

Applied Optics: Engineering and Laboratory Notes **Review Criteria**

Applied Optics: Engineering and Laboratory Notes publishes brief, peer-reviewed articles devoted to the design, analysis, fabrication, integration, alignment, and measurement techniques used in the optical engineering laboratory. Articles should concentrate on the utility of the techniques described and the scope of their application as well as on their clarity and correctness.

To meet *Applied Optics* goal of publishing quality work that is beneficial to the optics community, reviewers should evaluate submissions to *Engineering and Laboratory Notes* according to the criteria listed below.

Appropriateness for Applied Optics: Engineering and Laboratory Notes

Does the subject material fall within the scope of the journal feature? Is the manuscript of interest to the applied optics community and does it describe a technique, method, process, or development that can be used by the community to conduct their work?

Rating Options: Very high, High, Moderate, Low

Utility of Content

Does the manuscript describe a technique that improves a means to achieving an end? Does it describe a fundamental capability without undue constraints? Can an optical designer, engineer, or technician use the methods described to better accomplish his or her work tasks? Does the technique provide time, equipment, hardware, or other cost savings? Is the technique broadly applicable and easily transferable to another facility? Is the technique described completely and in sufficient depth for it to be applied by others? Are all required components, tools, or equipment clearly indicated? Does the manuscript provide guidelines or explain limitations on implementations of the technique?

Rating Options: Very high, High, Moderate, Low

Novelty and Uniqueness

Papers are expected to address practical issues and provide a novel insight, address important and persistent problems, and present clear methods with step-by-step procedures that help others perform similar work. Is it a unique contribution based on an established foundation? Is the work placed in proper context? Is prior or related work adequately referenced? Does the paper convey a generalized concept, in no way acting as an advertisement for the authors or the authors' company?

Rating Options: Very high, High, Moderate, Low

Quality of Presentation

Is the title accurate and does it clearly identify the subject matter? Will the title attract the intended technical audience (for example, designer, engineer, scientist, technician, or manager)? Is the abstract succinct and comprehensible to a non-specialist? Is the manuscript clearly written and logically organized? Are figures and tables understandable and readable as submitted, including all captions and labels? Is the quality of English language usage and grammar appropriate for an archival journal (note that *Applied Optics* articles are minimally copy-edited)? If multimedia are available for the readers' use, is it openly accessible and does it function as intended? Is the multimedia content clearly presented and does it contribute to presentation of the technique?

Rating Options: Very high, High, Moderate, Low

Manuscripts judged by reviewers as moderate in the first three criteria (appropriateness, utility of content, and novelty & uniqueness) will not be accepted for publication.