

Communication Theory Technical Committee Meeting
GLOBECOM '99
December 8, 1999
Hotel Intercontinental, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil

1. The meeting was called to order at 6:08 PM.

2. Conference Reports

GLOBECOM'99 (Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, 12/5-12/9) (E. Biglieri for CT Symposium, and K. Chugg and E. Esteves for General Conference) Our committee sponsored 12.5 sessions (out of 71 total sessions) and 2 tutorials. These include:

General Conference (3.5 sessions):

- Channel Modeling and Analysis, Y. Bar-Ness, K. Chugg (4 papers)
- Receiver Processing, L. Rasmussen, Y. Bar-Ness (8 papers)
- Mobile Ad-Hoc Networks, A. K. Salkintzis, T. Mathiopoulos, J. Silvester (8 papers)
- Signal Design for Modern Communication Systems, Nam Phamdo, E. Esteves (8 papers)

Communication Theory Symposium (9 sessions and 2 tutorials):

Sessions:

- Equalization, H. Sari (5 papers)
- Multiple-Antenna Systems, L. Cimini (5 papers)
- Turbo Codes and Iterative Decoding I, M. Costa (7 papers)
- Multi-User Communications, Y. Bar-Ness (8 papers)
- Source and Channel Coding, G. Caire (7 papers)
- CDMA, V. Cardoso (7 papers)
- Modulation and Demodulation, U. Mengali (7 papers)
- Fading Channels, M. Win (6 papers)
- Turbo Codes and Iterative Decoding II, G. Taricco (8 papers)

Tutorials:

- Space-Time Coding and Signal Processing for High Data Rate Wireless Communications, R. Calderbank, A. Naguib
- Orthogonal Frequency Division Multiplexing for Wireless Communications, L. J. Cimini, Y. Li

Hikmet Sari added that the Communication Theory Symposium sessions were well attended and the papers were of high quality, due to a large number of submissions (the acceptance rate was around 40%).

ICC 2000 (New Orleans, Louisiana, 6/18-6/22) (S. Gelfand) Saul Gelfand provided a summary report. Due to significant problems with the electronic distribution of papers and the review process, there had been no final decisions made on the papers and they were still not separated between the symposium and regular conference. Available statistics:

- 700 total conference submissions, roughly 300 papers of which to be accepted.
- About 158 total communication theory related submissions (more than GLOBECOM'99), roughly 80 papers of which to be accepted.
- 54 total sessions to be formed, 9 sessions for Communication Theory Symposium, and 3 committee-sponsored sessions in the General Conference.

Tentative sessions include:

- Equalization, synchronization, multiuser detection and interference suppression
- Space-time coding and modulation
- Turbo and related codes
- Iterative decoding
- OFDM, CDMA, hybrid systems
- Channel capacity
- Network related issues

The sessions are expected to be finalized by January 1, 2000.

Tutorial proposals include:

- Turbo Codes, S. Benedetto
- Synchronization, S. Bregni
- Analytical Tools for Wireless Communications Design, C. Tellambura
- Interference Suppression and Analysis for Wireless

Communications, S. Kartalopoulos

There is still room for more tutorial/workshop proposals.

Ender Ayanoglu added that the Communication Theory Symposium was assigned the largest number of sessions (i.e., 9+3 sessions). Other high numbers include: Personal Communications--6 sessions; Radio Communications--5 sessions.

GLOBECOM 2000 (San Francisco, California, 11/27-12/1) (M. Win and G. Chrisikos for CT Symposium, and A. Goldsmith for General Conference) Moe Win reported that the Communication Theory Symposium was approved.

Both electronic and hard-copy submissions will be accepted (hard copies will be scanned in pdf for electronic distribution in the review process). Electronic review Web site is being carefully prepared by Dale Harris. Two or three reviews will be obtained for each paper by May 4, 2000. Tentative sessions will be formed at ICC 2000 in New Orleans. There is an interest to increase industry participation in Globecom 2000.

Ender added that for Globecom 2000, all symposia were required to be sponsored by at least two technical committees. We approached the following technical committees and have all of them as co-sponsors of the Communication Theory Symposium during Globecom 2000: Personal Communications, Radio Communications, Signal Processing and Communications Electronics, and Signal Processing for Storage.

ICC 2001 (Helsinki, Finland, 6/11-6/15) (S. Benedetto and K. B. Letaif) Khaled Ben Letaif reported that there will be 9 symposia (including Communication Theory) running in parallel in terms of the review process. Proposals for names of the symposia are welcome. The conference is expected to be education-oriented, including as high as 48 tutorials, 20 application sessions, and extra room for solicited and invited papers.

GLOBECOM 2001 (San Antonio, Texas, 11/25-11/29): Ayman Naguib volunteered to be the General Conference representative. The committee is seeking other volunteers; please send email to lek@homewireless.com.

MILCOM (G. Saulnier) Information received from our MILCOM rep Gary Saulnier: Our committee sponsored 8 sessions at MILCOM '99 (Atlantic City, NJ, 10/31-11/3). A similar number of sessions is expected for MILCOM'00 to be held in Los Angeles, CA on October 22-25, 2000. Anyone interested in organizing and/or chairing a session should contact Gary at saulng@rpi.edu. In addition, since TRW will be heavily involved in organizing MILCOM'00, any related comments should be sent to Ron Smith ron.p.smith@trw.com.

3. Workshop Reports

Workshop 2000 (Grenelefe Resort, Florida, 5/7-5/10) (D. Schilling, R. Pickholtz, and K. Dominiak) Paul Kakaes reported that all the sessions had been finalized.

Workshop 2001 will be the 30th Workshop. The committee is seeking special events, e.g., reflections on the past, etc, to be held by members. We received the following proposal to organize Workshop 2001 from Texas A&M University.

-General Chair: S. Miller
 -Technical Program: C. Georghiades
 -Treasurer: X. Wang
 -Local Arrangements: K. Narayanan
 -Administrative Assistant: S. Simpson

A list of 5 potential sites in California were given, including Morro Bay, Pismo Beach (2 sites), Borrego Springs (desert resort), and San Diego Carmel Highlands. If anyone has suggestions for sites and/or would like to go check into these or other potential sites, please contact Scott Miller at smiller@ee.tamu.edu. A more exhaustive list of potential sites will be sent out to all members some time after the new year. The goal is to have the decision made by Workshop 2000.

4. Announcements

- As of January 1, 2000, Norm Beaulieu is becoming the new

Editor-in-Chief of IEEE Transactions on Communications.
The current EIC, Des Taylor, is taking on a new position as
EIC of IEEE Communications Letters.

- Summary of the TAC (Technical Activities Council) meeting:

* The Technical Information Reference Committee (TIC) has been recently formed (in January 1999) to set up a ComSoc Web portal. TIC is seeking input from individual technical committees to specify hot areas and add proper Web links to the site. Any suggestions for Communication-Theory-related links should be sent to Ender Ayanoglu, ender@ieee.org.

* Several Committees, e.g., Enterprise Networking, Network Operation and Management, and Information Infrastructure, revisited their charters.

- Hikmet Sari announced the 2nd International Symposium on Turbo Codes & Related Topics to be held in Brest, France, on September 4-7, 2000. The paper submission deadline is March 1, 2000. The members voted unanimously to sponsor the Symposium. Further information is available through the Web page of the Symposium, linked via the Committee's Web page: <http://www.comsoc.org/~comt>

5. The minutes of the ICC'99 meeting of the Committee were approved.

6. The meeting adjourned at 6:55 PM.