Spontaneous parametric downconversion in waveguides: what’s loss got to do with it?

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Abstract

We derive frequency correlation and exit probability expressions for photons generated via spontaneous parametric downconversion (SPDC) in nonlinear waveguides that exhibit linear scattering loss. Such loss is included within a general Hamiltonian formalism by connecting waveguide modes to reservoir modes with a phenomenological coupling Hamiltonian, the parameters of which are later related to the usual loss coefficients. In the limit of a low probability of SPDC pair production, the presence of loss requires that we write the usual lossless generated pair state as a reduced density operator, and we find that this density operator is naturally composed of two photon, one photon, and zero photon contributions. The biphoton probability density, or joint spectral intensity (JSI), associated with the two-photon contribution is determined not only by a phase matching term, but also by a loss matching term. The relative sizes of the loss coefficients within this term lead to three qualitatively different regimes of SPDC JSIs. If either the pump or generated photon loss is much higher than the other, the side lobes of the phase matching squared sinc function are washed out. On the other hand, if pump and generated photon loss are appropriately balanced, the lossy JSI is identical to the lossless JSI. Finally, if the generated photon loss is frequency dependent, the shape of the JSI can be altered more severely, potentially leading to generated photons that are less frequency correlated though also produced less efficiently when compared to photons generated in low-loss waveguides.

1. Introduction

Waveguides are fundamental integrated optical components. Their performance is key to realizing increased miniaturization, stability, and scalability of both classical and quantum optical devices. In particular, as nonlinear quantum optics experiments continue to move from bulk crystal optics to chip-scale optics, waveguide losses will have a direct effect on nonlinear optical photon generation and manipulation. Indeed, loss mechanisms in waveguides have been well-investigated both theoretically and experimentally \cite{1–6}, a recent conclusion being that while propagation losses can certainly arise from material absorption and radiation associated with tight bends, the most significant source of loss in modern integrated waveguides is often scattering due to sidewall roughness inherent in fabrication processes \cite{6}.

Modern quantum-theoretical treatments of spontaneous photon generation typically proceed along one of two directions. In one school, the focus is on operator expectation values, and differential equations for these operators are developed in analogy with classical coupled mode equations (see e.g. \cite{7–9}). In the other, more of a focus is placed on quantum states (see e.g. \cite{10–15}). Although the first approach has initially proven more amenable to extensions to include loss \cite{7,9}, there is no reason to believe that such a task is not possible in the second. Indeed, here we extend a multiple-frequency mode Hamiltonian formalism of spontaneous parametric downconversion (SPDC) in waveguides \cite{13} to include scattering loss in the nonlinear region.

With an eye toward future calculations, we see four key advantages to employing this 'backward Heisenberg picture' approach, so-named because it evolves operators backward in time to ensure that their associated
Schrödinger picture states correctly evolve forward in time. In particular, it works within a wavevector-time framework, rather than frequency-time or position-time, enabling extensions beyond effectively one-dimensional devices to two-dimensional and three-dimensional structures. Secondly, it correctly accounts for both material and modal dispersion, not only in calculating the phase matching of the process, but also in the normalization of the modes involved [16]. Thirdly, the pump pulse is treated fully quantum mechanically, allowing the description of nonlinear quantum optical processes for arbitrary input states of light. Finally, it places classical and quantum wave mixing processes within a consistent theoretical framework, making it easy to draw comparisons and develop new physical insights [17, 18].

We limit ourselves here to consideration of photon pair generation via SPDC, as this allows us to consider pump losses separately from generated photon losses; nonetheless, we expect many of the results presented here to carry over to photon pair generation via spontaneous four-wave mixing, a topic we intend to explore in detail in future work. While SPDC pair generation in waveguides has been studied in the past [19–24], the effects of scattering loss have rarely been included explicitly [25, 26], and never within a multiple-frequency mode quantum state picture. Indeed, in the analysis of experimental results such loss is usually lumped in with detector efficiencies and losses associated with coupling on and off the chip [22, 27]. Typical theoretical analyses of the utility of photonic states when losses are involved often model loss with the inclusion of asymmetric beam splitters [28], or frequency-dependent beam splitters acting as spectral filters [29], placed after the nonlinear region where the photons are generated [29–32]. It is clear that both of these approaches miss any effects due to the simultaneous action of nonlinearity and loss, as opposed to effects arising from their successive action.

As we show, our approach correctly captures the full spectral structure of SPDC generated photons, including the effects of loss on photon frequency correlations, and enables a prediction of the quantum performance of nonlinear waveguides in the presence of loss. In particular, we show that the common expression for the biphoton probability density, or joint spectral intensity (JSI), in which it is composed of just a pump pulse spectrum term and a phase matching term, should also contain a loss matching term that can strongly modify its shape. We also show that the standard practice of quantifying device performance only in terms of photon pair exit probability should be complemented by specifying the probability of accidental singles, from photon pairs that have lost one photon, exiting the waveguide. Put together, a picture of the trade-offs between frequency separability and photon pair to single photon exit probability emerges. Additionally, as we begin with a coherent state pump in the Schrödinger picture and follow its evolution through the device, our approach remains relatively straightforward and can easily be generalized to more complicated input states, additional nonlinear effects [33, 34], and various integrated nonlinear structures beyond channel waveguides [35]. For a treatment of the simpler problem of including the effects of scattering loss following photon generation within our formalism, we refer the reader to Helt [36].

In section 2 we introduce the general formalism, first reviewing how a calculation proceeds in the absence of loss, and then turning to differences that arise when scattering loss is included. In section 3, working in the negligible multi-pair generation regime, we construct the reduced density operator associated with at most a single pair of photons exiting the lossy waveguide without scattering, first in wavevector-space and then switching to a frequency representation as well. This density operator is seen to naturally separate into the sum of a two-photon, a single-photon, and a vacuum density operator. In section 4, still in frequency space, we demonstrate the utility of our derived expressions. We first use the natural splitting of the total reduced density operator to calculate the probabilities with which two photons, one photon, or zero photons exit the waveguide without scattering. We then compare the form of a general lossy biphoton wave function with one calculated in the absence of loss, and note the appearance of both an exponential decay term and a loss matching term. Finally, we consider biphoton probability densities in the three qualitatively different regimes: one in which either the loss of pump photons or generated photons is much higher than the other, one in which the loss of pump photons and generated photons are appropriately balanced, and one in which the loss of generated photons is frequency dependent. For concreteness we calculate biphoton probability densities as well as the probabilities with which photon pairs and single photons exit the nonlinear device for a realistic Bragg reflection waveguide [37]. We conclude in section 5.

2. From input pulses to output photons

2.1. Summary of our formalism in the absence of scattering loss

The formalism that we extend here was initially presented in an earlier work [13], and so we direct the reader there for additional details, providing just a summary here. It begins with linear and nonlinear Hamiltonians, which are built up from correctly normalized expansions of the full electric displacement and magnetic field operators in terms of the modes of interest of the linear problem. In particular, we assume that modes labelled by \( m = D \) for downconverted (fundamental) and \( m = P \) for pump (second harmonic) have been found, and write
\[
H_L = \sum_{m=0}^{\infty} \int dk \, \hbar \omega_{mk} a_{mk}^\dagger a_{mk},
\]
(2.1)

\[
H_{NL} = -\int dk_1 dk_2 dk \, S(k_1, k_2, k) a_{D,k_1}^\dagger a_{D,k_2} a_{P,k} + \text{H.c.},
\]
(2.2)

where H.c. denotes Hermitian conjugate, and

\[
[a_{mk}, a_{m'k'}^\dagger] = \delta_{mn} \delta(k - k'),
\]
(2.3)

with all other commutators evaluating to zero. For simplicity, we have assumed that all generated photons are labelled by D, i.e. we have assumed type-I SPDC, though we note that generalizations are straightforward [38]. We assume that all pump and generated photons travel in the forward (positive \(k\)) direction, a valid approximation for typical dispersion relations [13], and therefore here and throughout all wavevector integrals are taken over the positive real axis. All of the nonlinear optics lives in the coupling term [13]

\[
S(k_1, k_2, k) = \left\langle \frac{\hbar \omega_{Dk_1} \hbar \omega_{Dk_2} \hbar \omega_{P,k}}{(4\pi)^3} \chi_2 \text{sinc} \frac{L}{2} \delta(k_1 + k_2 - k) \right\rangle_{\text{vac}} L^2 A(k_1, k_2, k),
\]
(2.4)

where the nonlinearity has been assumed to exist between \(z = -L/2\) and \(z = L/2\), and \(\pi\) and \(\chi_2\) are, respectively, a typical effective index and second-order optical nonlinearity introduced solely for convenience. In particular, our final results depend on neither \(\pi\) nor \(\chi_2\), as they cancel with counterparts in the definition of the effective area [13]

\[
A(k_1, k_2, k) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} dx dy \frac{\eta_2^{3/2} d_i^{ij} \bar{d}_{D,k_1}(x,y) \bar{d}_{D,k_2}(x,y) \left[ d_{P,k}(x,y) \right]^2}{Z_2 \omega_{D,k_1}^2 n^2(x,y) \omega_{D,k_2}^2 n^2(x,y) \omega_{P,k}},
\]
(2.5)

with \(d_{D,k}(x,y)\) the \(i\)th component of the displacement field at wavenumber \(k\), and \(n(x,y; \omega_{mk})\) the material refractive index at wavenumber \(k\), both at waveguide cross-sectional position \((x,y)\). We have chosen the field amplitudes such that we can take the phase associated with the effective area to be zero.

