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Editorial

Book Reviews

If you have read *Journal of Optical Communications* carefully up to now, you may have recognized that we usually inform you about new books on optical communications and related topics, but that there was no book review.

As the editor of the *Journal* I receive sometimes review copies with the official announcement, sometimes I ask the publishing company for such a copy. Usually I go through these books and I get an impression on the contents and the writing. However, this is not enough to write a comment or even a review.

In my eyes one has to read a book word by word to give a well-founded review; this is a very time consuming job. On the other hand, we have to ask for the usefulness of book reviews:

I confess that I read book reviews in other journals with interest; however, there are no real consequences, because mostly the book has already been ordered or it was decided already not to buy it. There are only a few cases in which a book review gives the final push for an order. Therefore the effort to write a review seems not to be worth the importance.

Sincerely yours,
R. Th. Kersten



Journal of Optical Communications

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