

Foreword to the inaugural volume

We are living in the information age, with more publications being published than ever before. The growth in research over the past decades in all regions around the world has led to an exponential increase in research publications. Paradoxically, while papers explode in number, it becomes increasingly difficult for researchers, and particularly for students and junior researchers, to keep abreast of all the evolutions and to filter out the relevant publications with lasting impact. Keeping up to date and finding one's way through this growing pile of literature is a major challenge. While electronic publishing has given researchers instant access to more articles than ever before, which articles are the essential ones to read to understand a technical field and to keep up with recent developments? Addressing this problem requires a different type of **periodical, one that ONLY presents review articles, tutorial monographs or visionary overviews**; also one that does not limit the publications to around 10 pages, but to as long as they need to explain things properly. Written by experts in the field, they summarize the essence of a (sub)field or explain a technique or method in elaborative detail.

Publishing such high-quality survey and tutorial monographs in the area of theory, analysis, design and practical implementation of (integrated) circuits and systems is precisely the aim of **Foundations and Trends® in Integrated Circuits and Systems** (<https://www.nowpublishers.com/ICS>). As such, it complements the many detailed technical publications like the IEEE periodicals, while being indexed in a similar way. Each issue of Foundations and Trends® comprises a 50-to-100-page monograph (either one single article or a few articles with a common theme). Articles that give tutorial coverage of subjects, research retrospectives as well as survey papers that offer state-of-the-art reviews in the **broad field of integrated circuits and systems** fall within the scope of the journal. Selection of subjects and authors is well supported by the journal's editorial board and smooth paper handling is guaranteed by the journal's experienced publisher Mark de Jongh.

It is my pleasure to present this first inaugural issue to you. It focuses on the standard analog-to-digital converters for column-level readout of CMOS image sensors. With many other interesting articles in the pipeline, I hope that you enjoy reading this journal as much as I do. And don't hesitate to contact me if you have a proposal for writing an article in its scope yourself.

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