We frame evolution through the nonlinear waveguide in terms of `asymptotic-in' and `out' states, borrowing from scattering theory. Their introduction eliminates trivial linear evolution from our main calculation, as the asymptotic-in state is defined as the state evolved from \(t = t_0\), with energy localized at the beginning of the waveguide, to \(t = 0\), at its centre, according to only \(H_L\). Similarly, the asymptotic-out state is defined as the state at \(t = 0\) that would evolve to \(t = t_0\), with energy localized at the end of the waveguide, if the evolution occurred according to the same linear Hamiltonian. The duration of the interaction is on the order of the length of the assumed nonlinear portion of waveguide, \(L\), divided by the group velocity of the pump field, \(v_p\), i.e. \(t_1 - t_0 \approx L/v_p\). However, as in scattering theory, it is common to take \(v_p \rightarrow -\infty, t_1 \rightarrow \infty\). The calculation seeks the state of generated photons for an asymptotic-in coherent state

\[
|\psi\rangle_{\text{in}} = \exp \left( \int dk \, \phi_p(k) a_{P,k}^\dagger - \text{H.c.} \right) |\text{vac}\rangle,
\]
(2.6)

with \(|\psi\rangle\) the average number of photons per pulse for a normalized pump pulse waveform \(\phi_p(k)\) and \(|\text{vac}\rangle = |\text{vac}\rangle_{\text{P}} \otimes |\text{vac}\rangle_{\text{D}}\). In particular, we proceed by solving for the associated asymptotic-out state

\[
|\psi\rangle_{\text{out}} = e^{i\hbar k_{1} t_{1}/\hbar} e^{-i(H_L + H_{\text{in}})(t_{0} - t_{1})/\hbar} e^{-iH_{\text{out}}(t_{1})/\hbar} |\psi\rangle_{\text{in}},
\]
(2.7)

in the backward Heisenberg picture [13], and seek an output state of the form

\[
|\psi\rangle_{\text{out}} = \exp \left( \int dk \, \phi_p(k) a_{P,k}^\dagger (t_0) - \text{H.c.} \right) |\text{vac}\rangle,
\]
(2.8)

where \(a_{P,k}^\dagger (t_0)\) contains a contribution from the D mode operators. This form follows from our intuition that, for an undepleted pump, the P mode will remain in a coherent state. Furthermore, any difference between \(a_{P,k}^\dagger (t_0)\) and \(a_{P,k}^\dagger\) can be identified with photon creation and, to first order, is naturally represented as a squeezing operation [13]. For a general barred operator \(\bar{\sigma}(t)\), which is seen to evolve backward in time as \(|\psi\rangle_{\text{in}}\) evolves forward in time, one can show

\[
\hbar \frac{d\bar{\sigma}(t)}{dt} = \left[ \bar{\sigma}(t), V(t) \right],
\]
(2.9)
subject to the ‘final’ condition
\[ \mathcal{O} \left( t_f \right) = 0, \]  
(2.10)

with
\[ V \left( t \right) = -\int dk_1 dk_2 dk S \left( k_1, k_2, k; t \right) \pi_{\Delta k_1}^\dagger \left( t \right) \pi_{\Delta k_2}^\dagger \left( t \right) \pi_{p k} \left( t \right) + \text{H.c.}, \]  
(2.11)

and \[ S \left( k_1, k_2, k; t \right) = S \left( k_1, k_2, k \right) e^{i \left( \omega_{k_1} + \omega_{k_2} - \omega_{k} \right) t}. \]  
In short, the problem of calculating the evolution of a state through the waveguide reduces to the integration of (2.9) from \( t = t_1 \) back to \( t = t_0 \) subject to (2.10) or solving differential equations for barred (backward Heisenberg) operators. In the undepleted pump approximation, the approximate solution is \[ \psi_{\text{out}} = \exp \left( \zeta C_{0\dagger} \left( t_0 \right) - \text{H.c.} \right) \left| \text{vac} \right\rangle_{\text{D}} \otimes \left| \psi \right\rangle_p, \]  
(2.12)

where \( \left| \psi \right\rangle_p = \exp \left( z \int dk \, \phi_p \left( k \right) a_{p k}^\dagger - \text{H.c.} \right) \left| \text{vac} \right\rangle_p \) is the input coherent state, and
\[ C_{0\dagger} \left( t_0 \right) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \int dk_1 dk_2 \, \phi \left( k_1, k_2 \right) a_{\Delta k_1} a_{\Delta k_2}^\dagger, \]  
(2.13)

is a two-photon creation operator characterized by the biphoton wave function
\[ \phi \left( k_1, k_2 \right) = \frac{\sqrt{2} z i}{\zeta} \int dk \, \phi_p \left( k \right) \int_{t_0}^{t_1} d\tau \, S \left( k_1, k_2, k; \tau \right). \]  
(2.14)

Note that it is symmetric
\[ \phi \left( k_1, k_2 \right) = \phi \left( k_2, k_1 \right). \]  
(2.15)

Although (2.12) is already normalized, we are also free to choose \( C_{0\dagger} \left( t_0 \right) \left| \text{vac} \right\rangle_{\text{D}} \) to be normalized, which requires that we set
\[ \int d k_1 d k_2 \left| \phi \left( k_1, k_2 \right) \right|^2 = 1. \]  
(2.16)

Recalling (2.12), we see that this choice implies that in the limit \( \zeta \ll 1 \) \( \zeta^2 \) can be thought of as the average number of generated photon pairs per pump pulse.

### 2.2. Photon generation in the presence of scattering loss

To include the effects of scattering loss in nonlinear waveguides within this formalism, we introduce a reservoir of radiation modes with the free Hamiltonian
\[ H_{\text{R}} = \sum_{m=\text{D,P}} \int d k d \mu \, \Omega_{\text{m} k} b_{\text{m} k}^\dagger b_{\text{m} k}, \]  
(2.17)

containing operators that satisfy
\[ \left[ b_{\text{m} k}, b_{\text{m'} k'}^\dagger \right] = \delta_{\text{m} \text{m'}} \delta \left( \mu - \mu' \right) \delta \left( k - k' \right), \]  
(2.18)

and which are coupled to pump and downconverted modes via the Hamiltonian
\[ H_{\text{C}} = \sum_{m=\text{D,P}} \int d k d \mu \, \left( \epsilon_{\text{m} k} a_{\text{m} k}^\dagger b_{\text{m} k} + \epsilon_{\text{m} k} b_{\text{m} k}^\dagger a_{\text{m} k} \right). \]  
(2.19)

Here \( \mu \) is a shorthand for all quantities necessary to specify reservoir modes in addition to \( m \) and \( k \), and \( \epsilon_{\text{m} k} \) are waveguide–reservoir coupling terms. While it is possible in principle to solve for the radiation modes with which the \( b_{\text{m} k} \) are associated, and perform field overlap integrals to determine the \( \epsilon_{\text{m} k} \), we do not attempt to do so here. We simply view the reservoir and coupling Hamiltonians as phenomenological entities, and later on in our calculation connect the waveguide–reservoir coupling terms to the usual experimentally determined loss coefficients. Although \( b_{\text{D} k} \) and \( b_{\text{P} k} \) come from the same field expansion, the division of the ‘total’ reservoir into two parts through the sums in (2.17) and (2.19) is nevertheless justified. Following the rotating wave approximation used to simplify the coupling Hamiltonian, \( H_{\text{C}} \), the reservoir modes that couple strongly to the D waveguide modes, \( a_{\text{D} k} \), are well-separated in frequency from the reservoir modes that couple strongly to the P waveguide modes, \( a_{\text{P} k} \). While this phenomenological model allows for light to couple both into and out of the guided waveguide modes via the reservoir, we eventually take the temperature of the reservoir to be zero so that no light can ever scatter back into the waveguide modes. This assumption, which is quite reasonable here as
room temperature blackbody radiation at the frequencies of interest is negligible, is common in the study of open quantum optical systems and simplifies our calculations.

