

Quantum scattering of light by a nanostructure: preservation and destruction of the quantum purity

Álvaro Nodar, Rubén Esteban, Carlos Maciel-Escudero, Jon Lasa-Alonso, Javier Aizpurua, Gabriel Molina-Terriza

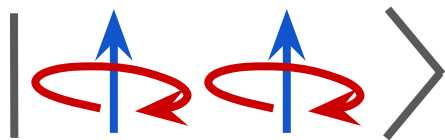
Centro de Física de Materiales, CFM, (UPV/EHU - CSIC)

Donostia-San Sebastián

Nanolight 2022, 6-12 March 2022, Benasque



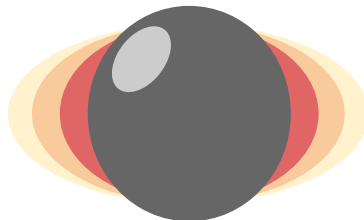
Entangled states



+



Nanostructure



(angular momentum)

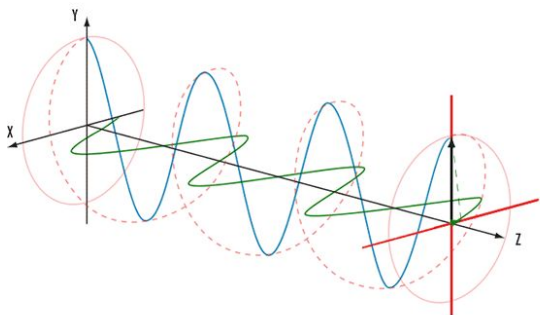
Spin, Helicity, Orbital angular momentum

Circular left polarized light (Plane Wave)

$$\vec{E} = E_0(\vec{r}) \begin{pmatrix} 1_x \\ i_y \\ 0_z \end{pmatrix} e^{i(kz - \omega t)}$$

Spin & Helicity

$s = +1$ $s = -1$

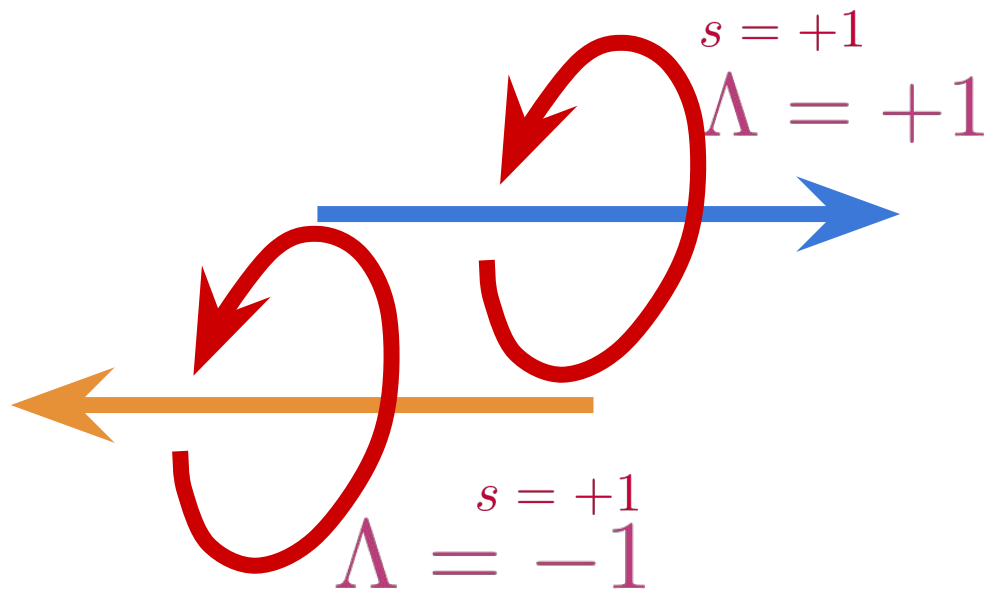


[Credits: Edmund Optics]

- Spin (s)

- Helicity (Λ)

Spin projected in the direction of propagation



Spin, Helicity, Orbital angular momentum

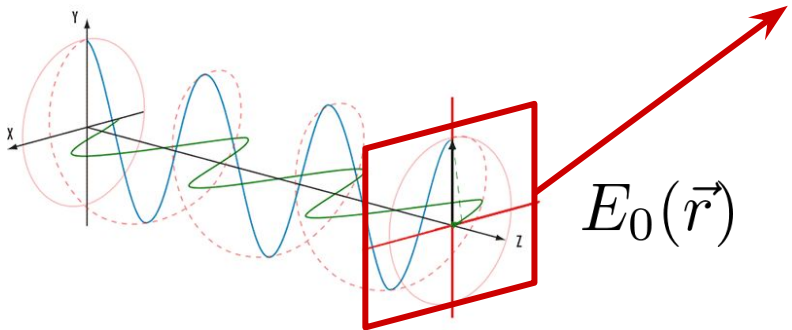
Circular left polarized light (Plane Wave)

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Orbital angular momentum (l)

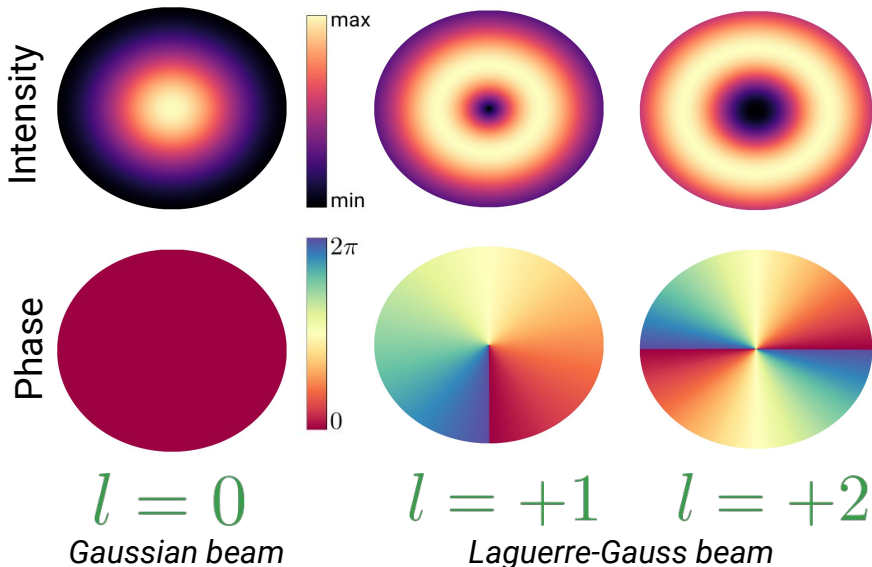
Spin & Helicity

$$s = +1 \quad s = -1$$



[Credits: Edmund Optics]

