

稳态无粒子数反转亚泊松激光的量子理论

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摘 要 在理论上研究了相干、非相干泵浦的常规三能级激光器的稳态和噪声行为, 指出: 在相干、非相干泵浦率与激光下能级自发辐射率可以比拟的激光非优化区(激活原子基态耗尽区), 相干、非相干泵浦常规三能级激光器的输出光场都呈现亚泊松统计, 但只有相干泵浦情况, 由于量子相干效应能产生无粒子数反转亚泊松激光, 且噪声压缩水平高于非相干泵浦情况。

关键词 无粒子数反转, 亚泊松统计。

1 引 言

近来, 常规多能级激光器产生亚泊松激光引起人们的极大兴趣。它无需对泵浦外加某些调整, 而利用激光器激活介质的能级结构形成泵浦环, 自动压抑泵浦噪声, 产生亚泊松激光。Khazanov、Ritsch、Ralph、Savage、Hart^[1~9]等人分别运用量子郎之万方程, 约化密度主方程或二者的结合研究了相干或非相干泵浦常规三、四能级激光器产生亚泊松激光的可能性, 并给出了一些实验建议, 但未指出相干泵浦情况可能出现的无粒子反转激光现象。Gheri 和 Walls^[10]虽然在研究光腔内相干驱动的 A 型三能级原子系统时指出, 当两个低能级 $|1\rangle$ 和 $|2\rangle$ 无弛豫时, 这种激光器的两个激光能级 $|2\rangle$ 和 $|3\rangle$ 能产生无粒子数反转亚泊松激光输出。但他们和有关无粒子反转激光的文章都未预言更为一般的两个低能级 $|1\rangle$ 和 $|2\rangle$ 有弛豫的激光器模型能产生无粒子反转亚泊松激光。且多数文章仅讨论无粒子反转激光的初始触发行为。本文正是在理论上研究了这种更为一般的相干、非相干泵浦三能级激光器的稳态和噪声行为, 指出了相干泵浦情况下出现稳态无粒子反转亚泊松激光的可能性。

2 理论模型

原子能级结构如图 1 所示, 它是相干 ($\Gamma = 0$) 或非相干 ($E = 0$) 泵浦的三能级原子, 能级 $|3\rangle$ 到 $|2\rangle$ 、 $|3\rangle$ 到 $|1\rangle$ 和 $|2\rangle$ 到 $|1\rangle$ 的自发辐射率分别为 γ_{23} 、 γ_{13} 和 γ_{12} 。待研究的系统由 N 个这样的三能级原子和单个环形腔激光模组成, 其共振 Jaynes-Cummings 哈密顿量为:

$$H_{JC} = i \hbar g \sum_{\mu=1}^N (a^+ \delta_{23\mu} - a \delta_{32\mu}) \quad (1)$$

式中 g 为单原子与腔场之间的偶极耦合强度, μ 标识不同的原子, a 和 a^+ 为腔模的湮灭和产生算符, $\delta_{ij\mu}$ 和 $\delta_{ji\mu}$ 为第 μ 个原子能级 $|i\rangle$ 和 $|j\rangle$ 之间的下降和上升算符。场模相位因子已吸收入

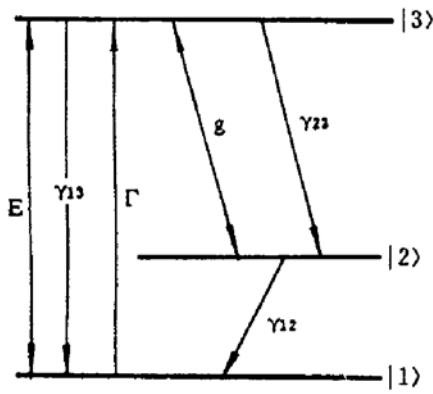


Fig. 1 Schematic diagram of the level structure considered. Pumping is either incoherent at rate Γ or coherent with field strength proportional to E

原子算符的定义。相干泵浦由共振经典场描述,它与原子相互作用的哈密顿量为:

$$H_{CP} = i \hbar E \sum_{\mu=1}^N (\delta_{13\mu}^- - \delta_{13\mu}^+) \quad (2)$$

按照 Haken 和 Louisell^[11,12] 的标准方法,将原子、腔与热库耦合,导出原子和腔的约化密度算符 ρ 在相互作用表象里的主方程为:

$$\begin{aligned} \partial \rho / \partial t = & [H_{JC} + H_{CP}, \rho] / i \hbar \\ & + k(2 a \rho a^+ - a^+ a \rho - \rho a^+ a) \\ & + (\Gamma L_{13}^+ + \gamma_{12} L_{12} + \gamma_{13} L_{13} + \gamma_{23} L_{23}) \rho / 2 \quad (3) \end{aligned}$$

$$L_{ij} \rho = \sum_{\mu=1}^N (2 \delta_{ij\mu}^- \rho \delta_{ij\mu}^+ - \delta_{ij\mu}^+ \delta_{ij\mu}^- \rho - \rho \delta_{ij\mu}^+ \delta_{ij\mu}^-) \quad (4)$$

