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Enhancing phase measurement by a factor of two in the Stokes correlation

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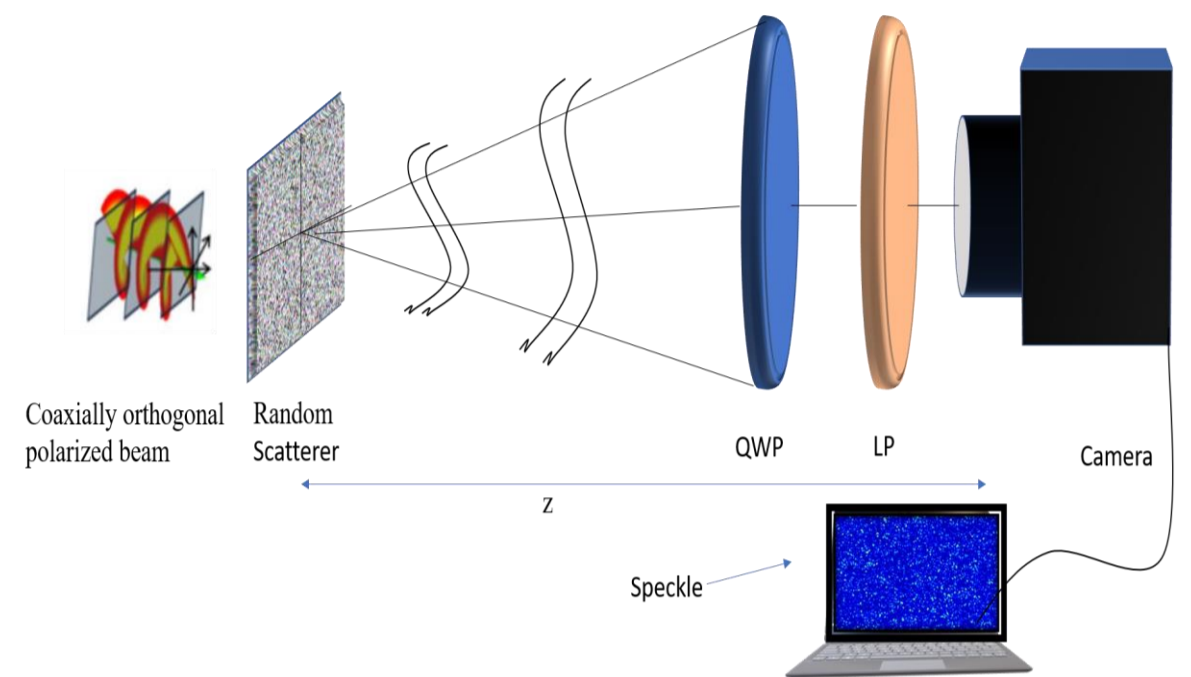
Abstract

Phase loss is a typical problem in the optical domain and optical detectors measure only the amplitude distribution of the signal without a phase. We present and examine a technique based on the Stokes correlation for enhancing the phase measurement by a factor of two. Enhancement in phase measurement is accomplished by the evaluation of the correlation between two points of Stokes fluctuations of the randomly scattered light and recovering the enhanced phase of the object by using three steps phase-shifting along with the Stokes correlations. This technique is expected to be useful in the experimental measurement of the phase of a weak signal and in imaging.

Introduction

- Phase is a crucial parameter in optical domain
- Several methods have been proposed to quantitatively measure the phase and among them interferometry is a commonly used technique.
- We present and examine a highly stable noninterferometric technique to recover and enhance the phase measurement by a factor of two
- Recovering the enhanced phase of the object by using three steps phase-shifting along with the Stokes correlations

Schematic Setup



QWP: quarter wave plate, LP: linear polarizer. The CCD records intensity speckle patterns at the observation plane

