

# Fiber Coupled Acousto-Optic Modulator/Shifter 40 MHz



(1.2dB, 350 to 2300 nm, SM., PM, MM, bidirectional)

DATASHEET

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The AOMF4 Series Fiber-Optic Acousto-Optic Modulators provide high-performance optical intensity modulation and frequency shifting with DC-15 MHz modulation bandwidth, low insertion loss (~1.2 dB), high extinction ratio (>55 dB), high polarization extinction ratio (>30 dB), and optical power handling up to 10 W — performance unmatched by other vendors. The device operates by driving a side-mounted piezoelectric transducer with a fixed 40 MHz carrier, creating a resonance induced acoustic grating within the TeO<sub>2</sub> crystal. The output fiber is aligned to collect the first-order diffracted beam at the Bragg angle. An external driver varies the acoustic amplitude through an SMA control input, modulating the RF intensity thus the optical attenuation. Rise and fall times are determined by the beam diameter, with smaller beams enabling faster response. Available for wavelengths from 1310 to 1620 nm and compatible with all fiber types, including SM, PM, and MM. The AOMF Series offers positive frequency shifting as standard, with negative-shift options available. Its epoxy-free crystal path and precision fiber collimators ensure excellent long-term stability and reliability.

## Features

- Low optical Loss
- High Power
- Low Cost
- Stable
- All Fiber Compatible

## Applications

- Heterodyne Interferometry & Vibrometry
- Laser Plasma Diagnostics
- Distributed Acoustic and Fiber Optic Sensing
- Laser Mode-Locking and Q-Switching
- Coherent Optical Communications & Testing



**Warning:** The device needs to be mounted on a heat sink or on a metal frame

**Note:** The specifications provided are for general applications with a cost-effective approach. If you need to narrow or expand the tolerance, coverage, limit, or qualifications, please [click this link](#):

Rev 07/03/26

## Specifications

| Parameter                                | Min  | Typical | Max  | Unit |
|--|------|---------|------|------|
| Center Wavelength                        | 1310 | 1550    | 1620 | nm   |
| Wavelength Bandwidth                     |      | ± 30    |      | nm   |
| Acoustic Frequency (3dB bandwidth)       |      | 40      |      | MHz  |
| Modulation Bandwidth                     | DC   |         | 15   | MHz  |
| Wavelength Shift                         | -40  |         | +40  | MHz  |
| RF Control Resolution                    | 1    |         |      | MHz  |
| Carrier RF Power                         |      | 2.5     | 3    | W    |
| Insertion Loss <sup>[1]</sup>            | 0.8  | 1.4     | 2.5  | dB   |
| Polarization Dependent Loss              |      | 0.2     | 0.5  | dB   |
| Extinction Ratio (On/Off) <sup>[2]</sup> | 50   | 55      | 65   | dB   |
| Rise/Fall Time <sup>[3]</sup>            | 25   |         | 55   | ns   |
| Return Loss <sup>[4]</sup>               | 45   | 50      | 55   | dB   |
| Voltage Standing Wave Ratio              |      | 1.2:1   |      |      |
| Polarization Extinction (PM)             | 18   | 20      | 30   | dB   |
| Average Optical Power <sup>[5]</sup>     |      | 0.5     | 5    | W    |
| Input Impedance                          |      | 50      |      | Ω    |
| RF Power                                 |      | 2.5     | 3.5  | W    |
| Electrical Interface                     |      | SMA     |      |      |
| Ultrasonic Velocity                      |      | 4200    |      | m/s  |
| Operating Temperature                    | -10  |         | 65   | °C   |
| Storage Temperature                      | -45  |         | 85   | °C   |
| Weight                                   |      | 50      |      | g    |

### Notes:

- [1]. Without connector. Each connector typically adds 0.2-0.3dB, RL increase by 5dB, and ER reduces by 2dB.
- [2]. For Single Mode only, multimode reduces depend on mode filled ratio  
ER refers to output power ratio between ON/OFF states
- [3]. (10%-90%). The rise/fall and bandwidth are related to the beam size, small beam has higher insertion loss. In another word, fast response with larger bandwidth will add insertion loss
- [4]. 50dB is standard for SM, 45dB for 50/125
- [5]. @1550nm. For shorter wavelength the power handling is reduced due to smaller core size. Higher power version is available by expand the beam inside the fiber tip.

