

# All-optical Switching for Photonic Quantum Networks

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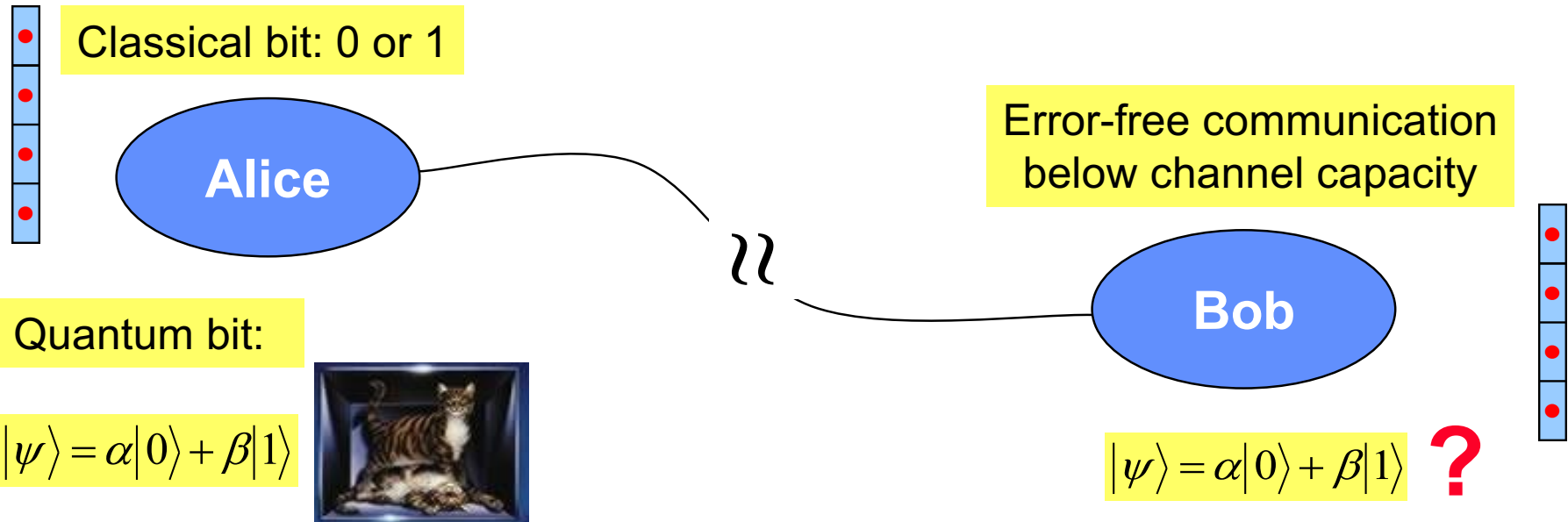
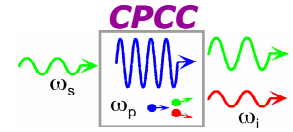
Northwestern University

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Neal Oza, Samantha Nowierski, Yuping Huang, Gregory Kanter,  
Matt Hall, Joe Altepeter



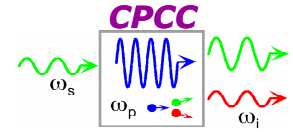
# Classical vs. Quantum Communication



## Conflict with Quantum Mechanics

- No-cloning theorem
  - It is impossible to duplicate an unknown quantum state
- Heisenberg uncertainty principle
  - It is impossible to know a quantum state

# Qubit Teleportation using Singlet States\*



Transmitter T and Receiver R share entangled qubits

$$|\psi\rangle_{TR} = (|0\rangle_T|1\rangle_R - |1\rangle_T|0\rangle_R)/\sqrt{2}$$



Alice

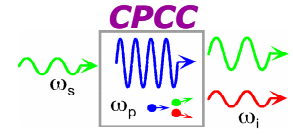
Bob

- $|\Psi\rangle_{in} = \alpha|0\rangle_{in} + \beta|1\rangle_{in}$  Transmitter accepts input qubit and makes measurements on the joint state of the input qubit and Transmitter's part of the entangled qubit
- Measurement results (two classical bits) sent to Receiver
- Simple transformation at Receiver yields  $|\Psi\rangle_R = \alpha|0\rangle_R + \beta|1\rangle_R$

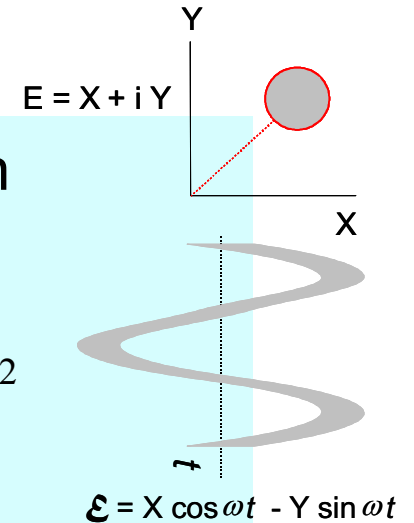
\* Bennett *et al.* "Teleporting an unknown quantum state via dual classical and Einstein-Podolsky-Rosen channels," Phys. Rev. Lett. **70**, 1895–1899 (1993).



# Analog (CV) Quantum Information

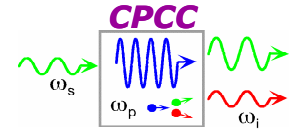


- Classical EM-field supports noiseless oscillation
  - Phasor representation of single mode:  $a e^{-i\omega t}$
  - Quadrature representation of the phasor:  $a = a_1 + ia_2$
- Quantum EM-field obeys uncertainty principle
  - Operator representation of single mode:  $\hat{a} e^{-i\omega t}$
  - Quadrature decomposition of annihilation operator:  $\hat{a} = \hat{a}_1 + i\hat{a}_2$
  - Quadrature uncertainty principle:  $\langle \Delta \hat{a}_1^2 \rangle \langle \Delta \hat{a}_2^2 \rangle \geq 1/16$ ,
- Coherent state:  $\langle \Delta \hat{a}_1^2 \rangle = \langle \Delta \hat{a}_2^2 \rangle = 1/4$
- OPA output modes are quadrature entangled:
 
$$\langle (\Delta \hat{a}_{S_1} - \Delta \hat{a}_{I_1})^2 \rangle = s/4 \quad \text{and} \quad \langle (\Delta \hat{a}_{S_2} + \Delta \hat{a}_{I_2})^2 \rangle = s/4, \quad \text{where } s < 1$$

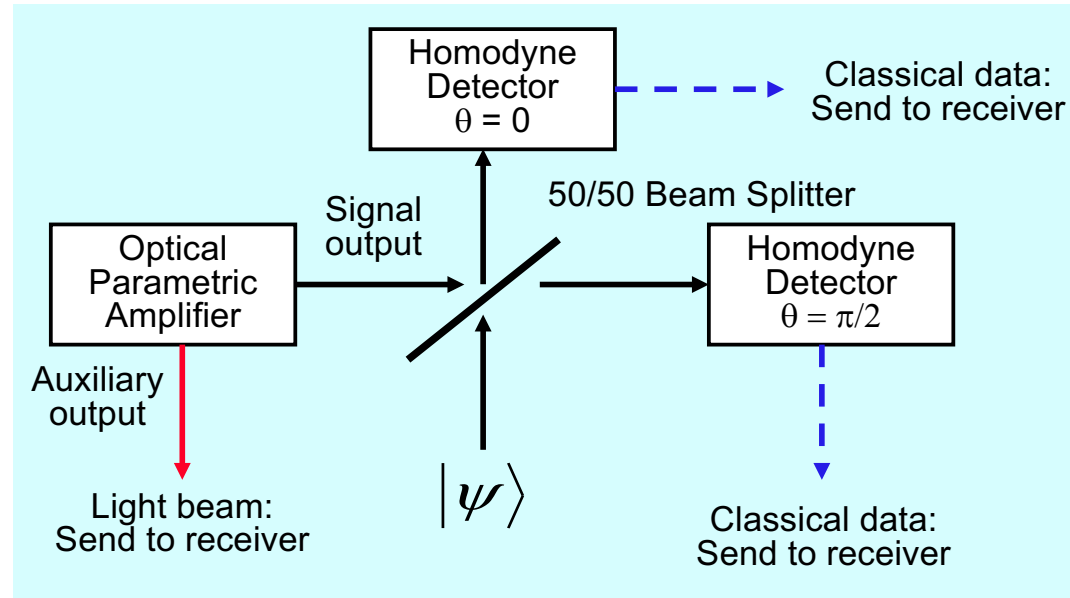


CV = continuous variable; EM = electromagnetic; OPA = optical parametric amplifier

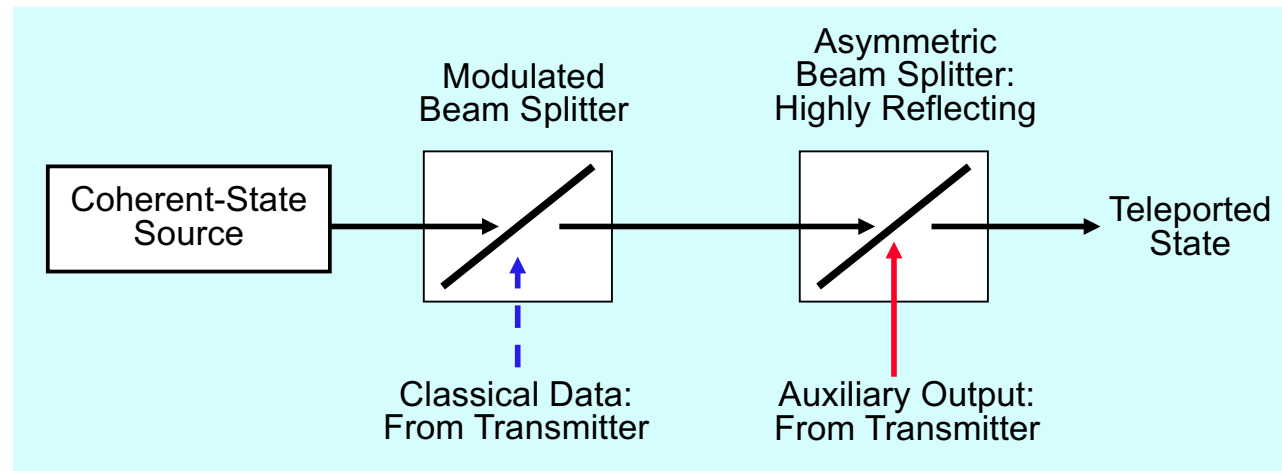
# Teleportation via Field Quadratures\*



- Transmitter Station



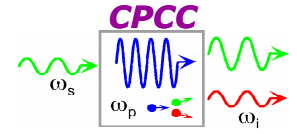
- Receiver Station



\* Braunstein and Kimble, "Teleportation of continuous quantum variables," PRL **80**, 869 (1998).  
Furusawa *et al.*, "Unconditional quantum teleportation," Science **282**, 706–709 (1998).



# Quantum Communication (QC) and Quantum Information Processing (QIP)

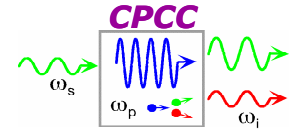


**QC:** Sending quantum information between two or more quantum nodes

**QIP:** Manipulation of qubits with quantum logic gates  
**Ultimate goal — a quantum computer**



# Desirable Features of an Entanglement Source



- Should produce and send copious amounts of pairs at high rate
- Entanglement should not degrade as the pairs are distributed

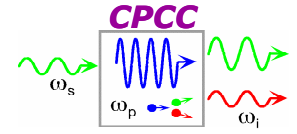
Alice

Entangled  
Photon-Pair  
Source

Bob



# Progress Towards Practical Quantum Communications

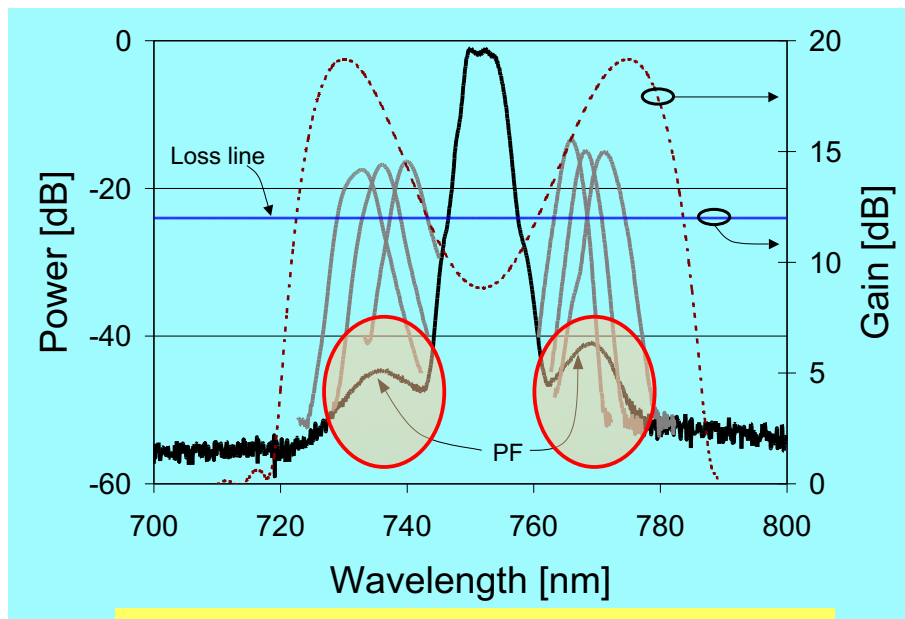
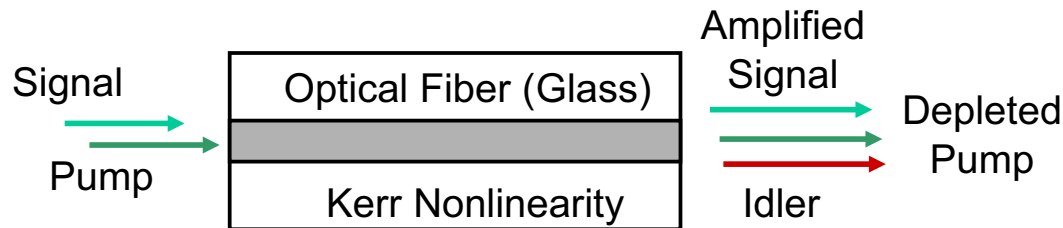
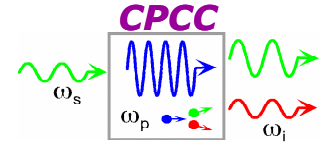


