

東京大学 G-COE プログラムー未来を拓く物理科学結集教育研究拠点ー



Nonequilibrium Phase Transitions of 2D Polaritons in Planar Semiconductor Microcavities

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Abstract

Many intriguing nonlinear effects have been observed recently in semiconductor microcavities¹⁻⁶. The fundamental physics of many-body bosonic systems together with possibility of practical applications attract a growing interest to this field. In this talk I plan to discuss threshold-like renormalizations of polariton luminescence diagram⁶⁻⁸.

For the case of pump frequency slightly above the lower polariton (LP) resonance, strong positive feedback between the driven polariton mode and the scattered 'signal' appears as soon as the pump intensity reaches the threshold of instability. Consequently, the polariton system enters the regime of blow-up, with an eventual formation of macroscopically coherent state of the nonlinear polariton system⁹. Collective effects manifest themselves, for example, in a pronounced hysteresis in the driven LP mode population drawn as a function of pump. This effect has been recently observed experimentally¹⁰ in the population kinetics of pumped and scattered lower polaritons under a nano-second-long pulsed resonant excitation.

The multistability of coherent cavity-polariton field for a given external cw-pump has been recently predicted¹¹. A very interesting situation may happen in case of strictly linearly polarized pumping: on reaching the critical pump intensity, the polariton field may switch to being polarized either right- or left-circularly, with equal probabilities. I plan to compare these predictions with the recent experimental results.

References

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