

# Analysis of Linear Quantum Optical Networks <sup>★</sup>

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**Abstract:** This paper is concerned with the analysis of linear quantum optical networks. It provides a systematic approach to the construction a model for a given quantum network in terms of a system of quantum stochastic differential equations. This corresponds to a classical state space model. The linear quantum optical networks under consideration consist of interconnections between optical cavities, optical squeezers, and beamsplitters. These models can then be used in the design of quantum feedback control systems for these networks.

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## 1. INTRODUCTION

This paper is concerned with the problem of network analysis for linear quantum optical networks. In recent years, there has been considerable interest in the modeling and feedback control of linear quantum systems; e.g., see James et al. [2008], Nurdin et al. [2009], Shaiju and Petersen [2012]. Such linear quantum systems commonly arise in the area of quantum optics; e.g., see Gardiner and Zoller [2000], Bachor and Ralph [2004]. Some recent papers have been concerned with the problem of realizing given quantum dynamics using physical components such as optical cavities, squeezers, beam-splitters, optical amplifiers, and phase shifters; see Petersen [2011], Nurdin [2010].

This paper is concerned with the problem of constructing a dynamic model, in terms of quantum stochastic differential equations (QSDEs) (e.g., see James et al. [2008]), for a general linear quantum optical network consisting of an optical interconnection between optical cavities, squeezers and beam-splitters. This problem can be considered a quantum optical generalization of the classical electrical circuit analysis problem in which a state space model of the circuit is desired; e.g., see Anderson and Vongpanitlerd [2006], van Valkenburg [1974]. A systematic approach to the modelling of large quantum optical networks is important as the construction of these networks is becoming feasible using technologies such as quantum optical integrated circuits; e.g., see Politi et al. [2006]. These QSDE models can then be used in the design of a suitable quantum feedback controller for the network; e.g., see James et al. [2008], Nurdin et al. [2009]. This paper also describes how to construct alternative  $(S, L, H)$  models for linear quantum optical networks; e.g., see Gough and James [2009]. These models can also be used for controller design or system simulation; e.g., see Gough and James [2009], Petersen et al. [2012]. This paper has been reduced due to space limitations and the full version can be found in Petersen [2014].

## 2. LINEAR QUANTUM SYSTEMS

In this section, we describe the general class of quantum systems under consideration; see also James et al. [2008], Gough and James [2009], Zhang and James [2011]. We consider a collection of  $n$  independent quantum harmonic oscillators. Corresponding to this collection of harmonic oscillators is a vector of *annihilation operators*  $a = [a_1 \ a_2 \ \dots \ a_n]^T$  on the underlying Hilbert space  $\mathcal{H}$ . The adjoint of the operator  $a_i$  is denoted by  $a_i^*$  and is referred to as a *creation operator*. The operators  $a_i$  and  $a_i^*$  are such that the following *commutation relations* are satisfied:

$$\begin{aligned} \left[ \begin{bmatrix} a \\ a^\# \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} a \\ a^\# \end{bmatrix}^\dagger \right] &= \begin{bmatrix} a \\ a^\# \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} a \\ a^\# \end{bmatrix}^\dagger - \left( \begin{bmatrix} a \\ a^\# \end{bmatrix}^\# \begin{bmatrix} a \\ a^\# \end{bmatrix}^T \right)^T \\ &= \Theta \end{aligned} \quad (1)$$

where  $\Theta$  is a Hermitian commutation matrix of the form  $\Theta = TJT^\dagger$  with  $J = \begin{bmatrix} I & 0 \\ 0 & -I \end{bmatrix}$  and  $T = \Delta(T_1, T_2)$ .

Here  $\Delta(T_1, T_2)$  denotes the matrix  $\begin{bmatrix} T_1 & T_2 \\ T_2^\# & T_1^\# \end{bmatrix}$ . Also,  $\dagger$  denotes the adjoint transpose of a vector of operators or the complex conjugate transpose of a complex matrix. In addition,  $\#$  denotes the adjoint of a vector of operators or the complex conjugate of a complex matrix.

The quantum harmonic oscillators are assumed to be coupled to  $m$  external independent quantum fields modelled by bosonic field annihilation operators  $\mathcal{U}_1, \mathcal{U}_2, \dots, \mathcal{U}_m$ . For each field annihilation operator  $\mathcal{U}_k$ , there is a corresponding field creation operator  $\mathcal{U}_k^*$ , which is the operator adjoint of  $\mathcal{U}_k$ . The field annihilation operators are also collected into a vector of operators defined as follows:  $\mathcal{U} = [\mathcal{U}_1 \ \mathcal{U}_2 \ \dots \ \mathcal{U}_m]^T$ . We also define a corresponding vector of output field operators  $\mathcal{Y}$ ; e.g., see Zhang and James [2011]. The corresponding quantum white noise processes are defined so that  $\mathcal{U}(t) = \int_0^t u(\tau) d\tau$  and  $\mathcal{Y}(t) = \int_0^t y(\tau) d\tau$ ; e.g., see Zhang and James [2011].

