

# Parameter estimation with correlated photon pairs

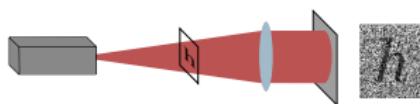
Jan Gößwein

Institute of Applied Physics

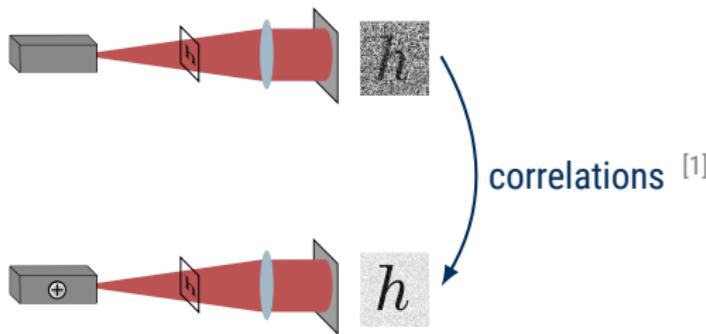
Jena, November 20, 2025

# Motivation

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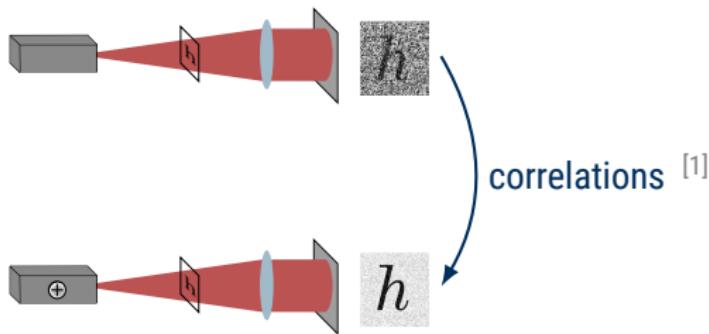


# Motivation



[1] Brida, Genovese, and Ruo Berchera, "Experimental Realization of Sub-Shot-Noise Quantum Imaging", Apr. 2010

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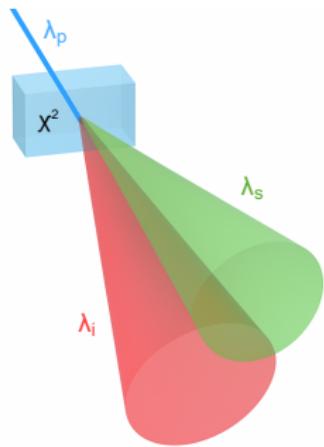
**Objective:** Can correlated photons provide advantages in terms of precision in noisy regimes for parameter estimation?

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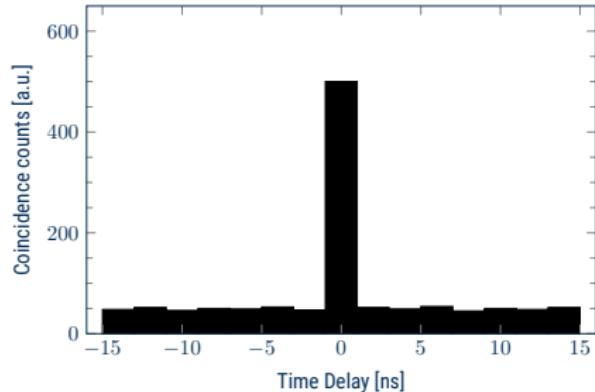
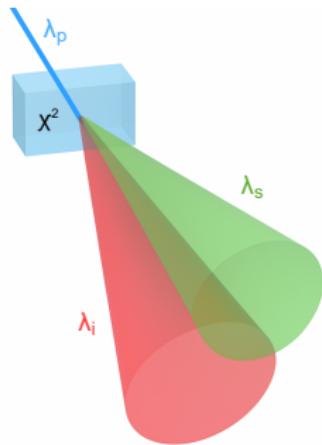
[1] Brida, Genovese, and Ruo Berchera, "Experimental Realization of Sub-Shot-Noise Quantum Imaging", Apr. 2010

# Spontaneous parametric down-conversion

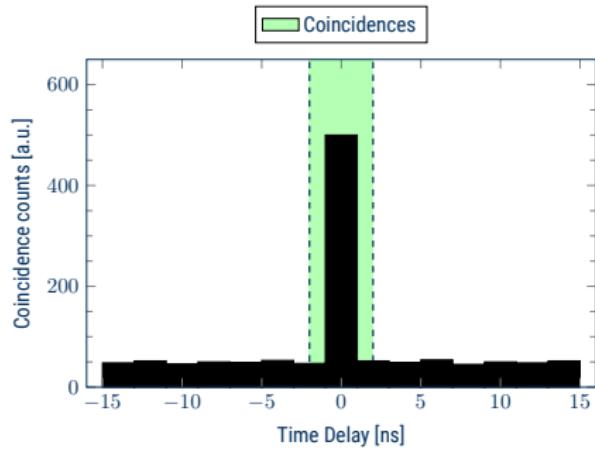
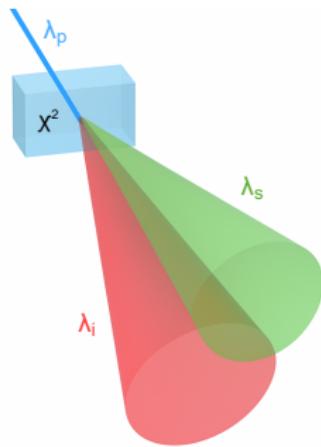
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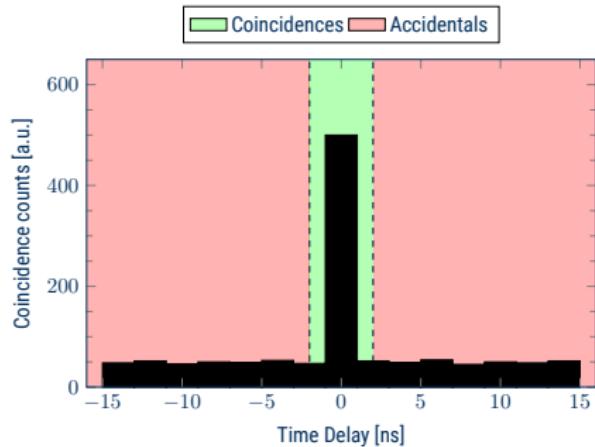
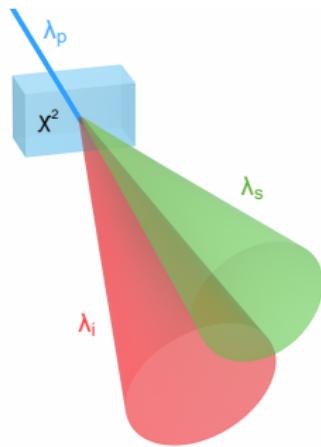
# Spontaneous parametric down-conversion



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# Parameter estimation

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**Precision:**  $\text{Var}(T)$

