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Nonimaging Optics: Efficient Design for Illumination and Solar Concentration X

Roland Winston
Jeffrey Gordon
Editors

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The CID Number appears on each page of the manuscript. The complete citation is used on the first page, and an abbreviated version on subsequent pages. Numbers in the index correspond to the last two digits of the six-digit CID Number.

Contents

vii	Conference Committee
ix	Introduction

SESSION 1 FUNDAMENTALS OF NONIMAGING OPTICS

- 8834 02 **Hamilton optics: transformational theory of optics (Invited Paper)** [8834-1]
R. Winston, W. Ge, Univ. of California, Merced (United States)
- 8834 03 **Fast implementation of Olikier's ellipses technology to build free form reflector** [8834-2]
S. Magarill, Synopsys, Inc. (United States)
- 8834 05 **Design of light concentrators for Cherenkov telescope observatories** [8834-4]
F. Hénault, P.-O. Petrucci, L. Jocou, Institut de Planétologie et d'Astrophysique de Grenoble, Univ. Joseph Fourier, CNRS (France); B. Khélifi, P. Manigot, S. Hormigos, Ecole Polytechnique (France); J. Knödlseider, J.-F. Olive, P. Jean, Institut de Recherche en Astrophysique et Planétologie (France); M. Punch, Univ. Paris 7-Denis Diderot (France)
- 8834 07 **Angular restriction of photon emission for ultra-efficient photovoltaics** [8834-6]
A. Braun, E. A. Katz, D. Feuermann, Ben-Gurion Univ. of the Negev (Israel); B. M. Kayes, Alta Devices, Inc. (United States); J. M. Gordon, Ben-Gurion Univ. of the Negev (Israel)

SESSION 2 SOLAR CONCENTRATOR OPTICS I

- 8834 09 **Modeling light propagation in semiconductor-based luminescent solar concentrators** [8834-8]
D. Şahin, B. Ilan, Univ. of California, Merced (United States)

SESSION 3 SOLAR CONCENTRATOR OPTICS II

- 8834 0A **New Fresnel Köhler optical design: 9-fold photovoltaic concentrator** [8834-9]
J. Mendes-Lopes, Univ. Politécnica de Madrid (Spain); P. Benítez, Univ. Politécnica de Madrid (Spain) and Light Prescriptions Innovators, LLC (United States); P. Zamora, Univ. Politécnica de Madrid (Spain); J. C. Miñano, Univ. Politécnica de Madrid (Spain) and Light Prescriptions Innovators, LLC (United States)
- 8834 0C **Optofluidic approaches to stationary tracking optical concentrator systems** [8834-11]
M. Stefancich, C. Maragliano, M. Chiesa, S. Lilliu, M. Dahlem, A. Silvernail, Masdar Institute of Science & Technology (United Arab Emirates)
- 8834 0D **Wet-chemistry based selective coatings for concentrating solar power** [8834-12]
E. Maimon, A. Kribus, Y. Flitsanov, Tel Aviv Univ. (Israel); O. Shkolnik, D. Feuermann, Ben-Gurion Univ. of the Negev (Israel); C. Zwicker, L. Larush, D. Mandler, S. Magdassi, The Hebrew Univ. of Jerusalem (Israel)

- 8834 OE **Hybrid photovoltaic/daylighting module for greenhouse environmental control** [8834-13]
S. Vorndran, College of Optical Sciences, The Univ. of Arizona (United States); J. Russo,
Y. Wu, R. Kostuk, The Univ. of Arizona (United States)

SESSION 4 TRANSFORMATION AND GRADIENT-INDEX OPTICS

- 8834 OF **Gradient-index lens design with quasi-conformal transformation optics for energy concentration (Invited Paper)** [8834-14]
D. H. Werner, J. P. Turpin, D. Brocker, X. Wang, Z. H. Jiang, P. L. Werner, The Pennsylvania State Univ. (United States)
- 8834 OG **Design method for color-corrected layered spherical lenses** [8834-15]
N. Shatz, J. Bortz, SAIC (United States)

SESSION 5 ILLUMINATION AND DAYLIGHTING OPTICS I

- 8834 OI **Free-space optics for high-speed reconfigurable card-to-card optical interconnects** [8834-17]
K. Wang, A. Nirmalathas, NICTA Victoria Research Lab. (Australia) and The Univ. of Melbourne (Australia); C. Lim, The Univ. of Melbourne (Australia); E. Skafidas, NICTA Victoria Research Lab. (Australia) and The Univ. of Melbourne (Australia); K. Alameh, Edith Cowan Univ. (Australia)
- 8834 OJ **Freeform TIR collimators for the removal of angular color variation in white LED spotlights** [8834-18]
C. Prins, Technische Univ. Eindhoven (Netherlands); C. Schneider, Karlsruher Institut für Technologie (Germany); W. IJzerman, Philips Lighting (Netherlands); T. Tukker, Philips Research (Netherlands); J. ten Thije Boonkamp, Technische Univ. Eindhoven (Netherlands)
- 8834 OL **Supporting conic design methods and conic intersection properties** [8834-20]
C. Canavesi, Univ. of Rochester (United States); W. J. Cassarly, Synopsys, Inc. (United States); J. P. Rolland, Univ. of Rochester (United States)