- Spin (s)
- Helicity (Λ)
- Orbital angular momentum (l)



Spin, Helicity, Orbital angular momentum

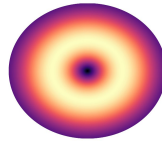
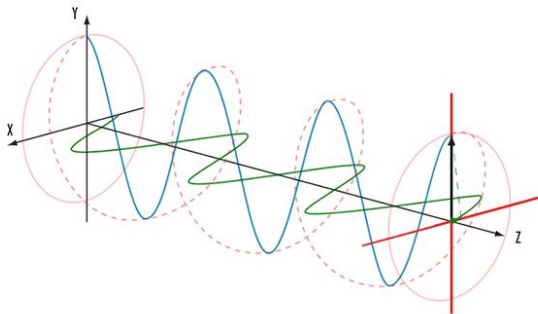
Circular left polarized light (Plane Wave)

$$\vec{E} = E_0(\vec{r}) \begin{pmatrix} 1_x \\ i_y \\ 0_z \end{pmatrix} e^{i(kz - \omega t)}$$

Orbital angular momentum (l)

Spin & Helicity

$$s = +1 \quad s = -1$$



$l = +1$

- Spin (s)
- Helicity (Λ)
- Orbital angular momentum (l)
- Total angular momentum (m)

$$m = l + s$$

Entangled states

$$\begin{array}{c} \text{Photon \#1} \quad \text{Photon \#2} \\ \left| \begin{array}{c} \uparrow \quad \uparrow \\ \text{red} \quad \text{red} \\ m = 0 \quad \Lambda = +1 \end{array} \right\rangle + \left| \begin{array}{c} \uparrow \quad \uparrow \\ \text{red} \quad \text{red} \\ m = 0 \quad \Lambda = -1 \end{array} \right\rangle \end{array}$$

$$|\psi_+\rangle = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} [|++\rangle + |--\rangle]$$

Entangled states: Basis

$$|\psi_+\rangle = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} [|++\rangle + |--\rangle]$$

$$|\psi_-\rangle = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} [|++\rangle - |--\rangle]$$

$$|\chi_+\rangle = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} [|+-\rangle + |-+\rangle]$$

$$|\chi_-\rangle = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} [|+-\rangle - |-+\rangle]$$

Density matrix

$$|\psi_+\rangle = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} [|++\rangle + |--\rangle]$$

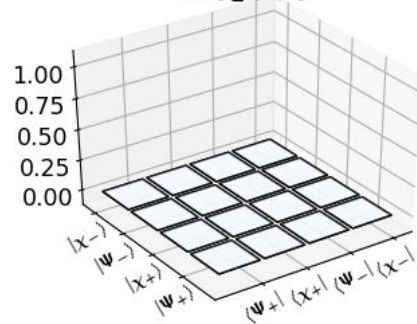
$$\hat{\rho}_{\psi_+} = |\psi_+\rangle \langle \psi_+|$$

**DENSITY MATRICES OF
PURE STATES**

$$\text{Tr}\{\hat{\rho}^2\} = 1$$

Re $\{\hat{\rho}_{\psi_+}\}$

Im $\{\hat{\rho}_{\psi_+}\}$

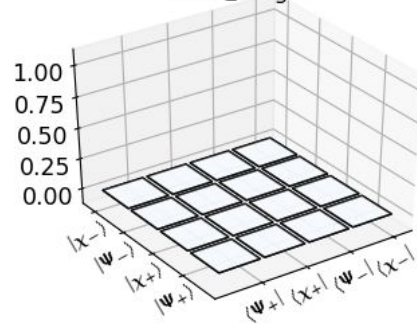


$$\hat{\rho}_{diag.} = |\psi_+\rangle \langle \psi_+| + |\psi_-\rangle \langle \psi_-| + |x_+\rangle \langle x_+| + |x_-\rangle \langle x_-|$$

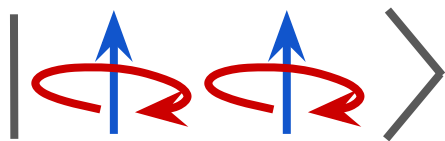
**DENSITY MATRICES OF
NON-PURE STATES**

$$\text{Tr}\{\hat{\rho}^2\} < 1$$

Im $\{\hat{\rho}_{diag.}\}$



Entangled
states

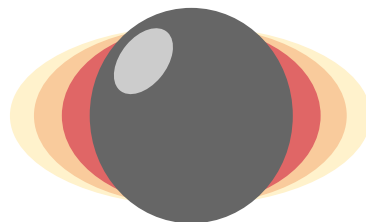


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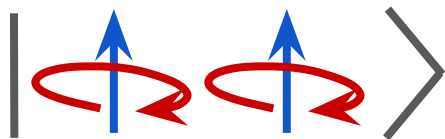


(angular momentum)

Nanostructure



Entangled
states



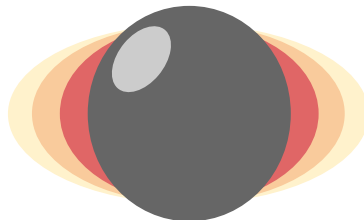
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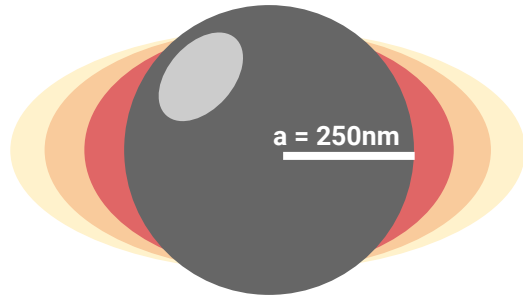
(angular momentum)



