

# Reconstruction of ultra-short laser pulses

Daniel Gerth

Johannes Kepler University, Linz

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Doctoral Program

Computational Mathematics

Numerical Analysis and Symbolic Computation



**JKU**

JOHANNES KEPLER  
UNIVERSITY LINZ



- Physical Background
  1. Motivation
  2. SD-SPIDER method
  3. Equation
  4. Identifiability
  
- Mathematical Analysis
  
- Numerical treatment
  1. Discretization
  2. Regularization
  3. Choice of the starting phase
  4. Choice of the regularization parameter
  
- Results for simulated data
  
- Real data situation



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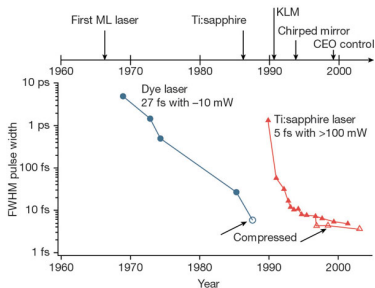
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## Why study ultra-short laser pulses?

to create shorter, stronger pulses; to enhance optical systems; medicine, material processing, etc.

## Development of pulse durations:



Problem: measurements limited by electronics (order  $10^{-12}$ s)

Solution: sample pulse by itself

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- SD-SPIDER=  
Self-Defraction Spectral Phase Interferometry for Direct  
Electric-field Reconstruction
- introduced by the research group 'Solid State Light Sources'  
led by Dr. Günter Steinmeyer as subdivision of division C  
'Nonlinear Processes in Condensed Matter' at  
Max-Born-Institute for Nonlinear Optics and Short Pulse  
Spectroscopy, Berlin
- theory presented at Conference on Lasers and Electro-Optics,  
2010
- reasons for introduction: applicable for ultraviolet radiation,  
good signal strength

Basics of nonlinear optics:

Polarization  $\tilde{P}$  caused by an electric field  $\tilde{E}$ ,

$$\tilde{P}(t) = \epsilon_0[\chi^{(1)}\tilde{E}(t) + \chi^{(2)}\tilde{E}^2(t) + \chi^{(3)}\tilde{E}^3(t) + \dots] \quad (1)$$

may act as source of electromagnetic radiation:

$$\nabla \times (\nabla \times E) + \frac{n^2}{c^2}\partial_t^2 E = -\mu_0\partial_t^2 P_{\text{NL}}(E) \quad (2)$$

Refraction index  $n$  and Kerr-effect:

$$n(\omega) = n_0 + n_2|E(\omega)|^2, \quad (3)$$

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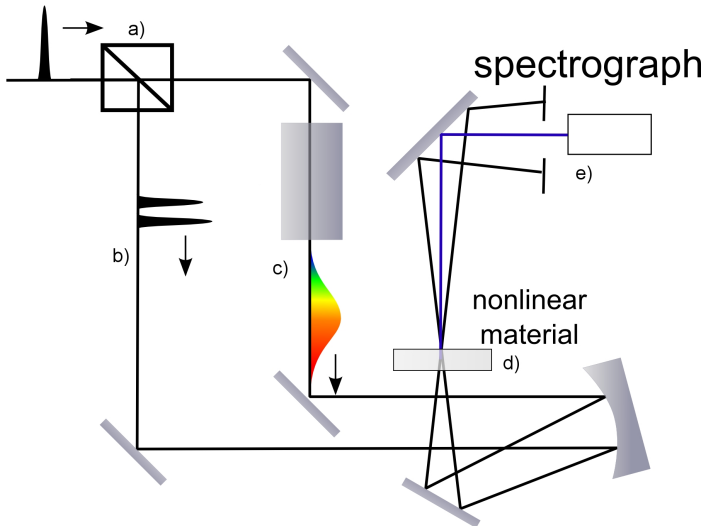
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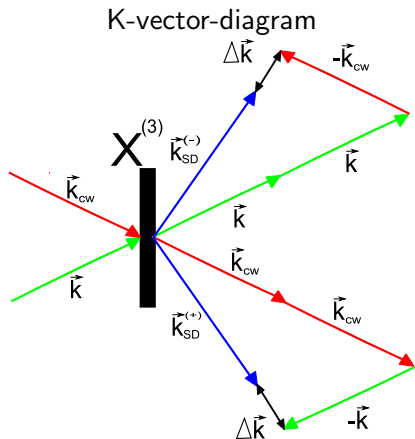
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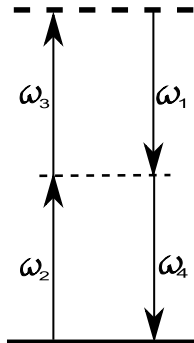
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# Principle:





energy conservation



Problem: measured signal is an autoconvolution of the fundamental pulse



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$$F[x](s) = \int_0^s k(s, t)x(t)x(s - t)dt = y(s) \quad (4)$$

$$Fx = y \quad 0 \leq t \leq 1, 0 \leq s \leq 2 \quad (5)$$

continuous, complex valued kernel (in physical formulation)

$$K(\omega, \hat{\omega}) = \frac{\mu_0 c L}{2} \frac{\omega}{n(\omega)} \chi^{(3)}(\omega, -\omega_{cw}, \hat{\omega}, \omega + \omega_{cw} - \hat{\omega}) \bar{\mathcal{E}}^{cw} e^{i(\Delta \vec{k}_\xi \xi + \Delta \vec{k}_\eta \eta + \Delta \vec{k}_\zeta \frac{L}{2})} \text{sinc}(\Delta \vec{k}_\zeta \frac{L}{2}) \quad (6)$$

fundamental pulse:  $x(t) = |x(t)|e^{i\varphi_x(t)} \in \mathbb{C}$

measured SD-pulse:  $y(s) = |y(s)|e^{i\varphi_y(s)} \in \mathbb{C}$

to be reconstructed:  $\varphi_x(t) = \varphi_0 + \int_{-\infty}^t GD(\tau)d\tau$



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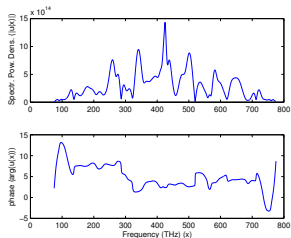
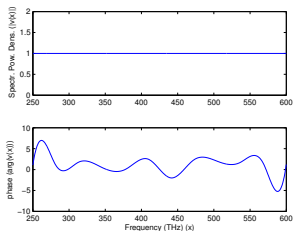
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at first only  $\varphi_y$  and  $|x|$  available  
 Does  $|y|$  have to be measured too?

Yes.

Example with  $k(s, t) \equiv 1$ :



$\Rightarrow$  available data  $|y|, \varphi_y, |x|$



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$$Fx = y, \quad F : L^2[0, 1] \mapsto L^2[0, 2] \quad (7)$$

- $F(x)$  continuous
- Fréchet-derivative

$$[F'(x_0)h](s) = \int_0^s (k(s, t) + k(s, s - t))x_0(s - t)h(t)dt$$

- $F(x)$  in general non-compact
- Fréchet-derivative always compact
- $F(x)$  everywhere locally ill-posed

Def.: We define an operator of type (7) to be locally ill-posed in  $x_0$  if, for arbitrarily small  $\rho > 0$  there exists a sequence  $\{x_n\} \subset B_\rho(x_0)$  satisfying the condition

$$F(x_n) \rightarrow F(x_0) \text{ in } Y \text{ as } n \rightarrow \infty, \text{ but } x_n \not\rightarrow x_0 \text{ in } X.$$



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## Injectivity:

For  $k(s, t) \equiv 1$  and  $k(s, t) = k(s)$ :  $F(x_1) = F(x_2)$  has two solutions  $x_1 = x_2$  and  $x_1 = -x_2$  by Titchmarsh's theorem.

For  $k(s, t)$  again  $x_1 = x_2$  or  $x_1 = -x_2$ , additional solutions are an open problem.

$\Rightarrow$  noninjectivity, but since  $x_1 = -x_2$  means  $x_1 = |x_2|e^{i(\varphi_{x_2} - \pi)}$  both solutions are equivalent for this problem.



