

relevance of such confinement to both the real (index of refraction phenomena) and imaginary (absorption and emission phenomena) components of linear and nonlinear optical susceptibilities quickly becomes apparent to various practical applications of photonics.

As always, Prasad does an excellent job of explaining excited-state dynamics, the interplay of the radiation field, and material-dependent relaxation processes. He also has an exceptional knowledge of both inorganic and organic materials, and *Nanophotonics* provides a balanced coverage of all materials classes. Moreover, his texts have always been timely: *Nanophotonics* is no exception. Topics of the greatest current interest, ranging from photonic bandgap materials to sensors based on surface plasmon resonance, are well covered. Prasad also has a very broad understanding of specific materials topics, such as dendrimers, phase-separating block copolymers, micelles, inorganic nanocomposites, and metal nanoparticles. The subjects are treated at a greater depth and with greater insight than is commonly found in a reference text. Also, the final chapter gives a surprisingly detailed analysis

of marketplace applications of nanophotonics. In addition to being an excellent educational resource, the book will be an excellent reference text for industrial scientists.

Nanophotonics has 14 chapters with such titles as Near-Field Interactions and Microscopy, Plasmonics, Nanostructured Molecular Architectures, and Nanophotonics for Biotechnology and Nanomedicine. The titles are self-explanatory and illustrate the scope of the text. Although the subjects are at times amazingly disparate, Prasad does an excellent job of presenting them as a unified body of knowledge. His texts characteristically have an excellent reference list at the end of each chapter, and *Nanophotonics* maintains that tradition. The reader will not only be seduced into considering new topics in the field but will also be encouraged by the references to explore those topics in great depth. In summary, *Nanophotonics* is an indispensable reference text for anyone endeavoring to learn or teach photonics, particularly as it relates to materials with nanoscopic order.

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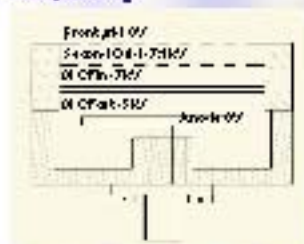
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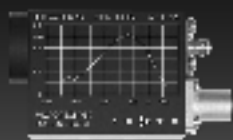
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