



# Quantum Theory of Optical Sensing: Estimation, Control, and Fundamental Limits \*

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- Two foundations of quantum mechanics:  
Schrödinger's equation



(<https://www.flickr.com/photos/sababa-dan/396970817/>)

### Born's rule

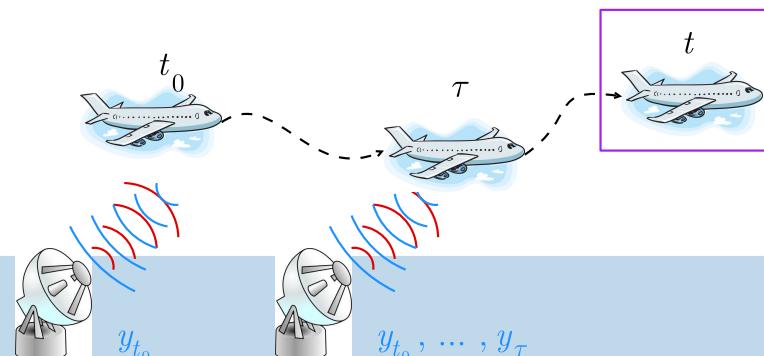
## I.2 ON THE QUANTUM MECHANICS OF COLLISIONS [Preliminary communication]<sup>†</sup>

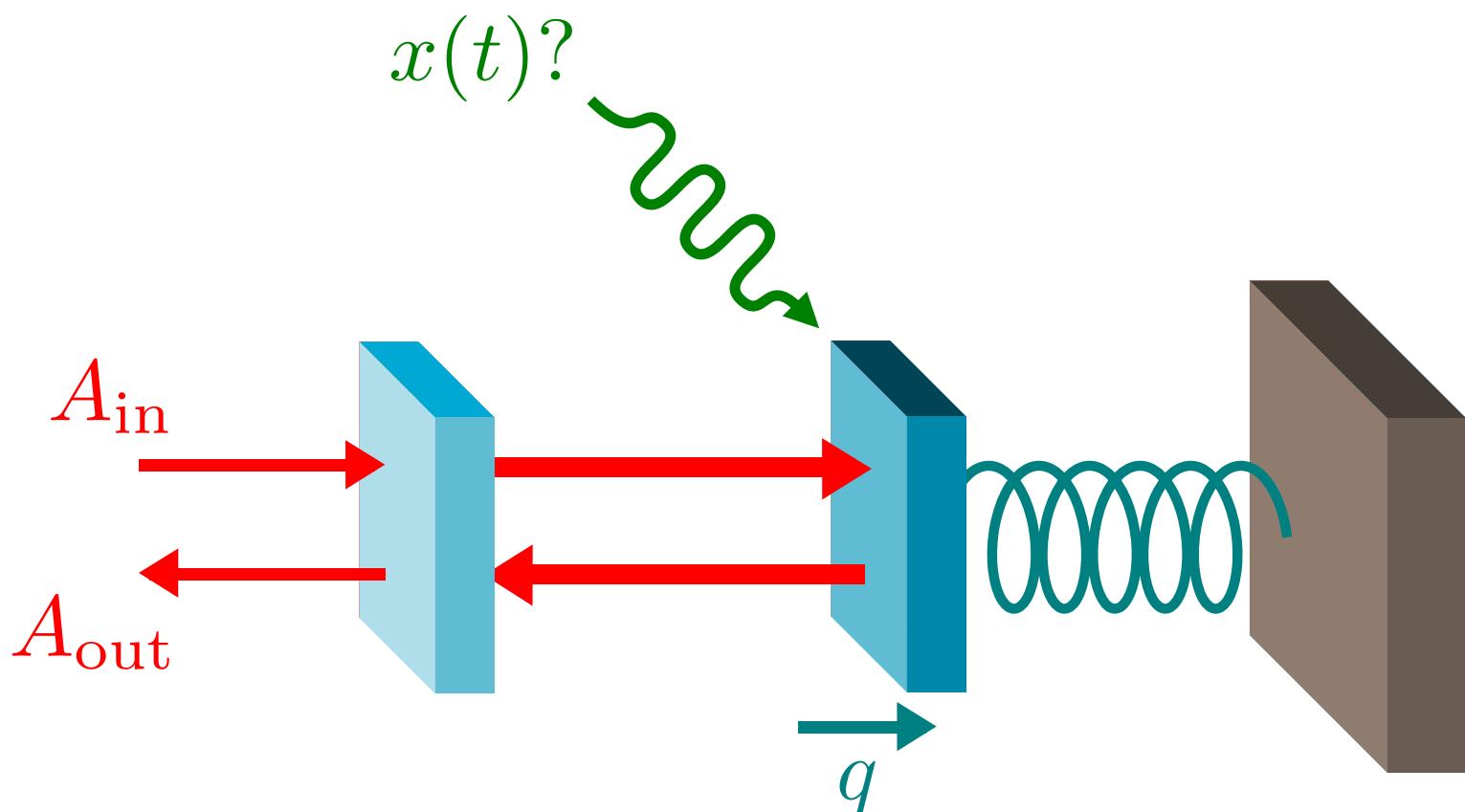
MAX BORN

\* Addition in proof: More careful consideration shows that the probability is proportional to the square of the quantity  $\Phi_{n,m}$ .

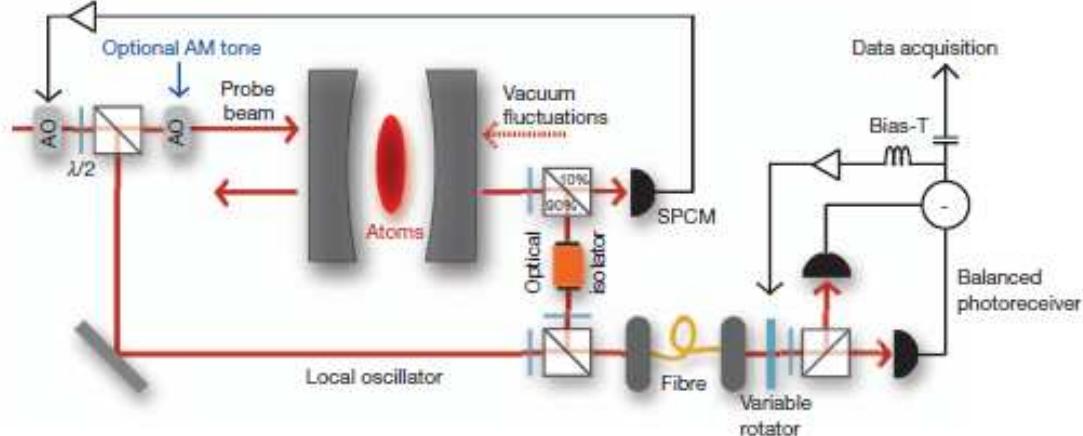
$$\Pr(x) = |\psi(x)|^2$$

- Impose **fundamental uncertainties** to information processing, communication, computing, and sensing.
- Experimental technology is catching up (see 2012 Nobel Prize), especially in **quantum optics**, **optomechanics**.
- Use **engineering techniques** (Bayesian inference, information theory, control theory, etc.) to address the challenges.

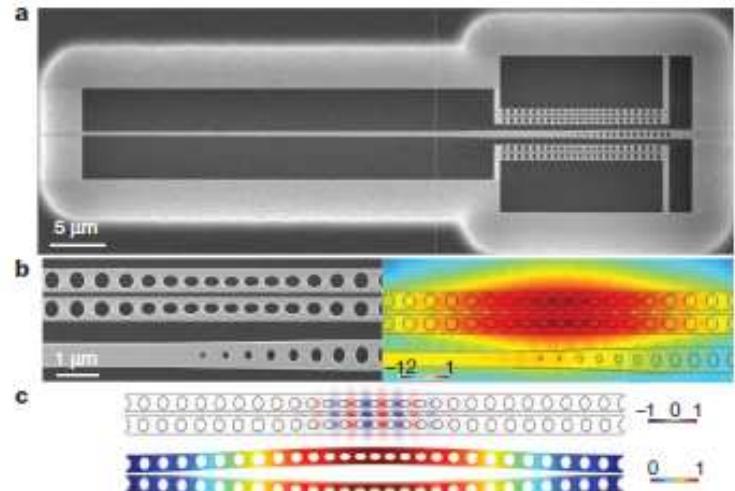




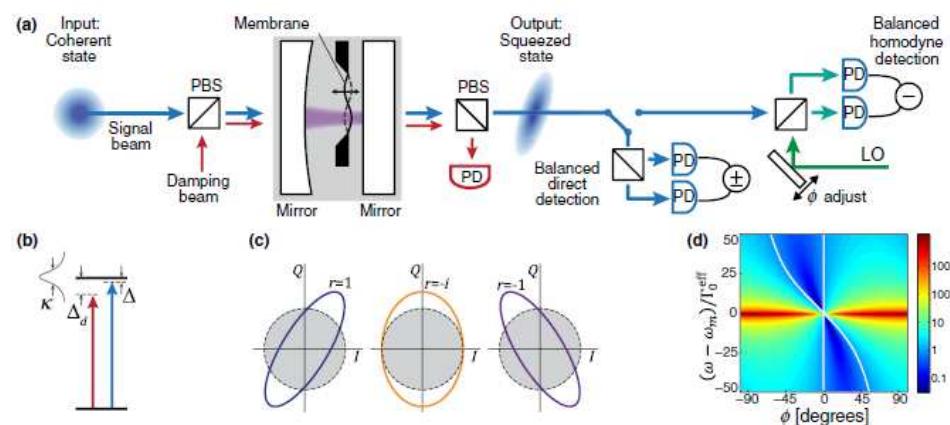
- Caves *et al.*, “On the measurement of a weak classical force coupled to a quantum-mechanical oscillator. I. Issues of principle,” Rev. Mod. Phys. **52**, 341 (1980).
- Braginsky and Khalili, *Quantum Measurement* (Cambridge University Press, Cambridge, 1992).