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Equation:  $y(s) = \int_0^s k(s, t)x(s - t)x(t)dt$

$supp(x) = [t_l, t_u]$ ,  $supp(y) = [2t_l - t_{cw}, 2t_u - t_{cw}]$

discretization using rectangular rule

$$y(s_m) = \sum_{j=1}^N k(s_m, t_j)x(s_m + t_{cw} - t_j)x(t_j)\Delta t$$

with  $\Delta t = \frac{t_u - t_l}{N-1}$ ,  $t_j = t_l + (j - 1)\Delta t$ ,  $s_m = 2t_j + (m - 1)\Delta t$

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in matrix-form  $\underline{y} = \underline{F}(\underline{x})\underline{x}$ , with

$$\underline{y}/\Delta t = \underline{F}\underline{x}/\Delta t =$$

$$\begin{pmatrix} k_{1,1}x_1 & 0 & \dots & 0 & 0 \\ k_{2,1}x_2 & k_{2,2}x_1 & \dots & 0 & 0 \\ & \ddots & \ddots & & \vdots \\ k_{N-1,1}x_{N-1} & k_{N-1,2}x_{N-2} & \dots & k_{N-1,N-1}x_1 & 0 \\ k_{N,1}x_N & k_{N,2}x_{N-1} & \dots & k_{N,N-1}x_2 & k_{N,N}x_1 \\ 0 & k_{N+1,1}x_N & \dots & k_{N+1,N-1}x_3 & k_{N+1,N-1}x_2 \\ \vdots & & \ddots & \ddots & \\ 0 & 0 & \dots & k_{2N-2,N-1}x_N & k_{2N-2,N}x_{N-1} \\ 0 & 0 & \dots & 0 & k_{2N-1,N}x_N \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ \vdots \\ x_{N-1} \\ x_N \end{pmatrix}$$

Decomposition, with  $\circ$  as element-by-element multiplication:

$$\underline{F} = \underline{K} \circ \underline{X}$$

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discretized with rectangular rule:

$$[\underline{F'(x_0)\underline{h}}]_m = \sum_{j=0}^N (k(s_m, t_j) + k(s_m, s_m + t_{cw} - t_j))x_0(s_m + t_{cw} - t_j)h(t_j)\Delta t,$$

resulting matrix  $\underline{F'(x_0)} = (\underline{K} + \underline{K}') \circ \underline{X_0}$

advantage: time-consuming calculation of the matrices  $\underline{K}$  and  $\underline{K}'$  has to be performed only once for each measurement setup

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## Iterative linearized Tikhonov-type Regularization

$x_k =$

$\operatorname{argmin} \|y^\delta - F(x_{k-1}) - F'(x_{k-1})(x - x_{k-1})\|^2 + \alpha_k \|L(x - x_{k-1})\|^2$

with  $Lz = z''$  as approximation of the second derivative

Iteration rule:

$$\underline{x}_{k+1} = \underline{x}_k + (\underline{F}'(\underline{x}_k)^* \underline{F}'(\underline{x}_k) + \alpha_k \underline{L}^* \underline{L})^{-1} \underline{F}'(\underline{x}_k)^* (\underline{y}^\delta - \underline{F}(\underline{x}_k)). \quad (8)$$

$\alpha_k = \alpha = \text{const}$

starting value  $x_0 = |x^\delta| e^{i\varphi_{\text{start}}}$

iteration stops if  $\|\underline{y}^\delta - \underline{F}(x_{k+1})\|_2 \geq q \|\underline{y}^\delta - \underline{F}(x_k)\|_2$ .

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with  $Lz = z''$  as approximation of the second derivative

Iteration rule:

$$\underline{x}_{k+1} = \underline{x}_k + (\underline{F}'(\underline{x}_k)^* \underline{F}'(\underline{x}_k) + \alpha_k \underline{L}^* \underline{L})^{-1} \underline{F}'(\underline{x}_k)^* (\underline{y}^\delta - \underline{F}(\underline{x}_k)). \quad (8)$$

$\alpha_k = \alpha = \text{const}$

starting value  $x_0 = |x^\delta| e^{(i\varphi_{\text{Start}})}$

iteration stops if  $\|\underline{y}^\delta - \underline{F}(\underline{x}_{k+1})\|_2 \geq q \|\underline{y}^\delta - \underline{F}(\underline{x}_k)\|_2,$