Result and Discussion

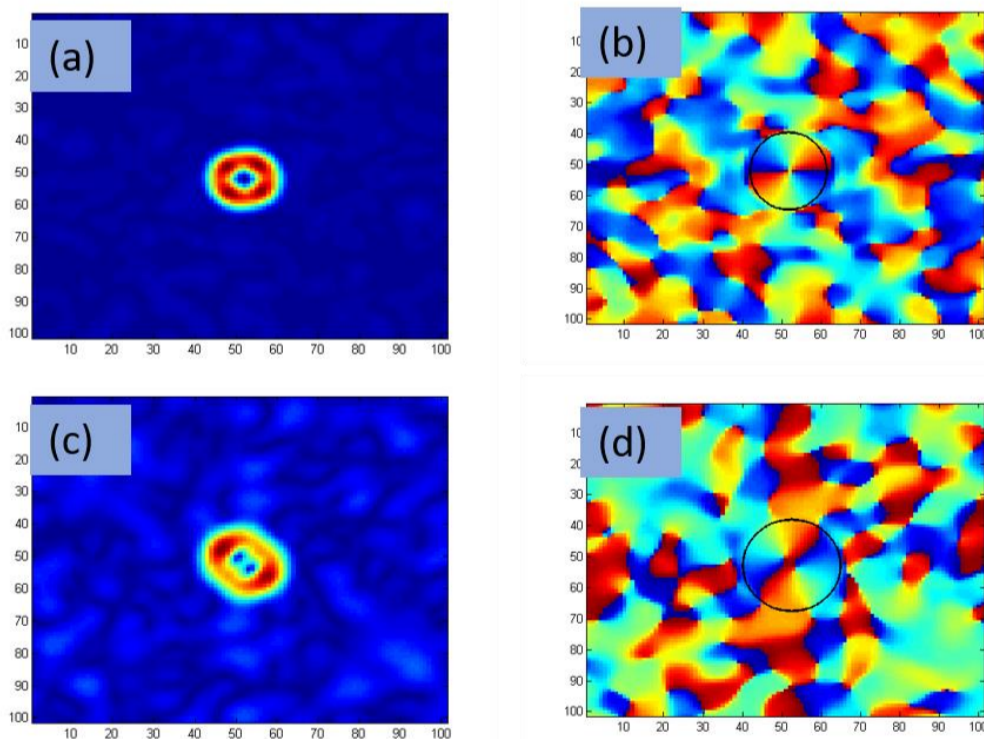


Figure 2. Simulation results: (a) amplitude distribution and (b) corresponding phase distribution for vortex beam of charge $l = -1$; **Experimental results:** (c) amplitude distribution (d) corresponding phase distribution for the vortex beam with $l = -1$

Conclusion

This method is expected to be helpful in measuring weak phase information. The proposed method's viability is assessed by numerical simulation, which is followed by an experimental demonstration to gain enhanced phase information.

Theoretical background

At the transverse plane $z=0$, the complex field of coherent-polarized light is given as

$$E(\hat{r}) = E_x(\hat{r})\hat{e}_x + E_y(\hat{r})\hat{e}_y \quad (1)$$

where $E_x(\hat{r})$ and $E_y(\hat{r})$ represent the x and y polarization component of the beam respectively. Stokes parameter of the scattered field as

$$S_n = E^T(\hat{r})\sigma^n E(\hat{r}), \quad n \in (0, \dots, 3) \quad (2)$$

σ^0 is the identity matrix and $\sigma^1, \sigma^2, \sigma^3$ are the Pauli spin matrices of 2×2 order. The fluctuations of the SPs around their mean value is given as

$$\Delta S_n(r) = S_n(r) - \langle S_n(r) \rangle$$

Correlation of Stokes fluctuation is given as,

$$C_{pq}(r_1, r_2) = \langle \Delta S_p(r_1) \Delta S_q(r_2) \rangle \quad \text{where } p, q \in (0, \dots, 3) \quad (3)$$

$$C_{Re}(r_1, r_2) = C_{22}(r_1, r_2) - C_{33}(r_1, r_2) \\ \propto \text{Re}[W_{xy}(r_1, r_2)W_{yx}^*(r_1, r_2)]$$

$$W_{xy}(r_1, r_2)W_{yx}^*(r_1, r_2) = \langle E_x^*(r_1)E_y(r_2) \rangle [\langle E_y^*(r_1)E_x(r_2) \rangle]^*$$

$$C_{Re}(r_1, r_2) \propto \text{Re}[\langle E_x^*(r_1)E_y(r_2) \rangle \{ \langle E_y^*(r_1)E_x(r_2) \rangle \}^*] \quad (4)$$

now combined Eq. (4) with three steps-phase shifting method to obtain CPCF which is given as,

$$C(\Delta r) = 2C_{Re}^0(\Delta r) - C_{Re}^{2\pi/3}(\Delta r) - C_{Re}^{4\pi/3}(\Delta r) + \\ \sqrt{3}i[C_{Re}^{2\pi/3}(\Delta r) - C_{Re}^{4\pi/3}(\Delta r)] \quad (5)$$

where $C_{Re}^{4\pi/3}(\Delta r)$, $C_{Re}^{2\pi/3}(\Delta r)$ and $C_{Re}^0(\Delta r)$ indicate the real component of the CPCF with phase shift of $\frac{4\pi}{3}$, $\frac{2\pi}{3}$, 0 respectively.

References

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- [2] Kuebel D.; Visser T. D., Generalized Hanbury Brown-Twiss effect for Stokes parameters, J. Opt. Soc. Am. 2019, Volume 36, 362.

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