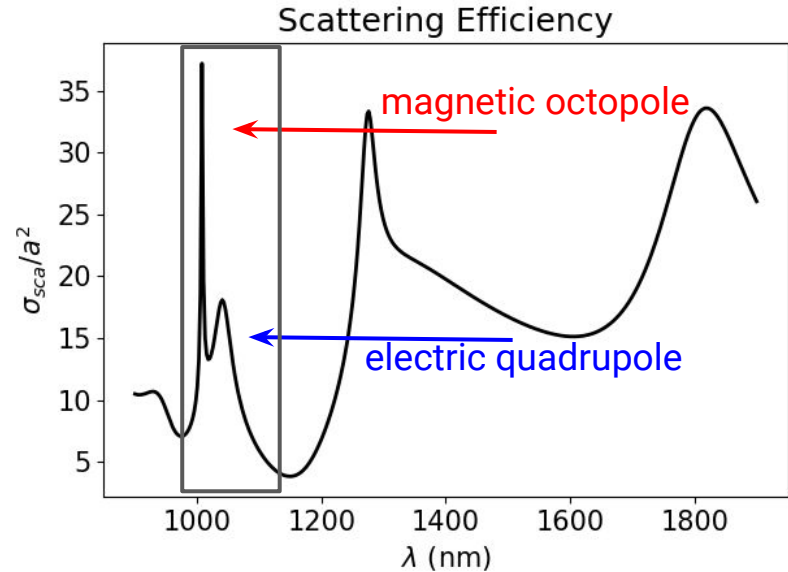
Nanostructure



Dielectric spherical nanoparticle



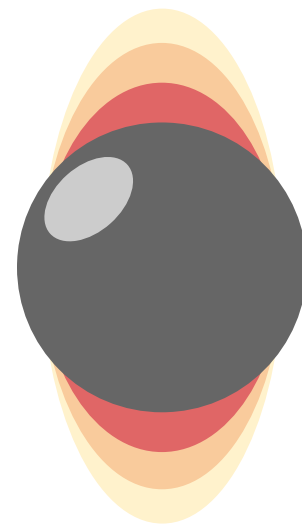
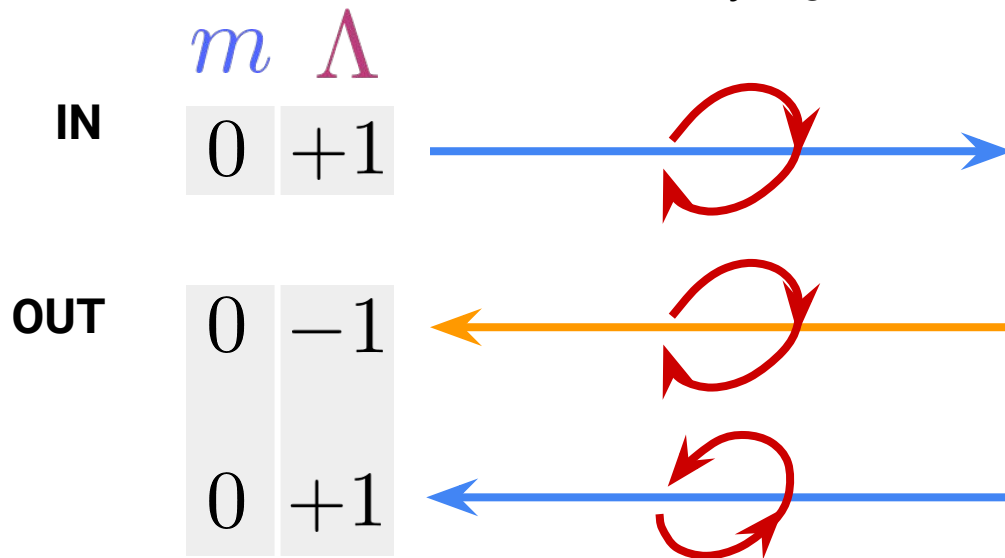
*Resonances in dielectrics:
Strong localization of electric and
magnetic fields*



Spherical nanoparticles

Conserve total angular momentum!

... but not helicity sign



Lossy beam splitter transformation

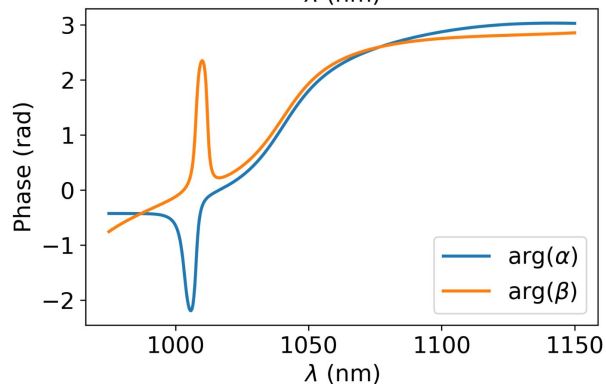
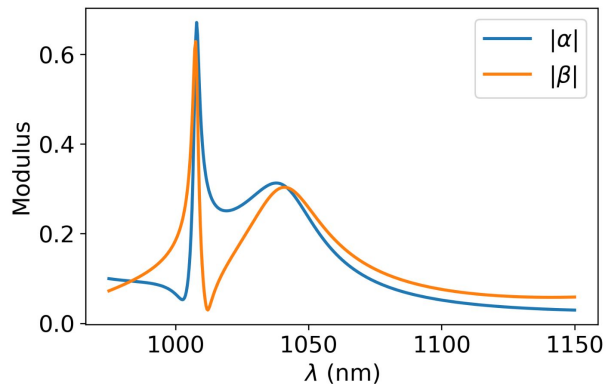


$$\hat{a}_{-}^{out\dagger}(\omega) = \alpha(\omega)\hat{a}_{-}^{in\dagger}(\omega) + \beta(\omega)\hat{a}_{+}^{in\dagger}(\omega) + \hat{F}_{-}^{\dagger}(\omega)$$