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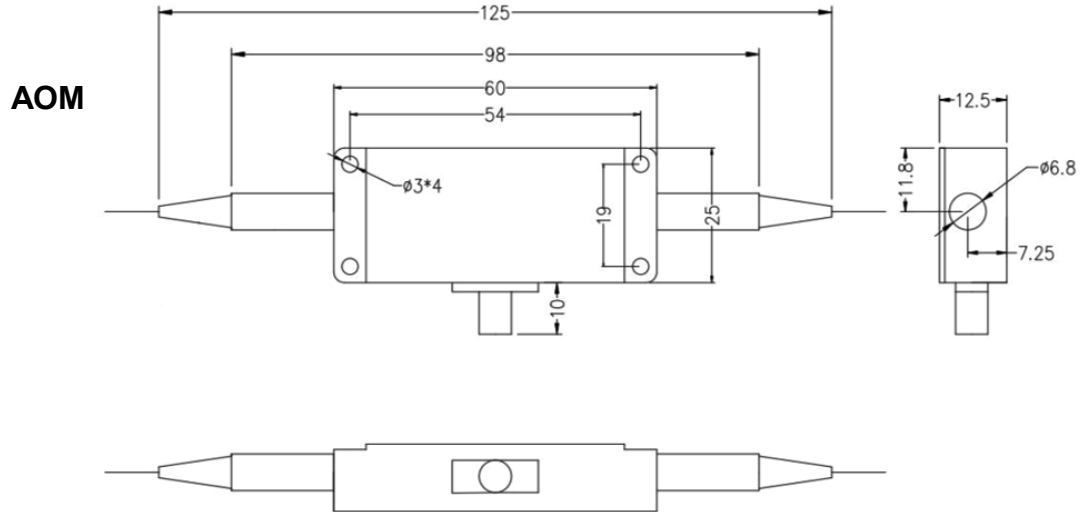


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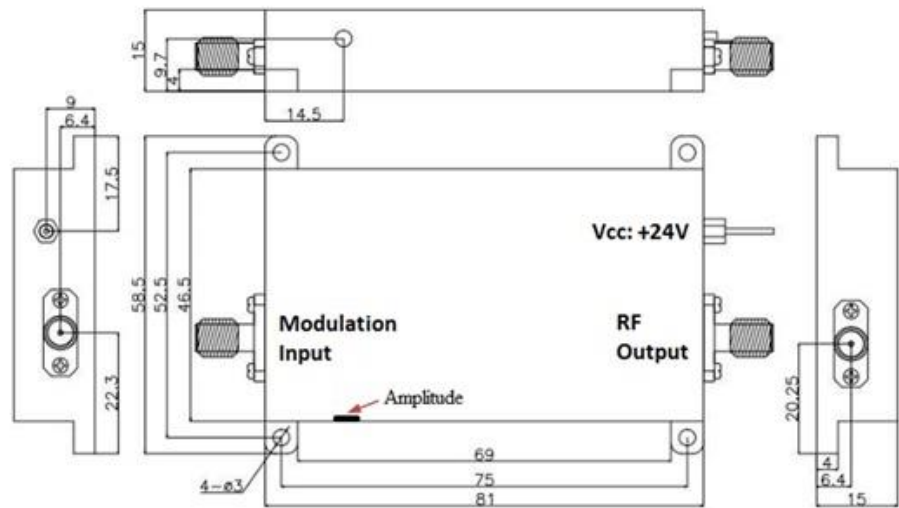
## DATASHEET

### Mechanical Dimensions (mm)

#### Type A

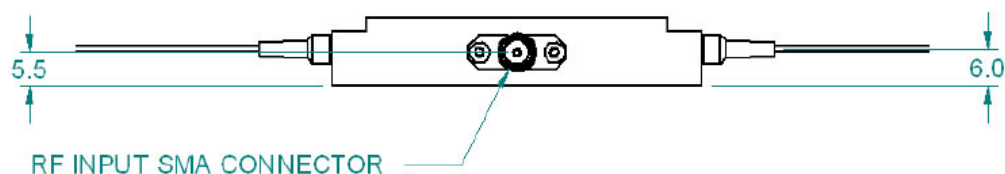


#### AOM Driver



\*Product dimensions may change without notice. This is sometimes required for non-standard specifications.

