

Optical frequency combs in CHI-2 microresonators

Dmitry V. Skryabin
University of Bath, England

Bath group and sponsors



Danila



Zhiwei



Vlad



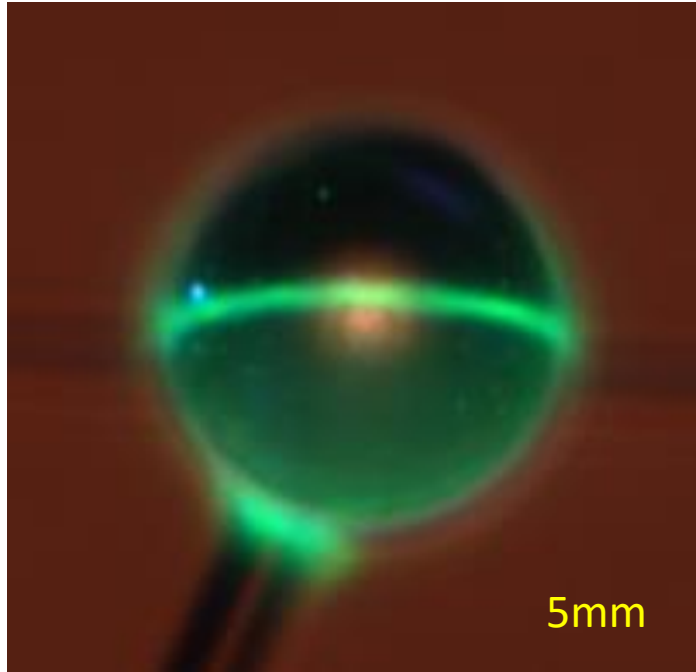
Alberto



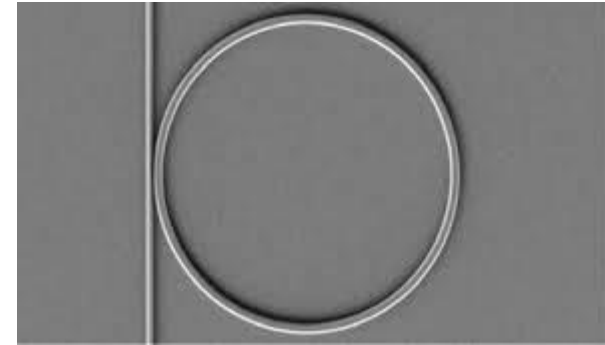
Dmitry



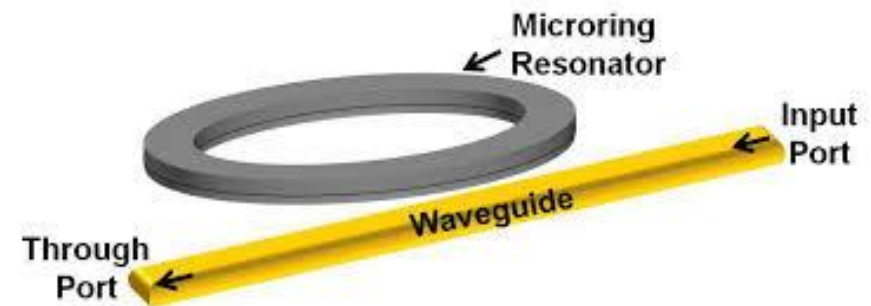
Microresonators



CaF_2, SiO_2
1000000

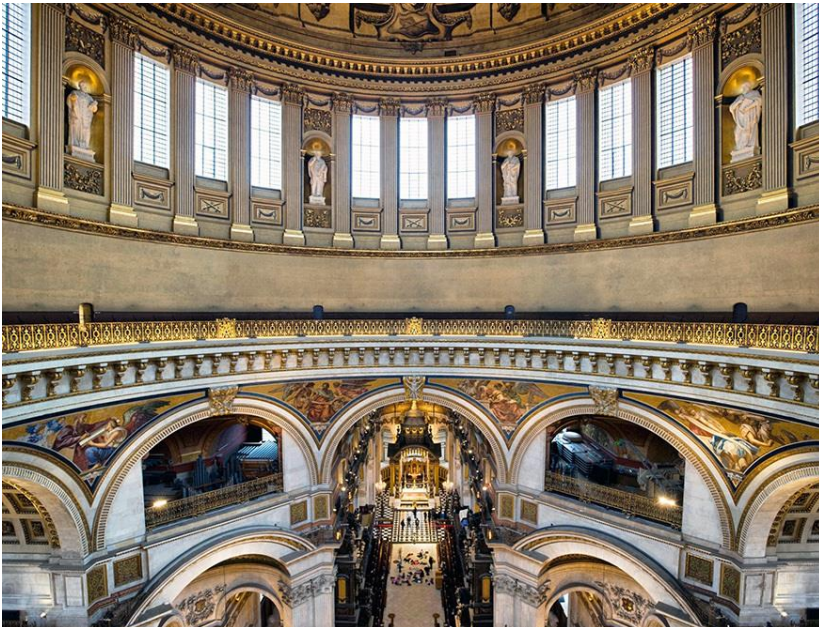


$50\mu m$



$Si_3 N_4$
1000




Whispering Gallery in StPaul's Cathedral



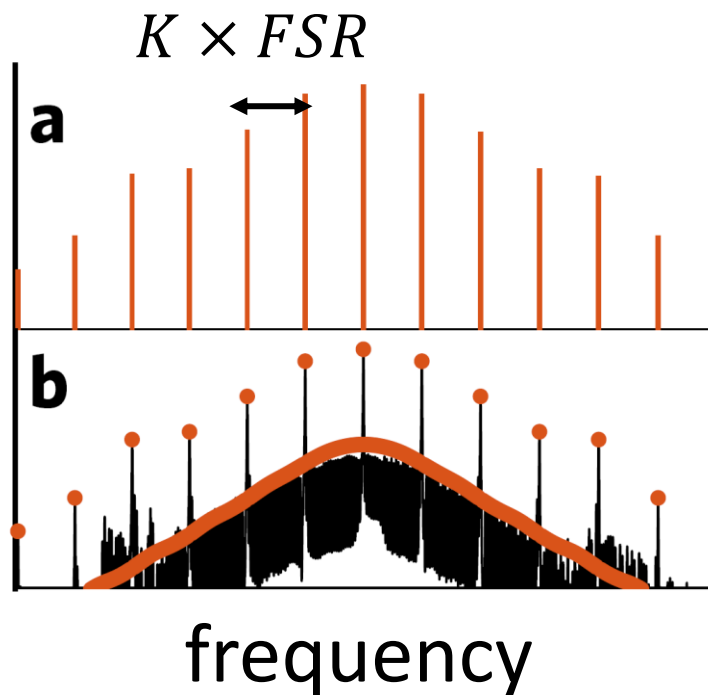
Lord Rayleigh
(~1870)

Soliton-crystals

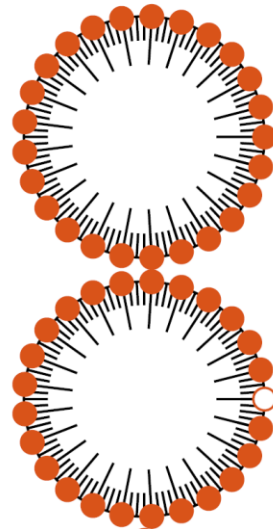
Soliton crystals in Kerr resonators

Daniel C. Cole ^{1,2*}, Erin S. Lamb ¹, Pascal Del'Haye ^{1,3}, Scott A. Diddams¹ and Scott B. Papp¹




NATURE PHOTONICS | VOL 11 | OCTOBER 2017 | 671-676 |



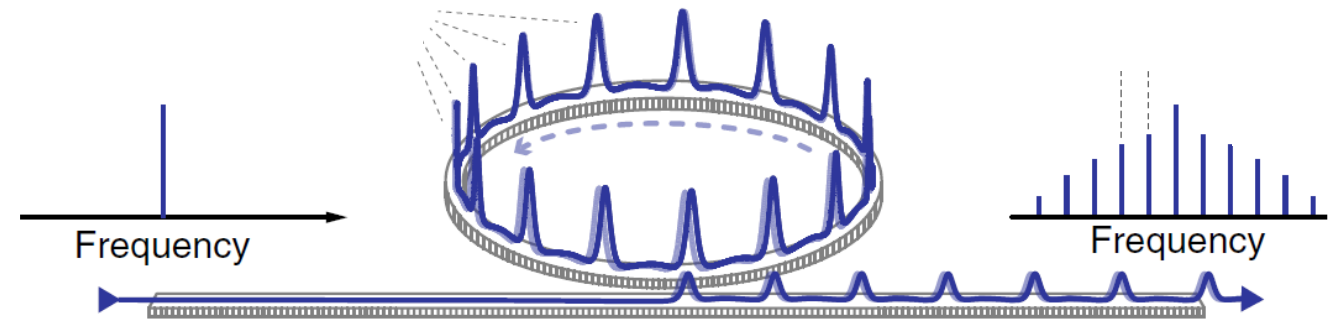
K solitons



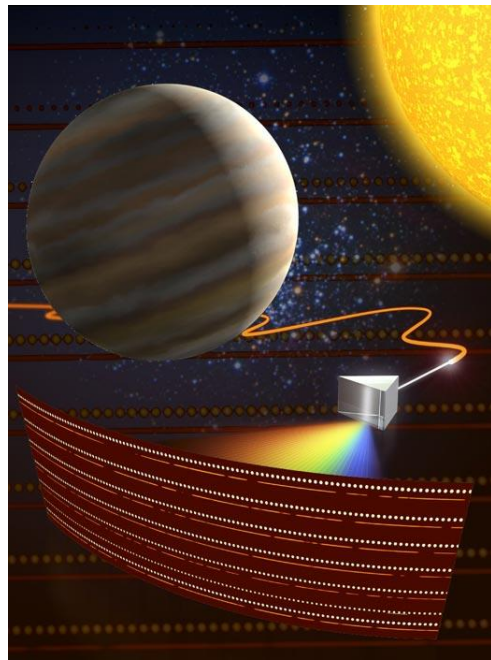
Dynamics of soliton crystals in optical microresonators

Maxim Karpov ¹, Martin H. P. Pfeiffer¹, Hairun Guo ^{1,2}, Wenle Weng¹, Junqiu Liu¹
Tobias J. Kippenberg ^{1*}

NATURE PHYSICS | VOL 15 | OCTOBER 2019 | 1071-1077



$$P = \chi_1 E + \chi_2 E^3$$



Microresonators for Astro-Combs

An **Astro-Comb** (HARPS) detects spectral wobbles caused by small *exoplanets*

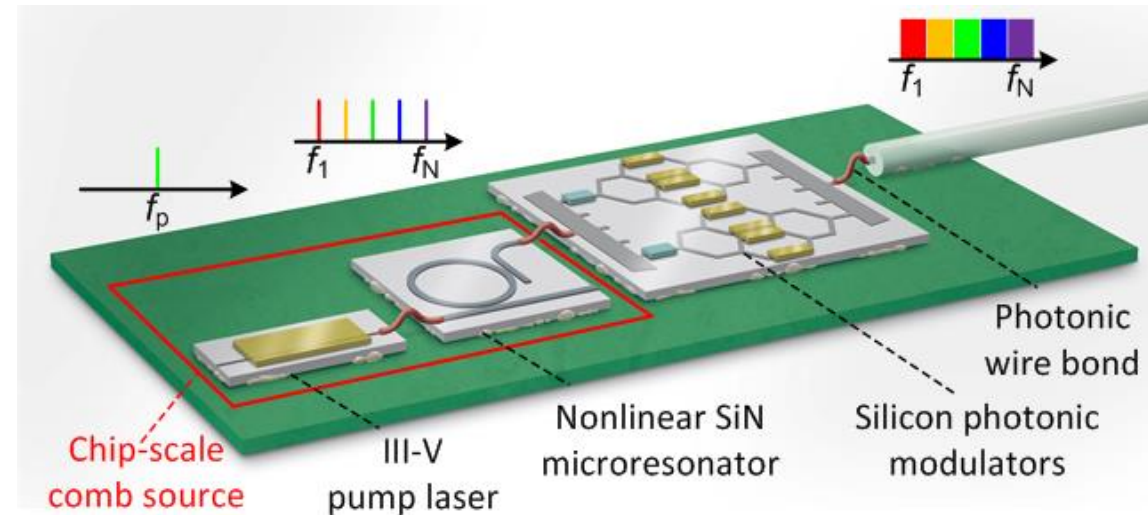


A crucial test for astronomical spectrograph calibration with frequency combs

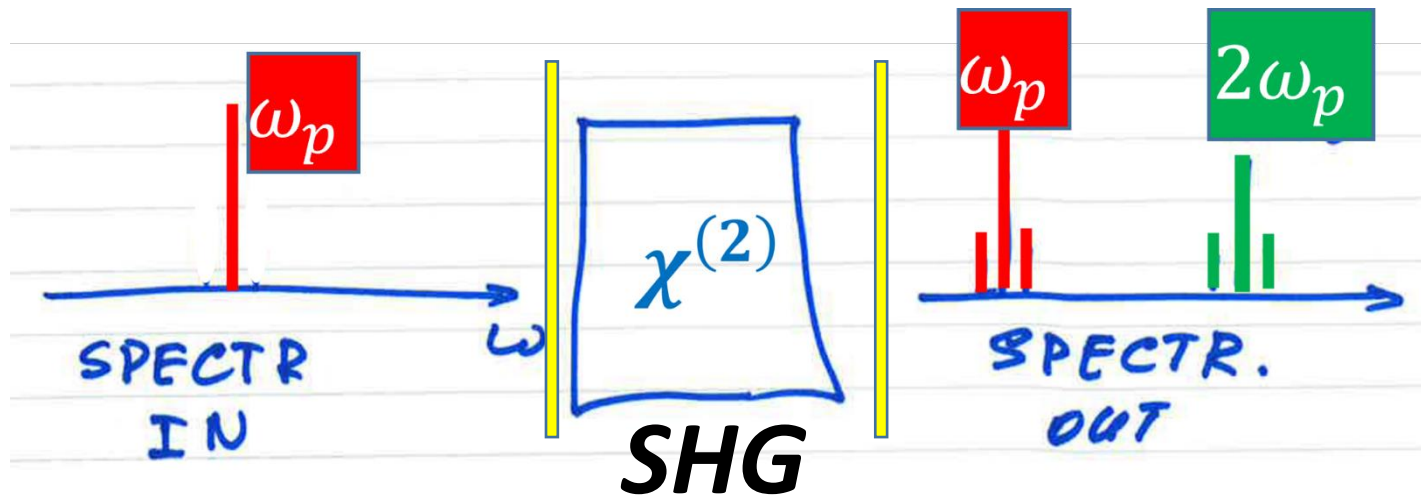
Rafael A. Probst^{1,2*}, Dinko Milaković³, Borja Toledo-Padrón^{4,5}, Gaspare Lo Curto^{3,6}, Gerardo Avila³,