In order to describe the dynamics of a quantum linear system, we first specify the *Hamiltonian operator* for the

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quantum system which is a Hermitian operator on the underlying Hilbert space  $\mathcal{H}$  of the form

$$\mathbf{H} = \frac{1}{2} [a^\dagger \ a^T] M \begin{bmatrix} a \\ a^\# \end{bmatrix}$$

where  $M$  is a Hermitian matrix of the form

$$M = \Delta(M_1, M_2). \quad (2)$$

Also, we specify the *coupling operator vector* for the quantum system to be a vector of operators of the form

$$L = [N_1 \ N_2] \begin{bmatrix} a \\ a^\# \end{bmatrix}$$

where  $N_1 \in \mathbb{C}^{m \times n}$  and  $N_2 \in \mathbb{C}^{m \times n}$ . We can write

$$\begin{bmatrix} L \\ L^\# \end{bmatrix} = N \begin{bmatrix} a \\ a^\# \end{bmatrix},$$

where  $N = \Delta(N_1, N_2)$ . In addition, we have an orthogonal *scattering matrix*  $S$  which describes the interactions between the quantum fields. These quantities then lead to the following QSDEs which describe the dynamics of the quantum system under consideration:

$$\begin{aligned} \begin{bmatrix} \dot{a} \\ \dot{a}^\# \end{bmatrix} &= F \begin{bmatrix} a \\ a^\# \end{bmatrix} + G \begin{bmatrix} u \\ u^\# \end{bmatrix}; \\ \begin{bmatrix} y \\ y^\# \end{bmatrix} &= H \begin{bmatrix} a \\ a^\# \end{bmatrix} + K \begin{bmatrix} u \\ u^\# \end{bmatrix}, \end{aligned} \quad (3)$$

where

$$\begin{aligned} F &= \Delta(F_1, F_2), \quad G = \Delta(G_1, G_2), \\ H &= \Delta(H_1, H_2), \quad K = \Delta(K_1, K_2), \end{aligned} \quad (4)$$

and

$$\begin{aligned} F &= -\imath\Theta M - \frac{1}{2}\Theta N^\dagger JN; \quad G = -\Theta N^\dagger J\Delta(S, 0); \\ H &= N; \quad K = \Delta(S, 0). \end{aligned} \quad (5)$$

**Annihilation Operator Quantum Systems** An important special case of the above class of linear quantum systems occurs when the QSDEs (3) can be described purely in terms of the vector of annihilation operators  $a$ ; e.g., see Maalouf and Petersen [2011], Petersen [2013]. In this case, we consider Hamiltonian operators of the form  $\mathbf{H} = a^\dagger M a$  and coupling operator vectors of the form  $L = N a$  where  $M$  is a Hermitian matrix and  $N$  is a complex matrix. Also, we consider an orthogonal scattering matrix  $S$ . In this case, we replace the commutation relations (1) by the commutation relations

$$[a, a^\dagger] = \Theta \quad (6)$$

where  $\Theta$  is a positive-definite commutation matrix. Then, the corresponding QSDEs are given by

$$\dot{a} = F a + G u; \quad y = H a + K u \quad (7)$$

where

$$\begin{aligned} F &= \Theta \left( -\imath M + \frac{1}{2} N^\dagger N \right); \quad G = -\Theta N^\dagger S; \\ H &= N; \quad K = S. \end{aligned} \quad (8)$$

### 3. PASSIVE LINEAR QUANTUM OPTICAL NETWORKS

Passive linear quantum optical networks consist of optical interconnections between the following passive optical components: optical cavities, beamsplitters, optical sources (lasers or vacuum sources), and optical sinks (detectors or unused optical outputs). We now describe each of these optical components in more details.

#### Optical Cavities

Optical cavities consist of a number of partially reflecting mirrors arranged in a suitable geometric configuration and coupled to a coherent light source such as a laser; e.g., see Bachor and Ralph [2004], Gardiner and Zoller [2000]. From the optical network point of view, we can categorize optical cavities according to the number of partially reflecting mirrors they contain. Schematic diagrams for some typical optical cavities are shown in Figure 1. Note that the single mirror cavity actually contains two mirrors but only one of the mirrors is partially reflecting. Similarly, the two mirror butterfly cavity actually contains four mirrors but only two of the mirrors are partially reflecting. In the sequel, we will ignore the fully reflecting mirrors in any cavity and only consider the partially reflecting mirrors.

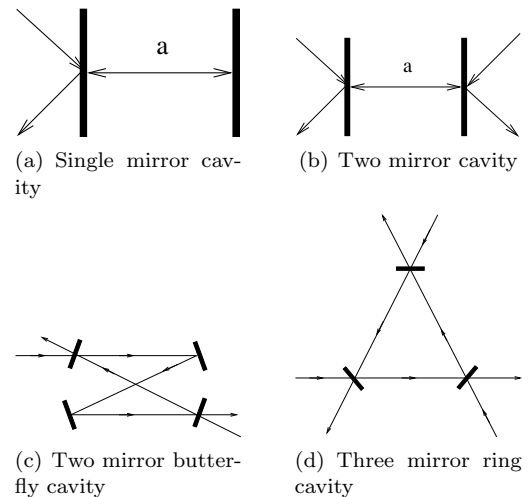


Fig. 1. Some typical optical cavities.

