

Quiz 4: Scattering Matrices and Fabry-Perots

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Lasers and Optomechanics

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General Scattering Matrix

In class we discussed a 2×2 general scattering matrix S . If we assume the scattering matrix is

1. unitary, and
2. time-reversible,

we can write the general scattering matrix as

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{E}_{\text{out}} &= \mathbf{S} \mathbf{E}_{\text{in}} \\ \begin{bmatrix} E_1 \\ E_2 \end{bmatrix}_{\text{out}} &= e^{i\phi} \begin{bmatrix} \sqrt{1-r^2} & re^{i\delta} \\ -re^{-i\delta} & \sqrt{1-r^2} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} E_1 \\ E_2 \end{bmatrix}_{\text{in}} \end{aligned} \quad (1)$$

where $r \in [0, 1]$ and $\phi, \delta \in [0, 2\pi]$.

Write the parameters r, ϕ, δ needed to express the following matrices:

$$1. \begin{bmatrix} t & r \\ -r & t \end{bmatrix} \quad \begin{aligned} r^2 &= 1 - t^2, \quad t \in [0, 1] \\ \phi &= 0, \quad \delta = 0 \end{aligned}$$

$$2. \begin{bmatrix} e^{-ikL} & 0 \\ 0 & e^{-ikL} \end{bmatrix} \quad r = 0, \quad \phi = -kL, \quad \delta \in [0, 2\pi]$$

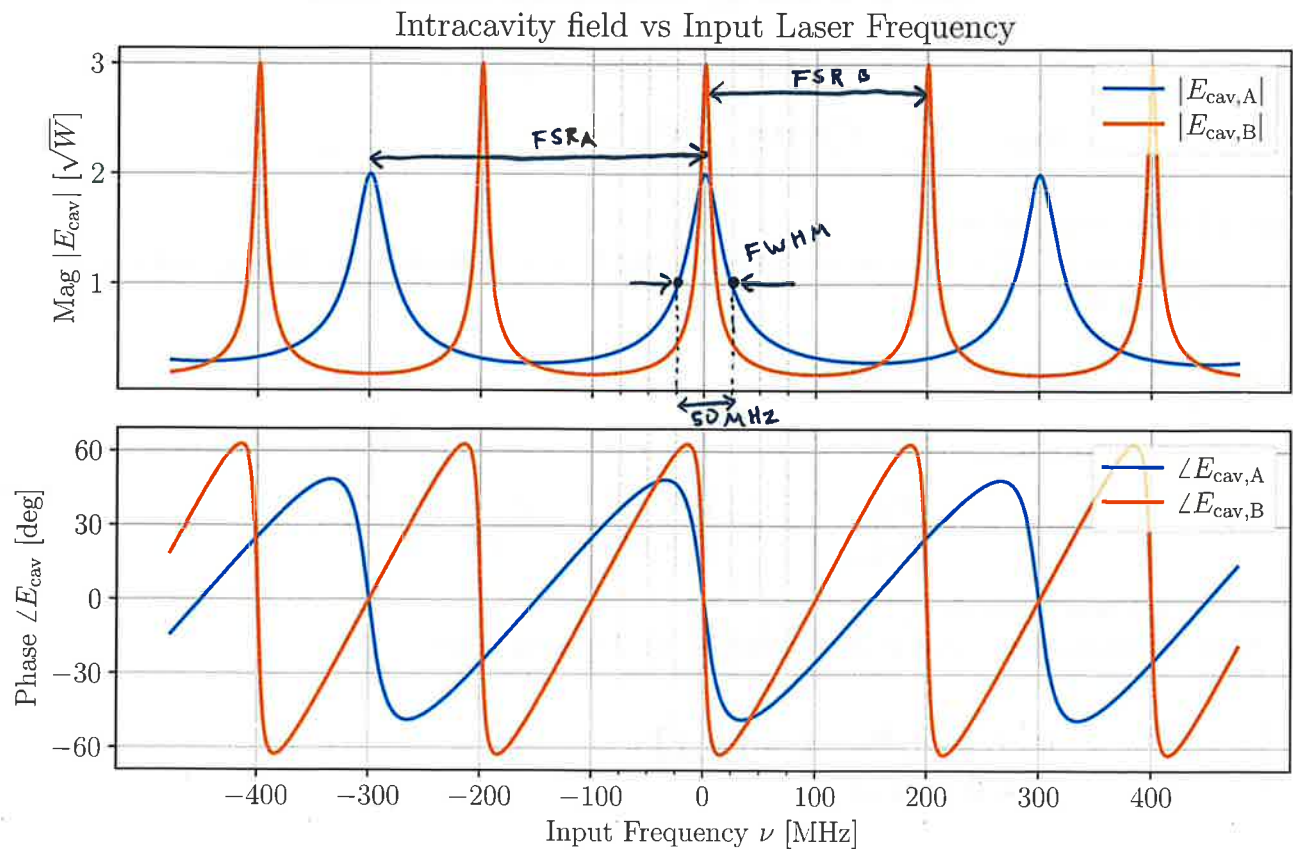
$$3. \begin{bmatrix} it & r \\ r & it \end{bmatrix} \quad \begin{aligned} r^2 &= 1 - t^2, \quad t \in [0, 1] \\ \phi &= \frac{\pi}{2}, \text{ so that } e^{i\phi} = i \\ \delta &= \frac{3\pi}{2}, \text{ so that } e^{i\delta} = -i \end{aligned} \quad \left. \vphantom{\begin{aligned} r^2 &= 1 - t^2, \quad t \in [0, 1] \\ \phi &= \frac{\pi}{2}, \text{ so that } e^{i\phi} = i \\ \delta &= \frac{3\pi}{2}, \text{ so that } e^{i\delta} = -i \end{aligned}} \right\} \begin{aligned} re^{i\delta}e^{i\phi} &= r(-i)(+i) = r \\ -re^{-i\delta}e^{i\phi} &= -r(i)(i) = r \end{aligned}$$

