Propagation of quantum optical fields under the conditions of multi-photon resonances in a coherent atomic vapor

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# Outline

- Squeezed states of light
- Previous experiment
- Hyper-fine EIT filtering experiment
- "Fast" squeezing experiment
- Future plans

Squeezed states of light



Coherent state:  $\Delta X_1 \Delta X_2 = \frac{1}{4}$  Squeezed state:  $\Delta X_1 \Delta X_2 \ge \frac{1}{4}$  Squeezed states of light



 $E(t) = \varepsilon(ae^{-i\omega t} + a^{\dagger}e^{i\omega t}) \qquad -z$  $[a, a^{\dagger}] = 1$ 

->  $E(t) = 2\varepsilon(X_1 \cos \omega t + X_2 \sin \omega t)$  $[X_1, X_2] = \frac{i}{2}$ 

Coherent state:  $\Delta X_1 \Delta X_2 = \frac{1}{4}$  Squeezed state:  $\Delta X_1 \Delta X_2 \ge \frac{1}{4}$ 

# Polarization self-rotation



$$\varphi_{sr} \simeq \frac{3}{4 \pi} N \, \lambda^2 \frac{\gamma}{\Delta} L \, \varepsilon$$

# Polarization self-rotation



Horizontally polarized pump field

Vertically polarized squeezed vacuum field



Hans-A. Bachor, Timothy C. Ralph "A Guide to Experiments in Quantum Optics"









## Beam splitter model

$$\begin{pmatrix} V_{+,out} \\ V_{-,out} \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} A_{+}^{2} & A_{-}^{2} \\ A_{-}^{2} & A_{+}^{2} \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} V_{+,in} \\ V_{-,in} \end{pmatrix} + \begin{pmatrix} 1 - (A_{+}^{2} + A_{-}^{2}) \\ 1 - (A_{+}^{2} + A_{-}^{2}) \end{pmatrix}$$

Where  $A_{\pm} = \frac{1}{2}(T(\omega) \pm T(-\omega))$   $T(\omega)$  – normalized transmission at the frequency  $\omega$   $V_{\pm,in}$  - input noise variance  $V_{\pm,out}$  - output noise variance



Eugeniy E. Mikhailov et al., PRA 73, 053810 (2006)

## Electromagnetically induced transparency (EIT)

 $|e\rangle = \langle \delta \rangle$   $\varepsilon \qquad 0$   $|s\rangle = \langle s\rangle$ 





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Previous experiment

# The atoms: <sup>87</sup>Rb



 $\star$  = populated

(Zeeman structure shown)

# Sample data



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#### Experimental setup



# Experimental setup











# Experimental setup



## Excess noise power for different coherent probe input powers.



## Improved setup



Pump leakage reduced from 0.5 uW to 20 nW



#### Probing dense atomic media with noise



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"Fast" squeezing experiment motivation

- Phys. Rev. Letters 86 (2001) 3925
  A. Kuzmich et al., "Signal Velocity, Causality, and Quantum Noise in Superluminal Light Pulse Propagation"
- Journal of Optics 12 (2010) 104007
  R. W. Boyd et al., "Noise properties of propagation through slow- and fast-light media"

## Faraday rotation



## Faraday rotation



BPD signal vs magnetic field in the interaction cell  $^{87}Rb$ ,  $F = 2 \rightarrow F' = 1$ ,  $T = 50 \ ^{o}C$ 

### *Group velocity*



# Experimental setup

Squeezed vacuum state + Local oscillator 0 0 N 1.5 1 Noise power, dB 0 -0.5 0  $X_2$ Spectrum analyzer 0 -1 -1.5<sup>L</sup> 0 BPD 100 200 300 400  $X_1$ Time, a.u.  $\lambda/4 \quad \lambda/2$ PBS bypass  $\mathbb{A}$ PBS L1 L2  $\mathbb{A}$ GP Squeezing cell Interaction cell

A. Lezama et al., Phys. Rev. A 84 (2011) 033851

Results



*Error bars are*  $\pm 2\sigma$  *from statistics* 

# Future plans

- Finish "fast" squeezing experiment
- Optical gyroscopes based on slow/fast light

- Fully atomic generation and manipulation of squeezing
- $\sim 2 \text{ dB of noise suppression}$
- It is important to keep the pump leakage as small as possible
- Can probe dense atomic media with noise
- Demonstration of superluminal squeezing propagation

EIT effect

Consider a 3 level system with two optical fields:

- Weak probe field  $\varepsilon$
- Strong control field with the Rabi frequency  $\Omega$



EIT effect

Consider a 3 level system with two optical fields:

- Weak probe field  $\varepsilon$
- Strong control field with the Rabi frequency  $\Omega$

Electric susceptibility:

$$\chi(\delta) = \frac{N}{V} \frac{D_{eg}^2}{\epsilon_0 \hbar} \frac{\delta + i\gamma_0}{|\Omega|^2 + \Gamma_0 \Gamma}$$

Where  $D_{eg}$ - electric dipole moment

$$\Gamma_0 = \gamma_0 - i\delta$$
$$\Gamma = \gamma - i\delta$$

 $\gamma$  – atomic polarization decay rate

 $\gamma_0$  - coherence decay rate



EIT effect



EIT effect



EIT effect