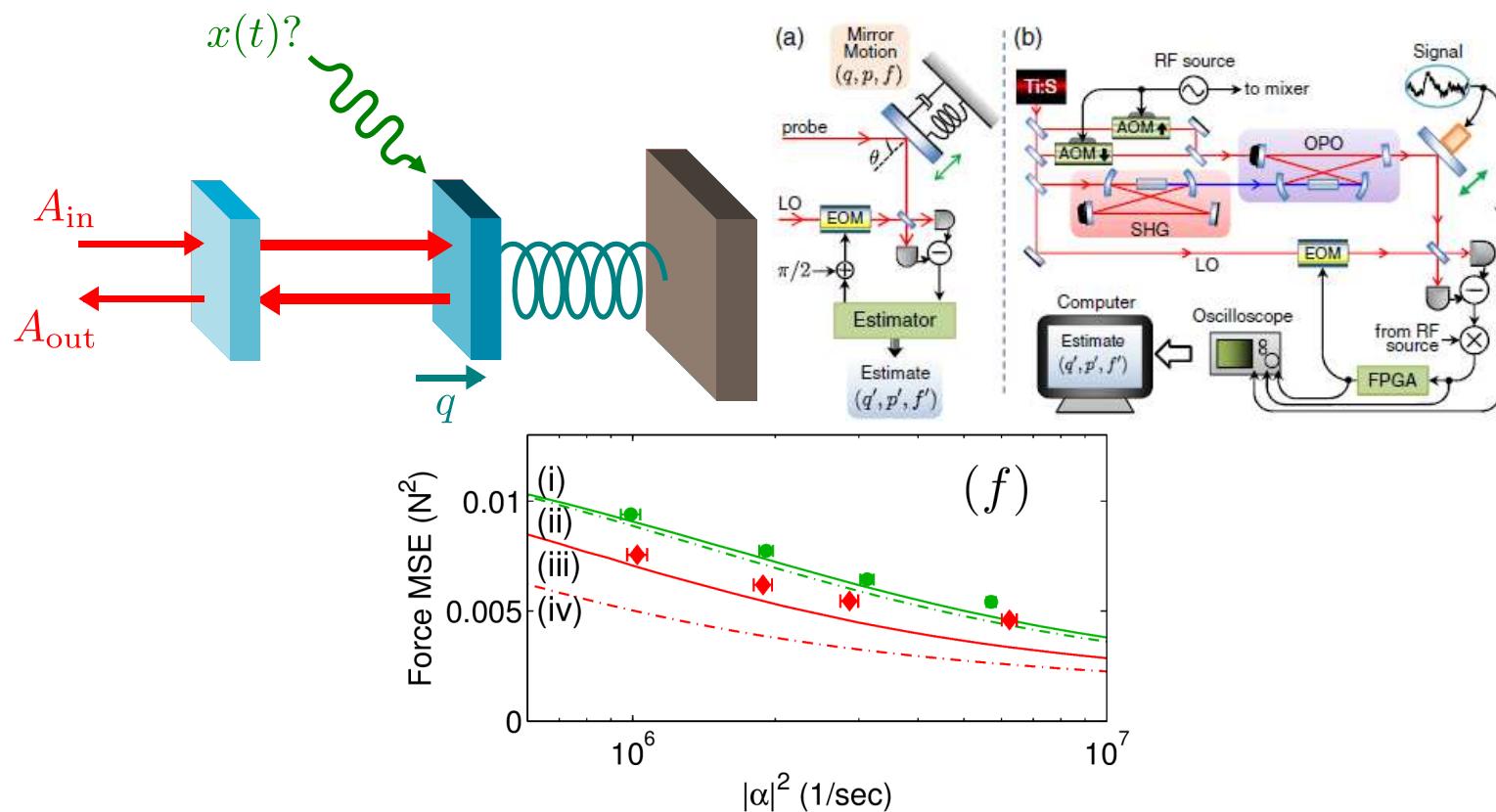
Brooks et al., Nature 488, 476 (2012)



Safavi-Naeini et al., Nature 500, 185 (2013)



Purdy et al., PRX 3, 031012 (2013)

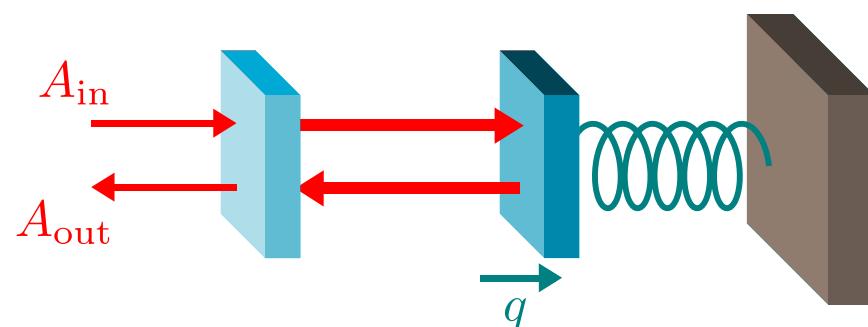


- **Quantum smoothing:** Tsang, PRL **102**, 250403 (2009); PRA **80**, 033840 (2009); **81**, 013824 (2010); Tsang, arXiv:1403.3353 (2014).
- **Quantum limits:** Tsang, Wiseman, Caves, PRL **106**, 090401 (2011); Tsang, NJP **15**, 073005 (2013).
- **Experiment** (with Furusawa's group at U. Tokyo, Huntington's group at UNSW@ADFA, Australia): Iwasawa, Tsang *et al.*, PRL **111**, 163602 (2013).
- **Optomechanical parameter estimation** (with Bowen's group at U. Queensland, Australia): Ang, Harris, Tsang, Bowen, NJP **15**, 103028 (2013).

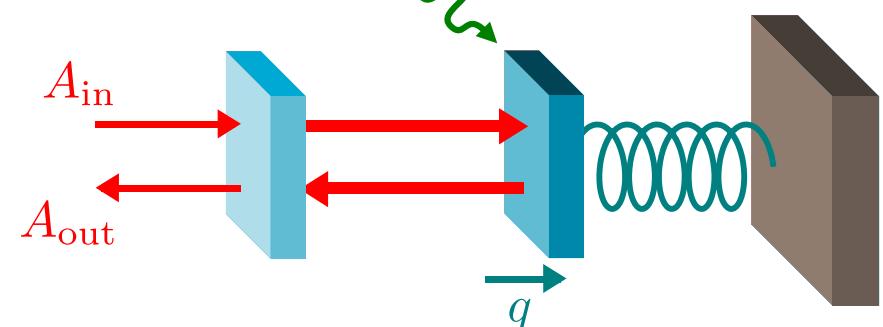
$$i\hbar\dot{\Psi} = \hat{H}\Psi$$

## Detection is Binary Hypothesis Testing

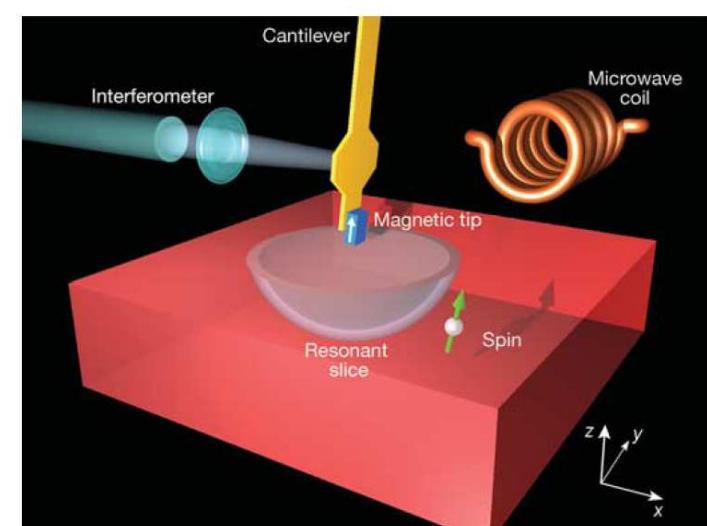
$\mathcal{H}_0 :$



$\mathcal{H}_1 :$   $x(t)$

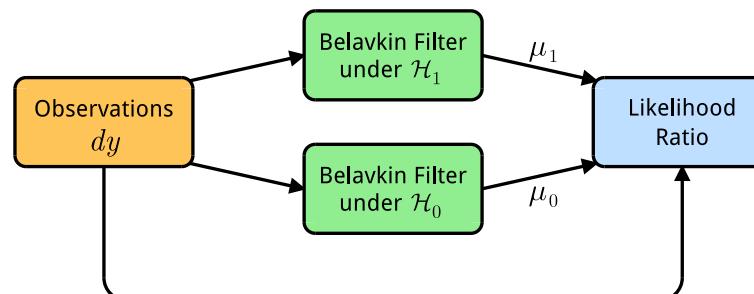


LIGO, Hanford

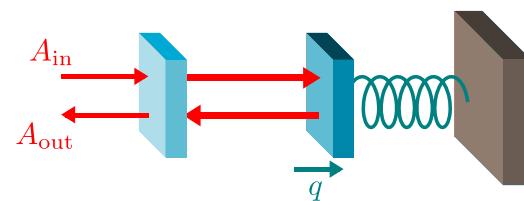
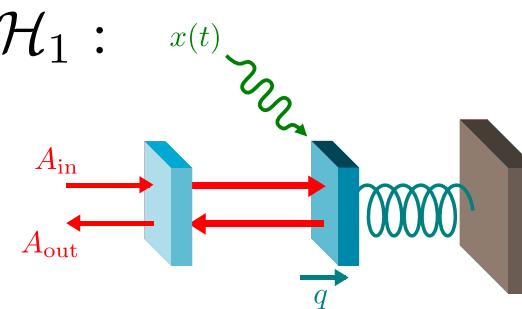


Rugar *et al.*, Nature 430, 329 (2004).

