



22. Ultrafast Optics



➢ 22.1 Pulse Characteristics A. Temporal and Spectral Characteristics - Temporal and Spectral Representations - Temporal and Spectral Widths - Instantaneous Frequency - Chirped Pulses - Time-Varying Spectrum *Z*210

22.1 Pulse Characteristics



A. Temporal and Spectral Characteristics

- A pulse of light is described by an optical field of finite time duration.
- > We represent the field components with a generic normalized complex wavefunction U(r,t) such that the optical intensity

 $I(r,t) = |U(r,t)|^2 (W/m^2)$

- When we are concerned with only the temporal or spectral properties of a pulse at a fixed position r
 - We will simply use the functions U(t) and I(t).



Temporal and Spectral Representations

> The **complex wavefunction** describing an **optical pulse** of central frequency v_0 is written in

 $U(t) = A(t)e^{j\omega_0 t}$

where

A(t) : complex envelope

> The complex envelope is characterized by its magnitude |A(t)|and phase $\varphi(t) = \arg\{A(t)\},\$

> Thus, complex wavefunction

$$U(t) = |A(t)| e^{j[\omega_0 t + \varphi(t)]}$$

The optical intensity:
$$I(t) = |U(t)|^2 = |A(t)|^2 \quad (W/m^2)$$

The energy density:
$$I(t) dt \quad (U/m^2)$$

(i)ai

(J/m²)

Temporal and Spectral Representations









Temporal and Spectral Representations

- ► The Fourier transform of the complex envelope A(v) is centered at v=0 $A(v) = \int A(t)e^{-j2\pi vt} dt = V(v-v_0)$
- If the pulse has a narrow spectral width, then the complex envelope is a slowly varying function of time, but this is not the case for ultranarrow pulses with ultrawide spectral distributions.



Figure 22.1-1 Temporal and spectral representations of an optical pulse. (a) The real part of the wavefunction $\operatorname{Re}\{U(t)\} = |\mathcal{A}(t)| \cos[\omega_0 t + \varphi(t)]$, the magnitude of the envelope $|\mathcal{A}(t)|$, the intensity I(t), and the phase $\varphi(t)$. (b) Spectral intensity $S(\nu)$ and spectral phase $\psi(\nu)$.

Temporal and Spectral Widths

> We will use the **full-width half-max (FWHM)** definition and denote the **temporal** and **spectral widths** as τ_{FWHM} and Δv .

> $I(t) = |U(t)|^2 = |A(t)|^2$ Optical intensity:

The spectral intensity: $S(v) = |V(v)|^2$

> The **spectral width** is inversely proportional to the **temporal** width because of the Fourier transform relation between U(t)and V(v).

For a Gaussian pulse

$$\Delta \nu = \frac{0.44}{\tau_{FWHM}}$$

22.1 Pulse Characteristics

Channe Version

> The spectral intensity S(v) is often plotted as a function of the wavelength, $S_{\lambda}(\lambda)$.

$$S_{\lambda}(\lambda) = S(v) \left| \frac{dv}{d\lambda} \right| = \left(\frac{c}{\lambda^{2}}\right) S\left(\frac{c}{\lambda}\right)$$
$$\int S_{\lambda}(\lambda) d\lambda = \int S(v) dv$$

• For ultranarrow pulses, $(\Delta v \ll v_0)$

 $d\lambda = \frac{d\lambda}{d\nu} d\nu$

 $\Delta \lambda \approx \frac{\lambda_0^2}{2} \Delta \nu,$

• For ultranarrow pulses, large Δv

$$\Delta \lambda = \frac{c}{v_0 - \frac{\Delta v}{2}} - \frac{c}{v_0 + \frac{\Delta v}{2}} = \frac{\lambda_0^2}{c} \frac{\Delta v}{1 - (\frac{\Delta v}{2v_0})^2}$$

(22.1-1) Spectral Width



- A 2-fs pulse,
 - spectral width $\Delta v = 220$ THz,
 - $\Delta \lambda = 847$ nm at $\lambda_0 = 1 \mu m$,
 - i.e., the spectrum is quite broad and extends from visible through infrared.