Coherent terabit communications with microresonator Kerr frequency combs

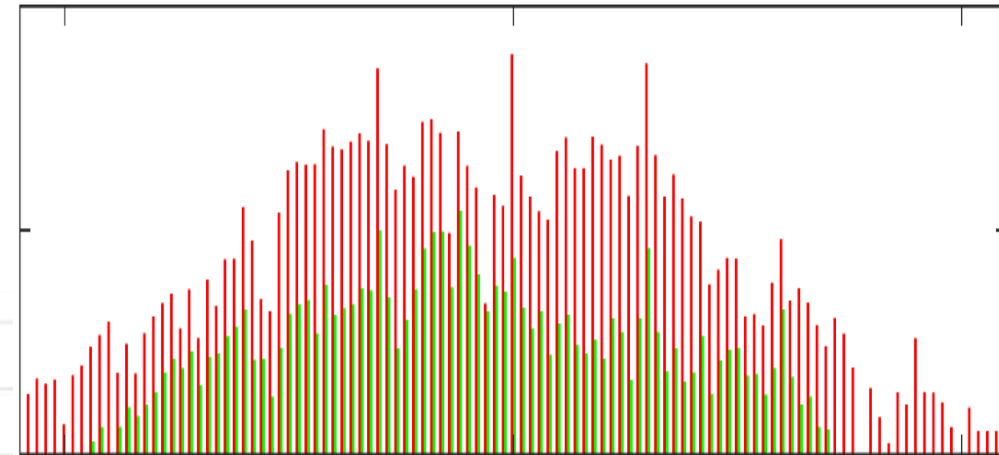
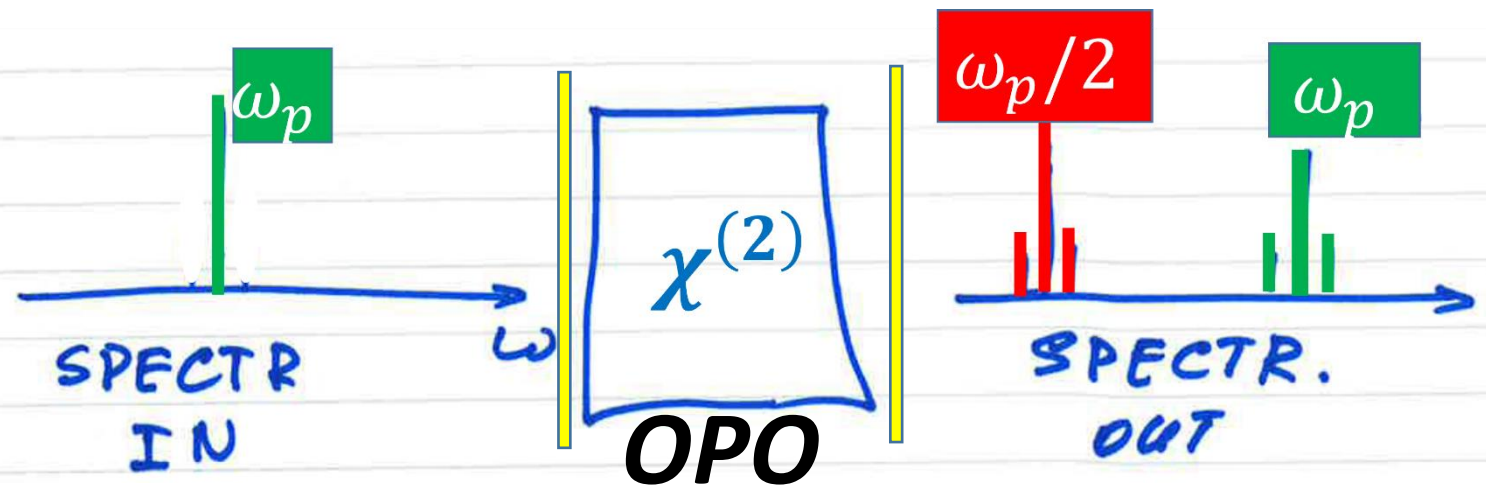
Pfeifle et al, *Nature Phot* 8, 375 (2014)



Concept of chi-2 combs



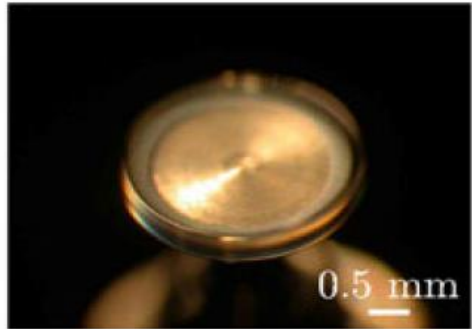
$$P = \chi_1 E + \chi_2 E^2$$



Optical frequency

Bulk LiNbO₃ ring resonators

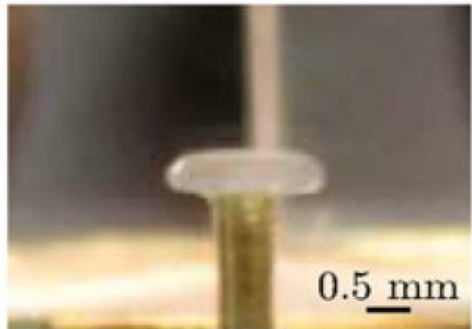
Bulk resonators



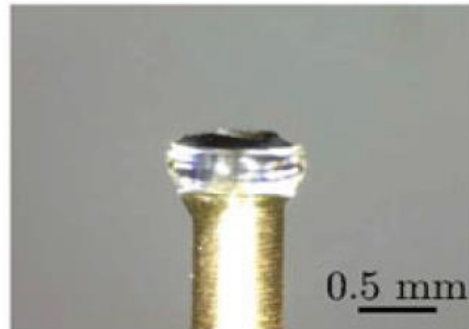
a) PP-LiNbO₃



b) Li₂B₄O₇



f) β -BaB₂O₄



g) LiNbO₃

Ilchenko ..., PRL 92, 043903 (2004)
Furst ..., PRL 104, 153901 (2010)

LiNbO₃
 $Q \sim 10^8$ finesse ~ 10000 FSR ~ 20 GHz

Linewidth: $\kappa_{a,b} \sim 1 - 10$ MHz
Dispersion is normal till around 1.5 μm

$$e^{iM\theta - i\frac{1}{2}\omega_p t} \sum_{\mu} a_{\mu}(t) \Phi_{\mu}(\vec{r}) e^{i\mu\theta} + c.c.$$

Low-frequency modes

$$e^{i2M\theta - i\omega_p t} \sum_{\mu} b_{\mu}(t) \Psi_{\mu}(\vec{r}) e^{i\mu\theta} + c.c.$$

High-frequency modes

$\mu = \dots, -2, -1, 0, +1, +2, \dots$ (relative mode number)

$$c^2 \partial_{\alpha} \partial_{\alpha_1} \mathcal{E}_{\alpha_1} - c^2 \partial_{\alpha_1} \partial_{\alpha_1} \mathcal{E}_{\alpha}$$

$$+ \partial_t^2 \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \hat{\epsilon}_{\alpha\alpha_1}(t - t', r, \theta, z) \mathcal{E}_{\alpha_1}(t', \vec{r}) dt' = -\partial_t^2 \mathcal{N}_{\alpha}$$

$$\mathcal{N}_{\alpha} = \chi_{\alpha\alpha_1\alpha_2}^{(2)} \mathcal{E}_{\alpha_1} \mathcal{E}_{\alpha_2}$$

$$i\partial_t a_\mu = \delta_{\mu a} a_\mu - \frac{i\kappa_a}{2} a_\mu - \gamma_a \sum_{\mu_1 \mu_2} \hat{\delta}_{\mu, \mu_1 - \mu_2} b_{\mu_1} a_{\mu_2}^*$$

$$i\partial_t b_\mu = \delta_{\mu b} b_\mu - \frac{i\kappa_b}{2} (b_\mu - \hat{\delta}_{\mu, \mu'} \mathcal{H}) - \gamma_b \sum_{\mu_1 \mu_2} \hat{\delta}_{\mu, \mu_1 + \mu_2} a_{\mu_1} a_{\mu_2}$$

$$\omega_{b\mu_1} - \omega_{a\mu_2} - \omega_{a\mu}$$

$$\omega_{a\mu_1} + \omega_{a\mu_2} - \omega_{b\mu}$$

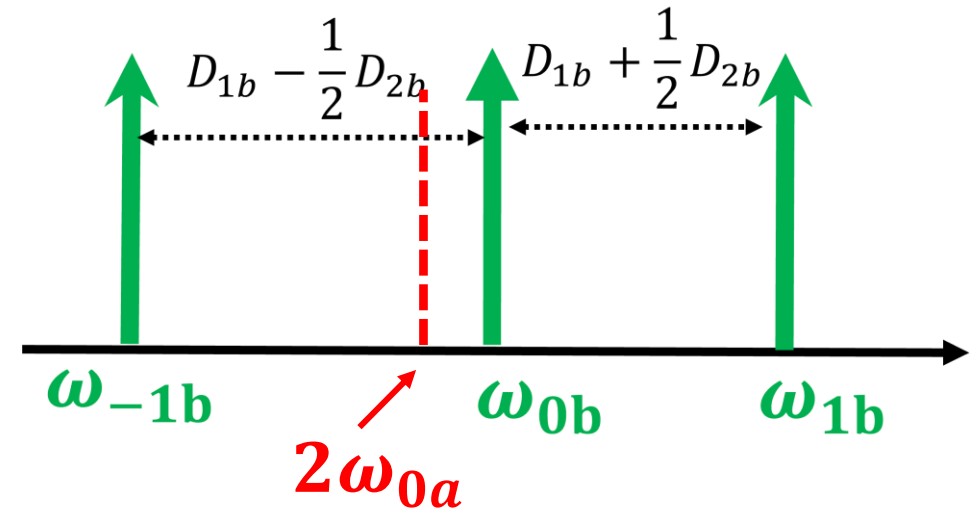
Phase mismatch and repetition-rate mismatch

Linear spectrum

$$\omega_{\mu a} = \omega_{0a} + \mu D_{1a} + \frac{1}{2} \mu^2 D_{2a}$$

$$\omega_{\mu b} = \omega_{0b} + \mu D_{1b} + \frac{1}{2} \mu^2 D_{2b}$$

$\mu = 0$ frequency mismatch
parameter



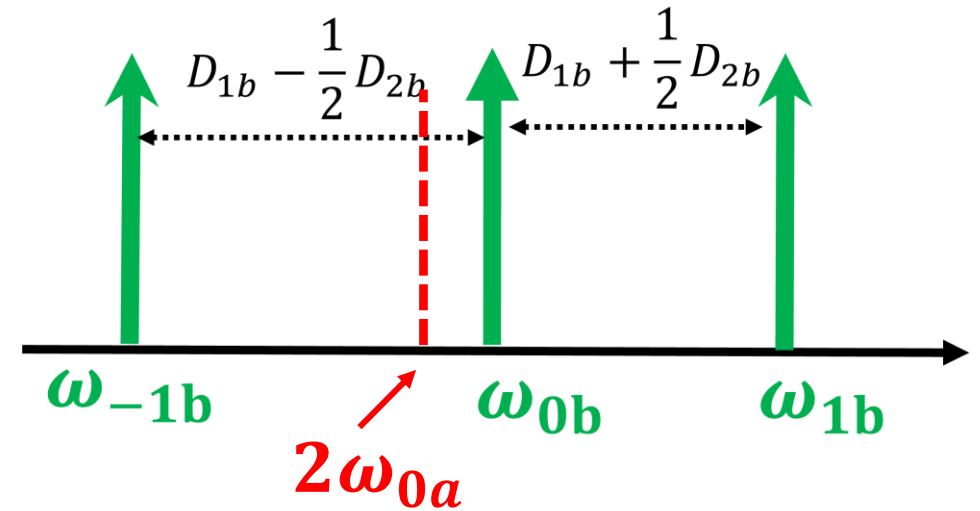
$$\epsilon = 2\omega_{0a} - \omega_{0b} = \frac{2Mc}{R} \left(\frac{1}{n_a} - \frac{1}{n_b} \right)$$
$$= 0 \text{ to } \pm 20\text{GHz}$$