A cavity with  $m$  mirrors, can be described by a QSDE of the form (7) as follows:

$$\begin{aligned} \dot{a} &= \left( -\frac{\gamma}{2} + \imath\Delta \right) a - \sum_{i=1}^m \sqrt{\kappa_i} u_i; \\ y_i &= \sqrt{\kappa_i} a + u_i, \quad i = 1, 2, \dots, m, \end{aligned} \quad (9)$$

where

$$\gamma = \sum_{i=1}^m \kappa_i \quad (10)$$

and  $a$  is an annihilation operator associated with the cavity mode. The quantities  $\kappa_i \geq 0$ ,  $i = 1, 2, \dots, m$  are the *coupling coefficients* which correspond to the partially reflecting mirrors which make up the cavity. Also,  $\Delta \in \mathbb{R}$  corresponds to the *detuning* between the cavity and the coherent light source.

### Beamsplitters

A beamsplitter consists of a single partially reflective mirror as illustrated in Figure 2. A beamsplitter is governed

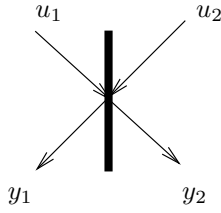


Fig. 2. Schematic diagram of a beamsplitter.

by the input-output relations

$$\begin{bmatrix} y_1 \\ y_2 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \xi & -\sqrt{1-\xi^2} \\ -\sqrt{1-\xi^2} & -\xi \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} u_1 \\ u_2 \end{bmatrix} \quad (11)$$

where  $\xi \in (-1, 1)$  is a parameter defining the beamsplitter; e.g., see Bachor and Ralph [2004]. In the sequel, it will be convenient to consider a beamsplitter as arising from a singular perturbation approximation applied to a two mirror cavity of the form shown in Figure 1(b); see Petersen [2013]. That is, we consider the following cavity equations of the form (9):

$$\begin{aligned} \dot{a} &= \left( -\frac{\tilde{\kappa} + \bar{\kappa}}{2} + i\Delta \right) a - \sqrt{\tilde{\kappa}}u_1 - \sqrt{\bar{\kappa}}u_2; \\ y_1 &= \sqrt{\tilde{\kappa}}adt + u_1; \quad y_2 = \sqrt{\bar{\kappa}}adt + u_2. \end{aligned} \quad (12)$$

We now let  $\tilde{\kappa} = \epsilon\tilde{\kappa}$ ,  $\bar{\kappa} = \epsilon\bar{\kappa}$ ,  $\tilde{a} = \frac{a}{\sqrt{\epsilon}}$  where  $\epsilon > 0$  is a given constant. Then, (12) becomes

$$\begin{aligned} \dot{\tilde{a}} &= \left( -\frac{\tilde{\kappa} + \bar{\kappa}}{2\epsilon} + \frac{i\Delta}{\epsilon} \right) \tilde{a} - \frac{\sqrt{\tilde{\kappa}}}{\epsilon}u_1 - \frac{\sqrt{\bar{\kappa}}}{\epsilon}u_2; \\ y_1 &= \sqrt{\tilde{\kappa}}\tilde{a} + u_1; \quad y_2 = \sqrt{\bar{\kappa}}\tilde{a} + u_2. \end{aligned} \quad (13)$$

Letting  $\epsilon \rightarrow 0$ , we obtain  $\frac{\tilde{\kappa} + \bar{\kappa} - 2i\Delta}{2}\tilde{a} = -\sqrt{\tilde{\kappa}}u_1 - \sqrt{\bar{\kappa}}u_2$  and hence  $\tilde{a} = -\frac{2\sqrt{\tilde{\kappa}}}{\tilde{\kappa} + \bar{\kappa} - 2i\Delta}u_1 - \frac{2\sqrt{\bar{\kappa}}}{\tilde{\kappa} + \bar{\kappa} - 2i\Delta}u_2$ . Substituting this into (13) gives

$$\begin{aligned} y_1 &= \left( 1 - \frac{2\tilde{\kappa}}{\tilde{\kappa} + \bar{\kappa} - 2i\Delta} \right) u_1 - \frac{2\sqrt{\tilde{\kappa}\bar{\kappa}}}{\tilde{\kappa} + \bar{\kappa} - 2i\Delta}u_2; \\ y_2 &= -\frac{2\sqrt{\tilde{\kappa}\bar{\kappa}}}{\tilde{\kappa} + \bar{\kappa} - 2i\Delta}u_1 + \left( 1 - \frac{2\bar{\kappa}}{\tilde{\kappa} + \bar{\kappa} - 2i\Delta} \right) u_2. \end{aligned} \quad (14)$$

Letting,  $\Delta = 0$ , it follows that

$$\begin{bmatrix} y_1 \\ y_2 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \bar{\kappa} - \tilde{\kappa} & -2\sqrt{\tilde{\kappa}\bar{\kappa}} \\ \tilde{\kappa} + \bar{\kappa} & \tilde{\kappa} + \bar{\kappa} \\ -2\sqrt{\tilde{\kappa}\bar{\kappa}} & \tilde{\kappa} - \bar{\kappa} \\ \tilde{\kappa} + \bar{\kappa} & \tilde{\kappa} + \bar{\kappa} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} u_1 \\ u_2 \end{bmatrix}. \quad (15)$$