- Signal processing: likelihood-ratio test [Tsang, PRL **108**, 230401 (2012); Ng and Tsang, PRA **90**, 022325 (2014)]



- Fundamental quantum limit: force detection [Tsang and Nair, PRA **86**, 042115 (2012); Tsang, NJP **15**, 073005 (2013)]

 $\mathcal{H}_0 :$  $\mathcal{H}_1 :$ 

- Null hypothesis:  $P(Y|\mathcal{H}_0)$ , alternative:  $P(Y|\mathcal{H}_1)$ .
- Type-I error probability (false-alarm probability):

$$P_{10} = \Pr(\tilde{\mathcal{H}}(Y) = \mathcal{H}_1 \mid \mathcal{H}_0) \quad (1)$$

- Type-II error probability (miss probability):

$$P_{01} = \Pr(\tilde{\mathcal{H}}(Y) = \mathcal{H}_0 \mid \mathcal{H}_1) \quad (2)$$

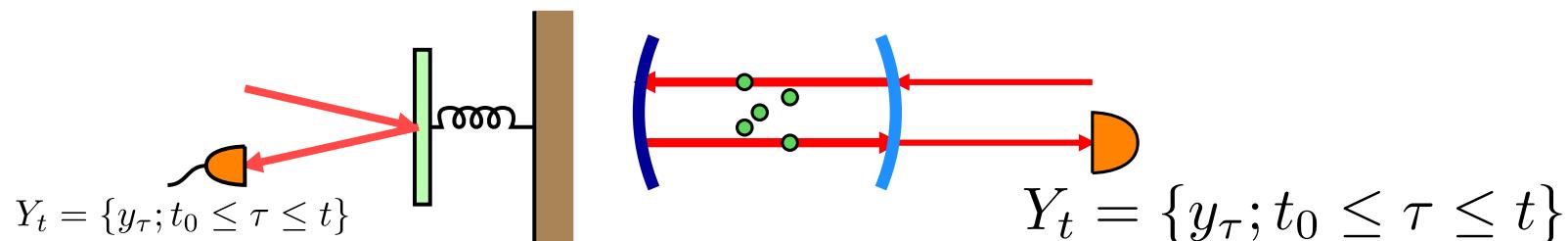
- Average error probability:

$$P_e = P_{10}P_0 + P_{01}P_1 \quad (3)$$

- Alternative: Neyman-Pearson
- Optimal procedure: **likelihood-ratio test**:

Decide on  $\mathcal{H}_1$  if  $\ln \frac{P(Y|\mathcal{H}_1)}{P(Y|\mathcal{H}_0)} \geq \lambda$ , (4)

Decide on  $\mathcal{H}_0$  if  $\ln \frac{P(Y|\mathcal{H}_1)}{P(Y|\mathcal{H}_0)} < \lambda$ . (5)

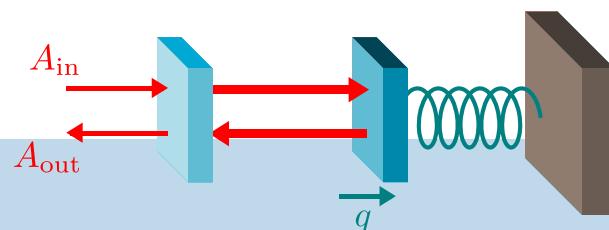


- Quantum control: squeezing, quantum error correction, cooling, sensing, etc.
- Optics, atoms, ions, superconducting microwave circuits, quantum dots, etc.
- linear **Belavkin** equation [Belavkin, Prob. Theor. Appl. 38, 742 (1993); 39, 640 (1994); arXiv:quant-ph/0510028]:

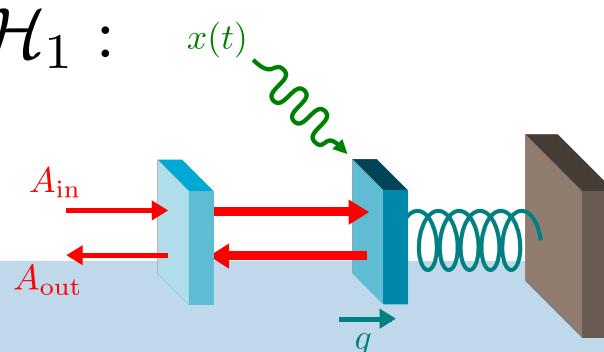
$$df_t = \mathcal{L}_t f_t dt + \frac{1}{2} \left( a_t f_t + f_t a_t^\dagger \right) dy_t, \quad \mathbb{E}(O_t | Y^t) = \frac{\text{tr } O_t f_t}{\text{tr } f_t}, \quad Y^t \equiv \{y(\tau); 0 \leq \tau \leq t\}. \quad (6)$$

- Filtering estimation of **quantum observables**.
- Application to hypothesis testing?

$\mathcal{H}_0 :$



$\mathcal{H}_1 :$



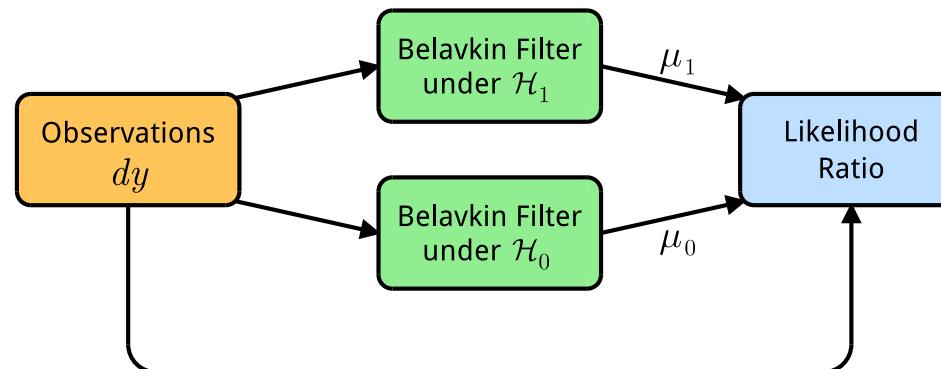
- Tsang, PRL 108, 230401 (2012):

1. Calculate **assumptive estimates** of directly measured observable  $q_t \equiv (a_t + a_t^\dagger)/2$ :

$$\mu_0(t) \equiv \mathbb{E}(q_t|Y^t, \mathcal{H}_0), \quad \mu_1(t) \equiv \mathbb{E}(q_t|Y^t, \mathcal{H}_1). \quad (7)$$

2. Use estimator-correlator formula:

$$\ln \frac{dP(Y^T|\mathcal{H}_1)}{dP(Y^T|\mathcal{H}_0)} = \int_0^T dy_t [\mu_1(t) - \mu_0(t)] - \frac{1}{2} \int_0^T dt [\mu_1^2(t) - \mu_0^2(t)]. \quad (8)$$



- Classical: Duncan, Inf. Control 13, 62 (1968); T. Kailath, IEEE Trans. Inf. Theory 15, 350 (1969); T. Kailath and H.V. Poor, ibid. 44, 2230 (1998).
- Useful when  $\mu_j(t)$  is easy to calculate (e.g., Kalman-Bucy filters)
- Similar results for Poissonian measurements

- Linear Belavkin equation (assuming one hypothesis):

$$df_t = \mathcal{L}_t f_t dt + \frac{1}{2} \left( a_t f_t + f_t a_t^\dagger \right) dy_t, \quad \mathbb{E}(O_t | Y^t) = \frac{\text{tr } O_t f_t}{\text{tr } f_t}. \quad (9)$$

- $\mathcal{L}_t$  is Linblad generator, includes Hamiltonian, etc.
- Notice that

$$\text{tr } f_t = \frac{dP(Y^t)}{dP_0(Y^t)}, \quad (10)$$

$dP_0(Y^t)$  is Wiener measure.

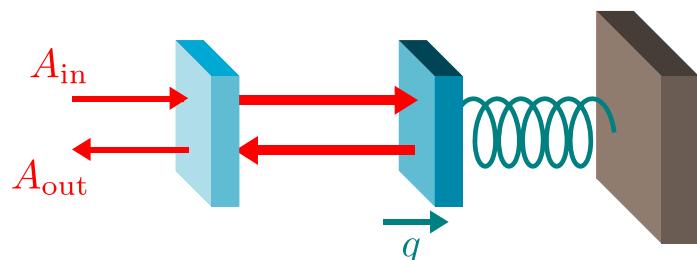
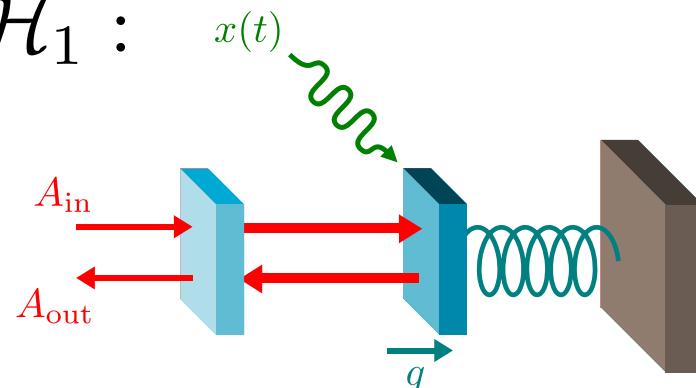
- In terms of directly measured observable  $q_t$ ,

$$d\text{tr } f_t = \text{tr } df_t = dy_t \text{tr} (q_t f_t) = dy_t \mathbb{E}(q_t | Y^t) \text{tr } f_t, \quad q_t \equiv \frac{1}{2}(a_t + a_t^\dagger). \quad (11)$$

- Use Itô calculus:

$$\ln \text{tr } f_T = \ln \frac{dP(Y^T)}{dP_0(Y^T)} = \int_0^T dy_t \mathbb{E}(q_t | Y^t) - \frac{1}{2} \int_0^T dt \mathbb{E}^2(q_t | Y^t). \quad (12)$$

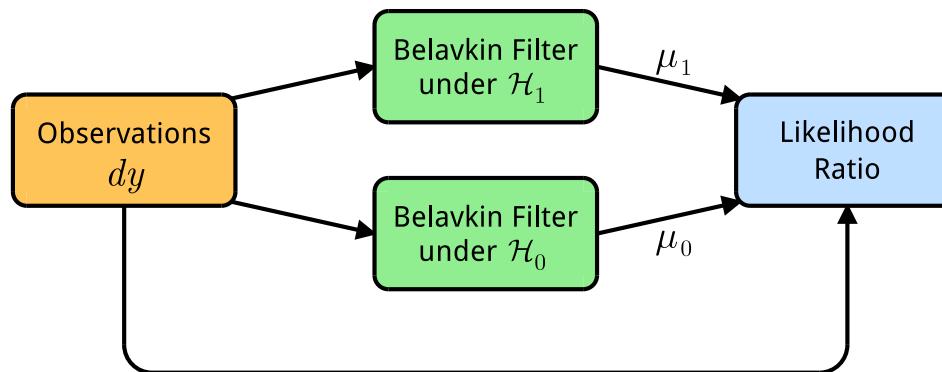
- Barchielli and Lupieri, in *Quantum Stochastics and Information*, eds. Belavkin and Guta, pp. 325–345 (2008).
- For hypothesis testing: Tsang, PRL **108**, 230401 (2012).