Phase velocity and group velocity mismatch

Linear spectrum

$$\omega_{\mu a} = \omega_{0a} + \mu D_{1a} + \frac{1}{2} \mu^2 D_{2a}$$

$$\omega_{\mu b} = \omega_{0b} + \mu D_{1b} + \frac{1}{2} \mu^2 D_{2b}$$



$\mu = 0$ frequency mismatch parameter

$$\begin{aligned} \epsilon &= 2\omega_{0a} - \omega_{0b} = \frac{2Mc}{R} \left(\frac{1}{n_a} - \frac{1}{n_b} \right) \\ &= 0 \text{ to } \pm 20\text{GHz} \end{aligned}$$

$$D_{1a} - D_{1b} = 1 \text{ GHz}$$

Difference of linear repetition rates

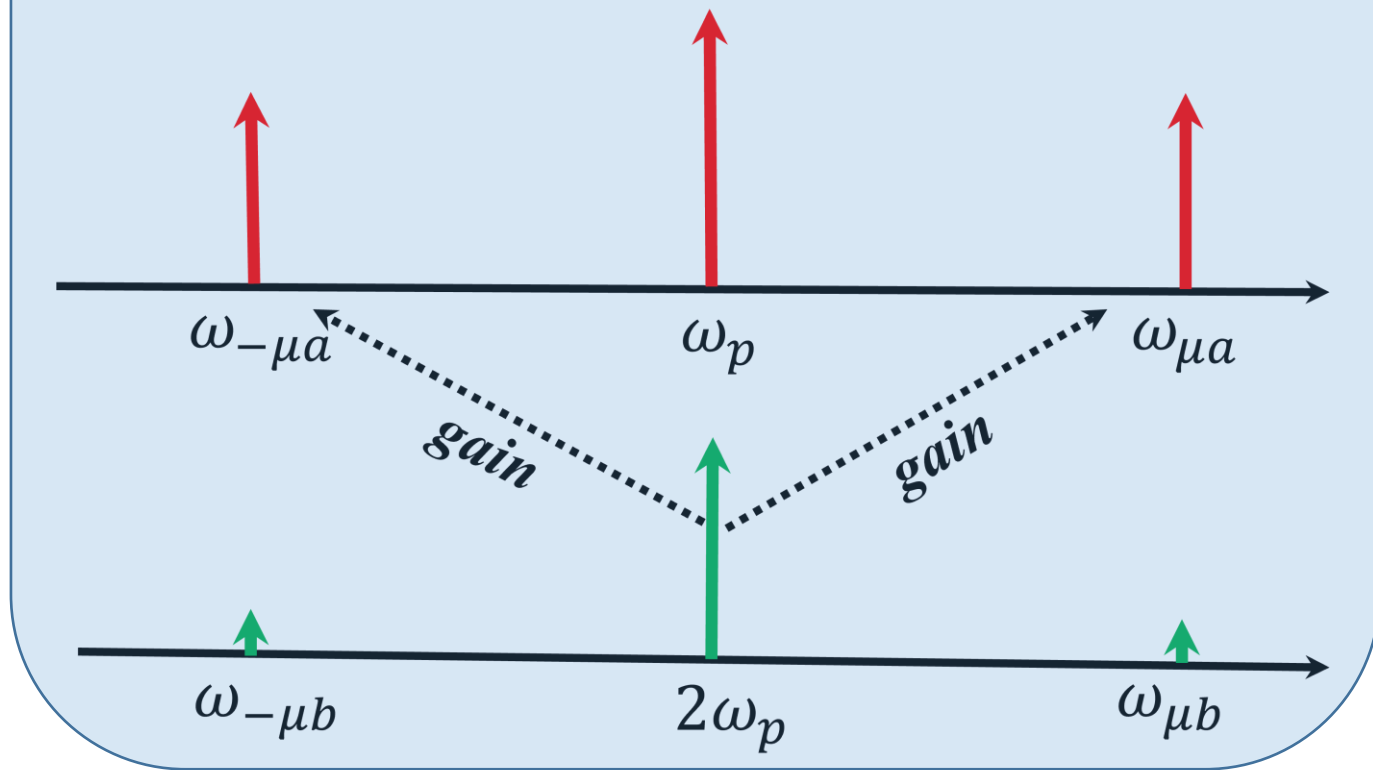
Comb initiation equations

$$i \frac{\partial}{\partial t} \begin{bmatrix} a_\mu \\ b_\mu \\ a_{-\mu} \\ b_{-\mu} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{matrix} \text{Parametric} \\ \text{and} \\ \text{Sum-frequency} \\ \text{terms} \end{matrix}$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} \delta_{\mu a} - \frac{i\kappa_a}{2} & -\gamma_a \tilde{a}_0^* & -\gamma_a \tilde{b}_0 & 0 \\ -2\gamma_b \tilde{a}_0 & \delta_{\mu b} - \frac{i\kappa_b}{2} & 0 & 0 \\ \gamma_a \tilde{b}_0^* & 0 & -\delta_{-\mu a} - \frac{i\kappa_a}{2} & \gamma_a \tilde{a}_0 \\ 0 & 0 & 2\gamma_b \tilde{a}_0^* & -\delta_{-\mu b} - \frac{i\kappa_b}{2} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} a_\mu \\ b_\mu \\ a_{-\mu} \\ b_{-\mu} \end{bmatrix}$$

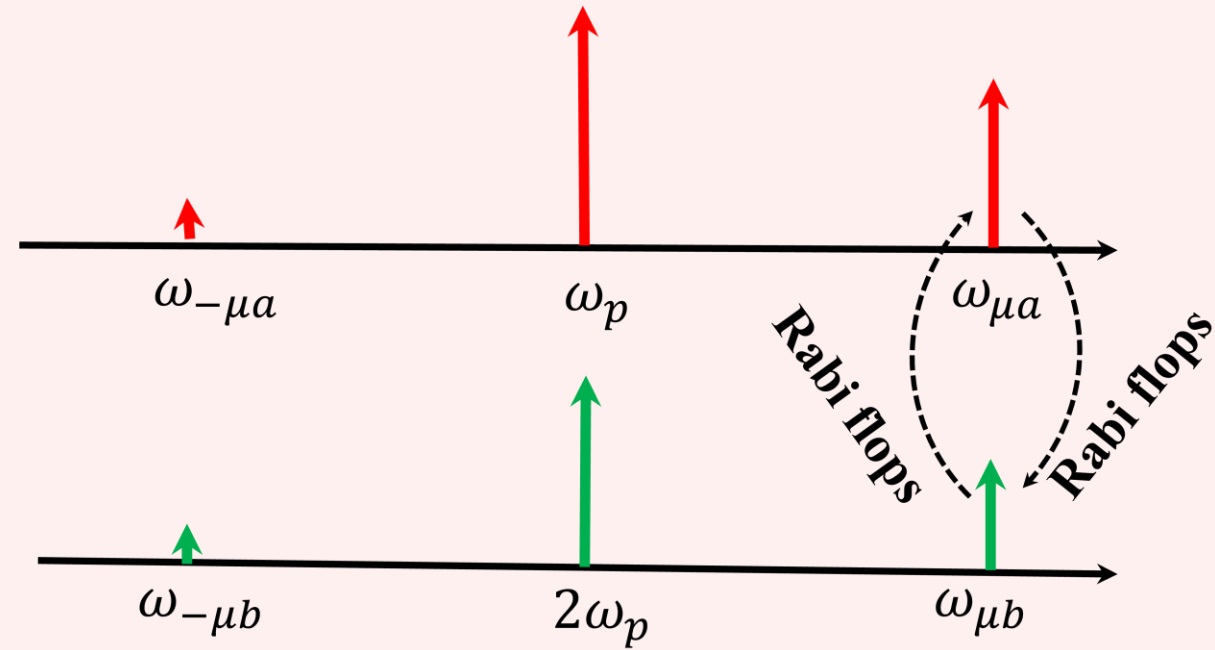
units of Hz

Parametric conversion (photon pair creation)



$$\hbar\omega_{\mu a} + \hbar\omega_{-\mu a} = \hbar 2\omega_p$$

Sum-frequency process (Rabi flops)

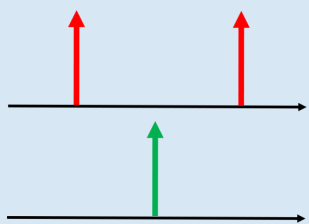
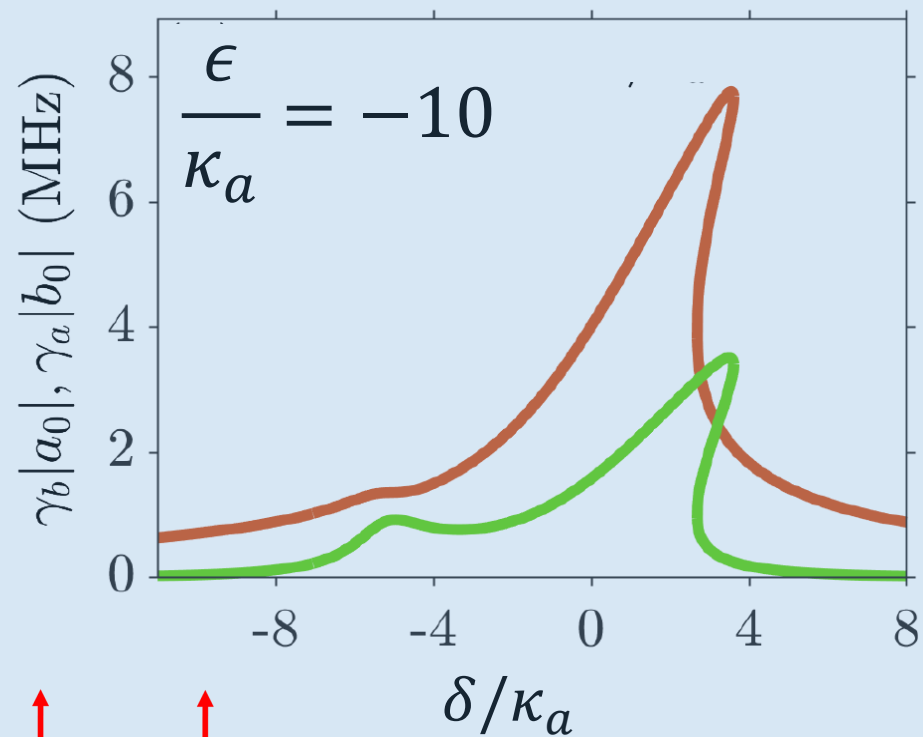