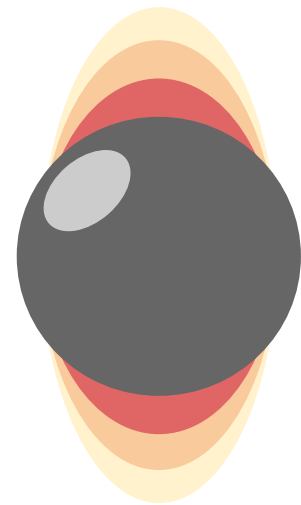
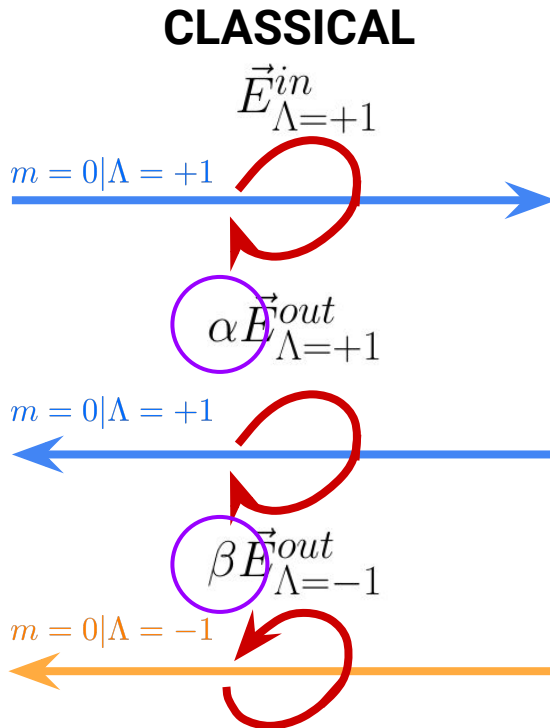
$$\hat{a}_{+}^{out\dagger}(\omega) = \alpha(\omega)\hat{a}_{+}^{in\dagger}(\omega) + \beta(\omega)\hat{a}_{-}^{in\dagger}(\omega) + \hat{F}_{+}^{\dagger}(\omega)$$

\hat{a}_{\pm}^{in}	Input helicity operators	$\alpha \beta$	Scattering coefficients
\hat{a}_{\pm}^{out}	Output helicity operators	\hat{F}_{\pm}	Losses operators

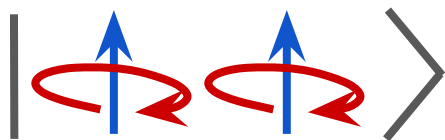
Classical response: Scattering coefficients



Calculated with Mie's theory



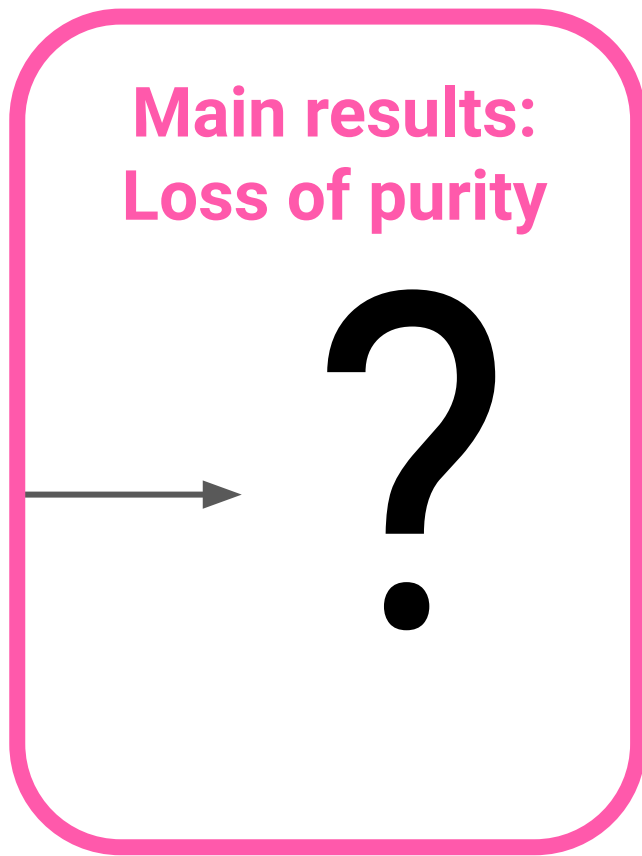
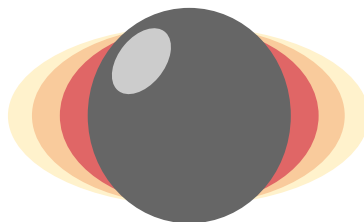
Entangled
states



+



Nanostructure



(angular momentum)

