

Editorial Note

The current issue is presented as the final issue of Iranian Journal of Electrical and Computer Engineering in its fifth year of publication. As it is reported in the editorial notes of the past issues, the editorial department follows the action plan approved by the editorial board closely to achieve the goals of its second 3-years development plan (2005-2007). The action plan recommends different measures to be taken aiming to reach the goals in a suitable ways. One of the difficulties that have been faced by both IJECE editorial department and the authors in the past is the current periodicity of the publication of this journal. At present, Iranian Journal of Electrical and Computer Engineering is published semi-annually, which means the longer publication waiting period compared to the seasonal publication journals. Apparently, the seasonal periodicity is much more appropriate for a scientific journal in any specific field of specialties compared to the semi-annual publication. However, based on the past experiences the former periodicity may not be the proper choice for a young journal published in a developing country.

Hopefully, the current state of Iranian Journal of Electrical and Computer Engineering lets us to move to seasonal publication in near future after some departmental restructuring and paper work for acquiring the required official permissions. Fig. 1 shows the trend of rising paper submission rate within 2001-2006, which confirms the suitability of such move in near future.

As the second move in this regard, I am pleased to announce the open access to the full-text of published papers in IJECE on the net for all interested peoples. This includes the papers from the first issue of IJECE as well as the paper to be published in future issues as soon as they become available in the electronic format. To access the paper readers just need to refer to the following webpage:

<http://www.sid.ir/En/JournalList.asp?ID=330>

These materials are copyrighted to IJECE publisher, i.e., Iranian Research Institute for Electrical Engineering (IRIEE), JD, and third parties are not eligible to store them on other sites on the Internet and sell or distribute them on any electronic media. We would like to appreciate the supports and helps of Scientific Information Database (SID) for providing such environment for presenting the full-text of many Iranian journals in different fields of science and technology. It is noteworthy that SID and IRIEE are both affiliated to Academic Center for Education, Culture, and Research (ACECR).

It is hoped that such measures facilitate the rise of the journal state and its popularity in the professional electrical and computer community worldwide.

Returning to the current issue of IJECE and before presenting a short introduction to the papers, I would like to express the sympathy and condolences from the bottom of my heart on behalf of the IJECE editorial board to the family and friends of professor Tawfik S. Radwan, Electrical Engineering Department, Menoufiya University, Egypt, who is the co-author of one of the papers presented in this issue. Prof. Radwan passed away on April 14, 2006.

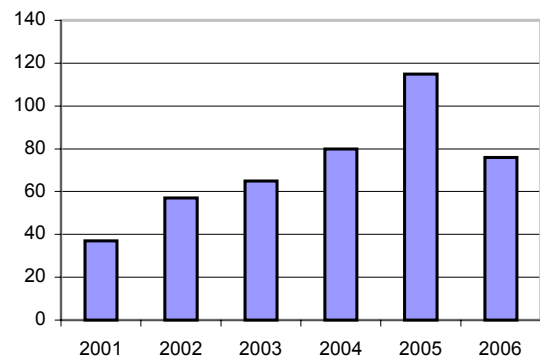


Fig. 1. IJECE Paper submission statistics in the past six years. The number of papers submitted in 2006 is only reported for the first half of this year.

In this issue eight papers are presented to our distinguished readers. It hosts one Special Section, i.e., Special Section on Power Engineering, which contains five articles. The section starts with a paper by Al Mamun and Kermanshahi, which discusses the implementation of a method for long-term electric demand forecasting. In the next article from the same research group, water elevation and discharge forecasting which is an important matter in micro-hydro power plant generation scheduling is presented. Estoperez and Kermanshahi are the authors of this paper. The third paper authored by Venkataramu and Ananthapadmanabha addresses the use of UPFCs for the improvement of line voltage stability margin under line outage contingencies. Later, in a paper in the field of induction motor drives, the performance of an effective 4-switch 3-phase inverter is analyzed by Nasir Uddin *et al.*, which late Prof. Radwan is one of its co-authors. Finally, in the last paper of this Section Vahidi *et al.* present a model for studying the effects of trace and parameters of transmission lines on the lightning stroke.

This issue of journal includes three regular papers. The first paper is in the field of biomedical engineering. It is presented by Zolghadr-e-asli and Maghsoudzadeh and discusses the application of wavelet theory and neural networks for detection and early diagnosis of breast cancer by modification of mammography images. Khalaj-Amirhosseni studies the response of transmission lines to electromagnetic plane waves in the second article. Finally, this issue is concluded by a paper contributed by Zolghadr-e-asli and Izadpanah which compares several channel coding methods in OFDM system by evaluating their performances.

Pleasant Reading,

H. R. Sadegh Mohammadi
Editor-in-Chief