IEEE Signal Processing Society
Sensor Array and Multichannel (SAM) Technical Committee
Minutes of the CAMSAP 2015 Meeting
Cancún, Mexico; December 15, 2015; 14:00-16:00
Grand Fiesta Americana Coral Beach Resort – Coral Garden

Present TC Members: André L.F. de Almeida, Waheed Bajwa, Volkan Cevher, Fulvio Gini, Maria Sabrina Greco, Martin Haardt (Vice-Chair), Marius Pesavento, Joseph Tabrikian, Peter Willett (Chair)

Guests: Petar Djurić, Rémy Boyer.

§1. Welcome of New TC Members and Guests

- The chair welcomed our returning (2nd term) members:
  Xavier Mestre, Philip Schniter, Ami Wiesel, Kainam Thomas Wong, and Chong-Yung Chi.
  He also welcomed our newly elected first-term members: Waheed Bajwa, Andre de Almeida, Piya Pal, Fauzia Ahmad, Qian He, Hongbin Li, and Francois Le Chevalier.
- Moreover, he thanked the outgoing members Maria Sabrina Greco, Yingbo Hua, Marco Lops, Steven Smith, Lee Swindlehurst, and Joseph Tabrikian.

§2. ICASSP Report from the Chair

§2.1 ICASSP 2016 Submissions
- SAM received 197 paper submissions (out of 2672 submissions) and 97 will be accepted. This corresponds to a 49 % acceptance rate, as the conference organizers have requested.
- Currently 5 Signal Processing Letters have been allocated to SAM sessions.
- The papers will be distributed to five lecture sessions (6 papers each) and eight poster sessions.

§3. Workshop Reports

§3.1 CAMSAP 2015
- Petar Djurić presented a report about the successful organization of CAMSAP 2015, currently held in Cancun (http://inspire.rutgers.edu/camsap2015/), Fiesta Americana Grand Coral Hotel, from December 13 – 16, 2015.
- CAMSAP 2015 includes of 2 tutorials, 5 plenaries, and 11 special poster sessions. The program includes 134 accepted papers by 421 authors: 65 regular papers (with an acceptance ratio of 81.25 %) and 69 papers in special sessions selected (with an acceptance ratio of 93.24 %) from 154 reviewed submissions.

§3.2 SAM 2016

- Martin Haardt presented a report about SAM 2016 (sam2016.cetuc.puc-rio.br) to be held at the Pontifical Catholic University of Rio de Janeiro (PUC-Rio).
- The workshop will take place from July 10 – 13, 2016, about a month before the 2016 Summer Olympic Games when Rio will offer plenty of cultural activities and festivities, which will make SAM 2016 a memorable experience.
- Five plenary speakers have already been confirmed (Stephen P. Boyd, Arye Nehorai, Robert Calderbank, A. Lee Swindlehurst, Hélio Librantz)
- Visas for Brazil are no longer needed to attend SAM 2016 for visitors from countries such as the USA, Canada, and China. This waiver will be valid until September 18, 2016 and should encourage more participants from these countries to attend SAM 2016.
- The website of SAM 2016 has been completed. If there is any information missing please inform the organizers.
- A few special sessions are being prepared but we will need more help from the SAM committee members. Please contact the organizers if you want to organize a special session.
- Special session proposals are due on **January 29, 2016.**
- The paper submission deadline is on **February 26, 2016**.
- The organizers will prepare an e-mail and a call for papers to send to e-mail reflectors.

§3.3 CAMSAP 2017
- André de Almeida presented a report about CAMSAP 2017 that will take place from December 10 - 13, 2017, in Curacao, Dutch Antilles. Note that the web site (http://www.cs.huji.ac.il/conferences/CAMSAP17/) is already operational.

§3.4 Ideas / Proposals for SAM 2018
- We would like to solicit proposals for our SAM workshop in 2018, so that we can discuss them and hopefully vote on them at our ICASSP 2016 SAM-TC meeting in March.
- Please let Peter Willett and Martin Haardt know if you are working on a proposal - or even if you are thinking of working on one.

