

(Dated: January 17, 2026)

We model the photon as a one-dimensional, closed or open swirl string with phase $\phi(\mathbf{x}, t)$ propagating helically along the string. Spin (circular polarization) corresponds to the handedness of the local swirl clock; optical orbital angular momentum (OAM) with topological charge ℓ is the phase winding in the transverse plane. For laser beams we use the (paraxial) Gaussian beam and its Laguerre–Gaussian extension to plot intensity and phase fields. All formulas are SI-dimensional and calibrated to the SST scale $\Omega_0 = \|\mathbf{v}_\odot\|/r_c$. In the *Rosetta* mapping, the scalar phase mode plays the role of a Maxwell-like radiation sector with $\omega = ck$ in uniform backgrounds, while OAM corresponds to azimuthal phase winding.

I. KINEMATICS: PHOTON AS A HELICAL MODE ON A SWIRL STRING

Let $\mathbf{X}(s, t)$ denote the string centerline with arclength parameter s and local tangent \mathbf{t} . A photon is modeled as a travelling phase wave on the string:

$$\phi(\mathbf{x}, t) = kz - \omega t + \ell \theta, \quad k = \frac{2\pi}{\lambda}.$$

where $k = 2\pi/\lambda$, $\omega = 2\pi f$, and (r, θ, z) are cylindrical coordinates along the propagation axis. *Spin*/polarization is the local swirl-clock handedness (left/right), and *OAM* is the integer winding $\ell \in \mathbb{Z}$ around the beam axis [1, 2].

a. SST clock and energy density. A convenient reference scale is

$$\Omega_0 = \frac{\|\mathbf{v}_\odot\|}{r_c} \quad [\text{s}^{-1}].$$

Dimensional check: $[\mathbf{v}_\odot] = \text{m s}^{-1}$, $[r_c] = \text{m}$, so Ω_0 is a frequency. Numerically this recovers the electron Compton scale in the canonical calibration and is used as a normalization point.

II. ENERGY, MOMENTUM, AND POLARIZATION

For a single photon, $E = \hbar\omega$ and $p = \hbar k$ (standard field theory). Within SST, the energy is associated with an effective string line energy. Without committing to microstructure, the operative identification is

$$\boxed{E = \hbar\omega, \quad \mathbf{p} = \hbar\mathbf{k}, \quad \text{spin } S = \pm\hbar \leftrightarrow \text{swirl-clock left/right}}$$

where $+$ and $-$ correspond to left- and right-circular polarization, respectively.

III. LASER-BEAM MODEL: GAUSSIAN BEAM AND LG MODES

For a paraxial beam with waist w_0 at $z = 0$ ([1]):

$$w(z) = w_0 \sqrt{1 + (z/z_R)^2}, \quad z_R = \frac{\pi w_0^2}{\lambda}, \quad (1)$$

$$R(z) = z \left[1 + \left(\frac{z_R}{z} \right)^2 \right], \quad \zeta(z) = \arctan \left(\frac{z}{z_R} \right). \quad (2)$$

The TEM₀₀ scalar field amplitude is

$$E_{00}(r, z) = E_0 \frac{w_0}{w(z)} \exp \left(- \frac{r^2}{w(z)^2} \right) \exp \left(ikz - i\omega t + i \frac{kr^2}{2R(z)} - i \zeta(z) \right),$$

The intensity is $I = \frac{1}{2} \epsilon_0 c |E|^2$ (units W m⁻²). Laguerre–Gaussian (LG) with OAM ℓ and radial index p :

$$E_p^\ell(r, \theta, z) = E_{00} \left(\frac{\sqrt{2} r}{w(z)} \right)^{|\ell|} L_p^{|\ell|} \left(\frac{2r^2}{w(z)^2} \right) e^{i\ell\theta}.$$

For $\ell \neq 0$ there is an on-axis null; the ring maximum occurs at $r_{\max}(z) = w(z) \sqrt{|\ell|/2}$.

IV. NUMERICAL EXAMPLE AND FIGURES

Example parameters: $\lambda = 632.8$ nm, $w_0 = 1.0$ mm $\Rightarrow z_R = \pi w_0^2/\lambda = 4.9646$ m and beam divergence $\theta_{\text{div}} = \lambda/(\pi w_0) = 0.201$ mrad.

a. Reading guide. Fig. 1 shows the TEM₀₀ intensity at the waist ($z = 0$). Fig. 2 shows the 2π phase winding for $\ell = 1$ (OAM, on-axis null). Fig. 3 confirms the known $w(z)$ scaling and the asymptotic divergence.

Known limits: $w(0) = w_0$, far-field $z \gg z_R$ gives opening angle $\theta_{\text{div}} = \lambda/(\pi w_0)$, and for $\ell \neq 0$ there is an axis null with ring maximum $r_{\max}(z) = w(z) \sqrt{|\ell|/2}$ [2, 3].

