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Quantum theory of light scattering in a one-dimensional channel: Interaction effect on photon statistics and entanglement entropy

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We provide a complete and exact quantum description of coherent light scattering in a one-dimensional multimode transmission line coupled to a two-level emitter. Using a recently developed scattering approach, we discuss transmission properties, the power spectrum, the full counting statistics, and the entanglement entropy of transmitted and reflected states of light. Our approach takes into account spatial parameters of an incident coherent pulse as well as waiting and counting times of a detector. We describe the time evolution of the power spectrum and observe deviations from the Poissonian statistics for reflected and transmitted fields. In particular, the statistics of reflected photons can change from sub-Poissonian to super-Poissonian for increasing values of the detuning, while the statistics of transmitted photons is strictly super-Poissonian in all parametric regimes. We study the entanglement entropy of some spatial part of the scattered pulse and observe that it obeys the area laws and that it is bounded by the maximal entropy of the effective four-level system.

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I. INTRODUCTION

A. Overview of studies of scattering in one-dimensional channel with emitter

With current advances in experimental nano-optics, the problem of light scattering in quasi-one-dimensional waveguides becomes an important cornerstone for understanding physics behind the light-matter interaction in a confined geometry. A number of recent experimental studies have been devoted to photon scattering when a single emitter is coupled to a one-dimensional (1D) scattering channel [1–9]. The focus of these studies is on the possibility of making few-photon devices (transistors, mirrors, switches, transducers, etc.) as building blocks for either all-photonic or hybrid quantum devices. While a number of few-photon emitters based on single molecules, diamond color centers, and quantum dots are available nowadays [10,11], an understanding of the extreme quantum regime of a few-photon scattering in a 1D fiber or transmission line [12,13] should be supplemented by microscopic studies of scattering of a coherent light (e.g., generated by a laser driving) off an emitter in a confined 1D geometry. This is the main motivation of the present work. In addition, it is worth mentioning that the model studied here can be derived as an effective model in a 3D scattering geometry when scattering channels are restricted to the photonic states with the lowest angular momentum values (s-wave scattering).

Theoretical studies of quantum models describing light propagation in 1D geometry were pioneered in the 1980s by Rupasov and Yudson [14–20]. They introduced and solved a broad class of Bethe ansatz integrable one-dimensional models and even managed to determine exactly the time evolution of certain initial states [18]. In the next decade these studies were extended by Konik and LeClair [21–24]. The exactly solvable class of models includes linearly dispersed photons interacting with a single qubit, a Dicke cluster, and distributed emitters. However, the integrability imposes a rather strict constraint: It requires the absence of backscattering, thus limiting this class to the chiral, or unidirectional, models. This constraint, however, is not restrictive if a scatterer is local: Transforming left- and right-propagating states of photons to the basis of their even and odd combinations, one can observe that the odd modes decouple from the scatterer and thus a model with backscattering is mapped onto an effective chiral model for even modes. In turn, to realize the physical chiral model with distributed emitters, it was recently proposed [25] to employ scattering of edge states in topological photonic insulators. Experimentally, a quantum nondemolition measurement of a single unidirectionally propagating microwave photon was achieved in Ref. [26] using a chain of transmons cascaded through circulators that suppress photon backscattering.

A revival of interest in problems of photonic transport in 1D geometries was triggered in the past two decades by the progress in quantum information science, which resulted in series of publications from various groups [27–55]. In these works, a variety of different setups were carefully analyzed, comprising three- and four-level emitters, the nonlinear photon dispersion, effects of driving, and dissipation. In addition, recent experimental achievements [56] have motivated a theoretical consideration of models containing both distributed emitters and backscattering [57–60].

B. Scattering approach: Role of detector

In this paper we focus on a basic model consisting of a two-level qubit coupled to a 1D channel and driven by a coherent field. We develop a complete and exact quantum description of all physical properties of this system using the scattering formalism.

A characterization of different scattering regimes in this model can be obtained by introducing parameters quantifying (i) an initial state, (ii) a qubit (iii), a waveguide, and (iv) a detector. Throughout the paper we assume that the initial state is a pulse of spatial length $L$. In units $\hbar = v_g = 1$, where $v_g$ is the group velocity of linearly dispersed photons in a waveguide, the parameter $1/L$ defines one of the important
energy scales: the wave-packet width in the $k$ space. Another energy scale is given by the qubit relaxation rate $\Gamma = \pi g^2$, where $g$ is a photon-qubit interaction strength. In addition, we have a dimensionless parameter $\bar{N}$ characterizing the mean number of photons in the initial pulse. In terms of these parameters, one can distinguish three different regimes in this problem: (a) $\bar{N} \gg \Gamma L \gg 1$, (b) $\Gamma L \gg \bar{N} \gg 1$, and (c) $\Gamma L \gg 1 \gg \bar{N}$. Note that in all cases we assume $\Gamma L \gg 1$, meaning the long-$L$ (or narrow bandwidth) pulse limit.

Regime (a) was studied in the 1970s in connection with the resonance fluorescence phenomenon [61] (see also the review in [62]). In this regime, a semiclassical description of the laser beam is sufficient.

In contrast to regime (a), in regime (c) single-photon (elastic) processes dominate, while a contribution of many-photon (inelastic) processes to the scattering outcome is weak; the most remarkable inelastic effect in this regime is perhaps the formation of the two-photon bound state. Various aspects of regime (c) have been recently studied in the numerous publications cited above.

To complement the previous studies, we wish to achieve a comprehensive understanding of the crossover regime (b), where the mean number of scattered photons is already large, but the Rabi frequency proportional to $\sqrt{\bar{N}T/L}$ is still much smaller than $\Gamma$. To this end, we apply the quantum scattering approach developed in our earlier paper [49]. It will be shown in the following that it is eventually capable of covering all three regimes, thereby establishing a theoretical platform for studying the classical-to-quantum crossover in this model.

In addition to the system-related parameters, our approach can accommodate information contained in the detection protocol as shown in Fig. 1. A pulse of spatial length $L$ (shown in pink) is injected into the waveguide at time $t = -t_0$ and the coordinate $x = -t_0$ (recall that $v_g = 1$). Due to the linear dispersion, it moves without changing its shape toward the qubit coupled to the waveguide at the point $x = 0$. From the time instant $t = 0$ the photons in the pulse start interacting with the qubit and this interaction lasts for a time $\sim L$. Subsequently, the scattered pulse leaves the interaction region around $x = 0$ (only the transmitted part is shown in blue in the figure), its shape being modified, and at $t = t_0$ its front reaches the detector (the eye) at the position $x = t_0$. To make the scattering formalism applicable we must assume that $t_0 \gg L$, meaning that the detector is far away from the scattering region. After the front of the scattered pulse reaches the detector at $t = t_0$, the latter remains switched off during the waiting time $T$ and at $t = t_0 + T$ it switches on and starts to count transmitted photons during the subsequent time interval $\tau$ (counting time). Thus, the setup in Fig. 1 is characterized by the two important time scales $T$ and $\tau$. In the following we will assume $L > \tau$ (which, in particular, allows us to take the limit $L \to \infty$ before the limit $\tau \to \infty$). This assumption is based on the instrumental possibility to create an initial wave packet of a sufficiently narrow width in the $k$ space; from the conceptual viewpoint we impose this condition to enable an open-system description of the scattered pulse, for which the aforementioned order of limits is essential. The detector-related time scales together with the system-related energy scales exhaust the most relevant parameters of this problem.

C. Physical observables and their generating function

Major statistical properties of a scattered light field are characterized by a collection of $m$-point ($m = 2, 4, \ldots$) correlation functions [63]. Another basic observable quantity is a transmission (reflection) spectrum. It quantifies the amplitude of the transmitted (reflected) field and has been measured in various experiments with microwave transmission lines [2–5]. A more involved quantity of interest is the resonance fluorescence power spectrum, which is a Fourier transform of the field-field $g^{(1)}$ correlation function. This (Mollow) spectrum is known to feature a three-peak structure [61]. Further experimental practice is to collect information about the density-density $g^{(2)}$ correlation function using the Hanbury-Brown-Twiss setup [64]. Higher-order correlators can also (at least, in principle) be accessed in an experiment and this motivates us to study the generating function of all moments of the density operator, being related to the $m$-point functions. In mesoscopic physics, such a generating function is known as the full counting statistics (FCS), though in the historical retrospective this concept was originally introduced in the quantum-optical context [63,65] in order to characterize statistical properties of a noninteracting quantized electromagnetic field. Its fully quantum derivation was presented in Ref. [66]. For a coherent light field driving a two-level system (the resonance fluorescence model), the FCS was studied in [67–70]. It was observed [67] that the FCS distribution of the fluorescent photons is narrower than the Poissonian distribution. An
important measure of this effect is the Mandel Q parameter $Q = \langle (N^{(2)}) - \langle N^{(1)} \rangle^2 \rangle / \langle N^{(1)} \rangle$, which is obtained from the first and the second factorial moments of the FCS.

Later on, the concept of the FCS was borrowed and actively developed in the field of mesoscopic physics [71,72] to study statistical properties of electronic currents in meso- and nanoscopic devices for both noninteracting and interacting electrons [73–82]. It was shown that the FCS can be very useful for characterizing classical-quantum crossover [83], quantum entanglement [84–86], and phase transitions [87,88].

The FCS of nonlocal observables can be used to quantify correlations [89–92] and prethermalization in many-body systems [93,94], as well as to define some kind of a topological order parameter [95].

The studies of the FCS in mesoscopic physics have generated a backflow of ideas to the quantum optics community. Inspired by the recent experiments in the context of the 1D resonance fluorescence, the subject of the FCS has received renewed attention (see [96–99]).

D. This paper: Content and results

Motivated by previous developments, we revisit the original problem of computing the FCS for photons interacting with an emitter. This is the first goal of the present work. We give it a detailed quantum consideration, treating the interaction nonperturbatively. We present an exact calculation of the FCS in the basic model of light-matter interaction (see Fig. 1): a multimode propagating photonic field in one dimension interacting with a two-level emitter. Since one of the objectives in nanophotonics research is to obtain strong photon nonlinearities as well as a strong photon-emitter interaction for the purpose of efficient control over individual atoms and photons, knowledge of statistical properties of an interacting photon-emitter device becomes essential.

The geometry of our system (see Fig. 1) suggests to define the three types of counting statistics: the FCS of transmitted photons, the FCS of reflected photons, and the FCS of the chiral model. Below we discuss this classification in more detail. The multimode nature of the waveguide implies an emergence of many-body correlations. As such, interactions modify the statistics of photons in forward- and backward-scattering channels in comparison with the Poissonian one of the incident coherent beam. As a by-product of our FCS computation, we revisit the transmission properties and evaluate the Mandel Q parameter exhibiting super-Poissonian, sub-Poissonian, and Poissonian statistics for the three counting models in question.

We also provide a derivation of the Mollow spectrum based on knowledge of the exact scattering wave function that avoids the usage of the quantum regression theorem and reproduces the original expression [61] derived for the 3D scattering geometry. It helps to understand how the resonance fluorescence can be decomposed into elementary scattering processes.

Yet another quantity that has received a great deal of attention due to developments in quantum information science is the entanglement entropy (see, e.g., the review in [100]). While several measures of entanglement exist, the entropy of entanglement has several nice properties such as additivity and convexity. In quantum information theory, the entanglement entropy gives the efficiency of conversion of partially entangled to maximally entangled states by local operations [101,102]. In other terms, it gives the amount of classical information required to specify the reduced density matrix. A large degree of entanglement is what makes quantum information exponentially more powerful than classical information, so states with lower entanglement entropy are less complex. For extended systems of condensed-matter physics it is customary to distinguish between area and volume law [100] behavior of the entanglement entropy. Here the notions of area or volume refer to a typical geometric measure of a region bounded by a subsystem $A$ with respect to the rest of a system. Thus, in the 1D case, relevant for our discussion here, the area of an interval $A$ consists of just two end points, while the volume is a length of the interval of the subsystem $A$. Systems with volume law behavior entanglement possess much higher potential for applications in quantum simulations and computing. It was shown [100] that in most cases a quantum ground-state wave function of gapped systems exhibits the area law, while typical excited states mostly follow the volume law. An intermediate logarithmic behavior of the entanglement entropy is related to gapless systems. These features should be understood as asymptotic properties of a system, when the area and the volume of a subsystem entangled with the rest part of a system become large. Our complete knowledge of the scattering state allows us to calculate explicitly the entanglement entropy of the scattered pulse’s interval of length $\tau$ (see Fig. 1) for different values of $\tau$, $T$, and system parameters. The (dimensionless) duration $\Gamma \tau$ of the observation interval plays the role of the volume of the subsystem $A$ in this context. One of our central results in that section is a demonstration of the existence of the absolute limit for the entanglement entropy in our system: It is bounded by $\ln 4$, the entropy of the four-level system. Another important observation is that while the entanglement entropy at large $\tau$ asymptotically approaches the area law bounded by $\ln 4$, it can behave very differently for small and intermediate values of $\tau$; we even observe its nonmonotonic oscillatory behavior for some intermediate regime of parameters.

