

IEEE IT Workshop Status Report:

2006 IEEE Information Theory Workshop

Chengdu California Garden Hotel, Chengdu International Exhibition and Convention Center (CIECC), Chengdu, China, October 22 – October 26, 2006, <http://sist.swjtu.edu.cn/imc/itw06/>.

The preparation of the IEEE ITW'06 is progressing smoothly, as shown below.

1. Paper submission statistics

- Total 306 submissions received by the deadline, including 16 repeated submissions, 4 withdrawn submissions, resulting 286 (=306-16-4) effective submissions in total.
- Among the 286 effective submissions, 178 submissions from mainland China, 8 submissions from Hong Kong SAR and Taiwan, 100 submissions from other countries outside China.
- It is expected that the overall acceptance ratio might be 50%, with around 72% acceptance ratio for the oversea submissions, and around 38% for domestic submissions, resulting in a total of about 143 accepted papers. However, the final results will depend on the quality of the submissions.

2. Invited talks and technical program

- Plenary talks: four plenary speakers have been confirmed - Sergio Benedetto, Dick Blahut, Ralf Kotter, and Marc Fossorier. The specific topics of their talks will be decided shortly.
- Invited speakers: a number of session invited speakers have been confirmed, including
 - ✓ Error control codes (Chair: Torleiv Klove): Speakers: Alexei Ashikhmin, Jack Wolf, Radinka Yorgova
 - ✓ Iterative decoding and detection techniques (Chair: Marc Fossorier): Speakers: Hui Jin, Joseph Boutros
 - ✓ Data compression (Chair: Zhen Zhang): Speakers: En-hui Yang, Jun Yang, Da-ke He
 - ✓ Quantum-theoretical aspects of coding (Chair: Alexei Ashikhmin): Speakers: Markus Grassl, Mitsuru Hamada, Andreas Winter
 - ✓ Network coding (Chair: Emina Soljanin): Speakers: Tony Ephremides, Oyvind Ytrehus, Rudy Ahlswede
 - ✓ Space-time codes, multi-user, and MIMO (Chair: David Tse): Speakers: Pramod Viswanath
- Technical sessions: There will be both oral sessions and posters. However, due to the overwhelming number of submissions, it is possible that we will add a recent results session with 15 min presentations (similar to IEEE ITW'02) or have two parallel oral sessions in some time slots.

3. Financial aspects

- Contract has been signed with the Chengdu California Garden Hotel and a \$6.3K deposit has been paid.
- Received \$12.5K industry support - \$7.5K from Qualcomm (designated for sponsorship of the conference banquet) and \$5K from Seagate Technology.
- \$10K expected from NSF, which must be used to support travel for U. S. participants.
- IEEE loan (\$10K) has not yet been received. It is recommended to cancel this loan since we have

paid the deposit by using the donations from Qualcomm and Seagate.

4. Other

- Official approval to host the ITW'06 in Chengdu has been issued by the Chinese Government.
- Official approval has been received from IEEE Press to publish conference proceedings. The approved data are: IEEE Catalog Number: 06EX1268; ISBN: 1-4244-0067-8; Library of Congress: 2005937120.
- Negotiations with a couple of travel agencies for handling the Jiu Zhai Gou (National Park) and other tours are in progress and will be finalized once the number of accepted papers is known.

In summary, it is expected that we are going to have a successful ITW'06 in Chengdu!