$$\hbar\omega_p + \hbar\omega_{\mu a} = \hbar\omega_{\mu b}$$

$$\epsilon_{\mu} = \epsilon + \mu(D_{1a} - D_{1b}) \approx 0$$

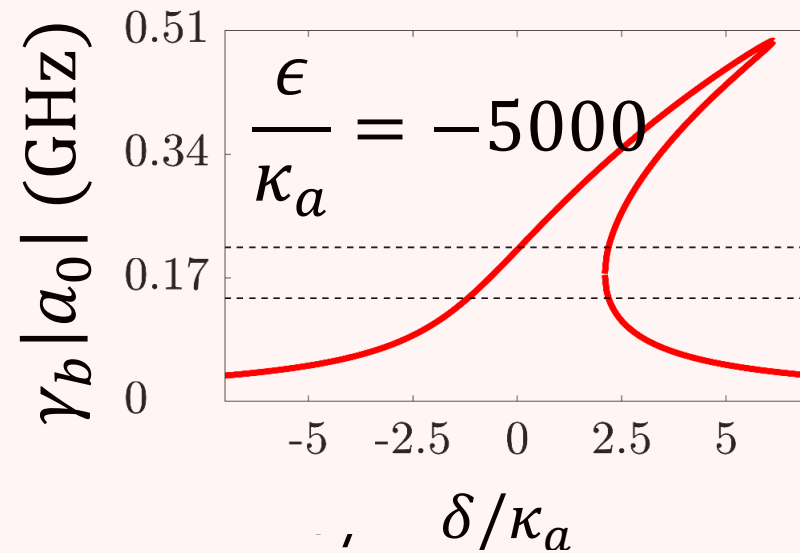
“Parametric” resonator

$$\mu |D_{1a} - D_{1b}| \gg |\epsilon|$$

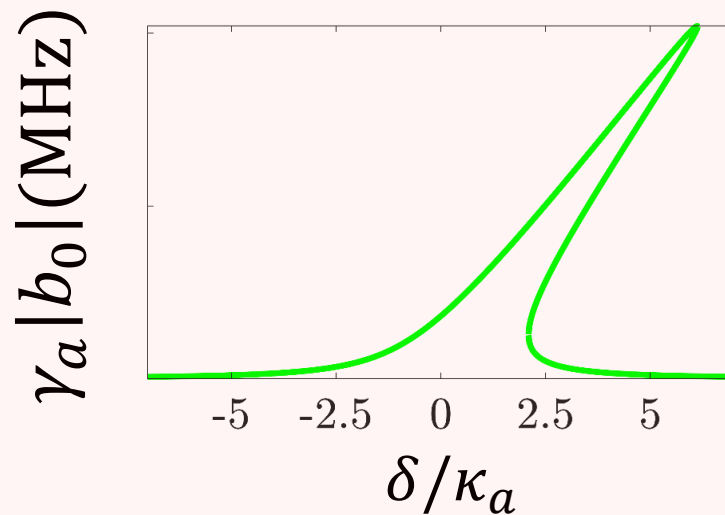


“Rabi” resonator

$$\mu |D_{1a} - D_{1b}| \sim |\epsilon|$$

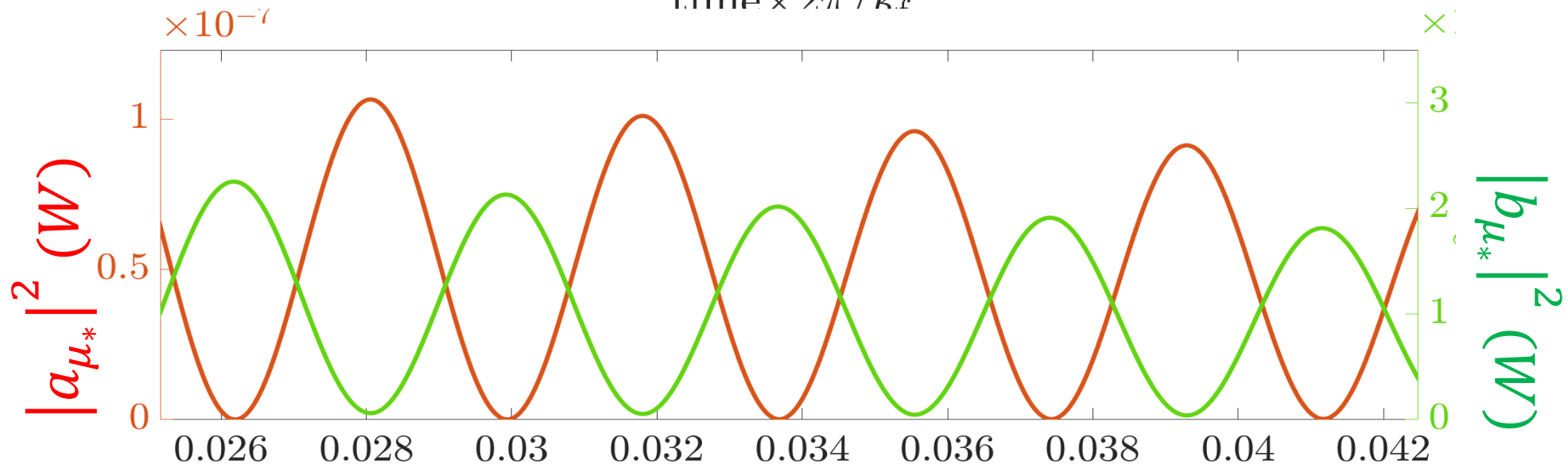
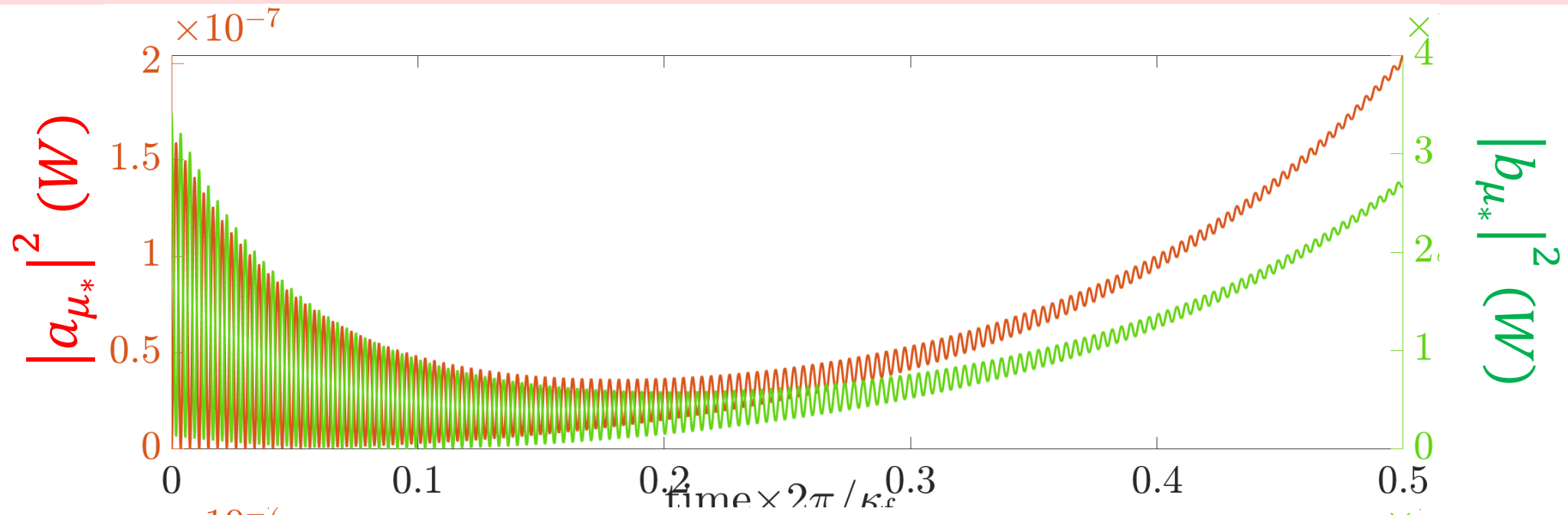


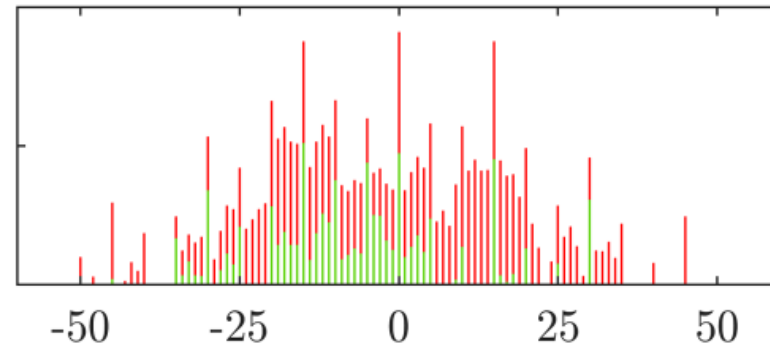
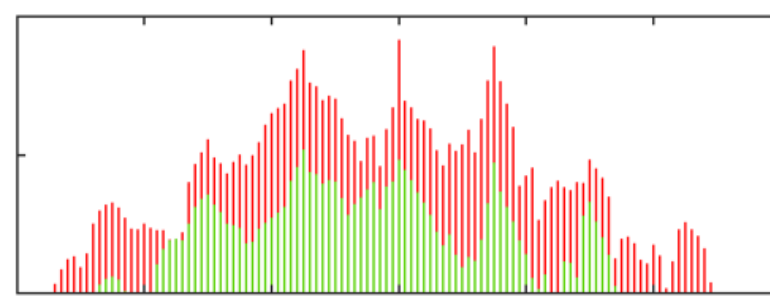
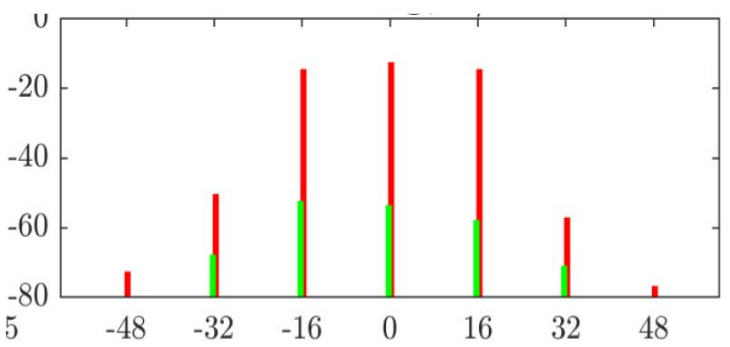
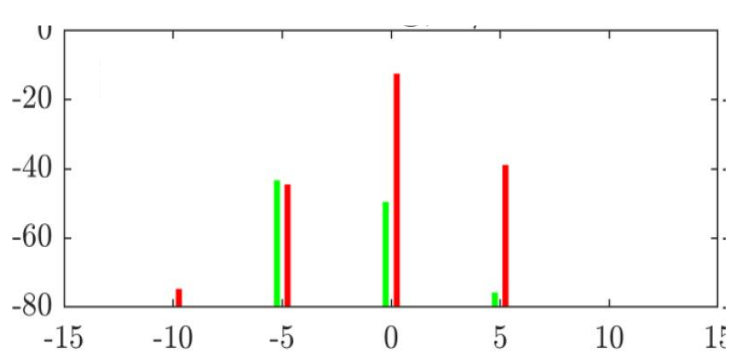
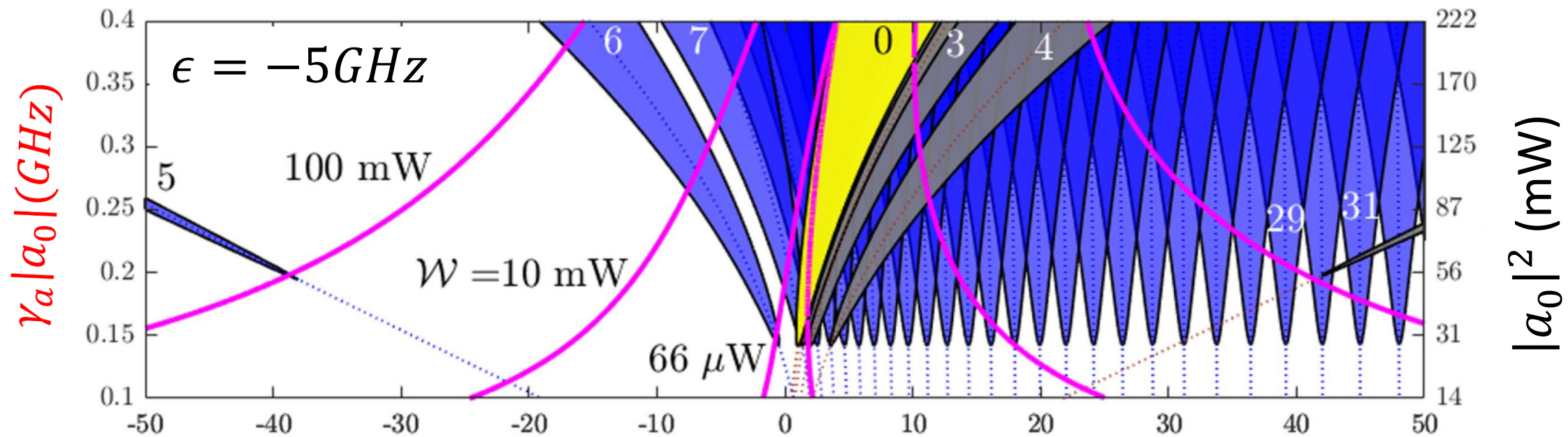
Coupling rate



Gain rate

Rabi flops vs parametric gain (Rabi resonator)



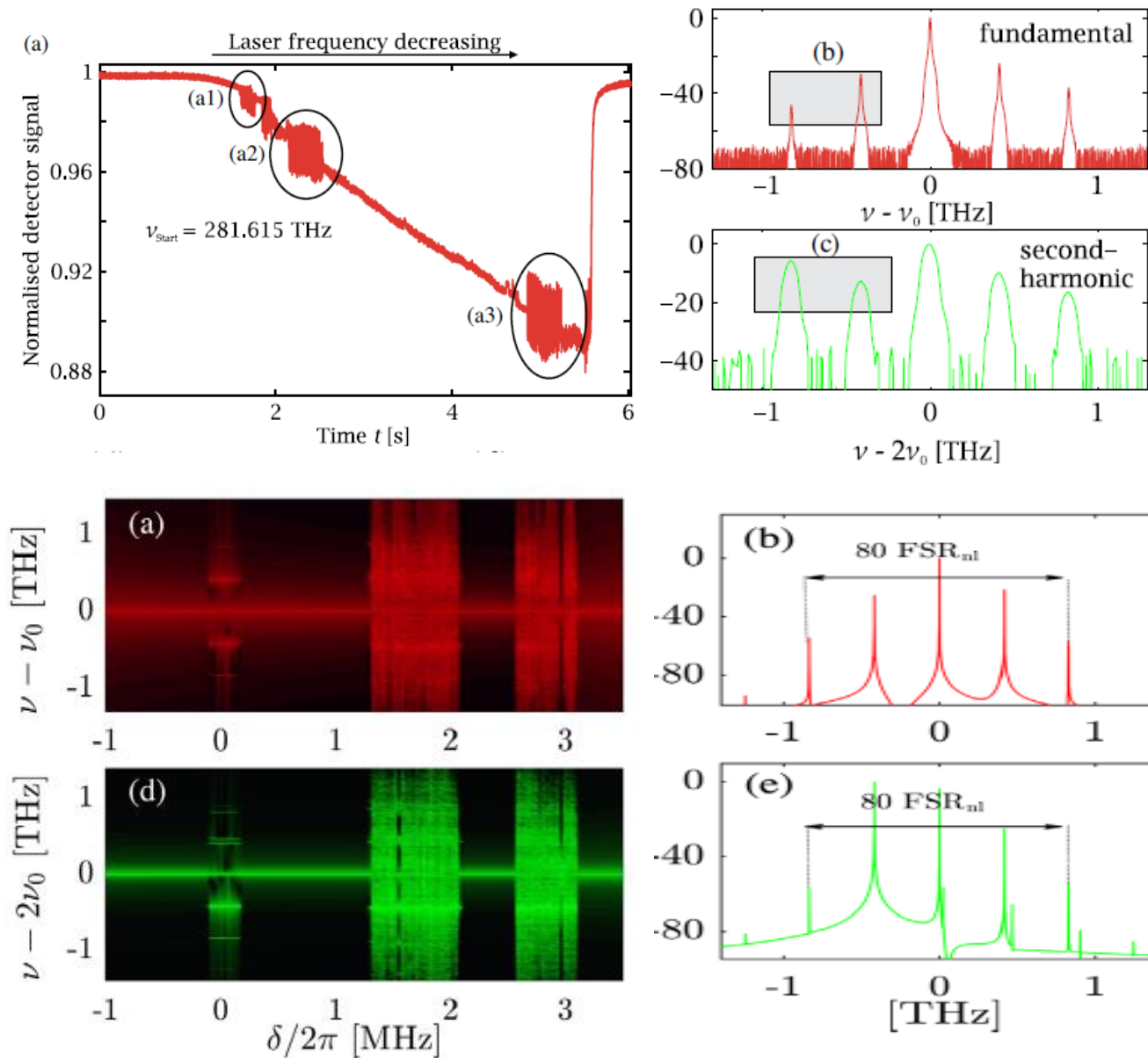


Model to measurements (Freiburg) comparison

Szabados ..., PRL 124, 203902 (2020)
Amiune ..., Optics Express 29 (25), 41378 (2022)
Amiune ..., arXiv preprint arXiv:2205.12776 (2022)