Figure 22.1-2 (a) The relation $\Delta \nu = 0.44/\tau_{\rm FWHM}$ between the spectral width $\Delta \nu$ and the temporal width $\tau_{\rm FWHM}$ for a Gaussian pulse. (b) The corresponding width $\Delta \lambda$ for a pulse of central frequency ν_0 corresponding to the central wavelengths $\lambda_0 = c/\nu_0 = 0.5 \ \mu\text{m}$, 1 μm , and 1.5 μm . As an example, a 10-fs pulse has a spectral width $\Delta \nu = 44$ THz, corresponding to $\Delta \lambda = 37 \ \text{nm}$, 147 nm, and 331 nm, if the central wavelength is $\lambda_0 = 0.5 \ \mu\text{m}$, 1 μm , and 1.5 μm , respectively, as indicated by the open circles in the graph. This relation is linear if $\Delta \nu \ll \nu_0$ [see (22.1-1)].

Instantaneous Frequency

> The instantaneous angular frequency ω_i is the derivative of the **phase** of U(t), and the **instantaneous frequency** $v_i = \omega_i / 2\pi$

(22.1-4)

$$\omega_i = \omega_0 + \frac{d\varphi}{dt}, \quad \nu_i = \nu_0 + \frac{1}{2\pi} \frac{d\varphi}{dt}.$$
 (22.1-4)
Instantaneous Frequency

> If the **phase** is a **linear function** of time, $\varphi(t) = 2\pi ft$, then the instantaneous frequency $v_i = v_0 + f$ Wavefunction

- > A linearly varying phase corresponds to a fixed frequency shift.
- > Nonlinear time dependence of the phase corresponds to timedependent instantaneous frequency.

Chirped Pulses



- A pulse is said to be chirped, or frequency modulated(FM), if its instantaneous frequency is time varying.
- ➢ If v_i is increasing function of time at the pulse center (t=0), the pulse is said to be up-chirped, i.e., $\varphi'' = d^2 \varphi/dt^2 > 0$
- ➢ If v_i is decreasing function of time at the pulse center, the pulse is said to be down-chirped. i.e., $ω'' = d^2ω/dt^2 < 0$



Figure 22.1-3 Linearly up-chirped and down-chirped optical pulses. (a) An up-chirped pulse has an increasing instantaneous frequency. (b) A down-chirped pulse has a decreasing instantaneous frequency. In this figure, the pulse width is 20 fs and the central frequency $\nu_0 = 300$ THz. The letters R and B, which represented red and blue, are generic indicators of long and short wavelengths, respectively.



If the phase of an optical pulse of width τ is a quadratic function of time

$$\varphi(t) = \frac{at^2}{\tau^2}$$

$$\omega_i = \omega_0 + \frac{d\varphi}{dt}, \quad \nu_i = \nu_0 + \frac{1}{2\pi} \frac{d\varphi}{dt}.$$
Instantaneous Frequency
$$a: \text{constant}$$

$$V_i = V_0 + (\frac{a}{\tau^2})t$$

- > The **instantaneous frequency** is a **linear function of time**.
- > The pulse is said to be **linearly chirped**.

$$a = \frac{1}{2} \varphi'' \tau^2$$
 (22.1-5)
Chirp Parameter

- a > 0, the pulse is up-chirped.
- a < 0, the pulse is down-chirped.

At $t = \tau/2$, the instantaneous frequency increases by $a/2\pi\tau$, which is of the order of magnitude of $a\Delta v$ $v_i = v_0 + (\frac{a}{\pi\tau^2})t$ \longrightarrow $v_{\frac{\tau}{2}} = v_i(\frac{\tau}{2}) = v_0 + (\frac{a}{2\pi\tau}) \approx v_0 + a\Delta v$ $\delta v = v_{\frac{\tau}{2}} - v_0 = a\Delta v$

Thus, the chirp parameter is indicative of the ratio between the instantaneous frequency change δν at the pulse halfwidth point and the spectral width Δν.

 $a \approx \frac{\delta v}{\Delta v}$



Chirped Pulses

If the dependence of the phase φ on time is an arbitrary nonlinear function.