$\mathcal{H}_0 :$  $\mathcal{H}_1 :$ 

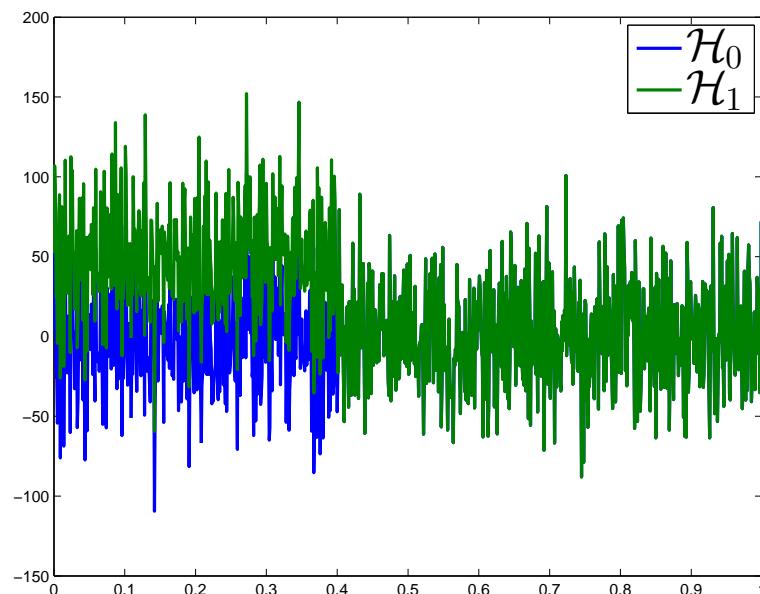
Hypotheses about Hamiltonian:

$$\mathcal{H}_0 : H_0,$$

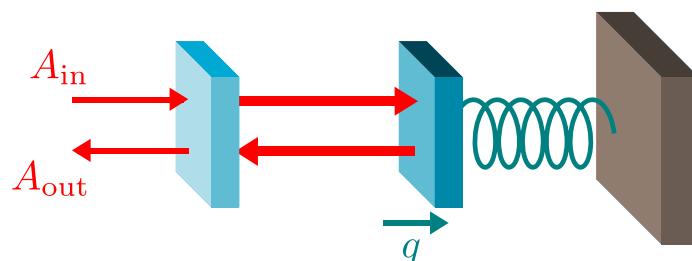
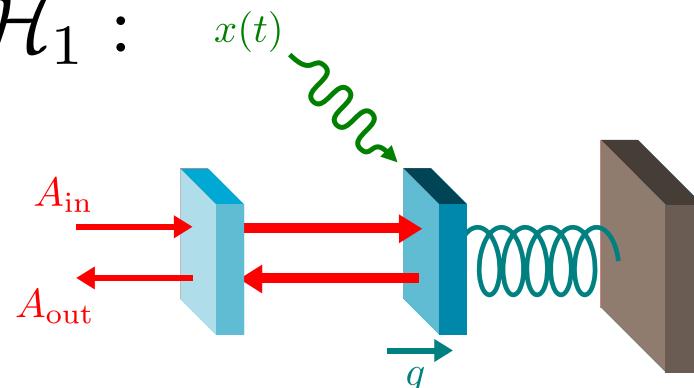
$$\mathcal{H}_1 : H_0 - qx(t). \quad (13)$$



- **Task:** determine if qubit is spin up or down (binary hypothesis testing).
- **Practice:** couple qubit with optical/microwave field then perform continuous measurement.
- **Problem 1:** Noise:  $dy(t) = x(t)dt + dW(t)$ .
- **Problem 2:** spontaneous decay:  $x(t)$  is a binary hidden stochastic process.

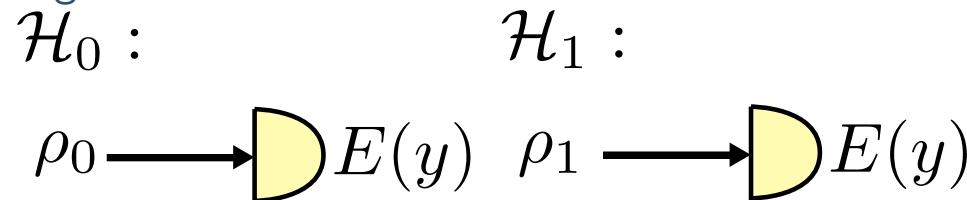


- Gambetta *et al.*, PRA **76**, 012325 (2007); D'Anjou and Coish, PRA **89**, 012313 (2014): QND measurement → classical model, didn't consider stochastic calculus (Stratonovich?)
- Ng and Tsang, PRA **90**, 022325 (2014):
  - ◆ Itō calculus
  - ◆ Estimator-correlator
  - ◆ Analytic solution for  $\mathbb{E}(\sigma_z|Y^t, \mathcal{H}_1)$ : Zakai equation has the form of geometric Brownian motion.

$\mathcal{H}_0 :$  $\mathcal{H}_1 :$ 

- Caves *et al.*, “On the measurement of a weak classical force coupled to a quantum-mechanical oscillator. I. Issues of principle,” Rev. Mod. Phys. **52**, 341 (1980).
- Yuen, “Contractive States and the Standard Quantum Limit for Monitoring Free-Mass Positions,” Phys. Rev. Lett., **51**, 719-722 (1983).
- Caves, “Defense of the standard quantum limit for free-mass position,” Phys. Rev. Lett., **54**, 2465-2468 (1985).
- Ozawa, “Measurement breaking the standard quantum limit for free-mass position,” Phys. Rev. Lett., **60**, 385-388 (1988).
- Braginsky and Khalili, *Quantum Measurement* (Cambridge University Press, Cambridge, 1992).
- **Quantum optimal  $P_e$  independent of measurement technique?**

- C. W. Helstrom, Quantum Detection and Estimation Theory, (Academic Press, New York, 1976).
- **Quantum hypothesis testing:**



$$\Pr(Y|\mathcal{H}_0) = \text{tr}[E(Y)\rho_0], \quad \Pr(Y|\mathcal{H}_1) = \text{tr}[E(Y)\rho_1]. \quad (14)$$

- **Quantum bounds (Helstrom, Fuchs/van de Graaf):**

$$\sqrt{P_0 P_1 F} \geq \min_{E(Y)} P_e = \frac{1}{2} (1 - \|P_1 \rho_1 - P_0 \rho_0\|_1) \geq \frac{1}{2} \left(1 - \sqrt{1 - 4P_0 P_1 F}\right) \geq P_0 P_1 F. \quad (15)$$

$$\|A\|_1 \equiv \text{tr} \sqrt{A^\dagger A}, \quad F \equiv (\text{tr} \sqrt{\sqrt{\rho_1} \rho_0 \sqrt{\rho_1}})^2.$$

- For pure states,

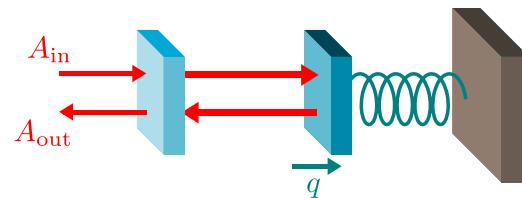
$$\|P_1 \rho_1 - P_0 \rho_0\|_1 = \sqrt{1 - 4P_0 P_1 F}, \quad F = |\langle \psi_0 | \psi_1 \rangle|^2, \quad (16)$$

and there exists a POVM such that the fidelity bound is attained.

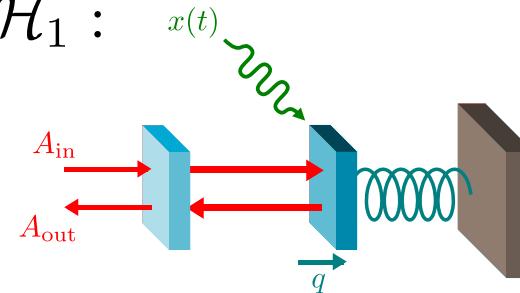
## Helstrom Bound for Waveform Detection

- How to apply Helstrom's bound to waveform detection?

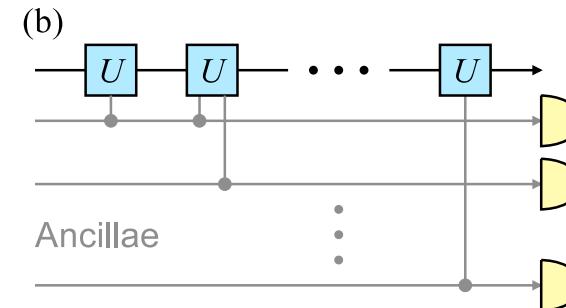
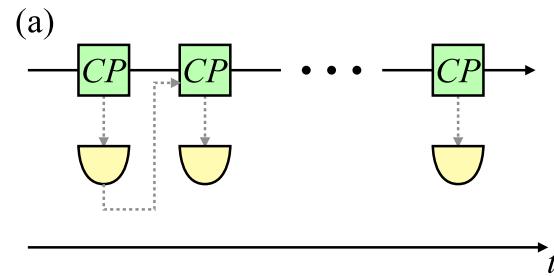
$\mathcal{H}_0 :$



$\mathcal{H}_1 :$



- Larger Hilbert space: Purification, deferred measurements:



- Unitary discrimination:

$\rho_0 = U_0 |\psi\rangle\langle\psi| U_0^\dagger,$

$\rho_1 = U_1 |\psi\rangle\langle\psi| U_1^\dagger, \quad (17)$

$U_0 = \mathcal{T} \exp \left[ \frac{1}{i\hbar} \int dt H_0(t) \right],$

$U_1 = \mathcal{T} \exp \left[ \frac{1}{i\hbar} \int dt H_1(x(t), t) \right], \quad (18)$