### Electrical/Computer Connection



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### Ordering Information (Part Number)

| Prefix       | Type                     | Wavelength   | Insertion <sup>[1]</sup> | Optical Power                               | Fiber Type  | Fiber Cover                   | Fiber Length                                      | Connector <sup>[2]</sup>  | PER <sup>[3]</sup>                                      | Wavelength Shift         | Benchtop <sup>[4]</sup> |
|--------------|--------------------------|--|--------------------------|---|---|-------------------------------|---|---|---|--------------------------|-------------------------|
| <b>AOM4-</b> | 40MHz = 4<br>Special = 0 | 1550 nm = 5<br>1310 nm = 3<br>1620 nm = 6<br>Special = 0 | 2.8dB = 1<br>3dB = 2     | Regular = 1<br>0.5W = 2<br>1W = 3<br>5W = 4 | SMF-28 = 11<br>PM1550 = P5<br>PM1310 = P3<br>50/125 = M5<br>62.5/125 = M6 | 0.9mm tube = 3<br>Special = 0 | 0.25m = 1<br>0.5m = 2<br>1.0 m = 3<br>Special = 0 | None = 1<br>FC/PC = 2<br>FC/APC = 3<br>SC/PC = 4<br>SC/APC = 5<br>ST/PC = 6<br>LC/PC = 7<br>5WFC/PC = H<br>10WFC/PC = A | Non = 1<br>18dB = 2<br>20dB = 3<br>25dB = 4<br>29dB = 5 | -40MHz = 1<br>+40MHz = 2 | Non = 1<br>Yes = 2      |

[1]. Without connector, each connector add 0.3dB. For 1310-1550nm. Short wavelength and >1900nm, the loss is higher. The default version is optimized for low loss with rise/fall times under 55 ns. Version A is tuned for faster response but with higher loss, while Version B offers moderate rise/fall times with more loss than the default.

[2]. The default connector configuration uses fiber with 0.9 mm buffer protection. The connector cannot be installed directly onto bare fiber because the bare fiber is prone to damage during shipping. However, the connector can be assembled on bare fiber if a 3 cm protective loose tube is added for reinforcement. The customer may remove this protective tube after testing. The optical power handling of a standard connector is less than 0.5 W for SMF-28 fiber and decreases further for smaller-core fibers.

[3]. Polarization extinction ratio only for PM fiber

[4]. The benchtop integrates the modulator, driver, and power supply. Front Panel: SMA 0-5V electrical control input port for precise modulation. Fiber input and output ports with standard FC/APC connectors. Back Panel: 100-240 VAC power input for global compatibility and a Power switch for easy on/off control.

This all-in-one design simplifies setup and operation

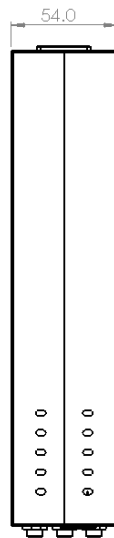
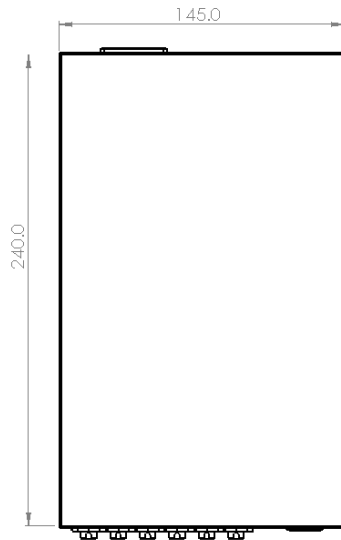
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### Benchtop Box Mechanical Dimension



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### Setup Instructions

- Connect a laser with a wavelength matched to the specified part number to the fiber input.
- Connect the modulator to the accompanying driver using the provided cable.
- Connect a DC power supply to the driver (refer to the AOM driver datasheet for detailed specifications).
- Connect the control signal to the SMA input port.
- The fiber optical output amplitude and repetition rate will vary according to the electrical control signal.

### Application Notes

#### Fiber Core Alignment

Note that the minimum attenuation for these devices depends on excellent core-to-core alignment when the connectors are mated. This is crucial for shorter wavelengths with smaller fiber core diameters that can increase the loss of many decibels above the specification if they are not perfectly aligned. Different vendors' connectors may not mate well with each other, especially for angled APC.