LiNbO₃

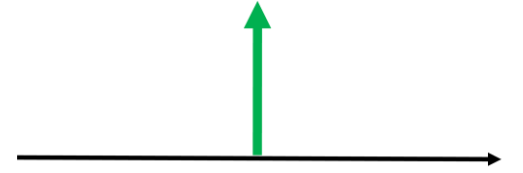
500-1000nm



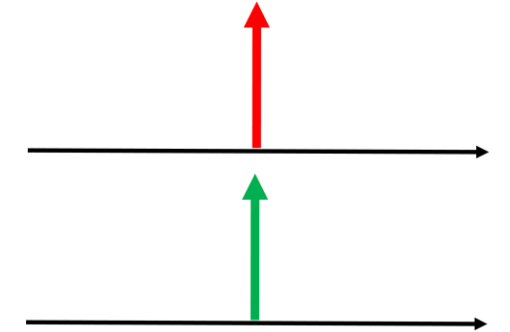
Parametric resonator: OPO or SHG

$$\mu |D_{1a} - D_{1b}| \gg |\varepsilon|$$

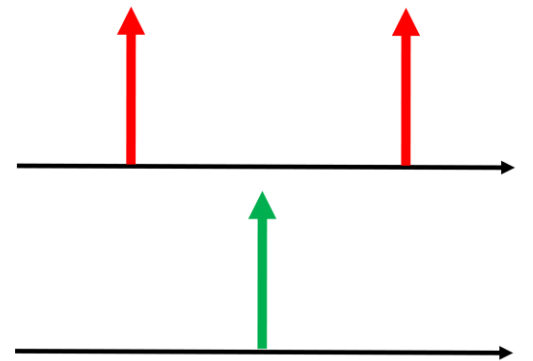
(i) no-OPO state:



(ii) degenerate OPO state:



(iii) non-degenerate OPO states:



$$i\partial_t a_0 = \kappa_a \Delta_{0a} a_0 - \gamma_a b_0 a_0^*,$$

$$i\partial_t a_\mu = \kappa_a \Delta_{\mu a} a_\mu - \gamma_a b_0 a_{-\mu}^*, \quad \mu \neq 0,$$

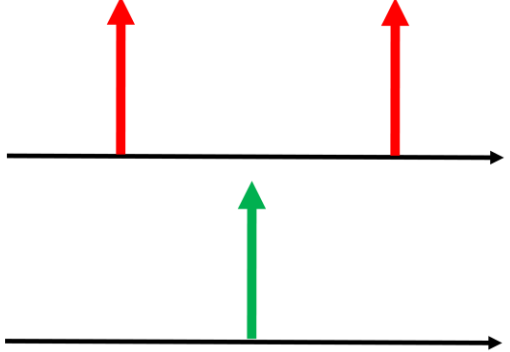
$$i\partial_t a_{-\mu} = \kappa_a \Delta_{\mu a} a_{-\mu} - \gamma_a b_0 a_\mu^*,$$

$$i\partial_t b_0 = \kappa_b \Delta_{0b} b_0 + \frac{i\kappa_b}{2} \mathcal{H} - \gamma_b a_0^2 - 2\gamma_b \sum_{\mu_1 > 0} a_{\mu_1} a_{-\mu_1}$$

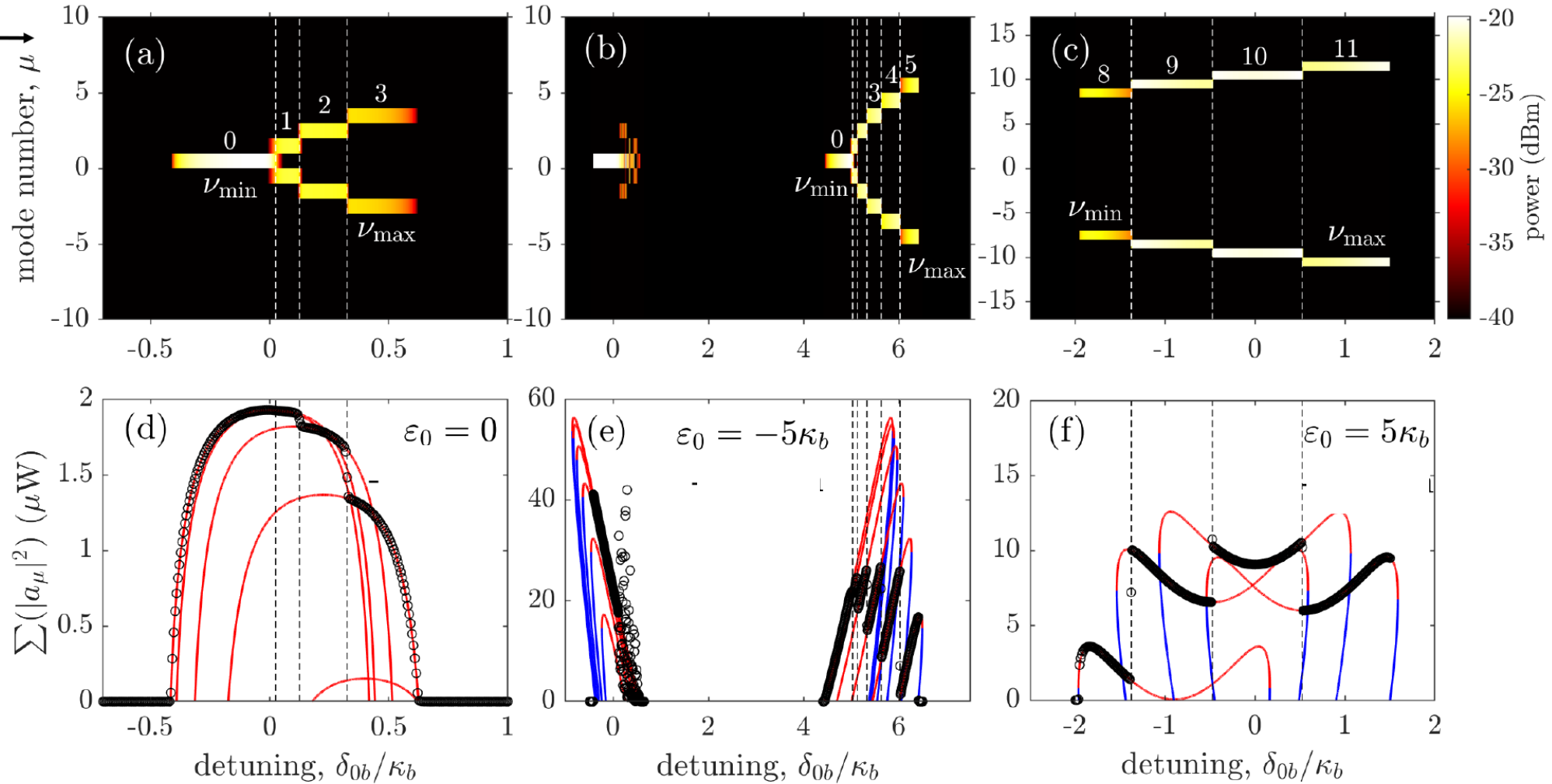
$$A = a_\mu e^{i\mu\vartheta + i\omega_\mu t} + a_{-\mu} e^{-i\mu\vartheta + i\omega_{-\mu} t},$$

$$B = b_0$$

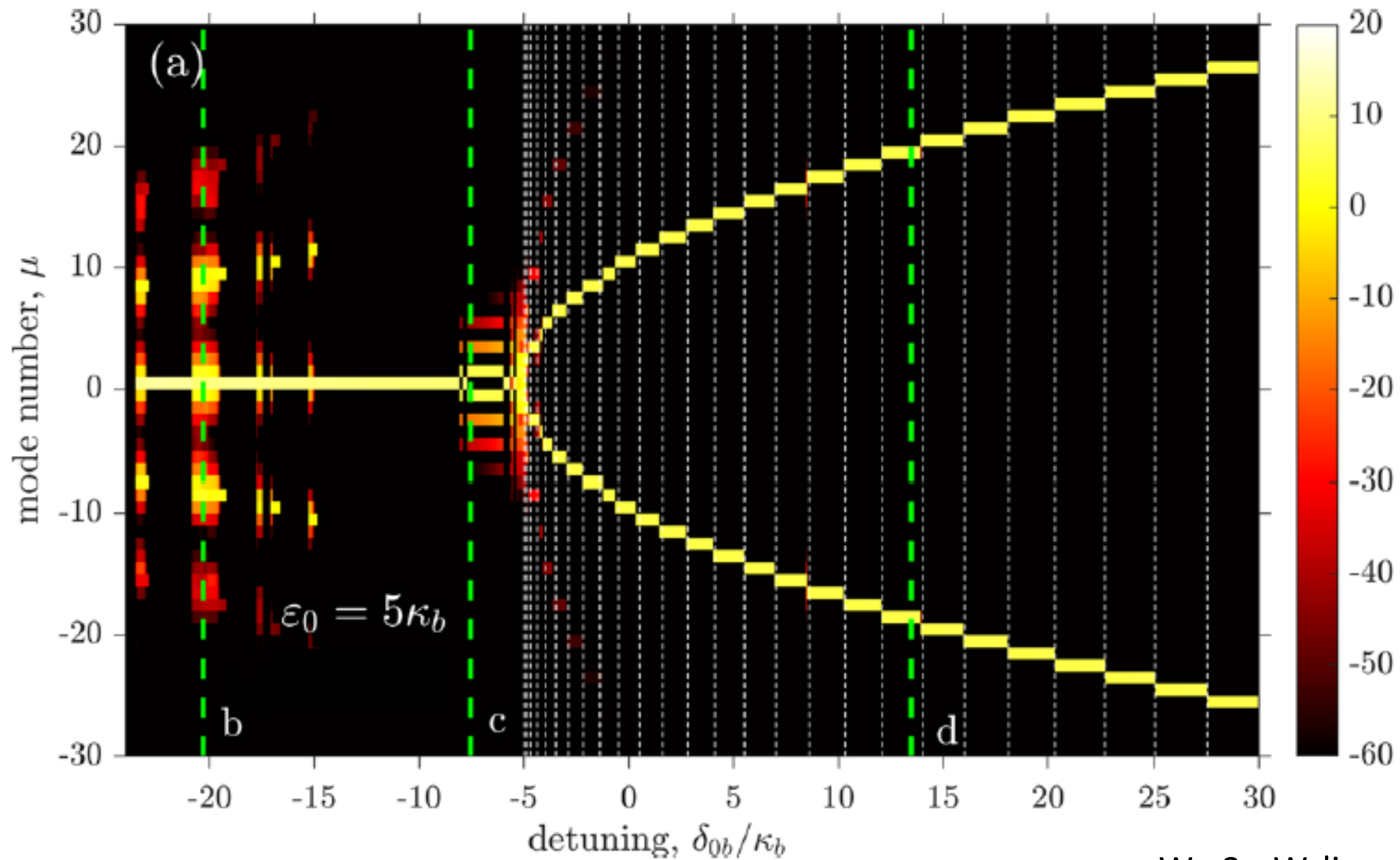
Non-degenerate OPO states can now be found, and even their linear stability can be analysed explicitly



OPO

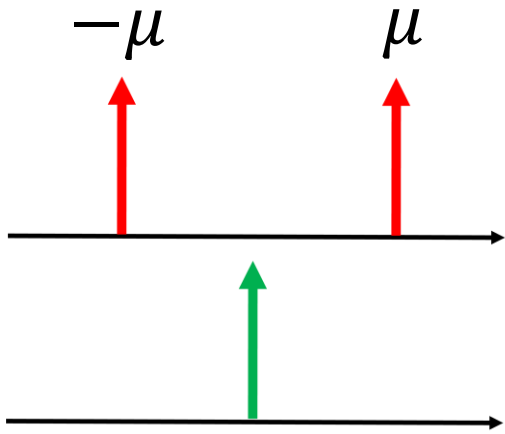


W= 300nW

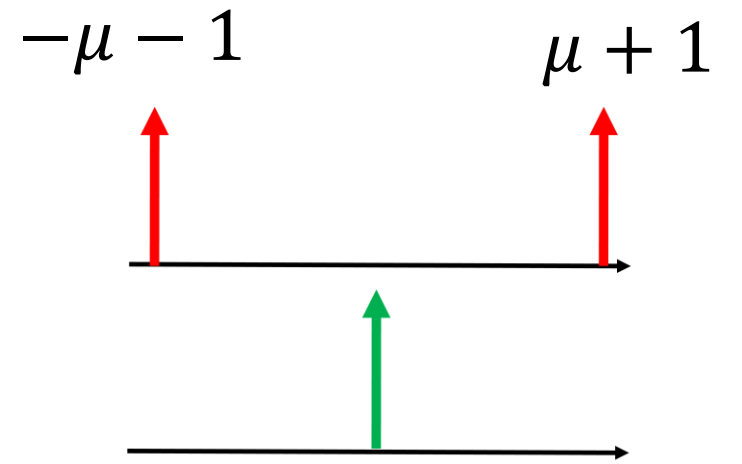


W= 3mW, linewidth 1MHz

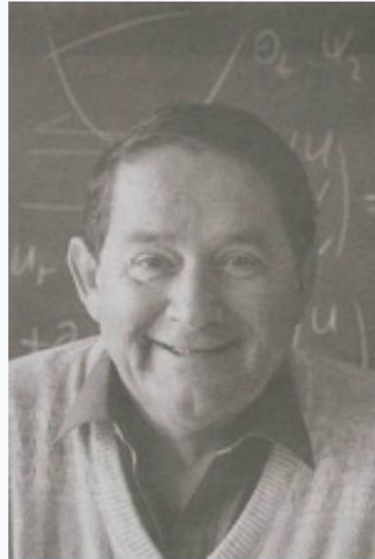
Parametric phase-matching parabola but with steps



