# Asymmetric backscattering in deformed microcavities: fundamentals and applications 

## Jan Wiersig

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DFG
H. Schomerus (Lancaster), H. Cao (Yale), R. Sarma (Yale), L. Ge (New York)


Introduction to deformed microcavities

Asymmetric backscattering: fundamentals

Asymmetric backscattering: applications

## Introduction to deformed microcavities

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Microdisk
Light confinement by total internal reflection

P. Michler et al.

Optical modes: solutions of Maxwell's equations with harmonic time dependence
High $Q=\omega \tau$ with frequency $\omega$ and lifetime $\tau$
Applications: microlasers, single-photon sources, sensors, filters, ...


## Introduction to deformed microcavities

## Open quantum billiards

J.U. Nöckel und A.D. Stone, Nature 385, 45 (1997)



## Introduction to deformed microcavities

Directed light emission
Limaçon of Pascal
J. Wiersig and M. Hentschel, PRL 100, 033901 (2008)

$$
\rho(\phi)=R(1+\varepsilon \cos \phi)
$$



■ unidirectional emission along the unstable manifold of the chaotic saddle

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■ unidirectional emission along the unstable manifold of the chaotic saddle Shortegg
(a)


M. Schermer, S. Bittner, G. Singh, C. Ulysee, M. Lebental, and J. Wiersig, APL 106, 101107 (2015)

## Introduction to deformed microcavities

Non-Hermitian phenomena
Optical microcavities are open wave systems
■ mode frequencies ( $\widehat{=}$ energy eigenvalues) $\in \mathbb{C}$
■ modes ( $\widehat{=}$ energy eigenstates) are nonorthogonal

- modes may not form a complete basis


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## Exceptional point (EP)

Point in parameter space at which two (or more) eigenvalues and eigenstates of a non-Hermitian linear operator coalesce. EP $\neq$ diabolic point
T. Kato, Perturbation Theory for Linear Operators (1966)

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T. Kato, Perturbation Theory for Linear Operators (1966)
microwave cavity C. Dembowski et al., PRL 86, 787 (2001) deformed microcavity (liquid jet containing laser dyes) S.B. Lee et al., PRL 103, 134101 (2009)


## Introduction to deformed microcavities

2D mode equation
Effective index approximation

$$
\begin{array}{r}
{\left[\nabla^{2}+n(x, y)^{2} k^{2}\right] \psi(x, y)=0} \\
\operatorname{Re}\left[\psi(x, y) e^{-i \omega t}\right]= \begin{cases}E_{Z} & \text { TM } \\
H_{z} & \text { TE }\end{cases}
\end{array}
$$

Continuity conditions at the cavity's boundary
TM : $\psi$ and $\partial \psi$
TE : $\psi$ and $\frac{1}{n^{2}} \partial \psi$

Outgoing wave condition at infinity
$\Longrightarrow \omega \in \mathbb{C}$, quasibound state with lifetime
$\tau=-\frac{1}{2 \operatorname{lm}(\omega)}$

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Boundary element method J. Wiersig, J. Opt. A: Pure Appl. Opt. 5, 53 (2003) S-matrix approach/wave matching e.g. M. Hentschel and K. Richter, PRE 66, 056207 (2002) Review on deformed microcavities H. Cao and J. Wiersig, RMP 87, 61 (2015)

## Asymmetric backscattering: <br> Fundamentals

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## Asymmetric backscattering: Fundamentals



G. D. Chern et al., APL 83, 1710 (2003)
S.-Y. Lee et al., PRL 93, 164102 (2004)

Angular momentum representation (inside the cavity)

$$
\psi(r, \phi)=\sum_{m=-\infty}^{\infty} \alpha_{m} J_{m}(n k r) \exp (i m \phi)
$$

Chirality: mainly traveling wave instead of standing wave
Experimental confirmation M. Kim et al., Opt. Lett. 39, 2423 (2014)

## Asymmetric backscattering: Fundamentals

J. Wiersig, S.W. Kim, and M. Hentschel, PRA 78, 053809 (2008)

TE polarization, $n=2$, and small deformation $\varepsilon=0.04$ (spiral has been flipped)

$\Omega=\frac{\omega}{c} R=k R=41.4674-i 0.03419$

$\Omega=41.4625-i 0.03469 ; \quad Q=\frac{\mathrm{Re}(k R)}{2 \operatorname{lm}(k R)}$