This equation is the same as (11) when we let

$$\xi = \frac{\bar{\kappa} - \tilde{\kappa}}{\tilde{\kappa} + \bar{\kappa}}. \quad (16)$$

### Sources and Sinks

Optical sources may be coherent sources such as a laser or a vacuum source which corresponds to no optical connection being made to a mirror input; e.g., see Bachor and Ralph [2004]. We will represent both sources by

the same schematic diagram as shown in Figure 2(a). Also, optical sinks may be detectors such as a homodyne detector (e.g., see Bachor and Ralph [2004]) or they may correspond to an unused optical output, which corresponds to no optical connection being made to a mirror output. We will represent both sinks by the same schematic diagram as shown in Figure 2(b). Note that for the networks being considered, the number of sources will always be equal to the number of sinks.

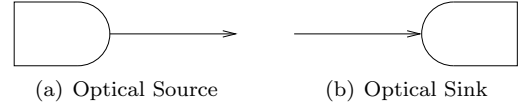


Fig. 3. Schematic diagrams for optical sources and sinks.

### The Mirror Digraph

We will consider the topology of an optical network to be represented by a directed graph referred to as the *mirror digraph*. To obtain the mirror digraph, each cavity in the network is decomposed into the mirrors that make up the cavity with an  $m$ -mirror cavity being decomposed into  $m$  mirrors. Similarly, each beamsplitter is decomposed into two mirrors. This process is illustrated in Figure 4.

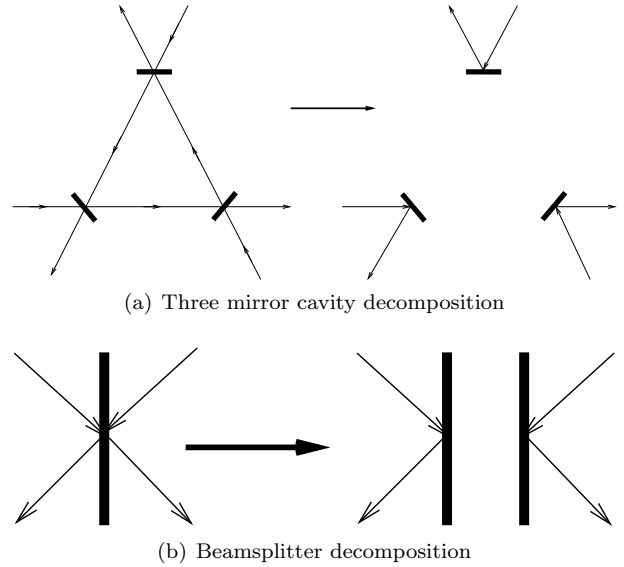


Fig. 4. Decomposing a cavity and a beamsplitter into individual mirrors.

Then a directed graph showing the interconnections of these mirrors, along with the optical sources and sinks is constructed. In this digraph, the nodes correspond to the mirrors or the optical sources and sinks. Also, the links in this graph correspond to the optical connections between the components.

For a quantum optical network with  $m$  sources,  $n$  cavities including  $n_m$  cavity mirrors,  $k$  beamsplitters, and  $m$  sinks, we will employ the following numbering convention. The sources will be numbered from 1 to  $m$ , the cavity mirrors will be numbered from  $m+1$  to  $m+n_m$ , the beamsplitter mirrors will be numbered from  $m+n_m+1$  to  $m+n_m+2k$ , and the sinks will be numbered from  $m+n_m+2k+1$  to  $2m+n_m+2k$ . Associated with the mirror digraph is the corresponding *adjacency matrix*  $A = \{a_{ij}\}$  defined so that

$a_{ij} = 1$  if there is a link going from node  $i$  to node  $j$  and  $a_{ij} = 0$  otherwise. Then, the adjacency matrix can be partitioned as follows corresponding to the different types of nodes:

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} A_{11} & A_{12} & A_{13} & A_{14} \\ A_{21} & A_{22} & A_{23} & A_{24} \\ A_{31} & A_{32} & A_{33} & A_{34} \\ A_{41} & A_{42} & A_{43} & A_{44} \end{bmatrix} \begin{array}{l} \text{sources,} \\ \text{cavities,} \\ \text{beamsplitters,} \\ \text{sinks.} \end{array} \quad (17)$$

Note that it follows from these definitions that the matrices  $A_{11}$ ,  $A_{21}$ ,  $A_{31}$ ,  $A_{41}$ ,  $A_{42}$ ,  $A_{43}$ , and  $A_{44}$  are all zero.