- Near infrared systems based on  $\chi^{(2)}$  crystals, bulk as well as waveguide
- Telecom band systems based on optical fibers &, more recently, integrated silicon-photonics type platforms
- Atomic ensembles for long-distance QC and for narrowband photons to match with atomic quantum memories





# Parametric Fluorescence in Optical Fiber

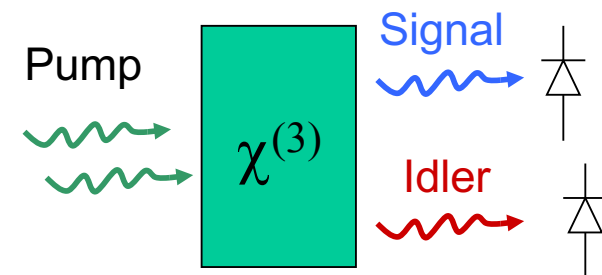


Sharping et al., Opt. Lett. **27**, 1675 (2002)

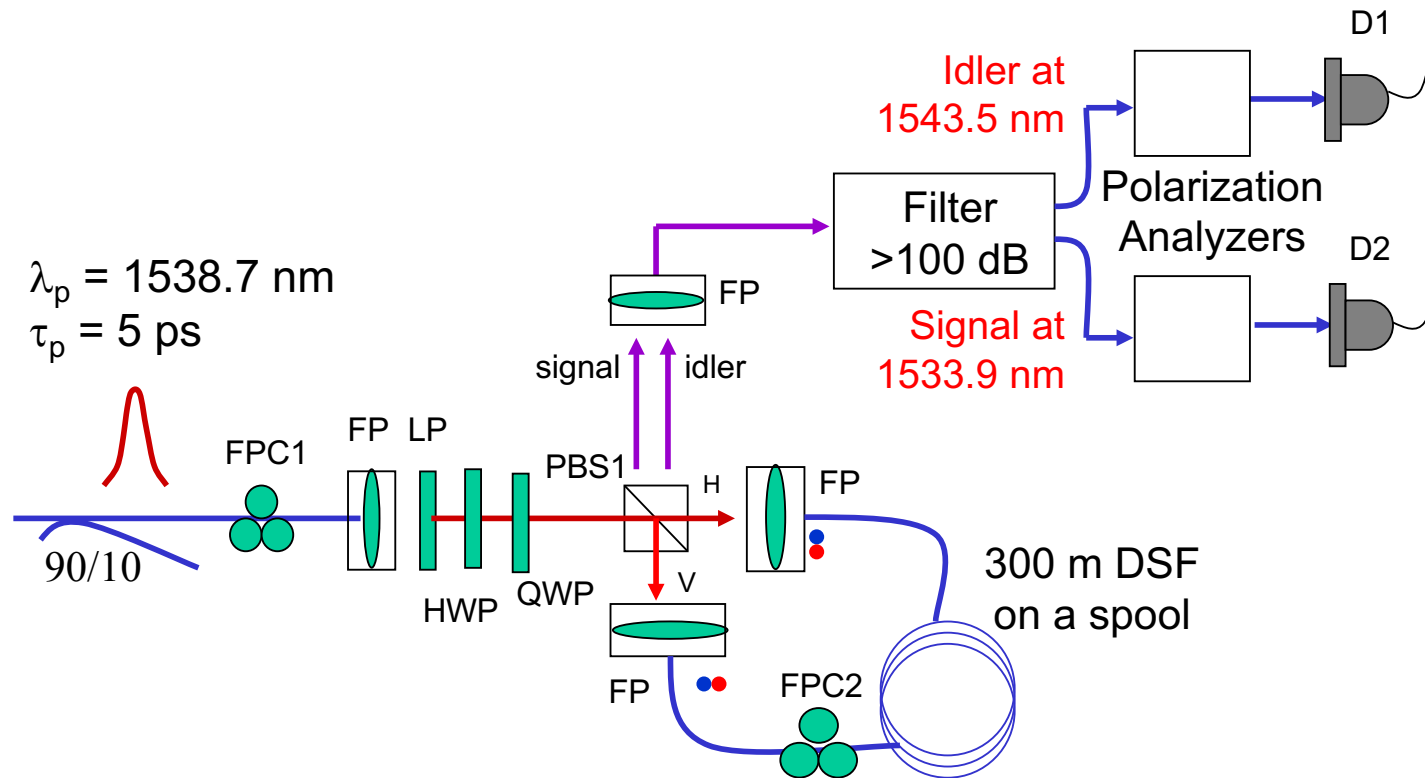
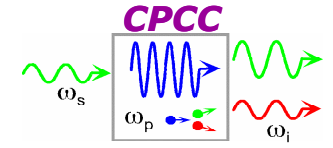
Strong parametric fluorescence is easily observed at moderate pump power

## At the Quantum Level:

- Signal and idler photons are created in pairs
- They exhibit entanglement properties

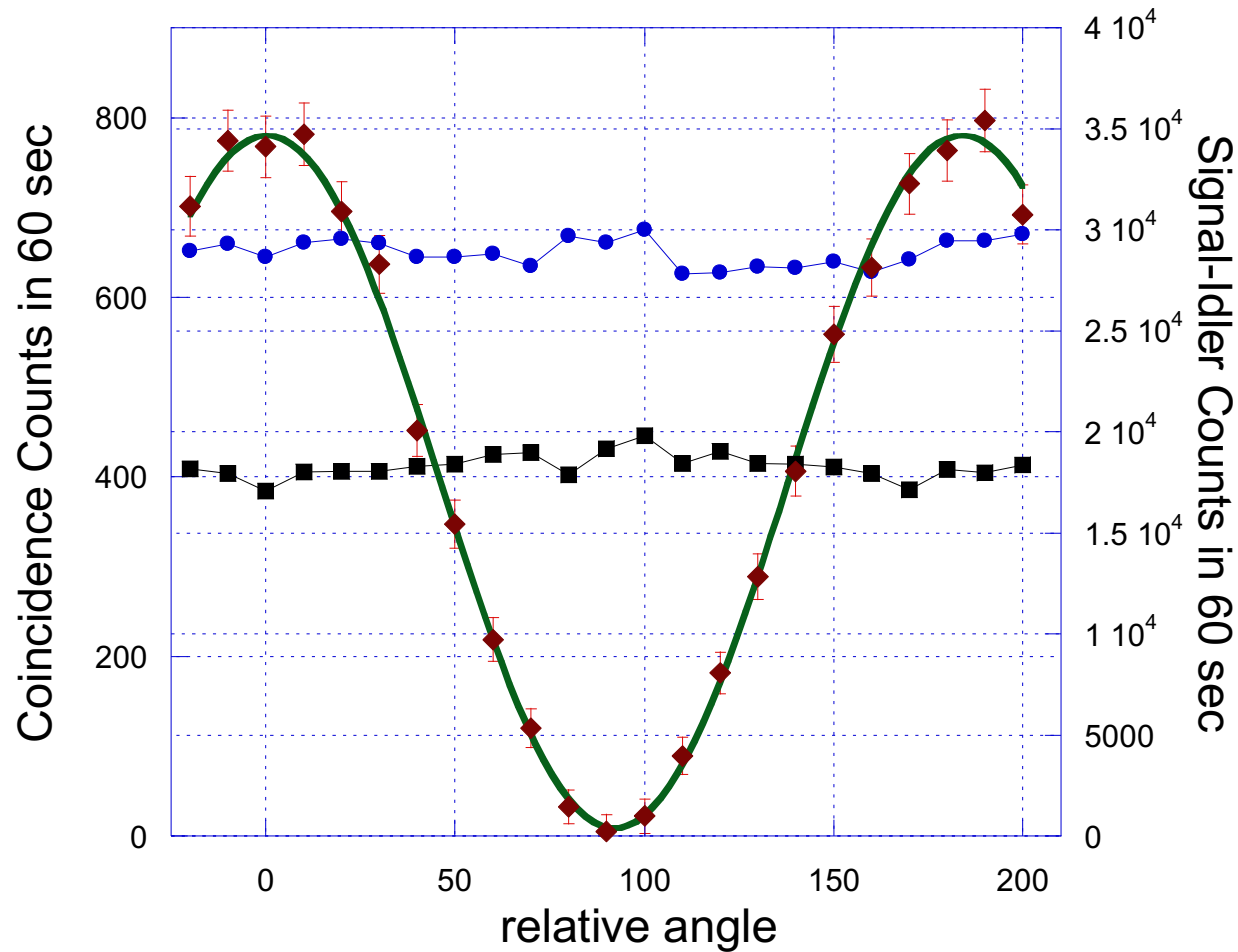
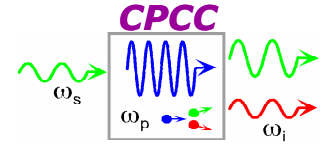


M. Fiorentino et al., IEEE PTL **14**, 983 (2002)  
X. Li et al., PRL **94**, 053601 (2005)





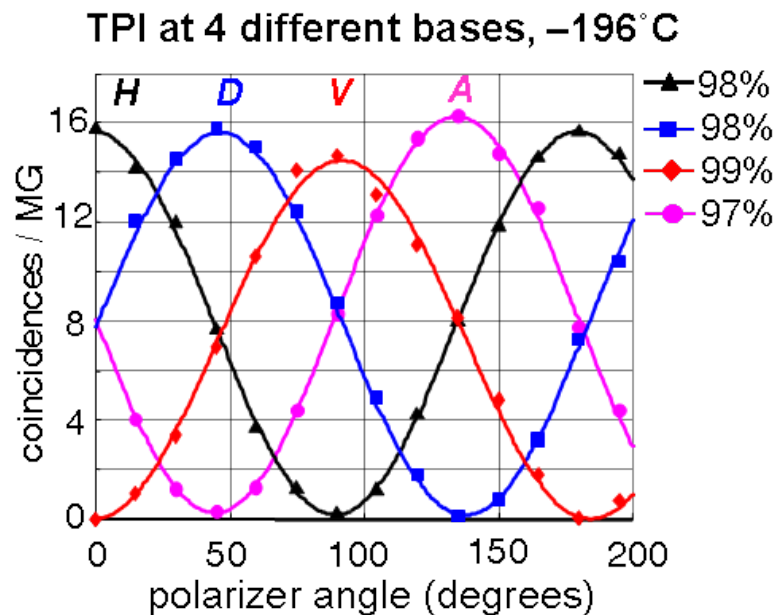
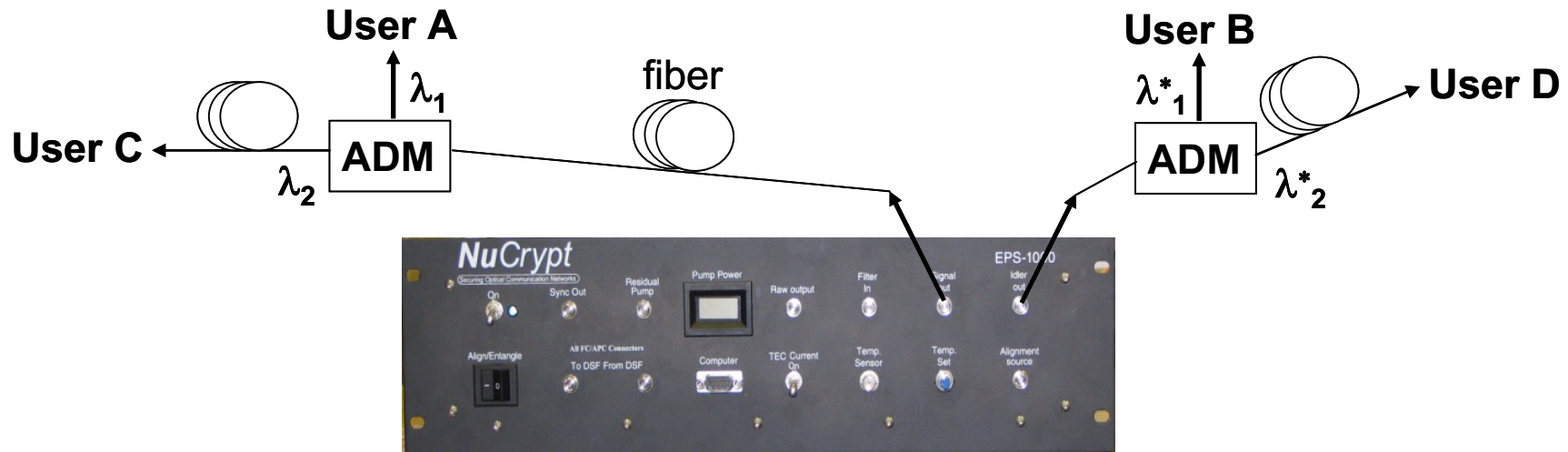
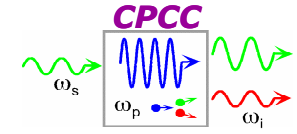
# High-Purity Polarization Entanglement