## Asymmetric backscattering: Fundamentals

J. Wiersig, S.W. Kim, and M. Hentschel, PRA 78, 053809 (2008)

TE polarization, $n=2$, and small deformation $\varepsilon=0.04$ (spiral has been flipped)
 copropagation: both modes have the same dominant propagation direction

## Asymmetric backscattering: Fundamentals



- chirality

■ copropagation

## Asymmetric backscattering: Fundamentals



- chirality

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## Asymmetric backscattering: Fundamentals



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## Asymmetric backscattering: Fundamentals



- chirality
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Chirality

$$
\alpha=1-\frac{\min \left(\sum_{m=-\infty}^{-1}\left|\alpha_{m}\right|^{2}, \sum_{m=1}^{\infty}\left|\alpha_{m}\right|^{2}\right)}{\max \left(\sum_{m=-\infty}^{-1}\left|\alpha_{m}\right|^{2}, \sum_{m=1}^{\infty}\left|\alpha_{m}\right|^{2}\right)} \approx\left\{\begin{array}{l}
0.978 \\
0.967
\end{array}\right.
$$

## Asymmetric backscattering: Fundamentals


$\Omega=41.4674-i 0.03419$

$\Omega=41.4625-i 0.03469$

Normalized overlap integral

$$
S=\frac{\left|\int_{\mathcal{C}} d x d y \psi_{1}^{*} \psi_{2}\right|}{\sqrt{\int_{\mathcal{C}} d x d y \psi_{1}^{*} \psi_{1}} \sqrt{\int_{\mathcal{C}} d x d y \psi_{2}^{*} \psi_{2}}} \approx 0.972 \quad \text { almost collinear! }
$$

## Asymmetric backscattering: Fundamentals

Asymmetric Limaçon cavity

$$
\rho=R\left[1+\varepsilon_{1} \cos \phi+\varepsilon_{2} \cos (2 \phi+\delta)\right] \text { J. Wiersig et al., PRA 84, } 023845 \text { (2011) }
$$



## Asymmetric backscattering: Fundamentals

## A toy model

How to explain the chirality, copropagation, and nonorthogonality?

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How to explain the chirality, copropagation, and nonorthogonality?
asymmetric backscattering of CW and CCW traveling waves


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How to explain the chirality, copropagation, and nonorthogonality? asymmetric backscattering of CW and CCW traveling waves


Effective non-Hermitian Hamiltonian in (CCW,CW) basis

$$
H_{\mathrm{eff}}=\left(\begin{array}{cc}
\Omega & A \\
B & \Omega
\end{array}\right) \quad \text { with } \Omega, A, B \in \mathbb{C} \text { and }|A| \neq|B|
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open quantum/wave systems with weak CW-CCW coupling and no mirror symmetries J. Wiersig, PRA 89, 012119 (2014)

## Asymmetric backscattering: Fundamentals

$$
H_{\text {eff }}=\left(\begin{array}{cc}
\Omega & A \\
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Complex eigenvalues and (right hand) eigenvectors

$$
\begin{gathered}
\Omega_{ \pm}=\Omega \pm \sqrt{A B} \\
\vec{\psi}_{ \pm}=\binom{\psi_{\mathrm{ccw}, \pm}}{\psi_{\mathrm{cw}, \pm}}=\binom{\sqrt{A}}{ \pm \sqrt{B}}
\end{gathered}
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$|A|>|B|:$

- CCW component > CW component
$\Longrightarrow$ chirality
$\Longrightarrow$ copropagation
$\Longrightarrow$ nonorthogonality


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$|A|<|B|: \mathrm{CW} \leftrightarrow \mathrm{CCW}$


## Asymmetric backscattering: Fundamentals

Effective Hamiltonian $\Longrightarrow$ relation between overlap and chirality

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\alpha=\frac{2 S}{1+S}
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## Asymmetric backscattering: Fundamentals

## Effective Hamiltonian $\Longrightarrow$ relation between overlap and chirality

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## Asymmetric Limaçon cavity




Effective Hamiltonian explains the relation between chirality and nonorthogonality

## Asymmetric backscattering: Fundamentals

## Exceptional point

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Fully asymmetric backscattering: $B \rightarrow 0$ with $A \neq 0$

$$
\begin{aligned}
& H_{\text {eff }}=\left(\begin{array}{cc}
\Omega & A \\
0 & \Omega
\end{array}\right) ; \quad \Omega_{ \pm}=\Omega \quad ; \quad \vec{\psi}=\binom{1}{0} \\
& \quad \text { Jordan block }
\end{aligned}
$$