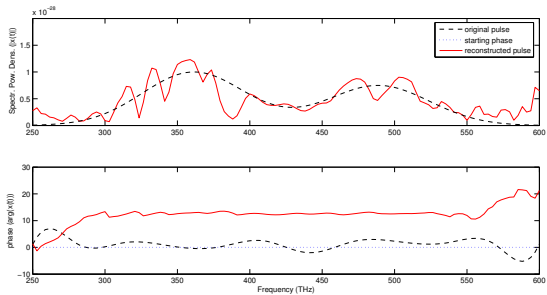
$0 < q < 1$ , e.g.  $q = 0.9999$

# Overview

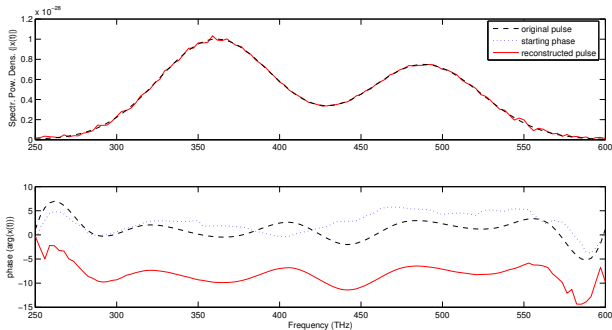
- Physical Background
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  2. SD-SPIDER method
  3. Equation
  4. Identifiability
- Mathematical Analysis
- **Numerical treatment**
  1. Discretization
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  3. **Choice of the starting phase**
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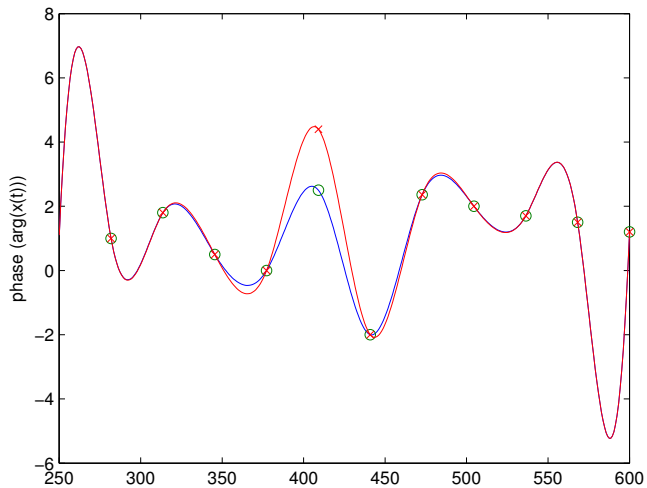
first idea:  $\varphi_{\text{start}}(t) = 0$



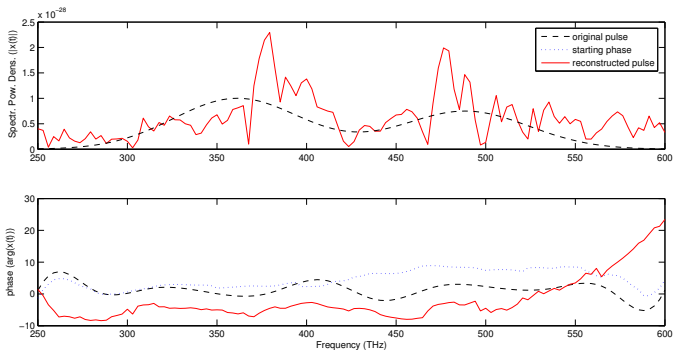
idea:  $\varphi_{\text{start}}(t) = \frac{1}{2}(P(\varphi_y(s))) - \varphi_k(s^*, t)$   
 with kernel-phase  $\varphi_k(s^*, t)$  for  $s^* = 475\text{THz}$



## problem for slightly changed fundamental phase

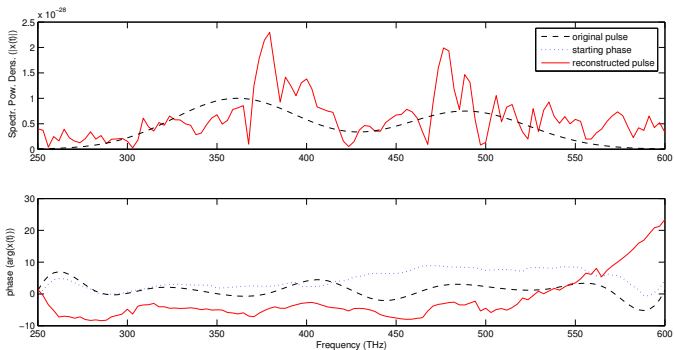


## best result with kernel correction



⇒ set starting phase to constant zero

## best result with kernel correction



⇒ set starting phase to constant zero

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no a-priori information  $\|y - y^\delta\| < \delta$  available, thus a-posteriori methods necessary

