
MESSAGE

IEICE Transactions on Communications: Editor's Message

Forty years have passed since the first issue of IEICE Transactions was published in January 1976. The IEICE Transactions on Communications was established in 1991 as one of four succeeding transactions, and enormous efforts have been devoted to the IEICE Trans. Commun., developing its presence in both academic and industry communities worldwide.

Recently, however, little progress has been made for the number of submissions. One of its reasons is that the impact factor of IEICE Trans. Commun. has not been high enough to attract attention of researchers outside Japan. This has motivated the editorial committee of IEICE Trans. Commun. to make further efforts to gain the respect and credibility of our transactions. The latest prominent action for this is the initiation of a new category, POSITION PAPER, under the direction of the former Editor-in-Chief (EiC) Prof. Hisato Iwai. This new paper category started in October 2015, and papers in this category are expected to exhibit novel ideas and/or significant achievements leading to innovative technologies for communications. We believe the papers accepted in this category will be broadly of interest for the researchers of communication technologies.

What is important for a journal paper is how widely it is read as well as how often it is cited. I would like to mention the two events in the end of 2015, which greatly concern the circulation of papers published in IEICE Trans. Commun. First, advance publication service started in December 2015. In advance publication, an accepted paper is published in its final version before proofreading so that the readers can obtain new research results very fast. Second, the IEICE changed its copyright policy of the IEICE publications so that the authors can upload the publisher's PDF files of their own papers by web servers such as preprint servers and institutional repository. This enables the authors to upload their papers in publisher's version online. I hope the authors of IEICE Trans. Commun. will develop their research presence by exploiting advance publication and the new copyright policy.

Before closing the message, I would like to express my sincere gratitude to Prof. Hisato Iwai, the former EiC, and Prof. Masaki Bandai, the former Editor, for their outstanding work and dedication to make the IEICE Trans. Commun. a high quality journal. It is a great honor for me to be the EiC of IEICE Trans. Commun. My mission is not only to keep the journal quality high, but also to make the IEICE Trans. Commun. more prestigious in communication technologies field. To achieve this goal, I will do my best, working with the Editors, Prof. Kenichi Higuchi, Prof. Takahiro Matsuda, Prof. Takuji Tachibana, and all Associate Editors of the editorial committee. In concluding, I would like to give my profound thanks to the authors, readers, and reviewers for their significant contributions. In the next term, your contributions to IEICE Trans. Commun. are indispensable, and I am sincerely hoping for your continuous support.

Shoji Kasahara, Editor-in-Chief

Shoji Kasahara (*Member*) received his B. Eng., M. Eng., and Dr. Eng. degrees from Kyoto University, Kyoto, Japan, in 1989, 1991, and 1996, respectively. He was with the Educational Center for Information Processing, Kyoto University from 1993 to 1997, as an Assistant Professor. In 1996, he was a visiting scholar of the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, NC, USA. He was also a visiting scholar of the University of Waterloo, Canada in July, 1996. From 1997 to 2005, he was with Graduate School of Information Science, Nara Institute of Science and Technology, Ikoma, Nara, Japan. From 2005 to 2012, he was an Associate Professor of Department of Systems Science, Graduate School of Informatics, Kyoto University. Since 2012, he has been a Professor of Graduate School of Information Science, Nara Institute of Science and Technology. His research interests include stochastic modeling and analytics of large-scale complex systems based on computer/communication networks. He is a member of IEEE, ORSJ, IPSJ, and ISCTE.

