

Minutes of the FiWi Technical SubCommittee at OFC2014 in San Francisco, California on March 11, 2014

Location: Room 224, the Moscone Convention Center

Attendees: Xiaojun Cao, Georgia State University; Yongcheng Li, Soochow University; Massimo Tornatore, Politecnico di Milano; Avishek Nag, Trinity College Dublin; Partha Bhaumik, UC Davis; Yu Wu, UC Davis; Zhensheng Jia, ZTE (TX); Hung-chang Chien, ZTE (TX); Elaine Wong, University of Melbourne; Steven Shen, Soochow University; Pulak Chowdhury, UC Davis; Sudhir Dixit, HP.

1. The meeting started at 12:14 pm.
2. Sudir chaired the meeting.
3. Self-introduction of each participant.
4. Sudir self-introduced his own research experience.
5. Approval of the agenda, during which Sudir explained the importance of the FiWi technique.
6. Approval of the minutes of Globecom 2013
 - a) Sudir introduced the two new officers of the subcommittee, including an officer of membership and another of conference and workshop.
 - b) Sudir highlighted the objective of the SubTC: to make the subcommittee grow to a full committee.
 - c) Review and approval of Globecom 2013 minutes
7. Discussion on OFC 2014
 - a) Steven updated the paper submission and acceptance information on the “core networks” subcommittee of OFC 2014. There were around 90 submissions, and acceptance ratio was approximately 50%, close to the last few years. The submission number became stable.
 - b) Sudhir checked with the audience on the progresses of the FiWi technology on the OFC conference. Zhensheng Jia indicated that there was a workshop dedicated to the FiWi technology, on which some attendees had a hot debate on which technology was more suitable to radio over fiber, analog or digital over fiber. Based on the audience responses, there was still no clear consensus among academia and industry for these two choices. He also mentioned that there were some products of FiWi, which were based on the MIMO technique. Steven Shen and Matt Cao were also involved in the discussions and expressed their opinions.
8. Sudhir updated some data for the ONS symposium of ICC 2014.
 - a) For ONS, there were 30 papers accepted out of 75 submissions. There will be 5 ONS oral sessions, with 5 papers each, and the other 5 papers will be in a poster session. The oral sessions will have titles along the lines of: Visible Light Communications; Free-Space Optical Communications; Optical Networking; Scheduling, Switching and Signal Performance; Resource Allocation (precise titles might change). Note that the “systems”

type papers were predominantly in the optical-wireless (visible, IR and free-space comm.) area, with the “fixed optical” papers mainly on or related to networking, but nothing on fiber-wireless.

9. Sudhir also updated some data for the Workshop on Fiber-Wireless Integrated Technologies, Systems and Networks of ICC 2014.
 - a) Workshop on Fiber-Wireless Integrated Technologies, Systems and Networks will have 8 papers, 3 of which are invited and there are further 4 invited presentations.
10. Steven updated the information on the recent JSAC SI of “energy-efficient optical networks.”
 - a) The SI received 33 submissions, wherein 8 papers received a major revision decision. The special issue will appear in Sept. 2014 according to the schedule.
11. Sudhir updated the status of the JSAC SI of “Emerging Technology.”
 - a) FiWi as Area 7: Seventeen (17) manuscripts were submitted for possible publication in this special issue and five papers have been accepted. A majority of the papers in this special issue cover topics related to radio-over-fiber (RoF) using 60-GHz Orthogonal frequency-division multiplexing (OFDM) signals. The SI of “Emerging Technology” will be continued, but there will be no topic focused on FiWi.
12. Sudhir announced that there was an IEEE president candidate seeking for votes among the subcommittee.
13. There was no update for the website.
14. Other business
 - a) Sudhir encouraged the subcommittee members to organize workshops or conferences on FiWi for better promotion of the technology among the ComSoC community.
 - b) Sudhir sought for comments or suggestions on the new technology of FiWi from the audience. Matt Cao mentioned to apply SDN to the FiWi technology. Sudhir agreed and also mentioned several interesting aspects related to the FiWi technology, such as energy efficiency, wireless backhaul architecture, challenges of operation (e.g., digging streets for laying fibers), power, health, small cell technology, etc.
 - c) Massimo updated that there would be some change of technical track structure in the next year’s OFC. The FiWi SubTC will fit for the tracks of “access networks” and “network architecture.”
 - d) Some open discussions: Sudhir sought opinions on the technologies of “open flow,” “network virtualization,” “SDN,” etc. because these technologies were very active recently and could be paid more attention. Zhensheng strongly felt that the industry was leading the academia in the area of the SDN technology and the academia needed to catch up, and also, people were extending the SDN technique from the data communication field to transport networks. Matt agreed.
 - e) Matt announced ONTC meeting on the next day.
15. The meeting adjourned at 1:18 pm.

Minutes were recorded by Steven Shen.