

**molecular laser**

A *gas laser* which makes use of electronic, vibrational or rotational energy levels in molecules. The molecules can be excited by an electric discharge, as in the case of the N<sub>2</sub> or CO<sub>2</sub> laser, by chemical reactions, as in the HF or DF lasers, or by another laser, as in the CH<sub>3</sub>F far IR laser.

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