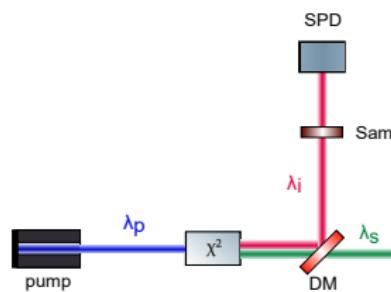
# Parameter estimation

**Setup:** Transmission setup

**Parameter:** Transmittance  $T$

**Precision:**  $\text{Var}(T)$

Conventional approach:



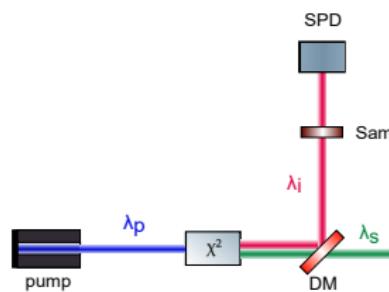
# Parameter estimation

**Setup:** Transmission setup

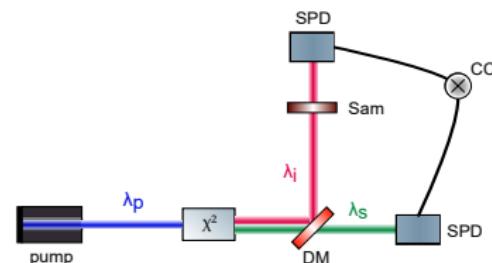
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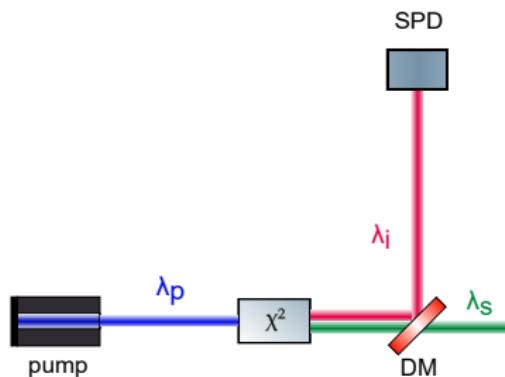
Conventional approach:



Coincidence approach:

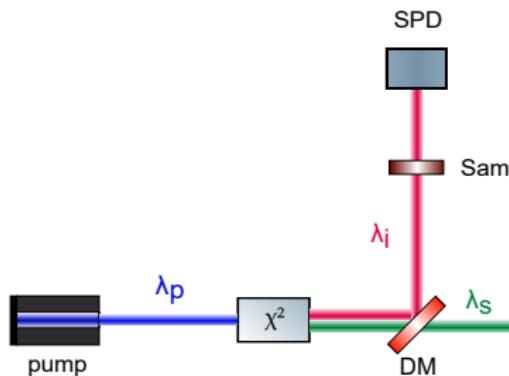


# Conventional approach



$$N_{\text{sing}}^{\text{ref}} = \eta_{\text{idl}} N_g + N_{\text{noise}}^{\text{ref}}$$

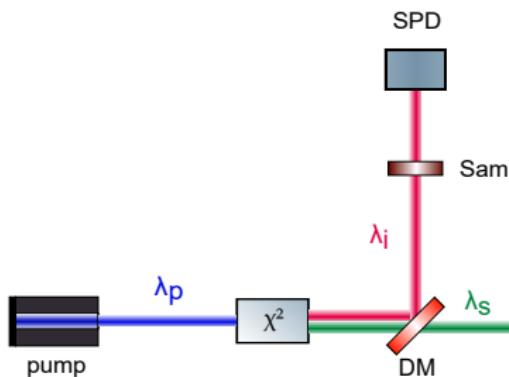
# Conventional approach



$$N_{\text{sing}}^{\text{ref}} = \eta_{\text{idl}} N_g + N_{\text{noise}}^{\text{ref}}$$

$$N_{\text{sing}}^{\text{sam}} = T \eta_{\text{idl}} N_g + N_{\text{noise}}^{\text{sam}}$$

# Conventional approach

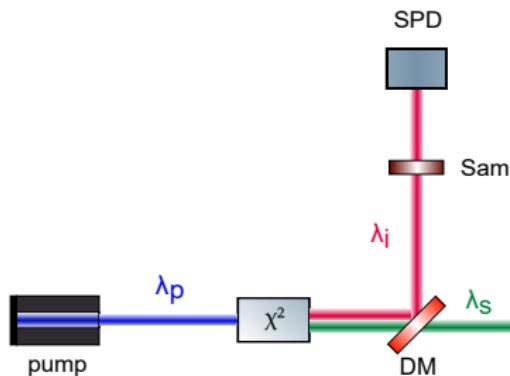


$$N_{\text{sing}}^{\text{ref}} = \eta_{\text{idl}} N_g + N_{\text{noise}}^{\text{ref}}$$

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$$\Rightarrow T = \frac{N_{\text{sing}}^{\text{sam}} - N_{\text{noise}}^{\text{sam}}}{N_{\text{sing}}^{\text{ref}} - N_{\text{noise}}^{\text{ref}}}$$

# Conventional approach



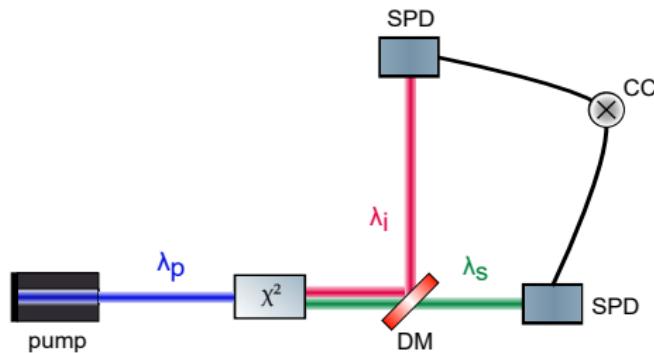
$$N_{\text{sing}}^{\text{ref}} = \eta_{\text{idl}} N_g + N_{\text{noise}}^{\text{ref}}$$

$$N_{\text{sing}}^{\text{sam}} = T \eta_{\text{idl}} N_g + N_{\text{noise}}^{\text{sam}}$$

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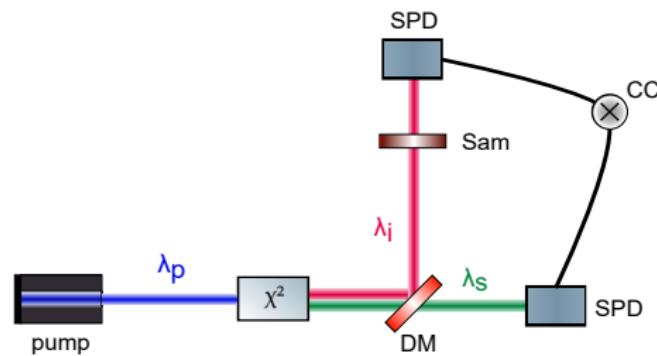
$$\text{Var}(T) = (\eta_{\text{idl}} N_g)^{-2} \left[ \text{Var}(N_{\text{sing}}^{\text{sam}}) + \text{Var}(N_{\text{noise}}^{\text{sam}}) + T^2 \left[ \text{Var}(N_{\text{sing}}^{\text{ref}}) + \text{Var}(N_{\text{noise}}^{\text{ref}}) \right] \right]$$

