

Achievable Rates of Nonlinear Fourier Transform-based Optical Communication Systems

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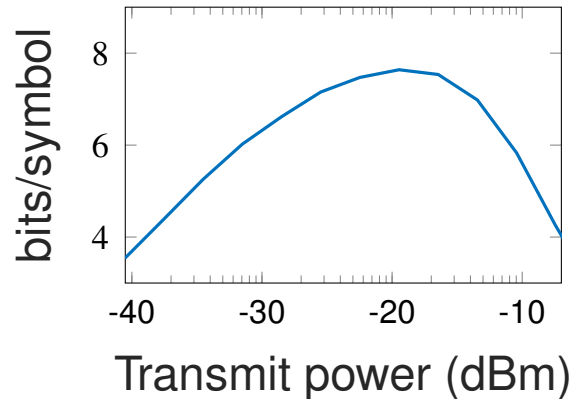
Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering

Institute for Communications Engineering

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Motivation

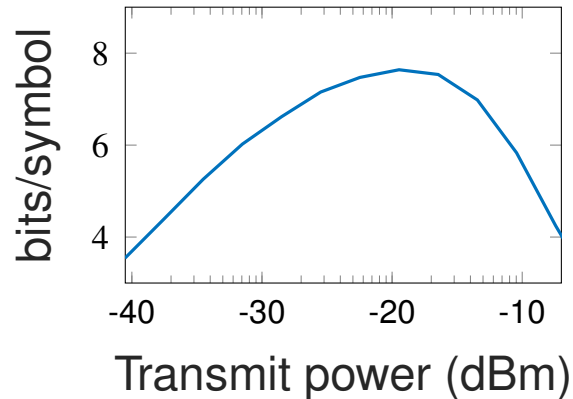
- The nonlinearity of the fiber optic channel imposes a capacity peak on linear transmission systems



5 WDM channels @ 20 GHz
Guardband: 5 GHz
Distance: 2000 km
RRC pulses, multi-ring
modulation, 64 rings, 128 phases

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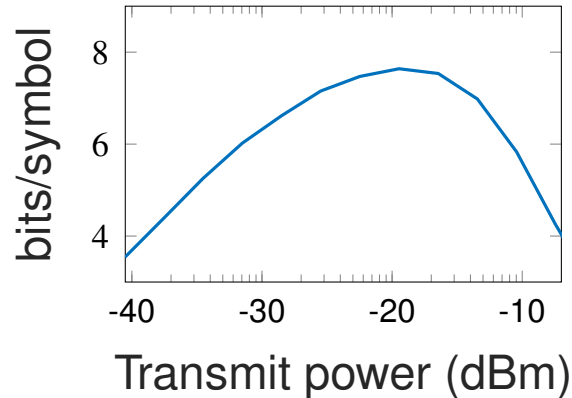


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- The Nonlinear Fourier Transform (NFT) provides a domain in which the noise-free channel is multiplicative

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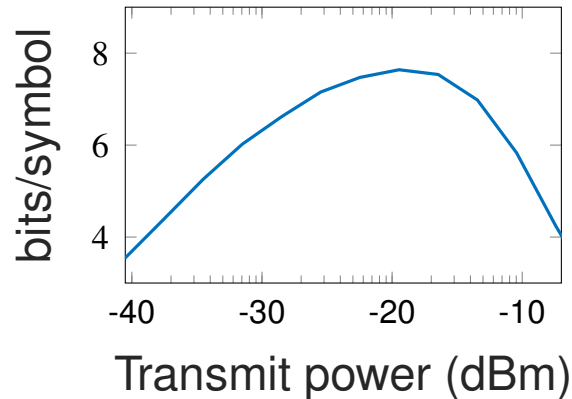


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- Instability of NFT algorithms and low spectral efficiency still make current NFT-based systems uncompetitive

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- The Nonlinear Fourier Transform (NFT) provides a domain in which the noise-free channel is multiplicative
- Instability of NFT algorithms and low spectral efficiency still make current NFT-based systems uncompetitive
- This talk: some mathematical and numerical insight to aid in the design of more efficient NFT-based systems

The Nonlinear Schrödinger Equation (NLSE)

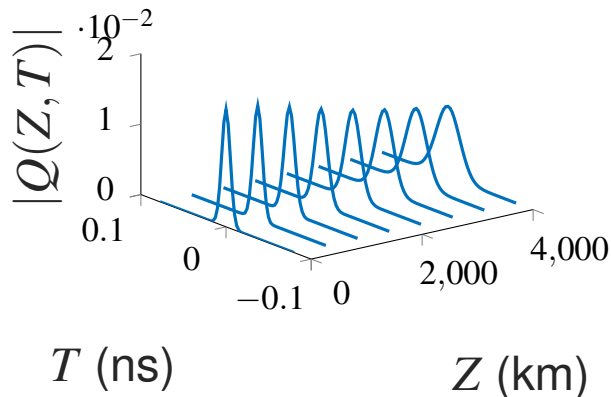
$$\frac{\partial Q(Z, T)}{\partial Z} = -j \frac{\beta_2}{2} \frac{\partial^2 Q(Z, T)}{\partial T^2} + j\gamma |Q(Z, T)|^2 Q(Z, T) + N(Z, T)$$

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← Dispersion

- Linear term
- Causes temporal broadening



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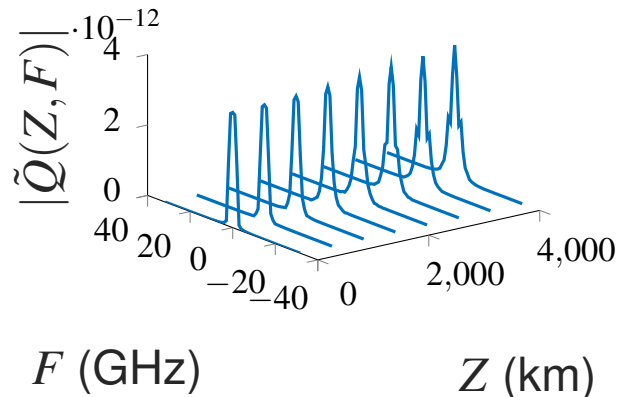
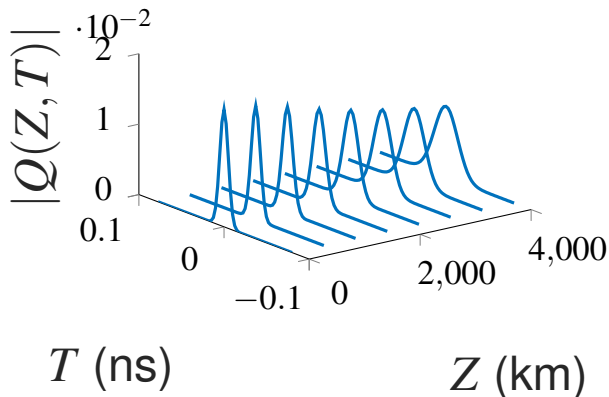
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- Causes frequency mixing (spectral broadening, SPM, XPM, FWM)



