

# Coherence

Thursday, June 16, 2016 9:48 AM

$$\Delta s_c \approx c \Delta t = \frac{c}{\Delta \omega} = \frac{c}{2\pi \Delta \nu}$$

If the path difference gets to large, the wave will no longer be coherent temporally at detection  
Lower Spectral widths results in larger coherent lengths or times

$$\theta \cong \frac{\lambda}{b} \approx \frac{d}{r}$$

$$d\Omega = \frac{\lambda^2}{b^2} \approx \theta^2$$


Larger divergence angle (spread) for larger wavelengths

$$\Delta p_x \Delta x \geq \hbar$$

$$\Delta p_y \Delta y \geq \hbar$$

$$\Delta p_z \Delta z \geq \hbar$$

$$\Delta p_x \Delta x \Delta p_y \Delta y \Delta p_z \Delta z \geq \hbar^3 = V_{ph}$$

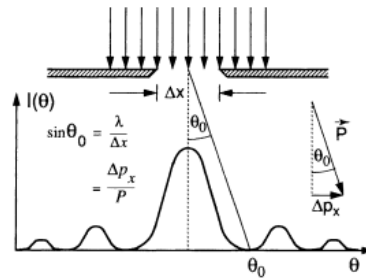
$V_{ph}$  is the volume of the elementary cell in phase space

The minimum uncertainty of the x and y direction with z as the propagation axis

$$\Delta p_x = \Delta p_y = \frac{|p|\lambda}{2\pi b} = \frac{\hbar \omega}{c} \lambda \frac{1}{2\pi b} = \frac{\hbar \omega}{c} \frac{d}{2\pi r}$$

Natural broadening due to quantum mechanics

$$\Delta p_z = \frac{\hbar}{c} \Delta \omega, \text{ spread mostly caused by the uncertainty in the frequency}$$



Quantitative description of Coherence

Coherence Function and the Degree of Coherence

Temporal and Spatial coherence, concerned with the correlation between optical fields at  $P_0$  at various times or at the same time at different points

$$E(r, t) = A_0 e^{i(\omega t - \vec{k} \cdot \vec{r})} + c.c.$$

$$E(P, t) = k_1 E_1 \left( S_1, t - \frac{r_1}{c} \right) + k_2 E_2 \left( S_2, t - \frac{r_2}{c} \right)$$

$$\frac{r_1}{c} = t_1, \quad \frac{r_2}{c} = t_2$$

$k_1$  and  $k_2$  are complex and depend on the distance from the source to the location P

$$I_p = \epsilon_0 c \langle E \cdot E^* \rangle = |k_1|^2 \langle E_1 E_1^* \rangle + |k_2|^2 \langle E_2 E_2^* \rangle + 2 \text{Re} \{ k_1 k_2^* \langle E_1(t + \tau) E_2^*(t) \rangle \}$$

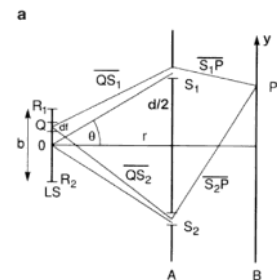
$$I_p = \epsilon_0 c [ |k_1|^2 I_{S1} + |k_2|^2 I_{S2} + 2 |k_1| |k_2| \text{Re} \{ \Gamma_{12}(\tau) \} ]$$

$$\Gamma_{11}(\tau) = \langle E_1(t + \tau) E_1^*(t) \rangle$$

$$\Gamma_{22}(\tau) = \langle E_2(t + \tau) E_2^*(t) \rangle$$

$\tau = 0$  is the self coherence functions

$$\Gamma_{11}(\tau = 0) = \frac{I_1}{\epsilon_0 c}, \quad \Gamma_{22}(\tau = 0) = \frac{I_2}{\epsilon_0 c}$$



$$\gamma_{12}(\tau) = \frac{\Gamma_{12}(\tau)}{\sqrt{\Gamma_{11}(0)\Gamma_{22}(0)}} = \frac{\langle E_1(t+\tau)E_2(t) \rangle}{\sqrt{\langle |E_1(t)|^2 \rangle \langle |E_2(t)|^2 \rangle}}$$

$$I_p = I_1 + I_2 + 2\sqrt{I_1 I_2} \Re\{\gamma_{12}(\tau)\}$$

$$\gamma_{12}(\tau) = |\gamma_{12}(\tau)| e^{i\phi_{12}(\tau)}$$

$\phi_{12}(\tau) = \phi_1(\tau) - \phi_2(\tau)$  is the phase of the fields  $E_1$  and  $E_2$

$\gamma_{12}(\tau)$  is a measure of degree of coherence

$|\gamma_{12}(\tau)| = 1$  describes interference of two completely coherent waves

$0 < |\gamma_{12}(\tau)| < 1$  describes partial coherence and thus

For  $\gamma_{11}$

$$\gamma_{11}(\tau) = \frac{\langle E(t+\tau)E^*(t) \rangle}{|E(t)|^2} = \left\langle e^{i(\phi(t+\tau) - \phi(t))} \right\rangle$$

$$\gamma_{11}(\tau) = \lim_{T \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{T} \int_0^T \cos(\Delta\phi) + i \sin \Delta\phi \, dt$$

Monochromatic waves have infinite coherent length,  $\Delta\omega = 0 \Rightarrow \Delta s_c = \infty$

$$\phi(t) = \omega t - \vec{k} \cdot \vec{r}, \Delta\phi = \phi(t+\tau) - \phi(t) = \omega\tau$$

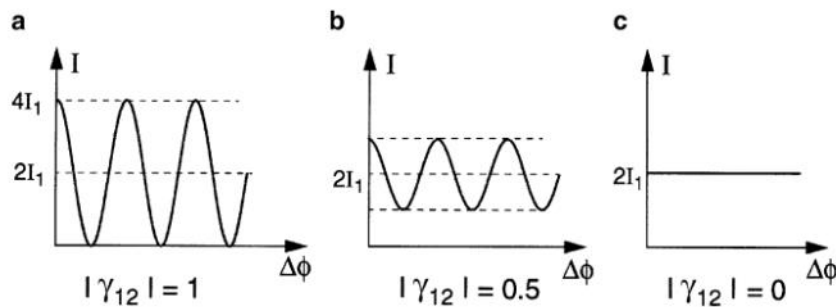
For a wave with large spectral width,  $\Delta\omega \Rightarrow \tau > \frac{\Delta s_c}{c} = \frac{1}{\Delta\omega}$ , the phase fluctuate between 0 and  $2\pi$

Resulting in an average of 0

$$\Delta s_c = c\Delta t = \frac{c}{\Delta\omega}$$

$\Delta\phi(t) \approx \Delta\omega\tau$ , for large  $\Delta\omega$ , this leads to  $\Delta\phi$  ranging from 0 to  $2\pi$

For  $\gamma_{12}$



**Figure 2.35** Interference pattern  $I(\Delta\phi)$  of two-beam interference for different degrees of coherence

For quasi monochromatic planewaves of different paths, both same frequency

$$\phi_{12}(\tau) = \vec{k} \cdot (\vec{r}_2 - \vec{r}_1)$$

$$I_p = I_1 + I_2 + 2\sqrt{I_1 I_2} |\gamma_{12}(\tau)| \cos \phi_{12}(\tau)$$