frac{\hat{a}e^{-j\omega t}}{\sqrt{AT}}}_{\text{excited mode}} + \underbrace{\text{other terms}}_{\text{unexcited modes}}$$

for  $(x, y) \in \mathcal{A}, 0 \leq t \leq T$

- Photon Annihilation and Creation Operators:  $\hat{a}, \hat{a}^\dagger$

with canonical commutation relation  $[\hat{a}, \hat{a}^\dagger] = 1$

## Direct Detection: Semiclassical versus Quantum

- Single-Mode Photon Counter: Semiclassical Description

$$\frac{ae^{-j\omega t}}{\sqrt{AT}} \rightarrow \text{Detector} \rightarrow i(t) \rightarrow \frac{1}{q} \int_0^T dt i(t) \rightarrow N$$

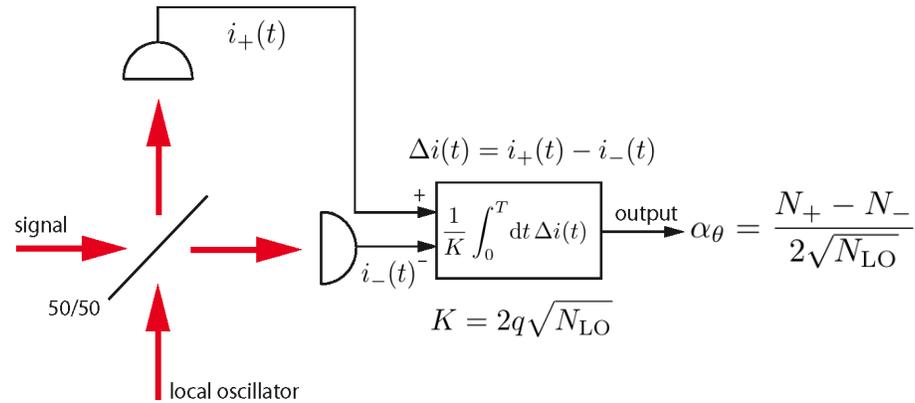
$$\Pr(N = n | a = \alpha) = \frac{|\alpha|^{2n}}{n!} e^{-|\alpha|^2}$$

- Single-Mode Photon Counter: Quantum Description

$$\frac{\hat{a}e^{-j\omega t}}{\sqrt{AT}} \rightarrow \text{Detector} \rightarrow i(t) \rightarrow \frac{1}{q} \int_0^T dt i(t) \rightarrow N$$

$$\Pr(N = n | \text{state} = |\psi\rangle) = |\langle n | \psi \rangle|^2$$

## Single-Mode Balanced Homodyne Receiver



- Semiclassical Description:  $\alpha_\theta \sim N(\text{Re}(ae^{-j\theta}), 1/4)$
- Quantum Description:  $\alpha_\theta \longleftrightarrow \hat{a}_\theta \equiv \text{Re}(\hat{a}e^{-j\theta})$

## Coming Attractions: Lectures 9 and 10

- Lecture 9:  
Single-Mode Photodetection
  - Heterodyne Detection — semiclassical versus quantum
  - Realizing the  $\hat{a}$  measurement
- Lecture 10:  
Single-Mode Photodetection
  - Signatures of non-classical light
  - Squeezed-state waveguide tap

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