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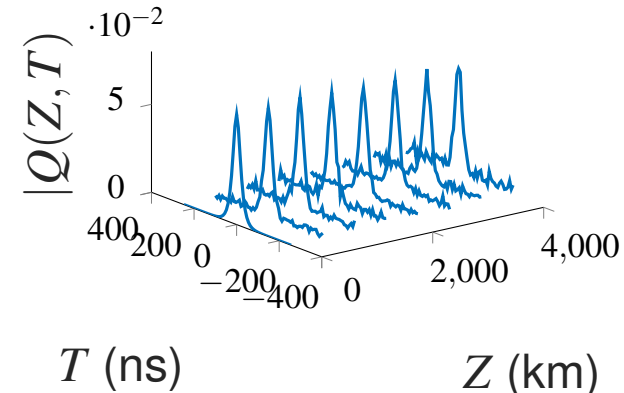
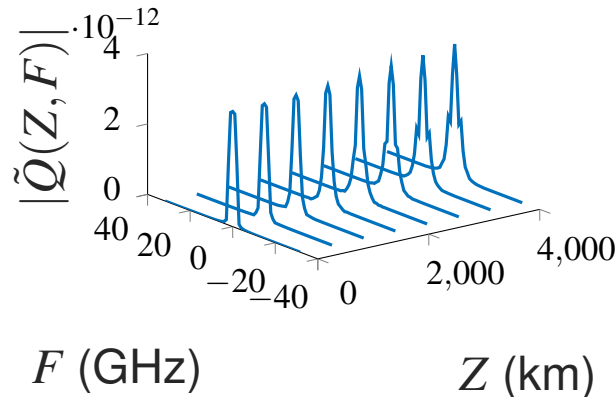
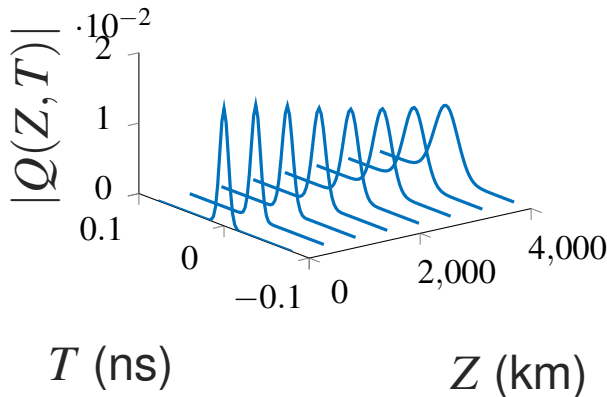
Nonlinearity

Noise

- Linear term
- Causes temporal broadening

- Causes frequency mixing (spectral broadening, SPM, XPM, FWM)

- Distributed along the fiber
- Mixes nonlinearly with signal!



Normalization of the NLSE (focusing case, $\beta_2 < 0$)

$$T = T_0 \cdot t$$

$$Z = 2 \frac{T_0^2}{|\beta_2|} \cdot z$$

$$Q(Z, T) = \frac{1}{T_0} \sqrt{\frac{|\beta_2|}{\gamma}} \cdot q(z, t)$$

$$\mathbb{E} [N(Z, T)N^*(Z', T')] = \frac{\beta_2^2}{2\gamma T_0^4} \cdot \mathbb{E} [n(z, t)n^*(z', t')]$$

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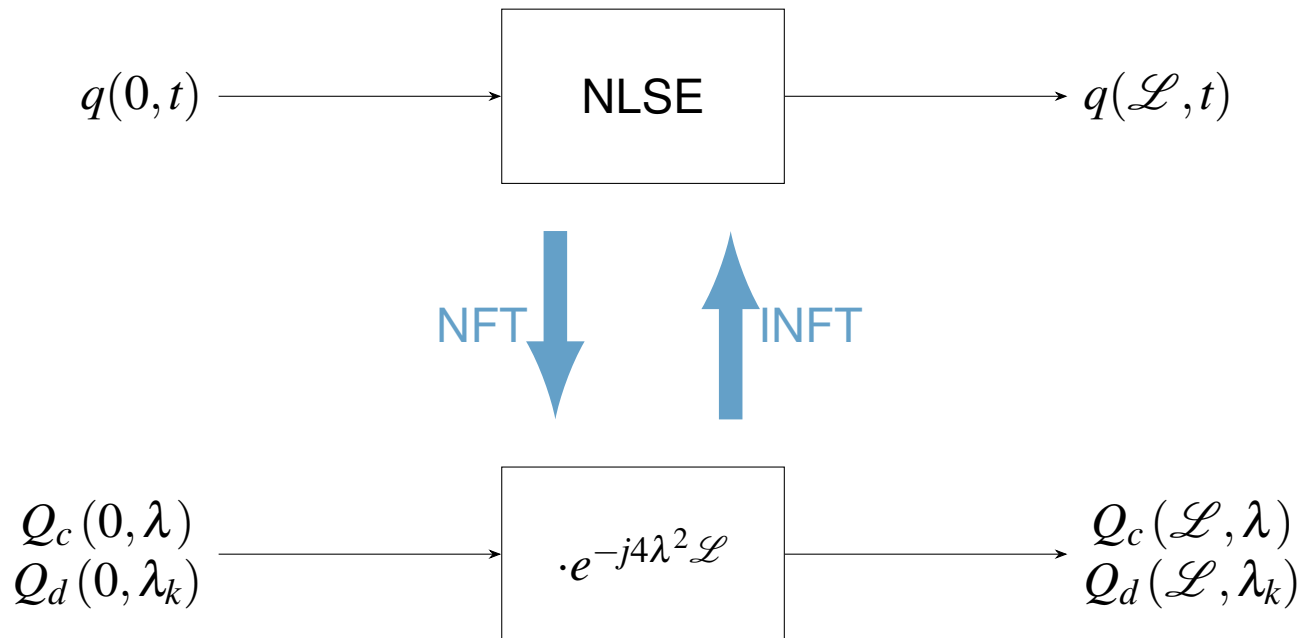
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T_0 is a **free parameter**. Can be used to jointly set *power*, *duration* and *bandwidth* in pure soliton systems.