II. DEFINITIONS AND APPROXIMATIONS

We start our analysis by defining the model and approximations involved in its derivation, the bosonic operators creating the initial pulse, and the FCS.

A. Theoretical model

1. Approximations and the effective Hamiltonian

Our model is described by the Hamiltonian $H = H_{ph} + H_{em} + H_{ph-em}$, where $H_{ph}$ is the Hamiltonian of the free propagating photonic field, $H_{em}$ is the Hamiltonian of an emitter, and $H_{ph-em}$ describes the field-emitter coupling. We invoke approximations that are customary in quantum optics: (i) the dipole approximation for the interacting Hamiltonian, (ii) the two-level approximation for the emitter Hamiltonian, (iii) the rotating-wave approximation (RWA), and (iv) the Born-Markov approximation (energy independence) for the coupling constant. In addition, we linearize the photonic spectrum around some appropriately chosen frequency $\Omega_0$.
that is commensurate with the emitter’s transition frequency \( \Omega \) and extend the linearized dispersion to infinity. With these assumptions [except for (iii)] we obtain an effective low-energy Hamiltonian

\[
H = \sum_{\xi = \pm} \int dk (\Omega_0 + \xi k) a_{\xi k}^\dagger a_{\xi k} + \frac{\Omega}{2} \sigma^z + g_0 \sum_{\xi = \pm} \int dk (a_{\xi k}^\dagger a_{\xi k} + a_{\xi k} a_{\xi k}^\dagger)(\sigma^+ + \sigma^-),
\]

(1)

featuring the two-branch linear dispersion with right- (\( \xi = r = + \)) and left- (\( \xi = l = - \)) propagating modes. Here \( \sigma^\pm = (\sigma^x \pm i \sigma^y)/2 \) are expressed in terms of the Pauli matrices \( \sigma^a, a = x, y, z \). The states of the emitter are separated by the transition frequency \( \Omega \). To implement the RWA in a systematic way, we first perform the gauge transformation \( H \to U^\dagger H U + i(dU^\dagger/\!\!d\tau)U \) with

\[
U = \exp \left[ -i \Omega_0 t \left( \sum_{\xi = \pm} \int dk (a_{\xi k}^\dagger a_{\xi k} + \sigma^z) \right) \right],
\]

(2)

which leads us to the Hamiltonian

\[
H = \sum_{\xi = \pm} \int dk \xi k a_{\xi k}^\dagger a_{\xi k} + \frac{\Delta}{2} \sigma^z + g_0 \sum_{\xi = \pm} \int dk (a_{\xi k}^\dagger \sigma^- + a_{\xi k} \sigma^+) + g_0 \sum_{\xi = \pm} \int dk (a_{\xi k}^\dagger \sigma^+ e^{2i\Omega_0 t} + a_{\xi k} \sigma^- e^{-2i\Omega_0 t}),
\]

(3)

where \( \Delta = \Omega - \Omega_0 \). As soon as \( g_0^2/\Omega_0 \ll 1 \), the time-oscillating terms in (3) can be treated as a time-dependent perturbation. In zeroth order it is simply neglected, which is equivalent to the RWA. Note that this approximation is consistent with the assumption about the absence of lower and upper bounds in the linearized dispersion.

2. Transformation to the even-odd basis

Due to energy independence of the coupling constant \( g_0 \), one can decouple the Hilbert space of the model defined in (3) into two sectors. To this end, one introduces even (symmetric) and odd (antisymmetric) combinations of fields corresponding to the same energy \( |k| \),

\[
a_{\xi k} = \frac{a_{\xi k} + a_{l-k}}{\sqrt{2}}, \quad a_{\xi k} = \frac{a_{\xi k} - a_{l-k}}{\sqrt{2}}.
\]

(4)

By virtue of this canonical transformation the Hamiltonian (3) turns into a sum of the two terms \( H = H_e + H_o \), defined by

\[
H_e = \int dk [k a_{\xi k}^\dagger a_{\xi k} + g(a_{\xi k}^\dagger \sigma^- + a_{\xi k} \sigma^+)] + \frac{\Delta}{2} \sigma^z,
\]

\[
H_o = \int dk k a_{\xi k}^\dagger a_{\xi k},
\]

(5)

where \( g = g_0 \sqrt{2} \). Note that the odd Hamiltonian \( H_o \) is noninteracting and therefore odd modes do not scatter off a local emitter (\( S_o \equiv 1 \)). The even Hamiltonian \( H_e \) can be interpreted in terms of a chiral model with a single branch of the linear dispersion. A similar decomposition can be applied to an initial state. Both even and odd photons are labeled by a momentum value \( k \) lying on a single branch of the linear dispersion.

B. Definitions of wave-packet field operators and the initial state

In order to define the incident coherent state we need field operators annihilating and creating states that are normalized by unity. The field operators \( a_k \) and \( a_k^\dagger \), which are the Fourier transforms of \( a(x) \) and \( a^\dagger (x) \), do not fulfill this requirement, as they obey the commutation relation \[ [a_k, a_{k'}^\dagger] = \delta(k - k') \] (in other words, they annihilate and create unnormalizable states). To circumvent this difficulty, we construct wave-packet field operators

\[
b_k^\dagger = \frac{1}{\sqrt{L}} \int_{-L/2}^{L/2} dx a^\dagger (x) e^{ikx},
\]

(6)

which do satisfy the desired commutation relation \[ [b_k, b_{k'}^\dagger] = 1 \]. For example, the operators \( b_{l, k_0}^\dagger \) and \( b_{l, -k_0}^\dagger \) create wave packets that are centered around \( +k_0 \) (\( -k_0 \)) of the right (left) branch of the spectrum and broadened over the width \( \sim 2\pi/L \). In the coordinate representation, they create states that are spatially localized on a finite interval of length \( L \). We note the identity \[ [b_k, b_{l, k_0}^\dagger] = \delta_{kl} \sqrt{2L} \Theta(L/2 - |x|) \]. In the following, \( k_0 \) denotes the laser driving frequency (measured from the linearization point).

Having introduced \( b_k^\dagger \) and \( b_k^\dagger \) we define the initial (incoming) state \[ |\alpha\rangle = |\alpha_e\rangle \otimes |\downarrow\rangle \], where the incident right-moving photons are prepared in the coherent state \( |\alpha_e\rangle = D_r (|\alpha_e\rangle) |0\rangle \) and the two-level emitter is initially in the ground state \( |\downarrow\rangle \). Here \( |0\rangle \) denotes the photonic vacuum and \( D_r (|\alpha_e\rangle) = \exp(\alpha_0 b_{l, k_0}^\dagger - a_0^\dagger b_{l, -k_0}) \) is the coherent-state displacement operator.

The mean number of photons in the state \( |\alpha_e\rangle \) is given by \( N_0 = |\alpha_e|^2 \). We also quote a useful relation

\[
D_r^\dagger (|\alpha_e\rangle) a_k (x) D_r (|\alpha_e\rangle) = a_k (x) + \frac{\alpha_0 e^{i\Omega_0 k_0 x}}{\sqrt{L}} \Theta(L/2 - |x|),
\]

(7)

which follows from the commutation relation between \( a \) and \( b_k^\dagger \) operators. The initial coherent state defined in the original right-left basis admits a decomposition into the product state in the even-odd basis

\[
|\alpha_e\rangle = e^{\alpha_0 b_{l, -k_0}^\dagger - |\alpha_e|^2/2} |0\rangle
\]

\[
= e^{\alpha_0} e^{i\Omega_0 k_0 x} e^{i\alpha_0/\sqrt{2L}} e^{-|\alpha_e|^2/4} e^{i\Omega_0 k_0 x} e^{i\alpha_0/\sqrt{2L}} e^{-|\alpha_e|^2/4} |0\rangle
\]

\[
= D_r (|\alpha_e\rangle) D_{r, o} (|\alpha_e\rangle) |0\rangle = |\alpha_e\rangle \otimes |\alpha_o\rangle,
\]

where \( \alpha = \alpha_0/\sqrt{2} \) and the displacement operators \( D_{r, o} \) are defined using the mutually commuting operators \( b_{l, -k_0}^\dagger \) and \( b_{l, k_0}^\dagger \), respectively. Importantly, \( \langle \alpha_e | \alpha_e \rangle = 1 \), i.e., the incoming state is properly normalized.

The major consequence of the even-odd decoupling is a factorization of the scattering operator \( S \) into the product \( S = S_e S_o \), where \( S_e \) is the identity operator and \( S_o \) can be studied in the context of the effective one-channel chiral model described by \( H_e \). Scattering in chiral models was studied.

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by us in Ref. [49] for arbitrary initial states, including the coherent state. In particular, we established the explicit form of the operator $S_\hbar$ in the latter case, which provides the full information about the scattering wave function. Here we take over this result and use it for calculation of observables announced in the Introduction. All expressions necessary for this purpose are quoted below for the readers’ convenience.

C. Definition of the full counting statistics

The statistics of the initial field, defined by the probability $p_m(\alpha)$ to find $n$ photons in the mode $k_0$, is given by the Poissonian distribution $p_m(\alpha) = e^{-N_0} N_0^n/n!$ for the coherent field, with the mean value $N_0 = |\alpha|^2$. Due to the photonic dispersion and inelastic scattering processes, photons can leak from the right-moving mode $k_0$ to other modes on both branches of the spectrum by virtue of scattering processes, thus modifying the photon statistics. A fraction of photons is reflected and their statistics is also of great interest. We propose a calculation of the FCS in both forward- and backward-scattering channels, which is exact and nonperturbative in both $g_0$ and $\tilde{N}_0$.

Generally speaking, the FCS can be defined as a generating function $F(\chi) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} e^{i\chi n} p(n)$ associated with a probability distribution $p(n)$ to detect $n$ photons in some given state. The function $F(\chi)$ generates $m$th-order moments of the distribution $p(n)$ that are determined by evaluating the $m$th derivative with respect to $i\chi$ at $\chi = 0$. The Fourier expansion of the $2\pi$-periodic function $F(\chi)$ yields power series in terms of the fugacity $z = e^{i\chi}$. $F(\chi) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} e^{i\chi n} p(n) \equiv \hat{F}(\hat{z})$. The normalization of a probability distribution implies $\hat{F}(1) = 1$. The expansion $\hat{F}(\hat{z}) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{(\hat{z})^n}{n!}$ around $\hat{z} = 1$ gives the factorial moments of a distribution $\langle N^{(r)} \rangle = \langle N(N-1)\cdots(N-r+1) \rangle$.

To define the photon FCS we need the two main constituents: (i) the scattering (outgoing) state $|\alpha\rangle = (S_\hbar|\alpha\rangle_0) \otimes |\alpha\rangle_0$ necessary to perform the average and (ii) a meaningful and experimentally measurable counting operator $N_\tau$. In particular, as such we can choose the number of transmitted photons that pass through the detector during the time $\tau$ (see the Fig. 1). Because of the linear dispersion, the same operator characterizes the number of photons in the spatial interval of the length $v_g \tau$ viewed in the frame comoving in the right direction with the velocity $v_g$. Introducing the coordinate system in this comoving frame such that the pulse’s front has the coordinate value $L/2$, we define the photon number operator

$$N_{r,\tau} = \int_{z_1}^{z_2} dx \, a^\dagger(x) a(x)$$

of transferred photons that appear in the spatial interval $[z_1, z_2]$. Here $-L/2 < z_1 < z_2 < L/2$ [we note that the tail of the scattered pulse extends to $-\infty$ (see below); however, we will focus on counting intervals $\tau \equiv z_2 - z_1 < L$]. The corresponding FCS reads

$$F_{r,\tau}(\chi_0) = \langle e^{i\chi_0 N_{r,\tau}} \rangle.$$  

In the chosen coordinate system, the waiting time is expressed by $T = L/2 - z_2$. In the same setting one can consider the FCS of the chiral model. To define the FCS for reflected photons, one can put the second detector at $x = -v_0$ and consider the comoving frame with the velocity $-v_g$, defining in it the counting operator $N_{l,\tau}$ via $a_l(x)$.

