3502 Series

Phase Locked Optical Choppers

The newly redesigned Model 3502 optical chopper provides rock-solid stability and flexibility because its chopping frequency is phase-locked to its own internal frequency synthesizer. The Model 3502 can now chop from 4 Hz to 10.65 kHz, using either the internal frequency synthesizer or an external source as the reference. You can chop at the fundamental, a harmonic (2 to 15), or even a sub-harmonic (1/2 to 1/15) of the reference. Unique features of the Model 3502 include outputs at the sum and difference of the inner and outer wheels' chopping frequencies for nonlinearoptics experiments, and a highstability phase shifter that can lock two choppers together for long fluorescencedecay measurements.

- Stable and reliable phase locking
- Chopping is phase-locked to an internal frequency synthesizer
- Frequencies from 4 Hz to 10.65 kHz
- Lock to external references for harmonic or subharmonic chopping

Complete Chopper System

The 3502 optical chopper comes complete with six chopper wheels, a chopper head motor with built-in wheel cover, and a controller with a USB interface. The 3502-BASE model excludes the six standard chopper wheels, providing a lower cost alternative with wheels ordered separately.





Broadband Absorber Coated Chopper Wheels

Six chopper wheels are included with the 3502 optical chopper system allowing for chopping frequencies from 4 Hz to 10.65 kHz (not included in the 3502-BASE model). All chopper wheels are 4.50 inch (114.3 mm) diameter. These high quality chopper wheels are made of a beryllium copper alloy, which offer superior performance compared to lower cost steel alternatives. This material choice allows for better thermal conductivity, higher strength, tighter machine tolerances, and are non-magnetic, non-sparking, and corrosion resistant.

Advanced Optical Chopper Controller

The front panel display of the controller allows monitoring of the chopping frequency, as well as a number of other operating parameters. Easy-to-use cursor keys provide easy adjustment of operating parameters. The chopping rate may be set from 4 Hz to 2.00 kHz, using either the internal frequency synthesizer or an external source as the reference. Chopping mode options are selectable at the fundamental, a harmonic (2 to 15), or even a subharmonic (1/2 to 1/15) of the reference.

Stable and Reliable Phase Locking

For stable chopping with minimum jitter and drift, the Model 3502 optical chopper uses precision photoetched wheels mounted on a high-quality DC motor. In addition, the chopper controller has its own internal crystal-controlled frequency synthesizer and phaselocked loop for precisely locking the chopping frequency. A photo-interrupter on the chopper head monitors the chopping frequency, and the chopper controller actively stabilizes the motor speed to ensure stable chopping with a minimum of frequency drift. In internal-reference mode, the chopper controller uses its internal frequency synthesizer as the reference. When the Model 3502 is operated in external-reference mode, the chopping rate is locked to the user-provided reference from another chopper or signal source. The chopper may also be run asynchronously with the rear-panel analog-controlvoltage input. In all cases, the frequency-synthesizer output is available on the front panel for use in your measurement setup. The reference signal can be divided and multiplied by the sub-harmonic and harmonic generators before being processed by the phase shifter.



The 3513 Chopper Wheel has 42/30 slots. Included with the 3502 system, must be ordered separately with the 3502-BASE system.



Optical chopper head diagram with notable features and protective wheel cover installed.

Dimensional Drawings



Bottom row: 60/2-slot and 100-slot wheels. All wheels are 4.50" (114.3 mm) O.D.

Dimensional Drawings continued



Description	Model Number	Lowest Frequency (F _{outer})	Highest Frequency (F _{outer})	Jitter (µs p-p, typical)	
				@ Minimum Frequency	@ Maximum Frequency
Chopper Wheel, 2 Slot, for 3502 Chopper	3511	4 Hz	213 Hz	2000	50
Chopper Wheel, 7 and 5 Slot, for 3502 Chopper	3512	14 Hz	746 Hz	1000	15
Chopper Wheel, 42 and 30 Slot, for 3502 Chopper	3513	84 Hz	4.48 kHz	150	5
Chopper Wheel, 60 Slot, for 3502 Chopper	3514	120 Hz	6.4 kHz	150	3
Chopper Wheel, 100 slot, for 3502 Chopper	3515	200 Hz	10.65 kHz	200	5

Order Table

Model	Description
3502	Optical Chopper, Phase Locked, Includes 6 Wheels
3502-BASE	Optical Chopper, Phase Locked, no wheels





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