# Coincidence approach



$$N_{\text{coin}}^{\text{ref}} = \eta_{\text{idl}} \eta_{\text{sig}} N_g + N_{\text{ac}}^{\text{ref}}$$

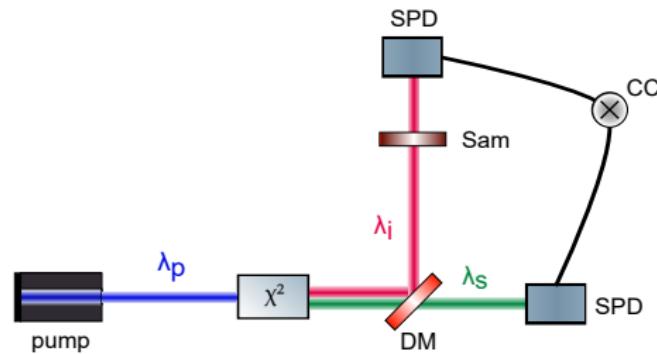
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$$N_{\text{coin}}^{\text{ref}} = \eta_{\text{idl}} \eta_{\text{sig}} N_g + N_{\text{ac}}^{\text{ref}}$$

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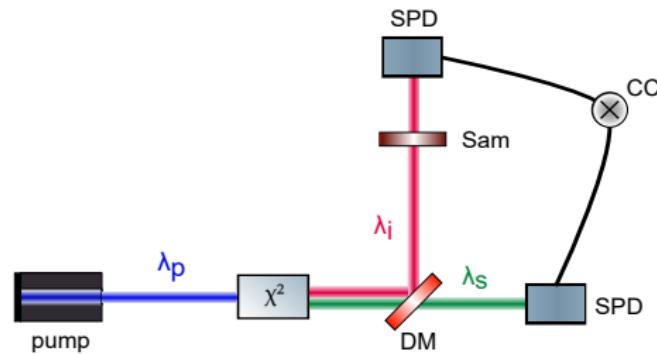


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$$\text{Var}(T) = (\eta_{\text{sig}} \eta_{\text{idl}} N_g)^{-2} \left[ \text{Var}(N_{\text{coin}}^{\text{sam}}) + \text{Var}(N_{\text{ac}}^{\text{sam}}) + T^2 \left[ \text{Var}(N_{\text{coin}}^{\text{ref}}) + \text{Var}(N_{\text{ac}}^{\text{ref}}) \right] \right]$$

# Transmittance model

Conventional approach:

$$\text{Var}(T) = (\eta_{\text{idl}} N_g)^{-2} \left[ \text{Var}(N_{\text{sing}}^{\text{sam}}) + \text{Var}(N_{\text{noise}}^{\text{sam}}) + T^2 [\text{Var}(N_{\text{sing}}^{\text{ref}}) + \text{Var}(N_{\text{noise}}^{\text{ref}})] \right]$$

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# Photon statistics

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Poisson distribution (coherent light):

$$\mathcal{P}(n) = \frac{\langle n \rangle^n}{n!} e^{-\langle n \rangle}$$

$$\text{Var}(n) = \langle n \rangle$$

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Poisson distribution (coherent light): [2][3]

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[2] Kim et al., "Photon-Counting Statistics-Based Support Vector Machine with Multi-Mode Photon Illumination for Quantum Imaging", Oct. 2022

[3] Fouche, "Detection and False-Alarm Probabilities for Laser Radars That Use Geiger-mode Detectors", Sept. 2003

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Multi-mode Bose-Einstein distribution (thermal light): [2]

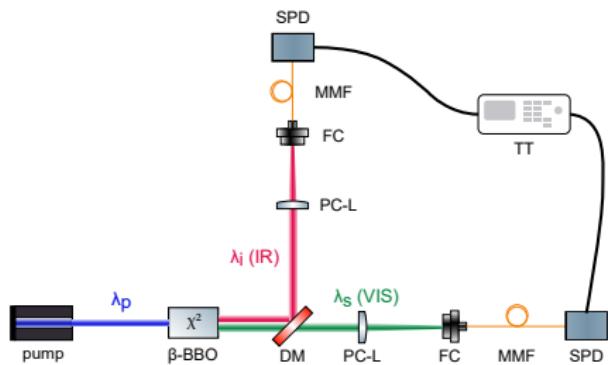
$$\mathcal{P}_m(n) = \frac{(n+m-1)!}{(m-1)! n!} \frac{m^m \langle n \rangle^n}{(m + \langle n \rangle)^{n+m}}$$
$$\text{Var}(n) = \langle n \rangle \left( 1 + \frac{\langle n \rangle}{m} \right)$$

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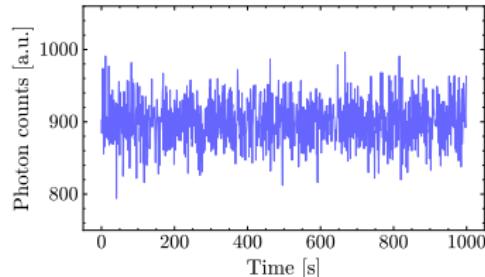
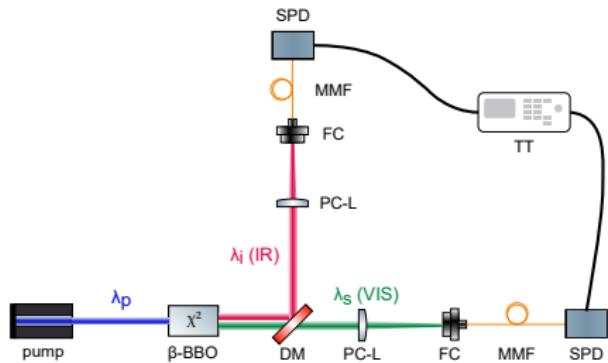
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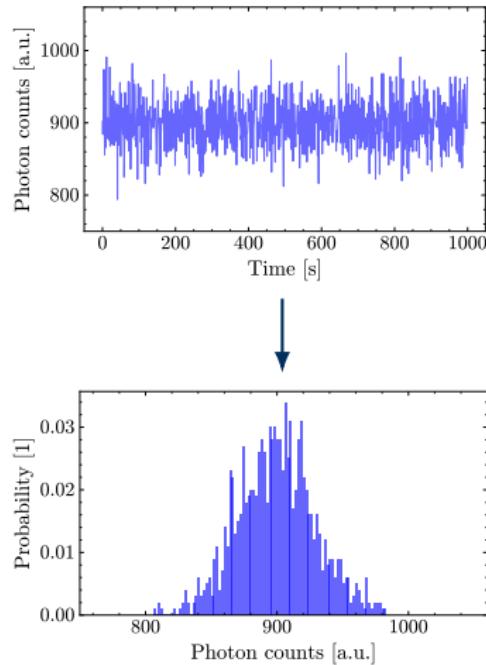
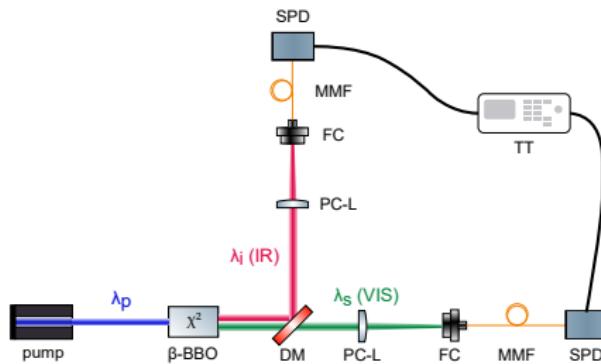
# Experimental setup