§4. GlobalSIP

- As we know, the CAMSAP workshop has traditionally been held the middle week of December in odd years.
- In its first two editions, GlobalSIP was held during the first week of December in 2013 (Austin) and in 2014 (Atlanta). However, in 2015 GlobalSIP in Orlando conflicts directly with CAMSAP in Cancun (and with a SPE workshop).
- GlobalSIP 2016 in Washington D.C. will be chaired by Brian Sadler. It does not conflict with CAMSAP, since CAMSAP only takes place in odd years. Peter Willett could organize a track on behalf of the SAM TC.
- It is still open whether GlobalSIP will take place in 2017.

§5. Role of Members / Associate Members / Affiliate Members
- The SAM TC currently has 40 members, around 75 associate members, 85 affiliate members, and 25 student affiliate members.
- Associate members are mainly former TC members. Anyone can apply on the web to become an affiliate member. Associate and affiliate members support the TC by reviewing ICASSP papers.
- Peter Willett will update the membership lists.

§6. Replacement of a Resigning Member

- A newly elected SAM TC member wants to leave the IEEE and our TC.
- The next person that has received most of the votes in the election (Gonzalo Mateos) will be asked to replace him.

§7. New Awards Procedures

- According to SPS Policy 5.7 (accepted wording) "TC/SIG's may not nominate a current elected member of their own TC/SIG for an award. However, current elected members of a TC/SIG may participate as individual nominators for other members of the same TC/SIG."
- The bottom line is:
    - A TC *may* make nominations for paper- and personal awards that do not involve (current!) TC members
    - A TC may *not* make nominations for paper- and personal awards that do not involve current TC members, *but*
    - a TC may nominate or endorse members of *other* TCs
    - an individual TC member can nominate or endorse another member of that TC
- The new policies did not have a significant effect this year.
- The SAM TC has nominated the following papers and individuals for awards in 2015
    - IEEE Signal Processing Magazine Best Column Award, Petre Stoica and Prabhu Babu: "The Gaussian Data Assumption Leads to the Largest Cramér-Rao Bound," IEEE Signal Processing Magazine, May 2011.
    - Best Paper Award, M. A. Davenport, P. T. Boufounos, M. B. Wakin, and R. G. Baraniuk: "Signal Processing With Compressive Measurements," IEEE Journal of Selected Topics in Signal Processing, April 2010.
    - Young Author Best Paper Award, D. S. Papailiopoulos and A. G. Dimakis: "Interference Alignment as a Rank Constrained Rank Minimization," IEEE Transactions on Signal Processing, August 2012.
    - SPL Best Paper Award, Argyrios Zymnis , Stephen Boyd , and Emmanuel Candès; "Compressed Sensing With Quantized Measurements," IEEE Signal Processing Letters, February 2010.
    - SPM Best Paper Award, Alex B. Gershman, Nicholas D. Sidiropoulos, Shahram Shahbazpanahi, Mats Bengtsson, and Björn Ottersten: "Convex Optimization Based Beamforming," IEEE Signal Processing Magazine, May 2010.
    - Distinguished Lecturer: Brian Sattler
    - Sustained Impact Award, Richard Roy and Thomas Kailath. "ESPRIT-estimation of signal parameters via rotational invariance techniques." IEEE Transactions on Acoustics, Speech and Signal Processing, 1989.
- The Chair also mentioned that proposals are welcome for the newly created Fourier Award (https://www.ieee.org/about/awards/tfas/fourier.html) "For an outstanding contribution to the advancement of signal processing, other than in the areas of speech and audio processing". Past winners are Georgios Giannakis and Bede Liu. The due date for nominations is January 31, 2016. The TCs are permitted neither to nominate nor endorse; but if you are considering making a nomination our Awards Subcommittee can help to advise.
- Moreover, he invites suggestions for new Associate Editors for the journals of the IEEE Signal

Processing Society.

§8. Discussion Topics

- It has been proposed to create a permanent place for SAM and CAMSAP web sites (e.g., the CAMSAP 2013 has already been erased by Stevens) to document previous conferences (including student paper finalists, tutorial and /or plenary slides, TPC members).
- Peter Willett will contact the IEEE Signal Processing Society to secure such a permanent home.

§6. Close of the Meeting

- We plan to have the next SAM TC meeting during ICASSP 2016 in Shanghai. Hopefully most of our members will be able to participate in this meeting.

- The meeting was adjourned at 15:00 and all the agenda items were covered.