

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 N₂ or CO₂ laser, by chemical reactions, as in the HF or DF lasers, or by another laser, as in the CH₃F far IR laser.

Source:

PAC, 1995, 67, 1913 (*Nomenclature, symbols, units, and their usage in spectrochemical analysis-XV. Laser-based molecular spectroscopy for chemical analysis - laser fundamentals (IUPAC Recommendations 1995)*) on page 1920