算符主方程(3)等效于 Drummond 和 Gardiner 正定 P 表示^[13]的 C -数 Pokker-Planck (F-P) 方程。这里,定义算符和 C -数的对应关系为:

$$\left. \begin{aligned} a &\rightarrow \alpha, & a^+ &\rightarrow \alpha^+, & J_i &\rightarrow J_i = \sum_{\mu=1}^N J_{i\mu}, & J_D &\rightarrow J_D = J_3 - J_2, \\ J_{ij} &\rightarrow J_{ij} = \sum_{\mu=1}^N \delta_{ij\mu}^- \exp(-ik \cdot r_{\mu}), & J_{ij}^+ &\rightarrow J_{ij}^+ = \sum_{\mu=1}^N \delta_{ij\mu}^+ \exp(ik \cdot r_{\mu}) \end{aligned} \right\} \quad (5)$$

引入有序的特征函数 χ

$$\begin{aligned} \chi = & \exp(i\lambda_{10} J_{12}^+) \exp(i\lambda_9 J_{13}^+) \exp(i\lambda_8 J_{23}^+) \exp(i\lambda_7 J_3) \exp(i\lambda_6 J_D) \\ & \exp(i\lambda_5 J_{23}) \exp(i\lambda_4 J_{13}) \exp(i\lambda_3 J_{12}) \exp(i\lambda_2 a^+) \exp(i\lambda_1 a) \end{aligned} \quad (6)$$

则可定义一个十维复空间的 P 表示

$$\begin{aligned} P(\alpha) = & \int \mathcal{P}^{\lambda_1} \cdots \mathcal{P}^{\lambda_{10}} \exp(-i\lambda, \alpha) \text{Tr}(\chi \rho) \\ \lambda = & (\lambda_1, \dots, \lambda_{10}) \\ \alpha = & (\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_{10}) = (\alpha, \alpha^+, J_{12}, J_{13}, \dots, J_{13}^+, J_{12}^+) \end{aligned} \quad (7)$$

因而有

$$\partial P(\alpha) / \partial t = \int \mathcal{P}^{\lambda_1} \cdots \mathcal{P}^{\lambda_{10}} \exp(-i\lambda, \alpha) \text{Tr}(\chi \partial \rho / \partial t) \quad (8)$$

将算符主方程(3)和特征函数表达式(6)代入(8)式得到 $P(\alpha)$ 关于时间 t 和光场、原子参数 α_i 的偏微分方程。该方程包含原子集居数 J_3 、 J_D 的无穷阶偏微商。由于 J_z 、 α 、 α^+ 、 g 分别正比于 N 、 $N^{1/2}$ 、 $N^{1/2}$ 、 $N^{-1/2}$, 所以在激活原子数 N 很大时,可将该偏微分方程中高于二阶的微商忽略掉,得到 Fokker-Planck 方程:

$$\partial P(\alpha) / \partial t = \left[-\frac{\partial A_c(\alpha)}{\partial \alpha_c} + \frac{1}{2} \frac{\partial^2}{\partial \alpha_z \partial \alpha_z} \mathcal{D}_{\zeta_1}(\alpha) \right] P(\alpha) \quad (9)$$

方程(9)的位移矢量 $A_c(\alpha)$ 决定所研究系统的经典动力学行为,扩散张量 $\mathcal{D}_{\zeta_1}(\alpha)$ 决定所研究系统的量子噪声行为。建立该 C -数 Fokker-Planck 方程的目的在于求出与 Fokker-Planck 方程等效的 Ito 随机偏微分方程中各噪声算符的关联,以便有利于光场的噪声分析。与(9)式对应的 Ito 型运动方程为:

$$\begin{aligned} \dot{a} = & g J_{23} - k a + \Gamma a, & \dot{a}^+ = & g J_{23}^+ - k a^+ + \Gamma a^+, \\ \dot{J}_{12} = & g a^+ J_{13} - J_{12}(\Gamma + \gamma_{12}) / 2 + E J_{23}^+ + \Gamma J_{12} \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
J_{12} &= g\alpha J_{13}^{\dagger} - J_{12}^{\dagger}(\Gamma + \gamma_{12})/2 + EJ_{23} + \Gamma_{21} \\
J_{13} &= -g\alpha J_{12} - J_{13}(\Gamma + \gamma_{13} + \gamma_{23})/2 + E(J_3 - J_1) + \Gamma_{13} \\
J_{13}^{\dagger} &= -g\alpha^{\dagger} J_{12}^{\dagger} - J_{13}^{\dagger}(\Gamma + \gamma_{13} + \gamma_{23})/2 + E(J_3 - J_1 + \Gamma_{31}) \\
J_{23} &= gJ_D\alpha - J_{23}(\gamma_{12} + \gamma_{13} + \gamma_{23})/2 - EJ_{12}^{\dagger} + \Gamma_{23} \\
J_{23}^{\dagger} &= gJ_D\alpha^{\dagger} - J_{23}^{\dagger}(\gamma_{12} + \gamma_{13} + \gamma_{23})/2 - EJ_{12} + \Gamma_{32} \\
J_3 &= -g(J_{23}\alpha^{\dagger} + J_{23}^{\dagger}\alpha) + \Gamma J_1 - J_3(\gamma_{13} + \gamma_{23}) - E(J_{13} + J_{13}^{\dagger}) + \Gamma_3 \\
J_D &= -2g(J_{23}\alpha^{\dagger} + J_{23}^{\dagger}\alpha) + \Gamma J_1 + \gamma_{12}J_2 - J_3(\gamma_{13} + 2\gamma_{23}) - E(J_{13} + J_{13}^{\dagger}) + \Gamma_D
\end{aligned} \tag{10}$$

式中 Γ_x 代表对应算符 X 的量子噪声。噪声算符 Γ_x 的平均值为零, 它与 Γ_y 的关联与扩散张量 $D_{xy}(\alpha)$ 有如下关系:

$$\langle \Gamma_x(t), \Gamma_y(\tau) \rangle = D_{xy}(\alpha) \delta(t - \tau) \tag{11}$$

经过仔细计算, 从 F-P 方程(9)得到如下非零扩散张量元:

$$\begin{aligned}
D_{12,\alpha} &= gJ_{13} = D_{\alpha,21}, & D_{12,21} &= \Gamma J_2 + \gamma_{23}J_3, & D_{12,13} &= EJ_{12} = D_{31,21} \\
D_{12,23} &= -EJ_D = D_{32,21}, & D_{12,31} &= \Gamma J_{32} = D_{13,21}, & D_{12,3} &= -\Gamma J_{12} + EJ_{32} = D_{3,21} \\
D_{12,D} &= -\Gamma J_{12} + 2EJ_{32} = D_{D,21}, & D_{13,13} &= 2EJ_{13} = D_{31,31}, & D_{13,23} &= EJ_{23} = D_{32,31} \\
D_{13,31} &= \Gamma(J_1 + J_3), & D_{13,3} &= -\Gamma J_{13} = D_{3,31}, & D_{13,D} &= -\Gamma J_{13} = D_{D,31} \\
D_{23,23} &= 2gJ_{23}\alpha = D_{32,32}, & D_{23,32} &= \Gamma J_1 + \gamma_{12}J_3 - E(J_{13} + J_{31}) \\
D_{23,D} &= -\gamma_{12}J_{23} + EJ_{21} = D_{D,32}, & D_{3,3} &= 2(\gamma_{13} + \gamma_{23})J_1 - E(J_{13} + J_{31}) \\
D_{3,D} &= -g(J_{23}\alpha + J_{32}\alpha) + (2\gamma_{13} + 3\gamma_{23})J_3 - E(J_{13} + J_{31}) \\
D_{D,D} &= -2g(J_{23}\alpha^{\dagger} + J_{32}\alpha) + (2\gamma_{13} + 6\gamma_{23})J_3 - E(J_{13} + J_{31})
\end{aligned} \tag{12}$$

式中各量由方程(10)的稳态解决定。

3 稳态解和无粒子数反转激光

令方程(10)中左边的算符微分为 0, 并去掉右边的噪声算符, 将方程中剩余的算符用其相应的平均值代替, 得到阈值以上的稳态值方程组。解该方程组, 得到阈值以上腔内稳态激光光子数为:

$$\begin{aligned}
n &= a^{\dagger}a \\
&= \{ (d_1 - a_1 - b_1 - c_1) + [(d_1 - a_1 + b_1 - c_1)^2 + 4a_1(b_1 - e_1 - f_1)]^{1/2} \} / 2
\end{aligned} \tag{13}$$

原子各能级的粒子布居数为:

$$\begin{aligned}
J_1 &= -2kn/\gamma_{12} + N - (\gamma_{12} + \gamma_{23})(\Gamma N + 2kn_0) / [(2\Gamma + \gamma_{12} + \gamma_{13})\gamma_{12}] \\
J_2 &= 2kn/\gamma_{12} + \gamma_{23}(\Gamma N + 2kn_0) / [(2\Gamma + \gamma_{12} + \gamma_{13})\gamma_{12}] \\
J_3 &= (\Gamma N + 2kn_0) / (2\Gamma + \gamma_{12} + \gamma_{13})
\end{aligned} \tag{14}$$