The Nonlinear Fourier Transform (NFT)

- Motivation: find a domain in which the noise-free NLSE channel is multiplicative (similar to FT in LTIs):



The Nonlinear Fourier Transform (NFT)

- Lax pair: two operators L and M

$$L = j \begin{pmatrix} \frac{\partial}{\partial t} & q(z, t) \\ -q^*(z, t) & \frac{\partial}{\partial t} \end{pmatrix}, \quad M = \begin{pmatrix} 2j\lambda^2 - j|q(z, t)|^2 & -2\lambda q(z, t) - jq_t(z, t) \\ 2\lambda q^*(z, t) - jq_t^*(z, t) & -2j\lambda^2 + j|q(z, t)|^2 \end{pmatrix}$$

such that the condition:

$$L_z = ML - LM$$

implies the NLSE.

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- Main idea: the eigenvalues λ of L are invariant under propagation along z

The Nonlinear Fourier Transform (NFT)

- Step 1: solve the (linear, differential) eigenvalue equation:

$$Lv(t, \lambda) = \lambda v(t, \lambda); \quad v(t, \lambda) \xrightarrow{t \rightarrow -\infty} \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} e^{-j\lambda t}$$

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- Step 3: obtain the NFT as:

- **Continuous spectrum:** $Q_c(\lambda) = \frac{b(\lambda)}{a(\lambda)}, \lambda \in \mathbb{R}$

- **Discrete spectrum:** $Q_d(\lambda_k) = \frac{b(\lambda_k)}{a_\lambda(\lambda_k)}, \lambda_k \in \mathbb{C}^+, a(\lambda_k) = 0$

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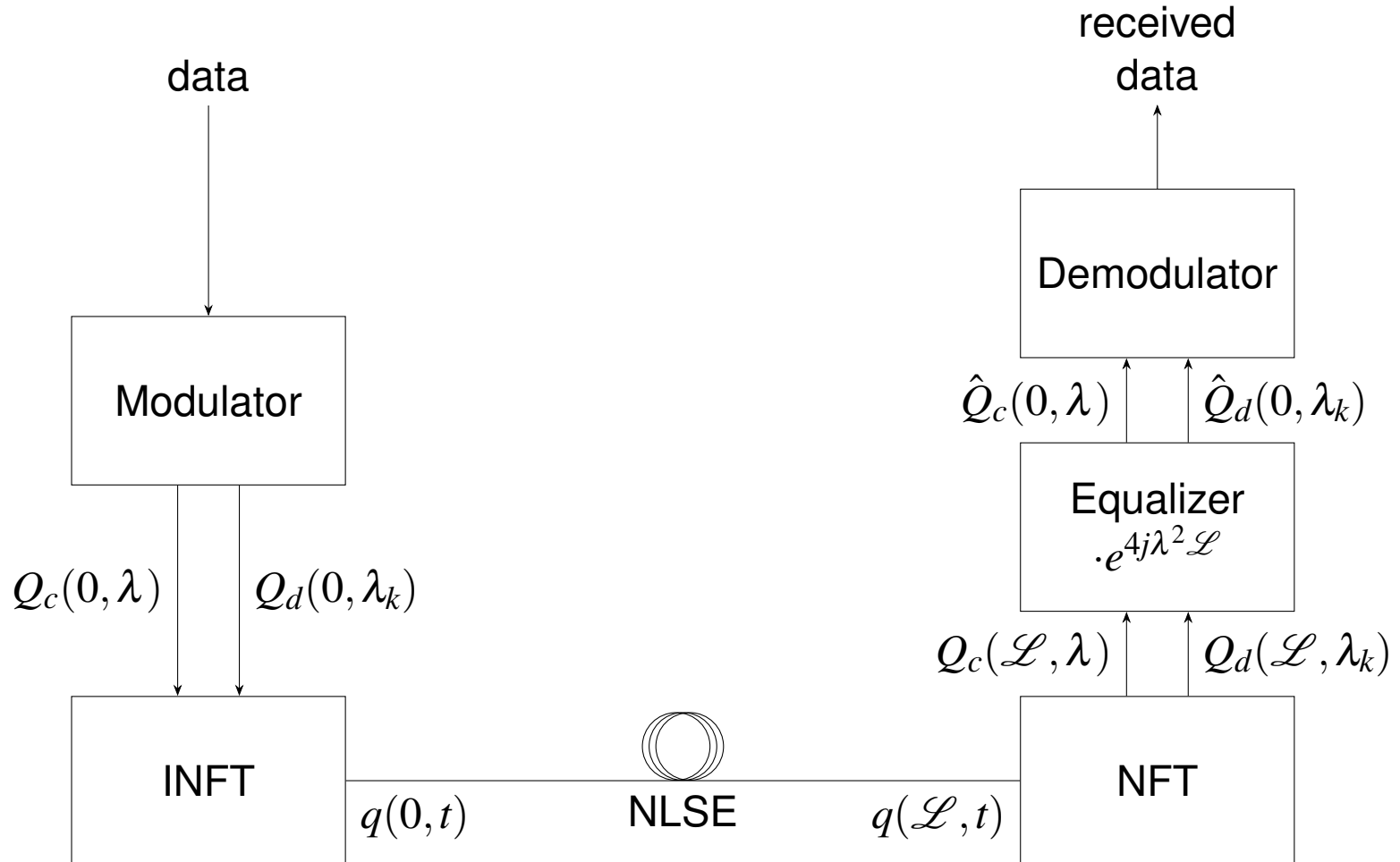
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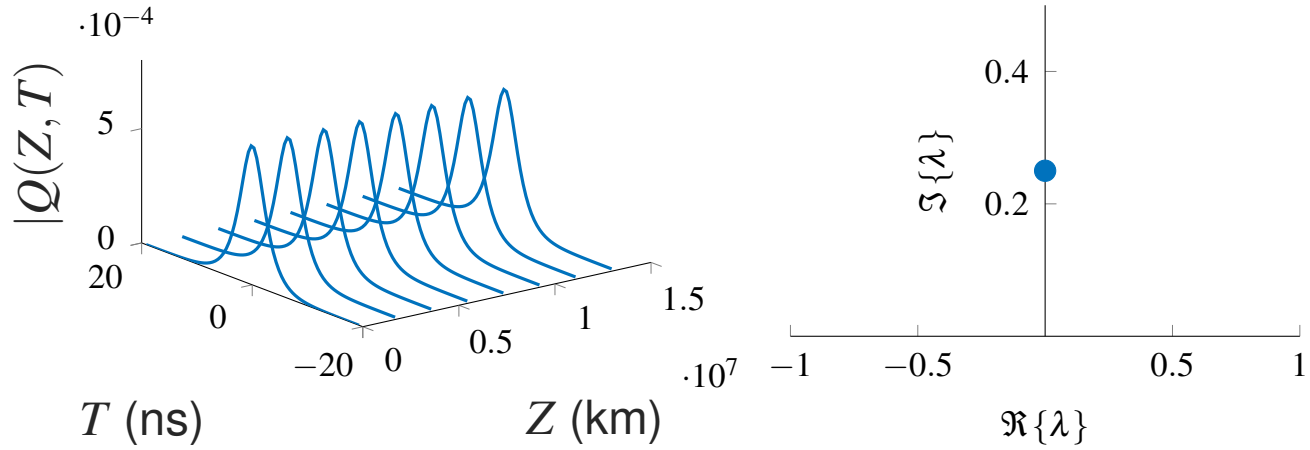
- Equivalent of Parseval's identity:

$$\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} |q(t)|^2 dt = \frac{1}{\pi} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \log \left(1 + |Q_c(\lambda)|^2 \right) d\lambda + 4 \sum_{k=1}^K \Im \{ \lambda_k \}$$

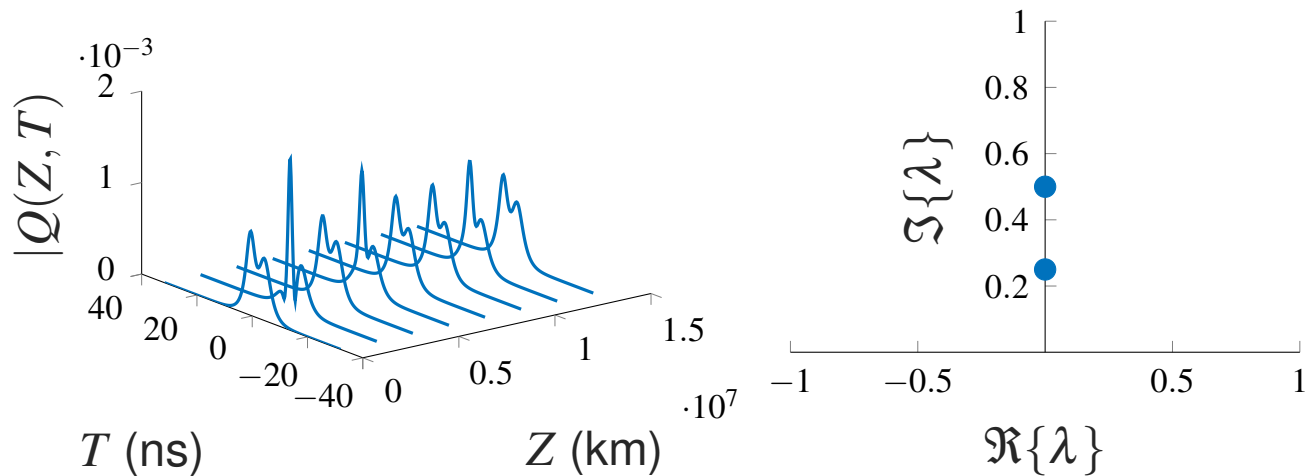
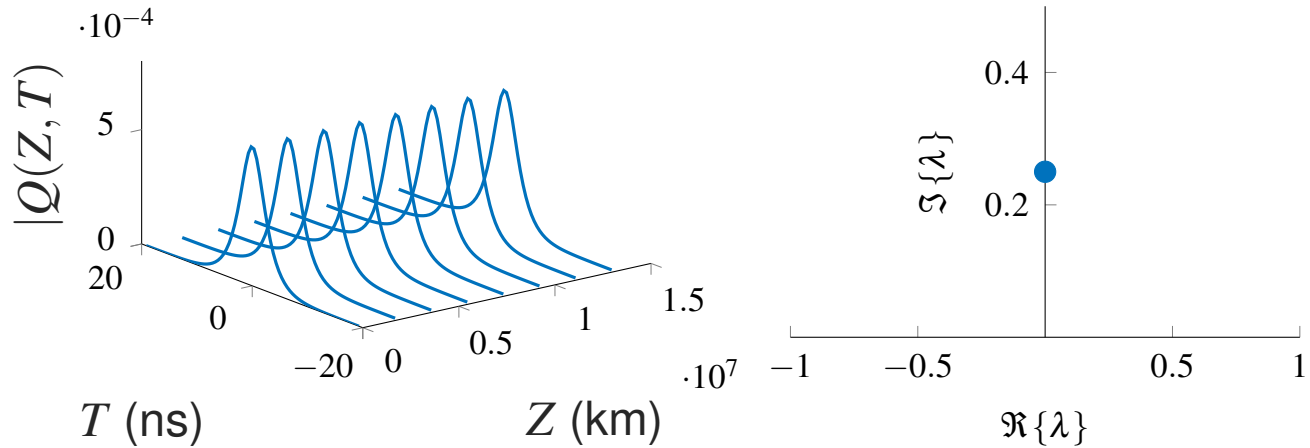
Information transmission using the NFT