III. METHOD OF COMPUTING OBSERVABLES BASED ON THE EXACT SCATTERING MATRIX

A. Scattering of the coherent state in the chiral model

As we discussed above, we need to know the expression $S_{\hbar}(\alpha)$ for the scattering state in the effective chiral model for the even modes. In this section we quote the result of Sec. 5 in Ref. [49] for the coherent light scattering in the chiral model. In particular, we copy Eq. (134) from this reference, adapting the notation therein to the present paper. The subscript $e$ is also omitted in the following.

Thus, for the incoming coherent state $|\alpha\rangle$ in the mode $k_0$, the outgoing scattering state amounts to $S_{\hbar}|\alpha\rangle$, where

$$S_{\hbar} = S_{\hbar}^e[L/2, -L/2] + S_{\hbar}^o[L/2, -L/2] = \frac{\lambda}{\sqrt{2\Gamma}} A_l^\dagger.$$  

The operator

$$A_l^\dagger = \sqrt{2\Gamma} \int_{-\infty}^{-L/2} dx_0 e^{ik_0 x_0} e^{-i(\delta + i\Gamma)(L/2 + x_0)} a^\dagger(x_0),$$

describing the states in the tail of the scattered pulse, is normalized by $\langle 0|A_0 A_l^\dagger|0 \rangle = 1$. In turn, the states within the initial pulse’s size $L$ are expressed via the operators
is expressed in terms of the detuning $\delta = k_0 - \Delta$ and the relaxation rate $\Gamma = \pi g^2$; $d_0(x) = 1 - \exp[i(\delta + i\Gamma)x]$ is the bare single-photon propagator and the shorthand notation has been used for the integration measure $Dx_n = \Theta(y > x_n > \cdots > x_1 > x)dx_n \cdots dx_1$. We also consider $L/2 \geq y > x \geq -L/2$. For later use we also define the operators

$$S_0^s[y, x] = 1 + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \int \cdots \int (x_n) e^{ik_n x_n} d_0(x_n - x_{n-1}) a^\dagger(x_{n-1}) e^{ik_{n-1} x_{n-1}} \cdots d_0(x_2 - x_1) a^\dagger(x_1) e^{ik_1 x_1}, \quad (15)$$

$$S_0^b[y, x] = 1 + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \int \cdots \int (x_n) e^{ik_n x_n} d_0(x_n - x_{n-1}) a^\dagger(x_{n-1}) e^{ik_{n-1} x_{n-1}} \cdots d_0(x_2 - x_1) a^\dagger(x_1) e^{ik_1 x_1} d_0(x_1 - x). \quad (16)$$

The set of operators $S_0^a, S_0^b, S_0^s, S_0^b$ is complete in that sense that they exhaust all possible arrangements of the bare propagators $d_0(x)$.

**B. Algebra of scattering operators**

The scattering state (134) of Ref. [49] (equivalent of $S_0[\alpha]$) can be used for a computation of observable quantities. In particular, we will be interested in correlation functions $\langle \alpha | S_0^a \alpha^\dagger(z_1) \cdots \alpha^\dagger(z_m) a(\alpha) \rangle$ and therefore we need to know how the local annihilation operators $a(z_k)$ commute with the many-body scattering operator $S_0$ defined on a finite spatial interval. For a systematic treatment, we observe the following algebraic properties of the scattering operators $S_0^a, S_0^b, S_0^s, S_0^b$.

Let us choose an arbitrary point $z \in [y, x]$. Using the obvious identity

$$\Theta(y > x_n > \cdots > x_1 > x) = \sum_{j=0}^{n-1} \Theta(y > x_{j+1} > z > x_j > \cdots > x_1 > x),$$

(17)

where $x_{j+1} = y$ and $x_0 = x$, one can show by rewriting Eqs. (12), (13), (15), and (16) that the operators $S_0^a, S_0^b, S_0^s, S_0^b$ satisfy the following closed algebra with respect to the interval splitting operation:

$$S_0^a[y, x] = S_0^a[y, z] S_0^a[z, x] + S_0^a[y, z] [S_0^s[z, x] - S_0^b[z, x]],$$

$$S_0^b[y, x] = S_0^a[y, z] S_0^b[z, x] + S_0^s[y, z] [S_0^b[z, x] - S_0^a[z, x]],$$

$$S_0^s[y, x] = S_0^a[y, z] S_0^s[z, x] + S_0^s[y, z] [S_0^s[z, x] - S_0^a[z, x]],$$

$$S_0^b[y, x] = S_0^a[y, z] S_0^b[z, x] + S_0^b[y, z] [S_0^b[z, x] - S_0^a[z, x]].$$

(18)

If one divides the interval $[y, x]$ into three parts $y > z_2 > z_1 > x$ by arbitrary points $z_1$ and $z_2$, one can prove by a direct calculation that the algebra (18) is associative, as expected.

The algebra (18) also allows us to express the action of annihilation operators on the scattered state in a simple form

$$a(z) S_0^a[y, x] = S_0^a[y, z] a(z) e^{ik z} S_0^a[z, x],$$

$$a(z) S_0^b[y, x] = S_0^b[y, z] a(z) e^{ik z} S_0^b[z, x],$$

$$a(z) S_0^s[y, x] = S_0^s[y, z] a(z) e^{ik z} S_0^s[z, x],$$

$$a(z) S_0^b[y, x] = S_0^b[y, z] a(z) e^{ik z} S_0^b[z, x].$$

(19)–(22)

For the proof of (19)–(22) we used the property $d_0(0) = 0$.

Similarly, for an action of the ordered product of two annihilation operators $a(z_2) a(z_1)$, with $y > z_2 > z_1 > x$, we obtain

$$a(z_2) a(z_1) S_0^a[y, x] = S_0^a[y, z_2] a(z_2) a(z_1) e^{ik z} S_0^a[z_1, x] S_0^a[z, x],$$

$$a(z_2) a(z_1) S_0^b[y, x] = S_0^b[y, z_2] a(z_2) a(z_1) e^{ik z} S_0^b[z_1, x] S_0^b[z, x],$$

$$a(z_2) a(z_1) S_0^s[y, x] = S_0^s[y, z_2] a(z_2) a(z_1) e^{ik z} S_0^s[z_1, x] S_0^s[z, x],$$

$$a(z_2) a(z_1) S_0^b[y, x] = S_0^b[y, z_2] a(z_2) a(z_1) e^{ik z} S_0^b[z_1, x] S_0^b[z, x].$$

(23)–(26)

Iterating this procedure, one can find an action of the ordered product of $m$ annihilation operators $a(z_m) \cdots a(z_1)$, $y > z_m > \cdots > z_1 > x$; it produces the product of $m + 1$ $S$ operators, which can be symbolically written as

$$a^m S_0^a \to S_0^a \cdots S_0^a,$$

$$a^m S_0^b \to S_0^b \cdots S_0^b,$$

$$a^m S_0^s \to S_0^s \cdots S_0^s,$$

$$a^m S_0^b \to S_0^b \cdots S_0^b.$$
C. Dressing $S$ operators

In the following we will also need the shifted scattering operators

\[
S_{\beta}^v[y,x] = D^\dagger(v)S_{y}^0[y,x]D(v) = e^{v'b_0}S_{0}^y[y,x]e^{-v'b_0},
\]

where $\beta = a,b,c,\tilde{a}$ and $D(v) = \exp[vb'_0 - v^*b_0]$ is the displacement operator of the fields such that $D^\dagger(v)a^\dagger(x)D(v) = a^\dagger(x) + v^*e^{-ikx}/\sqrt{L}$. Our next goal is to establish explicit expressions for the operators $S_{\beta}^v[y,x]$ for the arbitrary complex-valued parameter $v$.

Performing the displacement (36), we obtain a new series in field operators defining $S_{\nu}^{a,b,c,\tilde{a}}$. Appropriately reorganizing (resumming) them, we find the expressions

\[
S_{\tilde{a}}^v[y,x] = \frac{i\lambda_v}{\sqrt{2\Gamma}}\sum_{n=1}^\infty \lambda^v_n \int Dx_n d_n(x) e^{i\lambda x_n} e^{i\lambda x_n} - i\lambda x_n + \ldots d_n(x_2 - x_1) a^\dagger(x_1),
\]

\[
S_{\bar{a}}^v[y,x] = \frac{i\lambda_v}{\sqrt{2\Gamma}}\sum_{n=1}^\infty \lambda^v_n \int Dx_n d_n(x) e^{i\lambda x_n} e^{i\lambda x_n} - i\lambda x_n + \ldots d_n(x_2 - x_1) a^\dagger(x_1),
\]

\[
S_{\tilde{c}}^v[y,x] = \frac{i\lambda_v}{\sqrt{2\Gamma}}\sum_{n=1}^\infty \lambda^v_n \int Dx_n d_n(x) e^{i\lambda x_n} e^{i\lambda x_n} - i\lambda x_n + \ldots d_n(x_2 - x_1) a^\dagger(x_1),
\]

\[
S_{\bar{c}}^v[y,x] = \frac{i\lambda_v}{\sqrt{2\Gamma}}\sum_{n=1}^\infty \lambda^v_n \int Dx_n d_n(x) e^{i\lambda x_n} e^{i\lambda x_n} - i\lambda x_n + \ldots d_n(x_2 - x_1) a^\dagger(x_1),
\]

as well as

\[
S_{\nu} = D^\dagger(v)S_0 D(v) = S_{\nu}^c[L/2,-L/2] + S_{\nu}^c[L/2,-L/2] = \frac{i\lambda_v}{\sqrt{2\Gamma}}\sum_{n=1}^\infty \lambda^v_n \int Dx_n d_n(x) e^{i\lambda x_n} e^{i\lambda x_n} - i\lambda x_n + \ldots d_n(x_2 - x_1) a^\dagger(x_1),
\]

where

\[
d_n(x) = \frac{p_+ + p_-}{p_+ - p_-} (e^{-ip_+ x} - e^{-ip_- x}),
\]

\[
\bar{d}_n(x) = \frac{-p_+ - p_-}{p_+ - p_-} e^{-ip_+ x} + \frac{p_+ - p_-}{p_+ - p_-} e^{-ip_- x},
\]

\[
\tilde{d}_n(x) = \frac{-p_+^2 + p_-^2}{p_+^2 - p_-^2} e^{-ip_+ x} + \frac{-p_+^2 - p_-^2}{p_+^2 - p_-^2} e^{-ip_- x},
\]

\[
\bar{d}_n(x) + \frac{i\lambda_v}{\sqrt{2\Gamma}}\tilde{d}_n(x) = \frac{i\lambda_v}{\sqrt{2\Gamma}L}\int Dx_n d_n(x)
\]

are the dressed single-photon propagators and $p_{\pm} \equiv p_{\pm}(v^*).$ Additional details on evaluation of (37)-(40) are presented in Appendix A.

D. Factorization property

To evaluate the FCS we prove the following key property of generalized $m$-point correlation functions: their factorization into the $(m + 1)$-fold product of the two-point functions. Generalized correlation functions are defined by

\[
G^{(m)}_{\nu\beta}(\{z\}; y, x) = \langle 0|S_{\nu}^\beta[y,x] \left( \prod_{n=1}^m a^\dagger(z_n) a(z_n) \right) |S_{\nu}^\beta[y,x]|0 \rangle,
\]

where the time-forward $S_{\nu}^\beta$ and the time-backward $S_{\nu\beta}^\dagger$ scattering operators depend on different and arbitrary displacement parameters $v$ and $u$, respectively. We also assume here that $y > z_m > \cdots > z_1 > x$. Note that an additional symbol for the path ordering in this expression is not required: Operators $a(z_2)$ and $a(z_{n+1})$ commute with each other since (i) they are bosonic and (ii) they are written in the interaction picture (which is equivalent to the Schrödinger picture in the comoving frame).

