A review of different proposals to set up a polarization-entangledphotons bright source

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Outline

Entangled states and measurements

□ The first proofs of the quantum mechanics weirdness

Non-linear processes as sources of pairs of photons

BBO vs PPKTP – Bulk vs Periodically poled crystals

Summary

Entangled State

"Entanglement" is a word that presents the concept of nonlocal quantum correlations between two or more quantummechanical systems.



Bell states

2-qubit maximally entangled pure states

$$\begin{split} |\Phi^{\pm}\rangle &= \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} (|00\rangle \pm |11\rangle), \\ |\Psi^{\pm}\rangle &= \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} (|01\rangle \pm |10\rangle), \end{split}$$

Werner states

$$\rho = \frac{1-a}{2}(|00\rangle + |11\rangle)(\langle 00| + \langle 11|) + \frac{a}{4}I$$

Types of photon qubit encoding

Any two orthogonal modes of light provide a way of constructing a two-level quantum system that can serve as a qubit.



[[]J. I. O'brien, et. al. Nature Photonics **3**, 687 (2009)] [Nature 421, 509-513(2003)] [Quantum computation and quantum information. M. Nielsen and I. Chuang]



Types of photon qubit encoding

OAM qubit

Dual-rail (Path) qubit





[J. l. O'brien, et. al. Nature Photonics **3**, 687 (2009)] [Nature 421, 509-513(2003)]

[Quantum computation and quantum information. M. Nielsen and I. Chuang] A. Yao and M. J. Padgett. Advances in Optics and Photonics **3**, 161–204 (2011)] [A. Nicolas et. al. New J. Phys. 17 (2015) 033037]

Entangled State



Observation of Entanglement



[D A Guzmán, L J Uribe, A Valencia, F J Rodríguez and L Quiroga. Eur. J. Phys. 36, 055039 (2015)]

First Generation Experiments



- In the Berkeley experiment (1972), Clauser and Freedman built a source using calcium atoms.
- Since the signal was weak, and spurious cascades occurred, it took more than 200 hours of measurement for a significant result.
- In the Aspect's experiment (1975) the source was optimized to obtain a coincidence rate of $\sim 10^2 \text{ s}^{-1}$, several orders of magnitude larger than in the first experiments. The measurements took just ~ 4 hour under these conditions.
- They violated the Bell's inequality by 40 standard deviations!

["Quantum [Un]speakables – From Bell to Quantum information", R. A. Bertlmann and A. Zeilinger, Springer (2002).]

Parametric Down-Conversion (SPDC) Age



The parametric fluorescence has been observed since the 1960s!

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SPCD age



PDC crystals: Deuterated potassium dihydrogen phosphate (DKDP) or **Monopotassium phosphate (KDP)** single crystals widely used in non-linear optics as the second, third and fourth harmonic generators for Nd:YAG and Nd:YLF lasers.

(Source: Wikipedia.org)

- Ou/Mandel Experiment (1988). The violation of Bell's inequality is as large as 6 standard deviations. The maximum coincidence rate measured was 25 coin/min. Non pump power was provided.
- Shih/Alley experiment (1988). In this case the violation of the inequality occurs by 3 standard deviations. 150 coin/run. Non power information was provided.

This technique involves the so-called **postselection procedure**, with a success probability of 1/2 and thus it is inappropriate for applications such as the loophole-free Bell's inequality test.

> [Z. Y. Ou and L. Mandel. Phys. Rev. Lett. **61**, 50 (1988)] [Y. H. Shih and C. O. Alley. Phys. Rev. Lett. **61**, 2921 (1988)]



PDC Crystal: Beta-barium borate (BBO) – Type II noncollinear phase-matching



Kwiat et. al. (1995). They demonstrated a violation of Bell's inequality by over 100 standard deviations in less than 5 min!

Coincidence rates greater than 1500 s⁻¹. With an estimated flux of pairs of 10 pairs/s·mW.



Coincidence fringe polarization correlations, 95% visibility



PDC Crystal: Two crossed BBO – Type I, noncollinear phase-matching

Kwiat et. al. (1999). The necessary statistics for the 242- σ violation were obtained in only 2 min!

Coincidence rates of 21000 s⁻¹. With an estimated flux of pairs of 140 pairs/s·mW in a 5-nm bandwidth.

Coincidence fringes with a visibility of 99.6%.

Collection efficiency: $\sim 10\%$ (the probability of collecting one photon *conditioned* on collecting the other)





An stricter optimization coupling was performed: The pump waist, crystal length, emission angle and collection modes were engineered for the operation wavelength.