At this point, there are many ways that one could proceed. One could derive an expression for the evolution of the reduced density operator describing the generated photons. Written as a differential equation, this is known as the master equation, and can be put into Lindblad form [39]. Alternatively, one could work with quasiprobability distribution function representations for the same density operator [40], and arrive at a Fokker–Planck type equation [41, 42]. However, we find that the approach that most clearly captures the physics and lends itself to integration with a Schrödinger state picture approach is a quantum Langevin formalism in which equations of motion are derived for waveguide operators in terms of ‘fluctuating force’ reservoir operators, which are later traced out of the appropriate density operator [42], and it is this procedure that we follow here.

We imagine the same generalized asymptotic-in coherent state as above (2.6) incident on a lossy nonlinear waveguide, and also work in the backward Heisenberg picture as above, the only difference being that we now include the reservoir and coupling Hamiltonians in our calculation. With \( H_L \to H_L + H_R \) in (2.7), we find that the asymptotic-out state can be written

\[
| \psi_{\text{out}} \rangle = \exp \left( z \int dk \, \phi_y(k) \tilde{\sigma}_L^k \left( t_0 \right) - \text{H.c.} \right) | \text{vac} \rangle,
\]

where barred operators \( \tilde{O} \left( t \right) \) now evolve according to the backward Heisenberg equation

\[
i\hbar \frac{d\tilde{O} \left( t \right)}{dt} = \left[ \tilde{O} \left( t \right), W \left( t \right) \right],
\]

with

\[
W \left( t \right) = \sum_{m=D,P} \int dk d\mu \, \hbar \left( c_{mk} \pi^*_m \left( t \right) \tilde{b}_{mk} \left( t \right) e^{i (\omega_{mk} - \Omega_{mk}) t} + \text{H.c.} \right) - \int dk_1 dk_2 dk S \left( k_1, k_2, k; t \right) \pi^*_m \left( t \right) \pi^*_n \left( t \right) \tilde{\sigma}_n \left( t \right) + \text{H.c.},
\]

subject to the ‘final’ condition

\[
\tilde{O} \left( t_0 \right) = 0.
\]

The vacuum ket now encompasses the Hilbert space of the reservoir in addition to the D and P waveguide operator spaces, i.e., \( | \text{vac} \rangle = | \text{vac} \rangle_D \otimes | \text{vac} \rangle_P \otimes | \text{vac} \rangle_R \). Writing the state of the reservoir in this way is justified in the zero-temperature limit, where the reservoir density operator

\[
\rho_R \left( T \right) = \frac{e^{-H_R / (k_B T)}}{\text{Tr} \left[ e^{-H_R / (k_B T)} \right]},
\]

with \( T \) the temperature and \( k_B \) the Boltzmann constant, becomes the pure state

\[
\rho_R \left( 0 \right) = | \text{vac} \rangle_R \langle \text{vac} |_{R} \equiv \rho_R.
\]

The method presented here has eliminated trivial linear evolution according to both \( H_L \) as well as \( H_R \) and, in addition to nonlinear effects from \( H_{NL} \), our backward Heisenberg equation now includes the effects of coupling to the reservoir. Explicitly, the differential equations for the barred reservoir operators, which follow from (2.21), are

\[
i\hbar \frac{d\tilde{b}_{mk} \left( t \right)}{dt} = -\hbar c_{mk} \pi^*_m \left( t \right) e^{i (\omega_{mk} - \Omega_{mk}) t}.
\]

They are formally solved as

\[
\tilde{b}_{mk}^+ \left( t \right) = b_{mk}^+ - i \int_0^t \, c_{mk} \pi^*_m \left( \tau \right) e^{i (\omega_{mk} - \Omega_{mk}) \tau} d\tau,
\]

which can then be substituted in the differential equations for the barred waveguide operators \( \pi_{mk} \left( t \right) \). Treating the nonlinear term containing \( S \left( k_1, k_2, k; t \right) \) as a perturbation, we are interested in the first-order solution for the waveguide operator in our output state \( \pi_{pl} \left( t \right) \). This operator has the first-order equation.
\[
\frac{d}{dt} \left( \pi_{mk} (t) \right)^\dagger = \int d\mu \left( i b_{mk}^* \epsilon_{mk} e^{-i(\omega_{mk} - \Omega_{mk})t} + \int_0^\infty d\tau \left( \bar{\pi}_{mk}^\dagger (\tau) \right)^\dagger \right) e^{i(\omega_{mk} - \Omega_{mk})(t-\tau)} + \frac{1}{i\hbar} \int dk_1 dk_2 dS (k_1, k_2, k; t) \left( \bar{\pi}_{Dk_1}^\dagger (t) \right)^\dagger \left( \bar{\pi}_{Dk_2}^\dagger (t) \right)^0,
\]
with zeroth-order equations for both D and P barred waveguide operators
\[
\frac{d}{dt} \left( \bar{\pi}_{mk}^\dagger (t) \right)^0 = \int d\mu \left( i b_{mk}^* \epsilon_{mk} e^{-i(\omega_{mk} - \Omega_{mk})t} + \int_0^\infty d\tau \left( \bar{\pi}_{mk}^\dagger (\tau) \right)^0 \right) e^{i(\omega_{mk} - \Omega_{mk})(t-\tau)}.
\]
where we have used (2.27). We remind readers that \( c_{mk} \) are coupling coefficients, not operators, and that \( \hbar \omega_{mk} \) and \( \hbar \Omega_{mk} \) are, respectively, energies associated with waveguide mode and radiation mode (reservoir) operators.

To evaluate these integrals we note that, as a first approximation, the guided modes labelled by a particular \( m \) and \( k \) couple equally to all reservoir modes of the same \( m \) and \( k \) regardless of \( \mu \). That is, for a fixed \( m \) and \( k \), there are so many degrees of freedom represented by \( \mu \) that scattering into each is equally likely. Physically, this is because we assume that waveguide roughness at different positions is approximately uncorrelated and the scattering spectrum is flat over the \( \mu \) of interest, an approximation certainly accurate down to a few nanometres [6]. With this in mind, we approximate \( c_{mk} \approx C_{mk} \) as independent of \( \mu \) and write \( d\mu = (d\mu/d\Omega_{mk})d\Omega_{mk} \) also approximating the density of states \( d\mu/d\Omega_{mk} \approx \Omega_{mk} \) as independent of \( \mu \) so that (2.29) can be cast into the form of a quantum mechanical Langevin equation
\[
\frac{d}{dt} \left( \bar{\pi}_{mk}^\dagger (t) \right)^0 = F_{mk}^\dagger (t) + \beta_{mk} \left( \bar{\pi}_{mk}^\dagger (t) \right)^0,
\]
where the loss rate \( \beta_{mk} = C_{mk} \omega_{mk} \approx 0 \) and fluctuating force operator
\[
F_{mk}^\dagger (t) = i \int d\mu \ b_{mk}^* \epsilon_{mk} e^{-i(\omega_{mk} - \Omega_{mk})t}.
\]
The zeroth-order solution for \( \bar{\pi}_{mk}^\dagger (t) \) is then
\[
\left( \bar{\pi}_{mk}^\dagger (t) \right)^0 = a_{mk}^\dagger e^{-\beta_{mk}(t-\tau)} - \int_0^\infty d\tau \ F_{mk}^\dagger (\tau) e^{-\beta_{mk}(t-\tau)},
\]
and thus that the equal time commutation relation for \( \left( \bar{\pi}_{mk}^\dagger (t) \right)^0 \) does not decay in time, as quantum mechanics requires. In fact, the commutation relation is the same as that for \( a_{mk}^\dagger \) (2.3). We remark that these zeroth-order equations are just multimode generalizations of the well-known single-mode quantum Langevin equation [42], \( \dot{a} = i(F(t) - \hbar \alpha a) + \sqrt{\hbar \beta} \dot{\phi} \), with \( \{ F(t), F^\dagger (t') \} = 2i\hbar \delta (t - t') \). The difference in sign of the loss rate \( \beta \) between the two differential equations (recall (2.30)) arises because in the usual Heisenberg picture system operators evolve forward in time, whereas in the backward Heisenberg picture here the system operators evolve backward in time such that their associated Schrödinger picture state correctly evolves forward in time. The first-order solution for \( \bar{\pi}_{mk}^\dagger (t) \) follows immediately from (2.28), and we see that to this order the asymptotic-out state (2.20) can be written
\[
| \psi \rangle_{\text{out}} = \exp \left( \zeta C_{mk}^\dagger (t_0) - \text{H.c.} \right) | \text{vac}\rangle_0 \otimes | \text{vac}\rangle_0 \otimes | \psi \rangle_p,
\]
where
\[
| \psi \rangle_p = \exp \left[ z \int dk \ \phi_p (k) \left( a_{Dk}^\dagger e^{-\beta_{Dk} (t_1 - t_2)} - \int_{t_2}^{t_1} d\tau F_{Dk}^\dagger (\tau) e^{-\beta_{Dk} (t_1 - \tau)} \right) - \text{H.c.} \right] | \text{vac}\rangle_p,
\]
is, after tracing over the fluctuating force operator, the initial coherent state (2.6), having decayed exponentially in time from \( t_0 \) to \( t_1 \) and
\[
C_{mk}^\dagger (t_0) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \int_{t_2}^{t_1} d\tau \int dk_1 dk_2 \phi (k_1, k_2; \tau)
\times \left( a_{Dk_1}^\dagger e^{-\beta_{Dk_1} (t_1 - \tau)} - \int_{\tau}^{t_1} d\tau F_{Dk_1}^\dagger (\tau') e^{-\beta_{Dk_1} (t_1 - \tau')} \right)
\times \left( a_{Dk_2}^\dagger e^{-\beta_{Dk_2} (t_1 - \tau)} - \int_{\tau}^{t_1} d\tau F_{Dk_2}^\dagger (\tau') e^{-\beta_{Dk_2} (t_1 - \tau')} \right).
\]
is a two-photon creation operator characterized by the total biphoton wave function
\[ \phi(k_1, k_2; \tau) = \frac{\sqrt{2\pi}}{\zeta} \int dk \phi_p(k) S(k_1, k_2, k; \tau) e^{-\beta_\mu (\tau-t_0)}. \] (2.37)