- L-curve not applicable
- quasioptimality ( $\|x_{\alpha_{i+1}} - x_{\alpha_i}\| \rightarrow \min$ ) - failed
- absolute value method ( $\||x^\delta| - |x_{\alpha_\ell}^*|\| \rightarrow \min$ ) - very reliable



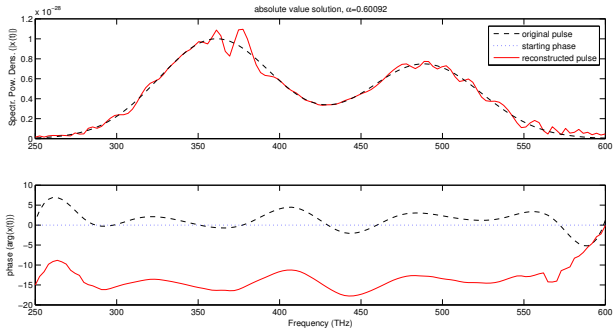
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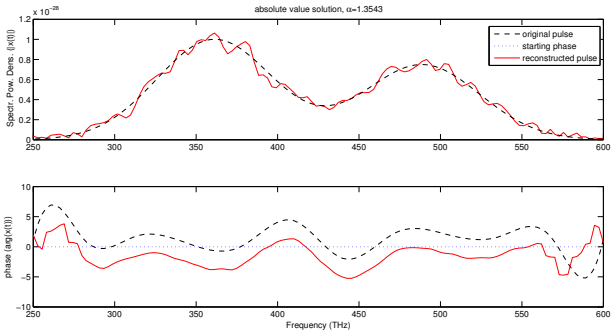


## reconstruction for $\delta = 0.1\%$



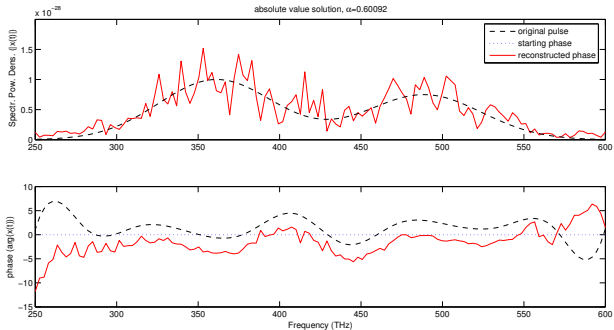


## reconstruction for $\delta = 1\%$



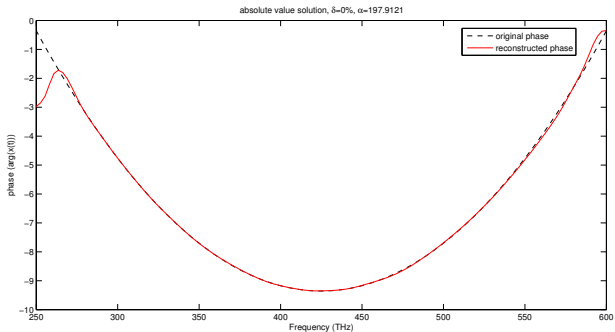


## reconstruction for $\delta = 5\%$



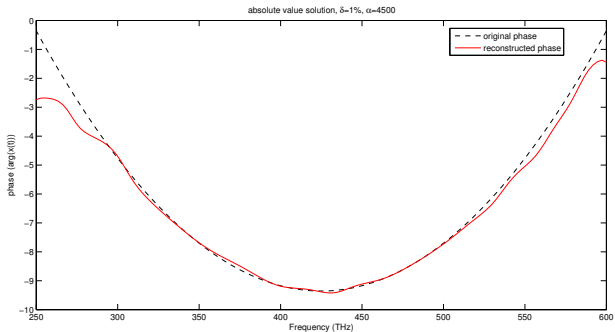


reconstruction for  $\delta = 0\%$





reconstruction for  $\delta = 1\%$





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unfortunately, no results available. Main reasons:

- measurements without magnitudes
- unknown factor in model  $\Rightarrow$  error in the computational model
- frequency domains of  $x$  and  $y$  do not match



Thank you for your attention!