

PREFACE

The enclosed papers constitute ones discussed at the operator Theory of Networks and Systems International Symposium, OTNS, held at Concordia University, Montreal, Canada, August 12-14, 1975. On behalf of the audience wishing contact with these ideas I wish to thank the authors for making them available and Western Periodicals for publishing them.

The OTNS Symposium has been set up to bring together researchers working in the area for cross-fertilization and codification of results. By its nature the field is one where both engineers and mathematicians have made extensive contributions. Consequently, we have been happy to see that the OTNS Symposium has positively contributed to fertile interactions between the two disciplines and we hope such will continue within the OTNS structure now established.

The success of the Montreal OTNS Symposium is owed to a number of people. Primary among these is Professor N. Levan of UCLA who as Program Chairman set the tone of the meeting. Besides him I would like to publicly thank W. Porter, R. M. De Santis, V. Ramachandran, R. Saeks, M. N. S. Swamy, J. Baras, M. DeClaris, as well as my Co-Chairman A. Zemanian, all of whom contributed to the administration of the Symposium.

We also appreciated the institutional support of our Co-Sponsors:

1. Department of Applied Mathematics and Statistics, SUNY, Stony Brook, New York.
2. System Science Department, UCLA, Los Angeles, California.
3. Electrical Engineering Department, Concordia University, Montreal, Canada.

I look forward to seeing a renewal of these activities at the next OTNS Symposium presently being planned for summer 1977.

R. W. Newcomb
1975 OTNS Co-Chairman
Electrical Engineering Department
University of Maryland
College Park, Maryland