K. F. Lee, J. Chen, C. Liang, X. Li, P. L. Voss, and P. Kumar, Optics Letters 31, 1905 (2006).



# Practical Source Available from NuCrypt LLC, Evanston, IL



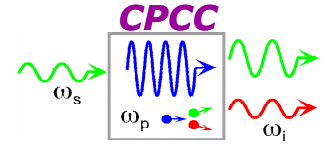
**OFC-2009 Postdeadline Paper PDPA3**  
Multi-Channel Fiber-Based Source of  
Polarization Entangled Photons with Integrated  
Alignment Signal

**NuCrypt**  
Securing Optical Communication Networks

Contact: [kanterg@nucrypt.net](mailto:kanterg@nucrypt.net)



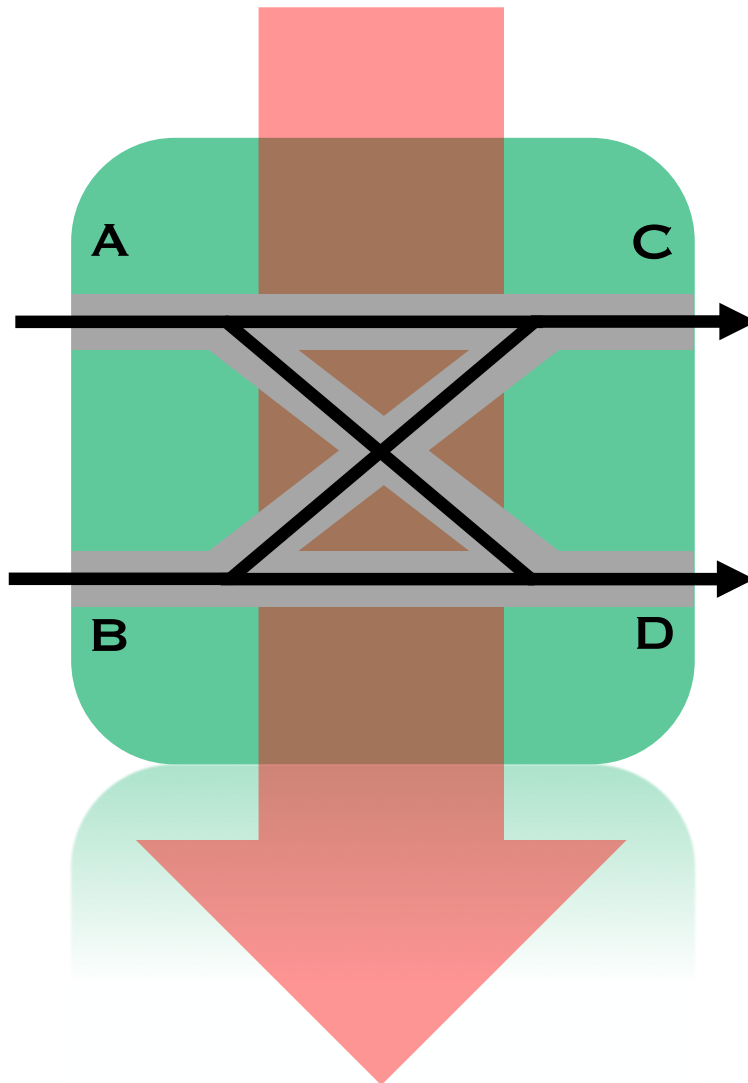
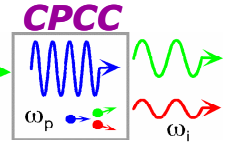
# Source Summary and Scaling to 10 GHz



- Pump Pulse Characteristics
  - Rep rate = 50 MHz
  - Typical pulse width 35 ps (about 0.15 nm transform limited bandwidth)
  - Avg. photon # / pulse:  $10^7$ – $10^8$  for pair production prob. 1–5% in  $\sim 100$  m DSF
  - Typical average power  $\sim 2$  mW
- At 50 MHz rate, the source produces  $>100,000$  entangled pairs / second
- Scales to  $>20$  million entangled-pairs/s at 10 GHz pulse rate
- Required average pump power  $\sim 400$  mW
  - Easily achievable with mode-locked lasers with amplification
- However, single-photon detection is still a bottleneck for developing quantum communication applications in the telecom band
  - InGaAs-based APDs can be gated up to 1–2 GHz (long dead time)
  - Faster superconducting detectors on the horizon, but still not available
- Optical demultiplexing is a potential near-term solution



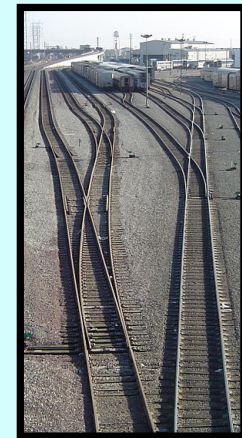
# All-Optical Switches for Quantum Applications



- High switching contrast
- Low pump power threshold
- Low signal loss
- Quantum state preservation

Pump  
Classical or Quantum  
(Fredkin gate)

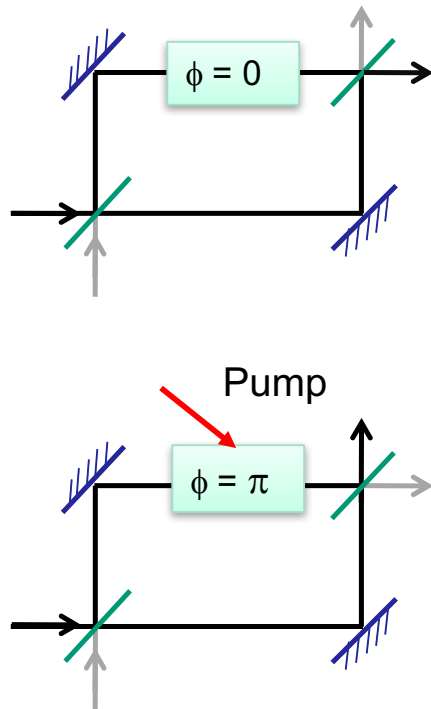
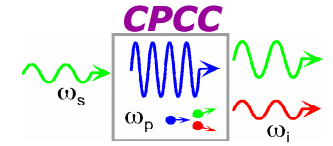
- Need for All-optical Quantum Switches
  - Mux / Demux high-speed photon-pair sources
  - Heralded single-photon generation
- Ultrafast Switching of Photonic Entanglement
  - Switch characterization
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# Quantum Switch Design based on Cross-Phase Modulation (XPM) in Fiber



Unitary evolution in absence of Raman

$$b(t) = a(t) \exp\left(i \gamma L_{\text{eff}} \int P(t') dt'\right)$$

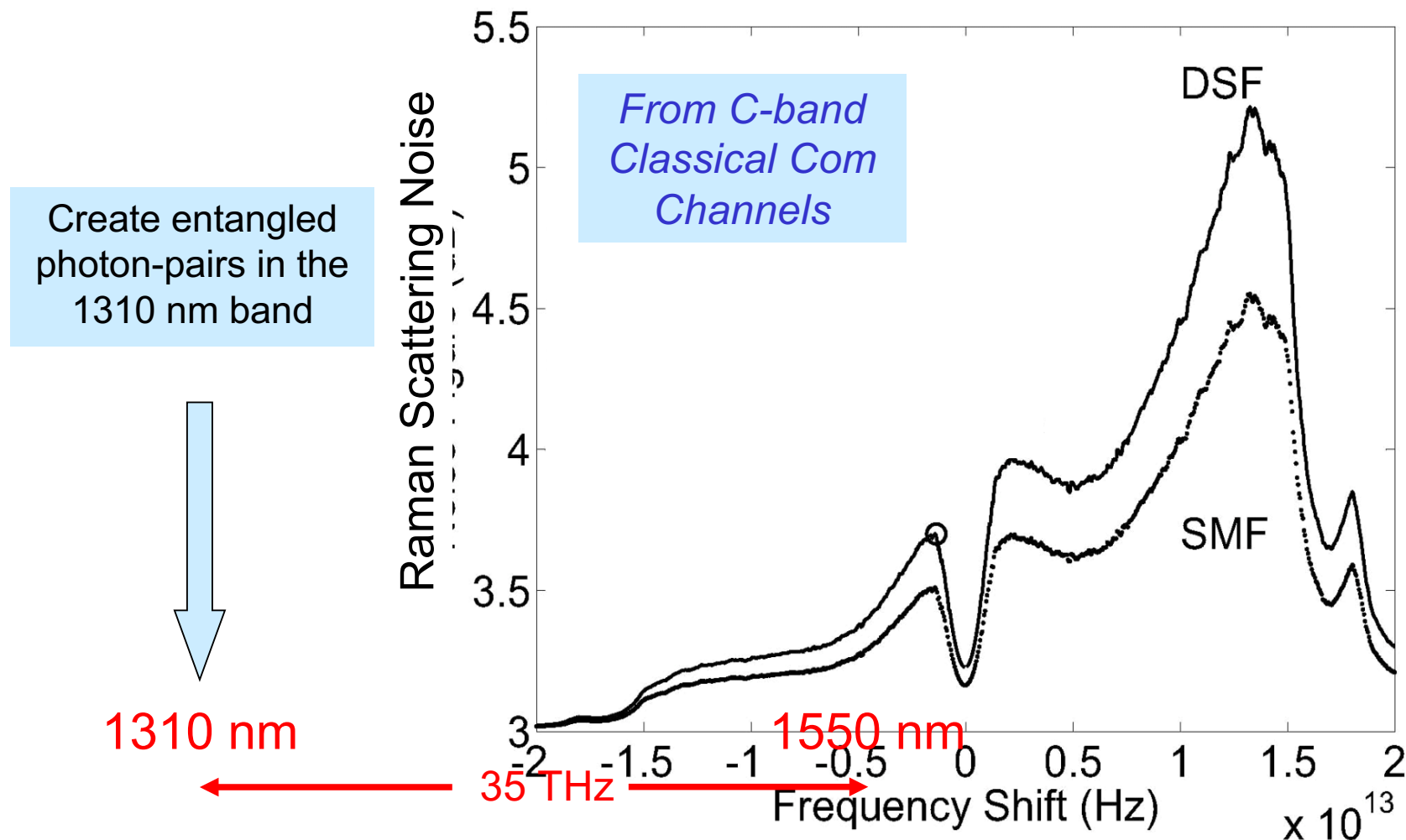
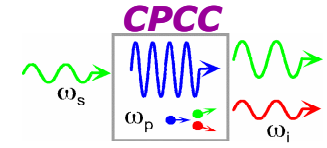


Two-Color Pump Pulses in the C-band for Polarization Independent Switching



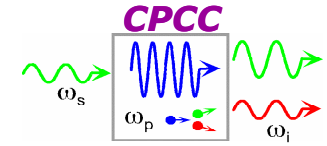


# Towards Applications in Embedded Fiber Telecom Infrastructure



Nweke *et al.*, Appl. Phys. Lett. **87**, 174103 (2005)

