



Editorial

Jack D. Gaskill, Editor

State of the Journal—1987

In an editorial entitled "Status of Optical Engineering" that appeared in this space one year ago, I presented some publication information for 1986 and compared it with similar information from the previous year. Because I think that many readers of *Optical Engineering* may find such information of interest, I decided to do it again this year. In the table below, the figures in the 1986 column are actual figures for that year, whereas those in the 1987 column are projections based on publication data available at the time this editorial was written.

I am a bit concerned that the number of contributed papers published in 1987 will be so much lower than in 1986, but I have a feeling that this drop has been caused in part by our decision to no longer routinely accept photocopies of previously published Proceedings papers. On the other hand, the decline in the number of contributed papers will be offset somewhat by an increase in the number of papers

	1986	1987 (est.)	Est. change
No. papers published on special-issue topics	95	106	+12%
No. additional contributed papers published	100	66	-34%
Total no. papers published	195	172	-12%
No. pages technical text published	1319	1227	-7%
Average no. pages per technical paper	6.8	6.9	+1%
Percentage technical pages paid for by authors	71%	83%	+12%

associated with the topics of the special issues. Consequently, the total number of papers, as well as the total number of technical pages, will only be slightly lower than in 1986. We are currently receiving about 13 contributed papers per month, and we have a number of outstanding special issues lined up for 1988; as a result, I predict that the publication data for 1988 will be quite similar to that for 1987.

One final comment: I am encouraged that the percentage of technical pages supported by authors paying page charges is presently running at 83% this year—up from 71% in 1986. I hope that this level of support continues into 1988 and beyond.

Future Special Issue (see p. 952 for complete editorial schedule)

May 1988

Industrial Applications of Optical Signal Processing

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The May 1988 special issue of *Optical Engineering* will be devoted to architectures and systems that can be used in industrial applications that require advanced optical signal processing techniques. The issue will cover the following areas: optical information processing, including linear, nonlinear, and space variant operations and transforms; pattern recognition, correlation, hybrid optical/digital

systems, multiclass distortion invariant object identification, and related applications of optical architectures for associative memories; automatic object inspection, feature extraction, and classification; applications of holography, including computer-generated holography; and acousto-optic signal processing systems.

Papers will also be included on applications of optical techniques to high speed interconnections for VLSI systems, including interconnects for high speed computing and clock distribution, data interconnects, holographic interconnects, and optoelectronic techniques for high speed signal processing.

Authors are encouraged to submit manuscripts on any of the above topics for inclusion in the special issue. Manuscripts submitted for consideration should be sent to the Guest Editor before October 15, 1987.