

Separable Schmidt modes of a non-separable state

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The development of quantum information protocols is one of the most promising applications of the intrinsic properties of quantum mechanics such as quantum superposition and entanglement [1,2].

Two-photon states entangled in continuous variables such as wavevector or frequency represent a powerful resource for quantum information protocols in higher-dimensional Hilbert spaces [3,4,5,6]. At the same time, there is a problem of addressing separately the corresponding Schmidt modes. For wavevector variables, a single Schmidt mode can be filtered out with the help of a single-mode fibre [7], but no similar procedure exists for the frequencies. This filtering, in principle, can be lossless, which is crucial for experiments with twin-beam squeezing [8–14]. Here we propose a method of engineering two-photon spectral amplitude in such a way that it contains several non-overlapping Schmidt modes, each of which can be filtered losslessly. The method is based on using a pump with a comb-like spectrum, which can be obtained, in particular, by passing a laser beam through a Fabry-Perot interferometer. For the two-photon amplitude to consist of non-overlapping Schmidt modes, the crystal dispersion dependence, the length of the crystal and the width of a single Fabry-Perot transmission peak should satisfy a certain condition. We experimentally demonstrate the control of Schmidt modes structure through these parameters.

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