

A letter from the Editor

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The last issue in 2021 comprises three original scientific papers, covering research topics from conventional printing technologies to some contemporary issues. The first paper presents the alternative method for the appropriate prediction of zonal settings of ink fountain of an offset printing press. A computer program based on a mathematic model was tested by using several theoretic examples of different coverage of the zonal area with print elements and the results are promising, however, it is also a challenge for further research on the machines with different inking systems and with dampening systems included into the model.

The second paper presents a process of development and use of a Spatial star as an upgrade of a well known Siemens star. The research is based on an original idea and well documented and practically approved process of development of quality control elements for potential use in 3D scanning and printing applications.

The third paper covers the environmental and sustainability issues with the study of preparation and laboratory tests of glucomannan–xylan blend biofilms, which can be used as an alternative for synthetic films currently used in food packaging. The results are promising; however, mechanical, optical, surface and other properties of this biomaterial should be further improved to come closer to the demanded properties of currently typically used low-density polyethylene (LDPE) and other plastic films.

The Topicalities, an overview of news, literature and events, is, unfortunately, shorter in the last part due to the influence of the last waves of a pandemic. However, Markéta Držková (marketa.drzkova@jpmtr.org), the editor of this section, prepared a useful and very informative summary of important topics in our field(s). The report on activities of the International Commission on Illumination (CIE) is a confirmation of the importance of characterization and measurement of illuminance and light sources in our working and general environment, as well as is a study of colour gamut for output media, including printers and displays. An overview of research projects conducted by the German institute Fogra shows their activities supporting the printing industry. As it is shown in the overview of 3D printing research projects conducted in Sweden, additive manufacturing is not limited only to the printing industry, actually, it is an interesting field for automotive and other ‘big’ industrial companies.

An overview of new books covers mainly graphic design and typography, however, also a summary of books on multimedia, 3D printing, textile printing, and printed electronics is included. The doctoral theses presented are on really different topics and from different countries. Julian Konrad Schäfer defended his thesis on the highly dynamic interfacial instability of printing ink in the cylinder gap of a gravure printing press at the Technical University of Darmstadt. The second

thesis, defended by Laurena Masbernat at the Université Paris-Saclay is on 3D printable edible materials for innovative recipes for the food of the future. Devin John Roach defended his thesis on intelligent structures and functional devices by using novel materials and methods in 3D printing at the Georgia Institute of Technology in Atlanta, Georgia.

The list of announced events is rather short and, actually, most of the events will be held as online or hybrid symposia, conferences, or another form of event. The changes of previously planned and announced events, many of which were postponed or ceased, are briefly explained and some information is added for the interested public, including the readers of the Journal. One positive news for some of them is the access to selected presentations and contributions free of charge.

I hope many readers of the Journal will find it a reliable source of information from the field(s) of their interest, as well as the appropriate publication for dissemination of the results of their research work. The call for papers is constantly open and we will appreciate your submissions. One good news is a confirmed listing of the Journal in the Directory of Open Access Journals (DOAJ). In many cases the works resulting of the projects, financed by EU or other public funds, should (obligatory) be published in the open-access publication, and the Journal of Print and Media Technology Research, published by [iarigai](#), is now an appropriate publication to fulfill these expectations and demands.

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