The two-photon creation operator and biphoton wave function calculated in the presence of loss are key results. They represent generalizations of (2.13) and (2.14) to include the effects of scattering loss for photons generated in nonlinear waveguides. However, much more can be learned in the frequency representation, and although we have progressed from the \( \beta_\mu \) to \( \beta_{\text{mk}} \), the \( \beta_{\text{mk}} \) are still not in the form of the standard attenuation coefficient \( \alpha \), usually expressed as inverse lengths.

Note that, just as seen for its non-lossy counterpart above (2.14), the biphoton wave function here (2.37) is symmetric
\[ \phi(k_1, k_2; \tau) = \phi(k_2, k_1; \tau). \] (2.38)

Also as above, although (2.34) is normalized, we are free to choose \( C_{\text{II}}^\dagger(t_0) \mid \text{vac}_D \rangle \), to be normalized, implying that in the limit \( \zeta \ll 1 \), \( \zeta^2 \) can still be thought of as the average number of photon pairs generated by each pump pulse, although now some of the photons could be lost before exiting the device. We will consider this condition explicitly in the next section. For now we note that if there were no loss, i.e. no coupling to the reservoirs \( \epsilon_{\text{mk}} = 0 \), then \( \beta_{\text{mk}} = 0, F_{\text{mk}}(t) = 0, \) and (2.36) would be the same as (2.13).

3. The density operator representation of generated photon pairs

We now turn to the statistical properties of the generated photon states by moving to a density operator picture. We imagine that we are in a pulsed pump regime where the probability of generating a pair of photons is low enough, \( \zeta \ll 1 \), that we may approximate
\[ |\psi\rangle_{\text{out}} = \left( 1 + \zeta C_{\text{II}}^\dagger(t_0) \right) |\text{vac}_D \rangle \otimes |\text{vac}_R \rangle \otimes |\psi_p\rangle. \] (3.1)

Anticipating the eventual trace over reservoir operators, we can write this in density operator form as
\[ \rho_{\text{out}} = \rho_D \otimes \rho_p, \] (3.2)

where (recall (2.25))
\[ \rho_D = \left( |\text{vac}_D \rangle + \zeta C_{\text{II}}^\dagger(t_0) \right) |\text{vac}_D \rangle \rho_k \left( \langle \text{vac} |_D + \langle \text{vac} |_D C_{\text{II}}(t_0) \zeta^* \right), \] (3.3)

and
\[ \rho_p = |\psi_p\rangle \langle \psi_p|, \] (3.4)

While vacuum-pair correlations, or ‘cross terms’, in (3.3) are present, we note that they would be present even if one constructed a density operator in the low probability of pair production regime in a lossless calculation. There (recall (2.12)) one also has \( \left( 1 + \zeta C_{\text{II}}^\dagger(t_0) \right) |\text{vac}_D \rangle \), and often focuses on the normalized two-photon state \( C_{\text{II}}^\dagger(t_0) \mid \text{vac}_D \rangle \), produced with probability \( |\zeta|^2 \). As our interest in this work is in photon pairs, we focus on the corresponding piece of our density operator
\[ \rho_{\text{II}} \equiv C_{\text{II}}^\dagger(t_0) \mid \text{vac}_D \rangle \rho_k \langle \text{vac} |_D C_{\text{II}}(t_0), \] (3.5)

produced with probability \( |\zeta|^2 \), in all that follows.

3.1. \( k \)-space expressions

We construct the reduced density operator describing the state of generated photons by tracing over the reservoir operators in \( \rho_{\text{II}} \) at zero temperature (see appendix A)
\[ \rho_{\text{gen}} = \text{Tr}_{\text{D}} \left[ C_{\text{II}}^\dagger \left( t_0 \right) \mid \text{vac} \right]\rho_{\text{R}} \langle \text{vac} \mid C_{\text{II}} \left( t_0 \right) \rangle \]

\[ = \frac{1}{2} \int_{t_0}^{t_1} \text{d}r \int \text{d}k_1 \text{d}k_2 \text{d}k_3 \text{d}k_4 \phi \left( k_1, k_2, \tau \right) \phi^* \left( k_3, k_4, \tau \right) \rho_{\text{gen}} = \int_{t_0}^{t_1} \text{d}r \int \text{d}k_1 \text{d}k_2 \text{d}k_3 \text{d}k_4 \phi \left( k_1, k_2, \tau \right) \phi^* \left( k_3, k_4, \tau \right) \rho_{\text{gen}} \]

\[ \int \text{d}k_1 \text{d}k_2 \text{d}k_3 \text{d}k_4 \phi \left( k_1, k_2, \tau \right) \phi^* \left( k_3, k_4, \tau \right) \rho_{\text{gen}} = \int \text{d}k_1 \text{d}k_2 \text{d}k_3 \text{d}k_4 \phi \left( k_1, k_2, \tau \right) \phi^* \left( k_3, k_4, \tau \right) \rho_{\text{gen}} \]

\[ \int \text{d}k_1 \text{d}k_2 \text{d}k_3 \text{d}k_4 \phi \left( k_1, k_2, \tau \right) \phi^* \left( k_3, k_4, \tau \right) \rho_{\text{gen}} = \int \text{d}k_1 \text{d}k_2 \text{d}k_3 \text{d}k_4 \phi \left( k_1, k_2, \tau \right) \phi^* \left( k_3, k_4, \tau \right) \rho_{\text{gen}} \]

where we have used (2.38). Thus our state of generated photons naturally separates into

\[ \rho_{\text{gen}} = \rho_2 + \rho_1 + \rho_0 \]

As \( \rho_2 \) factors into a ket and a bra, we recognize it as representing a pure state of two photons with photon creation operators multiplied by decaying exponentials and correlations determined by \( \phi \left( k_1, k_2, \tau \right) \). However the middle term, \( \rho_1 \), can not be factored, and represents a mixed state of single photons. The final term, \( \rho_0 \), is simply a number that sits in front of the vacuum density operator \( \rho \). Written in terms of these three pieces, our choice that \( C_{\text{II}} \left( t_0 \right) \mid \text{vac} \rangle \text{D} \) be normalized becomes

\[ \text{Tr}_{\text{D}} \left[ \rho_{\text{gen}} \right] = \text{Tr}_{\text{D}} \left[ \rho_2 \right] + \text{Tr}_{\text{D}} \left[ \rho_1 \right] + \text{Tr}_{\text{D}} \left[ \rho_0 \right] 
\]

\[ = P_2 + P_1 + P_0 
\]

\[ = 1, \] (3.11)
We interpret the normalization condition (3.15) as a constraint on the temporal distance over which biphoton wave functions can interfere due to interaction with the reservoir.