Entangled states: Basis

IN



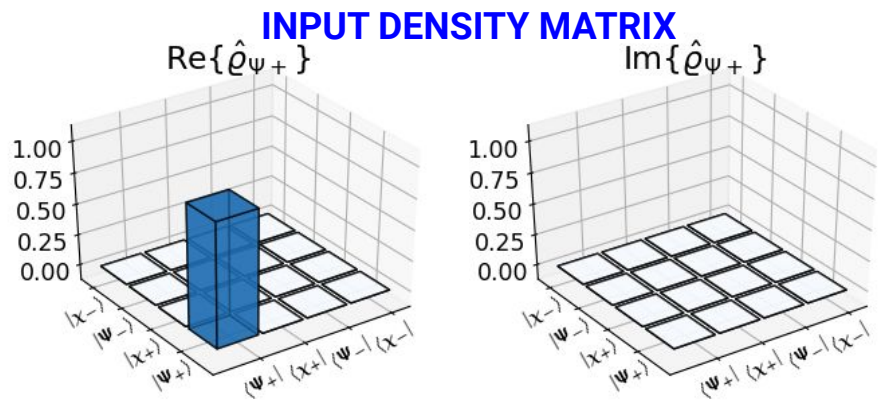
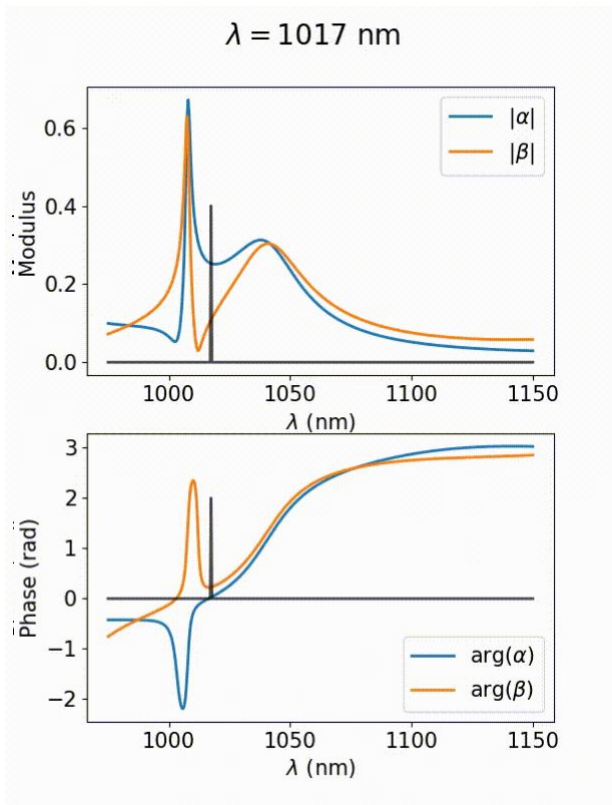
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$$|\chi_+\rangle = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} [|+-\rangle + |-+\rangle]$$

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Monochromatic input: Conservation of purity



Entangled states: Basis

IN



$$|\psi_+\rangle = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} [|++\rangle + |--\rangle]$$

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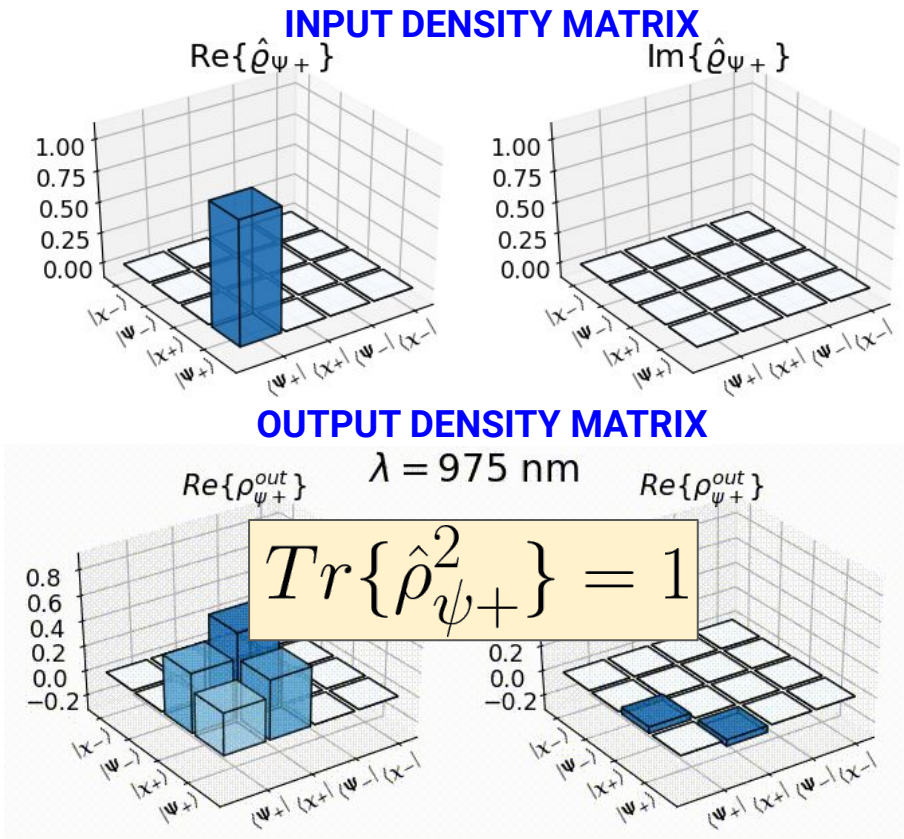
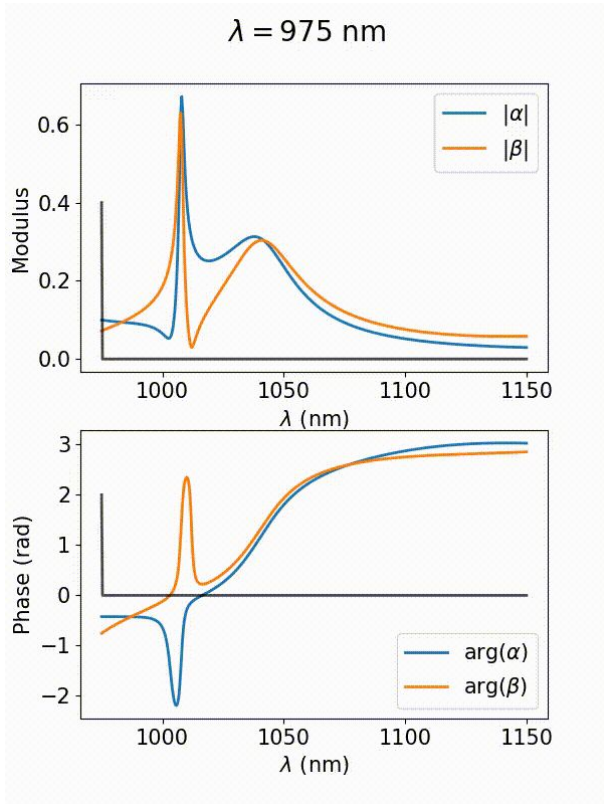
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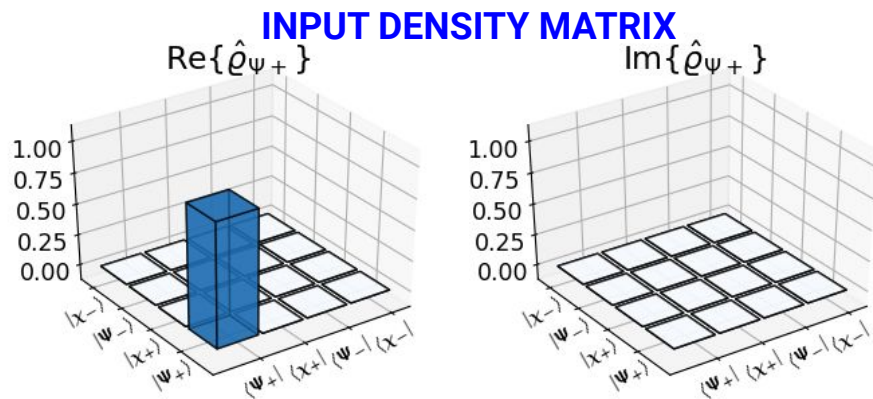
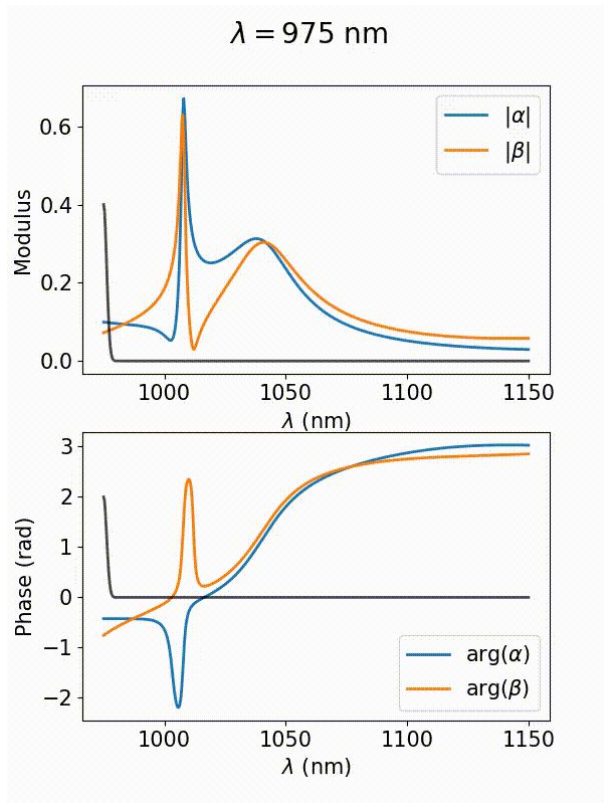
OUT