We will label the field input for the  $i$ th node of the mirror digraph as  $u_i$  and the corresponding field output as  $y_i$ . In the case that the  $i$ th node of the mirror digraph corresponds to a source, there is no actual field input but we will simply write  $u_i = y_i$ . Similarly, if the  $i$ th node of the mirror digraph corresponds to a sink, there is no actual field output but we will simply write  $y_i = u_i$ . We then write

$$\tilde{u} = \begin{bmatrix} u_1 \\ \vdots \\ u_{2m+n_m+2k} \end{bmatrix}, \quad \tilde{y} = \begin{bmatrix} y_1 \\ \vdots \\ y_{2m+n_m+2k} \end{bmatrix}.$$

We now partition the vectors  $\tilde{u}$  and  $\tilde{y}$  according to the different types of nodes as follows:

$$\tilde{u} = \begin{bmatrix} \tilde{u}_1 \\ \tilde{u}_2 \\ \tilde{u}_3 \\ \tilde{u}_4 \end{bmatrix}; \quad \tilde{y} = \begin{bmatrix} \tilde{y}_1 \\ \tilde{y}_2 \\ \tilde{y}_3 \\ \tilde{y}_4 \end{bmatrix}; \quad \begin{array}{l} \text{sources,} \\ \text{cavities,} \\ \text{beamsplitters,} \\ \text{sinks.} \end{array}$$

Then using (17) and the definition of the adjacency matrix, we write

$$\begin{bmatrix} \tilde{u}_1 \\ \tilde{u}_2 \\ \tilde{u}_3 \\ \tilde{u}_4 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} I & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ A_{12}^T & A_{22}^T & A_{32}^T & 0 \\ A_{13}^T & A_{23}^T & A_{33}^T & 0 \\ A_{14}^T & A_{24}^T & A_{34}^T & 0 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \tilde{y}_1 \\ \tilde{y}_2 \\ \tilde{y}_3 \\ \tilde{y}_4 \end{bmatrix}. \quad (18)$$

Note that in writing these equations, we have ignored any phase shift which results from the light travelling from the output of node  $i$  to the input of node  $j$ . We could allow for this phase shift by replacing the adjacency matrix (17) by a weighted adjacency matrix  $A = \{a_{ij}\}$  in which any non-zero element is given by  $a_{ij} = e^{i\theta_{ij}}$  where  $\theta_{ij}$  is the phase shift in the light travelling from the output of node  $i$  to the input of node  $j$ .

We will number the cavities from 1 to  $n$ . Then, the linear quantum optical network is also specified by a corresponding  $n \times (2m + n_m + 2k)$  cavity matrix  $C = \{c_{ij}\}$  defined so that  $c_{ij} = \sqrt{\kappa_j}$  if the mirror corresponding to the node  $j$  in the mirror graph forms a part of cavity  $i$ . Here,  $\kappa_j > 0$  is the coupling coefficient of the mirror corresponding to node  $j$ . It follows from this definition that the first  $m$  and last  $2k + m$  columns of the matrix  $C$  will be zero since the corresponding nodes in the mirror graph do not correspond to mirrors in a cavity. Then, we can partition the matrix  $C$  as follows corresponding to the different types of nodes:

$$C = \begin{bmatrix} \text{sources} & \text{cavities} & \text{beamsplitters} & \text{sinks} \\ 0 & \tilde{C} & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}. \quad (19)$$

Also, it follows from this definition that we can write

$$CC^T = \tilde{C}\tilde{C}^T = \begin{bmatrix} \gamma_1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & \ddots & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & \gamma_n \end{bmatrix} \quad (20)$$

where each quantity  $\gamma_i$  is the sum of coupling coefficients of the mirrors forming cavity  $i$  defined as in (10).

In addition, we will define a diagonal  $n \times n$  detuning matrix  $D = \{d_{ij}\}$  defined so that  $d_{ii} = \Delta_i$ , the detuning of the  $i$ th cavity.

We will number the beamsplitters from 1 to  $k$ . Then, the linear quantum optical network is also specified by a corresponding  $k \times 2m + n_m + 2k$  beamsplitter matrix  $B = \{b_{ij}\}$  defined so that  $b_{ij} = \sqrt{\kappa_j}$  if the mirror corresponding to the node  $j$  in the mirror graph forms a part of beamsplitter  $i$ . Here,  $\kappa_j > 0$  is the coupling coefficient of the mirror corresponding to node  $j$ . In addition, we assume that each beamsplitter, which is represented by two mirrors in the mirror graph, is such that one mirror has a number  $j \in \{m+n+1, \dots, m+n+k\}$  and the other mirror has a number  $j+k \in \{m+n+k+1, \dots, m+n+2k\}$ . It follows from this definition that the first  $m+n$  and last  $m$  columns of the matrix  $B$  will be zero since the corresponding nodes in the mirror graph do not correspond to mirrors in a beamsplitter. Also, we can partition the matrix  $B$  as follows corresponding to the different types of nodes:

$$B = \begin{bmatrix} \text{sources} & \text{cavities} & \text{beamsplitters} & \text{beamsplitters} & \text{sinks} \\ 0 & 0 & \tilde{B} & \bar{B} & 0 \end{bmatrix}. \quad (21)$$