3.2. $\omega$-space expressions

The density operator derived at the end of the previous section (3.10) can also be understood in the frequency representation. To get there, as in [13], we take

$$\phi_{\omega}(\omega) \equiv \left[ \frac{\partial k_{\omega}(\omega)}{\partial \omega} \right]^{-1/2} \phi_{\omega}(k_{\omega}(\omega)),$$

and

$$\phi(\omega_1, \omega_2; \tau) \equiv \left[ \frac{\partial k_{D}(\omega_1)}{\partial \omega} \right]^{-1/2} \phi(k_{D}(\omega_1), k_{D}(\omega_2); \tau).$$

where the derivatives have been introduced to ensure normalization in frequency space. Furthermore, we approximate the effective area $A$ and group velocities $v_m$ as being constant over the frequency ranges of interest [13], and take $t_0 = -t_1$. While earlier work took $t_0 \rightarrow -\infty$, $t_1 \rightarrow \infty$ [13], doing so here would result in scattering loss occurring for all times. Thus, as mentioned above, as a first approximation we take $\gamma = 0.5\frac{L^2}{t_0+\gamma P}$, $\gamma = 0.5\frac{L^2}{t_0+\gamma P}$ where $L$ is the length of the waveguide, and $v_P$ is the group velocity of the pump field. As shown in appendix B (B.31), the usual attenuation coefficients $\alpha_{\omega}(\omega)$ are related to our $\beta_{\omega}(\omega)$ via $\alpha_{\omega}(\omega) = v(\omega) 2 \beta_{\omega}(\omega)$. This equality combined with our choice of interaction duration leads to ratios of group velocities, $\frac{v_P}{v_P}$, appearing in expressions written in terms of $\alpha_{\omega}(\omega)$. Recalling (2.4), the two-photon term (3.7) can be written as

$$\rho_2 = \frac{1}{2} \int d\omega_1 d\omega_2 d\omega_3 d\omega_4 \theta(\omega_1, \omega_2, \omega_3, \omega_4) e^{\frac{i}{\hbar} \left[ (\omega_1 + \omega_2) \frac{L^2}{4} \right]} \left( a_{\omega_1} a_{\omega_2} \right) \left( a_{\omega_3} a_{\omega_4} \right) \langle \text{vac} | a_{\omega_1} a_{\omega_2}, \text{vac} \rangle \langle a_{\omega_3} a_{\omega_4}, \text{vac} | \rangle,$$

the one-photon term as

$$\rho_1 = \frac{1}{2} \int d\omega_1 d\omega_2 d\omega_3 d\omega_4 \left[ \left( \theta(\omega_1, \omega_2, \omega_3, \omega_4) + e^{\frac{i}{\hbar} \left[ (\omega_1 + \omega_2) \frac{L^2}{4} \right]} \right)^2 \left( a_{\omega_1} a_{\omega_2} \right) \left( a_{\omega_3} a_{\omega_4} \right) \langle \text{vac} | a_{\omega_1} a_{\omega_2}, \text{vac} \rangle \langle a_{\omega_3} a_{\omega_4}, \text{vac} | \rangle \right.$$}

and the vacuum term as

$$\rho_0 = \int d\omega_1 d\omega_2 \left[ \left( \theta(\omega_1, \omega_2, \omega_3, \omega_4) + e^{\frac{i}{\hbar} \left[ (\omega_1 + \omega_2) \frac{L^2}{4} \right]} \right)^2 \left( a_{\omega_1} a_{\omega_2} \right) \langle \text{vac} | a_{\omega_1} a_{\omega_2}, \text{vac} \rangle \langle a_{\omega_1} a_{\omega_2}, \text{vac} | \rangle \right.$$

The three different density operator wave functions differ only in terms of their temporal integrals:

$$\theta(\omega_1, \omega_2, \omega_3, \omega_4) = A(\omega_1, \omega_2) A^*(\omega_3, \omega_4) \int d\omega_1 d\omega_2 \langle a_{\omega_1} a_{\omega_2}, \text{vac} \rangle \langle \text{vac} | a_{\omega_1} a_{\omega_2}, \text{vac} \rangle,$$

and

$$\theta(\omega_1, \omega_2, \omega_3, \omega_4) = A(\omega_1, \omega_2) A^*(\omega_3, \omega_4) \int \frac{dr}{2\pi} e^{\left[ i \omega_1 t_0 + i \omega_2 t_1 - i \omega_3 t_2 + i \omega_4 t_3 \right] / 2} e^{-i \left( \omega_1 + \omega_2 \right) \frac{L^2}{4}} \langle \text{vac} | a_{\omega_1} a_{\omega_2}, \text{vac} \rangle \langle a_{\omega_3} a_{\omega_4}, \text{vac} | \rangle.$$
\[ \theta_0(\omega_1, \omega_2, \omega_3, \omega_4) = A(\omega_1, \omega_2)A^*(\omega_3, \omega_4) \int d\omega d\omega' B(\omega_1, \omega_2, \omega)B^*(\omega_3, \omega_4, \omega') \]
\[ \times \int_{-L}^{L} dr dr' e^{i(\omega_1 + \omega_2 - \omega_3 - \omega_4)(\omega_1 r) / \gamma} e^{-i(\omega_1 + \omega_2 - \omega_3 - \omega_4)(\omega_1 r') / \gamma} \times e^{-i(\omega_3 + \omega_4 - \omega_1 - \omega_2)(\omega_3 r) / \gamma} e^{-i(\omega_3 + \omega_4 - \omega_1 - \omega_2)(\omega_3 r') / \gamma} \quad (3.24) \]

where
\[ A(\omega_1, \omega_2) = \frac{\mu}{\nu} \frac{\mathcal{F}_2 L}{2\pi \sqrt{\nu \lambda V}} \sqrt{\frac{h_0}{2\pi \epsilon_0}}, \quad (3.25) \]

and
\[ B(\omega_1, \omega_2, \omega) = \sqrt{\omega} \phi_0(\omega) e^{-\alpha(\omega)L/2} \sin \left[ \frac{[k_D(\omega_1) + k_D(\omega_2) - k_p(\omega)L/2]}{k_D(\omega_1) + k_D(\omega_2) - k_p(\omega)L/2} \right], \quad (3.26) \]

In fact, we note that if there are no scattering losses in the D mode,
\[ \theta_2(\omega_1, \omega_2, \omega_3, \omega_4) = \theta_1(\omega_1, \omega_2, \omega_3, \omega_4) = \theta_0(\omega_1, \omega_2, \omega_3, \omega_4), \]
and \( \rho_1 = \rho_0 = 0. \)

4. Photon wave functions and exit probabilities

4.1. Exit probabilities

In the lossless case, in the limit of a low probability of pair production, the state that is generated with probability \( \zeta^2 \) per pump pulse contains two photons that exit the nonlinear region of the waveguide without scattering with unit probability. Working in the same regime in our current calculation, however, for a \( \rho_{\text{gen}} \) that is generated with probability \( \zeta^2 \), there is only a probability
\[ \mathcal{P}_2 = \int d\omega_1 d\omega_2 \theta_2(\omega_1, \omega_2, \omega_1, \omega_2) e^{-[\alpha_2(\omega_1) + \alpha_2(\omega_2)]L/2}, \quad (4.1) \]
that both photons of the pair exit the waveguide without scattering. There is also a probability
\[ \mathcal{P}_1 = 2 \int d\omega_1 d\omega_2 \left( \theta_1(\omega_1, \omega_2, \omega_1, \omega_2) e^{-[\alpha_2(\omega_1) + \alpha_2(\omega_2)]L/2} - \theta_2(\omega_1, \omega_2, \omega_1, \omega_2) e^{-[\alpha_2(\omega_1) + \alpha_2(\omega_2)]L/2} \right), \quad (4.2) \]
that only one photon of the pair exits, and a probability
\[ \mathcal{P}_0 = \int d\omega_1 d\omega_2 \left( \theta_0(\omega_1, \omega_2, \omega_1, \omega_2) - 2\theta_1(\omega_1, \omega_2, \omega_1, \omega_2) e^{-[\alpha_2(\omega_1) + \alpha_2(\omega_2)]L/2} \right. \]
\[ \left. + \theta_2(\omega_1, \omega_2, \omega_1, \omega_2) e^{-[\alpha_2(\omega_1) + \alpha_2(\omega_2)]L/2} \right), \quad (4.3) \]
that neither exits. For a fixed \( |\zeta|^2, r \approx 1, \) and fixed density operator wave functions, \( \theta_i, \) the physics of these probabilities is clear: (1) with an increasing product of device length and downconverted mode loss the probability of two photons exiting the device in the waveguide mode \( (4.1) \) always decreases. (2) As there is an additional \( \alpha_2(\omega) \) in the decaying exponential coefficient in front of the negative \( \theta_2(\omega_1, \omega_2, \omega_1, \omega_2) \) in \( (4.2) \) compared to the decaying exponential coefficient in front of the positive \( \theta_1(\omega_1, \omega_2, \omega_1, \omega_2) \), the probability of a single photon exiting the device in the guided mode first increases and then decreases as \( \alpha_2L \) increases from zero. For the same reason, the ratio of the probability of single photons to pairs exiting the waveguide, \( \mathcal{P}_1 / \mathcal{P}_2 \), also decreases as \( \alpha_2L \) increases. (3) Finally, as \( \alpha_2L \) tends to infinity \( \mathcal{P}_1 \) tends to 1 (see [43] for related results in a \( \chi^3 \) structure). Along with our normalization condition \( (3.15) \) expressed in \( \omega \)-space
\[ \int d\omega_1 d\omega_2 \theta_0(\omega_1, \omega_2, \omega_1, \omega_2) = 1, \quad (4.4) \]
the form of \( \mathcal{P}_0 \) ensures that the three probabilities sum to one regardless of device length or downconverted mode loss, as the trace of a density operator must. To first order in the nonlinearity, which we identify with the undepleted pump approximation, and in the limit of a low probability of pair production, these results are exact and enable many calculations, which we now explore.