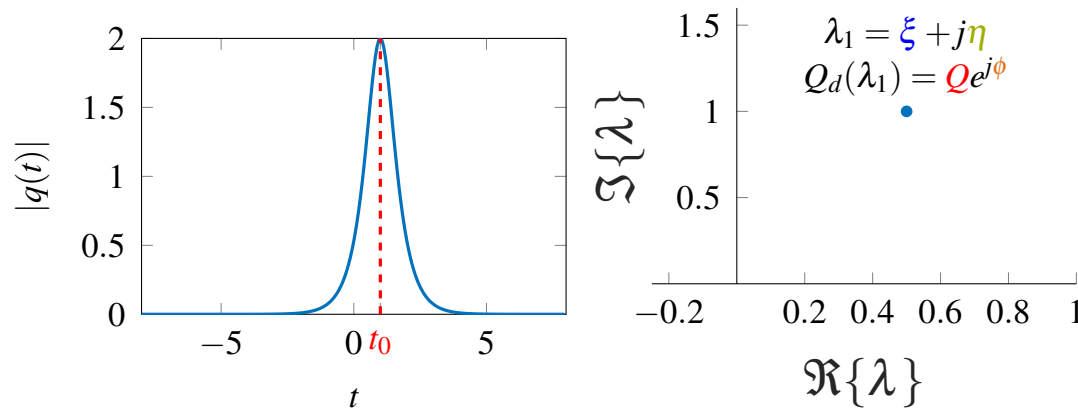
Modulation of the discrete spectrum: solitons



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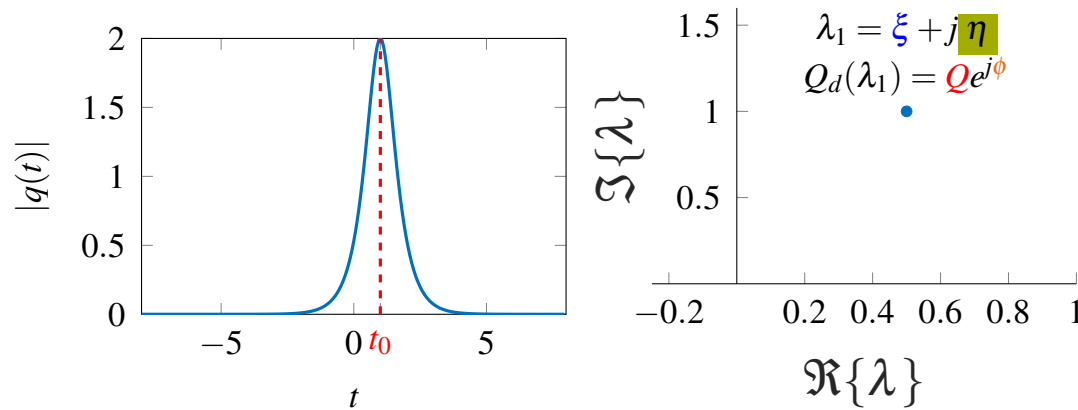


Parameters of a 1-soliton



$$q(z, t) = -je^{-j\phi} e^{-4j(\xi^2 - \eta^2)z} e^{-2j\xi t} 2\eta \operatorname{sech} \left(2\eta t + 8\xi \eta z - \ln \frac{Q}{2\eta} \right)$$

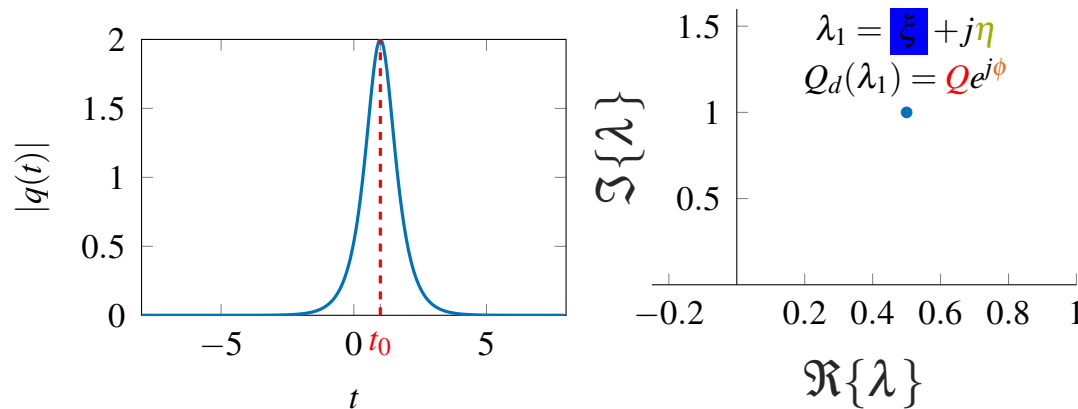
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- Energy: $E = 4\eta$
- Duration: $T = 2.6467/\eta$
- Bandwidth: $B = 1.0726\eta$

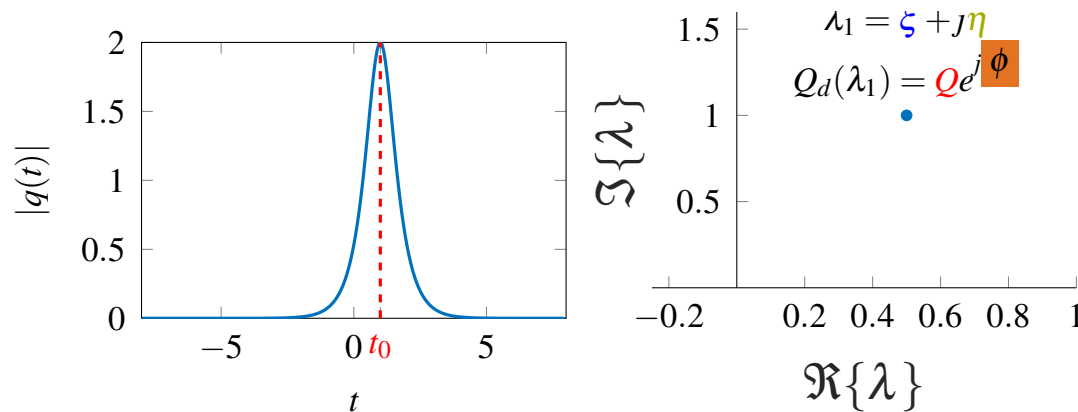
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- **Group velocity:** $v_g = 4\xi$

