From the Editor

Publication Date

This issue is the third of Volume 48 of *TS*, corresponding to July-September 2024. For the record, the issue was published in January 2026.

About this issue

The article by Betz, Schaefer, and Weskamp reports on the development of a novel type of variometer that does not use pressure signals as primary input but is entirely motion based, making use of a Global Navigation Satellite System (GNSS) receiver and a low-cost Inertial Measurement Unit (IMU). The result is a total energy compensated variometer with an unprecedented small time lag. The article presents the theoretical and system architecture development, as well as the hardware implementation and flight testing of the new variometer. Noteworthy is that the variometer hardware and software design are published as open source, and that this new type variometer is also commercially distributed as the Larus Gliding Sensor Unit under the SteFly brand. Some readers may already have flown with this variometer and will now find all the theoretical background in this article.

The peer review of this article was overseen by Associate Editor Dr. Goetz Bramesfeld.

Very Respectfully,

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