# Ultrafast Entanglement Generation

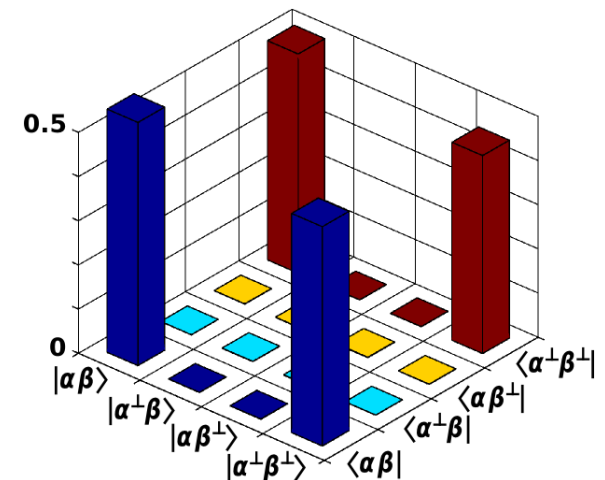
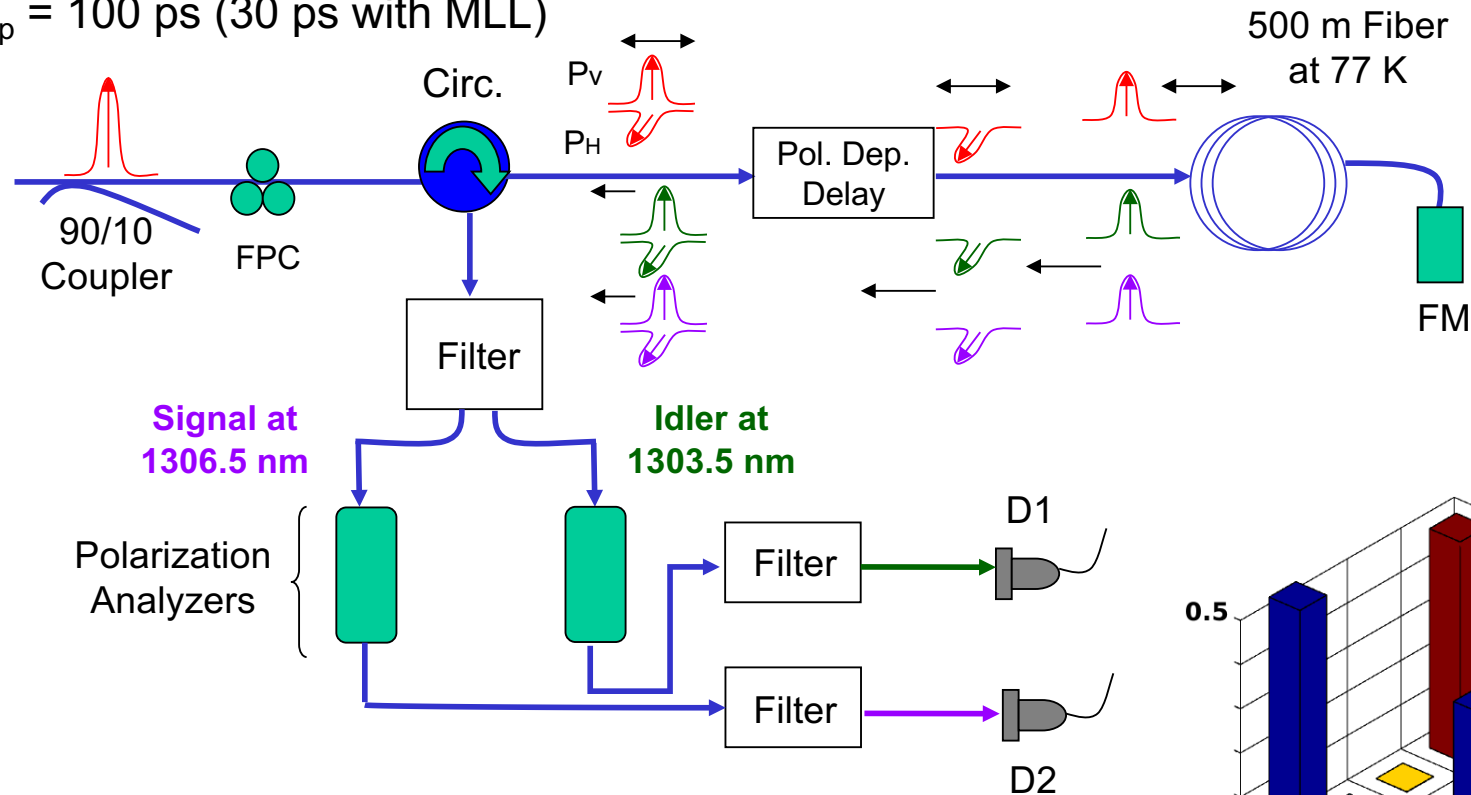


Pulses carved from a CW or ML laser

Hall, Altepeter, & PK, OpEx **17**, 14558 (2009)

$$\lambda_p = 1305 \text{ nm}$$

$$\tau_p = 100 \text{ ps (30 ps with MLL)}$$

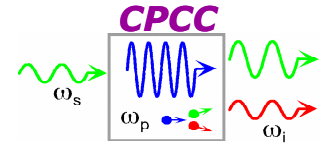


- 1.5 nm detuning from pump
  - Reduced spontaneous Raman scattering
- Mode-locked (ML) laser allows 10 GHz Operation

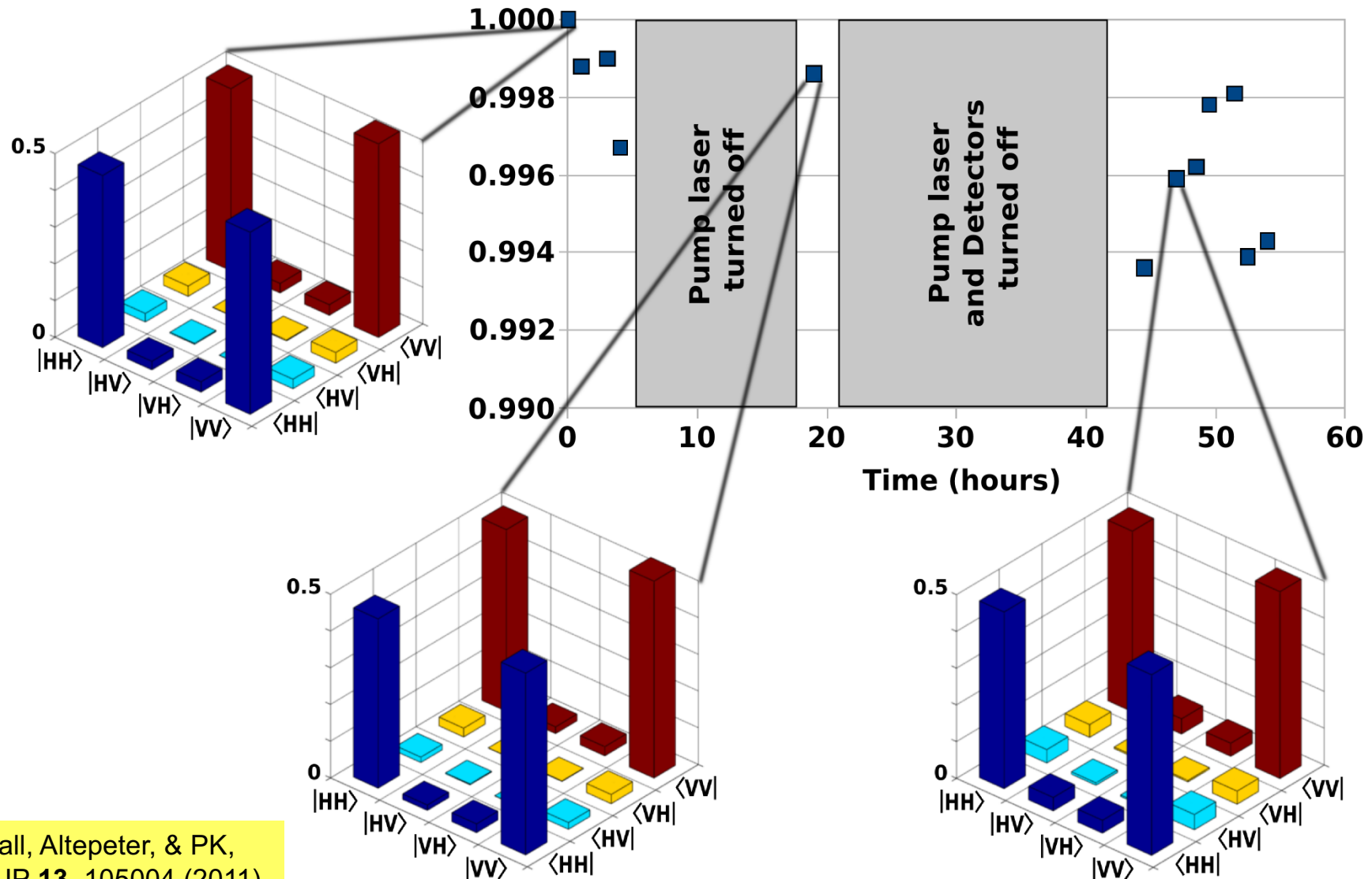
$$F = 99.6 \pm 0.15\%$$



# Source Stability Testing



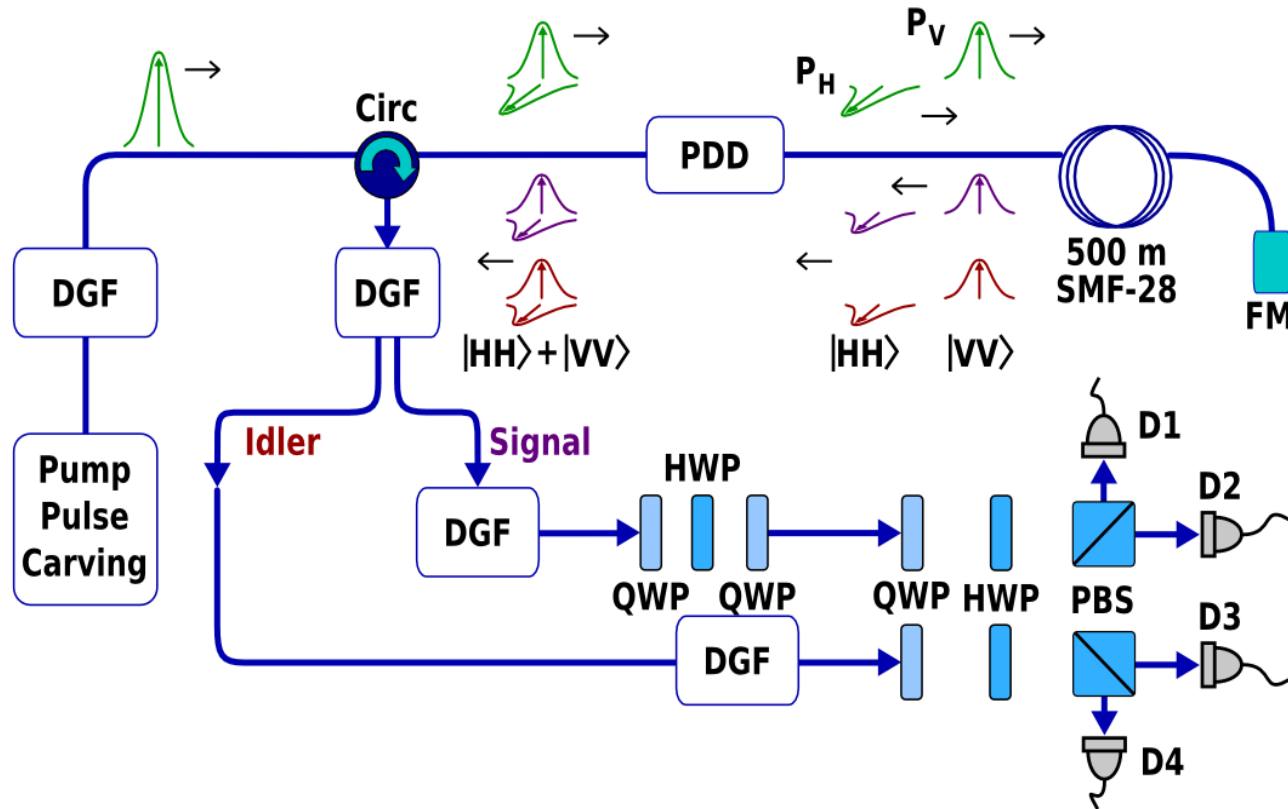
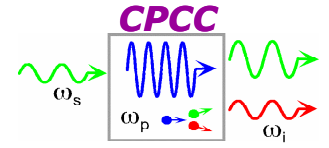
Fidelity to Initial State



Hall, Altepeter, & PK,  
NJP 13, 105004 (2011)

