

Journal of Optical Society of America A (JOSA A)

Retrospective Review Criteria

The *Journal of the Optical Society of America A* (JOSA A) is devoted to developments in any field of classical optics, image science, and vision. JOSA A includes original peer-reviewed papers including, but not limited to: atmospheric optics, clinical vision, color, diffraction and gratings, image processing, machine vision, physiological optics, polarization, scattering and coherence theory, signal processing, statistical optics, thin films, and visual optics. JOSA A publishes several special paper types, including discussion papers, mini-reviews, tutorials, and retrospectives.

A JOSA A retrospective should present a historical overview of an area in optics, or an interdisciplinary area in which optical concepts are heavily employed. It must include a scientific component and not just an account of events. Retrospectives are subjected to critical review according to the criteria listed below.

Quality of Scientific/Technical Content

Rather than novelty of results, reviewers should assess how the retrospective reviews the development of theory, ideas, and experiments in a particular area. The following questions should be considered: Does the retrospective discuss how the historical developments are relevant to current research? Does it provide external context, e.g., geopolitical events? Is it balanced and objective? Is the retrospective understandable for a broad audience of students and non-specialists?

Rating Options: Very high, High, Moderate, Low, Very low

Quality of Presentation

Is the title attractive and does it clearly identify the subject matter? 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? If there is multimedia content, is it clearly presented and does it contribute to presentation? Is the manuscript formatted according to the journal style guide?

Rating Options: Very high, High, Moderate, Low, Very low

Appropriateness for JOSA A

Does the subject matter fit within the scope of the journal? Will the paper be of interest to the optics community?

Rating Options: Very high, High, Moderate, Low, Very low

Overall Impact

Reviewers are asked to rate the overall impact of submitted papers assuming appropriate revisions are made. How likely is this paper to make a major impact on the research field covered? Retrospectives can make an

impact by educating readers and inspiring current research through the compelling description of a historical development in optics.

Rating Options: Very high, High, Moderate, Low, Very low