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Title:Theory of monochromatic terahertz generation via Cherenkov phase-matched difference frequency generation in LiNbO₃ crystal

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Abstract:A theory of Cherenkov phase-matched monochromatic terahertz (THz)-wave generation via difference frequency generation in a nonlinear crystal is developed. An experimental situation (LiNbO₃ pumped by dual-wavelength near-infrared nanosecond pulses) is considered. This theory accounts for the finite size of pump beam and allows us to explore the generation of transverse THz wave vector. The output characteristic of this THz source is analyzed based on the analytical expression, including radiation pattern, conversion efficiency, and tuning range. Calculated tuning curves are presented, which reasonably agree with previous experimental results. The influence of divergence of the focused pump beam on total radiated energy is studied in detail. Optimal pump beam size that maximizing generated THz energy is obtained. © 2012 Optical Society of America.

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Main heading:Optical frequency conversion

Controlled terms:Conversion efficiency - Optical pumping - Phase matching - Terahertz waves

Uncontrolled terms:Analytical expressions - Cherenkov - Difference-frequency generation - Dual-wavelength - Finite size - LiNbO₃ crystals - Nanosecond pulse - Near Infrared - Nonlinear crystals - Output characteristics - Pump beams - Radiated energies - Terahertz - Terahertz generation - THz sources - THz waves - Tuning curve - Tuning ranges - Wave generation

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