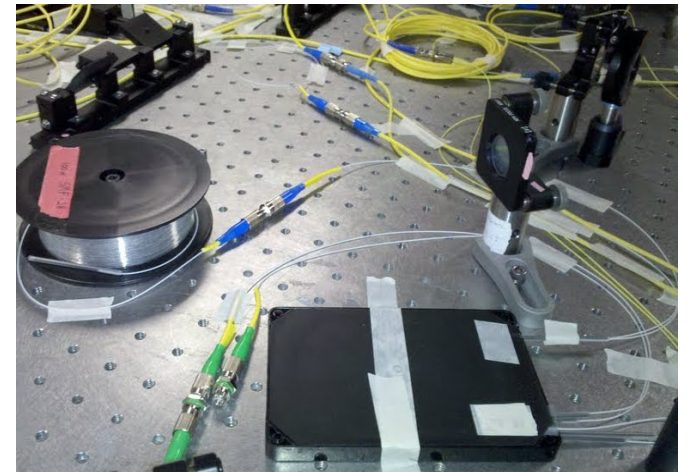
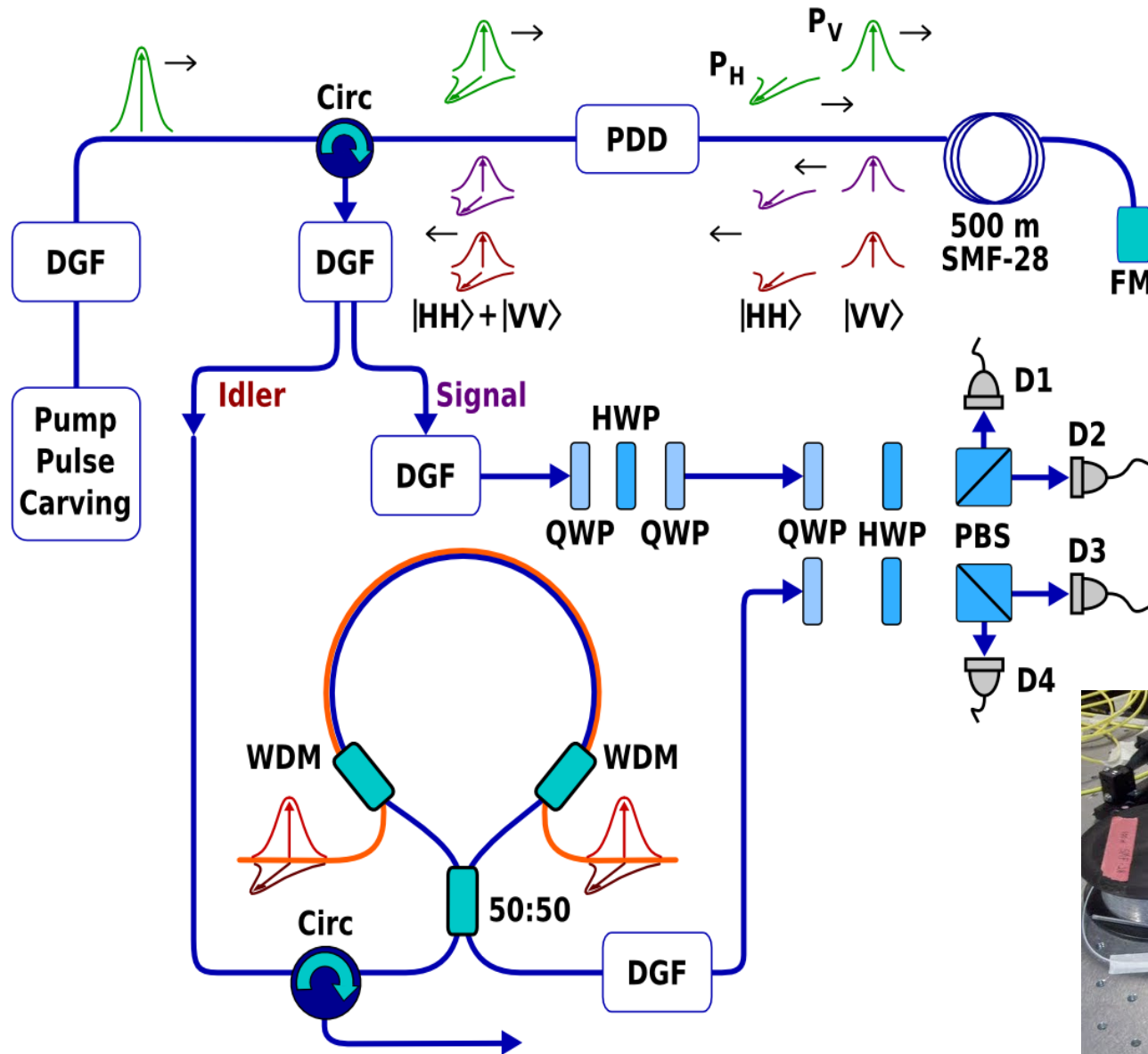
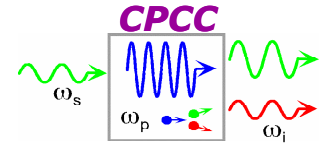


# Switch Location for Quantum Testing



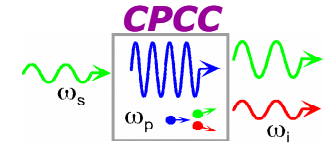


# Switch Location for Quantum Testing

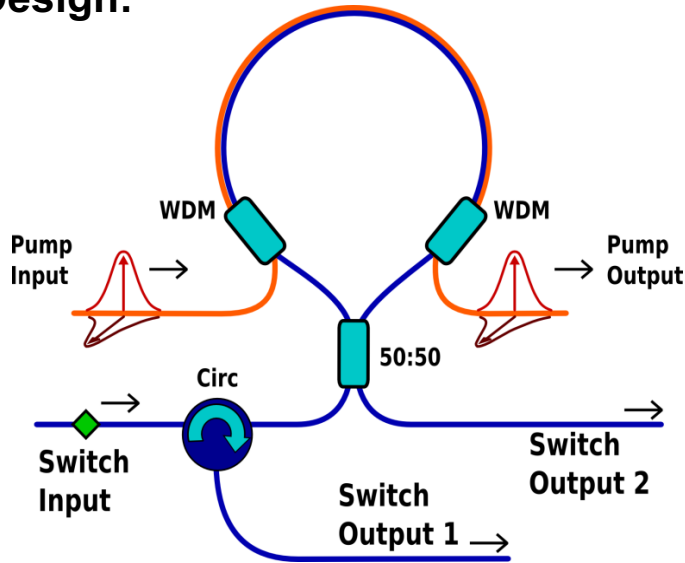




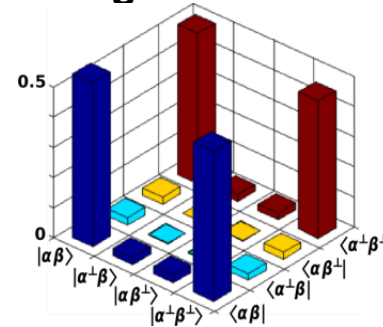
# Ultrafast Switching of Photonic Entanglement



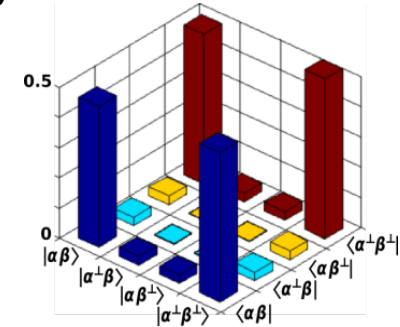
**Design:**



**Entangled State Fidelity:**



Passively Switched  
 $F = 99.6\%$

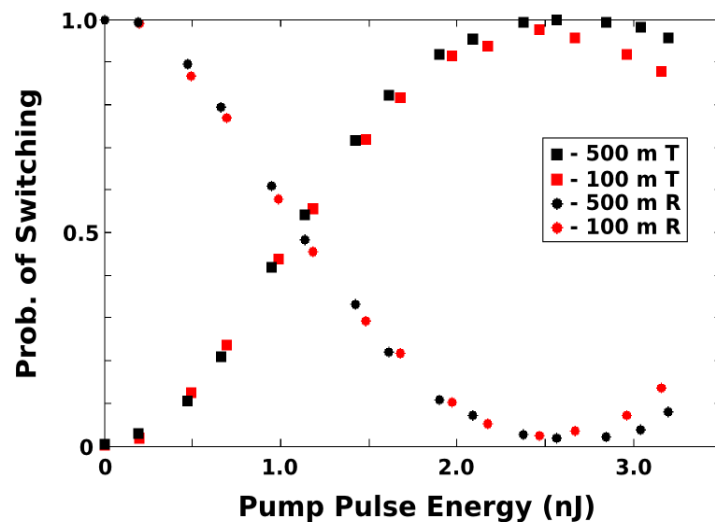


Actively Switched  
 $F = 99.4\%$

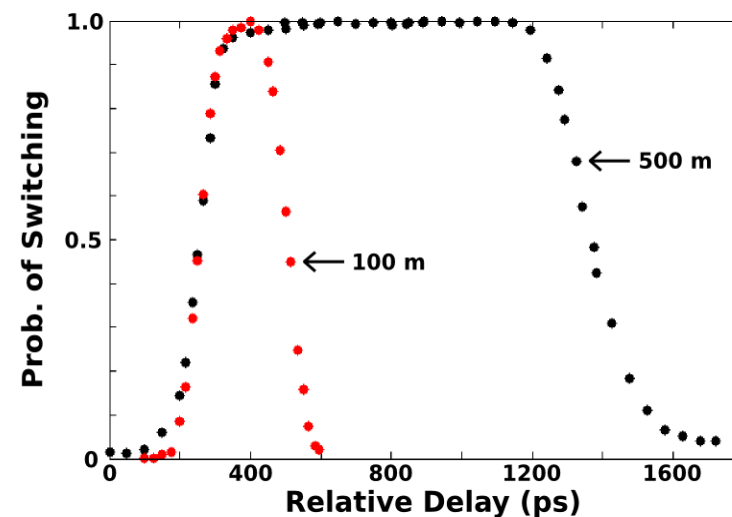
**Loss:** Switch 0.9 dB  
Circulator 0.4 dB

Hall, Altepeter, & PK,  
NJP 13, 105004 (2011)

**Switching Contrast: 200-to-1**

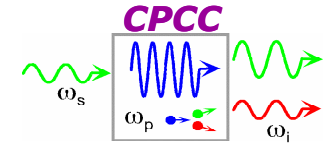


**Switching Window: 850 ps (500 m); 170 ps (100m)**

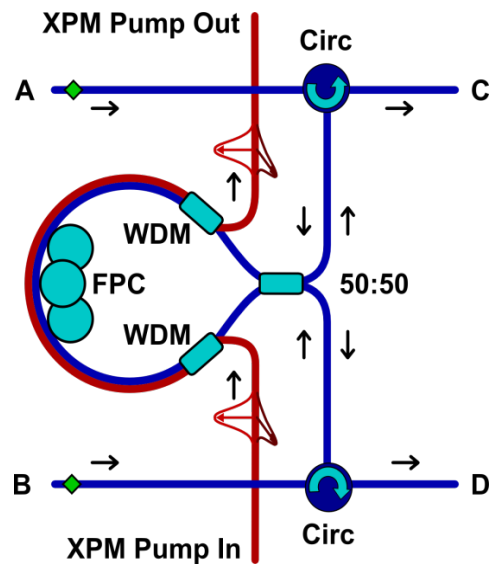




# Full Cross-Bar Operation: Coincidence Switching Windows

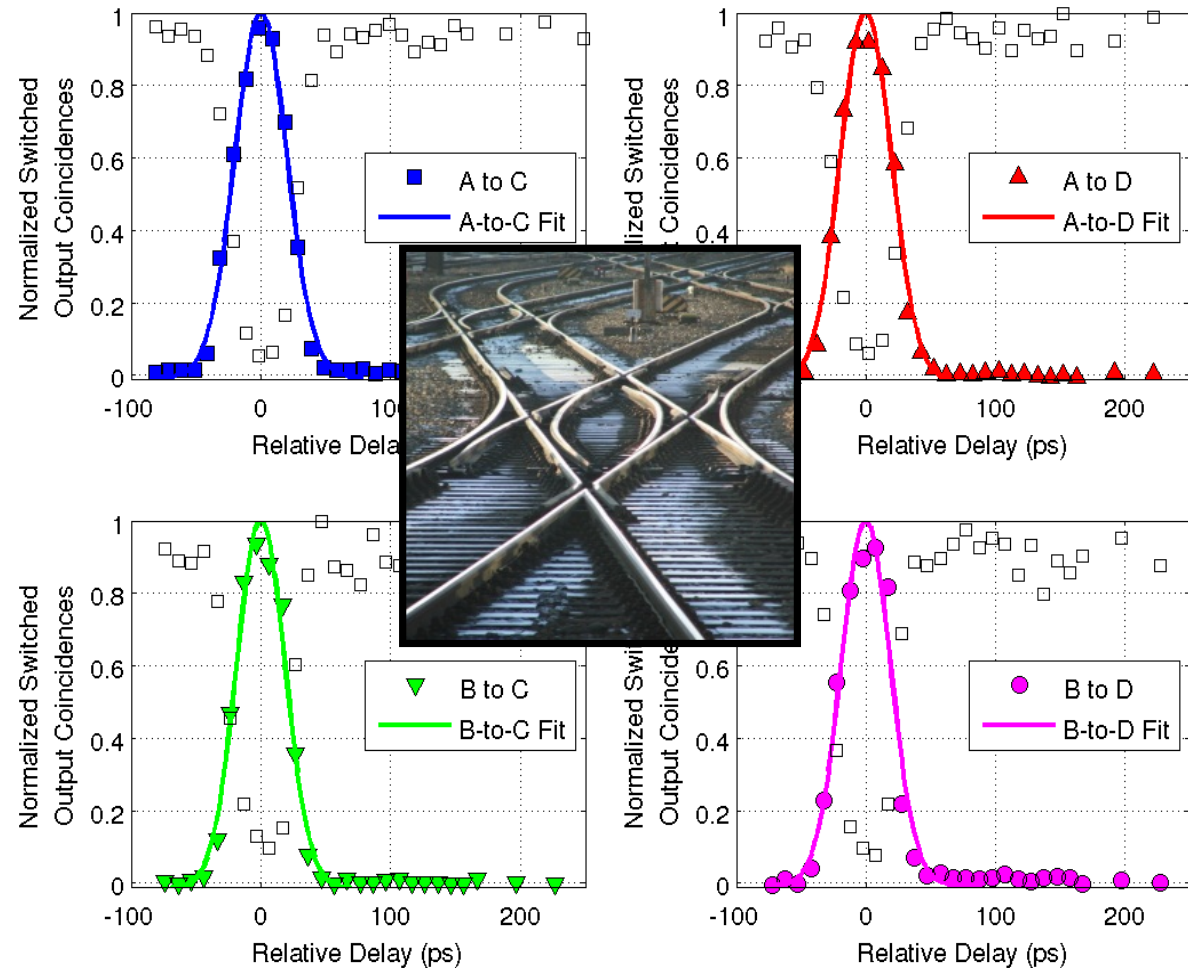


Oza, Huang, & PK, IEEE PTL **26**, 356–359 (2014)



20-m Common Fiber

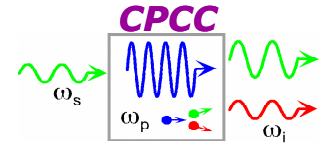
- ~40-ps Window







# Quantum Theory of Kerr Switching



❑ **Starting Point:** A general Heisenberg equation for traveling waves

Drummond  
Boivin, Kaertner, & Haus  
(mid 1990's)

Chromatic dispersion,  
propagation loss, ...