4.2. General expressions

A comparison between the biphoton wave function associated with the two-photon term and the usual biphoton wave function that results in the absence of scattering loss is most easily seen in the frequency representation. Rewriting \( (3.19) \) in a form that makes its pure state nature explicit
\[ \rho_2 = C_2^+ \langle \text{vac} | \text{vac} | C_2 \rangle \]

where

\[ C_2^+ = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \int dz_1 dz_2 A(z_1, z_2) e^{i \left[ \alpha_D(z_1) + \alpha_D(z_2) \right]} \int dz_1 dz_2 B(z_1, z_2) \]

performing the temporal integral, and recalling (3.26), enables identification of

\[ \Phi_{\omega_{\text{L}}, \omega_{\text{V}}} = \alpha_{\omega_{\text{L}}} \alpha_{\omega_{\text{V}}} \frac{1}{\pi} \left( \omega_{\text{L}} + \omega_{\text{V}} - \omega \right) L / (2 \nu_{\text{V}}) \]

as the biphoton wave function associated with the two-photon contribution to the density matrix describing SPDC in a lossy nonlinear waveguide. Comparing this biphoton wave function with the biphoton wave function that results in a lossless nonlinear waveguide (2.14),

\[ \phi(\omega_1, \omega_2) = A(\omega_1, \omega_2) \int d\omega \sqrt{\omega} \phi_\omega(\omega) \]

we note that this expression bears a strong resemblance to that for the power generated in a classical sum frequency generation process with undepleted pumps that includes scattering loss in the continuous wave (CW) limit (see [44] and appendix B).

### 4.3. Biphoton probability densities

Here we plot the biphoton probability density \( |\Phi_2(\omega_1, \omega_2)|^2 \) associated with coincidence counts (4.11) for three qualitatively distinct cases. As an example, we consider the effects of including loss in the calculation of
previously predicted biphoton probability densities in Bragg reflection waveguides [37]. We Taylor expand

\[ k_m(\omega) \approx k_{m_0} + (\omega - \omega_{m_0})/\gamma_m + A_m(\omega - \omega_{m_0})^2, \]  

(4.12)

where \( k_{B_1} = k_B(\omega_{B_1}), k_{D_1} = k_D(\omega_{D_1}/2), \) \( v_p = dk_B(\omega)/d\omega \big|_{\omega=\omega_{B_1}}, v_D = dk_D(\omega)/d\omega \big|_{\omega=\omega_{D_1}/2}, \)

\[ 2\nu_P = (d^2k_B(\omega)/d\omega^2 \big|_{\omega=\omega_{B_1}}) \cdot 2\nu_D = (d^2k_D(\omega)/d\omega^2 \big|_{\omega=\omega_{D_1}/2}), \) and \( k_B = 2k_{D_1}. \)

The relevant parameters are \( \nu_P = 74.3 \mu m^{-1}, \nu_D = 89.8 \mu m^{-1}, A_P = 2.92 \times 10^{-6} \mu m^{-1}, A_D = 7.07 \times 10^{-7} \mu m^{-1}. \) Furthermore, we take \( L = 2 \) mm, and a Gaussian pump pulse waveform

\[ \phi_P(\omega) = \frac{\exp\left(-\left(\omega - \omega_P\right)^2/2\lambda^2\right)}{\left(\sqrt{\pi}\lambda\right)^{1/2}}, \]  

(4.13)

with an intensity full width at half maximum in time of \( T = 2\sqrt{\ln(2)}/\lambda = 20 \) fs, and \( \omega_P = 2\pi c/(775 \) nm.\) If losses associated with each mode are frequency independent and \( \alpha_P \nu_P \approx 2\alpha_D \nu_D, \) the shape of the biphoton probability density is exactly as in the absence of loss; the exponential attenuation factor alters the number of generated photons, but not the photon pair frequency correlations (see figure 1(a)).

\[ \left| \Phi_2^{Balanced}(\omega_1, \omega_2) \right|^2 \propto \left| \phi_P(\omega_1 + \omega_2) \right|^2 \frac{1}{\left| (k_D(\omega_1) + k_D(\omega_2) - k_P(\omega_1 + \omega_2))L/2 \right|^2} + \left[ \alpha_P L/4 \right]^2, \]  

(4.14)

If instead frequency independent losses are such that \( \alpha_P \nu_P \gg 2\alpha_D \nu_D, \) the biphoton probability density is near Lorentzian

\[ \left| \Phi_2^{Unbalanced}(\omega_1, \omega_2) \right|^2 \propto \left| \phi_P(\omega_1 + \omega_2) \right|^2 \frac{1}{\left| (k_D(\omega_1) + k_D(\omega_2) - k_P(\omega_1 + \omega_2))L/2 \right|^2 + \left[ \alpha_P L/4 \right]^2}, \]  

(4.15)

a shape that we plot in figure 1(b) for \( \alpha_P = 40 \) cm\(^{-1}\), \( \alpha_D = 2 \) cm\(^{-1}\) [45]. (The large difference in the size of these loss coefficients for that experiment is due to the different guiding mechanisms employed at the pump (second harmonic) frequency versus the downconverted (fundamental) frequency. In this Bragg reflection waveguide, the D mode is guided by total internal reflection, while the P mode is guided by Bragg reflections.) Using (4.1) and (4.2), we see that compared to the lossless case, when all photon pairs generated per pump pulse\( \left| \zeta \right|^2 \) exit the waveguide, here only 0.3 \( \left| \zeta \right|^2 \) do as pairs, while 0.5 \( \left| \zeta \right|^2 \) do as singles. Although the temporal integrals can be performed analytically, the integrals over frequency cannot, and so were calculated on a \( 64 \times 64 \times 64 \times 64 \) grid, here with \( \omega_1 \) and \( \omega_2 \) ranging from \( \omega_P/2 - 5\nu_D \) to \( \omega_P/2 + 5\nu_D \) and \( \omega \) and \( \omega' \) ranging from \( \omega_P - 5\nu_D \) to \( \omega_P + 5\nu_D \), with \( \nu_D = 2\sqrt{\ln 2}/(20 \) fs). Additionally, the associated Schmidt number [46], \( K, \) characterizing the frequency correlations of the biphoton wave functions, has been reduced from 618 to 180 as we have moved moved from balanced losses to large SH losses and the side lobes of the phase matching sinc function contribution to the biphoton probability density have become washed out. The Schmidt number quantifies the effective number of frequency modes that contribute to \( \Phi_2(\omega, \omega) \). We note that this behaviour is similar to that achieved intentionally in earlier works [47, 48], only here it is simply a consequence of waveguide loss and comes with an associated reduction in photon pair waveguide exit probability as well as an increase in the ratio of single photon to pair exit probability. Lastly, we consider the mathematically interesting possibility of losses further reducing the frequency correlations of a biphoton probability density having a reasonably small associated \( K \) to begin with. For this we consider the same structure as above, with a pump pulse duration of \( T = 2 \) ps and a quadratic frequency dependent loss model. When losses are balanced the biphoton probability density looks as in figure 1(c), whereas for the quadratic loss profile, \( \alpha_D(\omega) = 1.77 \times 10^{10} \left( 1/2 - \omega/\omega_P \right)^2 \) cm\(^{-1}\), with \( \alpha_P(\omega) = 0 \), it takes the shape shown in figure 1(d). For this loss profile, the generation bandwidth has been greatly reduced, much as when strong filters are applied to achieve nearly frequency uncorrelated photons. The interesting loss feature has led to a biphoton wave function that is naturally nearly frequency uncorrelated, with an associated Schmidt number of only 1.29 compared to the balanced loss case of 76.3. Again we use a \( 64 \times 64 \times 64 \times 64 \) grid, here with \( \omega_1 \) and \( \omega_2 \) ranging from \( \omega_P/2 - 5\nu_D \) to \( \omega_P/2 + 5\nu_D \) and \( \omega \) and \( \omega' \) ranging from \( \omega_P - 5\nu_D \) to \( \omega_P + 5\nu_D \), with \( \nu_D = 2\sqrt{\ln 2}/(2 \) ps), to calculate exit probabilities. However here only 0.004 \( \left| \zeta \right|^2 \) exit the waveguide as pairs, while 0.01 \( \left| \zeta \right|^2 \) do as singles, leading to a very small \( P_2/P \).
5. Conclusions