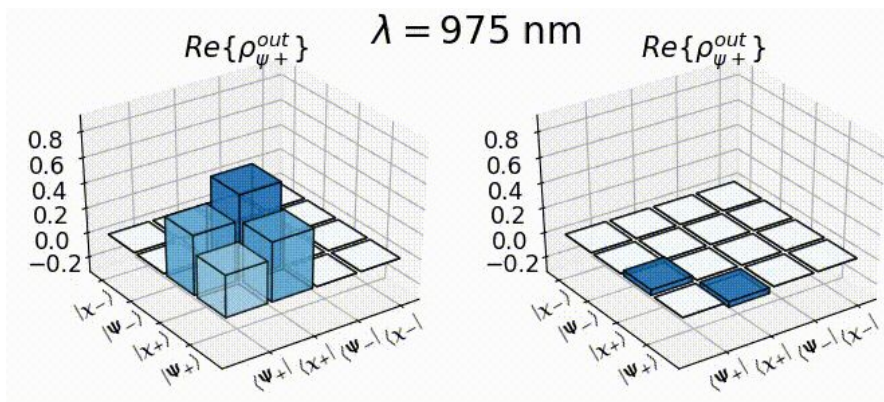
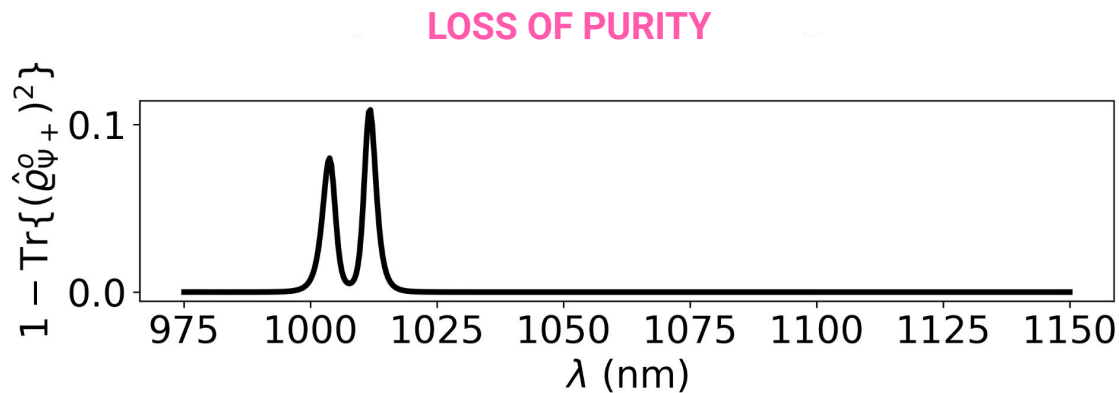
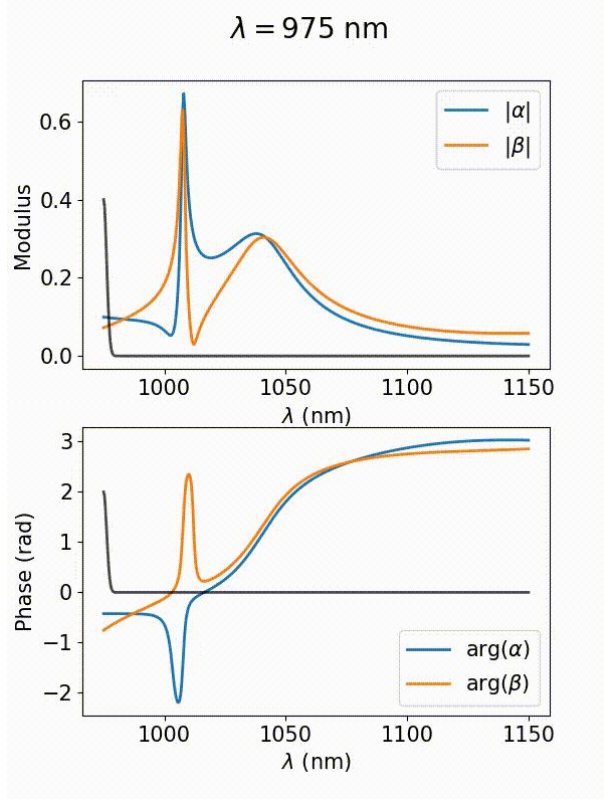
Monochromatic input: Conservation of purity