$F = \left| \langle \psi | U_0^\dagger U_1 | \psi \rangle \right|^2. \quad (19)$

■ **Interaction picture:**

$$U_0^\dagger U_1 = \mathcal{T} \exp \left[ \frac{1}{i\hbar} \int dt H_I(t) \right], \quad H_I(t) \equiv U_0^\dagger(t, t_0) [H_1(t) - H_0(t)] U_0(t, t_0). \quad (20)$$

■ Suppose  $H_1 - H_0 = -qx(t)$ ,

$$F = \left| \left\langle \mathcal{T} \exp \left[ \frac{1}{i\hbar} \int dt x(t) q_I(t) \right] \right\rangle \right|^2. \quad (21)$$

■ Assume  $q_I(t)$  has **linear** dynamics ( $H_0$  quadratic with respect to  $Z$ , a vector of canonical coordinate operators),

$$q_I(t) = g(t, t_0)Z + \int dt' g(t, t')J(t'), \quad (22)$$

■ **Cascading displacement operators:**

$$\mathcal{T} \exp \left[ \frac{1}{i\hbar} \int dt x(t) q_I(t) \right] \approx e^{i\phi} e^{-\frac{i}{\hbar} \int dt x(t_N) g(t_N, t_0) Z} \dots e^{-\frac{i}{\hbar} \int dt x(t_1) g(t_1, t_0) Z} \quad (23)$$

$$= e^{i\phi'} \exp \left\{ -\frac{i}{\hbar} \left[ \int dt x(t) g(t, t_0) \right] Z \right\} \quad (24)$$

- Characteristic function is Fourier transform of Wigner:

$$\langle e^{-i\kappa Z} \rangle = \int dz W(z) \exp(-i\kappa z). \quad (25)$$

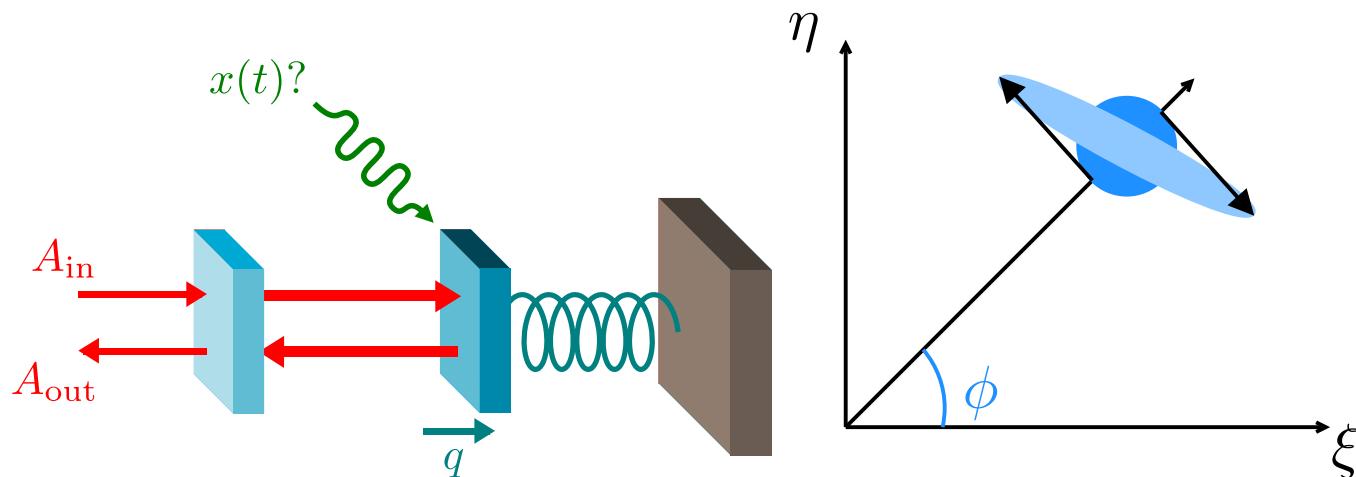
- Assume initial state (light, mechanical) is Gaussian, Fourier transform of  $W(z)$  is Gaussian:

$$F = \exp \left[ -\frac{1}{\hbar^2} \int dt \int dt' x(t) \langle : \Delta q_I(t) \Delta q_I(t') : \rangle x(t') \right]. \quad (26)$$

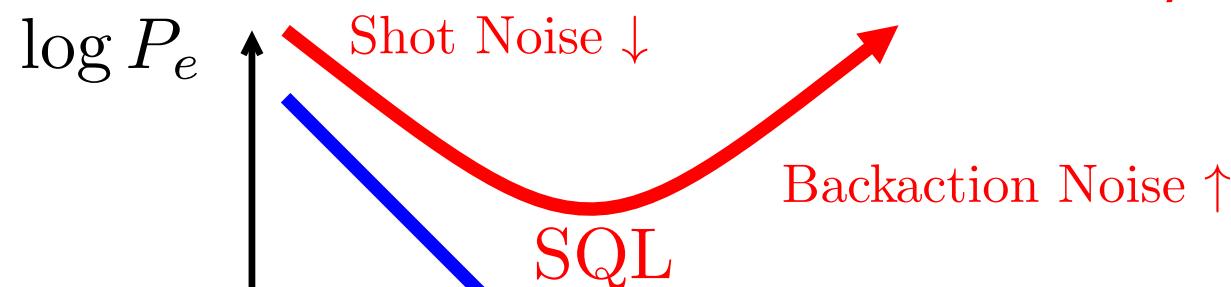
- Tsang and Nair, PRA **86**, 042115 (2012).
- Helstrom bound is independent of measurement technique, and it is guaranteed to be attainable.
- In optomechanics,

$$\frac{dq}{dt} = \frac{p}{m}, \quad \frac{dp}{dt} = -m\omega_m^2 q + \kappa a^\dagger a, \quad \frac{da}{dt} = -\frac{\gamma}{2}a - i\omega_0 a + \sqrt{\gamma}A_{\text{in}}, \quad (27)$$

$\langle : \Delta q_I(t) \Delta q_I(t') : \rangle$  is a function of input optical state and dynamics.

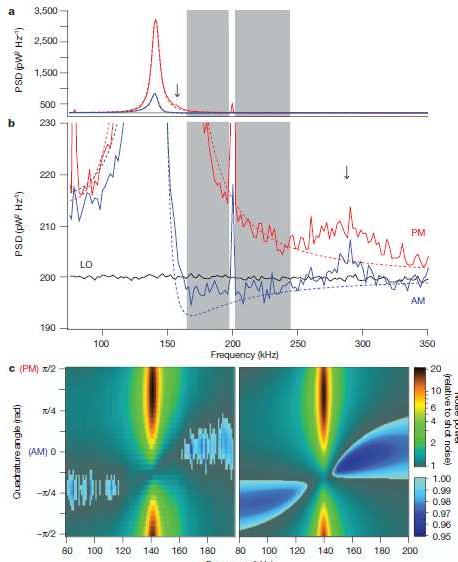


### Phase Homodyne

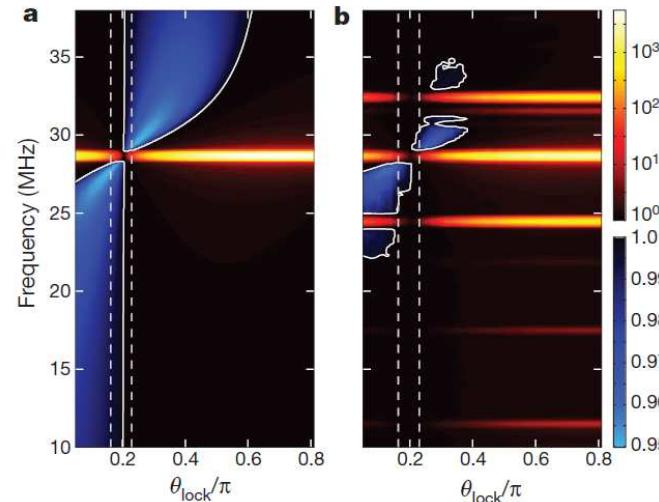


Helstrom

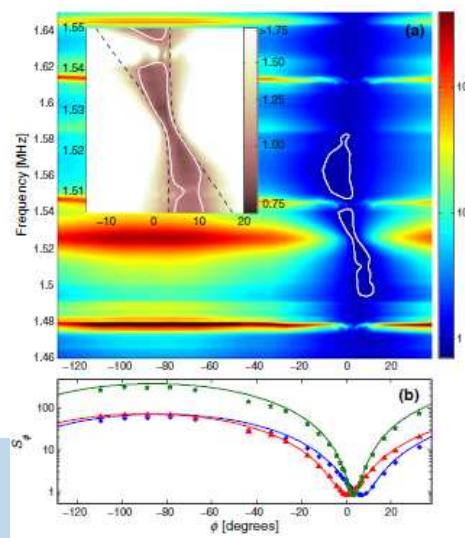
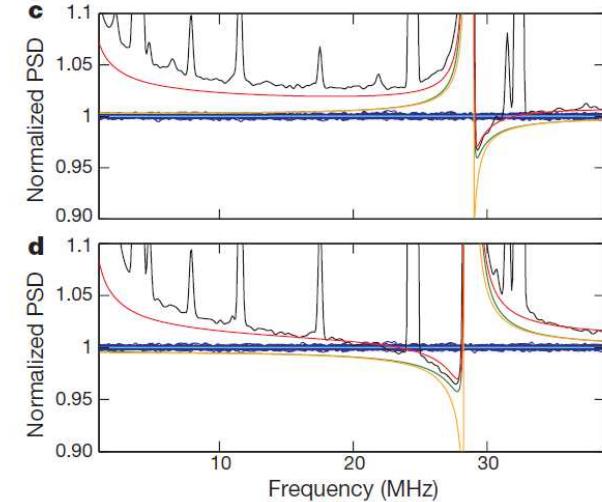
$\langle : \Delta q(t) \Delta q(t') : \rangle \propto \text{Optical Power}$