式中

$$\begin{aligned}
a_1 &= E^2/g^2, & b_1 &= (\Gamma + \gamma_{12})(\Gamma + \gamma_{13} + \gamma_{23})/(4g^2), & c_1 &= \gamma_{12}(\gamma_{12} + \gamma_{13} + \gamma_{23})/(4g^2), \\
d_1 &= (\gamma_{12} - \gamma_{23})(\Gamma N/2k + n_0)/(2\Gamma + \gamma_{12} + \gamma_{13}), & e_1 &= \gamma_{12}(\Gamma + \gamma_{13} + \gamma_{23})/(4g^2), \\
f_1 &= -\gamma_{12}N/2k + (2\gamma_{12} + \gamma_{23})(\Gamma N/2k + n_0)/(2\Gamma + \gamma_{12} + \gamma_{13}) \\
n_0 &= E^2/g^2 + (\Gamma + \gamma_{12})(\gamma_{12} + \gamma_{13} + \gamma_{23})/4g^2
\end{aligned} \tag{15}$$

3.1 非相干泵浦情况 ($E = 0$):

稳态激光光子数为:

$$n = \{ (\gamma_{12} - \gamma_{23})\Gamma N - k(\gamma_{12} + \gamma_{13} + \gamma_{23})[\gamma_{12}(\gamma_{13} + \gamma_{23})] \}$$

$$+ \Gamma(\gamma_{12} + \gamma_{23})]/2g^2]/[2k(2\Gamma + \gamma_{12} + \gamma_{13})] \quad (16)$$

原子各能级的粒子布居数及激光能级的粒子数反转值为:

$$\begin{aligned} J_1 &= [(\gamma_{12} + \gamma_{13})N - k(\gamma_{12} + \gamma_{13} + \gamma_{23})(\gamma_{12} - \gamma_{13})/2g^2]/(2\Gamma + \gamma_{12} + \gamma_{13}) \\ J_2 &= [\Gamma N - k(\gamma_{12} + \gamma_{13} + \gamma_{23})(\Gamma + \gamma_{13})/2g^2]/(2\Gamma + \gamma_{12} + \gamma_{13}) \\ J_3 &= [\Gamma N + k(\gamma_{12} + \gamma_{13} + \gamma_{23})(\Gamma + \gamma_{12})/2g^2]/(2\Gamma + \gamma_{12} + \gamma_{13}) \\ J_D &= k(\gamma_{12} + \gamma_{13} + \gamma_{23})/2g^2 \end{aligned} \quad (17)$$

3.2 相干泵浦情况 ($\Gamma = 0$):

稳态激光光子数为:

$$\begin{aligned} 2n &= -a_2(E^2/g^2 + c_2) - b_2 + \{[-a_2(E^2/g^2 + c_2) + b_2]^2 \\ &\quad + 4[d_2 - e_2(E^2/g^2 + c_2)]E^2/g^2\}^{1/2} \end{aligned} \quad (18)$$

原子各能级的粒子布居数为:

$$\begin{aligned} J_1 &= -2kn/\gamma_{12} + N - 2k(\gamma_{12} + \gamma_{23})(E^2/g^2 + c_2)/[(\gamma_{12} + \gamma_{13})\gamma_{12}] \\ J_2 &= 2kn/\gamma_{12} + 2k\gamma_{23}(E^2/g^2 + c_2)/[(\gamma_{12} + \gamma_{13})\gamma_{12}] \\ J_3 &= 2k(E^2/g^2 + c_2)/(\gamma_{12} + \gamma_{13}) \end{aligned} \quad (19)$$

式中

$$\begin{aligned} a_2 &= (\gamma_{13} + \gamma_{23})/(\gamma_{12} + \gamma_{13}), & b_2 &= \gamma_{12}(\gamma_{13} + \gamma_{23})/(4g^2), & c_2 &= \gamma_{12}(\gamma_{12} + \gamma_{13} + \gamma_{23})/(4g^2) \\ d_2 &= \gamma_{12}N/(2k), & e_2 &= (2\gamma_{12} + \gamma_{23})/(\gamma_{12} + \gamma_{13}), & f_2 &= (\gamma_{12} - \gamma_{23})/(\gamma_{12} + \gamma_{13}) \end{aligned}$$