Spontaneous  
Raman scattering

$$\frac{\partial \hat{A}_j(z, t)}{\partial z} = i \sum_k \left[ \int_{-\infty}^t R_{jk}^{(1)}(t - t') \hat{A}_k(z, t') dt' + \sqrt{\hbar \omega_0} \hat{m}_{jk}(z, t) \hat{A}_k(z, t) \right] + i \sum_{klm} \int_{-\infty}^t R_{jklm}^{(3)}(t - t') \hat{A}_k^\dagger(z, t') \hat{A}_l(z, t') \hat{A}_m(z, t) dt'.$$

Cross and self-phase modulation, four-wave mixing ...

❑ **Result:** Input/output transformation with the inclusion of quantum-noise

Linear loss

Coherent transformation

Raman noise

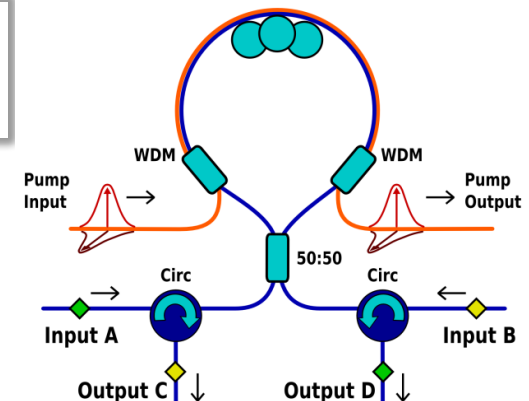
Other quantum noise

$$\begin{pmatrix} \hat{b}_1 \\ \hat{b}_2 \end{pmatrix} = e^{i\varphi(t)} e^{-\ell_s} \begin{pmatrix} \cos \theta(t) & i \sin \theta(t) \\ i \sin \theta(t) & \cos \theta(t) \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} \hat{a}_1 \\ \hat{a}_2 \end{pmatrix} + e^{-\ell_r} \begin{pmatrix} \hat{\eta}_1 \\ \hat{\eta}_2 \end{pmatrix} + \begin{pmatrix} \hat{\varepsilon}_1 \\ \hat{\varepsilon}_2 \end{pmatrix}$$

Huang & Kumar,  
NJP 14, 053038 (2012)

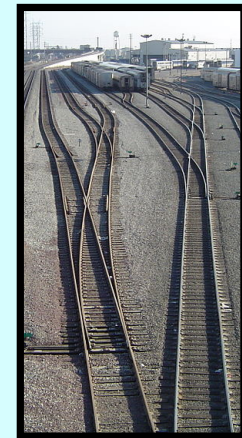
$$\theta(t) = [\Phi_+(t) - \Phi_-(t)]/2$$

$$\Phi_{\pm}(t) = \int_0^L \left[ \xi_{\parallel} P_{\parallel}(z, t - L/v_s + z\beta_{\pm}) + \xi_{\perp} P_{\perp}(z, t - L/v_s + z\beta_{\pm}) \right] dz$$



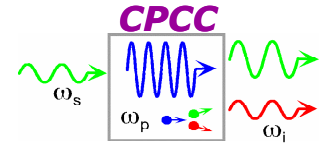


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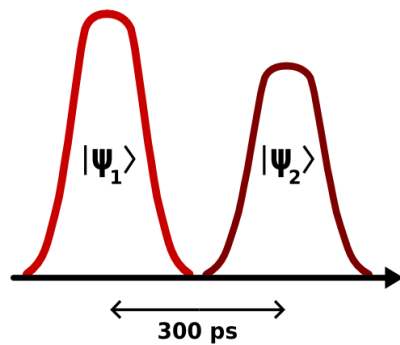
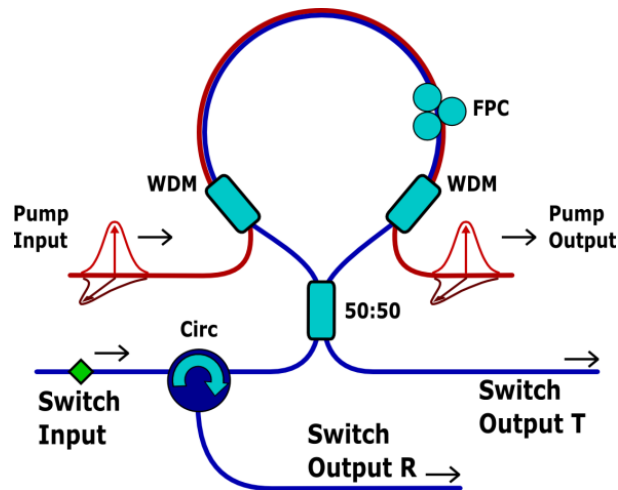


# Coincidence (Quantum) Eye Opening



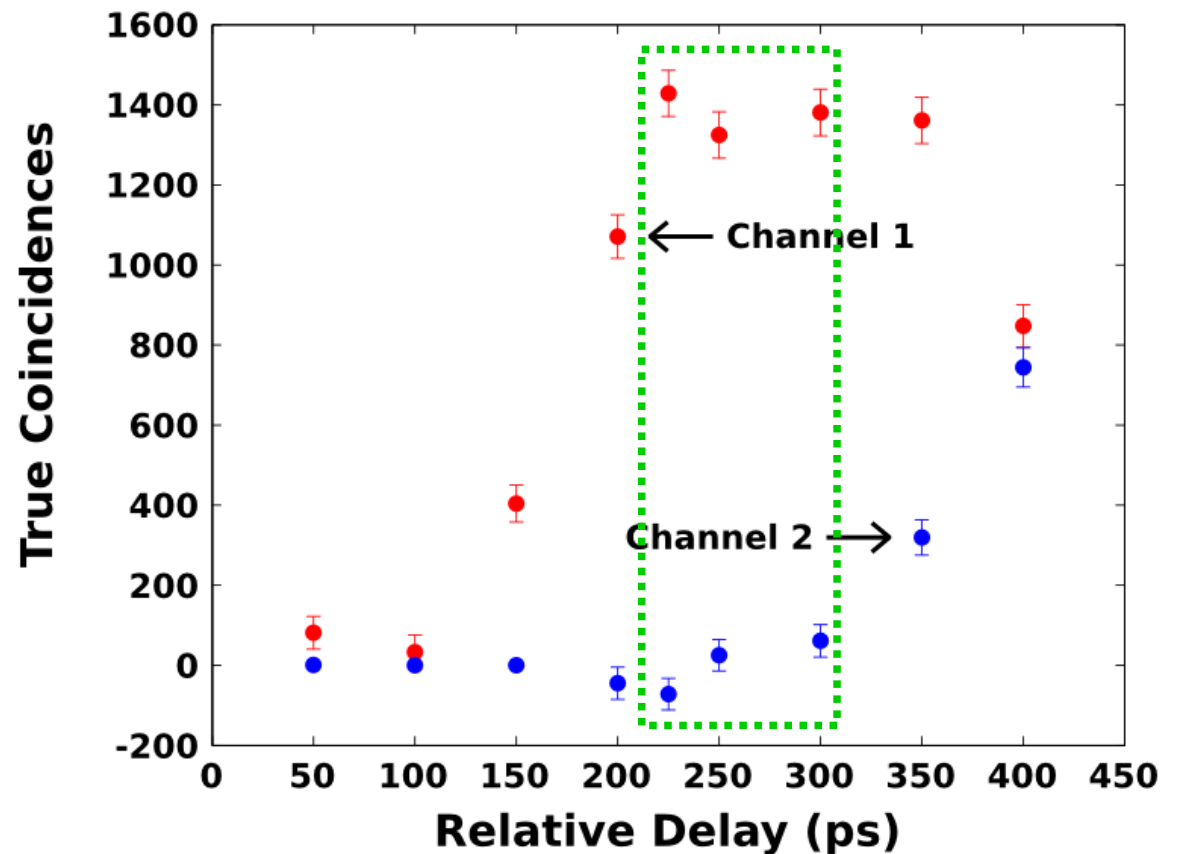
Hall, Altepeter, & PK, NJP 13, 105004 (2011)

~100ps-wide  
Quantum Eye



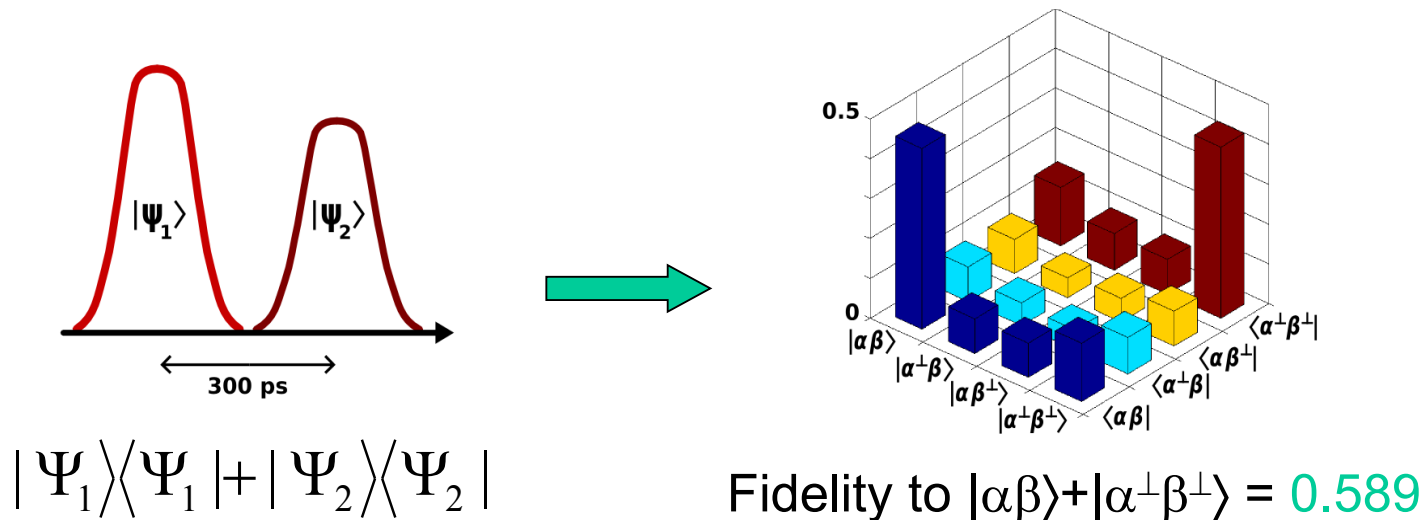
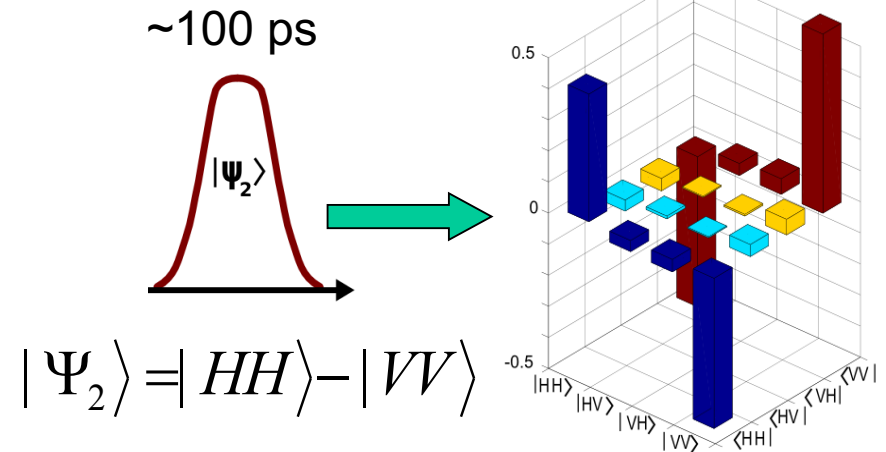
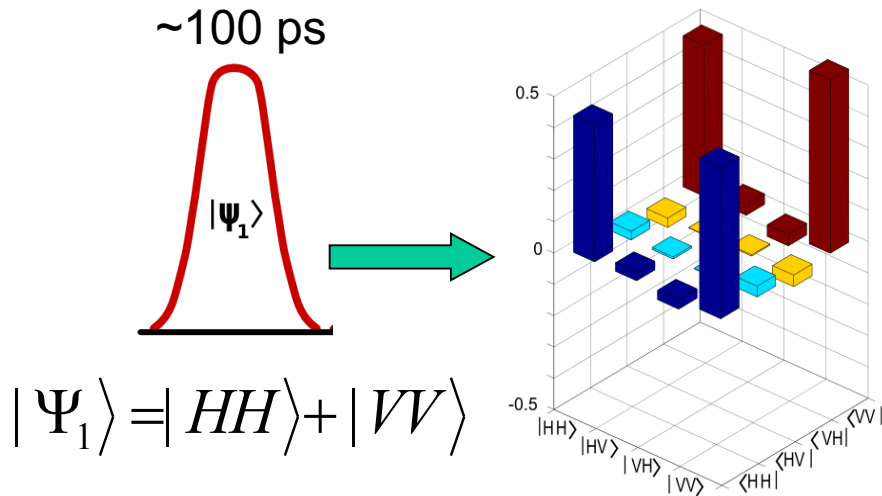
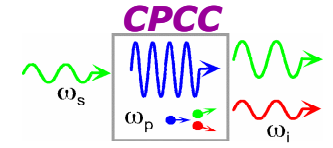
Channel 1