We observe that the relations (18) are also fulfilled by the dressed operators $S_{\nu}^\beta$. One just has to dress (18) with $D(v)$. Along with the property $d_0(0) = 0$, this implies that all relations (18)–(35) also remain valid under the replacement $S_{\nu}^\beta \rightarrow S_{\nu}^\beta$. These properties allow us to split both $S_{\nu}^\beta$ and $S_{\nu\beta}^\dagger$ into $m + 1$ operators defined on the ordered intervals [see Eq. (35)]. Applying Wick’s theorem, we contract operators from $S_{\nu}^\beta$ and $S_{\nu\beta}^\dagger$ belonging to the same interval; in total we have $m + 1$ pairwise contractions of intervals. This procedure
leads to a factorization of (45),
\[ G_{\mu \rho}^{(m)}(z_1; y, x) = |x|^{2m} G_{\mu \rho}(y - z_a) \left[ \prod_{l=1}^{m-1} G_{\mu \rho}(z_{l+1} - z_l) \right] \times G_{\mu \rho}(z_1 - x), \]
(46)
into the product of \( m + 1 \) two-point functions defined by
\[ \tilde{G}_{\mu \rho}(z_{l+1} - z_l) = \langle 0 | S^\dagger_{\mu} (z_{l+1}, z_l) S^\rho(z_{l+1}, z_l) | 0 \rangle. \]
(47)
In the following we will also use the special case of (47) with \( u = v = \alpha \),
\[ \tilde{G}_{\mu \rho}(z_{l+1} - z_l) = \langle 0 | S^\dagger_{\mu} (z_{l+1}, z_l) S^\rho(z_{l+1}, z_l) | 0 \rangle. \]
(48)
corresponding to the standard definition of the correlation functions. The factorization property (46) in this case is well known (see, e.g., Ref. [65]).

**IV. COMPUTATION OF THE FCS**

**A. The definition**

In our setup shown in Fig. 1 we have the right-moving photons in the incoming state. Therefore, in the outgoing state the right-moving photons correspond to the transmitted particles, while the left-moving photons are those that are reflected. Extending the definition (9), we represent
\[ F_{r/l, \tau}(\chi_0) = \langle 0 | D^1(\alpha) D^1(\alpha) S_0^\rho \rangle \times e^{i \chi N_{r/l, \tau}} S_0^\rho D_\tau(\alpha) D_\tau(\alpha) | 0 \rangle, \]
(49)
where
\[ N_{r/l, \tau} = \int_{z_1}^{z_2} dx \frac{a_\pm(x) + a_\pm(x)}{\sqrt{2}}. \]
(50)
Since \( D_\tau(\alpha) \) commutes with \( D_\tau(\alpha) \) and \( S_0^\rho \) and it holds that
\[ D^1(\alpha) N_{r/l, \tau} D^1(\alpha) = D^1(\pm \alpha) N_{r/l, \tau} D^1(\pm \alpha), \]
(51)
we can cast (49) in the form
\[ F_{r/l, \tau}(\chi) = \langle 0 | D^1(\alpha) S_0^\rho \rangle \times e^{i \chi N_{r/l, \tau}} D_\tau(\pm \alpha) S_0^\rho D_\tau(\alpha) | 0 \rangle. \]
(52)
Using the identity
\[ e^{i \chi N_{r/l, \tau}} = e^{i \chi (z_1 - 1) N_{r/l, \tau}}, \]
\[ = 1 + \sum_{m=1}^{\infty} \left( z_0 - 1 \right)^m \int D\zeta_m \left( \prod_{k=1}^{m} a_{\ell/\tau}(\zeta_k) a_{\ell/\tau}(\zeta_k) \right), \]
(53)
where \( z_0 = e^{i \chi z_2} \), and taking into account that in (52) there are only even operators from both sides of \( e^{i \chi N_{r/l, \tau}} \) and the vacuum average is performed, we can integrate out the odd modes. It can be effectively done by replacing \( a_{\ell/\tau}(\zeta_k) \rightarrow \frac{a_{\ell/\tau}(\zeta_k)}{\sqrt{2}} \)
and \( a_{\ell/\tau}(\zeta_k) \rightarrow \frac{a_{\ell/\tau}(\zeta_k)}{\sqrt{2}} \) in (53). This eventually results in the replacement
\[ e^{i \chi N_{r/l, \tau}} \rightarrow e^{i \chi N_{r/l, \tau}}, \]
(54)
where
\[ N_{r/l, \tau} = \int_{z_1}^{z_2} dx a_\pm(x) a_\pm(x) \]
and \( \chi \) is defined by \( \chi = \frac{z - 1}{2} \) and \( z = e^{i \chi} \). Thus,
\[ F_{r/l, \tau}(\chi) = \langle 0 | D^1(\alpha) S_0^\rho \rangle \times e^{i \chi N_{r/l, \tau}} D_\tau(\pm \alpha) S_0^\rho D_\tau(\alpha) | 0 \rangle. \]
(56)
For the chiral model, we define the FCS by
\[ F_{r, \tau}(\chi) = \langle 0 | D^1(\alpha) S_0^\rho e^{i \chi N_{r, \tau}} S_0^\rho D_\tau(\alpha) | 0 \rangle. \]
(57)
This expression is very similar to (56), so we can combine them together
\[ F_{r}(\chi) = \langle 0 | D^1(\alpha) S_0^\rho e^{i \chi N_{r, \tau}} S_0^\rho D_\tau(\alpha) | 0 \rangle, \]
(58)
where the parameter \( \kappa = 0, 1, 2 \) distinguishes between the reflected, chiral, and transmitted modes, respectively. We have also suppressed the label \( e \), since all subsequent calculations will be performed in the effective chiral basis using the results of the previous section. After a simple transformation of (58) we find
\[ F_{r}(\chi) = e^{-e^{-[\gamma]}(0) S_0^\rho e^{i \chi N_{r, \tau}} S_0^\rho D_\tau(\alpha) | 0 \rangle, \]
(59)
which is our starting expression for a computation of the FCS.

**B. Integrating out the future and the past**

The operator \( N_{r} = \int_{z_1}^{z_2} dx a(\alpha) a(x) \) in the definition (59) contains only fields belonging to the counting interval \([z_1, z_2]\). In turn, the operator
\[ b_{k_0} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{L}} \int_{-L/2}^{L/2} dx a(x) e^{-ik_0 x}, \]
(60)
contains the counting part
\[ \tilde{b}_{k_0} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{L}} \int_{z_1}^{z_2} dx a(x) e^{-ik_0 x}, \]
(61)
and its complement \( b_{k_0} = b_{k_0} + b_{k_0}' \). The latter consists of the future \((z_1 > x > -L/2)\) and past \((L/2 > x > z_2)\) parts (see Fig. 1), which are defined by
\[ b_{k_0} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{L}} \int_{-L/2}^{L/2} dx a(x) e^{-ik_0 x}, \]
(62)\[ b_{k_0}' = \frac{1}{\sqrt{L}} \int_{z_1}^{z_2} dx a(x) e^{-ik_0 x}. \]
(63)
Integrating out the states lying outside of the counting interval (see Appendix B), we obtain
\[
F^{(c)}_r(\chi)e^{-i(\zeta-1)\kappa^2|z_L|/\beta} = \left[1 + R(T)\left(1 - \frac{|\lambda|^2}{2\Gamma}\right) - 2\Re C(T)\right] \Lambda_{aa}(\tau) + \frac{|\lambda|^2}{2\Gamma} \Lambda_{bb}(\tau) + R(T) \left(\Lambda_{cc}(\tau) + \frac{|\lambda|^2}{2\Gamma} \Lambda_{ab}(\tau)\right)
\]
\[+ [C(T) - R(T)]\left(A_{ac}(\tau) + \frac{|\lambda|^2}{2\Gamma} \Lambda_{bc}(\tau)\right) + [C^*(T) - R(T)]\left(A_{ca}(\tau) + \frac{|\lambda|^2}{2\Gamma} \Lambda_{ab}(\tau)\right),
\]
where
\[
\Lambda_{\beta\beta}(\tau) = \langle 0| S_{\beta}^{\beta+i}[z_2, z_1]|e^{i\chi N_\tau}S_{\beta}^{\beta+i}[z_2, z_1]|0\rangle.
\]
evaluated at \(u = z_2\alpha\) and \(v^\ast = z_1\alpha^\ast\), with \(z_2 = \kappa(z - 1) + 1\), and
\[
R(T) = \mathcal{G}_{bb}(L/2 - z_2).
\]
\[C(T) = \mathcal{G}_{ab}(L/2 - z_2).
\]
The properties of the functions \(R(T)\) and \(C(T)\) are summarized in Appendix E.

The last remaining step is to compute the terms (65). Using the identity
\[
el^i\chi N_\tau = :e^{i(z-1)N_\tau}:= 1 + \sum_{m=1}^{\infty} (z - 1)^m \int Dz_m \left[ \sum_{l=1}^{m} a^\dagger(z_l) \alpha(z_l') \right],
\]
the definition of the generalized correlation functions (45), and their factorization property (46), we express
\[
\Lambda_{\beta\beta}(\tau) = \mathcal{G}_{\beta\beta}(z_2 - z_1) + \sum_{m=1}^{\infty} ((z - 1)|\lambda|^2)^m \int Dz_m \mathcal{G}_{\beta\beta}(z_2 - z_1) \left[ m! \prod_{l=1}^{m} \mathcal{G}_{bb}(z_{l+1} - z_l) \right] \mathcal{G}_{\beta\beta}(z_1 - z_1).
\]
Defining the Laplace transform for \(x > 0\) and its inverse
\[
\mathcal{G}_{\beta\beta}(p) = \int_{0}^{\infty} dx \mathcal{G}_{\beta\beta}(x)e^{ipx},
\]
\[\mathcal{G}_{\beta\beta}(x) = \int_{-\infty}^{0+} dp \frac{1}{2\pi} e^{-ipx} \mathcal{G}_{\beta\beta}(p),
\]
we establish
\[
\Lambda_{\beta\beta}(\tau) = \int \frac{dp}{2\pi} e^{-ip\tau} \left[ \mathcal{G}_{\beta\beta}(p) + (z - 1)|\lambda|^2 \mathcal{G}_{\beta\beta}(p) \mathcal{G}_{\beta\beta}(p) \right].
\]
The Laplace transforms (70) for all components \(\mathcal{G}_{\beta\beta}(p)\) are listed in Appendix C. With their help we find (see Appendix D) the expressions
\[
\Lambda_{aa}(\tau) + \frac{|\lambda|^2}{2\Gamma} \Lambda_{bb}(\tau) = \int \frac{dp}{2\pi p + \Omega^2_R(p)} \left[ \frac{ie^{-ip\tau}}{(z - 1)(p + i\Gamma)(\tau - \kappa(p + i\Gamma))} - \frac{|\lambda|^2}{2\Gamma} \frac{i\Gamma\Omega^2_R(z - 1) - 1}{2R_0(p)} \left( 1 + \frac{p + 2i\Gamma^2}{\delta^2 + \Gamma^2}\right) \right],
\]
\[
\Lambda_{cc}(\tau) + \frac{|\lambda|^2}{2\Gamma} \Lambda_{ab}(\tau) = \int \frac{dp}{2\pi p + \Omega^2_R(p)} \left[ \frac{ie^{-ip\tau}}{(z - 1)(p + i\Gamma)(\tau - \kappa(p + i\Gamma))} \right] \times \left[ 1 + \frac{i\Gamma\Omega^2_R(z - 1)(1 - \kappa)(p + \delta + i\Gamma)}{2R_0(p)} - \frac{\Omega^2_R(z - 1)(p + i\Gamma)}{2R_0(p)} \left( 1 + \frac{p(p + \delta + i\Gamma)}{2(p + i\Gamma)(\delta - i\Gamma)}\right) \right].
\]
where $\Omega_r = \sqrt{\Gamma |\alpha|^2 / L}$ denotes the Rabi frequency (note also the relation $|\beta|^2 = \frac{\Omega^2}{\omega^2 + \Gamma^2 / 4 + i \Gamma}$) and

$$R_0(p) = p^3 + 4i \Gamma p^2 - p(\Omega^2 + \delta^2 + 5 \Gamma^2) - i \Gamma (\Omega^2 + 2 \delta^2 + 2 \Gamma^2)$$  \hspace{0.5cm} (76)

is the third-order polynomial. An expression for $\Lambda_{aa}(\tau) + \frac{|\beta|^2}{2\Gamma} \Lambda_{bb}(\tau)$ is obtained from (75) by flipping the sign $\delta \rightarrow -\delta$.