- splitting $\rightarrow 0$

■ only one linearly independent eigenvector $\hat{=}$ CCW traveling-wave mode

- exceptional point


## Asymmetric backscattering: Fundamentals

## Exceptional point

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■ only one linearly independent eigenvector $\hat{=}$ CCW traveling-wave mode

- exceptional point
$A \rightarrow 0$ with $B \neq 0: \mathrm{CW} \leftrightarrow \mathrm{CCW}$


## Asymmetric backscattering: Fundamentals

Disk with two scatterers

complex-square-root topology at EP due to fully asymmetric backscattering

## Asymmetric backscattering: Fundamentals

Frobenius-Perron operator for deformed microdisks

Ray dynamics: chirality $\checkmark$ S.-Y. Lee et al., PRL 93, 164102 (2004)
What about copropagation and nonorthogonality? ongoing work by J. Kullig

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discrete time evolution of phase-space density $\rho$ with Frobenius-Perron operator $\mathcal{F}$

$$
\rho_{n+1}(s, p)=\mathcal{F} \rho_{n}(s, p)
$$

for maps see e.g. J. Weber et al., PRL 85, 3620 (2000), K. Frahm and D. Shepelyansky, EPL 75, 299 (2010)

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■ weight to incorporate reflectivity $\Longrightarrow \mathcal{F}$ is sub-unitary

the two largest eigenvalues are nearly degenerate (eigenstate pair)

## Asymmetric backscattering: Fundamentals



Frobenius-Perron eigenstate pair show chirality, copropagation, and nonorthogonality

# Asymmetric backscattering: 

 Applications
## Asymmetric backscattering: Applications

Microcavity sensor for single-particle detection

F. Vollmer et al., PNAS 105, 20701 (2008)

Measure frequency shift $\Longrightarrow$ particle detection

## Asymmetric backscattering: Applications

Microcavity sensor based on frequency-splitting detection
Measure frequency splitting of initially degenerate modes (diabolic point) J. Zhu et al., Nature Photonics 4, 46 (2010)


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## Asymmetric backscattering: Applications

Conventional degeneracy vs exceptional point
J. Wiersig, PRL 112, 203901 (2014)


Which one is better for sensing?

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Conventional degeneracy vs exceptional point
J. Wiersig, PRL 112, 203901 (2014)

conventional (DP)


Which one is better for sensing?
Apply a perturbation of strength $\epsilon$ to a (two-fold) degeneracy

$$
\Delta \Omega_{\mathrm{DP}}=\mathcal{O}(\varepsilon)
$$

$$
\begin{gathered}
\Delta \Omega_{\mathrm{EP}}=\mathcal{O}(\sqrt{\varepsilon}) \\
\text { T. Kato (1966) }
\end{gathered}
$$

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T. Kato (1966)

Enhancement factor of sensitivity for splitting detection

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\frac{\Delta \Omega_{\mathrm{EP}}}{\Delta \Omega_{\mathrm{DP}}}=\mathcal{O}\left(\frac{1}{\sqrt{\varepsilon}}\right) \quad \text { for sufficiently small } \varepsilon
$$

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$$

Price to pay: $\Delta \Omega_{\mathrm{EP}} \in \mathbb{C} \Longrightarrow$ frequency and linewidth splitting

## Asymmetric backscattering: Applications


$E P$ is due to fully asymmetric backscattering

## Asymmetric backscattering: Applications



■ 3 to 3.5 fold enhancement of sensitivity
■ Splitting $|\Delta \Omega|$ is nearly independent on $\beta$

## Asymmetric backscattering: Applications



■ 3 to 3.5 fold enhancement of sensitivity
■ Splitting $|\Delta \Omega|$ is nearly independent on $\beta$
Sensitivity of sensors based on frequency splitting detection can be enhanced at an EP

## Asymmetric backscattering: Applications

## Optical gyroscopes

Sagnac effect: rotations leads to a frequency splitting of counterpropagating waves


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R. Sarma, L. Ge, J. Wiersig, and H. Cao, PRL 114, 053903 (2015)
 Asymmetric limaçon: chirality and copropagation

$\Longrightarrow$ far-field pattern is a sensitive measure of rotation

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 Asymmetric limaçon: chirality and copropagation

$\Longrightarrow$ far-field pattern is a sensitive measure of rotation
3 orders of magnitude more sensitive than the Sagnac effect!