Hence, corresponding to each beamsplitter, there one non-zero entry in each of the square matrices  $\tilde{B}$  and  $\bar{B}$ . For example, a network with three beamsplitters with parameters  $\tilde{\kappa}_1, \bar{\kappa}_1, \tilde{\kappa}_2, \bar{\kappa}_2, \tilde{\kappa}_3, \bar{\kappa}_3$  respectively would have matrices

$$\tilde{B} = \begin{bmatrix} \sqrt{\tilde{\kappa}_1} & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & \sqrt{\tilde{\kappa}_2} & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & \sqrt{\tilde{\kappa}_3} \end{bmatrix}; \quad \bar{B} = \begin{bmatrix} \sqrt{\bar{\kappa}_1} & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & \sqrt{\bar{\kappa}_2} & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & \sqrt{\bar{\kappa}_3} \end{bmatrix}.$$

The coupling coefficients in the beamsplitter matrix form the parameters  $\xi$  in the corresponding beamsplitter equations of the form (11) according to the formula (16); i.e.,

$$\xi_i = \frac{\kappa_{\tilde{j}_i} - \kappa_{\bar{j}_i}}{\kappa_{\tilde{j}_i} + \kappa_{\bar{j}_i}}$$

where the mirrors corresponding to the nodes  $\tilde{j}_i$  and  $\bar{j}_i$  in the mirror digraph make up the  $i$ th beamsplitter. Also, it follows from the definition of  $B$  that we can write

$$BB^T = \tilde{B}\tilde{B}^T + \bar{B}\bar{B}^T = \begin{bmatrix} \kappa_{\tilde{j}_1} + \kappa_{\bar{j}_1} & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & \ddots & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & \kappa_{\tilde{j}_k} + \kappa_{\bar{j}_k} \end{bmatrix}. \quad (22)$$

Note that there is some redundancy in the choice of the parameters  $\kappa_{\tilde{j}_i} > 0$  and  $\kappa_{\bar{j}_i} > 0$  for a given beamsplitter since its behaviour is defined by a single parameter  $\xi_i \in (-1, 1)$ .

### Writing the QSDEs for a passive quantum optical network

Together the matrices  $A, C, D, B$  completely specify the

a given passive quantum optical network. We will now derive QSDEs of the form (3) in terms of these matrices to describe a given network. To do this, we first extract all of the sources, sinks, cavities and beamsplitters from the network in a similar fashion to the reactance extraction process which is carried out in circuit theory analysis; e.g., see Anderson and Vongpanitlerd [2006]. This is illustrated in Figure 5.

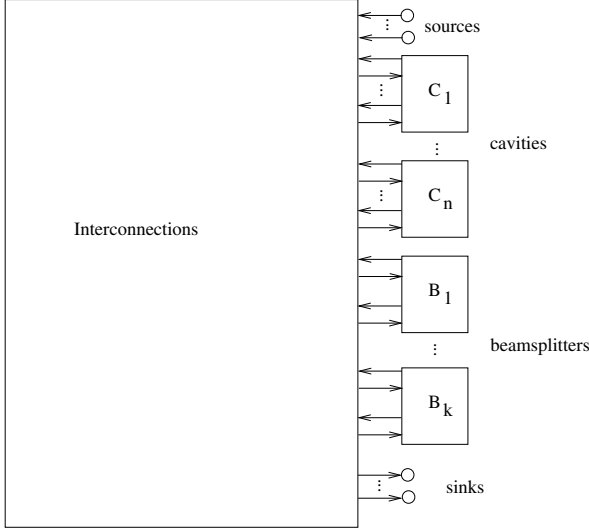


Fig. 5. Component extraction for a quantum optical network.

In this picture, an  $\ell$  mirror cavity is regarded as an  $\ell$  port network with  $\ell$  inputs and  $\ell$  outputs using a scattering framework; e.g., see Anderson and Vongpanitlerd [2006]. Also, a beamsplitter is regarded as a two port network.

**Cavity Equations** We now consider the QSDEs (3) corresponding to the  $i$ th cavity. Letting  $a_i$  be the annihilation operator corresponding to the  $i$ th cavity, it follows from (9) and the definitions of the matrices  $C$  and  $D$  that we can write

$$\dot{a}_i = \left(-\frac{\gamma_i}{2} + \iota d_{ii}\right) a_i - \sum_{j=1}^{2m+n_m+2k} c_{ij} u_j; \quad (23)$$

$$y_j = c_{ji} a_i + u_j$$

for  $j \in \{1, \dots, 2m + n_m + 2k\}$  such that  $c_{ji} \neq 0$ . Then, we define the vector of system variables

$$a = \begin{bmatrix} a_1 \\ \vdots \\ a_n \end{bmatrix}$$

and use (20) to write all of the equations (23) in matrix form as follows:

$$\dot{a} = \left(-\frac{1}{2} \tilde{C} \tilde{C}^T + \iota D\right) a - \tilde{C} \tilde{u}_2; \quad (24)$$

$$\tilde{y}_2 = \tilde{C}^T a + \tilde{u}_2.$$

**Beamsplitter Equations** We now consider the relationship between the inputs to the beamsplitters  $\tilde{u}_3$  and the outputs of the beamsplitters  $\tilde{y}_3$ . We first consider a single beamsplitter with parameters  $\tilde{\kappa}$  and  $\bar{\kappa}$ . That is, we let  $\hat{B} = \sqrt{\tilde{\kappa}}$  and  $\bar{B} = \sqrt{\bar{\kappa}}$ . Then, using (22) we calculate