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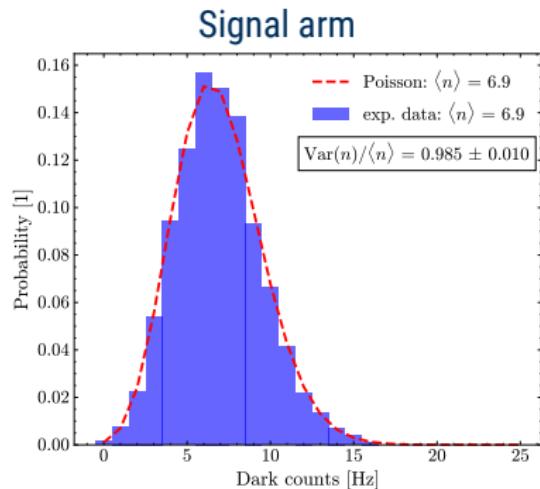


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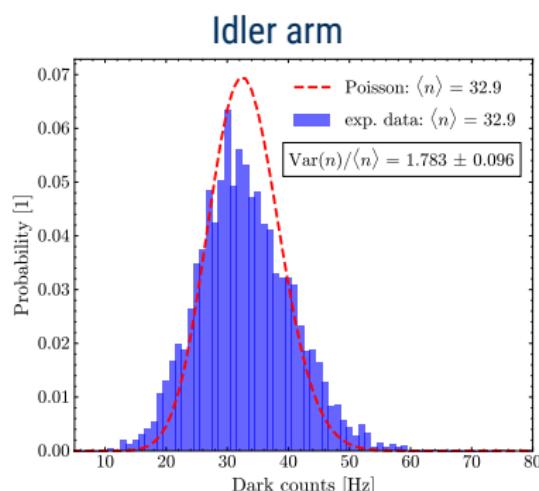
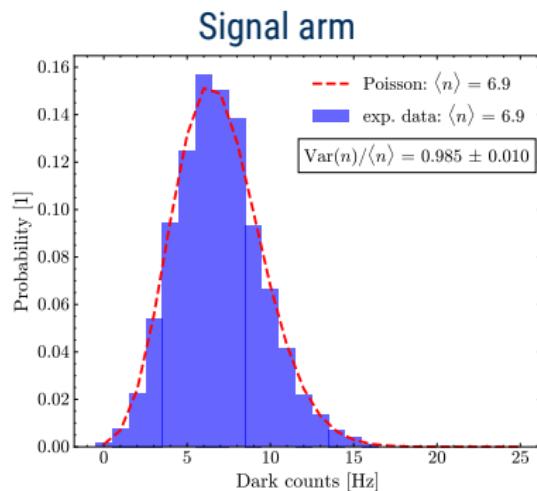


# Dark counts, $\text{Var}(N_{\text{noise}})$

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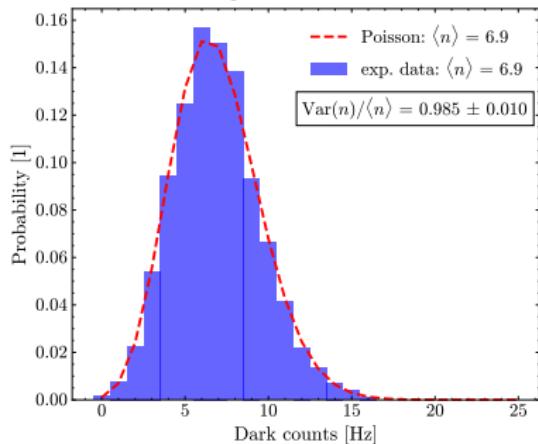


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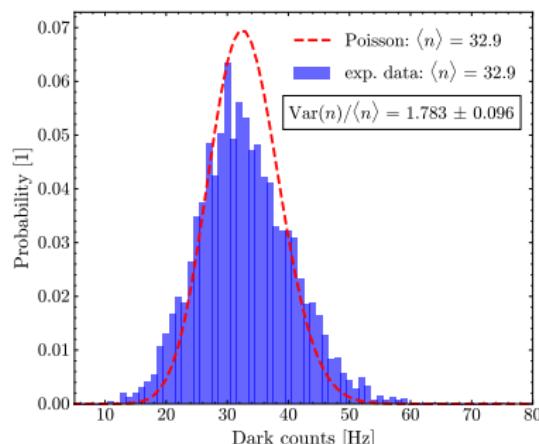


# Dark counts, $\text{Var}(N_{\text{noise}})$

Signal arm



Idler arm



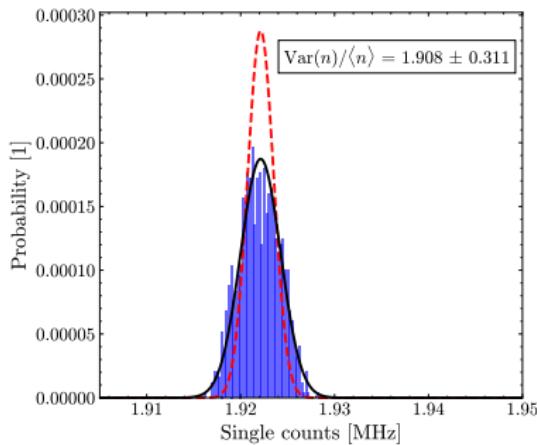
$$\text{Var}(N_{\text{noise}}) = 1.8 \cdot \langle N_{\text{noise}} \rangle$$

# Single counts, $\text{Var}(N_{\text{sing}})$

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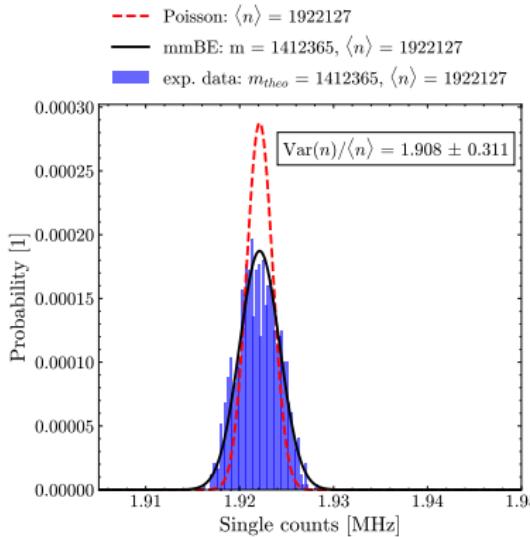
## Signal arm