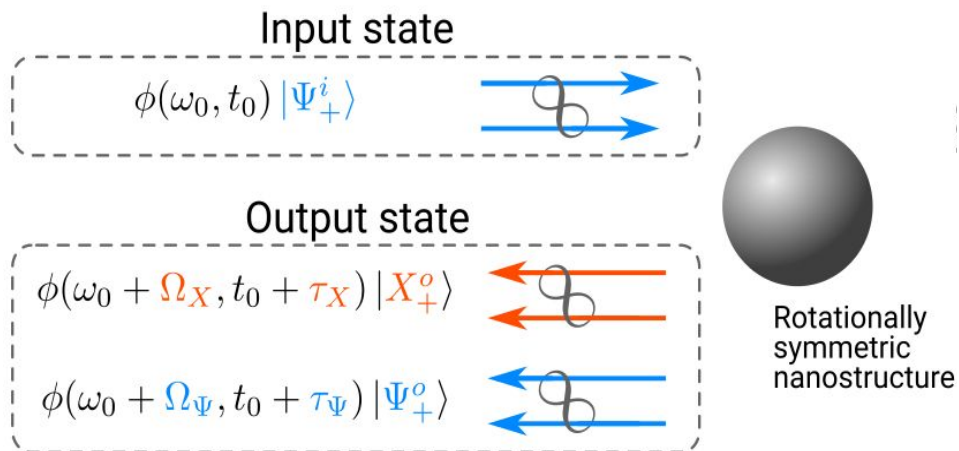
Pulse input: Loss of purity



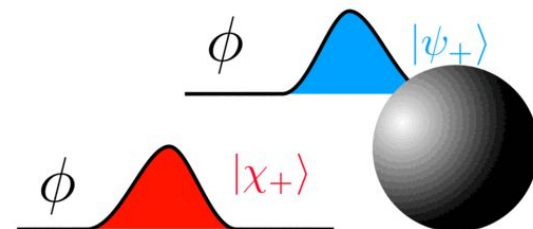
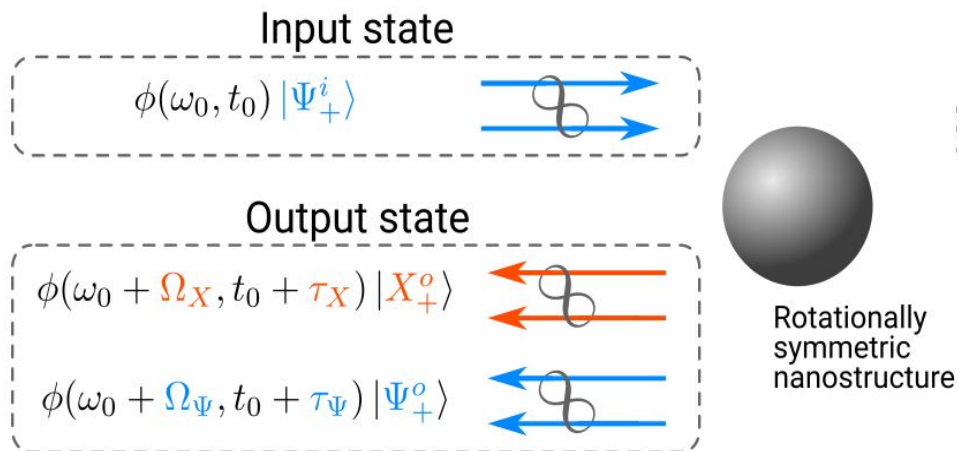
Pulse input: Loss of purity



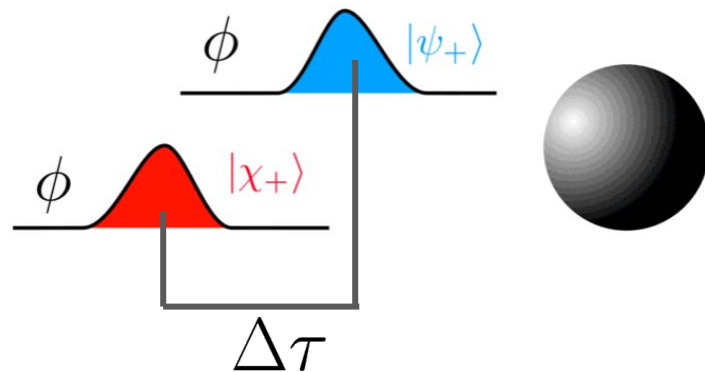
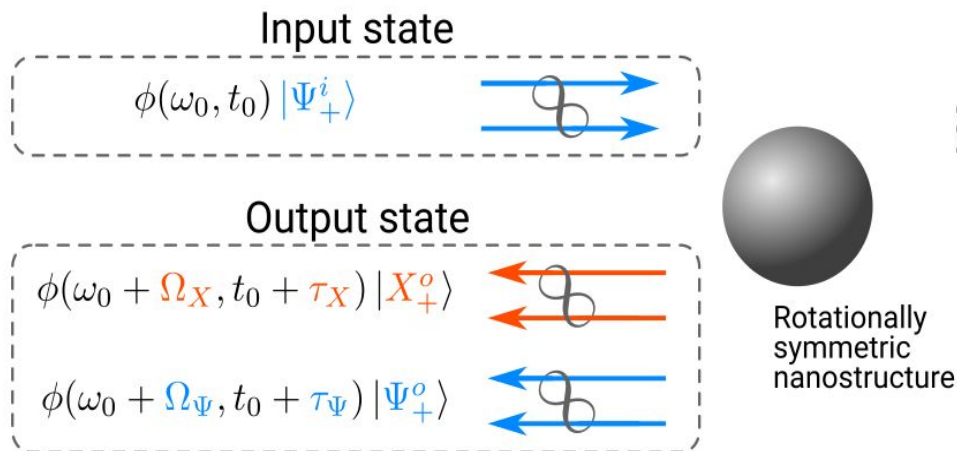
Origin of the loss of purity