The expressions (64) and (73)–(76) completely define the FCS for reflected, chiral, and transmitted photons in the model under consideration. One should also keep in mind that for $\kappa = 0.2$ it is necessary to replace in the end of the calculation $z \rightarrow \frac{\omega}{\delta} - 1$, since the counting parameter for the reflected and transmitted photons is $\chi_0$ and it is related to $z_0 = e^{\delta \tau}$ [see also the discussion before (56)].

C. Normalization of probability distribution

We must check normalization of the probability distribution generated by (64), which is expressed by the condition $F_t^{(k)}(0) = 1$. Noticing that at $\chi = 0$ the functions $\Lambda_{\beta \rho}(\tau)$, $\bar{G}_{\beta \rho}(\tau)$, and $\bar{G}_{\beta \rho}(\tau)$ coincide with each other, we check the identities

$$\bar{G}_{aa}(\tau) + \frac{|\beta|^2}{2\Gamma} \bar{G}_{bb}(\tau) = 1,$$  \hspace{0.5cm} (77)

$$\bar{G}_{cc}(\tau) + \frac{|\beta|^2}{2\Gamma} \bar{G}_{ab}(\tau) = 1 + \frac{|\beta|^2}{2\Gamma},$$  \hspace{0.5cm} (78)

$$\bar{G}_{cc}(\tau) + \frac{|\beta|^2}{2\Gamma} \bar{G}_{ab}(\tau) = 1,$$  \hspace{0.5cm} (79)

which hold for arbitrary $\tau$, by setting $z = 1$ in (73)–(75), and insert them into (64). We see that $F_t^{(k)}(0) = 1$ is indeed fulfilled for all $\tau$ and $T$. This also means that the scattering wave function is properly normalized.

D. Limiting cases of the waiting time $T$

1. Waiting regime $T \to \infty$

One of the important detection regimes is when the detector’s waiting time is long enough $T \to \infty$, which physically means that $T$ is much larger than all the system’s time scales but still smaller than $L$. Depending on the context, we will also call this regime stationary (for the resonance fluorescence) and bulk [for the entanglement entropy (see below)].

The stationary values $R(\infty) = C(\infty) = \frac{\Gamma}{\pi |\beta|^2}$ (see Appendix E) allow us to express (64) as

$$F_t^{(k)}(\chi)e^{-\frac{i}{2} |\beta|^2 |\alpha|^2 \tau / L} = \Lambda_{aa}(\tau) + \frac{|\beta|^2}{2\Gamma} \Lambda_{bb}(\tau).$$  \hspace{0.5cm} (82)

In the case $\kappa = 0$ our result

$$F_t^{(0)}(\chi_0) = \int \frac{dp}{2\pi p + i \Gamma \Omega^2 / 2 R_0(p)} e^{-i p \tau}$$  \hspace{0.5cm} (83)

identically coincides with that of Lenstra [69], which was derived for the corresponding regime of the resonance fluorescence.

E. Limit of long counting time $\tau$

When the counting time $\tau$ is much larger than all the system’s time scales, the main contribution to $F_t^{(k)}$ comes from the pole in the vicinity of zero, the contributions from other poles being exponentially suppressed. The dependence on $z - 1$ in the numerators of Eqs. (73)–(75) can be also neglected in the large-$\tau$ limit and we obtain

$$F_t^{(k)}(\chi)e^{-\frac{i}{2} |\beta|^2 |\alpha|^2 \tau / L} \approx \int \frac{dp}{2\pi p + i \Gamma \Omega^2 / 2 R_0(p)} e^{-i p \tau},$$  \hspace{0.5cm} (84)

independently of the waiting time $T$.  

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Setting $p = 0$ in the remaining term proportional to $z - 1$ in the denominator of (84), we arrive at the Poissonian distribution $F_\tau^{(\kappa)}(\chi) \approx e^{(z-1)/(\Omega)}$ characterized by the mean value
\[
\langle N \rangle = \tau \left(\frac{\kappa z}{L} + \frac{\Omega^2 \Gamma(1-\kappa)}{\Omega^2 + 2\delta^2 + 2\Gamma^2}\right). \tag{85}
\]
In particular, in the chiral model the mean number of photons remains the same $\tau |a|^2 / L$ as in the incident beam, while the mean numbers of reflected and transmitted photons are
\[
\langle N_r \rangle = \frac{1}{2} \langle N \rangle_{\chi = 0} = \frac{\tau |a_0|^2}{L} \frac{\Gamma^2}{(1/2)\Omega^2 + \delta^2 + \Gamma^2}, \tag{86}
\]
\[
\langle N_l \rangle = \frac{1}{2} \langle N \rangle_{\chi = 2} = \frac{\tau |a_0|^2}{L} \frac{(1/2)\Omega^2 + \delta^2 - \Gamma^2}{(1/2)\Omega^2 + \delta^2 + \Gamma^2}. \tag{87}
\]
Recall the necessary replacement $z - 1 \rightarrow \frac{z-1}{2}$, giving the additional factor $1/2$ in the expressions (86) and (87).

To find corrections to the Poissonian distribution, we expand the denominator in (84) to the linear order in $p$,
\[
1 + (z-1)Z \left( p - i \frac{(z-1)}{1 + (z-1)Z \Omega^2 \Gamma(1-\kappa)} \right) 
\approx p - i(z-1)[1 - (z-1)Z \Omega^2 \Gamma(1-\kappa)] \frac{\delta^2}{\Omega^2 + 2\delta^2 + 2\Gamma^2}, \tag{88}
\]
where
\[
Z = \frac{d}{dp} \left[ \Omega^2 R_0(p)(p + i\Gamma)(i\Gamma - \kappa(p + i\Gamma)) \right]_{p = 0} = \Omega^2 \frac{\kappa(\Omega^2 + 3\delta^2 - \Gamma^2) + 3\Gamma^2 - \delta^2}{(\Omega^2 + 2\delta^2 + 2\Gamma^2)^2}. \tag{89}
\]
Thereby we achieve the $O((z-1)^2)$ correction to the pole position in the vicinity of zero, which leads to a modification of the Poissonian form of the generating function
\[
F_\tau^{(\kappa)}(\chi) \approx e^{(z-1)/(\Omega)} \exp \left(-\tau(z-1)^2 Z \frac{\Omega^2 \Gamma(1-\kappa)}{\Omega^2 + 2\delta^2 + 2\Gamma^2}\right). \tag{90}
\]
Deviations of (90) from the Poissonian statistics can be quantified in terms of the Mandel $Q$ parameter [67]
\[
Q = \lim_{\tau \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\langle (N_{(2)}) \rangle - \langle N \rangle^2 \langle N \rangle}{\langle (N) \rangle}, \tag{91}
\]
where $\langle (N_{(2)}) \rangle$ is the second factorial moment. For $Q < 0$ a distribution is narrower than the Poissonian and it is called sub-Poissonian; for $Q > 0$ a distribution is broader than the Poissonian and it is called super-Poissonian. If $Q = 0$, a distribution is almost indistinguishable from the Poissonian. Performing an expansion of (90) in $z - 1$ up to the quadratic term, we establish
\[
Q = -2 \frac{Z(1-\kappa)\Gamma^2}{(\kappa^2/8)(\Omega^2 + 2\delta^2 + 2\Gamma^2) + \Gamma^2(1-\kappa)}. \tag{92}
\]
We note that in the chiral model ($\kappa = 1$) the Mandel $Q$ parameter identically vanishes, rendering it Poissonian. Considering $\kappa = 0$ and $\kappa = 2$, we find the factors $Q_l$ and $Q_r$ for the reflected and transmitted photons (recall again the necessary replacement $z - 1 \rightarrow \frac{z-1}{2}$)
\[
Q_l = \frac{1}{2} Q_{\chi = 0} = -\Omega^2 \frac{3\Gamma^2 - \delta^2}{(\Omega^2 + 2\delta^2 + 2\Gamma^2)^2}, \tag{93}
\]
\[
Q_r = \frac{1}{2} Q_{\chi = 2} = \Omega^2 \frac{2\delta^2 + 2\Gamma^2}{(1/2)\Omega^2 + \delta^2 (\Omega^2 + 2\delta^2 + 2\Gamma^2)^2}. \tag{94}
\]
We see that for $\delta < \Gamma \sqrt{3}$ the statistics of the reflected photons is sub-Poissionian and it becomes super-Poissonian for $\delta > \Gamma \sqrt{3}$, while the statistics of the transmitted photons is always super-Poissonian. At $\delta = 0$ the expression (93) coincides with the original result of Mandel [67] for the photon number statistics in the stationary resonance fluorescence.

In Fig. 2 we show the probability distributions $p_r(n)$ and $p_t(n)$ of transmitted and reflected photons for the long counting time $\tau = \frac{200}{\Gamma}$, which are generated by (90). We also choose $\delta = 0$ and $\Omega_r = \sqrt{2}\Gamma$, which provide $\langle N_r \rangle = \langle N_t \rangle$, to ease a comparison of these two distributions. This plot elucidates the physical meaning of the Mandel $Q$ parameter. We also mention that these theoretical results on photon statistics are supported by the recent measurements of the second-order correlation function [6] showing photon antibunching in the reflected field and superbunching in the transmitted field.

V. TRANSMISSION, REFLECTION, AND THE MOLLOW TRIPLET

The mean field and the resonance fluorescence power spectrum, also known as the Mollow triplet [61], are usually
computed using the equation of motion method and the quantum regression theorem. In this section we demonstrate how to obtain these expressions in the framework of our scattering approach.

To compute the mean field \( \langle a(z_1) \rangle \) and the first-order correlation function \( g^{(1)}(z_1',z_1) = \langle a^\dagger(z_1')a(z_1) \rangle \) we employ the expression (58), in which we replace \( e^{ixN_t} \) by \( a(z_1) \) and \( a^\dagger(z_1') \) by \( a(z_1) \).

Thus,

\[
\langle a(z_1) \rangle = \langle 0 | \langle S_0^a | D^\dagger(\kappa a) a(z_1) D(\kappa a) S_0 | 0 \rangle = \frac{\kappa \alpha}{\sqrt{L}} e^{i\kappa z_1} + \langle 0 | S_0^a a(z_1) S_0 | 0 \rangle, \tag{95}
\]

\[
\langle a^\dagger(z_1') a(z_1) \rangle = \langle 0 | \langle S_0^a | D^\dagger(\kappa a) a(z_1') D(\kappa a) S_0 | 0 \rangle = \frac{\kappa^2 |\alpha|^2}{L} e^{-i\kappa(z'_1-z_1)} + \frac{\kappa \alpha^*}{\sqrt{L}} e^{-i\kappa z_1} \langle a(z_1) \rangle + \langle 0 | S_0^a a^\dagger(z_1') a(z_1) S_0 | 0 \rangle, \tag{96}
\]

Note that to find the reflected and transmitted (\( \kappa = 0,2 \)) fields and their \( g^{(1)} \) functions, it is necessary to multiply (95) and (96) additionally by the factors \( 1/\sqrt{2} \) and \( 1/2 \). So we see that it suffices to compute

\[
\langle 0 | S_0^a a(z_1) S_0 | 0 \rangle = \langle 0 | S_0^a | [L/2,-L/2] a(z_1) S_0^b [L/2,-L/2] | 0 \rangle + \frac{|\lambda|^2}{2}\langle 0 | S_0^b [L/2,-L/2] a(z_1) S_0^b [L/2,-L/2] | 0 \rangle
\]

and

\[
g^{(1)}(z'_1, z_1) = \langle 0 | S_0^a a^\dagger(z_1') a(z_1) S_0 | 0 \rangle = \langle 0 | S_0^a | [L/2,-L/2] a^\dagger(z_1') a(z_1) S_0^b [L/2,-L/2] | 0 \rangle + \frac{|\lambda|^2}{2}\langle 0 | S_0^b [L/2,-L/2] a^\dagger(z_1') a(z_1) S_0^b [L/2,-L/2] | 0 \rangle.
\]

