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Nota di contenuto The early years of research on astronomical masers -- On the theory of

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observations of SiO masers -- 86 GHz survey of IRAS point sources: 156 SiO, v=1, J=2?1 maser sources -- Modeling SiO maser emission from late-type stars -- The results of knife (Japanese MM-VLBI) on SiO masers -- SiO maser emission and the intrinsic properties of MIRA variables -- Molecular catastrophes and circumstellar SiO masers -- Natural lasers and masers in the solar system -- The OH radio emission of comet Levy 1990 XX -- Astrophysical masers from a historical perspective.

Sommario/riassunto

In this volume the full range of astrophysical maser research is covered, with contributions from many of the foremost researchers in the field. The topics include masers in star-forming, circumstellar and extragalactic environments, solar system masers, newly discovered masing transitions, variability, proper-motion studies, and theory. Since this was the first ever conference devoted exclusively to astrophysical masers, these proceedings provide a reference for this field which has not previously been available. "Astrophysical Masers" will be useful both to those who wish to study the physics of masers, and to those who wish to better understand the astrophysically important regions with which they are associated.