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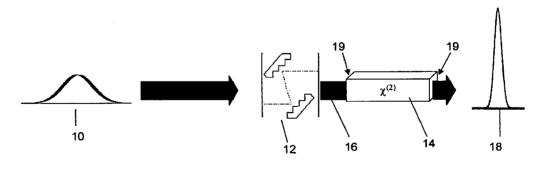


FIG. 1

(57) Abstract: A pulse compression technique for compressing femtosecond-duration high-energy pulses first linearly chirps and thus broadens an input pulse before compressing it by nonlinear soliton compression. The technique simultaneously decreases the final compressed pulse duration and improves of the compressed pulse quality. In the preferred embodiment, a linear dispersive delay (12) is employed for chirping the pulse and a single quadratic nonlinear crystal (14) is employed for nonlinear soliton compression of the pulse.



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C. DOC	JMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT			
Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where ap	propriate,	of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
Х	US 2006/0050369 A1 (KAFKA et al) 09 May 2006 (09.05.2006), pages 2-4 and Figs. 4, 8, and 10.			
X	US 6,198,568 B1 (GALVANAUSKAS et al) 06 Marc	eh 2001 (06	.03.2001), columns 5, 9 and	1, 2, 4, 7, 8
Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C. See patent family annex.				
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