In conclusion, we have presented a formalism capable of handling SPDC and linear scattering loss concurrently in a waveguide. A density operator describing the state of generated photons was calculated and shown to be composed of a two photon, a single photon, and a vacuum piece, with traces that sum to 1 corresponding to the probabilities of two photons, one photon, or zero photons exiting the device. In general, the biphoton wave function associated with the two photon contribution in a lossy waveguide was shown to additionally exhibit both exponential decay terms and a loss matching hyperbolic sine term compared to the usual lossless biphoton wave function. By looking at biphoton probability densities in three different regimes we demonstrated that it is possible to imagine losses such that they do not affect the shape of the biphoton probability density whatsoever, that losses can wash out the side lobes of the phase matching sinc function contribution to the biphoton probability density, and also that losses might possibly be controlled to engineer desired biphoton probability densities, at the cost of reducing the probability of a pair exiting the waveguide as well as increasing the ratio of the probability of single photons to pairs exiting the waveguide.

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Appendix A. Relevant commutation relations

Here we evaluate the two commutations relations necessary to perform the trace leading to (3.6). In particular

\[
\left[a_{m\alpha} e^{-\beta_{\alpha}(\tau_1 - \tau)}, a_{m\alpha}^\dagger e^{-\beta_{\alpha}(\tau_1 - \tau)}\right] = \delta_{mn} \delta(k - k') e^{-\beta_{\alpha}(2\eta_1 - \tau - \tau')},
\]

(A.1)
and
\[
\left[ \int_{t_1}^{t_2} dt F_{m \ell k}(t) e^{-i \beta \omega_m (t-r)} \right] = 2 \beta m k \delta_{l m} \delta \left( k - k' \right) \int_{t_1}^{t_2} dt \int_{t_3}^{t_4} dt' \delta \left( t - t' \right) e^{-i \beta \omega_m (t-r')} \\
\frac{\beta m k \delta_{l m}}{\pi} \int_{t_1}^{t_2} dt \int_{t_3}^{t_4} dt' \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} d\omega e^{-i \omega (t-r')} e^{-i \beta \omega_m (t-r')} \\
\frac{\beta m k \delta_{l m}}{\pi} \int_{t_1}^{t_2} dt \int_{t_3}^{t_4} dt' \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} d\omega e^{-i \omega (t-r')} e^{-i \beta \omega_m (t-r')} \\
\delta_{l m} \delta \left( k - k' \right) \left( e^{-i \beta \omega_m (t-r')} e^{-i \beta \omega_m (t-r')} \right) - e^{-i \beta \omega_m (t-r')} e^{-i \beta \omega_m (t-r')} + e^{-i \beta \omega_m (t-r')} e^{-i \beta \omega_m (t-r')} \\
\delta_{l m} \delta \left( k - k' \right) \left( e^{-i \beta \omega_m (t-r')} e^{-i \beta \omega_m (t-r')} \right) - e^{-i \beta \omega_m (t-r')} e^{-i \beta \omega_m (t-r')} + e^{-i \beta \omega_m (t-r')} e^{-i \beta \omega_m (t-r')} ,
\] (A.2)
where the second to last equality follows from equations 3.354–5 of [49].

**Appendix B. Classical calculation**

Following the formalism presented in an earlier work [17], we begin with the general Hamiltonian
\[
H = H_L + H_{NL} + H_R + H_C,
\] (B.1)
where the linear, nonlinear, reservoir, and coupling pieces are defined above in (2.1), (2.2), (2.17), and (2.19), respectively. With the CW limit in mind, we then Taylor expand dispersion relations in the linear Hamiltonian
\[
\omega_m \approx \omega_m + \frac{v_m}{2} \left( k - k' \right),
\]
and approximate \( \epsilon \omega_m \approx \omega_m, \Omega_{m\ell k} \approx \Omega_{m\ell k}, c_{m\ell k} \approx c_{m\ell k}, \) and \( d_{m\ell k}^{\dagger} \) in the others. Finally, introducing effective field operators
\[
g_m (z, t) = \int \frac{dk}{\sqrt{2\pi}} a_{m k} e^{i (k-k_m) z},
\] (B.2)
\[
h_{m\ell k} (z, t) = \int \frac{dk}{\sqrt{2\pi}} b_{m\ell k} e^{i (k-k_m) z},
\] (B.3)
and noting that, for CW fields, the points at which the \( k \)'s appearing in the \( g_m \)'s are most naturally expanded about are well-separated, we introduce two new \( m \) labels \( (m = S \) for signal, \( m = I \) for idler) corresponding to what was formerly just the fundamental (downconverted) mode \( m = D \), with
\[
\left[ g_{m S}, g_{m I}^\dagger \right] = 0,
\] (B.4)
and relabel what was called the pump mode in our SPDC calculations as \( m = SH \) for second harmonic. This allows us to rewrite our initial Hamiltonian (B.1) as
\[
H_L = \sum_{m=S,L} \left[ \hbar \omega_m \int dz g_m^\dagger g_m + \frac{i}{2} \hbar \dot{\omega}_m \int dz \left( \frac{\partial g_m^\dagger}{\partial z} g_m - g_m^\dagger \frac{\partial g_m}{\partial z} \right) \right],
\] (B.5)
\[
H_{NL} = -\gamma \int dz e^{i \left( k_1 + k_2 - k_m \right) \cdot z} g_{mS}^\dagger g_{mS} + H.c.,
\] (B.6)
\[
H_R = \sum_{m=S,L} \hbar \int dz d\mu \Omega_{m\ell k} h_{m\ell k}^\dagger h_{m\ell k},
\] (B.7)
\[
H_I = \sum_{m=S,L} \hbar \int dz d\mu \left( c_{m\ell k}^\dagger h_{m\ell k} + c_{m\ell k}^\dagger h_{m\ell k}^\dagger g_m \right),
\] (B.8)
where

\[
\gamma = 2 \sqrt{\left( \frac{\hbar \omega_S}{\hbar \omega} \right) \left( \frac{\hbar \omega_S}{\hbar \omega} \right) \frac{Z_2}{\pi^2}},
\]

(B.9)

and

\[
A = \int dxdy \left| \frac{n^2 x^2 \hat{\gamma}(x, y) \hat{d}_S^\dagger(x, y) \hat{d}_S^\dagger(x, y)}{\xi_0^2} \right|^2.
\]

(B.10)

The Heisenberg equations of motion yield

\[
\frac{\partial h_{mp}}{\partial t} = -\frac{i}{\hbar} \left[ h_{mp}, H \right] = -i\Omega_{mp} h_{mp} - ic_{mp} g_m,
\]

(B.11)

\[
\frac{\partial g_{SH}}{\partial t} = -\frac{i}{\hbar} \left[ g_{SH}, H \right] + v_{SH} \frac{\partial g_{SH}}{\partial z} + \frac{i\tau}{\hbar} e^{i(k_S + k_m)z} g_S^\dagger g_{SH} - i \int d\mu c_{SH\mu} h_{SH\mu},
\]

(B.12)

\[
\frac{\partial g_{S}}{\partial t} = -\frac{i}{\hbar} \left[ g_{S}, H \right] + v_S \frac{\partial g_{S}}{\partial z} + \frac{i\tau}{\hbar} e^{-(k_S + k_m)z} g_S^\dagger g_S - i \int d\mu c_{S\mu} h_{S\mu},
\]