Intensity I(t)

Then it can be approximated by a Taylor-series expansion in the vicinity of the pulse center.

Phase $\varphi(t)$

The chirp coefficient *a* represents the lowest-order chirping effect resulting from the quadratic term of the expansion.

Time-Varying Spectrum



- It is often useful to trace the spectral changes of a timevarying pulse throughout its time course.
 - Such changes are **obscured** in the **Fourier transform**, which only provides an **average spectral representation** of the entire signal **without noting** which frequencies occur at which time.
 - This is particularly evident if the **signal** is composed of a **sequence segments** each with a **different spectral composition**.
- A commonly used measure is based on a sliding windows (or gate) that selects only one short time segment at a time, and obtains Fourier transform of the pulse within the window duration.

ACOMIC TROUGH

Time-Varying Spectrum

- > It W(t) is a windows function of short duration *T* beginning at t = 0.
- > It U(t) is the pulse wavefunction .
- The product $U(t)W(t-\tau)$ is a segment of the pulse of duration T beginning at time τ
- > The Fourier transform of segment

$$\Phi(\nu,\tau) = \int U(t)W(t-\tau)\exp(-j2\pi\nu t)dt.$$

(22.1-6) Short-Time Fourier Transform

Spectrogram

$$S(\nu,\tau) = \left| \Phi(\nu,\tau) \right|^2$$

Time-Varying Spectrum

Fig. 22.1-4, the result is plotted as a function of both frequency and time delay.



Figure 22.1-4 The short-time Fourier transform of U(t) is constructed by a sequence of Fourier transforms of U(t) multiplied by a moving window $W(t - \tau)$. The spectrogram $S(\nu, t)$ is the squared magnitude of these Fourier transforms. In this example, U(t) is composed of two Gaussian pulses each of time constant $\tau = 60$ fs and central frequency 100 THz. The first pulse is up-chirped (a = 5) and the second is down-chirped (a = -5) and has a smaller amplitude. The window function W(t)is Gaussian with time constant $\tau = 20$ fs.

Autocorrelator



https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=J1pNHYySSYg



Transform-Limited Gaussian Pulse



A transform-limited Gaussian pulse has constant phase and Gaussian magnitude.

$$A(t) = A_0 \exp(-t^2 / \tau^2)$$

- Intensity : $I(t) = I_0 \exp(-2t^2/\tau^2)$
- $\mathbf{\tau}_{\mathbf{FWHM}} : 1.18\tau$
- Fourier transform of A(t):

A(v)=A exp($-\pi^2\tau^2v^2$) (Gaussian function)

- **Spectral intensity** : $S(v) = A^2 exp(-2\pi^2\tau^2v^2)$
- $-\Delta v = 0.375/\tau = 0.44/\tau_{FWHM} = \Delta v \tau_{FWHM} = 0.44$
- The transform-limited Gaussian pulse has a minimum temporal-and spectral-width product. (transform limited, Fourier-transform limited, bandwidth limited)

Transform-Limited Gaussian Pulse



$$A^{2} \exp(-2\pi^{2}\tau^{2}\nu^{2}) = \frac{1}{2} \qquad I_{0} \exp(-2t^{2}/\tau^{2}) = \frac{1}{2}$$
$$(-2\pi^{2}\tau^{2}\nu^{2}) = \ln\frac{1}{2} = -0.7 \quad (-2t^{2}/\tau^{2}) = \ln\frac{1}{2} = -0.7$$
$$\sqrt{2}\pi\tau\nu = \sqrt{0.7} \qquad \sqrt{2}t/\tau = \sqrt{0.7}$$
$$\nu = \frac{0.1882}{\tau} \qquad t = 0.591\tau$$
$$\Delta\nu = \frac{0.3764}{\tau} \qquad \tau_{\text{FWHM}} = 1.182\tau$$



> A more general **Gaussian pulse** :

- $A(t)=A_0\exp(-\alpha t^2)$
- $\alpha = (1-ja)/\tau^2$, "*a*" is the chirp parameter.

