

- 2.) (20 pts) In the figure below, each of the beam splitters are half-silvered mirrors. What is the probability amplitude that a photon arrives at  $PM_2$  via path ABD? What is the probability amplitude that a photon arrives at  $PM_2$  via path ACD? What is the probability that a photon arrives at  $PM_2$ ? Give the condition for 100% probability that a photon arrives at  $PM_2$ .

(6 pts)

$$Z_{ABD} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} e^{i\pi} \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} e^{ikl_1} = -\frac{1}{2} e^{ikl_1}$$

Let  $l_1$  be the distance along path ABD,  $l_2$  is distance along ACD.

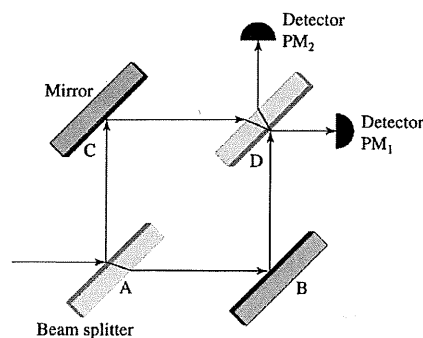


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(6 pts)

$$Z_{ACD} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} e^{i\pi} \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} e^{ikl_2} = \frac{1}{2} e^{ikl_2}$$

Probability of a photon arriving at  $PM_2$ :

$$\begin{aligned} P_{PM2} &= (Z_{ABD}^* + Z_{ACD}^*)(Z_{ABD} + Z_{ACD}) \\ &= \frac{1}{4} \begin{pmatrix} -e^{-ikl_1} & -e^{-ikl_2} \\ -e^{ikl_1} & +e^{ikl_2} \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} -e^{ikl_1} & e^{ikl_2} \\ -e^{-ikl_1} & +e^{-ikl_2} \end{pmatrix} \\ &= \frac{1}{4} \begin{pmatrix} 2 & -e^{-ik(l_1-l_2)} & -e^{ik(l_1-l_2)} \end{pmatrix} \\ &= \frac{1}{2} \left[ 1 - \cos(k(l_1-l_2)) \right] \end{aligned}$$

(6 pts)

$$P_{PM2} = \sin^2 \left[ \frac{k(l_1-l_2)}{2} \right]$$

(2 pts) For 100% probability  $\frac{k(l_1-l_2)}{2} = (n+\frac{1}{2})\pi$  for  $n=0,1,2,\dots$