Laser Amplifier Scattering Matrix

1. Write a scattering matrix for a single-pass laser amplifier with power gain G and length L .
2. Which assumption about scattering matrices made above would no longer be valid?

$$1. \begin{bmatrix} \sqrt{G} e^{-ikL} & 0 \\ 0 & \sqrt{G} e^{-ikL} \end{bmatrix}$$

2. Unitarity (Power is not conserved for our seed laser)



Two Cavities Swept by One Laser

In the above figure, two cavities A and B are swept by the same laser with frequency offset ν . The intracavity fields are plotted during this sweep. For the below questions, recall the following equations,

$$P_{in} = 1 \text{ W}$$

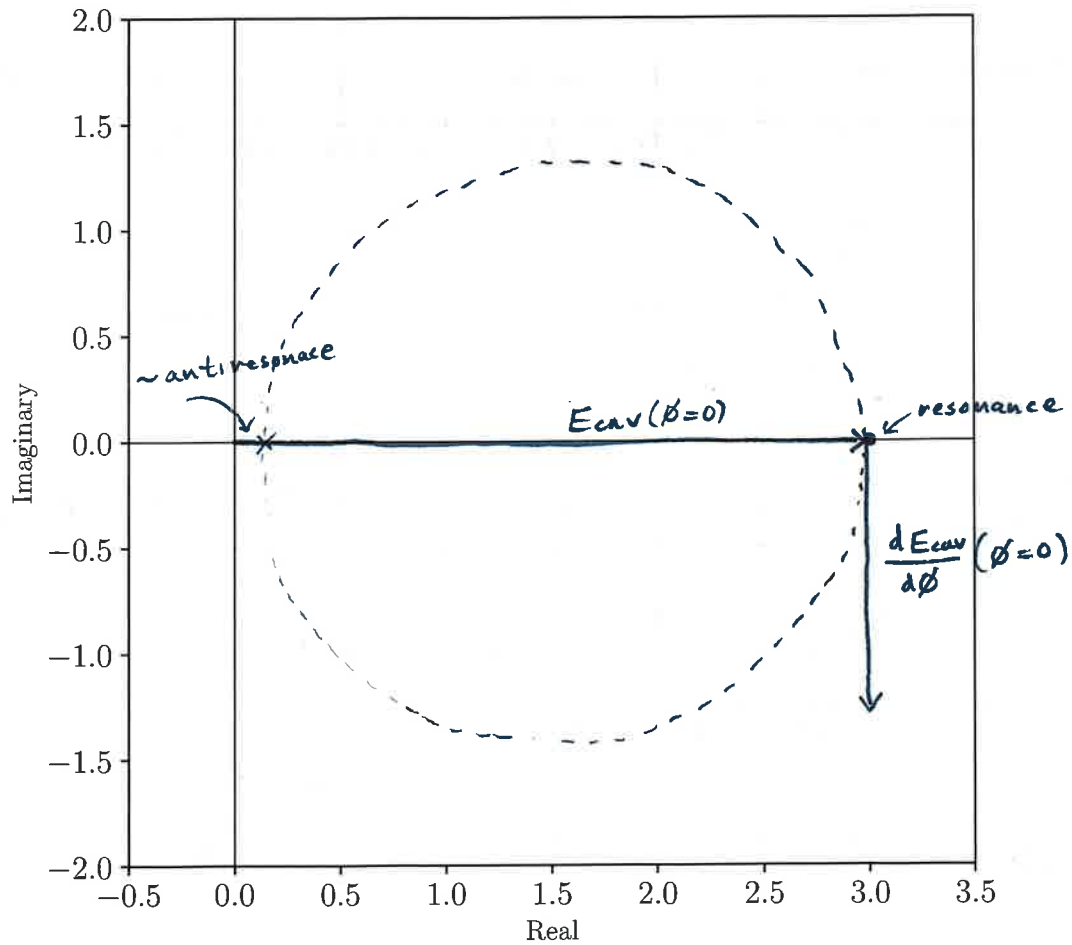
$$E_{in} = 1 \sqrt{\text{W}}$$

$$\frac{E_{cav}}{E_{in}} = \frac{t_1}{1 - r_1 r_2 e^{-i\phi}} \quad (2)$$

where ϕ is the round-trip phase.