 $A(t) = A_0 \exp(-t^2 / \tau^2) \exp(jat^2 / \tau^2)$

- Up chirped : a > 0
- Down chirped : a < 0
- Unchirped (transform-limited) : a = 0
- phase: $\varphi = at^2/\tau^2$ (quadratic function)
- instantaneous frequency: $v_i = v_0 + at / \pi t^2$ (linear function of time)
- The pulse is **linearly chirped** with chirp parameter a.
- Fourier transform of A(t): A(v)=A exp($-\pi^2\tau^2v^2/\alpha$)
- Spectral intensity : $S(v) = A^2 exp(-2\pi^2 \tau^2 (v v_0)^2 / (1 + a^2))$
- FWHM of Gaussian: $\Delta v=0.375/\tau (1+a^2)^{1/2}=0.44/\tau_{FWHM}$

 $-\tau_{\rm FWHM}\Delta\nu = 0.44(1+a^2)^{1/2}$



Temporal and spectral properties of a chirped Gaussian pulse of peak amplitude A_0 , **peak intensity** $I_0 = |A_0|^2$, **central frequency** v_0 , time constant τ , and **chirp parameter** *a*.

$\mathcal{A}(t) = A_0 \exp[-(1-ja)t^2/\tau^2]$	Complex envelope
$I(t) = I_0 \exp(-2t^2/\tau^2)$	Intensity
$\int I(t)dt = \sqrt{\pi/2}I_0\tau$	Energy density
$\tau_{1/e} = \sqrt{2}\tau$	1/e half width
$ au_{ m FWHM} = 1.18 au$	FWHM width
$\varphi(t) = at^2/\tau^2$	Phase
$A(\nu) = \frac{A_0 \tau}{2\sqrt{\pi(1-ja)}} \exp\left[-\frac{\pi^2 \tau^2 \nu^2}{1-ja}\right]$	Fourier transform
$\boldsymbol{S}(\nu) = \frac{I_0 \tau^2}{4\pi \sqrt{1+a^2}} \exp\left[-\frac{2\pi^2 \tau^2 (\nu - \nu_0)^2}{1+a^2}\right]$	Spectral intensity
$\Delta\nu_{1/e} = \frac{2}{\tau}\sqrt{1+a^2}$	1/e half width
$\Delta \nu = \frac{0.375}{\tau} \sqrt{1 + a^2} = \frac{0.44}{\tau_{\rm FWHM}} \sqrt{1 + a^2}$	FWHM Spectral width
$\psi(\nu) = -2\pi^2 \tau^2 [a/(1+a^2)]\nu^2$	Spectral phase
$\nu_i = \nu_0 + (a/\pi\tau^2)t$	Instantaneous frequency

Temporal and **spectral profiles** of three Gaussian pulses of central frequency v_0 =300 THz (corresponding to a wavelength of 1 pm and a 3.3-fs optical cycle) and width 7 FWHM = 5 fs (7 = 4.23 fs).

(a) Transform-limited pulse; the spectral width $\Delta v == 88$ THz ($\Delta \lambda = 73$ nm).

(b) (b) **Up-chirped** pulse of chirp parameter a == 2; the spectral width is a factor of $(1 + a^2) = 5^{1/2}$ greater than in (a), so that $\Delta v == 197$ THz.

(c) (c) Same as in (b) but the pulse is down-chirped with chirp parameter a = -2.



Photonic Technology Lab.

OUTLINE



➤ 22.2 A Chirp Filter

- Linear Filtering of an Optical Pulse
- The Ideal Filter
- The Chirp Filter
- Approximation of Arbitrary Phase Filter by a Chirp Filter
- Chirp Filtering of a Transform-Limited Gaussian Pulse
- Chirp Filtering of a Chirped Gaussian Pulse

Linear Filtering of an Optical Pulse



- > A linear time-invariant system is characterized by a transfer function H(v)
 - it is the factor by which the Fourier component of the input pulse at frequency v is multiplied to generate the output component at the same frequency

 $U_1(t)$: the complex wavefunction of the original pulse $U_2(t)$: the complex wavefunction of the filtered pulse

