

## Preface

Theory and experimental techniques of acoustooptic devices were developed for the purpose of modulating and deflecting the laser beams. By the end of sixties very important results on acoustic beam steering, acoustic interaction in anisotropic media and efficiency and bandwidth of acoustooptic deflectors and modulators had been published. Since then varieties of acoustooptic devices have evolved with many applications in diverse fields. This rapid progress has been primarily due to the development of superior acoustooptic materials and efficient broadband transducers.

The present proceeding is the contribution of leading optical physicists, crystal growers, chemists and optical engineers working in the area of acoustooptic materials, device fabrication and characterization. The proceeding contains very interesting papers on novel materials some of which are at the early stage of development. In addition, techniques of materials and device characterization described in this proceeding are extremely interesting.

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