#### Fiber Cleanliness

Fibers with smaller core diameters (<5  $\mu\text{m}$ ) must be kept extremely clean, contamination at fiber-fiber interfaces, combined with the high optical power density, can lead to significant optical damage. This type of damage usually requires re-polishing or replacement of the connector.

#### Maximum Optical Input Power

Due to their small fiber core diameters for short wavelength and high photon energies, the damage thresholds for device is substantially reduced than the common 1550nm fiber. To avoid damage to the exposed fiber end faces and internal components, the optical input power should never exceed 20 mW for wavelengths shorter 650nm. We produce a special version to increase the how handling by expanding the core side at the fiber ends.

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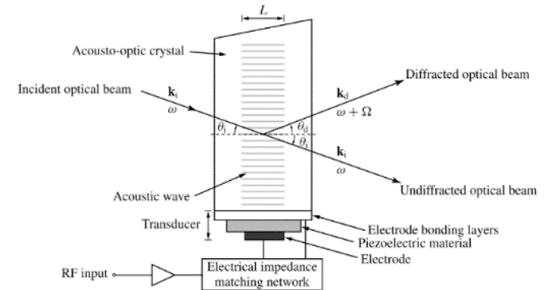


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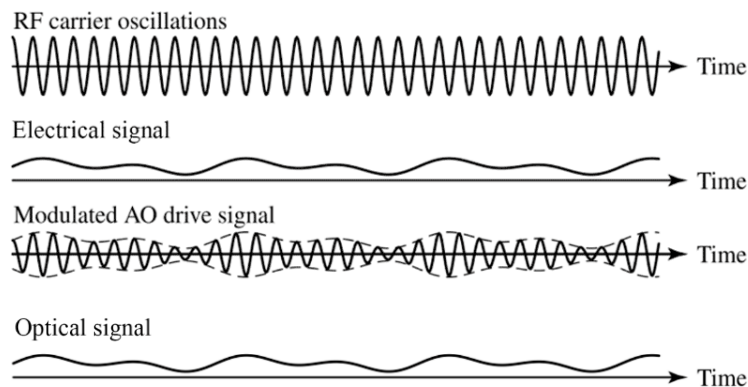
### Acoustic Frequency

The operation of an acousto-optic modulator is based on the Bragg diffraction generated by an acoustic wave (traveling refractive grating) inside a crystal, as shown below. The **Acoustic Frequency** is fixed for each device. A RF voltage of the acoustic frequency is applied to the piezoelectric actuator attached to the crystal generating the acoustic wave. The higher the frequency, the higher the cost to make and higher the power consumption.



### Modulation Bandwidth

An optical intensity modulator can be achieved by a driving circuitry in which the acoustic intensity inside the crystal varies with an input modulation signal. A typical acoustic driver output is shown below: a RF Input electrical signal modulates the intensity profile of the carrier oscillations ( acoustic frequency), resulting in a modulated driving signal, which leads to an output optical intensity similar to the RF input. The acoustic frequency intrinsically determines the rise/fall of the optical modulation. The Modulation Bandwidth is proportional to the acoustic frequency. The optical response can be optimized to certain extend via the driving circuit such as digital or analog.



### Optical Wavelength Shift

Due to an energy exchange, all acoustic optical devices apply a frequency shift to the diffracted output beams. These optical wavelength shifts are very small and proportional to the acoustic frequency. Depending on the selected Bragg angle, these devices will either up-shift or down-shift the laser light by the frequency of the applied RF signal.