Applying the \( \alpha \)-shifted versions of (19) and (20), we obtain

\[
\langle 0 | S_0^a a(z_1) S_0 | 0 \rangle = \lambda e^{i\kappa z_1} \langle 0 | S_0^a | [L/2,-L/2] S_0^b [L/2,z_1'] S_0^b [L/2,-L/2] | 0 \rangle
\]

and

\[
g^{(1)}(z'_1, z_1) = |\lambda|^2 e^{-i\kappa(z'_1-z_1)} \langle 0 | S_0^a | [z_1',-L/2] S_0^b [L/2,z_1'] S_0^b [L/2,z_1] S_0^b [L/2,-L/2] | 0 \rangle + \frac{|\lambda|^2}{2}\langle 0 | S_0^b | [z_1',-L/2] S_0^b [L/2,z_1'] S_0^b [L/2,z_1] S_0^b [L/2,-L/2] | 0 \rangle.
\]

Next, using (18), we split in the first case the operators \( S_0^a, b^b | [L/2,-L/2] \) into the subintervals \([ -L/2, z_1 ] \) and \([ z_1, L/2 ] \). Assuming \( z'_1 > z_1 \) in the second case, we split the operators \( S_0^a, b^b | [z_1', -L/2] \) into the subintervals \([ -L/2, z_1 ] \) and \([ z_1, z'_1 ] \) and the operator \( S_0^b [L/2,z_1] \) into the subintervals \([ z_1, z'_1 ] \) and \([ z'_1, L/2 ] \). After that, we apply Wick’s theorem and use the identities (77)–(79) to obtain

\[
\langle 0 | S_0^a l(z_1) S_0 | 0 \rangle = \lambda e^{i\kappa z_1} C(L/2-z_1), \tag{97}
\]

\[
g^{(1)}(z'_1, z_1) = |\lambda|^2 e^{-i\kappa(z'_1-z_1)} \{ R(T) M(z_1'-z_1) + [C^*(T) - R(T)] C(z_1'-z_1) \}, \tag{98}
\]

where \( T = L/2 - z_1 \) and \( M(\tau) = \bar{G}_1(\tau) \). The properties of the latter function are studied in Appendix E.

In the stationary regime \( L/2 - z_1 \to \infty \) the mean field equals

\[
\langle a(z_1) \rangle \approx e^{i\kappa z_1} \left( \frac{\kappa \alpha}{\sqrt{L}} + \frac{\lambda \Gamma}{\Gamma + |\lambda|^2} \right). \tag{99}
\]
The information about the inelastic (Mollow) part of the power spectrum is contained in $g_{1}^{(1)}(z_{1},\omega)$ expressed by (98) and, more precisely, in the functions

$$M(t) = \int \frac{dp}{2\pi} e^{-i\omega t} \left[ \tilde{r}(p) + \frac{\lambda_{2}^{2}\tilde{c}(p)c(p)}{1 - |\lambda|^{2}r(p)} \right]$$

$$= \frac{\Gamma}{\Gamma + |\lambda|^{2}} \left( 1 + \frac{|\lambda|^{2}}{\Gamma} \int \frac{dp}{2\pi} e^{-i\omega t} \frac{iM_{0}(p)}{R_{0}(p)} \right),$$  \hspace{1cm} (102)

and

$$C(t) = \int \frac{dp}{2\pi} e^{-i\omega t} c(p)$$

$$= \frac{\Gamma}{\Gamma + |\lambda|^{2}} \left( 1 - \frac{|\lambda|^{2}}{\Gamma} \int \frac{dp}{2\pi} e^{-i\omega t} \frac{iC_{0}(p)}{R_{0}(p)} \right),$$  \hspace{1cm} (103)

in the form of terms containing the third-order polynomial $R_{0}(p)$, which is defined in (76). Here $r(p) = r(p;\alpha_{k}^{*})$, $\tilde{r}(p) = \tilde{r}(p;\alpha_{k}^{*})$, and $c(p) = c(p;\alpha_{k}^{*})$ are the special cases of the functions (D4), (D5), and (D7)

$$M_{0}(p) = (p + 2\Gamma)^{2} - \frac{\Omega_{1}^{2}}{2},$$  \hspace{1cm} (104)

$$C_{0}(p) = M_{0}(p) - \frac{\Gamma}{\Gamma + |\lambda|^{2}} \delta(p + 2\Gamma),$$  \hspace{1cm} (105)

We note that the inelastic power spectrum is the same (up to the factor 1/2) for the chiral and reflected or transmitted photons, therefore it is sufficient to consider only the chiral case.

We analyze first the stationary regime $T \to \infty$ of (98). Here we have $R(\infty) = C(\infty) = \frac{\Gamma}{\Gamma + |\lambda|^{2}}$ and the Mollow spectrum is completely defined by $\frac{\Gamma}{\Gamma + |\lambda|^{2}} \text{Re} \frac{iM_{0}(p)}{R_{0}(p)}$, in full agreement with the known results [61,62]. The roots of $R_{0}(p)$ define the positions and widths of all three Mollow peaks, while the functions $M_{0}(p)$ [Eq. (104)] contribute to their weights.

The expression (98) shows how the shape of the Mollow spectrum evolves in time toward its stationary value discussed above. At $T = 0$ we have $R(0) = C(0) = 0$ and the inelastic power spectrum is absent. For finite $T > 0$ its weight starts to grow and it acquires the three-peak form, however its transient shape differs from the stationary one due to the presence of the additional contribution in $C_{0}(p)$ [Eq. (105)], which is not proportional to $M_{0}(p)$. In the formal expression the power spectrum amounts to

$$P(\omega) = \frac{k_{0}}{2\pi T_{0}} \int dz_{1}^{*}dz_{1} \langle a^{\dagger}(z_{1}^{*})a(z_{1}) \rangle e^{i\omega t(z_{1}^{*}-z_{1})}$$

$$= \frac{k_{0}}{2\pi T_{0}} \int_{0}^{T_{0}} dT \int_{0}^{\infty} d\tau e^{i\omega t}$$

$$\times \langle a^{\dagger}(L/2 - T)a(L/2 - T - \tau) \rangle,$$  \hspace{1cm} (106)

where $T_{0}$ is the maximal waiting time. The inelastic part of (106) equals

$$P_{\text{inel}}(\omega) = \frac{k_{0}|\lambda|^{2}}{2\pi T_{0}} \text{Re} \int_{0}^{T_{0}} dT \int_{0}^{\infty} d\tau e^{i\omega(\omega - k_{0})\tau} \{R(T)M_{\text{inel}}(\tau)$$

$$+ [C^{*}(T) - R(T)]C_{\text{inel}}(\tau) \},$$  \hspace{1cm} (107)

and

$$M_{\text{inel}}(t) = \frac{|\lambda|^{2}}{\Gamma + |\lambda|^{2}} \int \frac{dp}{2\pi} e^{-i\omega t} \frac{iM_{0}(p)}{R_{0}(p)},$$  \hspace{1cm} (108)

$$C_{\text{inel}}(t) = -\frac{\Gamma}{\Gamma + |\lambda|^{2}} \int \frac{dp}{2\pi} e^{-i\omega t} \frac{iC_{0}(p)}{R_{0}(p)}.$$  \hspace{1cm} (109)

Computing (107), we obtain

$$P_{\text{inel}}(\omega) = \frac{k_{0}}{T_{0}} \int_{0}^{T_{0}} dT \ p_{\text{inel}}(\omega, T),$$  \hspace{1cm} (110)

$$P_{\text{inel}}(\omega, T) = \frac{2\pi}{2\pi \Gamma + |\lambda|^{2}} \text{Re} \left\{ \frac{iM_{0}(\omega - k_{0})}{R_{0}(\omega - k_{0})} \right\}$$

$$- \text{Re} \left\{ \frac{|\lambda|^{2}\Gamma(C^{*}(T) - R(T))iC_{0}(\omega - k_{0})}{2\pi(\Gamma + |\lambda|^{2})R_{0}(\omega - k_{0})} \right\}. $$  \hspace{1cm} (111)

For $T_{0} \to \infty$ we recover the stationary Mollow spectrum

$$P_{\text{inel}}(\omega) = k_{0}P_{\text{inel}}(\omega, \infty) = \frac{k_{0}|\lambda|^{2}\Gamma}{2\pi(\Gamma + |\lambda|^{2})^{2}} \text{Re} \left\{ \frac{iM_{0}(\omega - k_{0})}{R_{0}(\omega - k_{0})} \right\}.$$  \hspace{1cm} (112)

At large Rabi frequency $\Omega_{r} \gg \Gamma, \delta$ it acquires the most familiar form

$$P_{\text{inel}}^{\text{stat}}(\omega) = \frac{k_{0}\Gamma}{4\pi} \left\{ \frac{\Gamma}{(\omega - k_{0})^{2} + \Gamma^{2}}$$

$$+ \frac{1}{2}\sum_{s=\pm} \frac{3\Gamma/2}{(\omega - k_{0} - s\Omega_{r})^{2} + 9\Gamma^{2}/4} \right\}. $$  \hspace{1cm} (113)

For finite $T_{0}$ we show in Fig. 3 the augmentation of $p_{\text{inel}}(\omega, T)$ with increasing time $T$.

VI. REDUCED DENSITY MATRIX AND ENTANGLEMENT ENTROPY

Explicit knowledge of the scattering state allows us to determine a reduced density matrix of some spatial interval,
which we continue to call a counting interval. It suffices to trace out past and future states of the full density matrix $(S_0|\alpha \rangle \langle \alpha |S_0)$ by a procedure similar to that described in Sec. IV B. Knowing the reduced density matrix, whose computation by other methods is questionable, we can study the entanglement entropy in our model.

Let us consider an arbitrary many-body operator $\hat{A}$ in the chiral model that is defined on the counting interval $[z_1, z_2]$. Its average value in the scattering state reads

$$\langle \hat{A} \rangle = \langle 0| D^\dagger(\alpha) S_0^\dagger \hat{A} S_0 D(\alpha)|0 \rangle$$

$$= \langle 0| S_0^\dagger D^\dagger(\alpha) \hat{A} D(\alpha) S_0 |0 \rangle$$

$$= \langle 0| S_0^\dagger [L/2, -L/2] \hat{A} S_0 [L/2, -L/2]|0 \rangle$$

$$+ \frac{1}{2\Gamma} \langle 0| S_0^\dagger [L/2, -L/2] \hat{A} S_0 [L/2, -L/2]|0 \rangle,$$

(114)

where $\hat{A}_\alpha = D^\dagger(\alpha) \hat{A} D(\alpha)$. Repeating the same steps following Eq. (B10), we obtain an expression for $\langle \hat{A} \rangle$ analogous to (64); it is only necessary to set $\kappa = 1$ and $z = 1$ and to replace $e^{i \chi N \tau}$ by $\hat{A}_\alpha$. This implies that $\hat{A}$ can be expressed as a trace $\text{Tr}_\tau(\hat{A}_\alpha \hat{\rho})$ over the states in the spatial interval $\tau = z_2 - z_1$ with the reduced density matrix of this interval

$$\hat{\rho}_\tau = \left[ 1 + \left( 1 - \frac{1}{2\Gamma} \right) R(T) - 2 \text{Re} C(T) \right]$$

$$\times \left( |\psi^\alpha \rangle \langle \psi^\alpha | + \frac{1}{2\Gamma} |\psi^\beta \rangle \langle \psi^\beta | \right)$$

$$+ R(T) \left( |\psi^\beta \rangle \langle \psi^\beta | + \frac{1}{2\Gamma} |\psi^\beta \rangle \langle \psi^\beta | \right)$$

$$+ |C(T) - R(T)| \left( |\psi^\beta \rangle \langle \psi^\beta | + \frac{1}{2\Gamma} |\psi^\beta \rangle \langle \psi^\beta | \right)$$

$$+ \left| C^*(T) - R(T) \right| \left( |\psi^\beta \rangle \langle \psi^\beta | + \frac{1}{2\Gamma} |\psi^\beta \rangle \langle \psi^\beta | \right),$$

(115)

where

$$|\psi^\beta \rangle = D(\alpha) S_0^\dagger (z_2, z_1) |0 \rangle$$

(116)

are linearly independent many-body states. Thus, it turns out that $\hat{\rho}_\tau$ describes the states in the effective four-dimensional Hilbert space spanned by $|\psi^\beta \rangle$. The reduced density matrix (115) is characterized by four eigenvalues $\lambda_i$ and the entanglement entropy of the interval $\tau$ with the rest of the pulse is then given by

$$S = - \sum_{i=1}^4 \lambda_i \ln \lambda_i.$$

(117)

The basis (116), however, is not orthonormal and the corresponding Gram matrix $\langle \psi^\gamma | \psi^\gamma \rangle$ differs from the identity. Our central observation is that its components coincide with the two-point functions (48), $\langle \psi^\gamma | \psi^\gamma \rangle = \hat{G}_{\gamma \gamma}(\tau)$. Therefore, the eigenvalues $\lambda_i$ coincide with the eigenvalues of the $4 \times 4$ matrix $\rho(T) \hat{G}(\tau)$.