Channel 2



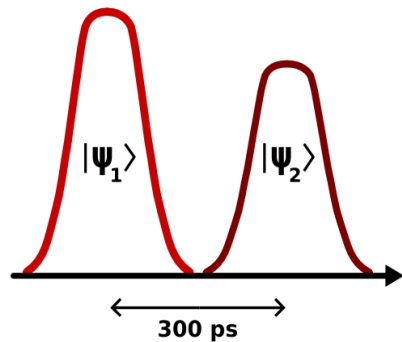
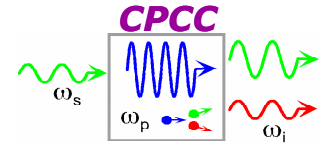


# Time-Domain Multiplexed Quantum Data

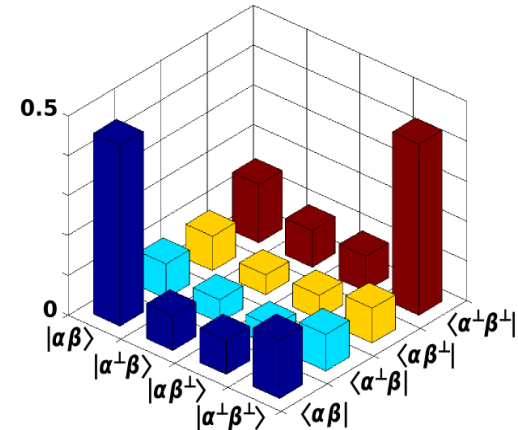




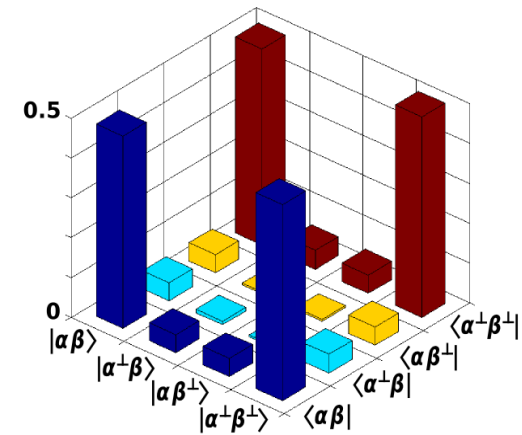
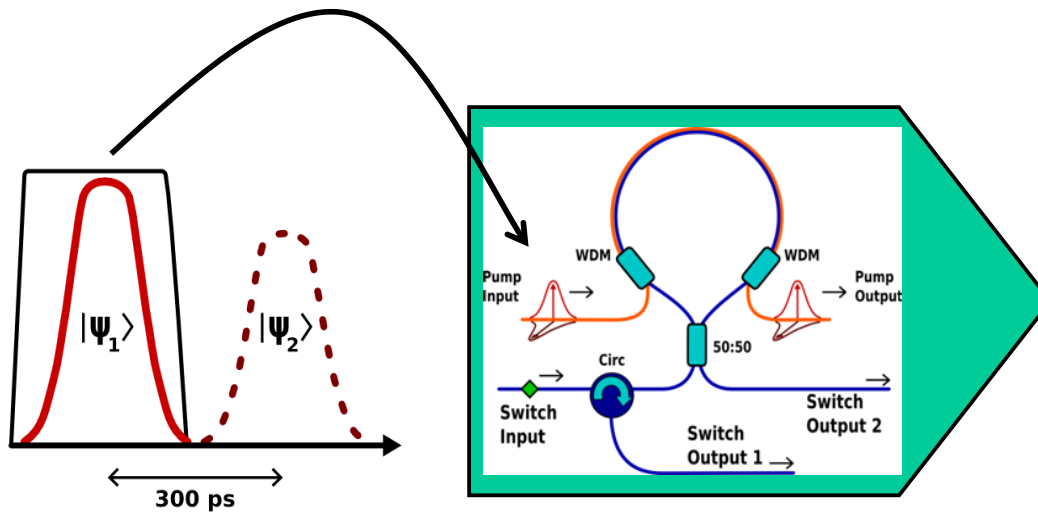
# Time-Domain Demultiplexing of Ultrafast Quantum Channels



$$|\Psi_1\rangle\langle\Psi_1| + |\Psi_2\rangle\langle\Psi_2|$$



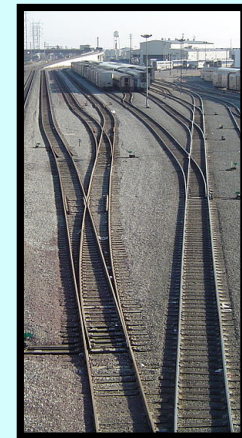
$$\text{Fidelity to } |\alpha\beta\rangle + |\alpha^\perp\beta^\perp\rangle = 0.589$$



$$\text{Fidelity to } |\alpha\beta\rangle + |\alpha^\perp\beta^\perp\rangle = 0.986$$

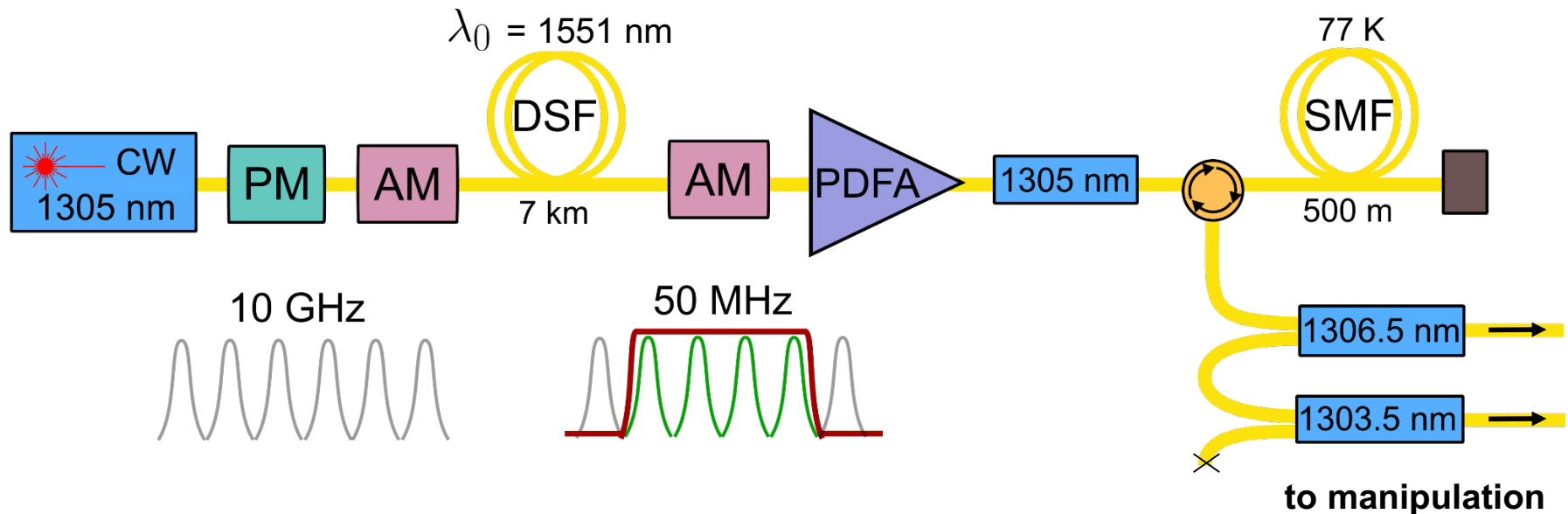
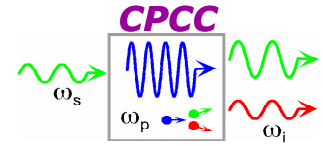
Hall, Altepeter, & PK, PRL **106**, 053901 (2011)

- Need for All-optical Quantum Switches
  - Mux / Demux high-speed photon-pair sources
  - Heralded single-photon generation
- Ultrafast Switching of Photonic Entanglement
  - Switch characterization
  - Comparison with theory (no fitting parameter)
  - Development of a full cross-bar switch
- Quantum Switch Applications
  - Ultrafast MUX / DEMUX of quantum data channels
  - Measurement of time-bin entangled qudits
- Conclusions and Future Outlook



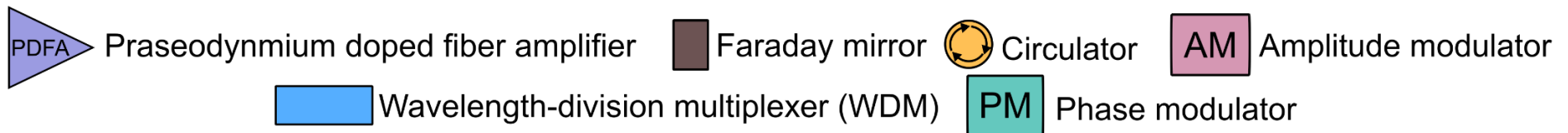


# Time-Bin Qudits: Generation Setup



$$|\psi\rangle = \frac{1}{\sqrt{4}} (|00\rangle + |11\rangle + |22\rangle + |33\rangle)$$

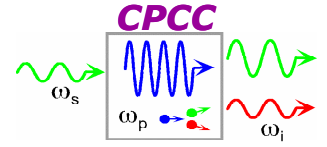
## Legend



Murata *et al*, IEEE STQE 6, 1325–1331 (2000)



# Measurement: Qudit State Tomography

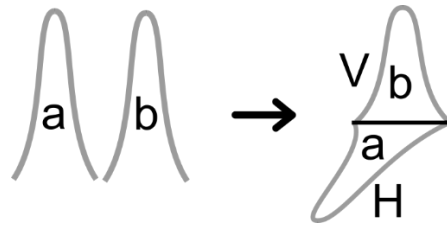


Signal photon

Idler photon

$$\left\{ |t_a\rangle, |t_b\rangle, \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}(|t_a\rangle \pm |t_b\rangle), \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}(|t_a\rangle \pm i|t_b\rangle) \right\} \otimes \left\{ |t_a\rangle, |t_b\rangle, \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}(|t_a\rangle \pm |t_b\rangle), \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}(|t_a\rangle \pm i|t_b\rangle) \right\}$$