- Poisson:  $\langle n \rangle = 1922127$
- mmBE:  $m = 1412365$ ,  $\langle n \rangle = 1922127$
- exp. data:  $m_{\text{theo}} = 1412365$ ,  $\langle n \rangle = 1922127$

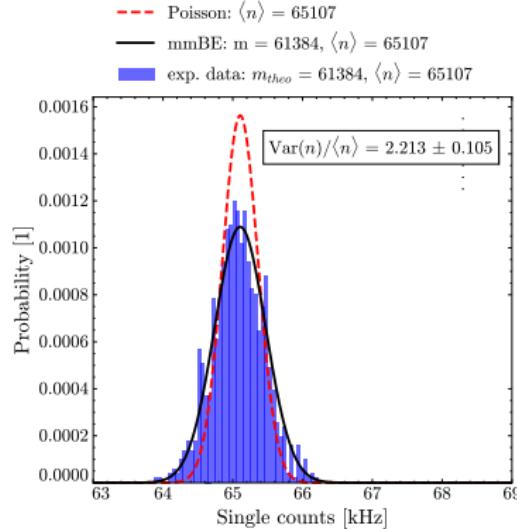


# Single counts, $\text{Var}(N_{\text{sing}})$

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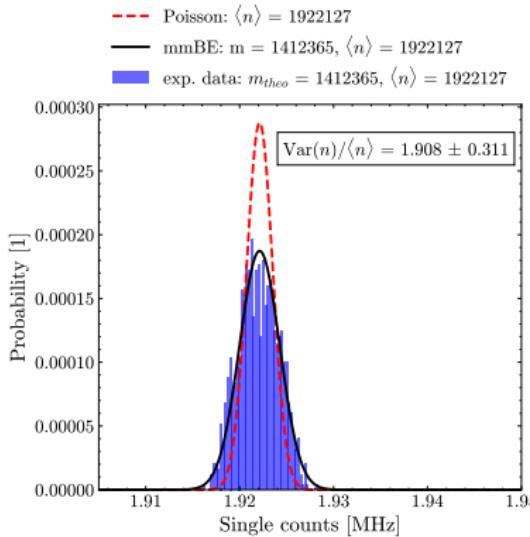


## Idler arm

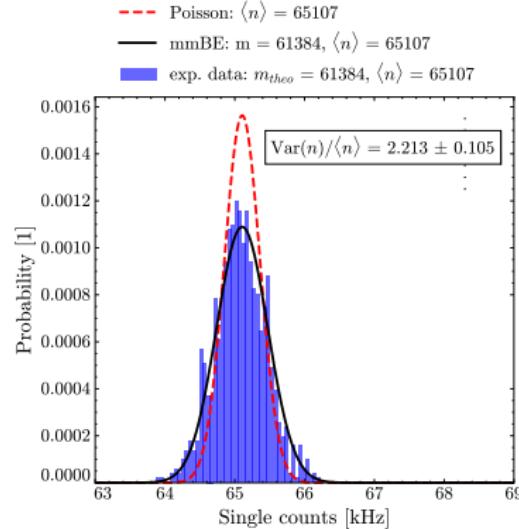


# Single counts, $\text{Var}(N_{\text{sing}})$

## Signal arm



## Idler arm

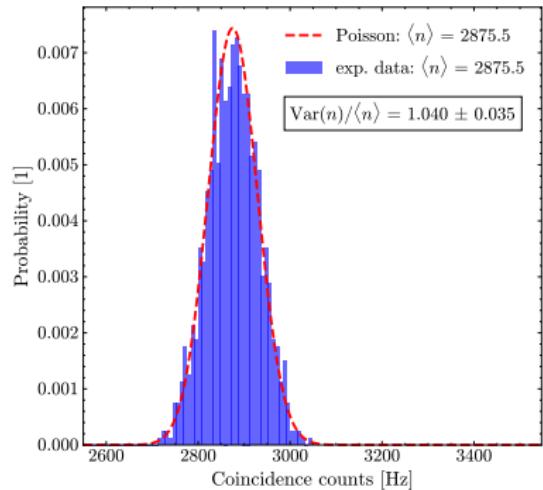


$$\text{Var}(N_{\text{sing}}) = 2.2 \cdot \langle N_{\text{sing}} \rangle$$

# Coincidence counts, $\text{Var}(N_{\text{coin}})$

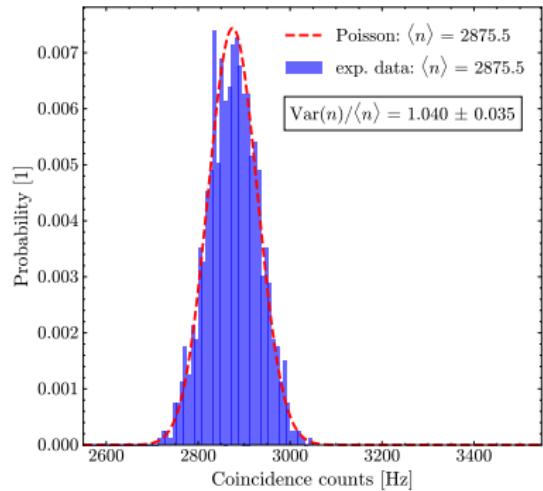
# Coincidence counts, $\text{Var}(N_{\text{coin}})$

## Coincidences



# Coincidence counts, $\text{Var}(N_{\text{coin}})$

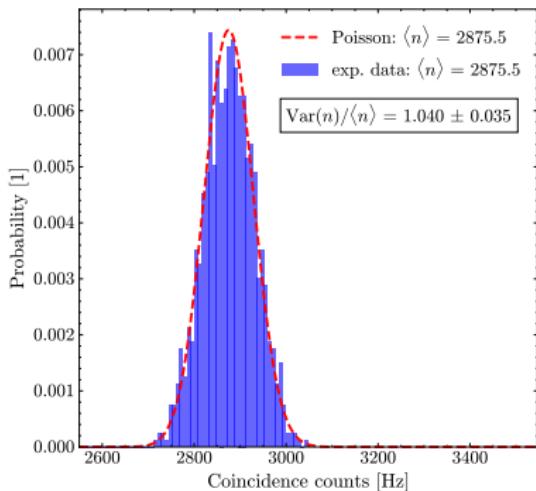
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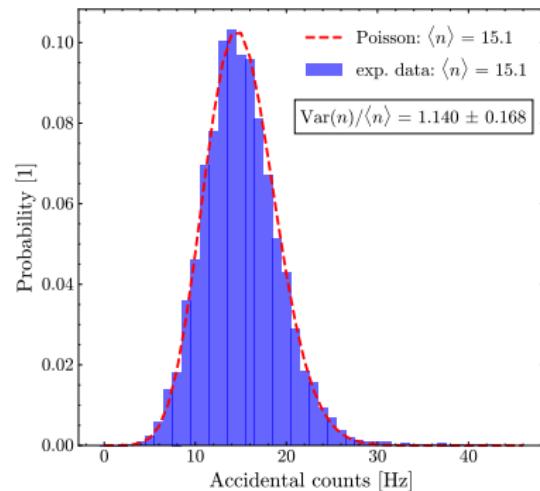
$$\text{Var}(N_{\text{coin}}) = \langle N_{\text{coin}} \rangle$$