In the bulk regime $T \to \infty$ we find that one of the eigenvalues of the matrix $\rho(\infty) \hat{G}(\tau)$ equals

$$\lambda_4(\tau) = - \frac{1}{4\Gamma} \frac{\rho(T)}{\Gamma + |\lambda|^2}.$$

(118)

At small $\tau$ we have

$$\lambda_1(\tau) \approx 1 - \frac{1}{4\Gamma} \frac{\rho(T)}{\Gamma + |\lambda|^2},$$

(119)

$$\lambda_2(\tau) \approx \frac{1}{4\Gamma} \frac{\rho(T)}{\Gamma + |\lambda|^2},$$

(120)

$$\lambda_3(\tau) \sim O(\tau^2),$$

(121)

$$\lambda_4(\tau) \sim O(\tau^2),$$

(122)

which leads us to the behavior of the entanglement entropy

$$S_\infty \approx - \frac{1}{4\Gamma} \frac{\rho(T)}{\Gamma + |\lambda|^2} \ln \Gamma (\tau).$$

(123)

In the limit of large $\tau \to \infty$ we have

$$\lambda_1,2 = \frac{1}{4}(1 \pm \sigma)^2, \quad \lambda_3 = \lambda_4 = \frac{1 - \sigma^2}{4},$$

(124)

where

$$\sigma = \frac{\sqrt{\Gamma + 2|\lambda|^2}}{\Gamma + |\lambda|^2} < 1,$$

(125)

leading us to the expression

$$S_\infty = \lim_{\tau \to \infty} S_\infty$$

$$= - (1 + \sigma) \ln \frac{1 + \sigma}{2} - (1 - \sigma) \ln \frac{1 - \sigma}{2}.$$

(126)

For the weak drive $|\lambda|^2 \ll \Gamma$ (\sigma \to 1), $S_\infty$ vanishes. This means that in the absence of inelastic processes there are no correlations and therefore there is no entanglement. For the strong drive $|\lambda|^2 \gg \Gamma$ (\sigma \to 0) we obtain $\lambda_1 \approx \frac{1}{4}$ and $S_\infty$ approaches its maximal upper bound $\ln 4$.

In the boundary regime $T = 0$ the rank of $\rho(0)$ reduces by $1$ [because of $R(0) = C(0) = 0$] and we have only two nonzero eigenvalues

$$\lambda_1,2(\tau) = \frac{1}{2} \left[ 1 \pm \sqrt{1 - \frac{|\lambda|^2}{\Gamma} R(\tau)^2 - 2 \frac{|\lambda|^2}{\Gamma} |C(\tau)|^2} \right].$$

(127)

At small $\tau$ they behave like

$$\lambda_1 \approx 1 - \frac{(\Omega, \tau)^2}{2}, \quad \lambda_2 \approx \frac{(\Omega, \tau)^2}{2},$$

(128)

yielding

$$S_0 \approx -(\Omega, \tau)^2 \ln (\Omega, \tau).$$

(129)
At large $\tau$ the eigenvalues (127) saturate at the values

$$\lambda_{1,2} = \frac{1 \pm \sigma}{2},$$

and therefore

$$S_0^\infty = \lim_{\tau \to \infty} S_0 = -\frac{1 + \sigma}{2} \ln \frac{1 + \sigma}{2} - \frac{1 - \sigma}{2} \ln \frac{1 - \sigma}{2}. \quad (131)$$

It is remarkable that

$$S_0^\infty = \frac{1}{2} S_0^\infty, \quad (132)$$

which means that the subsystem lying deep in the bulk of the scattered pulse is two times more entangled with the rest system than the subsystem at the forefront of the pulse. The existence of the finite values (126) and (131) in the large-$\tau$ limit tells us that the area law is asymptotically fulfilled for the large subsystem size. In our 1D geometry, the area of the subinterval consists either of two points in the bulk case or of a single point in the boundary case and this difference in the area measure is accounted for by the factor $1/2$ in (132). At small $\tau$, the expression (123) and (129) contain the logarithmic terms, which means that the entanglement entropy for the small subsystem size violates the volume ($\sim \tau$) law in our model.

Shown in Figs. 4 and 5 is the $\tau$ dependence of the entanglement entropy for the bulk (black curve) and boundary (blue curve) cases using the values $\Omega_0 = 4\Gamma$ (moderate drive) and $\Omega_0 = 10\Gamma$ (strong drive). The upper limits $\ln 4$ and $\ln 2$ are indicated by the horizontal lines. In both cases we set the detuning $\delta = 0$ for simplicity.

We observe that the bulk entanglement entropy is the monotonically growing function of the subsystem size. In turn, the boundary entanglement entropy exhibits oscillatory behavior before it reaches the saturation value. For the strong driving field both entropies nearly reach the corresponding maximally allowed values $\ln 4$ and $\ln 2$ at large $\tau$. Our numerical analysis also shows that the entanglement entropies $S(\tau)$ for finite values of $T$ lie between the blue and the black curves (not shown in Figs. 4 and 5), though not always being bounded by them, but always being bounded by $\ln 4$ from above.

VII. CONCLUSION

We have exactly computed the full counting statistics in the fundamental quantum-optical setup: a finite-size pulse of the coherent light propagating in the multimode waveguide and interacting with the two-level system. These results provide a quantitative determination of many-body correlation effects of photons mediated by their interaction with the emitter. Our analysis takes into account the spatial parameters of the incident pulse as well as the parameters of the detector, the waiting time $T$ and the counting time $\tau$, in terms of which the FCS was defined and analyzed. We showed that the three types of counting statistics for the reflected, transmitted, and chiral photons have qualitatively different behavior (sub-Poissonian, super-Poissonian, and Poissonian). We have analyzed the entanglement entropy of a spatial part of the scattered pulse with the rest of it in the chiral model and observed the fulfillment of the area law for large subsystem size and the violation of the volume law for small subsystem size, as well as the oscillatory behavior of the entanglement entropy as a function of the subsystem size $\tau$ in the case of the short waiting time $T$.

We believe that the full characterization of properties of the scattered coherent light presented here will be useful in future theoretical and experimental studies of many-body effects in fundamental models of quantum nanophotonics and extended for more complicated systems.

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APPENDIX A: ADDITIONAL DETAILS OF THE DRESSING PROCEDURE (36)

In expressions (37)–(40) we introduced the dressed propagators $d_v$, $\tilde{d}_v$, and $\bar{d}_v$, which emerge after the reorganization of the series for $S^0_v[y,x]$ and are themselves defined by the series

$$d_v(y - x) = d_0(y - x) + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \left( \frac{\lambda v^*}{\sqrt{L}} \right)^n \int Dx_0 d_0(x_0 - x_{n-1}) \cdots d_0(x_2 - x_1) d_0(x_1 - x), \quad (A1)$$

$$\tilde{d}_v(y - x) = 1 + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \left( \frac{\lambda v^*}{\sqrt{L}} \right)^n \int Dx_0 d_0(x_0 - x_{n-1}) \cdots d_0(x_2 - x_1) d_0(x_1 - x). \quad (A2)$$

$$\bar{d}_v(y - x) = 1 + \frac{\lambda v^*}{\sqrt{L}} (y - x) + \sum_{n=2}^{\infty} \left( \frac{\lambda v^*}{\sqrt{L}} \right)^n \int Dx_0 \cdots d_0(x_2 - x_1). \quad (A3)$$

These functions obey the differential equations

$$d_v''(x) - i(\delta + i\Gamma)[d_v(x) - \bar{d}_v(x)] = 0, \quad (A4)$$

$$\tilde{d}_v''(x) = \frac{\lambda v^*}{\sqrt{L}} \tilde{d}_v(x), \quad (A5)$$

$$\bar{d}_v''(x) = \frac{\lambda v^*}{\sqrt{L}} \bar{d}_v(x), \quad (A6)$$

$$d_v(0) = 0, \quad (A7)$$

$$\bar{d}_v(0) = 1. \quad (A8)$$

Solving them, we find (42)–(44).

APPENDIX B: DERIVATION OF (64)

It is easy to check the commutation relations

$$[\tilde{b}_0, \tilde{b}_0^\dagger] = \frac{\tau}{L}, \quad (B1)$$

$$[\bar{b}_0, \bar{b}_0^\dagger] = 0, \quad (B2)$$

$$[\bar{b}_0^\dagger, \tilde{b}_0^\dagger] = 1 - \frac{\tau}{L} \quad (B3)$$

as well as

$$[\bar{N}_\tau, \bar{b}_0] = -\bar{b}_0, \quad [\bar{N}_\tau, \bar{b}_0^\dagger] = \bar{b}_0^\dagger, \quad (B4)$$

$$[\bar{N}_\tau, \tilde{b}_0] = [\bar{N}_\tau, \tilde{b}_0^\dagger] = 0. \quad (B5)$$

Taking them into account in the application of the Baker-Campbell-Hausdorff formula, we establish the identity

$$e^{i x N_\tau} e^{z \alpha b_0^\dagger} e^{z \alpha b_0} e^{i x N_\tau} = e^{x z b_0^\dagger} e^{z \alpha b_0} e^{x z b_0}, \quad (B6)$$

where $z = e^{i x}$. Next we define $B = \sqrt{\frac{L}{\tau}} \bar{b}_0$ and $\bar{B} = \sqrt{\frac{L}{\tau}} \tilde{b}_0$ such that $[\bar{B}, \bar{B}^\dagger] = [\bar{B}, \tilde{B}^\dagger] = 1$ and establish

$$e^{x z b_0^\dagger} e^{z \alpha b_0} e^{x z b_0} = e^{x z b_0^\dagger} e^{z \alpha b_0} e^{x z b_0} \quad (B7)$$

Finally, using the identity analogous to (B6)

$$e^{i x N_\tau} e^{z \alpha b_0^\dagger} e^{z \alpha b_0} e^{i x N_\tau} = e^{i x N_\tau} e^{z \alpha b_0^\dagger} e^{z \alpha b_0} e^{i x N_\tau} \quad (B8)$$

and combining the result together with (B6) and (B7), we obtain the expression

$$e^{x z b_0^\dagger} e^{z \alpha b_0} e^{x z b_0} = e^{x z |\tau/(L+\tau)| \alpha^2 |\tau/(L-\tau)|} \times e^{x z b_0^\dagger} e^{z \alpha b_0} e^{x z b_0} \quad (B9)$$

whose right-hand side contains the exponents of annihilation (creation) operators standing to the right (left) of $i x N_\tau$, in contrast to the original reciprocal arrangement appearing on the left-hand side of this expression. Inserting (B9) into (59), we deduce

$$F_{\ell}^{(\chi)}(\chi) e^{-(\varepsilon - 1)\varepsilon^z |\alpha|^2 |\tau/L|} = 0 \quad (B10)$$

where $\varepsilon\varepsilon = \kappa(\varepsilon - 1) + 1$.

The result of counting should not depend on the future; this is a manifestation of the causality principle. Therefore, we expect that (B10) identically equals

$$F_{\ell}^{(\chi)}(\chi) e^{-(\varepsilon - 1)\varepsilon^z |\alpha|^2 |\tau/L|} = 0 \quad (B10)$$

as well as

$$[\bar{N}_\tau, \bar{b}_0] = -\bar{b}_0, \quad [\bar{N}_\tau, \tilde{b}_0] = \tilde{b}_0^\dagger, \quad (B4)$$

$$[\bar{N}_\tau, \bar{b}_0^\dagger] = [\bar{N}_\tau, \tilde{b}_0^\dagger] = 0. \quad (B5)$$

This statement can be rigorously proven using the splitting relations (18). The identities (77)–(79) appear essential for such a proof.
In the next step we integrate out the fields in the past. They do influence the counting, therefore the result of this procedure cannot be simply guessed. To eliminate the past fields in a systematic way, we employ the first and second relations of (18), splitting the interval \([z_1, L/2]\) into the counting \(\tau = z_2 - z_1\) and the past (or waiting) \(T = L/2 - z_2\) subintervals. Applying Wick’s theorem separately on each subinterval, we obtain the formula (64).