SESSION 6 ILLUMINATION AND DAYLIGHTING OPTICS II

- 8834 OM **Multiple intensity distributions from a single optical element** [8834-21]
M. Berens, A. Bruneton, RWTH Aachen (Germany); A. Bäuerle, RWTH Aachen (Germany) and Fraunhofer-Institut für Lasertechnik (Germany); M. Traub, R. Wester, Fraunhofer-Institut für Lasertechnik (Germany); J. Stollenwerk, P. Loosen, RWTH Aachen (Germany) and Fraunhofer-Institut für Lasertechnik (Germany)
- 8834 ON **Novel multi-layer remote phosphor linear optics for solid state lighting** [8834-22]
C. O. Edwards, G. Wang, X. Yuan, B. Chai, Intematix Corp. (United States)
- 8834 OO **Improvement of the light extraction efficiency in light emitting diodes (LEDs) using ray trace** [8834-23]
M. N. Ricketts, R. Winston, Univ. of California, Merced (United States)

- 8834 OP **Design and optimization of fiber lenses in plastic optical fibers for indoor illumination** [8834-24]
P. Viera-González, G. Sánchez-Guerrero, G. Cárdenas-Ortíz, V. Guzmán-Ramos, A. Castillo-Guzmán, Univ. Autónoma de Nuevo León (Mexico); D. Peñalver-Vidal, Instituto Nacional de Astrofísica, Óptica y Electrónica (Mexico); D. E. Ceballos-Herrera, R. Selvas-Aguilar, Univ. Autónoma de Nuevo León (Mexico)

POSTER SESSION

- 8834 OQ **Far-field condition for OLED light sources** [8834-25]
W. Cai, X. Liu, P. Zhang, W. Chen, Chongqing Univ. (China)
- 8834 OR **Analysis of far-field distance of LED arrays based on an improved error calculation formula** [8834-26]
W. Cai, X. Liu, P. Zhang, W. Chen, Chongqing Univ. (China)
- 8834 OS **Quantitative comparison of photometric quantities for road lighting between CIE and IESNA standards** [8834-27]
L. Shi, Chongqing Univ. (China) and Chongqing Jiaotong Univ. (China); W. Chen, X. Liu, W. Lai, Chongqing Univ. (China)
- 8834 OX **High efficient solar tracker based on a simple shutter structure** [8834-32]
J.-J. Chen, T.-S. Liu, National Changhua Univ. of Education (Taiwan); K.-L. Huang, MingDao Univ. (Taiwan); P.-C. Lin, National Changhua Univ. of Education (Taiwan)
- 8834 OY **Optical design for uniform color mixing illumination system** [8834-33]
P. Liu, Z. Zheng, H. Li, X. Liu, Zhejiang Univ. (China)

Author Index

Conference Committee

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Narkis E. Shatz, SAIC (United States)

Session Chairs

- 1 Fundamentals of Nonimaging Optics
Jeffrey Gordon, Ben-Gurion University of the Negev (Israel)
- 2 Solar Concentrator Optics I
Pablo Benítez, Universidad Politécnica de Madrid (Spain) and Light
Prescriptions Innovators LLC (United States)
- 3 Solar Concentrator Optics II
Narkis E. Shatz, SAIC (United States)
- 4 Transformation and Gradient-Index Optics
Roland Winston, University of California, Merced (United States)
- 5 Illumination and Daylighting Optics I
Daniel Feuermann, Ben-Gurion University of the Negev (Israel)
- 6 Illumination and Daylighting Optics II
William J. Cassarly, Synopsys, Inc. (United States)

Introduction

Welcome to the 2013 Nonimaging Optics Conference. The first conference convened in 1991, so this represents our 22nd year.

The conference had a gratifying turn out of submissions and attendees, which is a good indicator of the vitality of the field. From the beginning, the subject was differentiated from classical optics. In the first book on nonimaging optics in 1978, the great Walter T. Welford of Imperial College, London inserted the Stefan-Boltzmann law of radiation by a black body on page 1. When an optics book starts with a thermodynamic relation, you know something interesting is going to happen, and it has! From the beginning, concepts like maximum etendue, concentration, and thermodynamic efficiency were common themes. The connections between information and entropy inspire the design of optimal nonimaging optics devices. And that is why the fusion of the science of light (optics) with the science of heat (thermodynamics), is where much of the excitement is today.

So on behalf of the Conference Chairs, please enjoy the exciting new contributions to this vibrant field of nonimaging optics.

Roland Winston
Jeffrey Gordon