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ERRATUM

Erratum to: Mobile source of high-energy single-cycle terahertz pulses

A. G. Stepanov · S. Henin · Y. Petit · L. Bonacina · J. Kasparian · J.-P. Wolf

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In 2010, we reported [1] on a demonstration of a mobile source of high-energy near-single-cycle THz pulses based on a tilted pulse front optical rectification set-up, pumped by a mobile terawatt laser (Teramobile). The absolute value of the THz pulse energy was measured with a pyroelectric detector (Coherent Molectron J4-05). The company does not provide a spectral sensitivity dependence for this detector below 3.3 THz. In the reported experiments, generated THz pulses had broad spectra centred at 0.2 THz [1]. Previously, this detector was used for measuring the energy of near-single-cycle THz pulses with an average frequency of 0.9 THz generated by an accelerator-based source [2]. Afterwards, it was reported that the sensitivity of the Coherent pyroelectric detector at 1 THz was approximately 1.8 times less than the specified sensitivity at 1.06 µm [3], and this difference has been take into account in a following publication [7].

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A. G. Stepanov $(\boxtimes) \cdot$ S. Henin \cdot Y. Petit \cdot L. Bonacina \cdot

J. Kasparian · J.-P. Wolf GAP-Biophotonics, Université de Genève, Chemin de Pinchat 22, 1211 Geneva 4, Switzerland e-mail: andrey.stepanov@unige.ch

J.-P. Wolf e-mail: jean-pierre.wolf@unige.ch

Present Address:

Y. Petit

CNRS, University Bordeaux, ICMCB, UPR 9048, 33600 Pessac, France

Recently, we compared the sensitivity of the Coherent Molectron J4-05 detector with that of another widely used pyroelectric THz detector (Microtech Instruments) [3-6]. The latter detector is provided with a calibration curve of the spectral dependence of the sensitivity in the frequency range of 0.12-3 THz. As a result, we found that at frequencies of 0.2-0.5 THz, the Coherent Molectron J4-05 detector underestimates the THz pulse energy by a factor of about 3.5 with regard to the Microtech Instruments detector. This finding evidences an additional drop of the Coherent Molectron J4-05 detector sensitivity for THz wave frequencies below 1 THz. By this comparison, we conclude that the THz pulse energy in Ref. [1] should significantly be re-estimated, up to 175 µJ (instead of the initially published value of 50 μ J), which is to the best of our knowledge the highest energy of near-single-cycle THz pulses generated by tabletop sources.

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