$$\begin{aligned} & - [\tilde{B} \bar{B}]^T \left( \tilde{B} \tilde{B}^T + \bar{B} \bar{B}^T \right)^{-1} [\tilde{B} \bar{B}] \\ & + [-\bar{B} \tilde{B}]^T \left( \tilde{B} \tilde{B}^T + \bar{B} \bar{B}^T \right)^{-1} [-\bar{B} \tilde{B}] \\ & = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{\bar{\kappa} - \tilde{\kappa}}{\tilde{\kappa} + \bar{\kappa}} & \frac{2\sqrt{\tilde{\kappa}\bar{\kappa}}}{\tilde{\kappa} + \bar{\kappa}} \\ \frac{2\sqrt{\tilde{\kappa}\bar{\kappa}}}{\tilde{\kappa} + \bar{\kappa}} & \frac{\tilde{\kappa} - \bar{\kappa}}{\tilde{\kappa} + \bar{\kappa}} \end{bmatrix} \end{aligned}$$

which is the same as the matrix in (15). We now extend this formula to the case of  $k$  beamsplitters and obtain

$$\tilde{y}_3 = \hat{B} \tilde{u}_3 \quad (25)$$

where

$$\hat{B} = - [\tilde{B} \bar{B}]^T \left( \tilde{B} \tilde{B}^T + \bar{B} \bar{B}^T \right)^{-1} [\tilde{B} \bar{B}] + [-\bar{B} \tilde{B}]^T \left( \tilde{B} \tilde{B}^T + \bar{B} \bar{B}^T \right)^{-1} [-\bar{B} \tilde{B}].$$

We now combine the equations (18), (24), (25) to obtain a set of QSDEs of the form (7) which describes the complete network. In order to do this, we require that the network satisfies the following assumption:

*Assumption 1.* The matrix  $I - \begin{bmatrix} A_{22}^T & A_{32}^T \hat{B} \\ A_{23}^T & A_{33}^T \hat{B} \end{bmatrix}$  is nonsingular.

This assumption will be satisfied if the network does not contain any algebraic loops. If this assumption is not satisfied, the network will need to be modelled by a set of stochastic algebraic-differential equations.

It follows from (18) that we can write

$$\begin{aligned} \tilde{u}_2 &= A_{12}^T \tilde{u}_1 + A_{22}^T \tilde{y}_2 + A_{32}^T \tilde{y}_3; \\ \tilde{u}_3 &= A_{13}^T \tilde{u}_1 + A_{23}^T \tilde{y}_2 + A_{33}^T \tilde{y}_3. \end{aligned}$$

Combining this with (25) and the second equation in (24), we obtain:

$$\begin{bmatrix} \tilde{u}_2 \\ \tilde{u}_3 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} A_{12}^T \\ A_{13}^T \end{bmatrix} \tilde{u}_1 + \begin{bmatrix} A_{22}^T \\ A_{23}^T \end{bmatrix} \tilde{C}^T a + \begin{bmatrix} A_{22}^T & A_{32}^T \hat{B} \\ A_{23}^T & A_{33}^T \hat{B} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \tilde{u}_2 \\ \tilde{u}_3 \end{bmatrix}.$$

Now using Assumption 1, it follows that we can write

$$\begin{aligned} \begin{bmatrix} \tilde{u}_2 \\ \tilde{u}_3 \end{bmatrix} &= \left( I - \begin{bmatrix} A_{22}^T & A_{32}^T \hat{B} \\ A_{23}^T & A_{33}^T \hat{B} \end{bmatrix} \right)^{-1} \begin{bmatrix} A_{12}^T \\ A_{13}^T \end{bmatrix} \tilde{u}_1 \\ &+ \left( I - \begin{bmatrix} A_{22}^T & A_{32}^T \hat{B} \\ A_{23}^T & A_{33}^T \hat{B} \end{bmatrix} \right)^{-1} \begin{bmatrix} A_{22}^T \\ A_{23}^T \end{bmatrix} \tilde{C}^T a. \end{aligned}$$

Substituting this into (24) and using the last equation in (18), we obtain the following QSDEs of the form (7) which describe the network:

$$\begin{aligned} \dot{a} &= \left(-\frac{1}{2} \tilde{C} \tilde{C}^T + \iota D\right) a \\ &- [\tilde{C} \ 0] \left( I - \begin{bmatrix} A_{22}^T & A_{32}^T \hat{B} \\ A_{23}^T & A_{33}^T \hat{B} \end{bmatrix} \right)^{-1} \begin{bmatrix} A_{22}^T \\ A_{23}^T \end{bmatrix} \tilde{C}^T a \\ &- [\tilde{C} \ 0] \left( I - \begin{bmatrix} A_{22}^T & A_{32}^T \hat{B} \\ A_{23}^T & A_{33}^T \hat{B} \end{bmatrix} \right)^{-1} \begin{bmatrix} A_{12}^T \\ A_{13}^T \end{bmatrix} \tilde{u}_1; \\ \tilde{y}_4 &= A_{24}^T \tilde{C}^T a \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
& + [A_{24}^T \ A_{34}^T \hat{B}] \left( I - \begin{bmatrix} A_{22}^T & A_{32}^T \hat{B} \\ A_{23}^T & A_{33}^T \hat{B} \end{bmatrix} \right)^{-1} \begin{bmatrix} A_{22}^T \\ A_{23}^T \end{bmatrix} \tilde{C}^T a \\
& + [A_{24}^T \ A_{34}^T \hat{B}] \left( I - \begin{bmatrix} A_{22}^T & A_{32}^T \hat{B} \\ A_{23}^T & A_{33}^T \hat{B} \end{bmatrix} \right)^{-1} \begin{bmatrix} A_{12}^T \\ A_{13}^T \end{bmatrix} \tilde{u}_1 \\
& + A_{14}^T \tilde{u}_1.
\end{aligned}$$

From this, we can also use the formulas (4) and (5) in Petersen [2013] with  $\Theta = I$  to calculate the corresponding matrices  $S$ ,  $N$ ,  $M$  in the  $(S, L, H)$  description of this system. This yields

$$\begin{aligned}
S &= [A_{24}^T \ A_{34}^T \hat{B}] \left( I - \begin{bmatrix} A_{22}^T & A_{32}^T \hat{B} \\ A_{23}^T & A_{33}^T \hat{B} \end{bmatrix} \right)^{-1} \begin{bmatrix} A_{12}^T \\ A_{13}^T \end{bmatrix} + A_{14}^T; \\
N &= \begin{bmatrix} A_{24}^T + \\ [A_{24}^T \ A_{34}^T \hat{B}] \left( I - \begin{bmatrix} A_{22}^T & A_{32}^T \hat{B} \\ A_{23}^T & A_{33}^T \hat{B} \end{bmatrix} \right)^{-1} \begin{bmatrix} A_{22}^T \\ A_{23}^T \end{bmatrix} \end{bmatrix} \tilde{C}^T; \\
M &= -D \\
&\quad - \frac{\imath}{2} \tilde{C} \begin{bmatrix} [I \ 0] \left( I - \begin{bmatrix} A_{22}^T & A_{32}^T \hat{B} \\ A_{23}^T & A_{33}^T \hat{B} \end{bmatrix} \right)^{-1} \begin{bmatrix} A_{22}^T \\ A_{23}^T \end{bmatrix} - \\ [A_{22} \ A_{23}] \left( I - \begin{bmatrix} A_{22} & A_{23} \\ \hat{B}^T A_{32} & \hat{B}^T A_{33} \end{bmatrix} \right)^{-1} [I] \end{bmatrix} \tilde{C}^T.
\end{aligned}$$

### QSDEs for cavity only networks

In this special case, we replace Assumption 1 by the following assumption.

*Assumption 2.* The matrix  $I - A_{22}^T$  is nonsingular.

This assumption will be satisfied provided that none of the cavity mirrors have their output directly connected to their input.

In this case, it follows from (18) that we can write

$$\tilde{u}_2 = A_{12}^T \tilde{u}_1 + A_{22}^T \tilde{y}_2.$$

Combining this with the second equation in (24), we obtain:

$$\tilde{u}_2 = A_{12}^T \tilde{u}_1 + A_{22}^T \tilde{C}^T a + A_{22}^T \tilde{u}_2.$$

Now using Assumption 2, it follows that we can write

$$\tilde{u}_2 = (I - A_{22}^T)^{-1} A_{12}^T \tilde{u}_1 + (I - A_{22}^T)^{-1} A_{22}^T \tilde{C}^T a.$$

Substituting this into (24) and using the last equation in (18), we obtain the following QSDEs of the form (7) which describes the network:

$$\begin{aligned}
\dot{a} &= \left( -\frac{1}{2} \tilde{C} \tilde{C}^T + \imath D - \tilde{C} (I - A_{22}^T)^{-1} A_{22}^T \tilde{C}^T \right) a \\
&\quad - \tilde{C} (I - A_{22}^T)^{-1} A_{12}^T \tilde{u}_1; \\
\dot{\tilde{y}}_4 &= A_{24}^T (I - A_{22}^T)^{-1} \tilde{C}^T a \\
&\quad + \left( A_{24}^T (I - A_{22}^T)^{-1} A_{12}^T + A_{14}^T \right) \tilde{u}_1.
\end{aligned}$$

From this, we can also use the formulas (4) and (5) in Petersen [2013] with  $\Theta = I$  to calculate the corresponding matrices  $S$ ,  $N$ ,  $M$  in the  $(S, L, H)$  description of this system. This yields

$$\begin{aligned}
S &= A_{24}^T (I - A_{22}^T)^{-1} A_{12}^T + A_{14}^T; \\
N &= A_{24}^T (I - A_{22}^T)^{-1} \tilde{C}^T; \\
M &= -D + \frac{\imath}{2} \tilde{C} (I - A_{22}^T)^{-1} (A_{22} - A_{22}^T) (I - A_{22})^{-1} \tilde{C}^T.
\end{aligned}$$

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