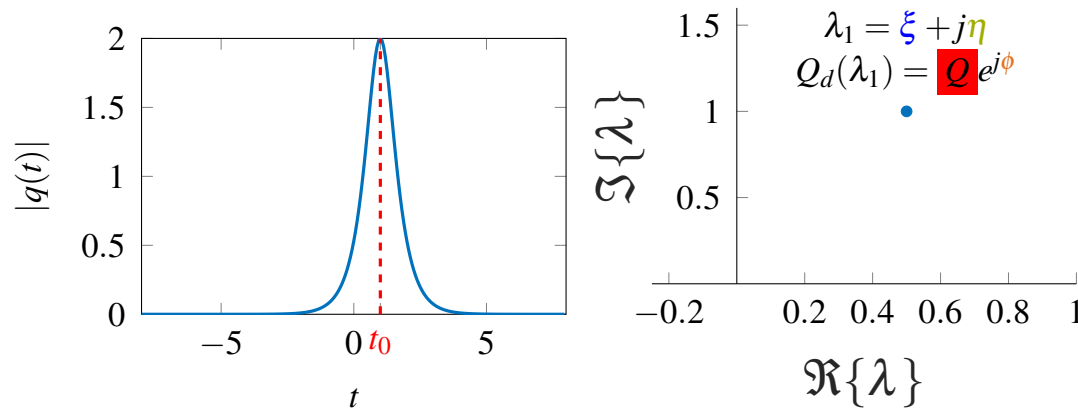
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- **Pulse delay:** $t_0 = \frac{1}{2\eta} \ln \frac{Q}{2\eta}$

Perturbation analysis of a 1-soliton

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial z}q(z,t) = j\frac{\partial^2}{\partial t^2}q(z,t) + 2j|q(z,t)|^2q(z,t) + \varepsilon n(z,t)$$

where $\varepsilon \ll 1$.

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Multi-scale perturbation analysis:

$$q(z,t) = q_0(z,t) + \varepsilon q_1(z,t) + \varepsilon^2 q_2(z,t) + \dots$$

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Multi-scale perturbation analysis:

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- Solution of $\mathcal{O}(1)$ equation:

$$q_0(z,t) = -je^{-j\phi} e^{-4j(\xi^2 - \eta^2)z} e^{-2j\xi t} 2\eta \operatorname{sech}(2\eta(t - t_0) + 8\xi\eta z)$$

where the four parameters depend on the **slow distance** $Z = \varepsilon z$:

$$\eta = \eta(Z) \quad \xi = \xi(Z) \quad \phi = \phi(Z) \quad t_0 = t_0(Z)$$

Perturbation analysis of a 1-soliton

Substituting $q_0(z, t)$ into the $\mathcal{O}(\varepsilon)$ equation yields:

$$\begin{aligned}\frac{d\eta}{dZ} &\sim \mathcal{N}_{\mathbb{R}}(0, \eta/2) & \frac{d\xi}{dZ} &\sim \mathcal{N}_{\mathbb{R}}(0, \eta/6) \\ \frac{dt_0}{dZ} &\sim \mathcal{N}_{\mathbb{R}}\left(0, \frac{\pi^2}{96\eta^3}\right) & \frac{d\phi}{dZ} &\sim \mathcal{N}_{\mathbb{R}}\left(0, \frac{1}{72\eta}(12 + \pi^2) + \frac{\pi^2\xi^2}{24\eta^3}\right)\end{aligned}$$

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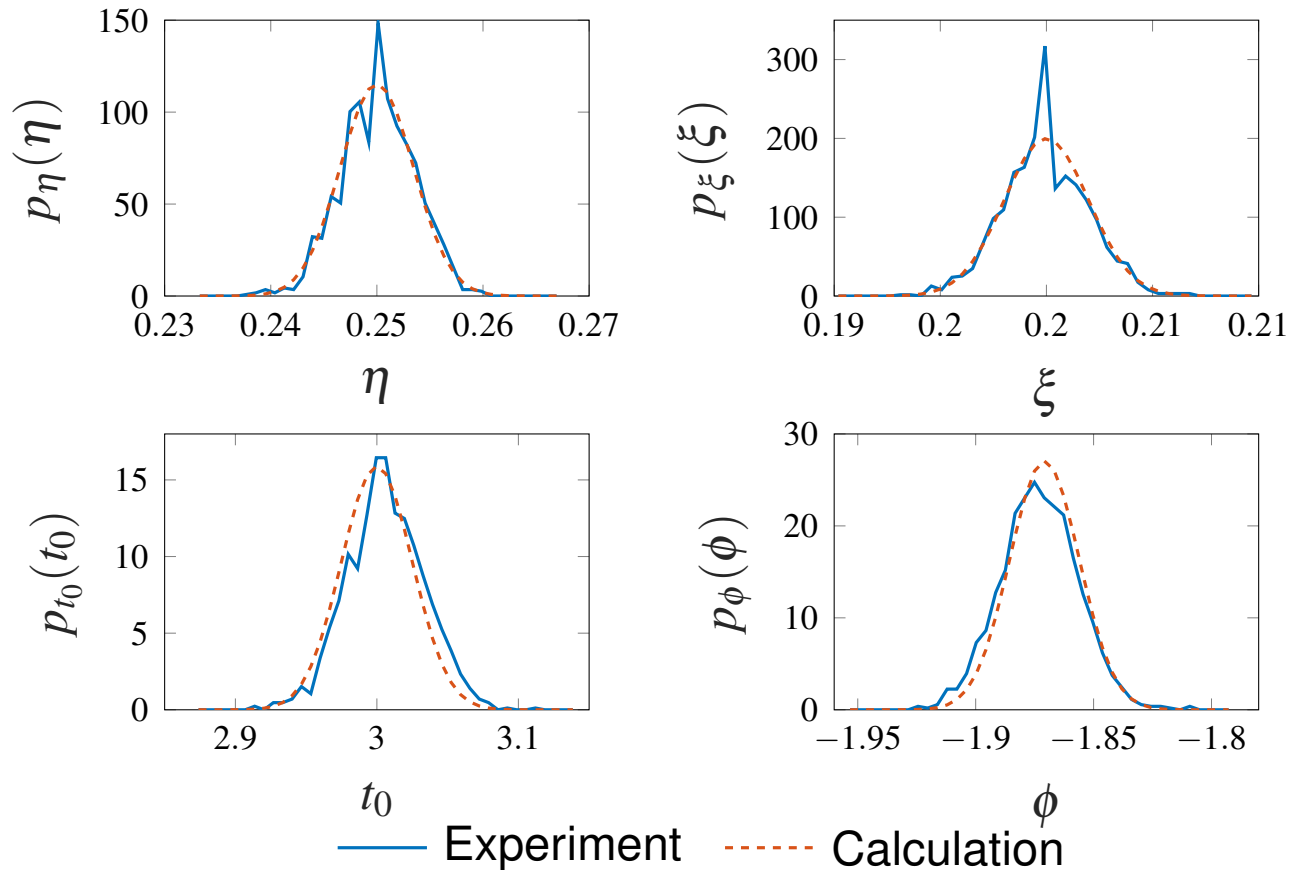
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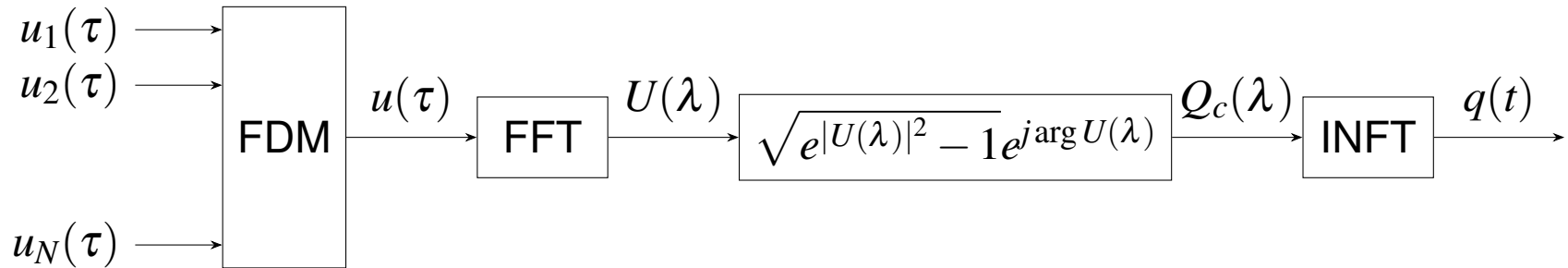
Assuming η and ξ do not change much along propagation:

$$\begin{aligned} \eta(\mathcal{L}) &\sim \mathcal{N}_{\mathbb{R}}\left(\eta(0), \frac{\eta(0)}{2}N_{\text{ASE}}\mathcal{L}\right) \\ \xi(\mathcal{L}) &\sim \mathcal{N}_{\mathbb{R}}\left(\xi(0), \frac{\eta(0)}{6}N_{\text{ASE}}\mathcal{L}\right) \\ t_0(\mathcal{L}) &\sim \mathcal{N}_{\mathbb{R}}\left(t_0(0), \frac{\pi^2}{96\eta(0)^3}N_{\text{ASE}}\mathcal{L}\right) \\ \phi(\mathcal{L}) &\sim \mathcal{N}_{\mathbb{R}}\left(\phi(0), \left[\frac{1}{72\eta(0)}(12 + \pi^2) + \frac{\pi^2\xi(0)^2}{24\eta(0)^3}\right]N_{\text{ASE}}\mathcal{L}\right) \end{aligned}$$

Perturbation analysis of a 1-soliton ($z = 0.9578$)



Modulation of the continuous spectrum

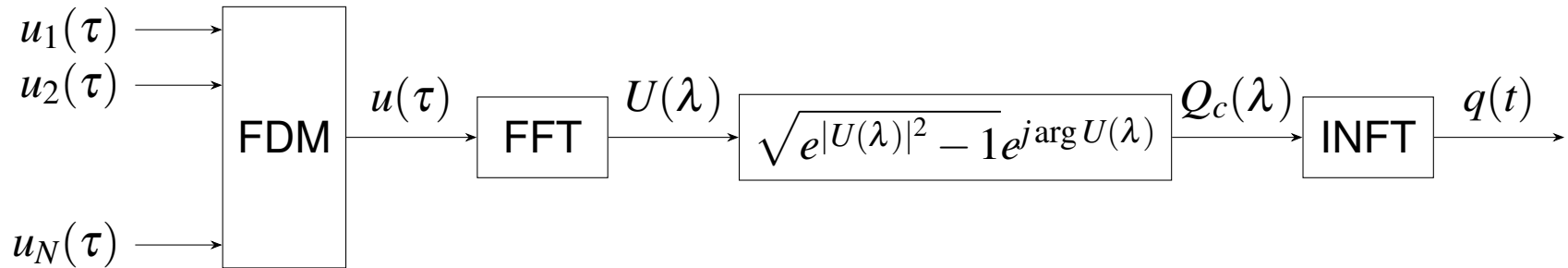


- From Parseval, the signal

$$U(\lambda) = \log \left(1 + |Q_c(\lambda)|^2 \right) e^{j \arg Q_c(\lambda)}$$

has energy $E/2$, where E is the energy of $q(z, t)$

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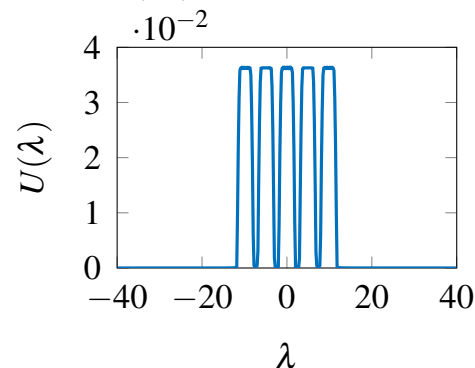


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- User channels are multiplexed in $U(\lambda)$



Continuous spectrum: simulation parameters

- 5 FDM channels, Root Raised Cosine pulses with roll-off $\beta = 0.25$

Continuous spectrum: simulation parameters

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Continuous spectrum: simulation parameters

