

Optimization of Stepper Parameters and their influence on OPC

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ABSTRACT

An algorithm for the optimization of stepper parameters has been designed and implemented. The cost function used in this optimization is contrast. The aerial image is computed using the computer code FAIM. First, the contrast of the image is calculated and derivatives of the contrast with respect to the stepper parameters are evaluated. The computational cost of these calculations is only slightly more than that of one aerial image simulation. A conjugate gradient type algorithm is then used to obtain the minimum of the contrast.