

Chairman's Message

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Dear Friends,

Wish you all a very happy and prosperous new year 2010.

It gives me immense pleasure to mention that IEEE Madras Section organized a Workshop on "RF & Microwave Circuits & Systems" on Dec 14, 2009 at SAMEER-Centre for Electromagnetics, Chennai in which more than 125 delegates participated. The following resource persons delivered lectures on different topics in microwaves:

- Dr. Barry S. Perlman, Life Fellow of IEEE, Associate Director, U.S. Army Communications-Electronics RD & E Center
- Dr. Samir El-Ghazaly, Fellow of IEEE, President, Distinguished Prof. and HOD of Electrical Engineering at Univ. of Arkansas: Miniaturized RF Components
- Dr. Madhu S. Gupta, Fellow of IEEE, Prof. and RF Systems Industrial Chair, Director, Communication Systems and Signal Processing Institute: Phase Noise in Oscillators-Characterization, Simulation and Optimization
- Dr. Vijay Nair, Fellow of IEEE, Member IEEE MTT-S ADOM, Principal Research Scientist at Intel Corporation, Phoenix, AZ: Heterogenous Network Communication devices
- Dr. Shibam Kishen Koul, Prof., CARE, IIT Delhi: Millimeter wave Integrated Circuit Techniques & Technology
- Dr. P. Hanumantha Rao, Scientist – SAMEER: Electromagnetic Bandgap Structures (EBG)
- Dr. Amitava Das Gupta, Prof., IITM, Chennai: RF MEMS applications and components

Ms. S. Vidya, the final year student of B.E. (ECE) in NIT, Trichy presented their web based software developed under the guidance of Prof. Dr. S. Raghavan for Smith Chart calculations and design of array multiplication and radiation patterns of antennas.

A Faculty Development Programme on "Graphical Systems Design Concepts (Using Labview)" was conducted by IEEE Madras Section on 18 & 19 Dec 2009 in association with Dept. of ECE, Aarupadai Veedu Institute of Technology. The resource persons include Prof. K. Jayaraman, School of Electrical Sciences, VIT, Vellore and experts from Trident Techlabs Pvt Ltd, Bangalore.

It was a memorable day, the 21st Nov 2009, when the IEEE Execom meeting was conducted at Numeric Power Systems Ltd., Semmancherry, Chennai which was founded by one of our Execom members Mr. R. Chellappan. The members got an opportunity to visit the solar power plant and other facilities available there. On behalf of IEEE Madras Section, we thank Mr. R. Chellappan for the hospitality extended during our visit.

All the IEEE members are requested to renew their memberships for the year 2010. For further details, please visit www.ieee.org.

From The Editor's Desk

H.R. Mohan
hrmohan@gmail.com



Dear Friends,

The current issue of LINK, the last in the year 2009 is in your hands with regular features and few interesting items such as "Effects of Climate Change Today", "Common Myths about Ubiquitous Computing", "Emerging Technology in 2009" and "Kaizen" to provide points to ponder. An article by the student member Mr. S. Bala Ragavendran on "The Navigator GPS Receiver" is a timely one.

The "Climate Change" issues are attracting greater attention globally and our country is being targeted by the developed nations. While every one agrees that there is a definite need to reduce the emission of Greenhouse Gases, the industrialized nations should lead the way and also support the other countries in achieving the goal. Cleaner and renewable energy will help us in the long run.

LINK draws the attention of the staff members of various institutions to inform the students to utilize the new combined and cost effective membership offer for the year 2010 in IEEE & IEEE CS with access rights to the IEEE CS Digital Library at just USD 40 per year. It is right time to increase the membership strength.

LINK is pleased to report the student branch activities of Jeppiaar Engineering College which includes a technical awareness programme, Website launch and the induction programme along with the inauguration of the student branch at Sri Eshwar College of Engineering.

Brief reports of the events organized by the IEEE Computer Society such as CIO Meet on "Openbravo – an open source, Web based ERP", Talk on "Web 2.0 / Web 3.0 – Hype or Hope" and a Presentation on "Data Integration Technology and Tools" appear in this issue of LINK. With the increase in the use of Internet, there is an increase in the cyber crimes. Deliberations of the day long workshop organized by the Cyber Society of India and supported by the IEEE Computer Society are also published in this issue.

