

# Editorial

**O**VER THE PAST several years, the use of acronyms (ACMs) in manuscripts (MSs) submitted to the IEEE JOURNAL OF QUANTUM ELECTRONICS (JQE) has increased noticeably. MSs with at least ten ACMs are now commonplace, and those having more than 20 are no longer rare. Of course, a few ACMs (such as RF, VLSI, IR, NA, etc.) are well known throughout the quantum electronics community and are justifiable. However, an excessive number of ACMs in a MS effectively establishes a lexicon (LXN) which is unique to the paper, thereby seriously detracting from its readability. In this situation, the reader is confronted with two options, neither of which is particularly attractive: either memorize each term (ACM) in the LXN, or be forced to repeatedly return to the section of the MS where the ACM is defined.

The Editors and staff of JQE urge authors to limit the use of ACMs to those absolutely necessary. JQE policy is that ACMs will not appear in the title (occasionally we miss one) and that introducing an ACM should be avoided if the term in question appears only once or twice in the MS. The benefits of following these guidelines to both the authors and readers of JQE are not only more widely read articles, but a journal of higher quality. We thank you for your cooperation.

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