(B.13)

\[
\frac{\partial g_{1}}{\partial t} = -\frac{i}{\hbar} \left[ g_{1}, H \right] + v_1 \frac{\partial g_{1}}{\partial z} + \frac{i\tau}{\hbar} e^{-(k_S + k_m)z} g_{S}^\dagger g_{SH} - i \int d\mu c_{1\mu} h_{1\mu},
\]

(B.14)

the first of which has solution

\[
\hat{h}_{mp}(z, t) = h_{mp}(z, 0) e^{-i\Omega_{mp}t} - i \int_0^t g_m(z, \tau) c_{mp}^* e^{-i\Omega_{mp}(t-\tau)} d\tau,
\]

(B.15)

assuming that the interaction is switched on at \( t = 0 \) (i.e. light enters the waveguide at \( t = 0 \)). Following arguments presented in the main text, we approximate approximate \( c_{mp}^\dagger \approx C_m \) as independent of \( \mu \) and write

\[
d\mu = \left( d\mu / d\Omega_{mp} \right) d\Omega_{mp},
\]

also approximating the density of states \( d\mu / d\Omega_{mp} \approx \mathcal{D}_m \), and substitute (B.15) into the equations for the \( g_m \) yielding

\[
\frac{\partial g_{SH}}{\partial t} = -i\omega_{SH} g_{SH} - v_{SH} \frac{\partial g_{SH}}{\partial z} + \frac{i\tau}{\hbar} e^{i(k_S + k_m)z} g_S^\dagger g_{SH} - \beta_{SH} g_{SH} - v_{SH} g_{SH},
\]

(B.16)

\[
\frac{\partial g_{S}}{\partial t} = -i\omega_S g_{S} - v_S \frac{\partial g_{S}}{\partial z} + \frac{i\tau}{\hbar} e^{-(k_S + k_m)z} g_S^\dagger g_{S} - \beta_S g_{S} - v_S g_{S},
\]

(B.17)

\[
\frac{\partial g_{1}}{\partial t} = -i\omega_1 g_{1} - v_1 \frac{\partial g_{1}}{\partial z} + \frac{i\tau}{\hbar} e^{-(k_S + k_m)z} g_{S}^\dagger g_{SH} - \beta_1 g_{1} - v_1 g_{1},
\]

(B.18)

where we have defined

\[
\tau_m(z, t) = i \int d\mu h_{mp}(z, 0) c_{mp} e^{-i\Omega_{mp}t},
\]

(B.19)

and the fixed \( k \) version of our loss rate above as \( \beta_m = C_m \pi \mathcal{D}_m \). We note that the commutation relation for this real-space fluctuation operator is exactly what might be expected from its \( k \)-space analogue (2.33)

\[
\left[ \tau_m(z, t), \tau_m^\dagger \left( z', t' \right) \right] = 2\beta_m \delta \left( t - t' \right) \delta_{mm} \delta \left( z - z' \right),
\]

(B.20)
We then put
\[ g_m = \tilde{g}_m e^{-im \alpha t}, \quad (B.21) \]
and write the equations above in terms of new operators
\[ \omega = \omega_G + \omega_{\text{ee}}, \quad (B.22) \]
\[ G_m = \sqrt{\hbar \omega_m} \tilde{g}_m, \quad (B.23) \]
\[ R_m = \sqrt{\hbar \omega_m} e^{im \alpha t \omega}, \quad (B.24) \]
such that \( G_m^* G_m = P_m \) has units of power:
\[ \frac{1}{v_{SH}} \frac{\partial G_{SH}}{\partial t} + \frac{\partial G_{SH}}{\partial z} = i \frac{\alpha_{SH} V_{SH}}{\hbar \omega_{SV} \alpha_{11}} e^{i \left( k_s + k_i - k_{sh}\right) \omega} G_S G_{1} - \frac{\beta_{SH} V_{SH}}{\hbar \omega_{SV}} G_{SH} - R_{SH}, \quad (B.25) \]
\[ \frac{1}{v_S} \frac{\partial G_S}{\partial t} + \frac{\partial G_S}{\partial z} = i \frac{\alpha_{SV} V_{SV}}{\hbar \omega_{SV} \alpha_{11}} e^{i \left( k_s + k_i - k_{sh}\right) \omega} G_{1}^* G_{SH} - \frac{\beta_{SV} V_{SV}}{\hbar \omega_{SV}} G_S - R_S, \quad (B.26) \]
\[ \frac{1}{v_1} \frac{\partial G_1}{\partial t} + \frac{\partial G_1}{\partial z} = i \frac{\alpha_{11} V_{11}}{\hbar \omega_{11} \alpha_{11}} e^{i \left( k_s + k_i - k_{sh}\right) \omega} G_S G_{SH} - \frac{\beta_{11} V_{11}}{\hbar \omega_{11}} G_1 - R_1. \quad (B.27) \]

We work in the undepleted pump approximation, in the limit of stationary fields, where the time derivatives vanish, and the limit of strong pumps \( \gg G_{SH}, G_{SI}, G_{II}, \) leaving
\[ \frac{\partial G_{SH}}{\partial z} = i \frac{\alpha_{SH} V_{SH}}{\hbar \omega_{SV} \alpha_{11}} e^{i \left( k_s + k_i - k_{sh}\right) \omega} G_S G_{1} - \frac{\beta_{SH} V_{SH}}{\hbar \omega_{SV}} G_{SH} - R_{SH}, \quad (B.28) \]
\[ \frac{\partial G_S}{\partial z} = - \frac{\beta_{SV} V_{SV}}{\hbar \omega_{SV}} G_S - R_S, \quad (B.29) \]
\[ \frac{\partial G_1}{\partial z} = - \frac{\beta_{11} V_{11}}{\hbar \omega_{11}} G_1 - R_1. \quad (B.30) \]

Tracing over reservoir operators at zero temperature, we find that \( \left\langle R_m \right\rangle = 0. \) Writing \( \left\langle G_m \right\rangle = G_m \) for notational simplicity, and recognizing
\[ \alpha_m = \frac{\beta_m V_{11}}{v_m}, \quad (B.31) \]
we arrive at coupled mode equations
\[ \frac{\partial G_{SH}}{\partial z} = i \frac{\alpha_{SH} V_{SH}}{\hbar \omega_{SV} \alpha_{11}} e^{i \left( k_s + k_i - k_{sh}\right) \omega} G_S G_{1} - \frac{\beta_{SH} V_{SH}}{2 \hbar \omega_{SV}} G_{SH}, \quad (B.32) \]
\[ \frac{\partial G_S}{\partial z} = - \frac{\beta_{SV} V_{SV}}{2 \hbar \omega_{SV}} G_S, \quad (B.33) \]
\[ \frac{\partial G_1}{\partial z} = - \frac{\beta_{11} V_{11}}{2 \hbar \omega_{11}} G_1. \quad (B.34) \]

For a waveguide extending from \( z = -L/2 \) to \( z = L/2 \) we find
\[ G_{SH} (L/2) = i \frac{G_S (-L/2) G_{1} (-L/2) e^{i \left( k_s + k_i - k_{sh}\right) \omega} G_{SH} - \frac{\alpha_{SH} V_{SH}}{2 \hbar \omega_{SV}} G_{SH} - R_{SH} \sqrt{PA} \left( \hat{X} \right) \hat{G}_{SH} \hat{1} \left( k_s + k_i - k_{sh}\right) \omega}{\left( \hat{X} G_{SH} \hat{G}_{SH} \hat{G}_{SH} \right) \left( k_s + k_i - k_{sh}\right) \omega}, \quad (B.35) \]
where \( P = 2 \hbar \alpha_{SV} V_{SV} \hbar \omega_{SV} \hbar \omega_{11} \left( \hat{X} \right)^2 \hat{G}_{SH} \hat{1} \left( k_s + k_i - k_{sh}\right) \omega \). Setting \( R_{SH} = G_{SH}^* (L/2) G_{SH} (L/2) \), \( R_S = G_S^* (-L/2) G_S (-L/2) \), and \( R_1 = G_1^* (-L/2) G_1 (-L/2) \), we arrive at the well-known result [44]
\[ R_{SH} = R_P \frac{L^2}{PA} e^{-i \left( \alpha_{SH} + \alpha_{SI} + \alpha_{II}\right)L/2} \left( \sin^2 \left( \frac{k_s + k_i - k_{sh}\right) L/2 \right) + \sinh^2 \left( \frac{\alpha_{SH} + \alpha_{SI} - \alpha_{II}}{L/4} \right) \right), \quad (B.36) \]

Note how the exponential, sine, and hyperbolic sine terms are essentially the same here and in (4.11).
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