

Journal of Optical Society of America A (JOSA A) Research Article 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, and tutorials.

Submitted research article papers are subjected to critical review according to the criteria listed below.

Quality of Scientific/Technical Content

Does the manuscript report on important new findings related to classical optics, image science, or vision? Is the paper an original and significant contribution to the field? Are the conclusions supported by the data presented, and is the work placed in proper context? Is prior or related work adequately referenced? Note that papers considered to be incremental, incomplete, or lacking in scientific/technical relevance are likely to be rejected. Does the work warrant publication in an archival journal? Is it likely to be cited by others?

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

Quality of Presentation

Is the title accurate 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?

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

Appropriateness for JOSA A

Does the subject material fall 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? Papers can make an impact through novel results, through enabling new applications, by solving important problems, by providing new theoretical insights, or presenting clear methods, procedures, or reviews to help other researchers perform similar work.

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

Appropriateness of Supplementary Material

Visualizations (videos, 2D images, 3D images), tabular data, or citations to datasets in external repositories should be integral to understanding the article and support the results reported. Custom code and design files are acceptable to include as additional information, which is helpful to readers. A [Supplemental Document](#) (PDF) may provide expanded descriptions of materials and methods.

- Is the supplementary material openly accessible, understandable, and readable?
- Does the supplementary material contribute to presentation of the results?
- If a Supplemental Document (PDF) is included, is the information useful and worthwhile for the reader? Is the manuscript coherent without the supplemental PDF file?

Ratings Options: High, Moderate, Low, Not Applicable