**APPENDIX C: LAPLACE TRANSFORMS (70)**

The explicit expressions for the Laplace transforms (70) are obtained by the resummation of geometric series in the Laplace space that emerge from the unique possibility for Wick’s contraction of the path-ordered field operators. The result of this procedure reads

\[
G_{aa}(p) = G_{ba}(p) = \frac{\mathcal{R}(p; u, v^*)}{1 - |\lambda|^2 r(p; u, v^*)},
\]

\[
G_{bb}(p) = \frac{\mathcal{R}(p; u, v^*)}{1 - |\lambda|^2 r(p; u, v^*)},
\]

\[
G_{cc}(p) = \mathcal{R}(p; u, v^*) + \frac{|\lambda|^2 \mathcal{R}^2(p; u, v^*)}{1 - |\lambda|^2 r(p; u, v^*)},
\]

\[
G_{ab}(p) = G_{ba}(p) = \mathcal{R}(p; u, v^*),
\]

\[
G_{bb}(p) = \mathcal{R}(p; u, v^*) + \frac{|\lambda|^2 \mathcal{R}(p; u, v^*)}{1 - |\lambda|^2 r(p; u, v^*)},
\]

\[
G_{cc}(p) = \mathcal{R}(p; u, v^*) + \frac{|\lambda|^2 \mathcal{R}(p; u, v^*)}{1 - |\lambda|^2 r(p; u, v^*)},
\]

\[
G_{ac}(p) = G_{bc}(p) = \mathcal{B}(p; u, v^*)
\]

\[
G_{ac}(p) = \mathcal{B}(p; u, v^*) + \frac{|\lambda|^2 \mathcal{B}(p; u, v^*)}{1 - |\lambda|^2 r(p; u, v^*)},
\]

where the functions

\[
r(p; u, v^*) = \int_0^{\infty} dx \, \mathcal{D}_p(x) \mathcal{D}_p(x) e^{ipx},
\]

\[
\tilde{r}(p; u, v^*) = \int_0^{\infty} dx \, \mathcal{D}_p(x) \mathcal{D}_p(x) e^{ipx},
\]

\[
\tilde{f}(p; u, v^*) = \int_0^{\infty} dx \, \mathcal{D}_p(x) \mathcal{D}_p(x) e^{ipx},
\]

\[
\tilde{b}(p; u, v^*) = \int_0^{\infty} dx \, \mathcal{D}_p(x) \mathcal{D}_p(x) e^{ipx},
\]

are obtained using the explicit form of the functions \(\mathcal{D}_p(x), \mathcal{D}_p(x), \) and \(\mathcal{D}_p(x)\) from Eqs. (42), (43), and (44), respectively.

**APPENDIX D: COMPUTATION OF (73)–(75)**

To compute the quantities in (73)–(75), we insert into (72) the expressions for \(G_{\rho\beta}(p)\) from Appendix C and obtain

\[
\Lambda_{aa}(\tau) + \frac{|\lambda|^2}{2\Gamma} \Lambda_{bb}(\tau) = \int \frac{dp}{2\pi} e^{-ip\tau} \tilde{f}(p; z_2 \alpha, \zeta_2 \alpha^*) + \frac{|\lambda|^2}{2\Gamma} r(p; z_2 \alpha, \zeta_2 \alpha^*) 1 - z |\lambda|^2 r(p; z_2 \alpha, \zeta_2 \alpha^*),
\]

\[
\Lambda_{cc}(\tau) + \frac{|\lambda|^2}{2\Gamma} \Lambda_{bb}(\tau) = \int \frac{dp}{2\pi} e^{-ip\tau} \left[ \tilde{f}(p; z_2 \alpha, \zeta_2 \alpha^*) + \frac{|\lambda|^2}{2\Gamma} \tilde{f}(p; z_2 \alpha, \zeta_2 \alpha^*) 1 + 2\Gamma z \tilde{f}(p; z_2 \alpha, \zeta_2 \alpha^*) \right],
\]

\[
\Lambda_{ac}(\tau) + \frac{|\lambda|^2}{2\Gamma} \Lambda_{bc}(\tau) = \int \frac{dp}{2\pi} e^{-ip\tau} \left[ b(p; z_2 \alpha, \zeta_2 \alpha^*) + \frac{|\lambda|^2}{2\Gamma} c(p; z_2 \alpha, \zeta_2 \alpha^*) 1 + 2\Gamma z \tilde{f}(p; z_2 \alpha, \zeta_2 \alpha^*) \right].
\]

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Establishing the functions (C11)–(C14) and (C16) for \( u = z\alpha \) and \( v = z\alpha^* \) in the explicit form

\[
\begin{align*}
\dot{r}(p; z_\alpha \alpha, z_\alpha \alpha^*) &= \frac{i R_0(p) - \left( \Omega_2^c/2 \right) (z_\alpha - 2)(p + i\Gamma)}{Q_0(p, z_\alpha)}, \\
\ddot{r}(p; z_\alpha \alpha, z_\alpha \alpha^*) &= \frac{i}{Q_0(p, z_\alpha)} \left[ R_0(p) - iz_\alpha \Gamma \Omega_2^c p \left( \delta^2 + \delta^2 + 1 - 2 \frac{\Omega_2^c}{\delta^2 + 1} \frac{\Omega_2^c}{\delta^2 + 1} \right) + \Omega_2^c (p + i\Gamma) \left( 1 - z_\alpha \frac{\delta^2 - \Gamma^2}{\delta^2 + 1} - z_\alpha \frac{\delta^2 - \Gamma^2}{\delta^2 + 1} \right) \right], \\
\dot{c}(p; z_\alpha \alpha, z_\alpha \alpha^*) &= \frac{i(\delta + i\Gamma)(p + 2\Gamma)(p - \delta + i\Gamma)}{Q_0(p, z_\alpha)}, \\
\dot{b}(p; z_\alpha \alpha, z_\alpha \alpha^*) &= \frac{i\Omega_2^c z_\alpha (p + 2i\Gamma)(p + \delta + i\Gamma)}{4(\delta - i\Gamma)Q_0(p, z_\alpha)}.
\end{align*}
\]

where

\[
Q_0(p, z_\alpha) = p R_0(p) - i\Gamma \Omega_2^c (p + i\Gamma) - (z_\alpha - 1) \Omega_2^c (p + i\Gamma)^2,
\]

and inserting them into (D1)–(D3), we arrive after some transformations at (73)–(75).

**APPENDIX E: CORRELATION FUNCTIONS (48)**

Setting \( u = v = \alpha \), we introduce the notation

\[
\begin{align*}
\tilde{G}_{ab}(\tau) &= R(\tau), \\
\tilde{G}_{ab}(\tau) &= \tilde{G}_{ba}(\tau) = C(\tau), \\
\tilde{G}_{ab}(\tau) &= M(\tau), \\
\tilde{G}_{ab}(\tau) &= \tilde{G}_{ba}(\tau) = N(\tau).
\end{align*}
\]

From the normalization identities (77)–(79) it follows that

\[
\begin{align*}
\tilde{G}_{aa}(\tau) = \tilde{G}_{bb}(\tau) &= 1 - \frac{|\lambda|^2}{2\Gamma} R(\tau), \\
\tilde{G}_{cc}(\tau) &= 1 + \frac{|\lambda|^4}{4\Gamma^2} R(\tau), \\
\tilde{G}_{aa}(\tau) = \tilde{G}_{bb}(\tau) &= 1 - \frac{|\lambda|^2}{2\Gamma} C(\tau).
\end{align*}
\]

We establish the following differential equations for the functions \( R(\tau) \), \( C(\tau) \), \( M(\tau) \), and \( N(\tau) \). The function \( R(\tau) \) obeys the differential equation

\[
\begin{align*}
\dot{R}(\tau) + 4\Gamma R(\tau) + (\Omega_2^c + \delta^2 + 5\Gamma^2) R(\tau) + \Gamma (\Omega_2^c + 2\delta^2 + 2\Gamma^2) R(\tau) &= 2\Gamma (\delta^2 + \Gamma^2),
\end{align*}
\]

equipped with the initial conditions \( R(0) = \dot{R}(0) = 0 \) and \( \dot{R}(0) = 2(\delta^2 + \Gamma^2) \). The function \( M(\tau) \) obeys the same differential equation (E8) equipped with the initial conditions \( M(0) = 1, M(0) = 0, \) and \( M(0) = -\Omega_2^c/2 \). The function \( C(\tau) \) obeys the differential equation

\[
\dot{C}(\tau) - i(\delta + i\Gamma) C(\tau) = -i(\delta + i\Gamma) \left( 1 - \frac{\Omega_2^c}{2(\delta^2 + \Gamma^2)} \right) R(\tau),
\]

with the initial condition \( C(0) = 0 \). The function \( N(\tau) \) obeys the differential equation

\[
\dot{N}(\tau) - i(\delta + i\Gamma) N(\tau) = -\delta + i\Gamma \left[ M(\tau) + i(\delta - i\Gamma) M(\tau) \right],
\]

with the initial condition \( N(0) = 0 \). At small \( \tau \) these functions have the behavior

\[
\begin{align*}
R(\tau) &\approx (\delta^2 + \Gamma^2) \tau^2, \\
C(\tau) &\approx -i(\delta + i\Gamma) \tau, \\
M(\tau) &\approx 1 - \frac{\Omega_2^c}{4}, \\
N(\tau) &\approx -i(\delta + i\Gamma) \tau,
\end{align*}
\]

while in the limit \( \tau \to \infty \) they all saturate at the same stationary value \( \frac{\Gamma}{\Gamma + |\alpha|^2} = \frac{2\delta^2 + 2\Gamma^2}{2(\delta^2 + \Gamma^2)} \). In the resonant case \( \delta = 0 \) we find

\[
\begin{align*}
\gamma &= \frac{2\delta^2 + 2\Gamma^2}{2(\delta^2 + \Gamma^2)}.
\end{align*}
\]

**FIG. 6.** (Color online) Functions \( R(\tau) \) (dot-dashed blue curve), \( C(\tau) \) (dashed green curve), \( M(\tau) \) (solid red curve), and \( N(\tau) \) (dotted black curve) for \( \delta = 0 \) and \( \Omega_2 = \sqrt{2}\Gamma \). At large \( \tau \) they all saturate at the value 0.5.
the analytic solutions to these differential equations

\[ R(\tau) = \frac{2\Gamma^2}{\Omega^2 + 2\Gamma^2} = \frac{2\Gamma^2(\tilde{\Omega}_r \cos \tilde{\Omega}_r \tau + \frac{\Gamma}{2} \sin \tilde{\Omega}_r \tau)}{\tilde{\Omega}_r (\Omega^2 + 2\Gamma^2)} e^{-(\Gamma/2)\tau}, \]  

(E11)

\[ C(\tau) = \frac{2\Gamma^2}{\Omega^2 + 2\Gamma^2} + \frac{\Gamma}{\Omega^2 + 2\Gamma^2} \left( \Omega^2 - \Gamma^2 \right) \sin \Omega r \tau - 2\Gamma \Omega r \cos \Omega r \tau e^{-(\Gamma/2)\tau}, \]  

(E12)

\[ M(\tau) = \frac{2\Gamma^2}{\Omega^2 + 2\Gamma^2} + \frac{\Omega^2 - 2\Gamma^2}{2(\Omega^2 + 2\Gamma^2)} \left( \Omega^2 - 2\Gamma^2 \right) e^{-(\Gamma/2)\tau} \cos \Omega r \tau + \frac{\Gamma}{4\Omega r} \left( 5\Omega^2 - 2\Gamma^2 \right) e^{-(\Gamma/2)\tau} \sin \Omega r \tau, \]  

(E13)

\[ N(\tau) = M(\tau) - e^{-\Gamma\tau}. \]  

(E14)

where \( \tilde{\Omega}_r = \sqrt{\Omega^2 - \Gamma^2/4} \). They are shown in Fig. 6 for \( \Omega_r = \sqrt{2}\Gamma \).