# Coincidence counts, $\text{Var}(N_{\text{coin}})$

## Coincidences



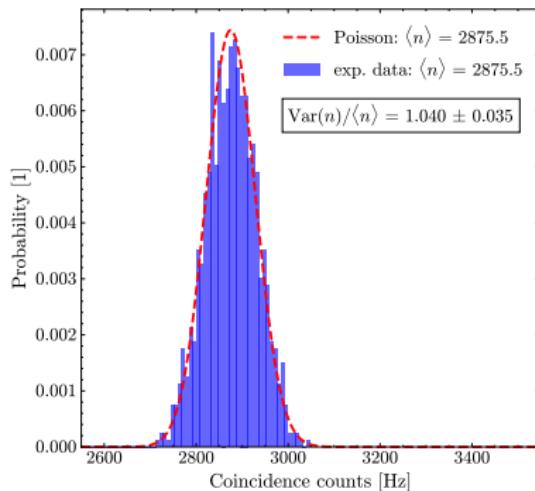
## Accidentals



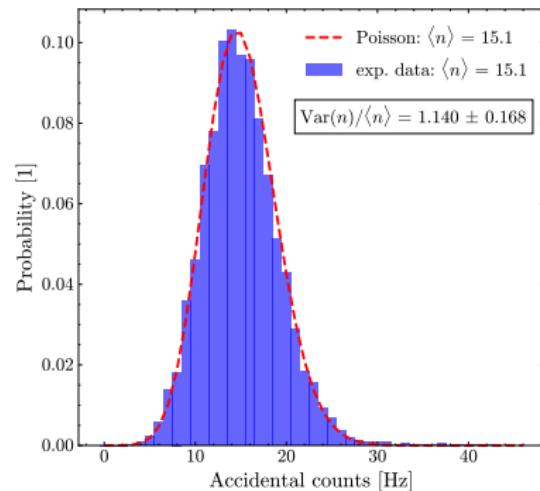
$$\text{Var}(N_{\text{coin}}) = \langle N_{\text{coin}} \rangle$$

# Coincidence counts, $\text{Var}(N_{\text{coin}})$

## Coincidences



## Accidentals



$$\text{Var}(N_{\text{coin}}) = \langle N_{\text{coin}} \rangle$$

$$\text{Var}(N_{\text{ac}}) = \langle N_{\text{ac}} \rangle$$

# Simulation

Conventional approach:

$$\text{Var}(T) = (\eta_{\text{idl}} N_g)^{-2} \left[ \text{Var}(N_{\text{sing}}^{\text{sam}}) + \text{Var}(N_{\text{noise}}^{\text{sam}}) + T^2 \left[ \text{Var}(N_{\text{sing}}^{\text{ref}}) + \text{Var}(N_{\text{noise}}^{\text{ref}}) \right] \right]$$

# Simulation

Conventional approach:

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$$\text{Var}(T) = (\eta_{\text{sig}} \eta_{\text{idl}} N_g)^{-2} \left[ \text{Var}(N_{\text{coin}}^{\text{sam}}) + \text{Var}(N_{\text{ac}}^{\text{sam}}) + T^2 [\text{Var}(N_{\text{coin}}^{\text{ref}}) + \text{Var}(N_{\text{ac}}^{\text{ref}})] \right]$$

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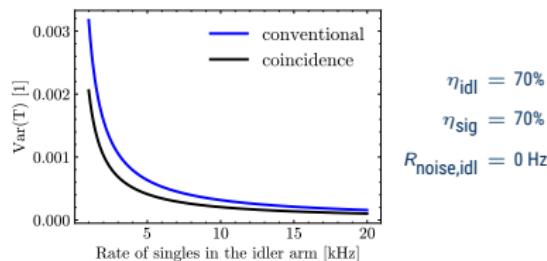
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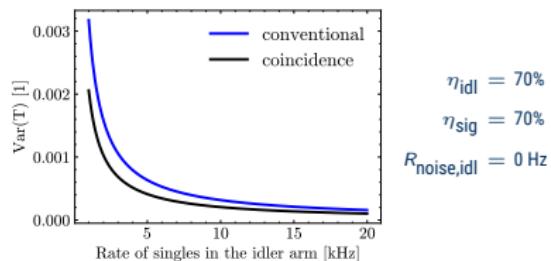


$$\eta_{idl} = 70\%$$

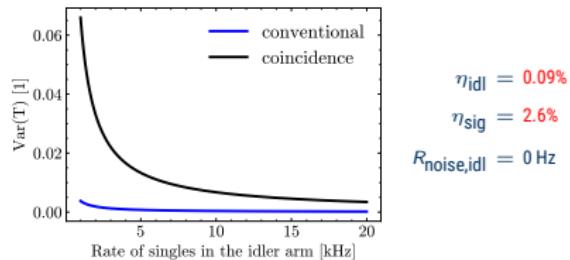
$$\eta_{sig} = 70\%$$

$$R_{noise,idl} = 0 \text{ Hz}$$

# Simulation

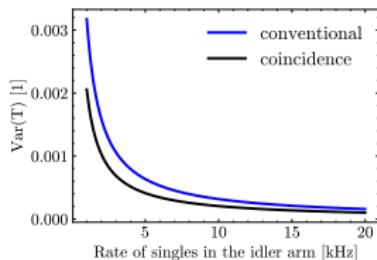


$$\eta_{\text{idl}} = 70\%$$
$$\eta_{\text{sig}} = 70\%$$
$$R_{\text{noise,idl}} = 0 \text{ Hz}$$

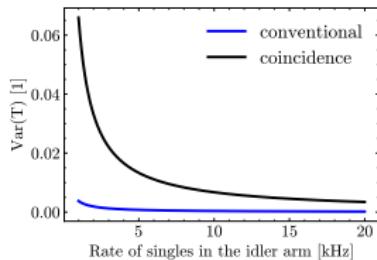


$$\eta_{\text{idl}} = 0.09\%$$
$$\eta_{\text{sig}} = 2.6\%$$
$$R_{\text{noise,idl}} = 0 \text{ Hz}$$