> The Fourier transforms $V_1(\nu)$ and $V_2(\nu)$ are related by :



$$V_2(\nu) = \mathbf{H}(\nu) \, V_1(\nu). \tag{22.2-1}$$



► In using (22.2-1) we only need to know H(v) at frequencies within **spectral band** of the pulse (a region of width Δv surrounding the central frequency v_0)





When *Av << v₀* (it is convenient to work with the complex envelope instead of the wavefunction):

➤ Using the relation:

 $U(t) = A(t) \exp(j2\pi v_o t)$

The shift property of the Fourier transform:

 $V(v) = A(v - v_0)$

A(v): the Fourier transform of A(t)

 \succ It follows from (22.2-1) that

$$A_2(v - v_0) = H(v)A_1(v - v_0)$$

$$V_2(\nu) = \mathcal{H}(\nu) \, V_1(\nu). \tag{22.2-1}$$



 \succ Define: $f = v - v_0$

$$A_2(f) = H(v_0 + f)A_1(f)$$

$$A_2(f) = H_e(f)A_1(f)$$

The envelope transfer function:

$$H_e(f) = H(\nu_0 + f)$$

(22.2-3) Envelope Transfer Function

 \succ *H*(*v*) (transfer function) :

$$H(v) = |H(v)| \exp[-j\psi(v)]$$

 \succ $H_e(f)$ (transfer function) :

$$H_e(f) = |H_e(f)| \exp[-j\psi_e(f)]$$

Phase transfer

$$\psi_e(f) = \psi(v_0 + f)$$



- The filter often plays a more important role than the magnitude in the reshaping of pulses
- > Throughout this **chapter** we will deal **phase filters**
 - The magnitude |H(v)| is approximately constant within the frequency range of interest
- ➤ In time domain, (22.2-2) becomes the convolution relation







Figure 22.2-1 Filtering the wavefunction with a filter $H(\nu)$ (upper figure) is equivalent to filtering the envelope with a filter $H_e(f) = H(\nu_0 + f)$ (lower figure). The shaded area represents the spectral band of interest.

The Ideal Filter



An **ideal filter**

It preserves the **shape** of the **pulse envelope**, it merely multiplies it by a **constant**(<1:**attanuatior**; >1:**gain**), and delays it by a **fixed time**.

> The **transfer function** has the form

$$\boldsymbol{H}_{e}(f) = \boldsymbol{H}_{0} \exp\left(-j2\pi f \tau_{d}\right), \qquad (22.2-5)$$

 H_0 : a constant,

 τ_d : time delay

 $G = |H_0|^2$: the intensity reduction or gain factor $H_e(f) = |H_e(f)| \exp[-j\psi_e(f)]$ > The **phase** is a **linear function** of frequency $\Psi_e(f) = \Psi_0 + 2\pi\tau_d f$

 $\Psi_0 = arg\{H_0\}$

the **phase** $2\pi f \tau_d f$ is equivalent to a **time delay** τ_d .

The input and output envelope are related by

 $A_2(t) = H_0 A_1(t - \tau_d)$

The intensities are related by

 $\boldsymbol{I}_2(t) = \boldsymbol{G}\boldsymbol{I}_1(t - \tau_d)$



(a) Ideal filter

$$A_2(f) = \mathcal{H}_e(f)A_1(f),$$

 $H_e(f) = H_0 \exp\left(-j2\pi f \tau_d\right),$

(22.2-2)

(22.2-5)

➢ For a distributed attenuator/amplifier of attenuation/gain coefficient α ($\tau_d = d/c, H_0 = exp(-\alpha d/2)$)

$$H_{\rm e}(f) = \exp(-\alpha d/2)\exp(-j2\pi f d/c)$$

 $G = \exp(-\alpha d)$



(a) Ideal filter

> A slab of ideal nondispersive material with

- attenuation coefficient α
- refractive index *n* ($c = c_0/n$)

$$H_e(f) = H_0 \exp\left(-j2\pi f \tau_d\right),\,$$

(22.2-5)



> The transfer function ($\beta = 2\pi v/c$, propagation constant)