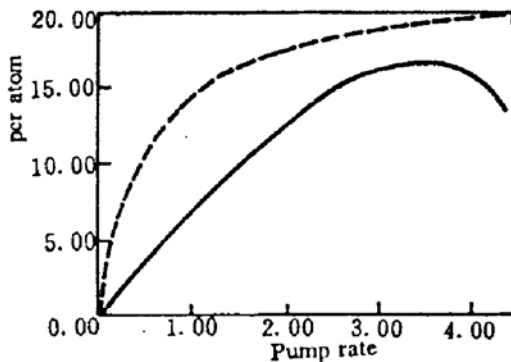


Fig. 2 Semiclassical cavity photon number per atom n versus pump rate for the incoherently pumped (dashed line) and coherently pumped (solid line) lasers. For the incoherently pumped case $P = \Gamma$ and for the coherently pumped case $P = E$. Parameters in units of γ_{12} are $\gamma_{13} = 0.1$, $\gamma_{23} = 0.1$, $g = 1.0$, $k = 0.01$

图 2 是单原子在相干、非相干泵浦情况下的稳态腔内光子数与泵浦率的关系。无论是在相干还是非相干泵浦情况, 相对泵浦率较小时, 稳态腔内光子数与泵浦率成正比; 在相对泵浦率较大时, 稳态腔内光子数与泵浦率有非线性关系, 这对应着光学非线性现象。早期的理论已经预言: 利用光学非线性效应可以产生压缩态激光。因此, 可以期望在相对泵浦率较大时, 常规泵浦的三能级激光器能够产生压泊松激光。图 3 和图 4 分别是非相干、相干泵浦情况下, 原子各能级的粒子布居数与相对泵浦率的关系。很显然: 对非相干泵浦情况, 激光阈值以上粒子数反转值始终为正, 且与泵浦率无关[见(17)式]。对相干泵浦情况, 激光阈值以上粒子数反转可正、可负。令式(18)和(19)中 $J_2 > J_3$ 且 $n > 0$, 得到相干泵浦情况下,

激光阈值以上无粒子数反转的泵浦条件为:

$$E \in (E_-, E_+) \quad (21)$$

且

$$\begin{aligned} E_{\pm} &= g^2 \{d_2 - b_2 - c_2(2f_2 + e_2) \pm \\ &\quad [(b_2 - d_2 - c_2e_2)^2 - 4c_2d_2(e_2 + f_2)]^{1/2}\} / [2(e_2 + f_2)] \end{aligned} \quad (22)$$

选用图 3、图 4 相同的参数, 得到非相干泵浦情况下, 激光泵浦阈值为 $\Gamma = 1.34 \times 10^{-3}\gamma_{12}$; 相干泵浦情况下, 激光泵浦阈值为 $E = 7.43 \times 10^{-3}\gamma_{12}$, 激光阈值以上无粒子数反转的泵浦区

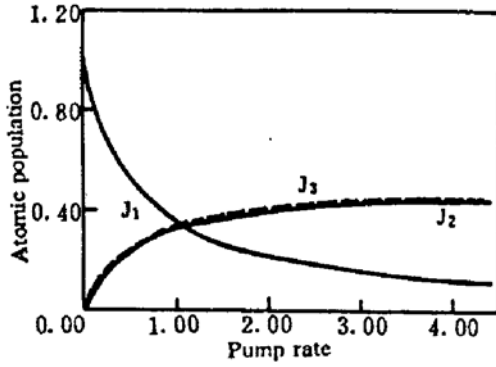


Fig. 3 Atomic populations for the same parameters as Fig. 2. and J_i representing the population of level $|i\rangle$ for incoherently pumped case

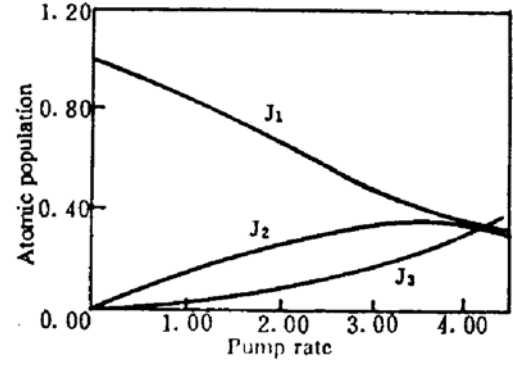


Fig. 4 Atomic populations for the same parameters as Fig. 3. for coherently pumped case

为 $E_- = 4.46 \times 10^{-2} \gamma_{12}$ 到 $E_+ = 4.23 \gamma_{12}$; 激光阈值以上无粒子数反转的最高水平为 18.7%, 发生在 $E = 2.41 \gamma_{12}$ 处。