Eckhaus instability



Wiktor Eckhaus



Born

28 June 1930^[1]

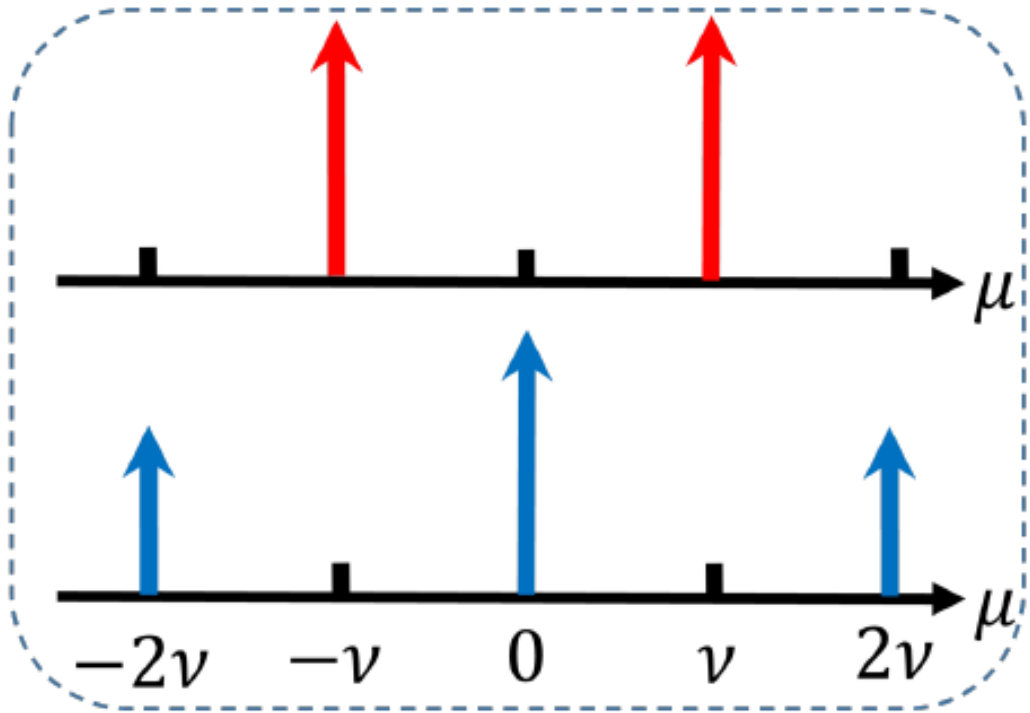
Stanisławów, Poland

Died

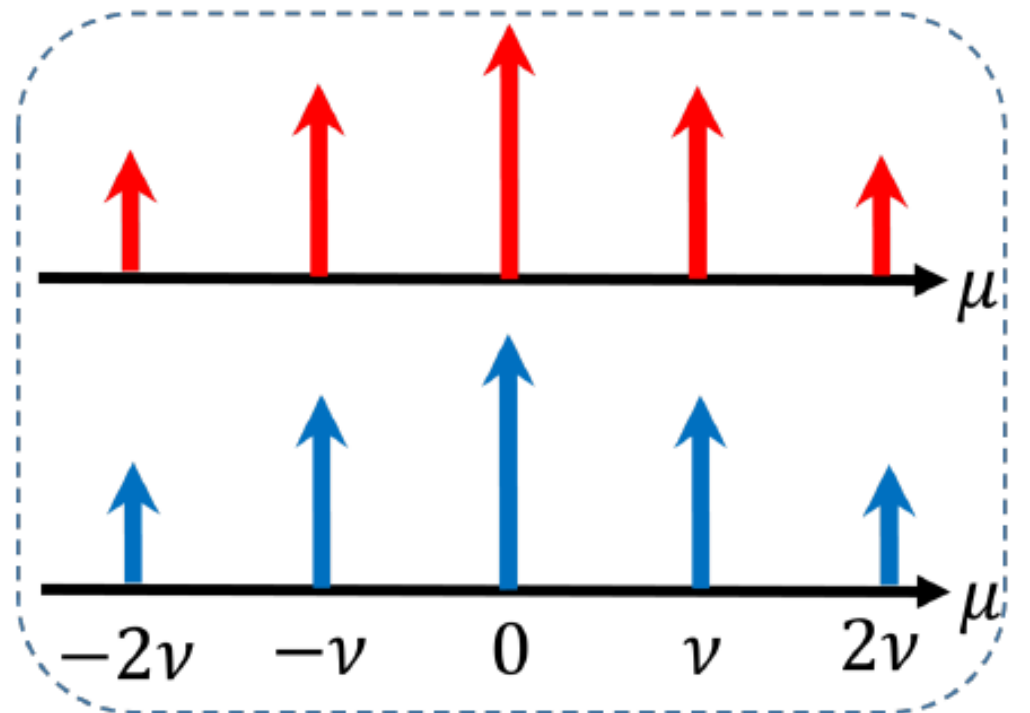
1 October 2000 (aged 70)

Amstelveen,^[2] Netherlands

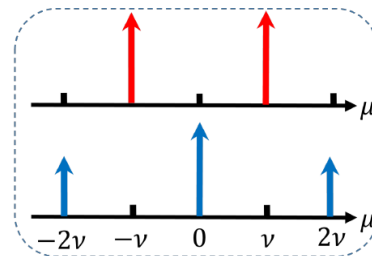
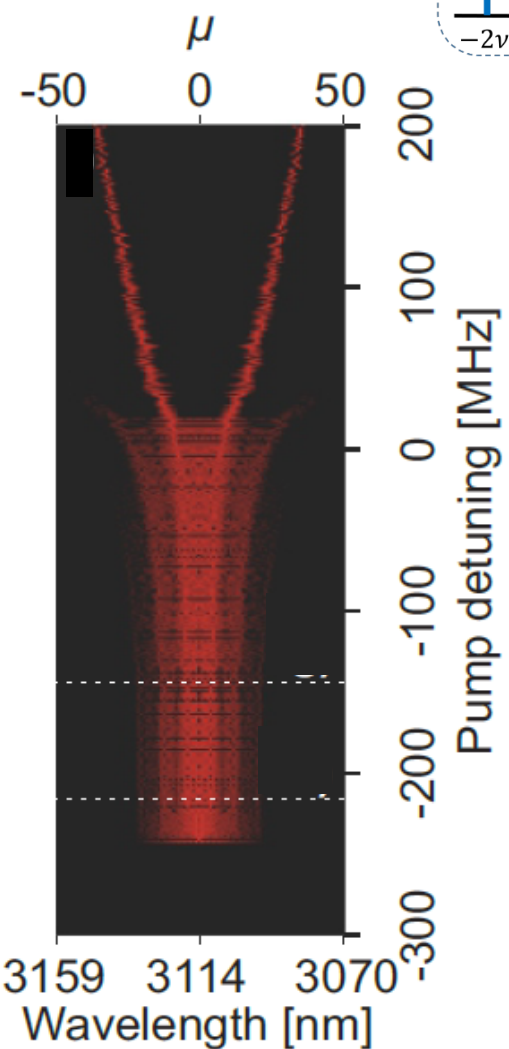
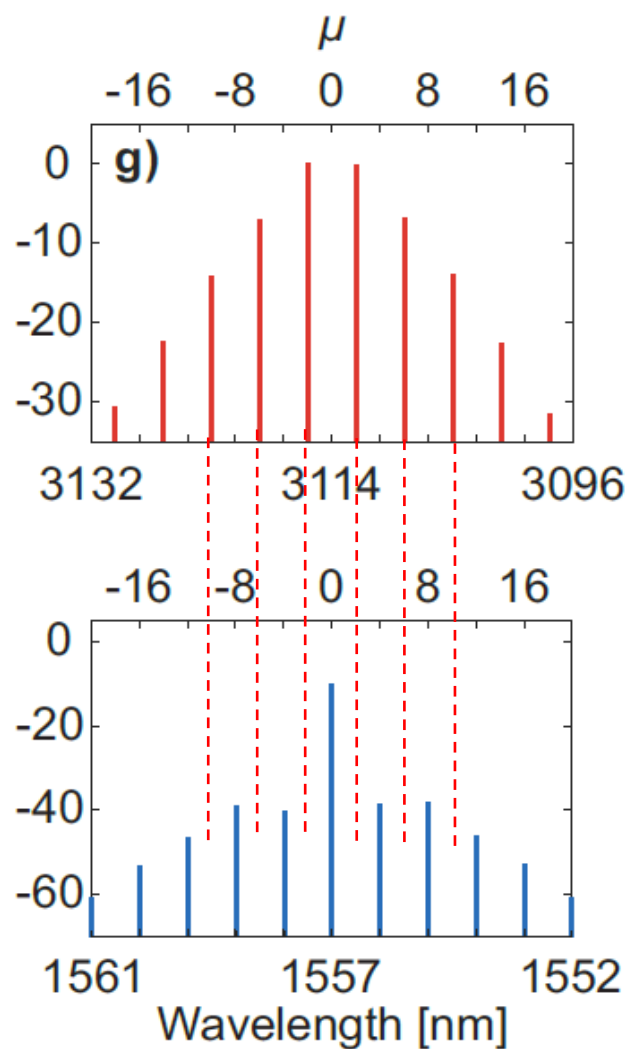
Staggered



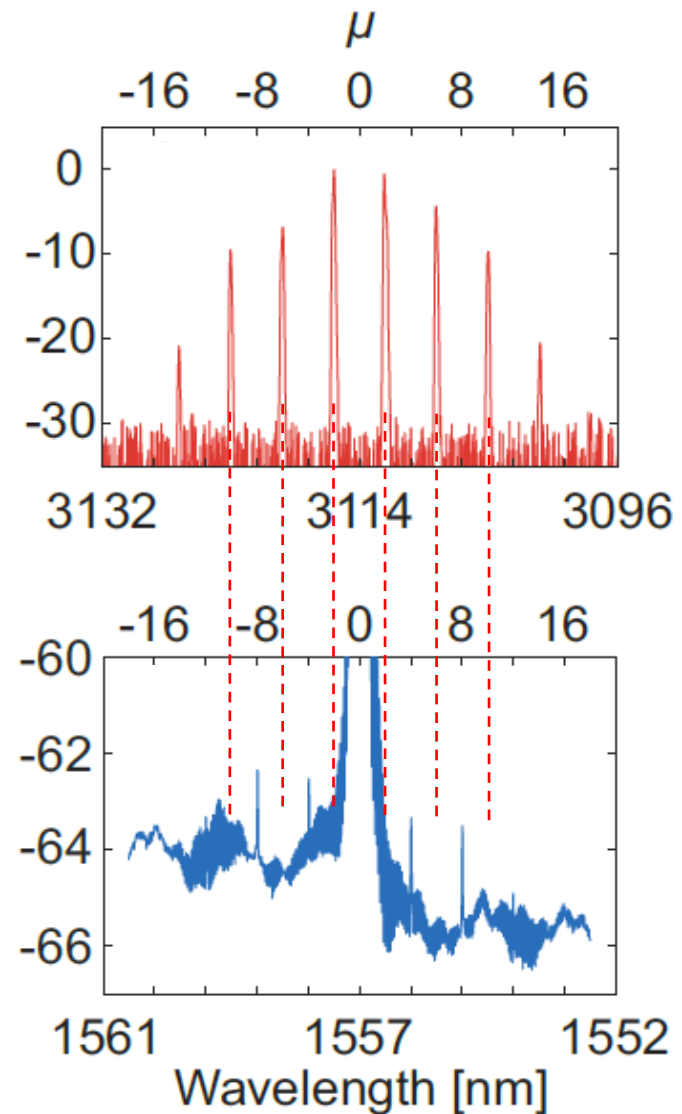
Non-staggered



modelling

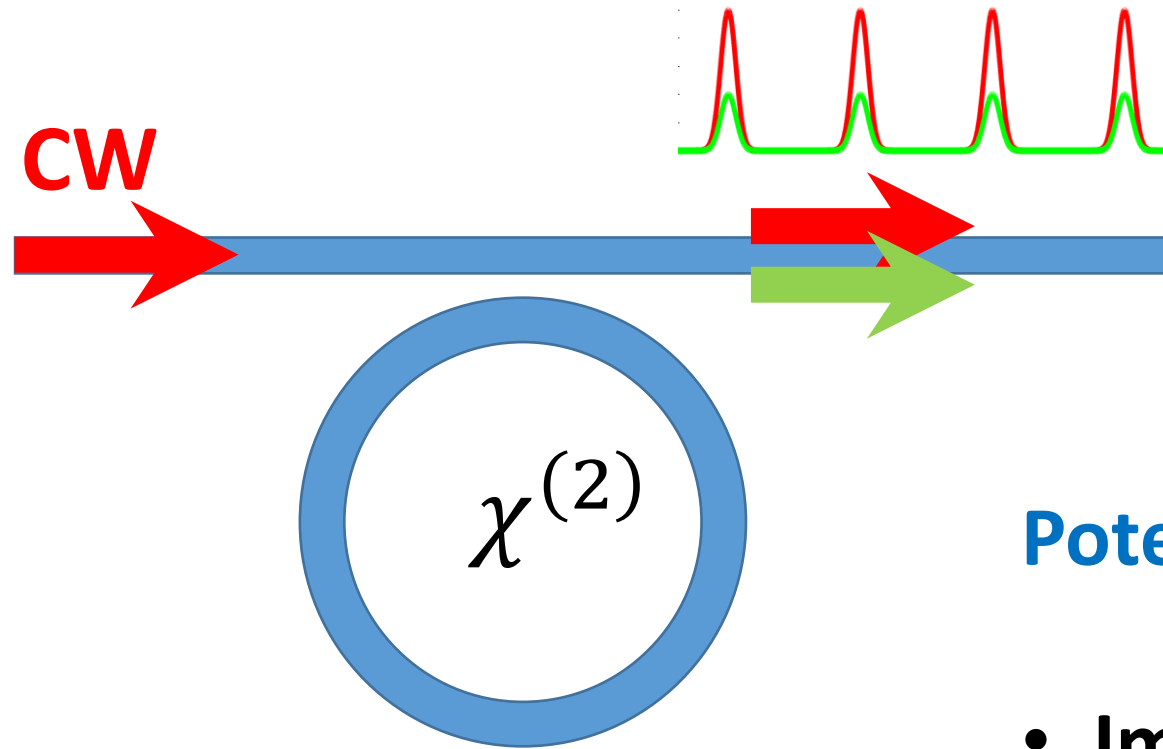


experiment



Puzyrev, DVS, Comms Phys **5**, 138 (2022)

