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USING NATURALLY OCCURRING POLYSACCHARIDES TO ALIGN MOLECULES WITH NONLINEAR OPTICAL ACTIVITY

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absorption by chitin films containing PNA but further Z-scans using a picosecond pulsed laser are required to determine non-thermal nonlinear effects which are the values of real importance for NLO devices. Transmission electron microscopy of the films requires materials which are not currently available on site.

This work will be continued at Albany College of Pharmacy in collaboration with my colleagues at MSFC.

CONCLUSIONS:

It is still unclear whether chitin and/or cellulose thin films containing PNA can be used in the construction of NLO devices. We have made stable, transparent films of chitin both with and without PNA but further characterization is required before can evaluate the success of the project so far.

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