4 量子噪声分析

根据 Gardiner 的量子噪声分析方法^[13], 将方程(10)中的每个算符(噪声算符除外)表示为它的稳态值和相应的微涨落之和并保留一阶微涨落(即将非线性方程组(10)实施线性化), 得

$$\begin{aligned}
 \delta\dot{\alpha} &= g\delta J_{23} - k\delta\alpha + \Gamma\alpha, & \delta\dot{\alpha}^+ &= g\delta J_{23}^+ - k\delta\alpha^+ + \Gamma\alpha^+ \\
 \delta\dot{J}_{12} &= g(\delta\alpha^+ J_{13} + \alpha^+ \delta J_{13}) - \delta J_{12}(\Gamma + \gamma_{12})/2 + E\delta J_{23}^+ + \Gamma_{12} \\
 \delta\dot{J}_{12}^+ &= g(\delta\alpha J_{13}^+ + \alpha \delta J_{13}^+) - \delta J_{12}^+(\Gamma + \gamma_{12})/2 + E\delta J_{23} + \Gamma_{21} \\
 \delta\dot{J}_{13} &= -g(\delta\alpha J_{12} + \alpha \delta J_{12}) - \delta J_{13}(\Gamma + \gamma_{13} + \gamma_{23})/2 + E(\delta J_3 - \delta J_1) + \Gamma_{13} \\
 \delta\dot{J}_{13}^+ &= -g(\delta\alpha^+ J_{12}^+ + \alpha^+ \delta J_{12}^+) - \delta J_{13}^+(\Gamma + \gamma_{13} + \gamma_{23})/2 + E(\delta J_3 - \delta J_1) + \Gamma_{31} \\
 \delta\dot{J}_{23} &= g(\delta J_D \alpha + J_D \delta\alpha) - \delta J_{23}(\gamma_{12} + \gamma_{13} + \gamma_{23})/2 - E\delta J_{12}^+ + \Gamma_{23} \\
 \delta\dot{J}_{23}^+ &= g(\delta J_D \alpha^+ + J_D \delta\alpha^+) - \delta J_{23}^+(\gamma_{12} + \gamma_{13} + \gamma_{23})/2 - E\delta J_{12} + \Gamma_{32} \\
 \delta\dot{J}_3 &= -g(\delta J_{23} \alpha^+ + \delta J_{23}^+ \alpha + J_{23} \delta\alpha^+ + J_{23} \delta\alpha) + \Gamma\delta J_1 - \delta J_3(\gamma_{13} + \gamma_{23}) \\
 &\quad - E(\delta J_{13} + \delta J_{13}^+) + \Gamma_3 \\
 \delta\dot{J}_D &= -2g(\delta J_{23} \alpha^+ + \delta J_{23}^+ \alpha + J_{23} \delta\alpha^+ + J_{23} \delta\alpha) + \Gamma\delta J_1 + \gamma_{12} \delta J_2 \\
 &\quad - \delta J_3(\gamma_{13} + 2\gamma_{23}) - E(\delta J_{13} + \delta J_{13}^+) + \Gamma_D
 \end{aligned} \tag{23}$$

以上变量和噪声是时间的函数。当上式变换至傅里叶空间时, 噪声在频率空间的关联由(11)式得到为:

$$\langle \Gamma_\zeta(\omega), \Gamma_\eta(\omega') \rangle = D_{\zeta\eta}(\alpha) \delta(\omega + \omega') \tag{24}$$

注意到各变量的位相在噪声分析中不是决定性的, 可认为各变量是实数。因此, 不失一般性, 引入以下各量来简化噪声分析

$$\delta X = \delta_\alpha + \delta\alpha^+, \quad \delta J_{i-j} = \delta J_{ij} + \delta J_{ji}, \quad \Gamma_{i-j} = \Gamma_{ij} + \Gamma_{ji}, \quad \Gamma_z = \Gamma_\alpha + \Gamma_{\alpha^+} \tag{25}$$

注意到稳态条件并消灭 δJ_1 和 δJ_2 后, 可得到(23)式在频率空间的线性方程组, 解该方程组可求出腔内激光场的正交相振幅噪声 $\delta X(\omega)$, 从而得到输出激光场的噪声压缩谱或 Fano 因子

为:

$$V(\omega) = 1 + 2k\langle\delta X(\omega)\delta X(-\omega)\rangle \quad (26)$$

下面分相干、非相干泵浦两种情况讨论。为了简化计算,令噪声频率 $\omega = 0$ (这对以下结果没有原则性的影响)。

4.1 非相干泵浦情况 ($E = 0$)

$$\delta X(\omega = 0) = (C_1\Gamma_{2-3} + C_2\Gamma_3 + C_3\Gamma_D)/C_0 \quad (27)$$

式中参量

$$\begin{aligned} C_0 &= 4gkn(2\Gamma + \gamma_{12} + \gamma_{13}), & C_1 &= \gamma_{12}(\gamma_{13} + \gamma_{23}) + \Gamma(\gamma_{12} + \gamma_{23}) \\ C_2 &= 2ga(\gamma_{12} - 2\Gamma - \gamma_{13} - 2\gamma_{23}), & C_3 &= 2ga(2\Gamma + \gamma_{13} + \gamma_{23}) \end{aligned} \quad (28)$$

