Abstract Submitted for the MAR16 Meeting of The American Physical Society

**Optimal ultrafast laser pulse-shaping to direct photo-induced phase transitions** BIN HWANG<sup>1</sup>, JENNI PORTMAN, PHILLIP DUXBURY<sup>2</sup>, Michigan State University — Photo-induced phase transitions (PIPT) in quantum and/or complex materials are the epitome of challenging non-equilibrium manybody phenomena, that also have a wide range of potential applications. We present a computational approach to finding optimal ultrafast laser pulse shapes to control the outcome of pump-probe PIPT experiments. The Krotov approach for optimal control is combined with a Keldysh Green's function calculation to describe experimental outcomes such as photoemission, transient single particle density of states and optical responses. Results for a simple model charge density wave system will be presented.

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Date submitted: 04 Nov 2015

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