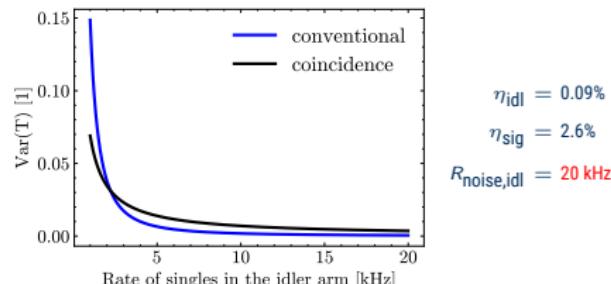
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$\eta_{\text{idl}} = 70\%$   
 $\eta_{\text{sig}} = 70\%$   
 $R_{\text{noise,idl}} = 0 \text{ Hz}$

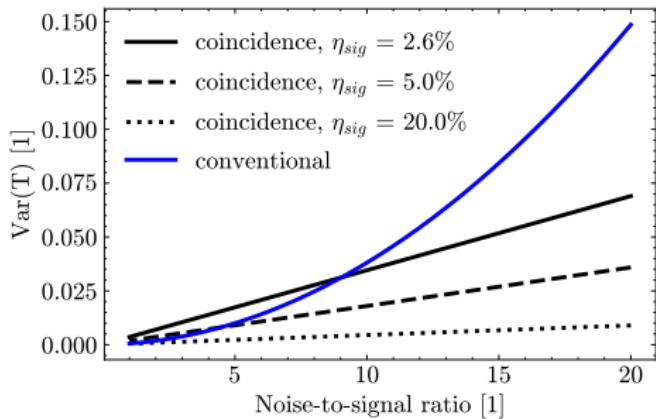


$\eta_{\text{idl}} = 0.09\%$   
 $\eta_{\text{sig}} = 2.6\%$   
 $R_{\text{noise,idl}} = 0 \text{ Hz}$



$\eta_{\text{idl}} = 0.09\%$   
 $\eta_{\text{sig}} = 2.6\%$   
 $R_{\text{noise,idl}} = 20 \text{ kHz}$

# Noise-to-signal ratio



Parameter	Value
$\eta_{idl}$ (%)	0.09
$\eta_{sig}$ (%)	2.6, 5, 20
$R_{idl}$ (kHz)	1 - 20
$R_{noise,idl}$ (kHz)	20
$R_{noise,sig}$ (Hz)	7
$T$ (1)	0.9

# Summary and Outlook

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## Summary:

- Established a model for the variance of transmittance
- Experimental verification of photon statistics
- Found regions where coincidence approach offers higher precision

# Summary and Outlook

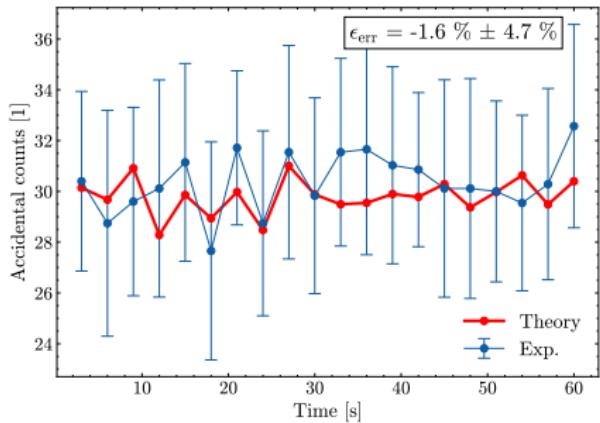
## Summary:

- Established a model for the variance of transmittance
- Experimental verification of photon statistics
- Found regions where coincidence approach offers higher precision

## Outlook:

- Experimental verification of the found parameter regions
- Determine the experimental limitations for the variance measurement

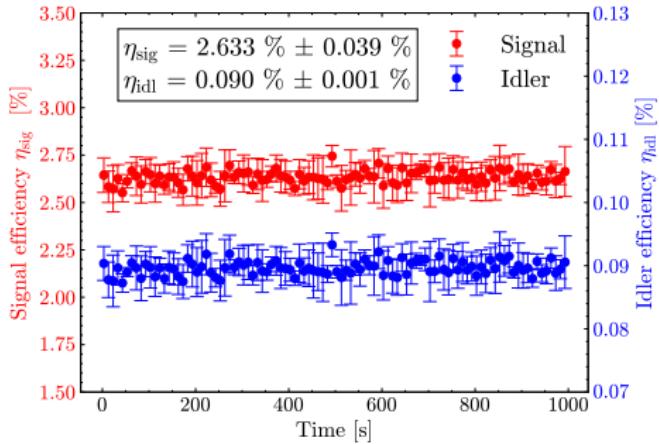
# Accidental counts



$$R_{\text{ac}}^{\text{sam}} = \left( T \eta_{\text{idl}} R_g + R_{\text{dc,idl}} - R_{\text{cc,pure}}^{\text{sam}} \right) \cdot \\ \left( \eta_{\text{sig}} R_g + R_{\text{dc,sig}} - R_{\text{cc,pure}}^{\text{sam}} \right) \cdot \tau_{\text{cw}}$$

$$R_{\text{ac}}^{\text{ref}} = \left( \eta_{\text{idl}} R_g + R_{\text{dc,idl}} - R_{\text{cc,pure}}^{\text{ref}} \right) \cdot \\ \left( \eta_{\text{sig}} R_g + R_{\text{dc,sig}} - R_{\text{cc,pure}}^{\text{ref}} \right) \cdot \tau_{\text{cw}}$$