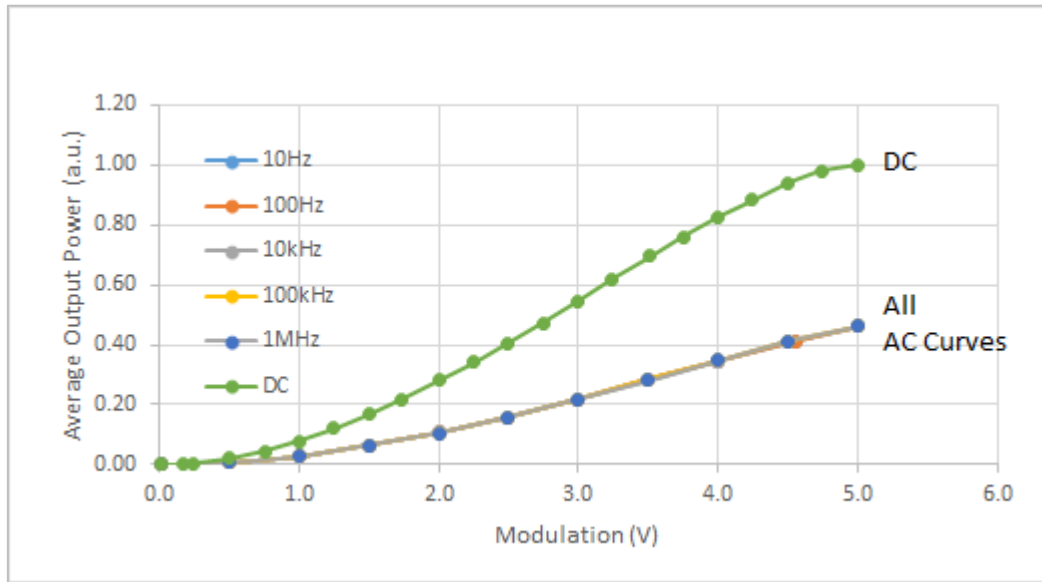
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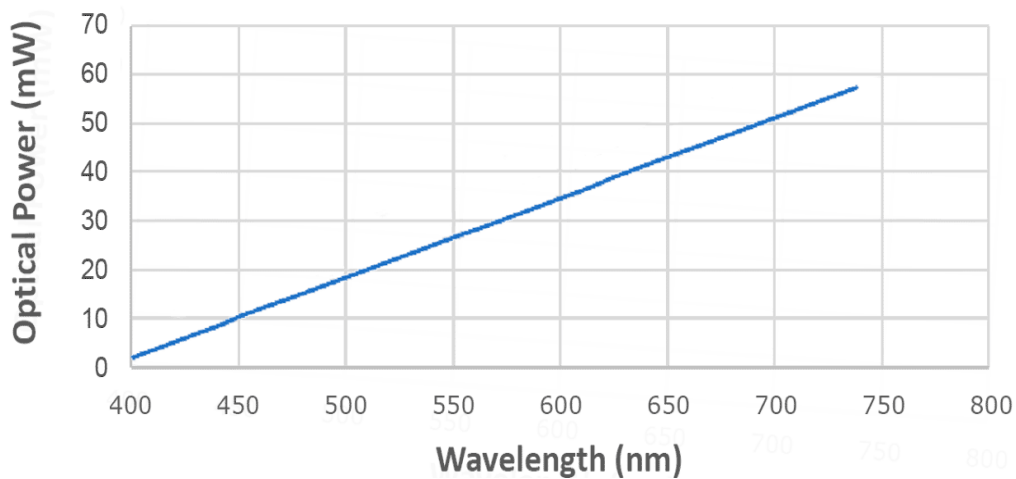
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### Typical Attenuation vs Control Signal for 200MHz AOM