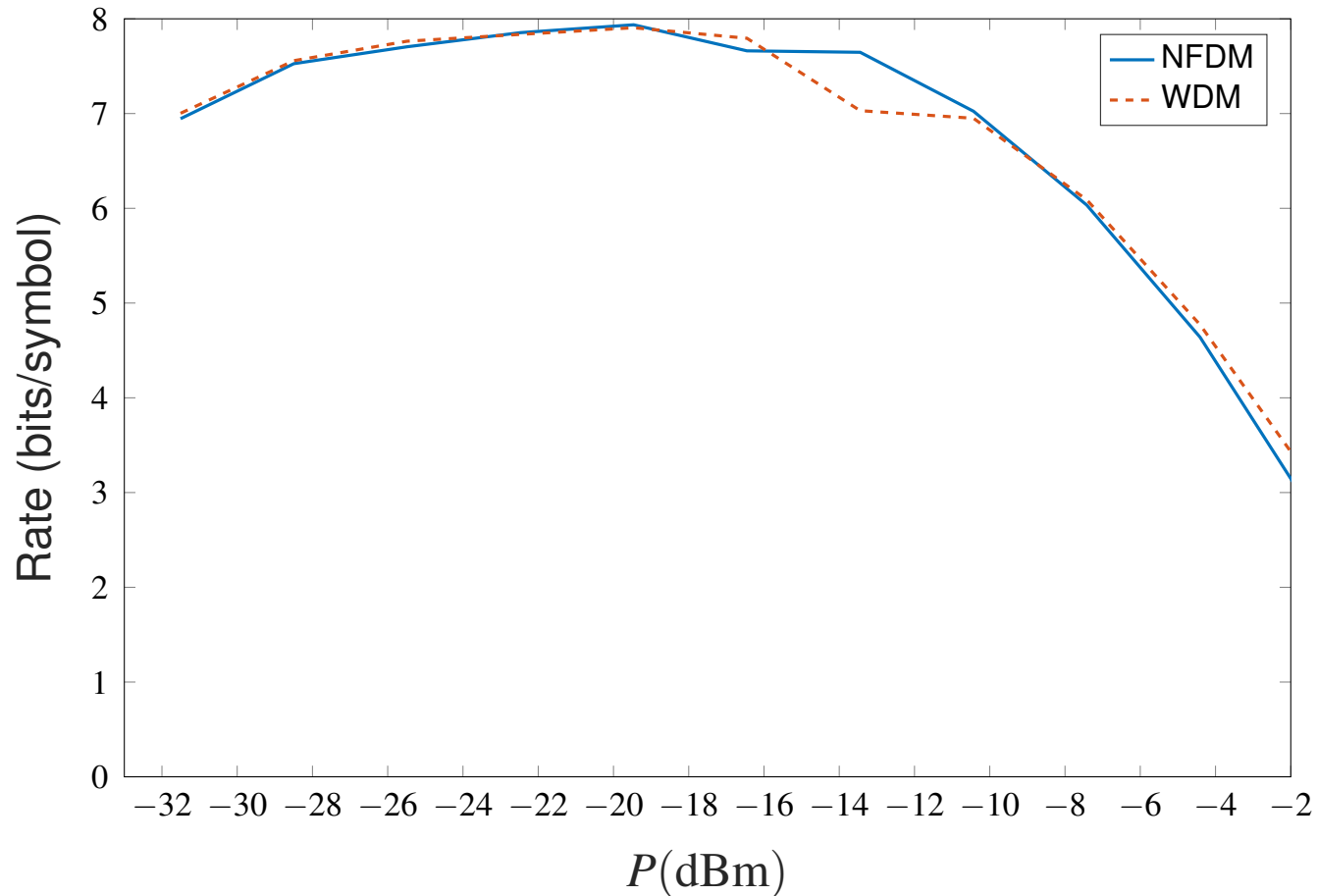
- 5 FDM channels, Root Raised Cosine pulses with roll-off $\beta = 0.25$
- 1 symbol per block
- Multi-ring modulation, 8 rings with 32 phases.

Continuous spectrum: simulation parameters

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Parameter	Symbol	Value
Dispersion coefficient	β_2	$-21.667 \text{ ps}^2/\text{km}$
Nonlinearity parameter	γ	$1.2578 \text{ W}^{-1}\text{km}^{-1}$
Fiber length	\mathcal{L}	250 km
Channel bandwidth	B	10 GHz
Guard band	B_{guard}	2.5 GHz
Noise spectral density	N_{ASE}	$6.4893 \cdot 10^{-19} \text{ W} \cdot \text{s}$

Continuous spectrum: simulation results



Conclusions

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- Higher energy solitons in the presence of distributed noise have
 - less robust eigenvalue position λ_1
 - but more robust spectral amplitude $Q_d(\lambda_1)$ as compared to lower energy solitons.
- With several eigenvalues, those with higher energy seem less robust at high power
- Discrete spectrum modulation has too low spectral efficiency, but the addition of eigenvalues to a continuous spectrum signal could bring improvements

Perturbation analysis of a 1-soliton

$$j\frac{\partial}{\partial z}q(z,t) + \frac{\partial^2}{\partial z^2}q(z,t) + 2|q(z,t)|^2q(z,t) = \varepsilon F(q(z,t))$$

$$F_0(z,t) = je^{j\phi} e^{4j(\xi^2 - \eta^2 z)} e^{2j\xi t} F(q_0(z,t))$$

$$\frac{d\eta}{dZ} = \frac{1}{2} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \Im \{F_0(z,t)\} \cdot 2\eta \operatorname{sech}(2\eta t) dt$$

$$\frac{d\xi}{dZ} = -\frac{1}{2} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \Re \{F_0(z,t)\} \cdot 2\eta \operatorname{sech}(2\eta t) \tanh(2\eta t) dt$$

$$\frac{dt_0}{dZ} = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \Im \{F_0(z,t)\} \cdot t \operatorname{sech}(2\eta t) dt$$

$$\frac{d\phi_0}{dZ} = 2\xi \frac{dt_0}{dZ} - \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \Re \{F_0(z,t)\} \cdot \operatorname{sech}(2\eta t) [1 - 2\eta t \tanh(2\eta t)] dt$$