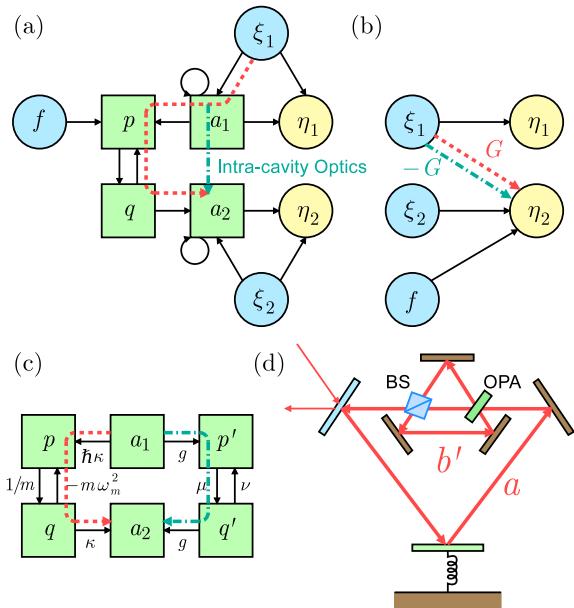
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Safavi-Naeini *et al.*, Nature 500, 185 (2013)



Purdy *et al.*, PRX 3, 031012 (2013)



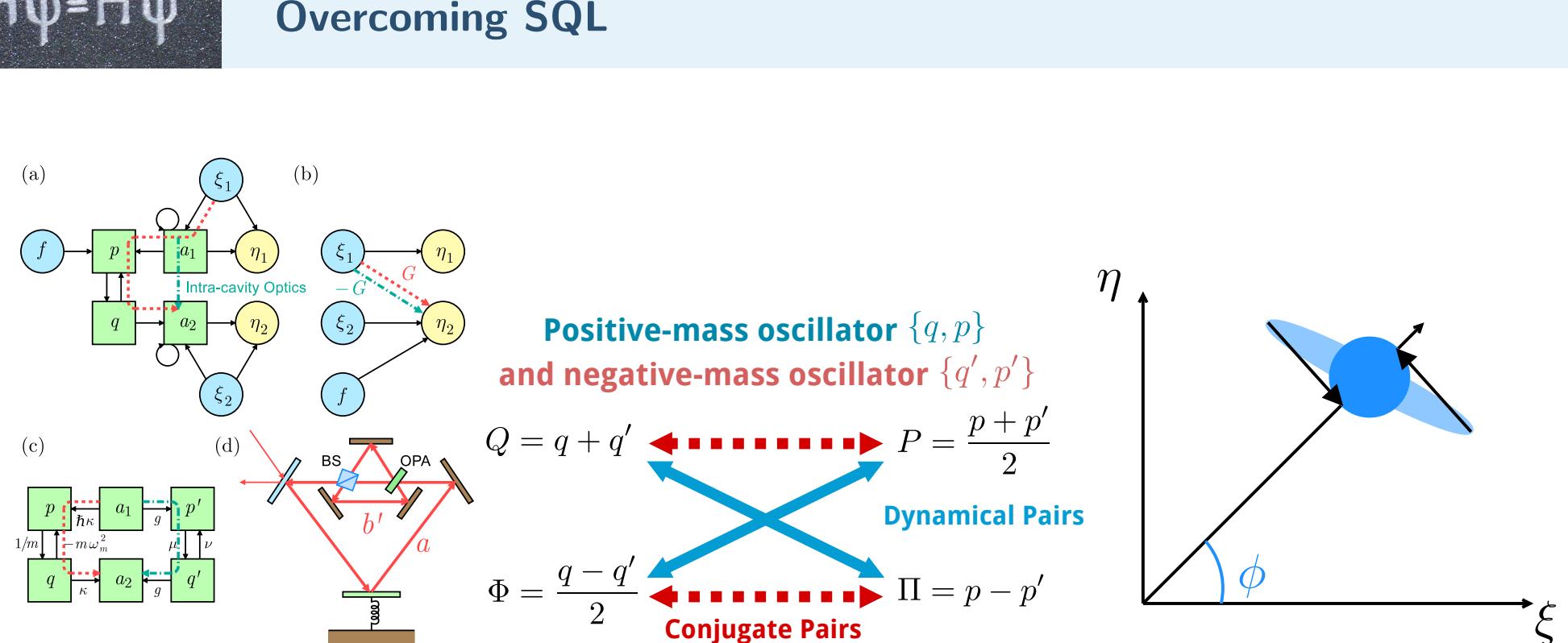
**Positive-mass oscillator  $\{q, p\}$**   
**and negative-mass oscillator  $\{q', p'\}$**

$$Q = q + q' \quad P = \frac{p + p'}{2}$$

**Dynamical Pairs**

$$\Phi = \frac{q - q'}{2} \quad \Pi = p - p'$$

**Conjugate Pairs**

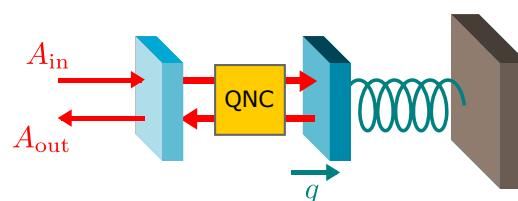


- Kimble *et al.*, PRD **65**, 022002 (2001)
- Quantum Noise Cancellation: Tsang and Caves, PRL **105**, 123601 (2010)
- Quantum-Mechanics-Free Subsystem: Tsang and Caves, PRX **2**, 031016 (2012); see also Appendix D, Gough and James, IEEE TAC **54**, 2530 (2009).
- Undo ponderomotive squeezing

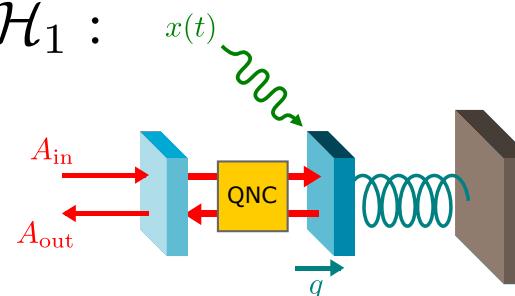
## Homodyne is Suboptimal

- Suppose input field is in coherent state, output is also coherent state after QNC.
- **Coherent-state discrimination:**

$\mathcal{H}_0 :$



$\mathcal{H}_1 :$



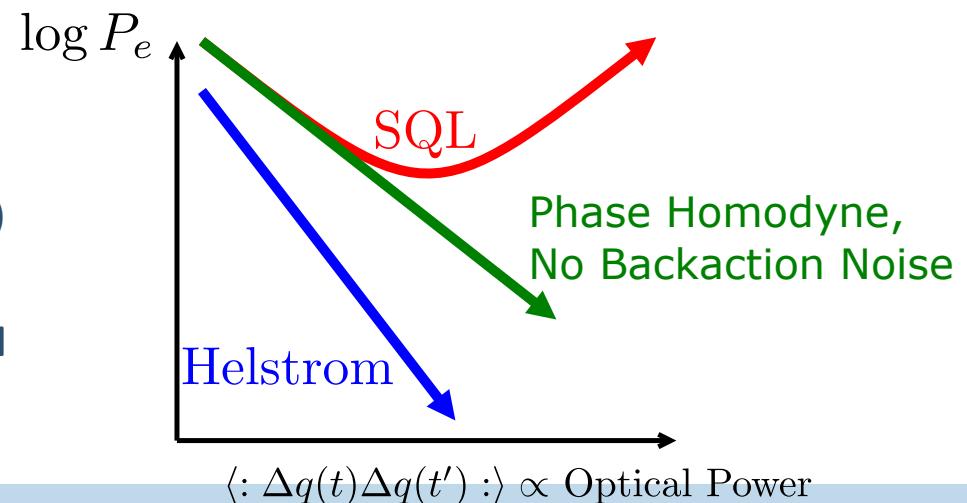
$$\mathcal{H}_0 : |\mathcal{A}_{\text{out}}[x(t) = 0]\rangle,$$

$$\mathcal{H}_1 : |\mathcal{A}_{\text{out}}[x(t)]\rangle. \quad (28)$$

- Figure of merit: **error exponent**  $- \ln P_e$

$$-\ln P_e^{\text{Homodyne}} \approx \frac{1}{2} (-\ln P_e^{\text{Helstrom}}) \quad (29)$$

Optimal measurement can save **half of optical power**

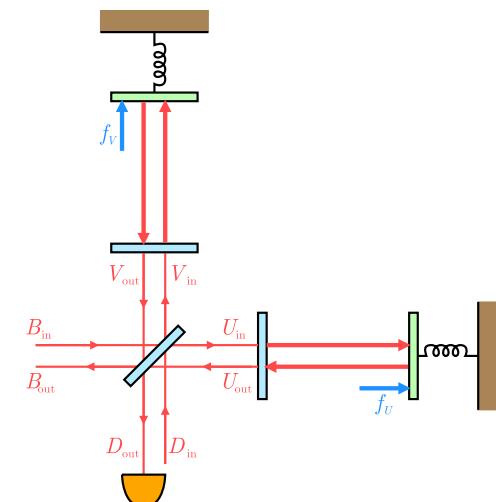
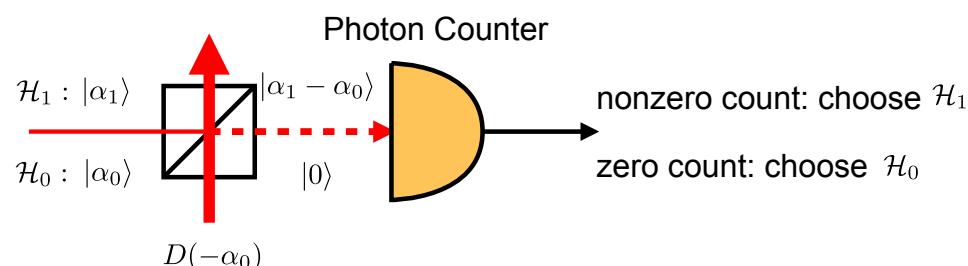


- Kennedy: null the field for  $\mathcal{H}_0$ :

$$\mathcal{H}_0 : |0\rangle, \quad \mathcal{H}_1 : |\mathcal{A}_{\text{out}}[x(t)] - \mathcal{A}_{\text{out}}[0]\rangle, \quad (30)$$