The flux of pairs was 220 pairs/s⋅mW in a 6-nm bandwidth. (No interference filters were used)

Coincidence fringes with a visibility of 98%.

Collection efficiency: ~19%

[Ch. Kurtsiefer, M. Oberparleiter, and H. Weinfurter Phys. Rev. A 64, 023802 (2001).
F. A. Bovino, P. Varisco, A. M. Colla, G. Castagnoli, G. Di Giuseppe, and A. V. Sergienko, Opt. Commun. 227, 343–348 (2003).
P. Trojek, Ch. Schmid, M. Bourennane, H. Weinfurter, and Ch. Kurtsiefer. Opt. Express 12, 276-281 (2004)]





The crystal is placed in a linear cavity

The flux of pairs was 105 pairs/s·mW, cavity-enhanced

Coincidence fringes with a visibility of 92%.

[M. Oberparleiter, H. Weinfurter. Optics Communications 183, 133 (2000)]



This setup is made because of a problem in the compensation when a pulse laser is used as pump.

Was part of the first proposal of a loophole-free Bell inequality experiment.

[P. G. Kwiat, P. H. Eberhard, A. M. Steinberg, and R. Y. Chiao. Phys. Rev. A **49**, 3209 (1994)] Y.-H Kim, S. P. Kulik, and Y. S. Phys. Rev. A, **62**, 011802(R) (2000)

SPCD age

Bulk materials

BaB₂O₄ (BBO) KTiPO₃ (KTP) RbTiPO₄ LiNbPO₃ (LN) LiTaO₃ (LT)



- A wide variety of nonlinear crystals are used for SPDC in a given range of frequencies. All these materials must be birefringent.
- The phase-matching conditions are fulfilled by using temperature and angle tuning.
- Limitations:
 - Some materials with high optical nonlinearities are not birefringent, or have insufficient birefringence, particularly at shorter wavelengths
 - Because the direction of propagation in the crystal is dictated by the phase-matching, it is usually not along one of the crystallographic axes. This leads to spatial walk-off, which limits the length of crystals that can be used.

SPCD age



Effective nonlinear coefficient

The quasi-phasematching condition:

$$k_p = k_s + k_i + \frac{2\pi}{\Lambda}$$

The angle tuning is not needed any more!

Advantages:

- The collinear or noncollinear configuration can be achieved just changing the period of the pole.
- We can have the beams traveling along one of the crystal's crystallographic axes. This eliminates the problems caused by spatial walk-off. The use of much longer crystals is allowed, which leads to an increased signal.
- We can chose the wavelength of the signal and idler by changing the crystal temperature.

SPCD age - PPKTP



 $|\Psi\rangle \propto (|H_s\rangle_1|V_i\rangle_2 + e^{i\phi}\beta|V_s\rangle_1|H_i\rangle_2)$

PPKTP Crystal: 10-mm-long (crystallographic X axis), 2-mm-wide (Y axis), 1-mm-thick (Z axis) with a grating period of 10.0 μ m for frequency-degenerate type-II quasi-phasematched collinear parametric down-conversion. The spectral brightness ~5000 pairs/(s·mW·nm)

With a violation of the classical limit by more than 500 standard deviations!

Coincidence fringes with a visibility of 96.8%.

[T. Kim, M. Fiorentino, and F. N. C. Wong. Physical Review A 73, 012316 (2006)]

SPCD age - PPKTP



It is a wavelength-tunable, fiber-coupled source of polarization-entangled photons.

A spectral brightness of 273000 pairs $(s \cdot mW \cdot nm)^{-1}$

This improvement was achieved by use of a long crystal, careful selection of focusing parameters and single-mode fiber coupling.

The visibility of coincidence fringes was 99.5% and the fidelity with the maximally entangle state $|\psi^-\rangle$ was 0.99.



[A. Fedrizzi, T. Herbst, A. Poppe, T. Jennewein and A. Zeilinger. Optics Express, 15, 15377 (2007)]

Other sources

Two-photon Raman scattering



Spectral brightness of ~ 5×10^{6} pairs (s \cdot mW \cdot nm)⁻¹

A violation of Bell inequality of more than 14 standard deviations.

Telecom wavelength

Biexciton-resonant hyper parametric scattering (RHPS).





L. Sansoni, K. H. Luo, C. Eigner, R. Ricken, V. Quiring, H. Herrmann & C. Silberhorn. npj Quantum Information 3, 5 (2017)

Summary





Thanks for your attention!

Any other question?