 $H(v) = \exp(-\alpha d/2)\exp(-j\beta d)$

 $H_{\rm e}(f) = \exp(-\alpha d/2) \exp(-j2\pi f d/c)$

$$H_e(f) = H(\nu_0 + f)$$

(22.2-3) Envelope Transfer Function

When α and n are frequency dependent, the medium is divspresive, i.e., the filter is not ideal and the pulse shape may be altered

The Chirp Filter

- Mannie Terro
- The Gaussian chirp filter is the most important filter in ultrafast optics, we often simply called the chirp filter
 The envelope transfer function is Gaussian:

$$H_e(f) = \exp\left(-jb\pi^2 f^2\right),$$



b (real parameter, unit of s^2): chirp coefficient of the filter

- *b*>0 : the filter is **up-chirping**
- *b*<0 : the filter is **down-chirping**





The corresponding impulse-response function is the inverse FT of (22.2-6) (Gaussian function):

$$h_e(t) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{j\pi b}} \exp(jt^2/b).$$

(22.2-7) Chirp-Filter Impulse-Response Function

It too has a phase that is a quadratic function of time, i.e., it is a linearly chirped function,

- up-chirped for positive b
- down-chirped for negative b.

$$\mathcal{A}_{2}(t) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} h_{e}(t - t') \,\mathcal{A}_{1}(t') dt', \qquad (22.2-4)$$



A cascade of **two chirp filters** with coefficients b_1 and b_2 is equivalent of single pulse with coefficient b:

$$b = b_1 + b_2$$

A down-chirping filter may compensate the effect of an up-chirping filter

By substituting (22.2-7) into (22.2-4), the pulse envelope at the output and input of chirp filter are related by:

$$\mathcal{A}_2(t) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{j\pi b}} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \mathcal{A}_1(t') \exp\left[j\frac{(t-t')^2}{b}\right] dt'.$$
 (22.2-8)

$$\mathcal{A}_{2}(t) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} h_{e}(t - t') \,\mathcal{A}_{1}(t') dt', \qquad (22.2-4)$$

$$h_e(t) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{j\pi b}} \exp(jt^2/b).$$

(22.2-7) Chirp-Filter Impulse-Response Function

Chirp Filtering of a Transform-Limited Gaussian Pulse

- Actionic To and
- We now consider the effect of a chirp filter with transfer function (b: chirp coefficient)
 The chirp filter

$$H_e(f) = e^{-jb\pi^2 f^2}$$

> An unchirped Gaussian pulse (transform limited)

$$A_{1}(t) = A_{10}e^{-t^{2}/\tau_{1}^{2}}$$

Fourier transform of $A_1(t)$

$$A_{1}(f) = (A_{10}\tau_{1}/2\sqrt{\pi})e^{-\pi^{2}\tau_{1}^{2}f^{2}}$$

> The **filtered pulse** has a **complex envelope** with FT

$$A_2(f) = A_0 \frac{\tau_1}{2\sqrt{\pi}} \exp[-\pi^2(\tau_1^2 + jb)f^2].$$
 (22.2-12)

$$A_2(f) = A_0 \frac{\tau_1}{2\sqrt{\pi}} \exp[-\pi^2(\tau_1^2 + jb)f^2].$$
 (22.2-12)

This expression may be cast as the Fourier transform of a chirped Gaussian pulse(width t₂, chirp parameter a₂) (in accordance with (22.1-18))

$$A(\nu) = \frac{A_0 \tau}{2\sqrt{\pi(1 - ja)}} \exp\left[-\frac{\pi^2 \tau^2 \nu^2}{1 - ja}\right]$$

Equating the phase, we obtain:

$$\tau_1^2 + jb = \frac{\tau_2^2}{1 - ja_2},$$

Equating the real and imaginary parts of (22.2-14) leads to the expressions that relate the parameters of the output pulse to those of the input pulse

$$A_{20} = A_{10}\sqrt{1 - ja_2}\tau_1 / \tau_2$$

(22.2-14)