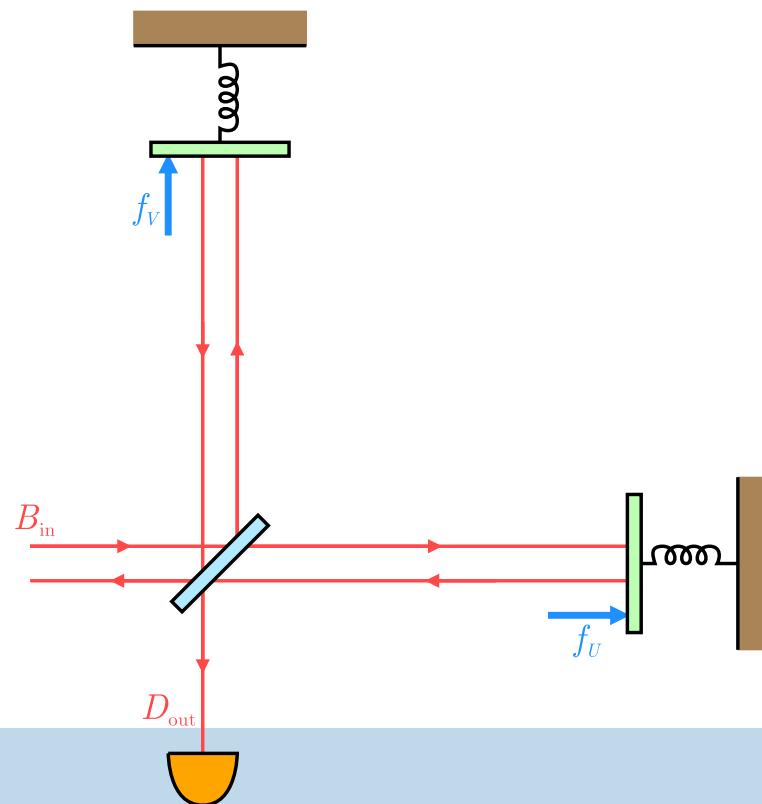
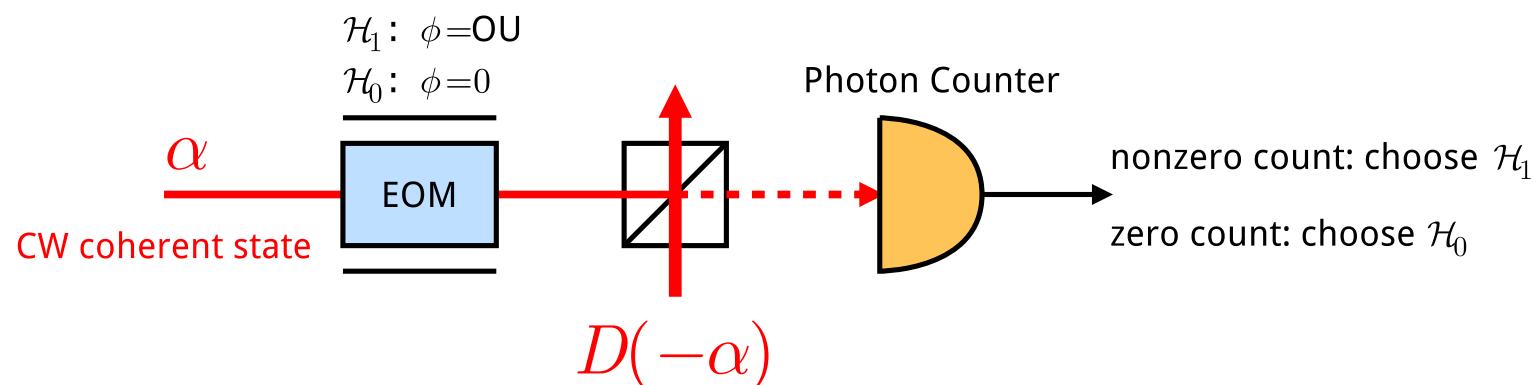
- Error probabilities:

$$P_{10} = |\langle N \neq 0 | N = 0 \rangle|^2 = 0, \quad P_{01} = |\langle 0 | \mathcal{A}_{\text{out}}[x(t)] - \mathcal{A}_{\text{out}}[0] \rangle|^2 = F. \quad (31)$$



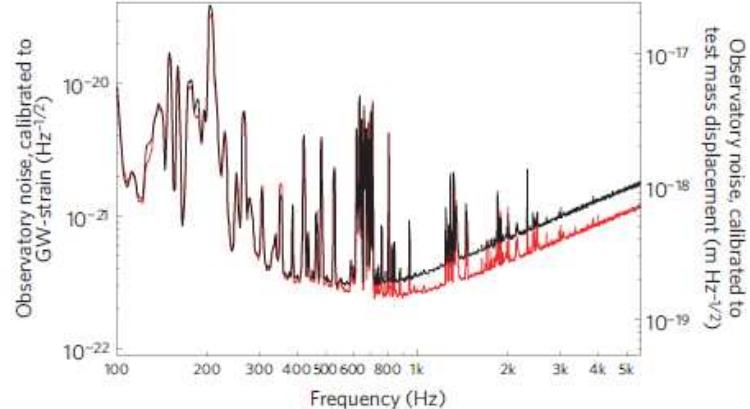
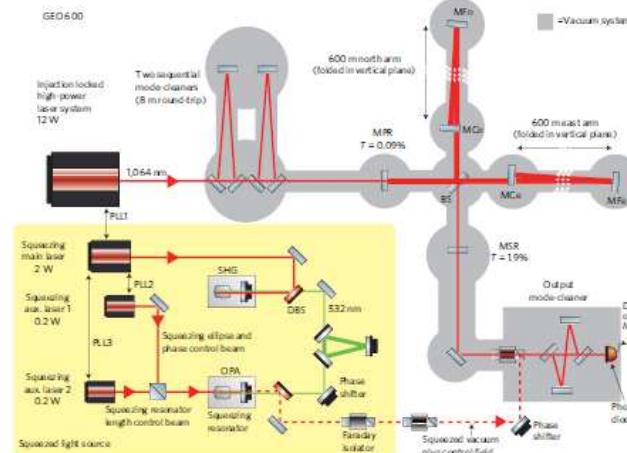
$$-\ln P_e^{\text{Kennedy}} \approx -\ln P_e^{\text{Helstrom}} - (-\ln P_0) \quad (32)$$

- M. Tsang and R. Nair, PRA **86**, 042115 (2012).
- Kennedy has optimal error exponent even for **stochastic**  $x(t)$  detection.
- Dolinar?

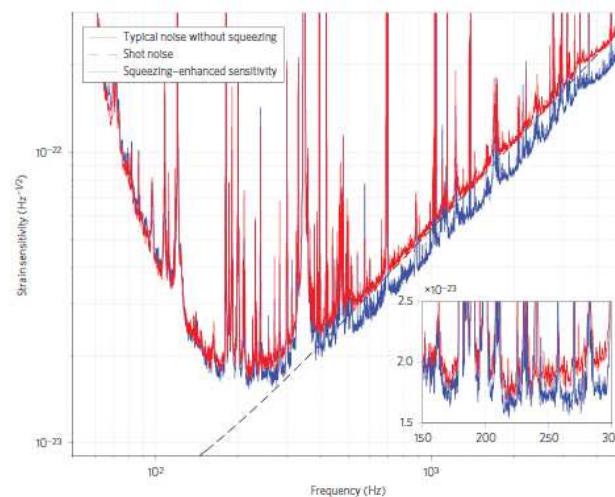
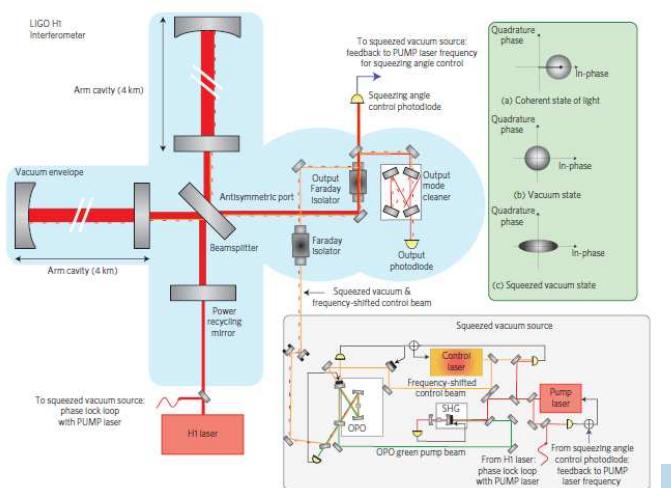


## Squeezed Input State

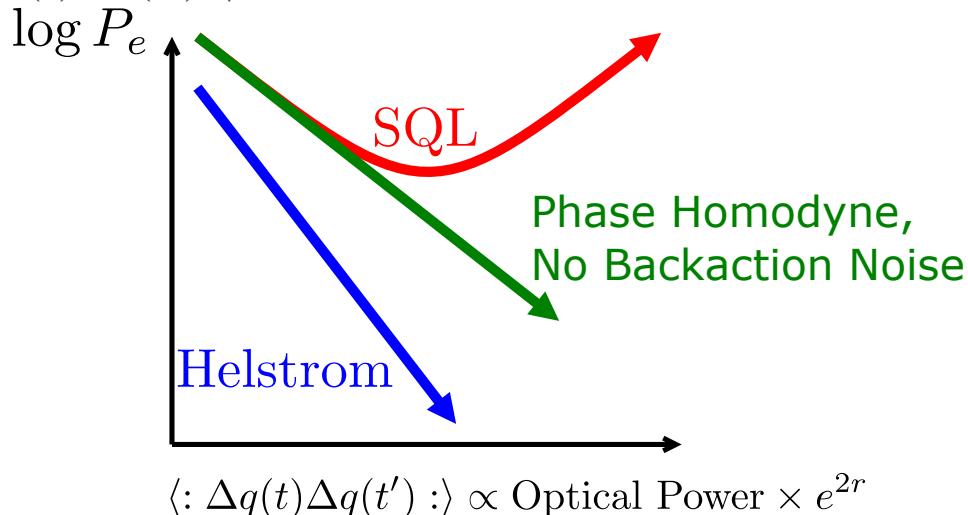
- Caves, PRD 23, 1693 (1981).
- GEO 600: Nature Phys. 7, 962 (2011)



- LIGO Hanford: Nature Photon. 7, 613 (2013)



- Squeezing increases  $\langle : \Delta q(t) \Delta q(t') : \rangle$  without increase in optical power



- LIGO nowhere near SQL yet
- Optimal detection for squeezed state?
- Fundamental quantum limit** with respect to optical power?
  - Optical loss: Tsang, NJP **15**, 073005 (2013).
  - Heisenberg limit to detection and estimation?

