
1 Special issue on Photonic Technology

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Until about a year ago, those in both the governmental and private sectors thought of information technology (IT) as a means of making dreams come true. Today, on the other hand, it is heavily criticized as the primary cause of the current economic slump. Information technology, however, is inherently irrelevant to such temporary market fluctuations. Rather, it is a technology essential for the sustainable growth of society.

Info-communications systems are typically composed of “operations technology” for system configuration and operation, and “tangible technology” for the fabrication of devices through material processing and the assembly of components and apparatuses to realize the

desired functions. In the Basic and Advanced Research Division of the Communications Research Laboratory, several research groups involved in research on optic info-communications technology have been pushing ahead with practical research activities, placing priority on the tangible aspects of the development of next-generation info-communications technology.

This special issue features the latest results obtained by CRL, including microwave photonic technology in the field of photonic network technologies, and quantum information technology in the field of basic optical-device technologies, in view of future applications.



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