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**Periodically-poled lithium niobate - a 'designer' material for nonlinear optics**

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**Abstract**

Many of the previous limitations of nonlinear optical materials have now been swept aside with the recent advent of quasi-matched materials such as periodically-poled lithium niobate (PPLN). This talk, starting with an introduction to the basic principles of quasi-phase-matching will review the progress made in developing devices based on PPLN, and survey future prospects.