

Distribution of multipartite Einstein-Podolsky-Rosen steering in Gaussian systems

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Abstract. Understanding how quantum resources can be quantified and distributed over many parties has profound applications in quantum communication. As one of the most intriguing features of quantum mechanics, Einstein-Podolsky-Rosen (EPR) steering is a useful resource for secure quantum networks. Here, we present experimental generation of a highly versatile and flexible repository of multipartite steering using an optical frequency comb and ultrafast pulse shaping [1]. Simply modulating the optical spectral resolution of the detection system, this scheme is able to produce on-demand 4, 8 and 16-mode Gaussian steering without changing the photonics architecture. We observe a very rich structure for the steering distribution, which offers a powerful foundation for constructing quantum networks in real-world scenario.

Keywords: EPR steering, quantum frequency comb, continuous variable system, monogamy relations

Here, we experimentally investigate properties of multipartite steering within one experiment system, a multimode state via a quantum frequency comb [1] (see Fig. 1). By reconstructing the covariance matrix of the Gaussian state, we measure the quantifier of EPR steering under Gaussian measurements among the four spectral bands ABCD when the whole spectrum is divided into 4, 8 or 16 pixels.

We find that although the spectral components

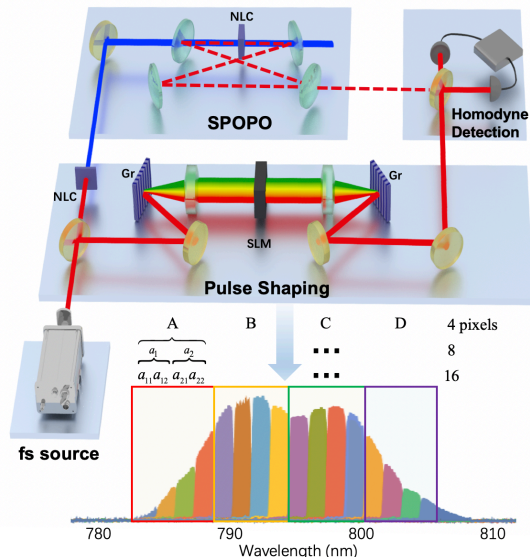


Figure 1 Experimental set-up of the multimode quantum resource via synchronously pumping an optical parametric oscillator (SPOPO).

are fixed, the steerability raises sharply with the increase of measurement resolutions, especially when the steering party or the steered party comprises more than one mode (see Fig. 2). This phenomenon can be understood as a consequence of a unique property of our generation system that more individual squeezed eigenmodes can be extracted from the down-conversion process by using higher spectral resolutions of pulse shaping without resorting to modification of the photonics architecture. Such a property contributes to the quantum comb being a powerful candidate to construct quantum communication networks in real-world.

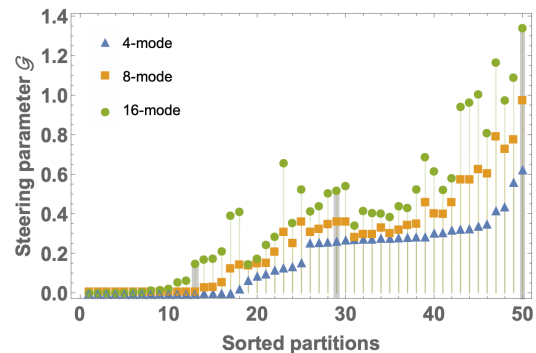


Figure 2 Multipartite EPR steering among four spectral bands ABCD are measured experimentally with 4 (blue triangles), 8 (orange squares), 16 (green dots) spectral pixels, respectively.

References

[1] Yin Cai, Y. Xiang, Yang Liu, Q. Y. He, N. Treps, Versatile multipartite EPR steering via a quantum frequency comb, accepted by Phys. Rev. Research.