$t_a, t_b \in (0, \dots, d-1)$



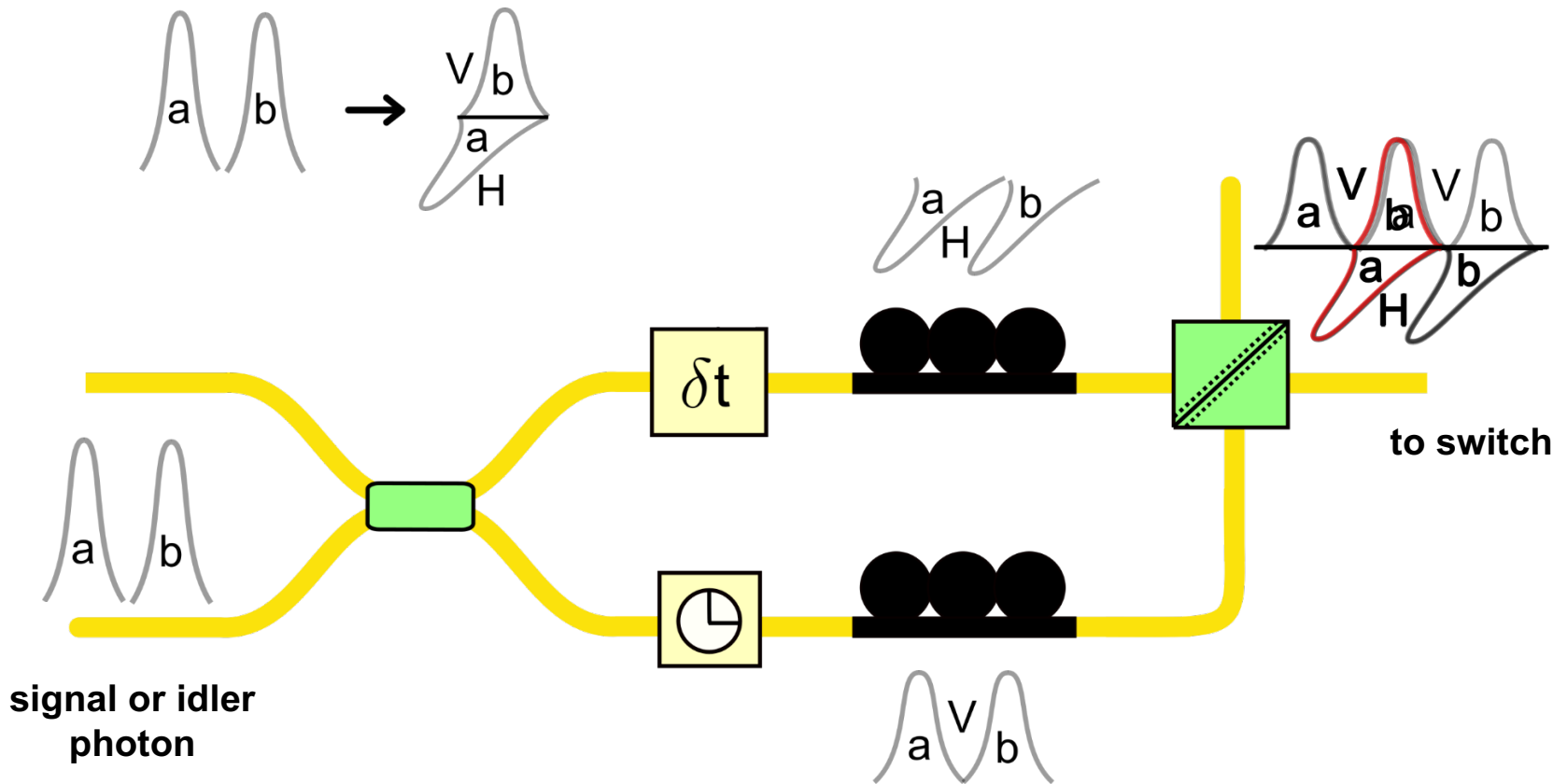
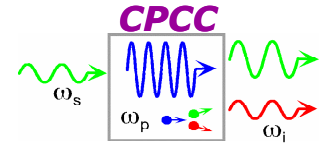
$$\left\{ |H\rangle, |V\rangle, \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}(|H\rangle \pm |V\rangle), \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}(|H\rangle \pm i|V\rangle) \right\}$$

$d$	Number of measurement settings $\propto \binom{d}{2}^2$
2	9 (36)
3	81 (324)
4	324 (1296)

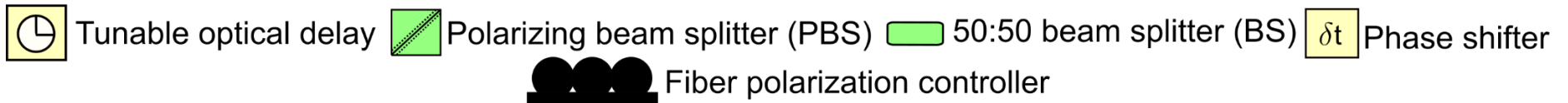
Thew *et al.*, Phys. Rev. A 66, 012303 (2002)



# Measurement: Time-Bin $\rightarrow$ Polarization

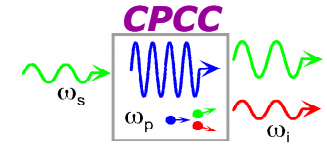


## Legend

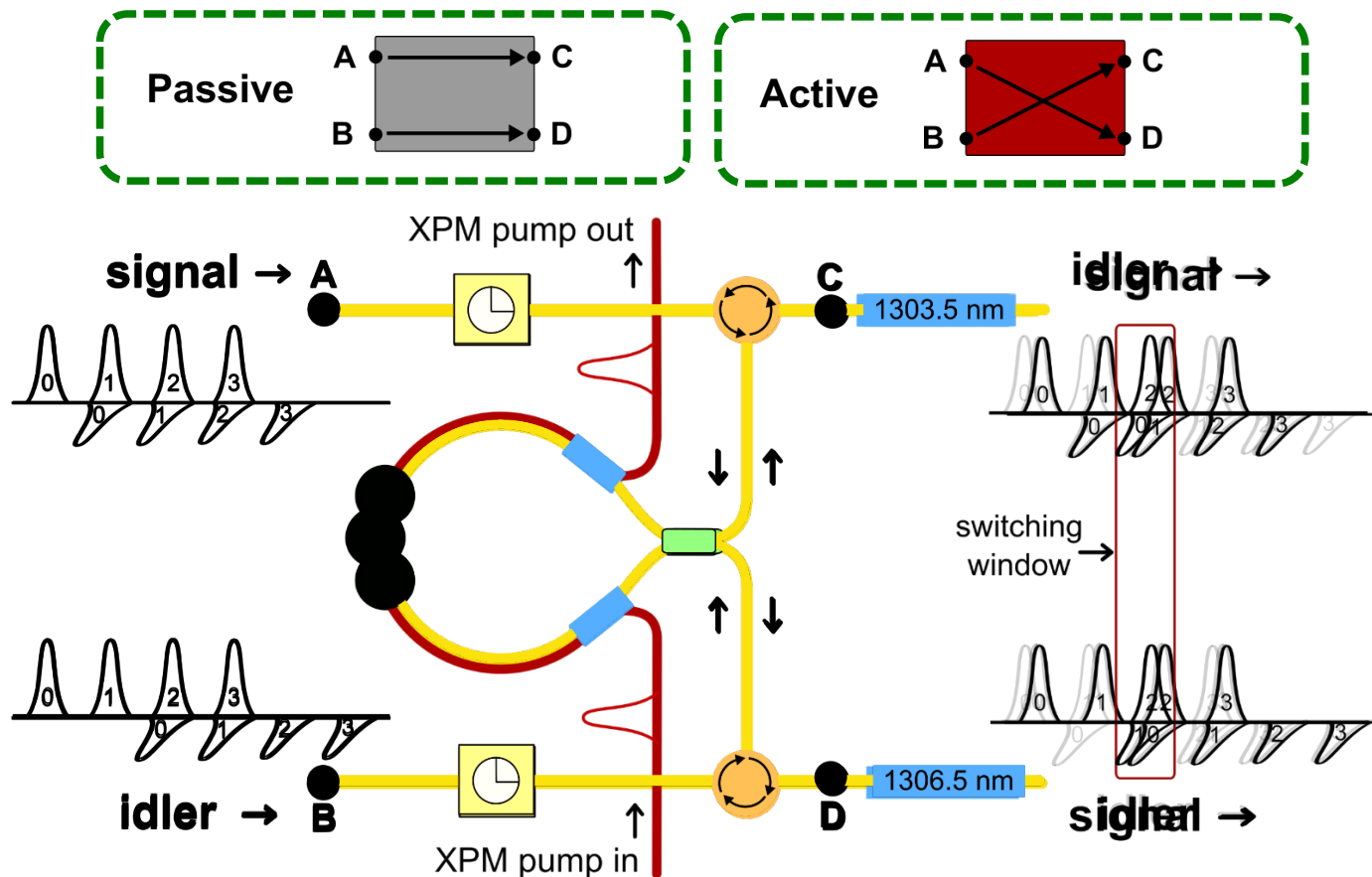




# Manipulation: Time Bin Selection



- Cross-bar optical switch that uses cross-phase modulation (XPM)



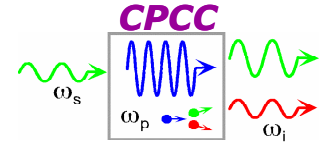
## Legend

 Tunable optical delay  
  Circulator  
  WDM  
  BS  
  FPC  
  XPM pump (1550 nm)

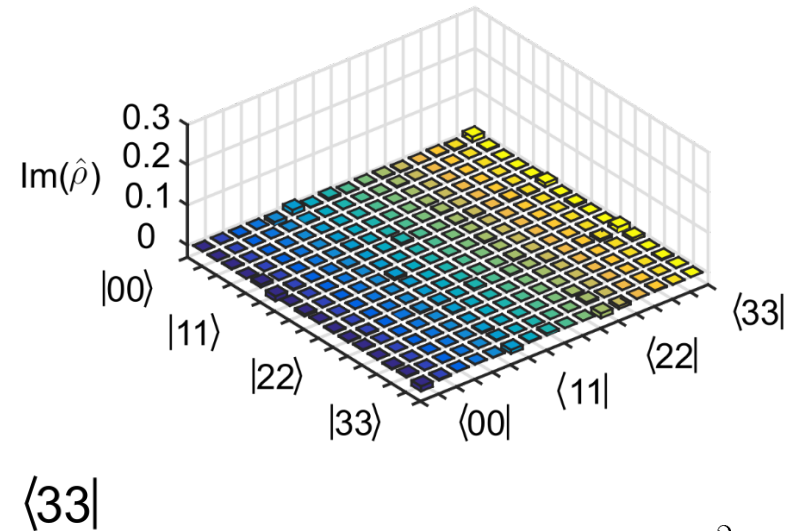
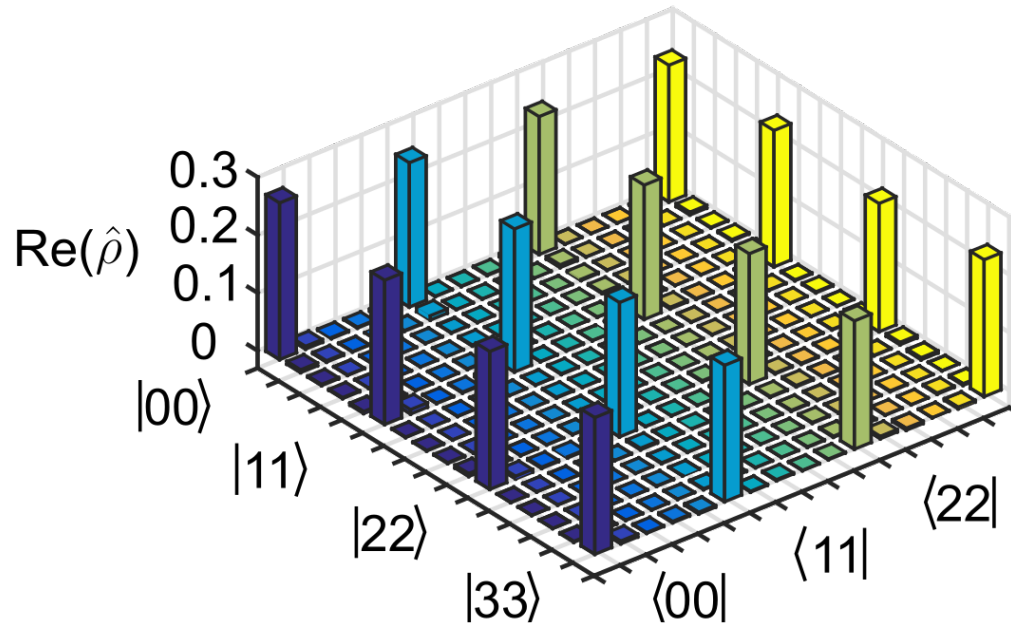
Oza, Huang, & Kumar, IEEE Phot. Tech. Lett. 26, 356-359 (2014)



# Results: Ququart Entanglement



$$|\psi\rangle = \frac{1}{\sqrt{4}} (|00\rangle + |11\rangle + |22\rangle + |33\rangle)$$



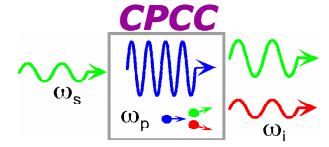
$$F(\rho_{\text{exp}}, \rho_{\text{meas}}) = \left\{ \text{Tr} \left( \sqrt{\sqrt{\rho_{\text{exp}}} \rho_{\text{meas}} \sqrt{\rho_{\text{exp}}}} \right) \right\}^2$$

	$F(\rho_{\text{exp}}, \rho_{\text{meas}})$
Accidental coincidence subtraction	<b>93.7 ± 0.4%</b>
Background accidental coincidence subtraction	<b>71.9 ± 0.3%</b>
Minimum to violate Bell's inequalities	<b>71%</b>

Nowierski, Oza, Kumar, & Kanter, PRA **94**, 042328 (2016)



# Conclusions / Future Outlook



- XPM based switching platform for O-band entanglement
  - High-fidelity switching of O-band entanglement in excellent agreement with theory
  - Negligible in-band noise from Raman scattering of pump
  - Demonstrated very high speed operation (10-100 GHz)
  - Demonstrated high-speed MUX / DEMUX of quantum data pattern
  - Demonstrated high-speed time-bin qudit ( $d = 2, 3, 4$ ) tomography
  - Potentially very low loss ( $< 0.2$ - $0.3$  dB per switching cycle)
- Short-term (10's to 100's  $\mu$ s) quantum buffers and single-photons on demand are a practical near-term reality