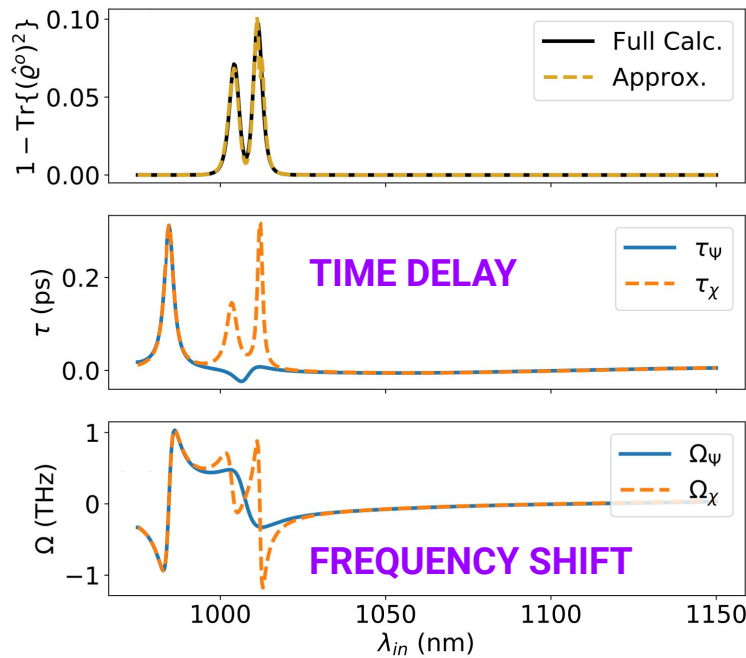
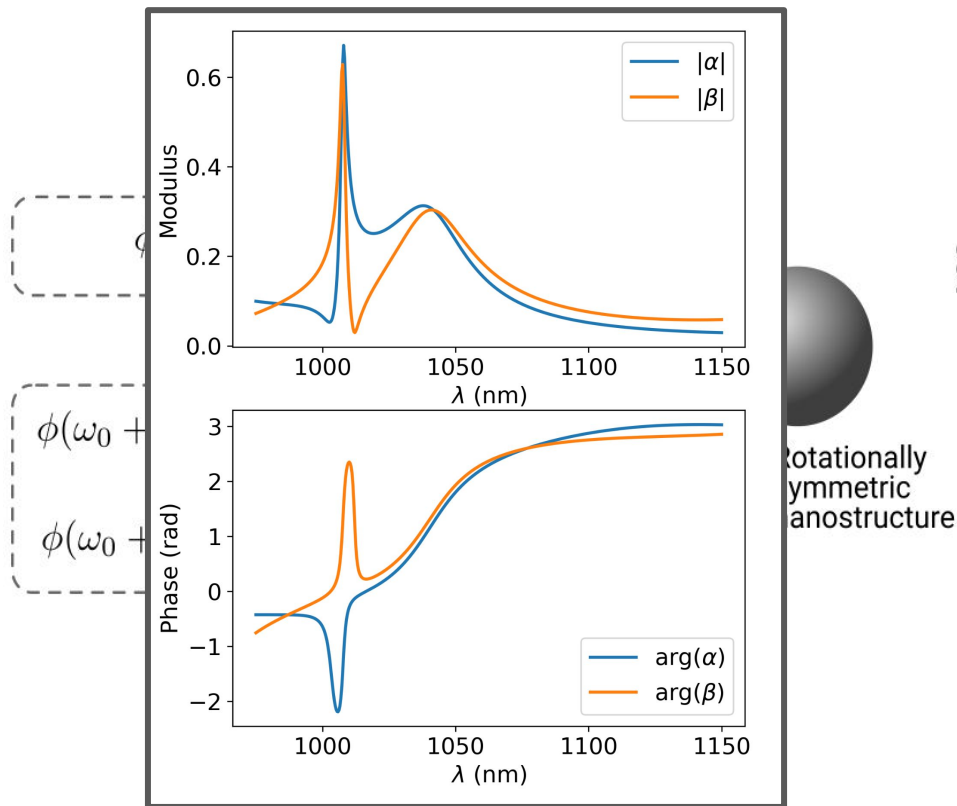
Origin of the loss of purity



Origin of the loss of purity



Origin of the loss of purity



Conclusions

- Framework to treat the **scattering of quantum states** of light by a nanostructure.
- **Loss of quantum purity** in the scattering process: **interaction with optical resonances.**
- **Origin** of the loss of quantum purity: **time-delay** and **frequency-shift.**

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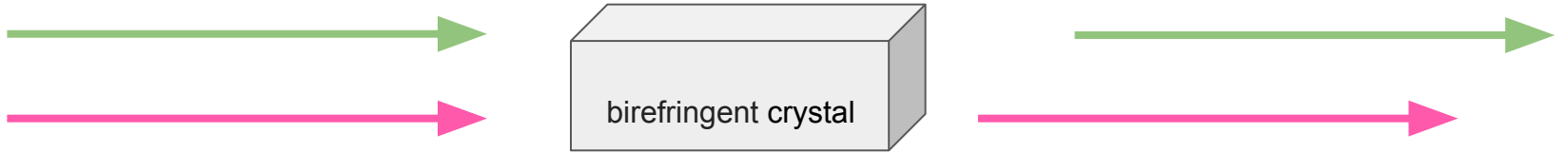


Analogous situation in birefringent crystals

IN

OUT

$$\phi(\omega_0, t_0) |HH\rangle + \phi(\omega_0, t_0 + \Delta t) |VV\rangle$$



$$\phi(\omega_0, t_0) |HH\rangle + \phi(\omega_0, t_0) |VV\rangle$$