Equating the **real** and **imaginary parts** of (22.2-14) leads to the expressions that relate the parameters of the output pulse to those of the input pulse:

$$I = \frac{1}{1 + \frac{1}{2}} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{1 + b^2/\tau_1^4}}, \qquad (22.2-15)$$
Chirp parameter $a_2 = b/\tau_1^2,$
Amplitude $A_{20} = \frac{A_{10}}{\sqrt{1 + jb/\tau_1^2}}.$

$$I_1^2 + J_2^2 = \frac{1}{1 - J_{a_2}} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{\sqrt{1 + jb/\tau_1^2}}}, \qquad (22.2-16)$$

$$(22.2-17)$$

$$I_1^2 + J_2^2 = \frac{1}{1 - J_{a_2}} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{\sqrt{1 + jb/\tau_1^2}}}, \qquad (birp \ parameter \$$

Chirp Filtering of a Transform-Limited Gaussian Pulse



> We conclude that upon transmission through a chirp filter

$$\tau_2 = \tau_1 \sqrt{1 + a_2^2} = \tau_1 \sqrt{1 + b^2 / \tau_1^4}$$

> The **pulse width** is increased by a factor

$$\sqrt{1+a_2^2} = \sqrt{1+b^2/\tau_1^4}$$

- For $|\boldsymbol{b}| = \tau_1^2$ this factor is $\sqrt{2}$

• Thus, the **filter** begins to have a significant effect when its chip coefficient is of the order of the squared width of the original pulse.



- For $|\boldsymbol{b}| \gg \tau_1^2 \Longrightarrow \tau_2 \rightleftharpoons |\boldsymbol{b}| / \tau_1$,
 - indicating that the width of filtered pulse is directly proportional to |b| and inversely proportional to τ₁,
 - narrower pulses undergo greater broadening
- > The initially transform-limited pulses becomes chirped with a chirp parameter a_2 ($a_2=b/\tau^2$)
 - a_2 is directly proportional to the filter chirp coefficient b and inversely proportional to the square of τ_1 (the original pulse width)
 - If b is positive => the filtered pulse is up-chirped
 - If b is negative => the filtered pulse is down-chirped
 - For $b = \tau_1^2$, the chirp parameter $a_2 = 1$.

> The spectral width of the pulse remains **unchanged**

- the chirp filter is a phase filter that does not alter the spectral intensity of the original pulse.
- The **temporal width** of pulse is expanded by a factor $\sqrt{1+a_2^2}$ => the **spectral width** must be compressed by the same factor
- However, because the filtered pulse is chirped this is accompanied by a spectral broadening by the vary same factor, resulting in an unchanged spectral width



 $\tau_2 = \tau_1 \sqrt{1 + b^2 / \tau_1^4},$ $a_2 = b / \tau_1^2,$

Figure 22.2-4 A chirp filter with coefficient *b* converts an unchirped Gaussian pulse of width τ_1 , marked by an open circle, into a chirped Gaussian pulse of width τ_2 and chirp parameter a_2 . The pulse width increases as |b| increases, and is greater for smaller τ_1 . The chirp parameter is directly proportional to *b* and is greater for smaller τ_1 .

Chirp Filtering of a Chirped Gaussian Pulse

- Choice Logicity of the Contraction of the Contracti
- When a chirped Gaussian pulse is transmitted through a chirp filter, the pulse will be expanded or compressed and its chirp parameter will be altered
 - and may under certain conditions diminish to zero so that the new pulse may become unchirped (transform limited).
- This compression property offers a technique for generation of picosecond and femtosecond optical pulses
- > If the original pulse (width: τ_1 , chirp parameter: a_1)

complex envelope: $A_1(t) = A_{10} \exp[-(1-ja_1)t^2/\tau_1^2]$, chirp filter: $H_e(f) = \exp(-jb\pi^2 f^2)$ chirped Gaussian pulse: $A_2(t) = A_{20} \exp[-(1-ja_2)t^2/\tau_2^2]$

where

$$\frac{\tau_2^2}{1 - ja_2} = \frac{\tau_1^2}{1 - ja_1} + jb.$$
(22.2-18)

 \succ Equating the **real** and **imaginary** of (22.2-18), we obtain

$$\tau_2 = \tau_1 \sqrt{1 + 2a_1 \frac{b}{\tau_1^2} + (1 + a_1^2) \frac{b^2}{\tau_1^4}}, \qquad (22.2-19)$$

$$a_2 = a_1 + (1 + a_1^2) \frac{b}{\tau_1^2}$$
 (22.2-20)

