## Optical Switches

The optical switch is a high-speed switch with an electro-optical crystal or a rotatable wave plate as the core element. It is an external cavity modulator which consists of a polarizing element and a polarizer. When a voltage is applied to the electro-optic crystal, the birefringence will be induced hence altering the polarization of light. The polarizer will split the light into two beams orthogonally as transmitted light and reflected light. Thus, the laser could be turned-on and turned-off quickly with response to the change of voltage.

CASTECH's optical switches can be divided into two types: mechanical optical switches and electro-optical optical switches.

The mechanical optical switch changes the light on and off by controlling the rotation angle of the half-wave plate.

The electro-optical optical switch is a high-speed shutter based on the electro-optical effect, and the modulation speed can reach nanosecond level.

CASTECH provides drivers with nanoseconds rise/fall time to complement our optical switches. And optional accessories such as optical traps are also available.


## Applications

- Laser industrial processing
- Beam splitting
- Frequency division
- Laser sensing system
- Ultrafast laser system


High voltage waveform


Electro-optic crystal or half-wave plate

Schematic diagram of optical switch


Multi-channel optical switch

Mechanical Optical Switches Model Number: COS-Oc-p-a-w-b-d

| Control mode(c) | $\operatorname{Power}(\mathrm{p})$ | Aperture(a) | Wavelength(w) | Polarizer(b) | Channel(d) |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| A | 100 | $5(5 \mathrm{~mm})$ | 343 nm |  |  |
| (automatic) | $(\leq 100 \mathrm{~W})$ | $10(10 \mathrm{~mm})$ | 355 nm | 800 nm | B |
| M | 200 | $12(12 \mathrm{~mm})$ | 1030 nm | (Brewster) | P |
| (manual) | $(\leq 200 \mathrm{~W})$ | $14(14 \mathrm{~mm})$ | 1064 nm | 3 |  |
|  | 1000 | $20(20 \mathrm{~mm})$ | 1550 nm | (PBS) | 4 |

Electro-optical optical switches Model Number: COS-Ec-p-a-w-b-d

| Control mode(c) | Power(p) | Aperture(a) | Wavelength(w) | Polarizer(b) | Channel(d) |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| A (automatic) | $\begin{gathered} 50 \\ (\leq 50 \mathrm{~W}) \\ 100 \\ (\leq 100 \mathrm{~W}) \\ 200 \\ (\leq 200 \mathrm{~W}) \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} 5(5 \mathrm{~mm}) \\ 10(10 \mathrm{~mm}) \\ 12(12 \mathrm{~mm}) \\ 14(14 \mathrm{~mm}) \\ 20(20 \mathrm{~mm}) \\ \ldots \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} 343 \mathrm{~nm} \\ 355 \mathrm{~nm} \\ 800 \mathrm{~nm} \\ 1030 \mathrm{~nm} \\ 1064 \mathrm{~nm} \\ 1550 \mathrm{~nm} \\ \ldots \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} \mathrm{B} \\ \text { (Brewster) } \\ \mathrm{P} \\ \text { (PBS) } \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 1 \\ & 2 \\ & 3 \\ & 4 \end{aligned}$ |

Typical Specifications

| Type(t) | Power | LIDT | Wavelength | Aperture | Rise/fall time | Extinction <br> Ration |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Mechanical | $<1000 \mathrm{~W} *$ | $10 \mathrm{~J} / \mathrm{cm}^{2} 10 \mathrm{~ns}, 10 \mathrm{~Hz}$ | 1064 | 10 mm | $<10 \mathrm{~ms}$ | $>1000: 1$ |
| Eletro-optical | $<100 \mathrm{~W}$ | $3 \mathrm{~J} / \mathrm{cm}^{2} 10 \mathrm{~ns}, 10 \mathrm{~Hz}$ | 532 | 10 mm | $<20 \mathrm{~ns}$ | $>1000: 1$ |

* Polarizing element used is Brewster window

Housing dimensions(mm):


Electro-optical