由式(27)知道:输出光场噪声有三个来源—— Γ_{2-3} 、 Γ_3 和 Γ_D 。它们对输出光场噪声的影响取决于权重参量 C_i 和它们之间自关联、互关联的正负、大小。根据式(12)、(24)、(26)、(27)、(28)可以求出非相干泵浦常规三能级激光器输出光场在噪声频率 $\omega = 0$ 的压缩谱 $V(\omega = 0)$ 。

4.2 相干泵浦情况 ($\Gamma = 0$)

$$\delta X(\omega = 0) = (G_1\Gamma_{1-2} + G_2\Gamma_{1-3} + G_3\Gamma_{2-3} + G_4\Gamma_3 + G_5\Gamma_D + G_6\Gamma_r)/G_0 \quad (29)$$

式中参量

$$\begin{aligned} a_3 &= 6E^2 + (\gamma_{13} + \gamma_{23})^2/2, & b_3 &= 2(g^2n + E^2) \\ c_3 &= [E^2 + \gamma_{12}(\gamma_{12} + \gamma_{13} + \gamma_{23})/4]/g^2 \\ G_0 &= 8kg^2an(\gamma_{12} + \gamma_{13}) + 4ka(\gamma_{13} + \gamma_{23})[E^2 + \gamma_{12}(2\gamma_{12} + 2\gamma_{13} + \gamma_{23})/4] \\ G_1 &= [(\gamma_{12} - \gamma_{23})b_3 - \gamma_{12}a_3]E/(g\alpha), & G_2 &= -(\gamma_{12} + \gamma_{13})\gamma_{12}E \\ G_3 &= (\gamma_{12} + \gamma_{13})\gamma_{12}g\alpha + [\gamma_{12}a_3 - (\gamma_{12} - \gamma_{23})b_3]\gamma_{12}/(2g\alpha) \\ G_4 &= (\gamma_{12} + \gamma_{13})(\gamma_{13} + \gamma_{23})\gamma_{12}/2 - 2\gamma_{12}a_3 + (\gamma_{12} - \gamma_{13} - 2\gamma_{23})b_3 \\ G_5 &= \gamma_{12}a_3 + (\gamma_{13} + \gamma_{23})b_3 \\ G_6 &= \alpha\{\gamma_{12}(\gamma_{12} + \gamma_{13})(\gamma_{12} + 2\gamma_{13} + 2\gamma_{23})/2 + (\gamma_{12} + \gamma_{13})b_3 \\ &\quad + [\gamma_{12}a_3 - (\gamma_{12} - \gamma_{23})b_3]c_3/n\} \end{aligned} \quad (30)$$

由(29)式知道:输出光场噪声有六个来源—— Γ_{1-2} 、 Γ_{1-3} 、 Γ_{2-3} 、 Γ_3 、 Γ_D 和 Γ_r 。同理,它们对输出光场噪声的影响取决于权重参量 G_i 和它们之间自关联、互关联的正负、大小且可以求出相干泵浦常规三能级激光器输出光场在噪声频率 $\omega = 0$ 的压缩谱 $V(\omega = 0)$ 。

图5给出相干、非相干泵浦的常规三能级激光器的输出光场在噪声频率 $\omega = 0$ 处的 Fano 因子与泵浦率的关系(有关参数与图3和图4相同),结果如下:

1) 非相干泵浦情况下,激光泵浦阈值为 $\Gamma = 1.34 \times 10^{-3}\gamma_{12}$

激光阈值以上的压缩泵浦区: $\Gamma = 49.7 \times 10^{-3} \sim 3.34\gamma_{12}$

最小 Fano 因子: 0.7248(泵浦率 $\Gamma = 0.4567\gamma_{12}$)

2) 相干泵浦情况下,激光泵浦阈值为 $E = 7.43 \times 10^{-3}\gamma_{12}$

激光阈值以上无粒子数反转的泵浦区为: $E_- = 44.6 \times 10^{-3} \sim E_+ = 4.23\gamma_{12}$

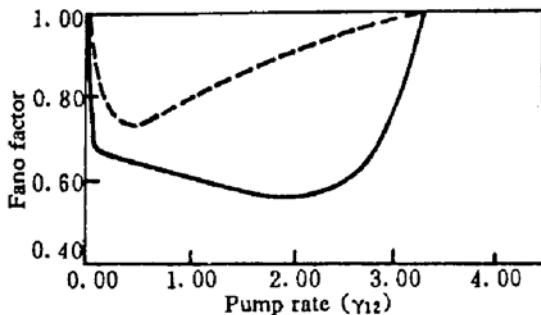


Fig. 5 Fano factors versus pumping rates for incoherent (dashed line) and coherent (solid line) pumping cases

激光阈值以上的压缩泵浦区: $E = 22.3 \times 10^{-3} \sim 3.31\gamma_{12}$

最小 Fano 因子: 0.559(泵浦率 $E = 1.94\gamma_{12}$)