- > To determine the value b_{\min} of the filter's chirp parameter at which the filtered pulse has its minimum width τ_0
- We equate the **derivative of** τ_2 in (22.2-19) with respect to *b* to zero, the result is :

Minimum width
$$\tau_0 = \frac{\tau_1}{\sqrt{1+a_1^2}}$$
, (22.2-21)
Chirp coefficient $b_{\min} = -a_1\tau_0^2 = -\frac{a_1}{1+a_1^2}\tau_1^2$. (22.2-22)

► Using (22.2-21) and (22.2-22) we rewrite (22.2-19) and (22.2-20) in terms of b_{min} and τ_0 as follows:

Width
$$\tau_2 = \tau_0 \sqrt{1 + (b - b_{\min}^2)/\tau_0^4}$$
, (22.2-23)
Chirp parameter $a_2 = (b - b_{\min})/\tau_0^2$. (22.2-24)

- → when $b=b_{\min}$,(22.2-23) and (22.2-24) give $\tau_2=\tau_0$ and $a_2=0$ so that the pulse is both maximally compressed and unchirped
- > If the original pulse is up-chirped $(a_1>0)$, then $b_{min}<0$ so that down-chirping filter is necessary for maximal compression

Minimum width
$$\tau_0 = \frac{\tau_1}{\sqrt{1+a_1^2}}$$
, (22.2-21)
Chirp coefficient $b_{\min} = -a_1 \tau_0^2 = -\frac{a_1}{1+a_1^2} \tau_1^2$. (22.2-22)

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Note that (22.2-23) and (22.2-24) are identical to (22.2-15) and (22.2-16), which were derived for the initially nchirped pulse, except that b is replaced by b-b_{min}.

Width
$$\tau_2 = \tau_0 \sqrt{1 + (b - b_{\min}^2)/\tau_0^4}$$
,(22.2-23)Chirp parameter $a_2 = (b - b_{\min})/\tau_0^2$.(22.2-24)Width $\tau_2 = \tau_1 \sqrt{1 + b^2/\tau_1^4}$,(22.2-15)Chirp parameter $a_2 = b/\tau_1^2$,(22.2-16)

Thus, the graphs in Fig. 22.2-4 are also applicable to the case of initially chirped pulse except for a shift in the horizontal direction by the value b_{min} determined from (22.2-22).





Photonic Technology Lab.

Application : Chirp Pulse Amplifer



- The amplification of an ultrashort high-peak-power optical is often limited by nonlinear effects (such as saturation and self-focusing)
- Such limitations may be alleviated if the pulse is stretched by use of a chirp filterfilter prior to amplification, and compressed by filtering through a second chirp filter after it has been amplified, as illustrated in Fig. 22.2-6.
- > The **first filter** lowers the **peak power** by stretching the pulse

• The **second chirp filte**r, which has a chirp parameter of equal magnitude and opposite sign => compresses the pulse back to its original width



Figure 22.2-6 Chirp pulse amplifier.





Fig. 1. Schematic of the experimental setup. WDM, wavelength division multiplexer; PBS, polarized beam splitter; SMF, single-mode fiber; LD, laser diode; $\lambda/2$, half waveplate; $\lambda/4$, quarter waveplate; YDF, Yb-doped fiber. Blue boxes with arrows are isolators.



Fig. 3. (a) The spectrum after the stretcher. (b) The temporal pulse shape observed by a fast photo diode. The stretched pulse shape shows a clear chirp, whose structure corresponds to the spectral shape. The stretched pulse duration is 0.5 ns.



Fig. 4. Optical spectra measured after the (a) preamplifier, and (b) main amplifier.



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Fig. 5. (a) Observed FROG-trace with an average power of 23 W. (b) Retrieved temporal pulse shape and phase. This shows a pulse duration of 200 fs with no obvious pedestals.









Fig. 2. Power performance of the 1 MHz fiber CPA laser system.



Proton and the second

DCF, 500mW

Rod fiber, 120W

PCF, 10W

1045

1050

1055 1060