- What is the *free spectral range* FSR for the two cavities? A: 300 MHz
B: 200 MHz
- Which cavity has the longer length, A or B? B is longer, because $FSR = \frac{c}{2L}$ and $FSR_B < FSR_A$
- What is the *finesse* \mathcal{F} for cavity A? $\mathcal{F} = \frac{FSR}{FWHM} = \frac{300 \text{ MHz}}{50 \text{ MHz}} = 6$
- Assuming the cavities are *critically-coupled*, what is the power transmission $T = t^2$ of the mirrors?
- Calculate the *discriminant* of the intracavity field with respect to the round-trip phase ϕ : $\frac{dE_{cav}}{d\phi}$.
- Draw the phasor for cavity B on the plot on the next page.
Draw the vectors for E_{cav} and its discriminant $\frac{dE_{cav}}{d\phi}$ evaluated at resonance $\phi = 0$.
- Is the discriminant purely a magnitude change, a phase change, or a mixture of both at resonance? What about in general?

6. Need $E_{cav} \approx 3$ at resonance, and some small real value at antiresonance, and a circle for the total phasor.
7. At resonance, $\phi=0$, the change is purely phase. In general it is both.



1. $FSR_A = 300 \text{ MHz}$
 $FSR_B = 200 \text{ MHz}$ Read off of plot

2. B is longer, because $FSR = \frac{c}{2L}$ and $FSR_B < FSR_A$, so
 $\Rightarrow L_B > L_A$

3. Finesse $\mathcal{F}_A = \frac{FSR}{FWHM} = \frac{300 \text{ MHz}}{50 \text{ MHz}} = 6$
 ↑
 read off plot

4. Power Transmission $T = t^2$ for critically coupled cavity ($r_1 = r_2 = r$)
 Cavity A: $|E_{\max}^{\text{cav}}| = 2\sqrt{W}$, $P_{\text{in}} = 1$ occurs at resonance $\phi = 0$

$$\left. \frac{E_{\text{cav}}}{E_{\text{in}}} \right|_{\phi=0} = \left. \frac{t_1}{1 - r_1 r_2 e^{-i\phi}} \right|_{\phi=0} = \left. \frac{t_1}{1 - r_1 r_2} \right|_{r_1=r_2} = \frac{t}{1 - r^2}$$

$$t = \sqrt{1 - r^2} \Rightarrow t^2 = 1 - r^2$$

$$\left. \frac{E_{\text{cav}}}{E_{\text{in}}} \right|_{\phi=0} = \frac{t}{t^2} = \frac{1}{t} = 2 \Rightarrow t = \frac{1}{2} \Rightarrow \boxed{T = \frac{1}{4}}$$

~~$$\left. \frac{P_{\text{cav}}}{P_{\text{in}}} \right|_{\phi=0} = \frac{1}{t^2} = \frac{1}{T} = 2 \Rightarrow T = \frac{1}{2}$$~~

Cavity B: $|E_{\max}^{\text{cav}}| = 3\sqrt{W}$, $E_{\text{in}} = 1\sqrt{W}$

$$\left| \frac{E_{\text{cav}}}{E_{\text{in}}} \right|_{\phi=0} \Rightarrow \frac{1}{t} = 3 \Rightarrow t = \frac{1}{3} \Rightarrow \boxed{T = \frac{1}{9}}$$

5. Discriminant of E_{cav} : $\frac{dE_{\text{cav}}}{d\phi}$

$$E_{\text{cav}} = t_1 (1 - r_1 r_2 e^{-i\phi})^{-1}$$

$$\frac{dE_{\text{cav}}}{d\phi} = t_1 (-1)(1 - r_1 r_2 e^{-i\phi})^{-2} (-r_1 r_2 e^{-i\phi})(-i)$$

$$\frac{dE_{\text{cav}}}{d\phi} = \frac{-it_1 r_1 r_2 e^{-i\phi}}{(1 - r_1 r_2 e^{-i\phi})^2}$$

Evaluate at resonance $\left. \frac{dE_{\text{cav}}}{d\phi} \right|_{\phi=0} = \frac{-it_1 r_1 r_2}{(1 - r_1 r_2)^2} = -i \frac{r_1 r_2}{t_1} E_{\text{cav}}^2(\phi=0) = -i \frac{r^2}{t} E_{\text{cav},0}^2 = -i \frac{(8/9)}{(1/3)} (9) = -i 24$

Critically coupled

Cavity B Values