V. PLOTTING RECIPE (ALGORITHM)

1. Choose λ , w_0 ; compute $z_R = \pi w_0^2/\lambda$.
2. Define a 2D grid in the $z = 0$ plane; compute $I(r, 0) \propto e^{-2r^2/w_0^2}$ (TEM₀₀).
3. For OAM, take phase $\Phi = \ell \theta$ and (optionally) the LG envelope.
4. For a longitudinal cut: plot $w(z)$ and (optionally) $r_{\max}(z)$.

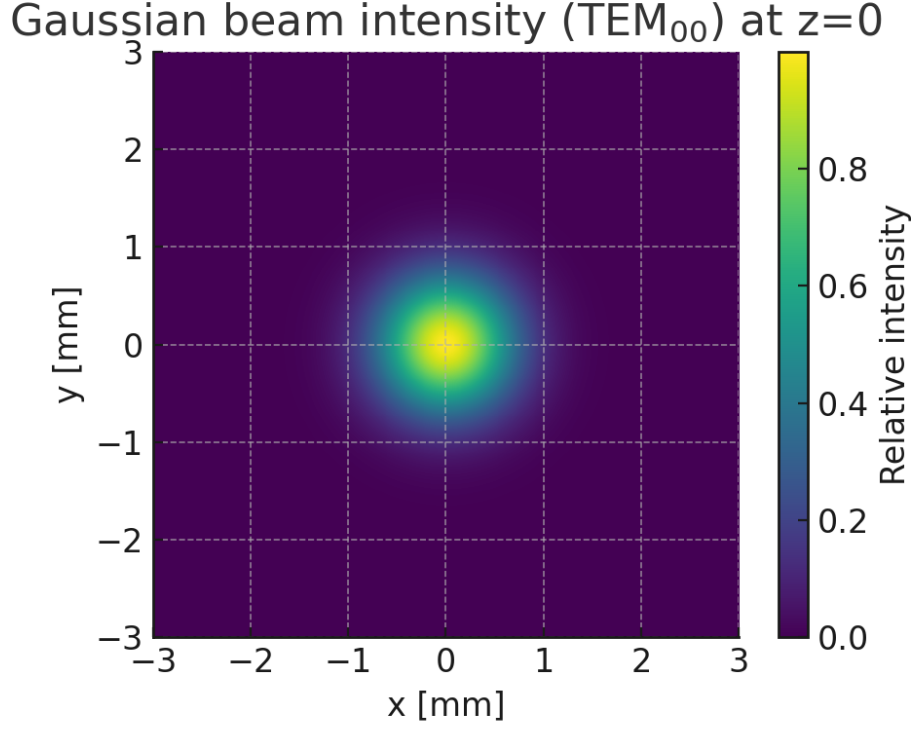


FIG. 1: Gaussian intensity (TEM_{00}) in the $z=0$ plane. The map shows $I(r, 0) \propto \exp(-2r^2/w_0^2)$ with a central peak and radial Gaussian decay. With $\lambda = 632.8 \text{ nm}$ and $w_0 = 1.0 \text{ mm}$ this is the beam waist. The dimension of I is W m^{-2} ; relative scale shown.

VI. PREDICTIONS (FALSIFIABLE) AND EDGE CASES

P1 (spinswirl-clock). Polarization helicity coincides one-to-one with the handedness of the local swirl clock; spin-to-orbital conversion under strong focusing produces steps in ℓ (test via forked interferograms [3]). **P2 (OAM ring).** The on-axis null and ring radius r_{max} follow the LG scaling; deviations at extreme focusing (non-paraxial) predict measurable phase modulations. **Edge cases.** Non-paraxial ($w_0 \sim \lambda$), dispersive media, and the near field of structures (locally non-Gaussian) call for fully vectorial solutions.

VII. MAINSTREAM MAPPING (ROSETTA-STYLE QUICK DICTIONARY)

The following items summarize the translation to standard EM/QO language, consistent with Rosetta v0.6:

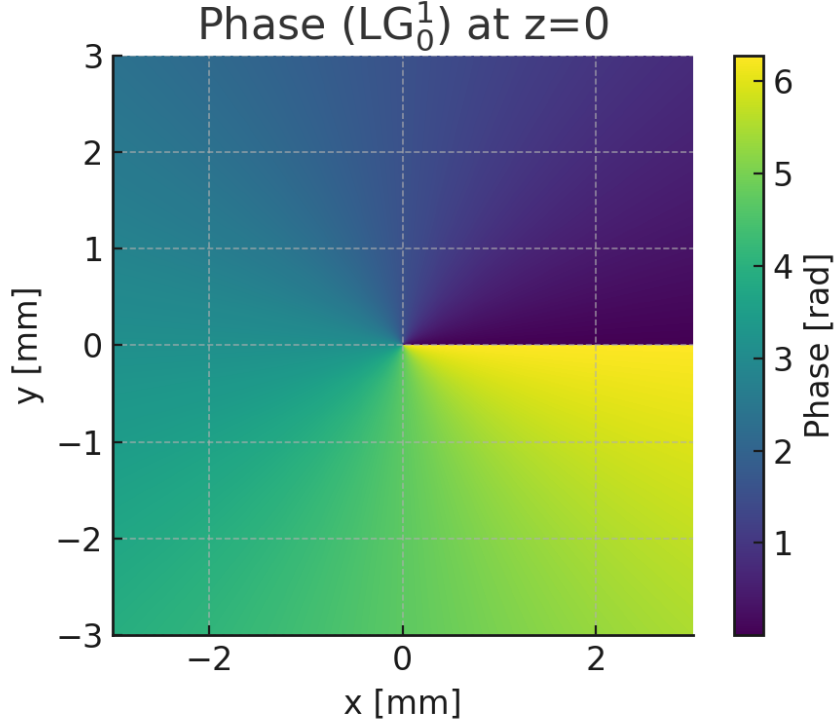


FIG. 2: Phase field for LG_0^1 with topological charge $\ell=1$ at $z=0$. The phase $\Phi(\theta) = \ell \theta$ winds by 2π around the axis and has a singular core (dark “vortex”): zero intensity on-axis and a ring maximum at $r_{\text{max}}(0) = w_0/\sqrt{2} = 0.707$ mm. This visualizes optical OAM.

- **Scalar radiation mode:** phase field obeys $\partial_t^2 \theta - c^2 \nabla^2 \theta = 0$ in uniform regions (luminal calibration).
- **Polarization:** spin $\pm \hbar$ maps to left/right circular polarization (handed swirl-clock).
- **OAM:** integer ℓ equals azimuthal phase winding; LG modes are standard paraxial solutions.
- **Energy/momentum:** $E = \hbar \omega$, $p = \hbar k$; intensity $I \propto |E|^2$ as in optics.
- **Analogue metric:** weak-field lensing/time-delay effects track gradients of the swirl energy fraction (see Rosetta).

a. Kid analogy. A photon is like a tiny corkscrew ripple that travels along an invisible string: turning left or right sets polarization; adding an extra twist per loop yields OAM

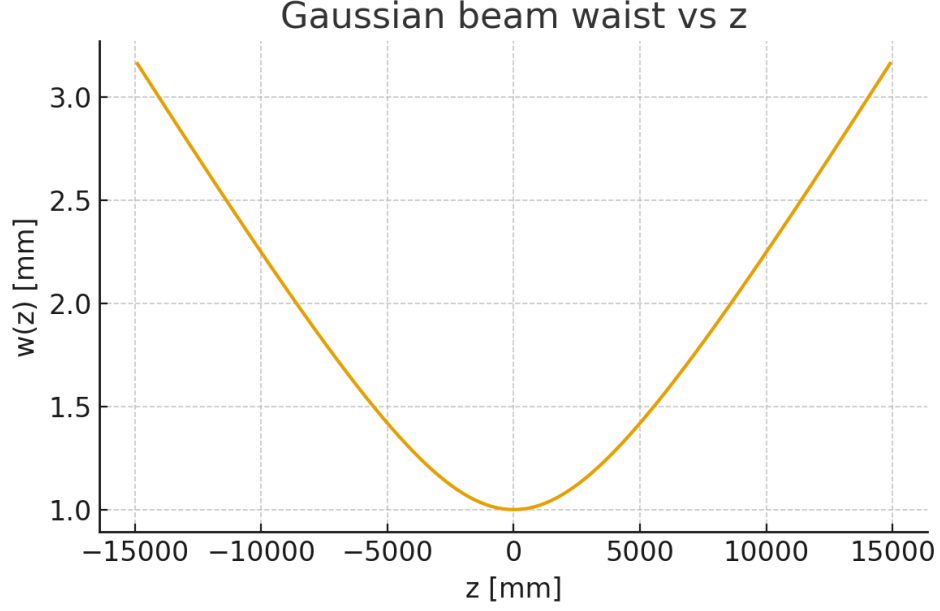


FIG. 3: Beam waist $w(z)$ versus z . For $|z| \ll z_R$ the beam remains narrow; for $|z| \gg z_R$ one has $w(z) \approx |z|\theta_{\text{div}}$ with $\theta_{\text{div}} = \lambda/(\pi w_0)$. The Rayleigh range $z_R = 4.9646$ m marks the near- to far-field transition.

rings.

- [1] A. E. Siegman, *Lasers*, University Science Books (1986).
- [2] L. Allen *et al.*, Phys. Rev. A **45**, 8185 (1992).
- [3] M. V. Berry, J. Opt. A **6**, 259 (2004).