可见: 相干、非相干泵浦率与激光下能级自发辐射率 γ_{12} 可以比拟的激光非优化区(激活原子基态耗尽区), 相干、非相干泵浦常规三能级激光器的输出光场都呈现亚泊松统计, 但只有相干泵浦情况由于量子相干效应能在泵浦区 $E = 44.6 \times 10^{-3} \sim 3.31\gamma_{12}$ 产生无粒子数反转亚泊松激光且噪声压缩水平高于非相干泵浦情况。

5 结论和解释

理论和计算表明: 无论是在相干还是非相干泵浦情况, 当泵浦率与激光下能级自发辐射率可以比拟时, 激活原子系统基态耗尽, 常规三能级激光器系统出现非线性光学现象。但仅对相干泵浦情况, 激光能级间的粒子数反转可正可负。很显然: 这一点既不能用非线性光学过程来解释, 也不能用泵浦环来解释。因为, 这两者在非相干泵浦常规三能级激光器系统中都存在, 而非相干泵浦常规三能级激光器不能产生无粒子数反转激光。因此, 只能用多能级原子的量子干涉效应来解释相干泵浦常规三能级激光器产生无粒子数反转激光的现象。当相干泵浦率 E 大于阈值而又小于 E_- 时, 激光能级间粒子数反转值为正, 其动力学机理与一般激光器一致。但由于量子相干效应, 随着泵浦率的增大, 虽然激光能级间粒子数反转值变小, 可是原子吸收减少, 输出光强增大; 当相干泵浦率 E 大于 E_- 而又小于 E_+ 时, E 与激光下能级自发辐射率可以比拟, 多能级原子的量子干涉的结果使得原子吸收进一步减少, 发射特性改变, 从而产生无粒子数反转激光; 当相干泵浦率 E 大于 E_+ 时, 多能级原子的量子干涉的结果使得原子吸收增加, 激光能级间粒子数反转值又为正, 以致无粒子数反转现象消失。

在非相干泵浦情况下, 激光泵浦阈值较低, 但产生压缩态光场所需的最低泵浦率较高, 输出光场的噪声来源于各能级集居数涨落和激光能级偶极矩的涨落, 而非激光能级间的偶极矩涨落无关, 这是非相干泵浦的必然结果。产生显著噪声压缩所需的泵浦约为泵浦阈值的数十倍或百倍, 在实验上实现是有一定难度的, 但没有原则性的困难。压缩态光场的产生可以从两方面来理解: 1) 当泵浦率与激光下能级自发辐射率可以比拟时, 激活原子系统基态耗尽, 常规三能级激光器输出光强与泵浦率呈非线性关系, 这种非线性光学现象可以预言压缩态光场(见文献[6]); 2) 当泵浦率与激光下能级自发辐射率可以比拟时, 泵浦环形成, 因而能自动压抑自发辐射噪声产生压缩态。

在相干泵浦情况下, 激光泵浦阈值较高, 产生压缩态光场所需的最低泵浦率较低, 输出光场的噪声来源于各能级集居数涨落、激光能级和非激光能级间的偶极矩涨落以及腔内光场相振幅涨落, 同时产生显著噪声压缩和无粒子数反转激光输出所需的泵浦约为泵浦阈值的数倍或十倍, 噪声压缩水平高于非相干泵浦情况, 在实验上实现比非相干泵浦情况容易一些。认为: 之所以输出光场比非相干泵浦情况的噪声源多、噪声压缩水平高且呈现无粒子数反转激光输出, 是因为相干泵浦的结果。相干泵浦使输出光场的噪声与非激光能级间的偶极矩涨落有关, 相应的多能级原子的量子干涉既使无粒子数反转激光输出成为可能, 也使自发辐射噪声得到进一步压抑, 从而噪声压缩水平提高。

从实验上看: 建议用相干泵浦常规三能级激光器系统实现无粒子数反转亚泊松激光, 它比非相干泵浦情况容易一些。当然, 这里的理论模型可能与实际情况有一定不同(如: 激活原子数不恒定, 原子碰撞或晶格振动引起相位弛豫等), 但不会引起原则性的实验困难。

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Quantum Theory of the Steady-State Sub-Poissonian Laser Light without Inversion from Conventionally Pumped Lasers

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Abstract We discuss the steady-state and quantum noise behaviors of coherently or incoherently pumped conventional three-level lasers. It shows that the sub-poissonian statistics can be predicted in the regime where pumping rates can be comparable with the spontaneous rate of lower lasing level and lasing is not optimal. But only for coherently pumped case, lasing without inversion can occur and noise squeezing is increased because of quantum-interference effect.

Key words lasing without inversion, sub-poissonian statistics.