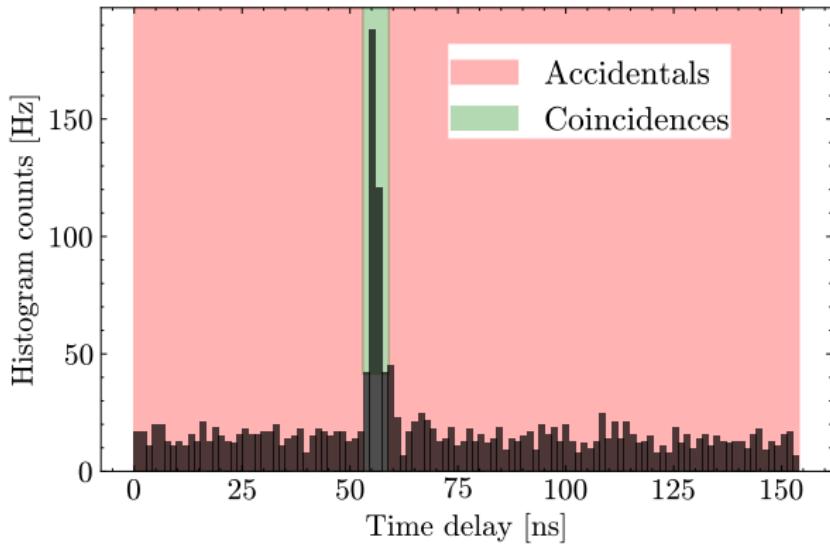
# Heralding efficiencies



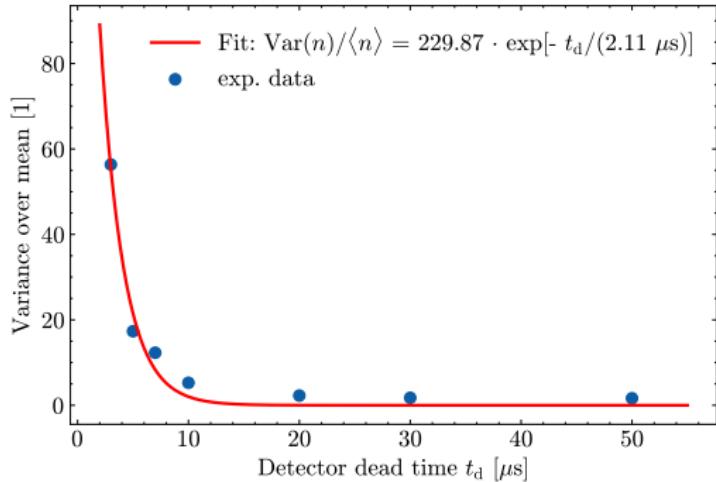
$$\eta_{\text{sig}} = \frac{N_{\text{coin}} - N_{\text{ac}}}{N_{\text{sing,idl}} - N_{\text{noise}}} = \frac{\eta_{\text{sig}} \eta_{\text{idl}} N_g}{\eta_{\text{idl}} N_g}$$

$$\eta_{\text{idl}} = \frac{N_{\text{coin}} - N_{\text{ac}}}{N_{\text{sing,sig}} - N_{\text{noise}}} = \frac{\eta_{\text{sig}} \eta_{\text{idl}} N_g}{\eta_{\text{sig}} N_g}$$

# Histogram



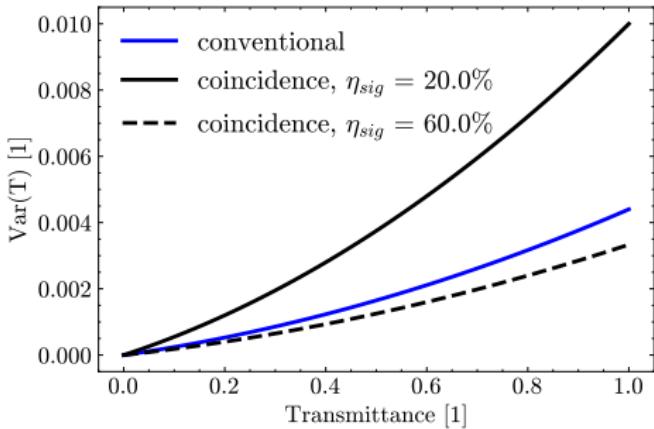
# Afterpulsing



$$R_{aft} \propto e^{-\frac{t_d}{\tau_{de}}} \quad [4]$$

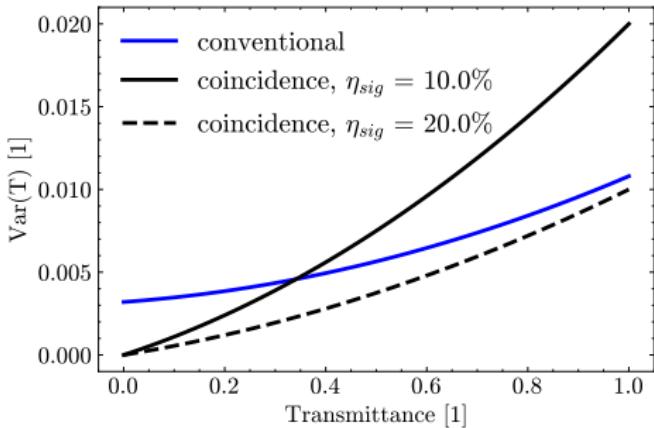
[4] Humer et al., "A Simple and Robust Method for Estimating Afterpulsing in Single Photon Detectors", July 2015

# Noiseless case



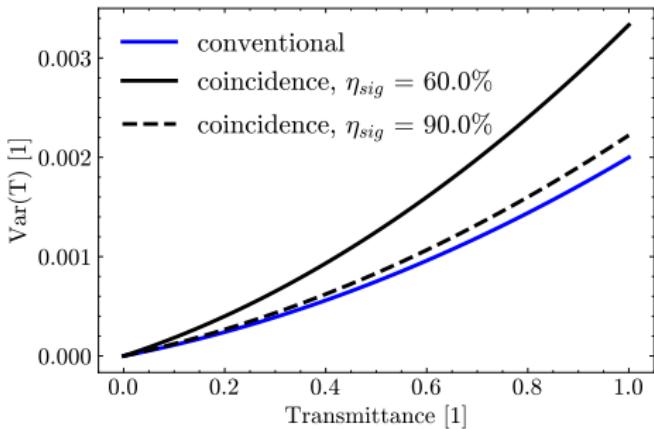
Parameter	Value
$\eta_{idl}$ (%)	60
$\eta_{sig}$ (%)	20, 60
$R_{idl}$ (kHz)	1
$R_{noise,idl}$ (kHz)	0
$R_{noise,sig}$ (Hz)	7
$T(1)$	0 - 1

# In presence of noise



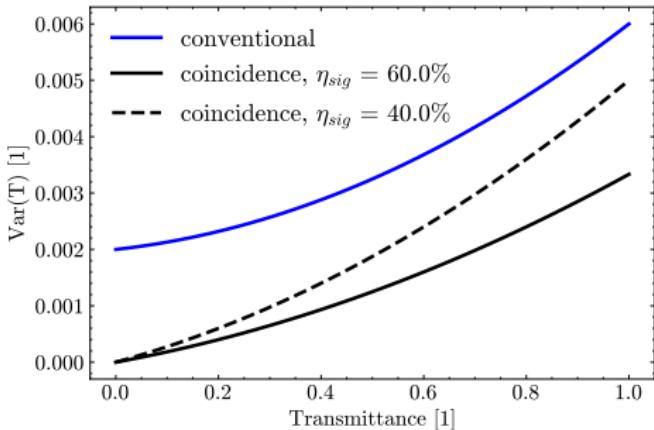
Parameter	Value
$\eta_{idl}$ (%)	60
$\eta_{sig}$ (%)	10, 20
$R_{idl}$ (kHz)	1
$R_{noise,idl}$ (kHz)	1
$R_{noise,sig}$ (Hz)	7
$T(1)$	0 - 1

# Coherent Illumination, noiseless



Parameter	Value
$\eta_{idl}$ (%)	60
$\eta_{sig}$ (%)	60, 90
$R_{idl}$ (kHz)	1
$R_{noise,idl}$ (kHz)	0
$R_{noise,sig}$ (Hz)	7
$T(1)$	0 - 1

# Coherent Illumination, with noise



Parameter	Value
$\eta_{\text{idl}}$ (%)	60
$\eta_{\text{sig}}$ (%)	40, 60
$R_{\text{idl}}$ (kHz)	1
$R_{\text{noise,idl}}$ (kHz)	1
$R_{\text{noise,sig}}$ (Hz)	7
$T$ (1)	0 - 1