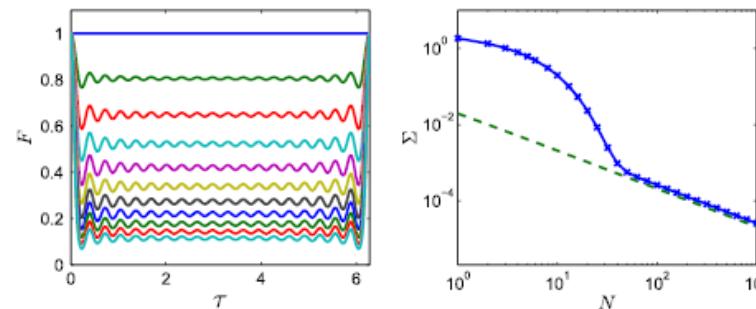
- Parameter estimation: prior  $P(x)$ , likelihood  $P(y|x)$
- Ziv-Zakai bound on MSE:

$$\mathbb{E} [x - \tilde{x}(y)]^2 \geq \frac{1}{2} \int_0^\infty d\tau \tau \int_{-\infty}^\infty dx [P(x) + P(x + \tau)] P_e(x, x + \tau) \quad (33)$$

$P_e(x, x + \tau)$  = average error probability for binary hypothesis testing:

$$P(y|\mathcal{H}_0) = P(y|x), \quad P(y|\mathcal{H}_1) = P(y|x + \tau), \quad P_0 = \frac{P(x)}{P(x) + P(x + \tau)}, \quad P_1 = 1 - P_0. \quad (34)$$

- Quantum:  $P_e(x, x + \tau) \geq \frac{1}{2} \left[ 1 - \sqrt{1 - 4P_0P_1F(x, x + \tau)} \right]$
- prove **Heisenberg limit**  $\text{MSE} \geq C/\langle N \rangle^2$ .
- Rivas-Luis:  $(\sqrt{1-\epsilon}|0\rangle + \sqrt{\epsilon}|\psi\rangle)^{\otimes N}$ , **super-Heisenberg** QCRB



- Tsang, PRL 108, 230401 (2012).
- Multiparameter extensions possible [Berry, Tsang, Hall, Wiseman, arXiv:1409.7877].

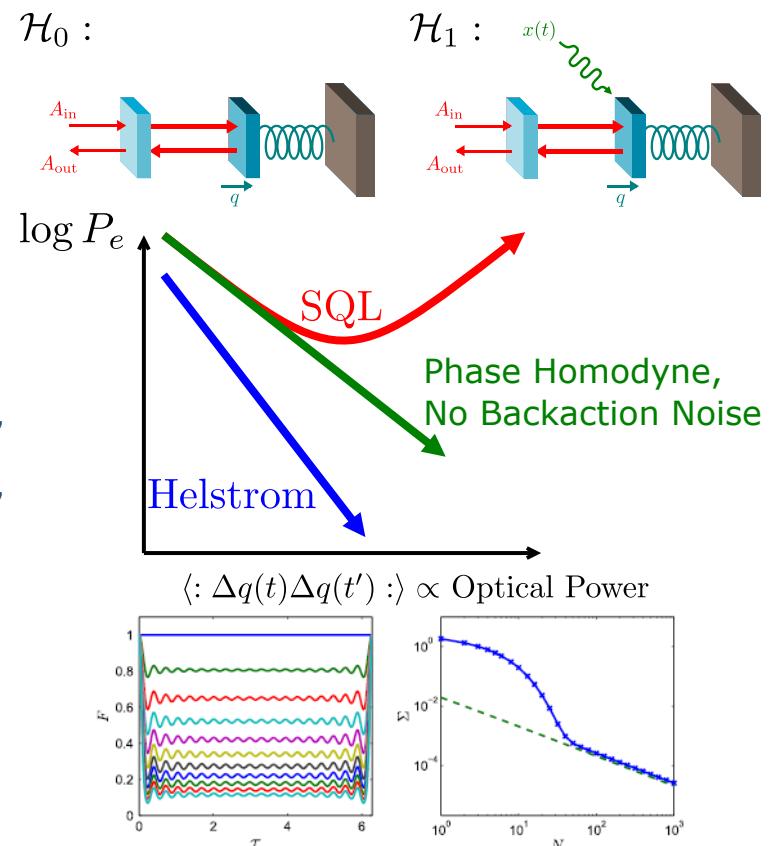
## ■ Estimator-Correlator Formula

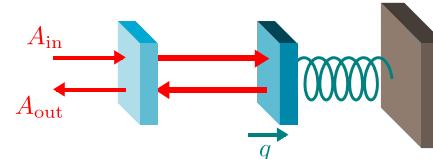
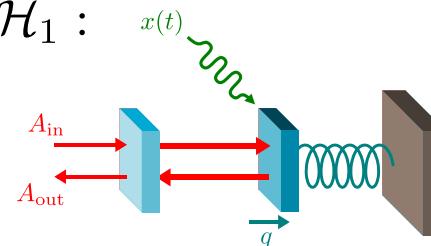
- ◆ Tsang, PRL **108**, 170502 (2012).
- ◆ Ng and Tsang, PRA **90**, 022325 (2014).

## ■ Quantum Detection Bounds

- ◆ Detection: Tsang and Nair, PRA **86**, 042115 (2012); Tsang, NJP **15**, 073005 (2013).
- ◆ QZZB: Tsang PRL **108**, 230401 (2012); Berry, Tsang, Hall, Wiseman, arXiv:1409.7877.

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$\mathcal{H}_0 :$  $\mathcal{H}_1 :$ 

- What if we don't know  $x(t)$  exactly?
- Fidelity upper/lower bounds still hold:

$$F = \int dP[x(t)] \left| \left\langle \mathcal{T} \exp \left[ \frac{1}{i\hbar} \int dt x(t) q_I(t) \right] \right\rangle \right|^2 \quad (35)$$

- Coherent state under  $\mathcal{H}_0$ , mixed state under  $\mathcal{H}_1$ :

$$\mathcal{H}_0 : |\mathcal{A}_{\text{out}}[0]\rangle, \quad \mathcal{H}_1 : \int dP[x(t)] |\mathcal{A}_{\text{out}}[x(t)]\rangle \langle \mathcal{A}_{\text{out}}[x(t)]|. \quad (36)$$

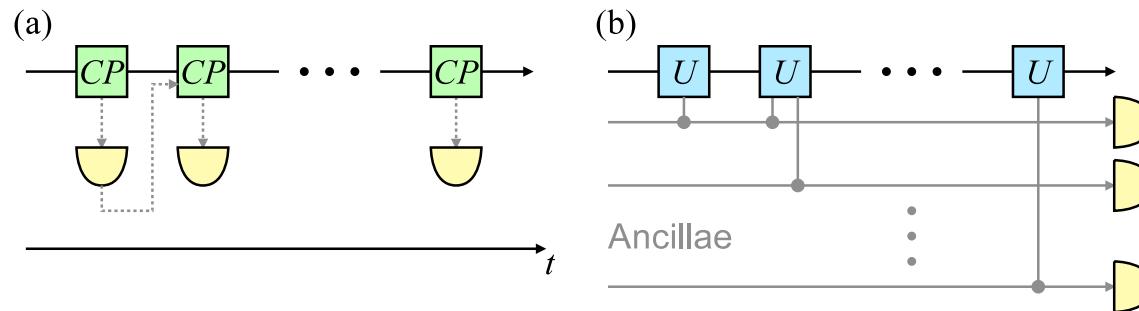
- Kennedy receiver still has near-optimal error exponent:

$$\mathcal{H}_0 : |0\rangle, \quad \mathcal{H}_1 : \int dP[x(t)] |\mathcal{A}_{\text{out}}[x(t)] - \mathcal{A}_{\text{out}}[0]\rangle \langle \mathcal{A}_{\text{out}}[x(t)] - \mathcal{A}_{\text{out}}[0]|,$$

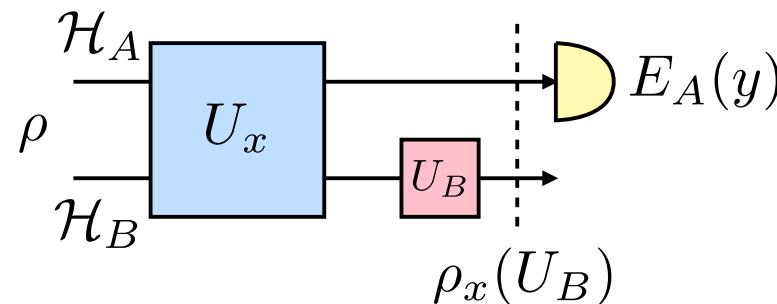
$$P_{10} = 0,$$

$$P_{01} = \int dP[x(t)] |\langle 0 | \mathcal{A}_{\text{out}}[x(t)] - \mathcal{A}_{\text{out}}[0] \rangle|^2 = F. \quad (37)$$

- Larger Hilbert space: bounds assume **everything** can be measured.



- For **open systems**, bounds are still **valid** but **not tight**
- Mixed states:  $\|P_1\rho_1 - P_0\rho_0\|_1$ ,  $F = (\text{tr} \sqrt{\sqrt{\rho_1}\rho_0\sqrt{\rho_1}})^2$ , **hopeless** to compute
- **Modified purification:**



$$F = \max_{U_B} \left| \langle \psi | U_0^\dagger \mathbf{U}_B U_1 | \psi \rangle \right|^2 \quad (38)$$

- Choose  $U_B$  to tighten lower bound.
- Hard to find optimal  $U_B$ , lower bound may not be achievable, useful as no-go only.
- Escher et al., Nature Phys. 7, 406 (2011) (quantum Fisher information)