Amiune ..., arXiv preprint arXiv:2205.12776 (2022): CdSiP

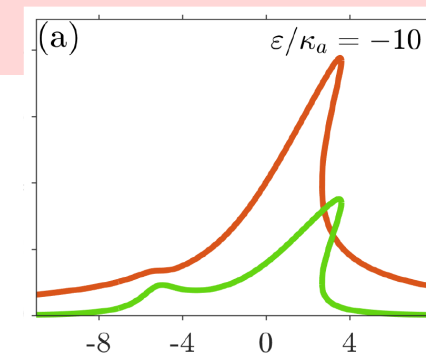


Potential benefits:

- Immediate modelocking across octave
- Independence of the dispersion signs
- Low excitation thresholds
- Near Mid IR coverage

Dressed-states formalism: Pockels vs cascaded-Kerr

$$\sqrt{\epsilon_{\mu}^2 + \gamma_a^2 |a_0|^2}$$



Phase-matched or near-phase-matched modes experience Pockels nonlinearity

$$\sqrt{\epsilon_{\mu}^2 + \gamma_a^2 |a_0|^2}$$

$$n = n_0 + n_P |a_0|$$

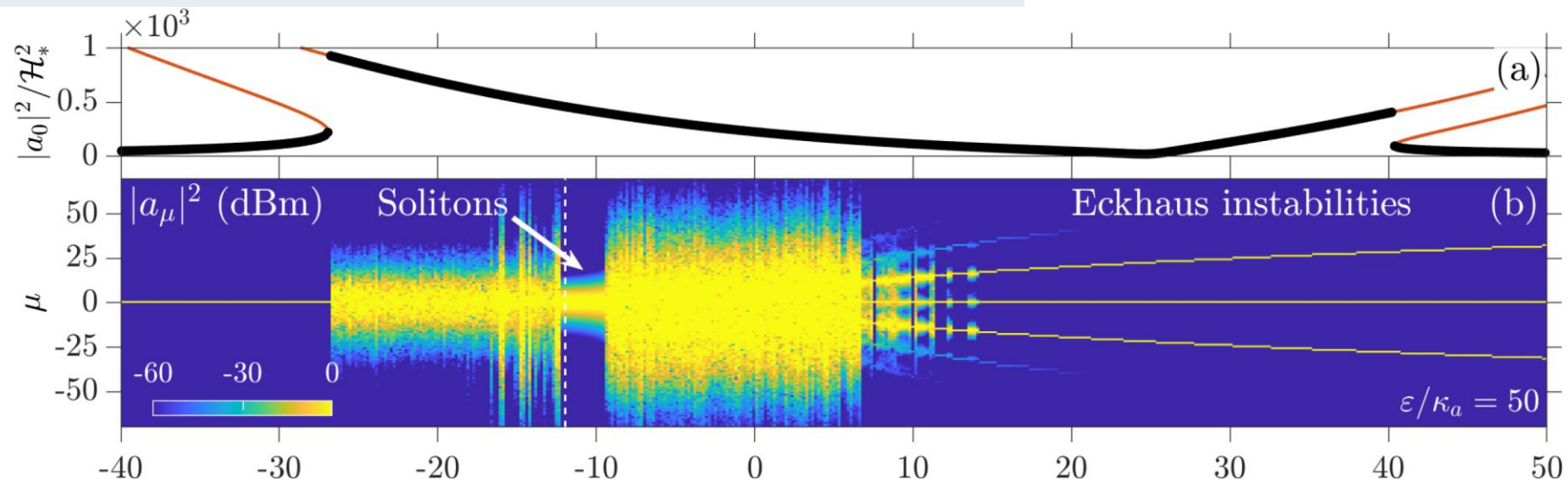
Modes far from phase matching experience effective (cascaded) Kerr nonlinearity

$$\sqrt{\epsilon_{\mu}^2 + \gamma_a^2 |a_0|^2}$$

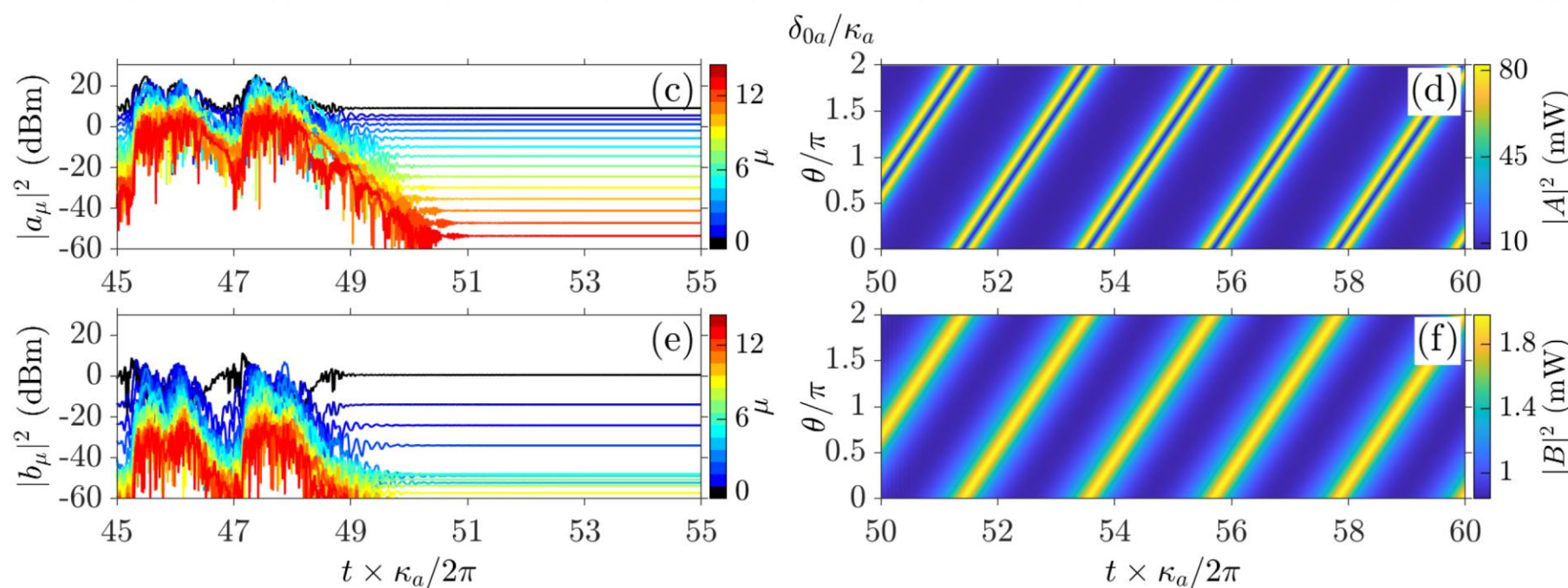
$$n = n_0 + n_{eK} |a_0|^2$$

Solitons in “parametric” SHG-resonator

$$\mu |D_{1a} - D_{1b}| \gg |\varepsilon|$$



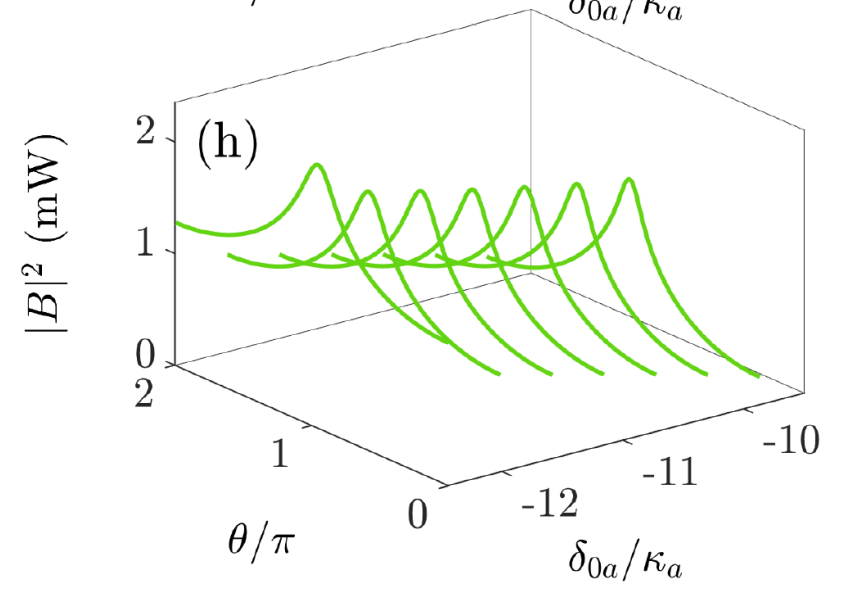
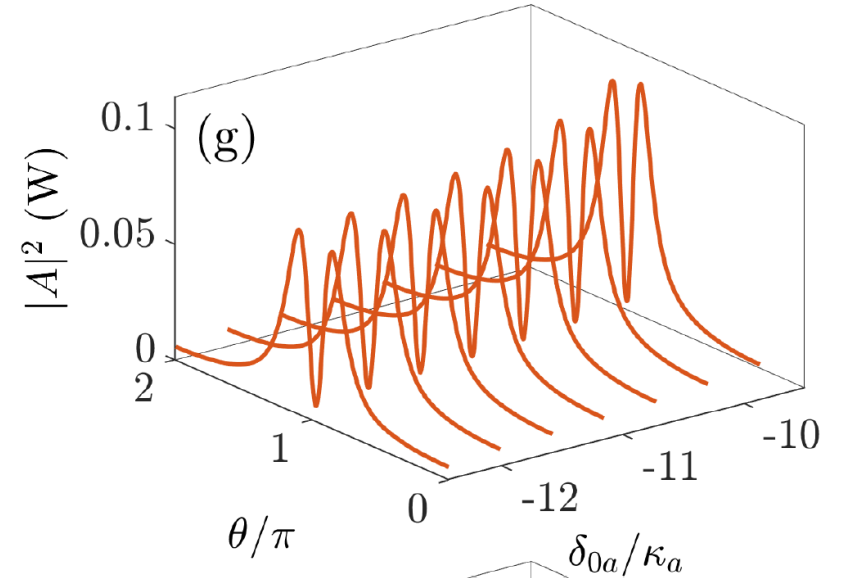
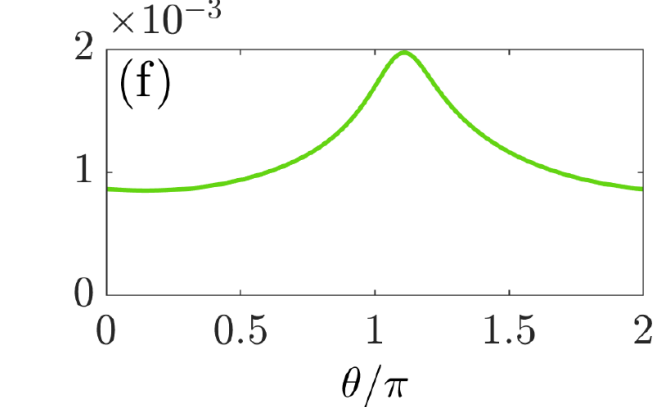
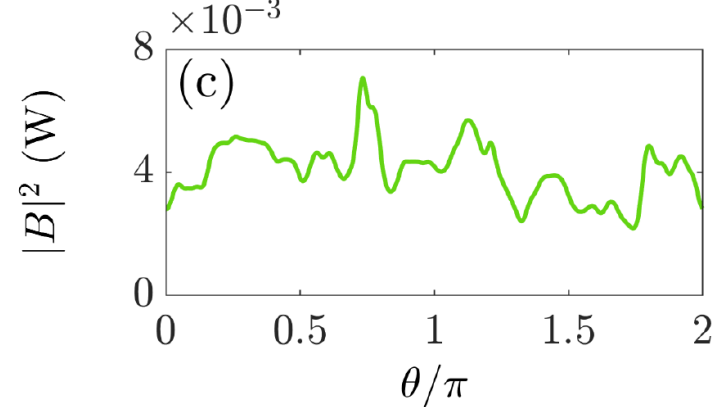
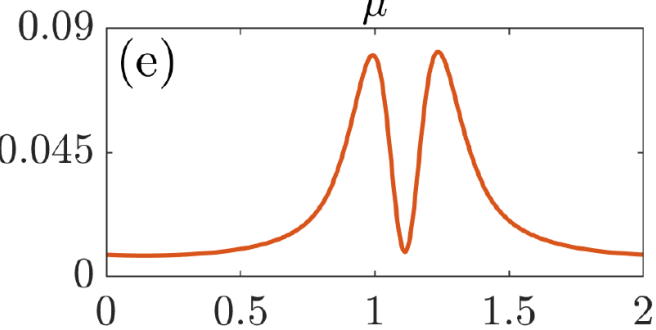
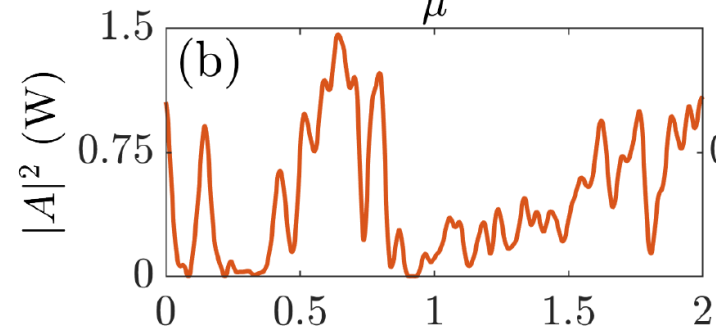
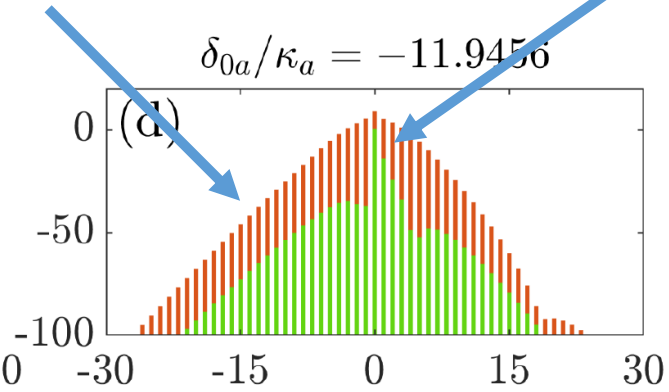
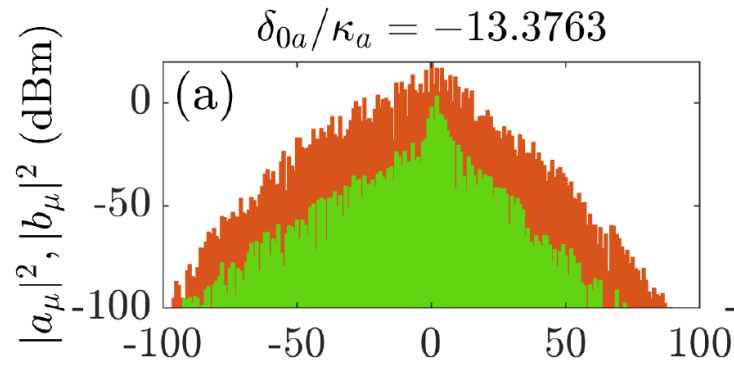
4mW