### Optical Power Handling vs Wavelength for Standard SM Fibers



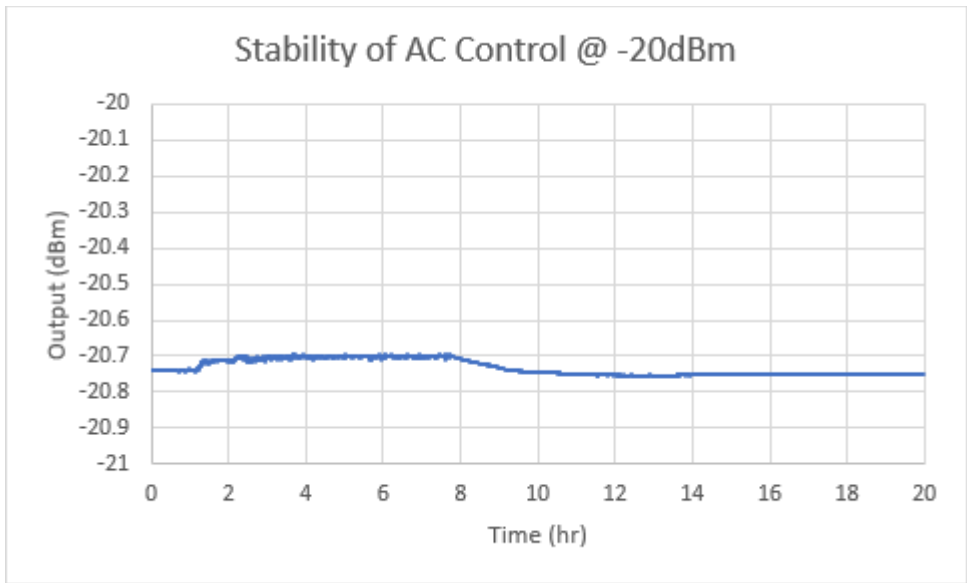
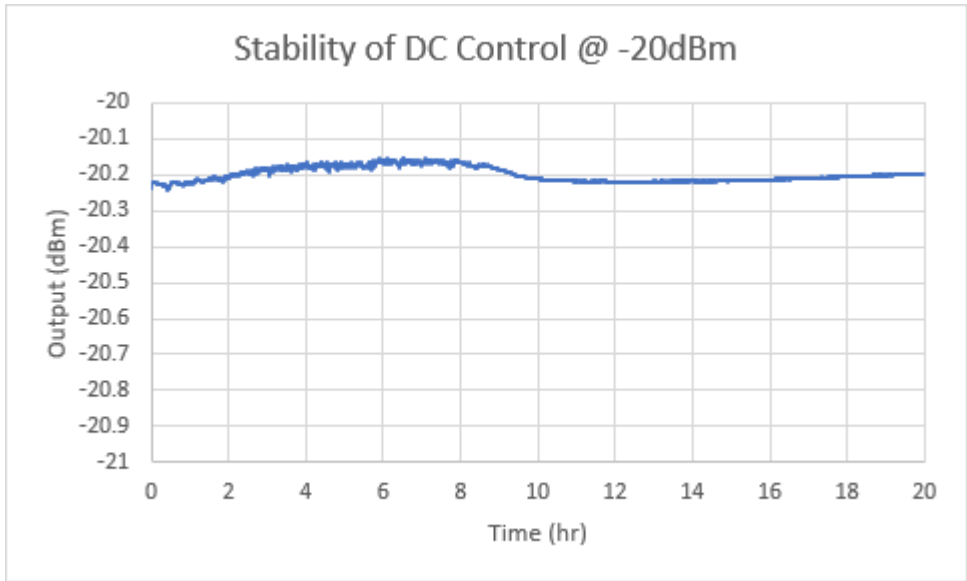
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Typical Stability (@ -20dBm with DC and 1kHz AC control. Fluctuation < 0.1dB)



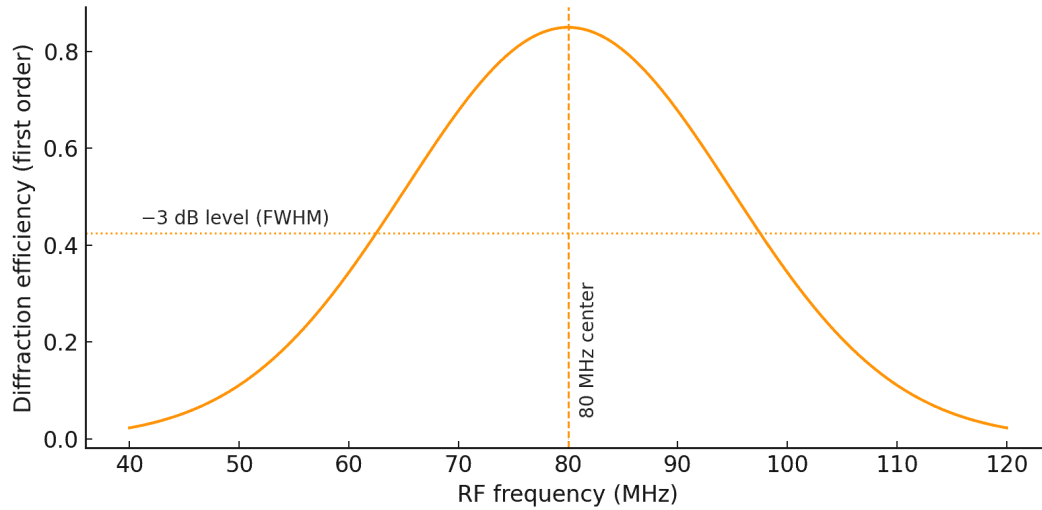
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### Representative AOM Diffraction Efficiency vs RF Frequency (center 80MHz, ~35MHz 3dB bandwidth)



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### Relative Loss Increase Deviated from Center Wavelength

