Guest editorial

Performance and control of network systems

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This special issue contains a selection of contributions based on the papers presented at the Performance and Control of Network Systems Conference, held in Dallas, TX, USA, on 3–5 November 1997.

The conference was part of the International Symposium on Voice, Video, and Data Communications sponsored by SPIE – the International Society for Optical Engineering. The original conference papers were published as Volume 3231 of the Proceedings of SPIE.

The process of selecting papers for this special issue was conducted after the conference and went through two stages. In the first stage, all session chairs and authors were asked to nominate papers that they felt would merit further consideration to publish as journal papers. From the list of nominated papers, a smaller subset of papers with the highest number of nominees were then selected. Authors of these papers were invited to submit an extended version of their respective papers for further consideration. The revised and extended papers subsequently went through two additional cycles of peer review. The five papers in the following pages were the outcome of this referee procedure.

These five papers cover the following subject areas: flow control, network resource pricing, data traffic modeling, web traffic analysis, and multicast routing. We hope that the readers will enjoy reading them.

We appreciate very much the opportunity to produce this special issue and thank Dr. Werner Bux, Editor-in-Chief, for his interest in our SPIE conference and support of this work. We would also like to express our appreciation to all who helped make this issue possible.

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