Pankratov, DVS (under consideration)

Kerr effect
in the spectral tails

Pockels effect
in the spectral core

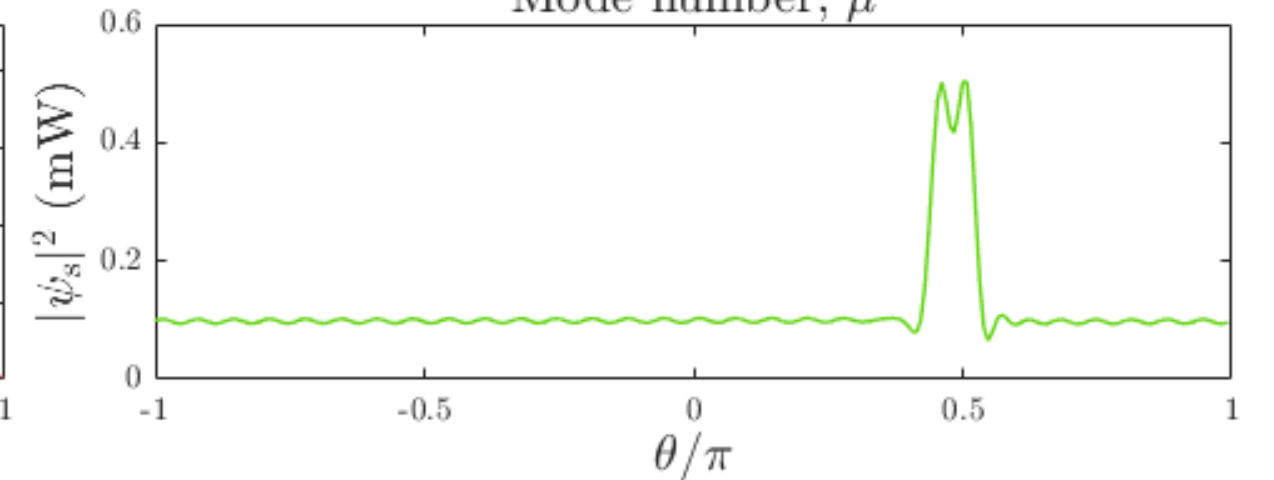
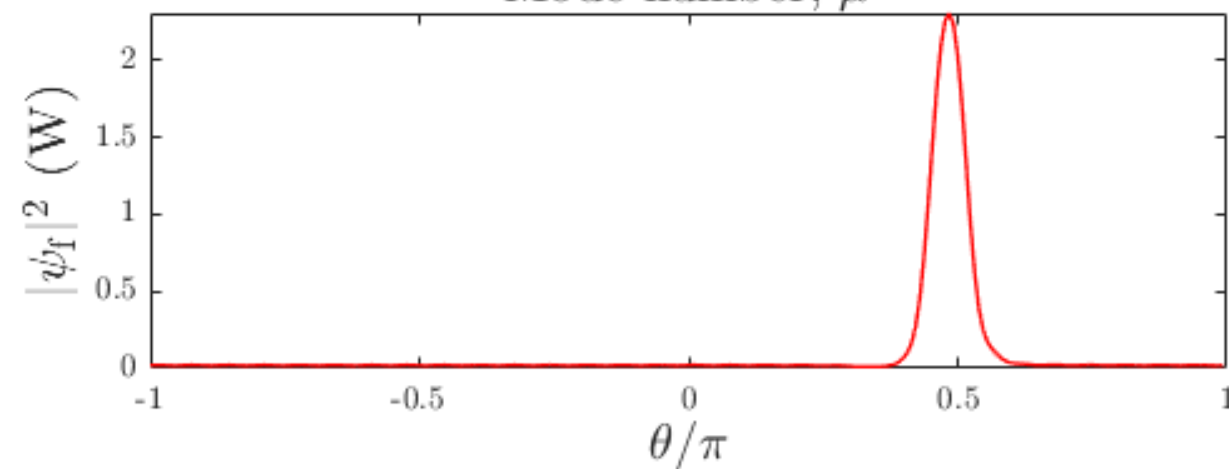
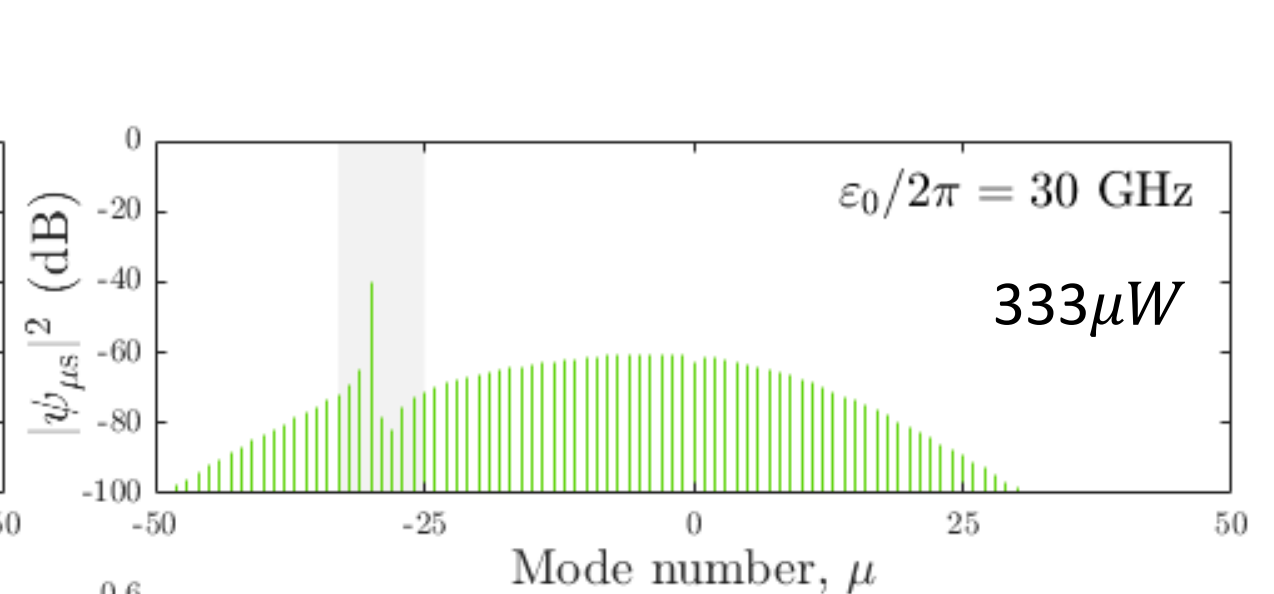
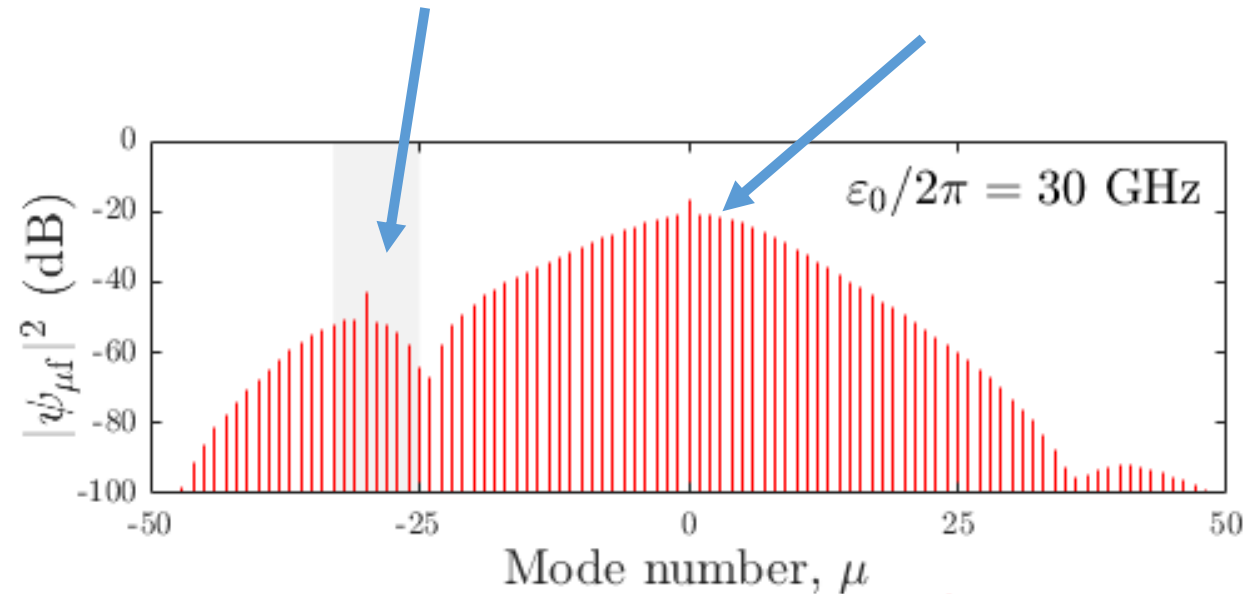


SHG solitons in "Rabi" resonator

$$\mu |D_{1a} - D_{1b}| \sim |\varepsilon|$$

Pockels effect
in the spectral tails

Kerr effect
in the spectral core



Phase and group velocity matching.
All modes experience Pockels effect.

$$D_{1a} - D_{1b} \approx \epsilon \approx 0$$

$$i\partial_t A = \delta A - \frac{1}{2} D_{2a} \partial_\theta^2 A - \gamma_a B A^* - \frac{i\kappa_a}{2} A$$

$$i\partial_t B = (2\delta - \epsilon) B - \frac{1}{2} D_{2b} \partial_\theta^2 B - \gamma_b A^2 - \frac{i\kappa_b}{2} (B - H)$$

$$A = c\psi(\theta) e^{\frac{i\phi}{2}}$$

$$B = \psi(\theta) e^{i\phi} - iH_0$$

$$\psi = \frac{3\delta}{2\gamma_b} \operatorname{sech}^2 \left(\theta \sqrt{\frac{\delta}{2D_{2b}}} \right)$$

Kerr cavity solitons

$$i\partial_t A = \delta A - \frac{1}{2} D_2 \partial_\theta^2 A - \gamma |A|^2 A - \frac{i\kappa}{2} (A - H)$$

$$A = \psi(\theta) - iH_0 \quad \psi = \sqrt{\frac{2\delta}{\gamma}} \operatorname{sech} \left(\theta \sqrt{\frac{\delta}{2D_2}} \right)$$



Thank you for attention