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Physics of Optoelectronics focuses on the properties of optical fields and their interaction with matter. Understanding that lasers, LEDs, and photodetectors clearly exemplify this interaction, the author begins with an introduction to lasers, LEDs, and the rate equations, then describes the emission and detection processes.

The book summarizes and reviews the mathematical background of the quantum theory embodied in the Hilbert space. These concepts highlight the abstract form of the linear algebra for vectors and operators, supplying the "pictures" that make the subject more intuitive. A chapter on dynamics includes a brief review of the formalism for discrete sets of particles and continuous media. It also covers the quantum theory necessary for the study of optical fields, transitions, and semiconductor gain.

This volume supplements the description of lasers and LEDs by examining the fundamental nature of the light that these devices produce. It includes an analysis of quantized electromagnetic fields and illustrates inherent quantum noise in terms of Poisson and sub-Poisson statistics. It explains matter-light interaction in terms of time-dependent perturbation theory and Fermi's golden rule, and concludes with a detailed discussion of semiconductor emitters and detectors.