Title: Retrieval of the non-depolarizing components of depolarizing Mueller matrices by using symmetry conditions and least squares minimization

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- Description of the rank conditions affecting the parallel combination of two non-depolarizing systems that leads to depolarizing Mueller matrix.
- Demonstration that the solution based on the calculation of the determinants of the 2x2 submatrices can be numerically instable in real systems because of the experimental error or non-ideal characteristics of material media.
- A new solution based on the least square minimization allows finding the optimum set of parameters that solve the two-term sum decomposition.
- This new approach is experimentally illustrated for non-depolarizing system components that depend on one, three or five independent parameters.