## Summary

Fundamentals


Applications

- enhancing the sensitivity of microcavity sensors for particle detection
- enhancing the sensitivity of microcavity gyroscopes


## Bonus

Direct observation of asymmetric backscattering

FDTD simulations of a waveguide-coupled microcavity Johannes Kramer, diploma thesis 2014


## Bonus

■ "Irreversible coupling by use of dissipative optics" (theory)
M. Greenberg and M. Orenstein, Opt. Lett. 29, 5 (2004), Opt. Express 12, 4013 (2004)

■ "Unidirectional invisibility induced by PT-symmetric periodic structures" (theory) Z. Lin et al., PRL 106, 213901 (2011)


■ "Nonreciprocal light propagation" (experiment)
L. Feng et al., Science 333, 729 (2011)

■ "Unidirectional reflectionless light transport" (experiment)
L. Feng et al., Opt. Express 22, 1760 (2014)


## Bonus

Boundary element method for dielectric microcavities
J. Wiersig, J. Opt. A: Pure Appl. Opt. 5, 53 (2003)

2D PDE $\rightarrow$ 1D boundary integral equations

$$
\psi\left(\mathbf{r}^{\prime}\right)=\oint_{\Gamma_{j}} d s\left[\psi(s) \partial G\left(s, \mathbf{r}^{\prime} ; k\right)-G\left(s, \mathbf{r}^{\prime} ; k\right) \partial \psi(s)\right]
$$

with (outgoing) Green's function


$$
G\left(\mathbf{r}, \mathbf{r}^{\prime} ; k\right)=-\frac{i}{4} H_{0}^{(1)}\left(n_{j} k\left|\mathbf{r}-\mathbf{r}^{\prime}\right|\right)
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$\Gamma_{\infty}$

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- spurious solutions: interior Dirichlet problem with $n_{j}=1$


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■ spurious solutions: interior Dirichlet problem with $n_{j}=1$

- discretization $0=M\left(k_{\text {res }}\right) \vec{x}$ with $\vec{x}=\left(\left.\partial \psi\right|_{s_{1}}, \ldots,\left.\psi\right|_{s_{1}}, \ldots\right)$



## Bonus

Boundary element method for dielectric microcavities
1 initial guess $k_{0}$

$$
0=M\left(k_{0}+\delta k\right) \vec{x} \approx\left[M\left(k_{0}\right)+\delta k M^{\prime}\left(k_{0}\right)\right] \vec{x}
$$

$\Longrightarrow$ generalized eigenvalue equation

$$
M\left(k_{0}\right) \vec{x}=-\delta k M^{\prime}\left(k_{0}\right) \vec{x}
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3 $k_{1}=k_{0}+\delta k$
4 iterate until $\delta k$ is small enough

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(3) $k_{1}=k_{0}+\delta k$

4 iterate until $\delta k$ is small enough
stadium (3772 resonances)
J. Wiersig and J. Main, PRE 77, 036205 (2008)

Normalized frequency $\Omega=\frac{\omega}{c} R=k R$


## Bonus

What does the coalescence of two eigenstates mean dynamically?

Eigenvalue equation

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Schrödinger equation

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i \frac{d}{d t}|\psi\rangle=H_{\text {eff }}|\psi\rangle
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$$

## 2-by-2 Hamiltonian at EP

■ eigenvalue equation: one solution

$$
\vec{\phi}_{\mathrm{EP}}, E_{\mathrm{EP}}
$$

## Bonus

What does the coalescence of two eigenstates mean dynamically?
Eigenvalue equation

$$
E_{j}\left|\phi_{j}\right\rangle=H_{\text {eff }}\left|\phi_{j}\right\rangle
$$

Schrödinger equation

$$
i \frac{d}{d t}|\psi\rangle=H_{\text {eff }}|\psi\rangle
$$

## 2-by-2 Hamiltonian at EP

- eigenvalue equation: one solution

$$
\vec{\phi}_{\mathrm{EP}}, E_{\mathrm{EP}}
$$

■ Schrödinger equation: two solutions

$$
\begin{aligned}
\vec{\psi}_{1}(t) & =\vec{\phi}_{\mathrm{EP}} e^{-i E_{\mathrm{EPP}} t} \\
\vec{\psi}_{2}(t) & =\left(\vec{\phi}_{0}+t \overrightarrow{\phi E P}\right) e^{-i E_{\mathrm{EP}} t}
\end{aligned}
$$

B. Dietz et al., PRE 75, 027201 (2007), W. D. Heiss, Eur. Phys. J. D 60, 257 (2010)

## Bonus

## Experimental confirmation of chirality


M. Kim et al., Opt. Lett. 39, 2423 (2014)

