



## CONTENTS

CONTRIBUTORS	xi
FOREWORD	xiii
PREFACE	xv
CONTENTS OF VOLUME 15, PART B . . . . .	xvii
CONTRIBUTORS TO VOLUME 15, PART B . . . . .	xix
1. Introductory Concepts and Results	
by C. L. TANG	
1.1. Introduction . . . . .	1
1.2. The Laser	3
1.2.1. Light Amplification by Stimulated Emission . . . . .	4
1.2.2. Optical Resonator . . . . .	9
1.2.3. The Laser Oscillator . . . . .	12
1.3. Density Matrix . . . . .	20
1.3.1. Definition and Properties . . . . .	20
1.3.2. Density Matrix Equation . . . . .	22
1.4. Special Techniques . . . . .	26
1.4.1. Q-Switching . . . . .	27
1.4.2. Mode-Locking . . . . .	28
2. Atomic and Ionic Gas Lasers	
by WILLIAM B. BRIDGES	
2.1. Neutral Atom Lasers Excited by Electron Collision . . . . .	33
2.1.1. Cyclic Lasers . . . . .	34
2.1.2. Continuous Neutral Noble Gas Lasers . . . . .	55

2.2. Ions Excited by Electron Collision . . . . .	59
2.2.1. Spectroscopy of Noble-Gas Ion Lasers . . . . .	62
2.2.2. Noble-Gas Ion Laser Characteristics and Mechanisms . . . . .	70
2.2.3. Ion Laser Performance . . . . .	92
2.3. Neutral Atom Lasers Excited by Collisions with Atoms . . . . .	97
2.3.1. Helium-Neon Lasers . . . . .	97
2.3.2. Other Neutral Atom Lasers Excited by Atomic Collisions . . . . .	116
2.4. Ion Lasers Excited by Collisions with Atoms or Ions . . . . .	120
2.4.1. Noble-Gas Ion Lasers Excited by Atomic Collisions . . . . .	121
2.4.2. Mercury Ion Laser . . . . .	124
2.4.3. Cadmium Ion Laser . . . . .	128
2.4.4. Zinc Ion Laser . . . . .	143
2.4.5. Iodine Ion Laser . . . . .	146
2.4.6. Selenium Ion Laser . . . . .	149
2.4.7. Other Metal Vapor Ion Lasers . . . . .	151
3. Solid State Lasers by M. J. WEBER	
3.1. Introduction . . . . .	167
3.2. Physical Processes . . . . .	170
3.2.1. Energy Levels . . . . .	171
3.2.2. Transition Probabilities . . . . .	176
3.2.3. Ion-Ion Interactions . . . . .	179
3.3. Laser Materials . . . . .	181
3.3.1. Laser Ions . . . . .	181
3.3.2. Host Materials . . . . .	187
3.3.3. Fluorescence Sensitization . . . . .	193

3.4. Properties and Comparison of Solid State Lasers . . . . .	195
3.4.1. Nd:YAG Lasers . . . . .	196
3.4.2. Nd:Glass Lasers . . . . .	199
3.4.3. Ruby Lasers . . . . .	202
3.4.4. Stoichiometric Lasers . . . . .	203
3.4.5. Other Lasers and Materials . . . . .	204
3.5. Hazards . . . . .	205
<b>4. Semiconductor Diode Lasers</b>	
by HENRY KRESSEL	
4.1. Introduction . . . . .	209
4.1.1. Laser Topology . . . . .	211
4.1.2. Vertical Geometry . . . . .	213
4.2. Injection . . . . .	216
4.3. Carrier Confinement . . . . .	219
4.4. Radiation Confinement . . . . .	220
4.5. Gain Coefficient and Threshold Condition . . . . .	222
4.6. Temperature Dependence of the Threshold Current Density . . . . .	224
4.7. Materials . . . . .	226
4.8. Heterojunction Lasers of Various Materials . . . . .	230
4.8.1. Near-Infrared Emission Lasers . . . . .	230
4.8.2. Visible Emission Lasers . . . . .	231
4.8.3. Infrared Emission . . . . .	232

4.9. Performance of Selected Laser Structures . . . . .	234
4.10. Radiation Patterns . . . . .	237
4.11. Degradation . . . . .	242
4.12. Modulation Characteristics . . . . .	244
4.13. Distributed-Feedback Lasers . . . . .	247
<b>5. Dye Lasers</b>	
by OTIS GRANVILLE PETERSON	
5.1. Introduction . . . . .	251
5.2. Basic Dye Molecule and Dye Solvent Properties . . . . .	253
5.2.1. Energy States of Dye Molecules . . . . .	253
5.2.2. Rate Equations . . . . .	257
5.2.3. Laser Threshold . . . . .	258
5.2.4. Stimulated Emission Cross Section . . . . .	263
5.2.5. Thermal Limitations . . . . .	264
5.3. Laser Devices . . . . .	269
5.4. Short-Pulse Dye Lasers . . . . .	269
5.4.1. Rate Equation Description . . . . .	269
5.4.2. Amplified Spontaneous Emission . . . . .	271
5.4.3. Short-Pulse Oscillator . . . . .	276
5.4.4. Short-Pulse Amplifiers . . . . .	281
5.4.5. Single-Pass, Short-Pulse Amplifier . . . . .	281
5.4.6. Regenerative Oscillators . . . . .	287
5.4.7. Thermal Limitations . . . . .	293
5.5. Steady-State Laser . . . . .	293
5.5.1. General Description . . . . .	293
5.5.2. Steady-State Power Balance . . . . .	294

5.5.3.	Flashlamp-Excited Laser . . . . .	297
5.5.4.	Flashlamp Plasma Temperature . . . . .	298
5.5.5.	Linear Flashlamps . . . . .	302
5.5.6.	Ablating Flashlamps . . . . .	305
5.5.7.	Vortex Stabilized Lamps . . . . .	307
5.5.8.	Linear Flashlamp Reflector Cavities . . . . .	310
5.5.9.	Dye Cell for Flashlamp Excitation . . . . .	312
5.5.10.	Free Jet Dye Cell . . . . .	314
5.5.11.	Shock Wave Effects . . . . .	318
5.5.12.	Coaxial Flashlamps . . . . .	319
5.5.13.	Resonators and Tuning Elements . . . . .	321
5.5.14.	Dye Flow System . . . . .	324
5.6.	CW Laser . . . . .	325
5.6.1.	Analytical Description . . . . .	325
5.6.2.	CW Resonator Geometry . . . . .	336
5.6.3.	Resonator Stability Criteria . . . . .	338
5.6.4.	Astigmatic Resonator . . . . .	343
5.6.5.	Dye Cell Astigmatism . . . . .	344
5.6.6.	Mode Area . . . . .	347
5.6.7.	Alternative Geometries . . . . .	351
5.6.8.	Dye System for cw Lasers . . . . .	353
5.7.	Laser Dyes . . . . .	355
AUTHOR INDEX . . . . .		361
SUBJECT INDEX . . . . .		373