LINK congratulates Mr. C.A. Sanjiv Kumar of M.N.M. Jain Engineering College and Mr. M.N. Gokul of Mahindra Satyam, the winners of Info Contest - 0911 who will receive a prize of Rs. 500/= each sponsored by SRA Systems.

LINK draws the attention of readers to the Intl. Conf. on Wireless Communications and Sensor Computing to be held at Chennai in Jan 2010. Readers may pl. respond to the call for papers for the conferences on "Information and Software Engineering", and "Advances and Emerging Trends in Computing Technologies".

LINK still gets contributions for publishing without following the recommended guidelines. May we request the contributors to adhere to the guidelines (available Section website at www.ewh.ieee.org/r10/madras) while submitting the materials for publication, failing which, they may get ignored.

LINK wishes all its readers A HAPPY AND PROSPEROUS NEW YEAR 2010.

Technical Awareness Program by Jeppiaar Engineering College



The 2nd Technical Awareness Program (TAP) under the “We Can Bring The Change” campaign was held on 6th Aug, 2009 at St. Raphael’s girls school in Santhome, Chennai. The program was organized by the IEEE student branch of Jeppiaar Engineering College.

The group consisted of 60 members from the various departments like EEE, ECE, E&I, CSE & IT and from various years like 2nd, 3rd & 4th was split into 16 teams and they made more than 20 presentations to the students. The group was lead by staff coordinator Mr. T. Arun Srinivas and Miss. Reena Joshi.

The topics presented include: nanobots, vision mars, ngx fuels, biometrics, face

recognition system, animal communication, submarine, RNAI, large hadron collider, Microsoft surfacing, OLED, flying cars.

The program was inaugurated by the principal of the school. There were two sessions on 1.5 hours — pre and post lunch.

Most of the videos presented were edited and formatted in such a way that it would lead to a better and simpler way of understanding the latest technologies. The presenters were eloquent and interactive when it was their turn.

The students on the other side were very active and enthusiastic with this new way of approaching education. This was a completely

a new experience for them, as it was a concept of fun with learning.

The vision and mission of this program is to reach as many students as possible. Specially, those students who are less fortunate in terms of quality education and infrastructure, we try to reach these masses through this program and help them discover the numerous opportunities available for them in the global phenomenon.

We consider this as a process of giving back something to the society that we live in. If we, a team of 60 can reach up 500 students within a span of 6 months through two programs, consider a no. of these unfortunate students who can benefited if the same program is propagated from all the 137 student branches of Madras Section and what if it is extended to all the 400 odd colleges in the Tamil Nadu. It will lead to an education revolution, which would not only improve the quality of education, but also the possibility of creating the awareness about the varied fields and their consequential possibilities.

So our aim as a student branch is to reach these children and enlighten through these fun learning programs coupled with activities and attractive prizes for grabbing their attention. In this endeavor, we have the able support of our chairman Dr. Jeppiaar, our dynamic directors Mr. Marie Wilson, Mrs. Regena Wilson and our branch counselor Mr. Sellakumar. We are thankful to all the above mentioned generous hearts, as it is only because of their continuous support we are able to reach such great heights.

IEEE Computer Society System Competition

The purpose of the competition is to promote excellence in the design of a system by a team of students. The IEEE Computer Society has constructed a realistic and non-trivial task that requires a group of students to solve a real-world problem.

Judging will be carried out according to the following criteria:

- o Originality of the architecture designed
- o Functionality, quality, and versatility of the simulator
- o The use of software engineering in the design of the simulator

The simulator must be able to run on typical PCs under Windows. We appreciate that some may find this restriction restrictive.

However, not all judges, evaluators, and users will have alternative operating systems on their home computers.

Each team must certify that their reports and software are their own work and have not been derived (with or without permission) from other sources.

A team may consist of three to five students at an institution of higher education. All members of the team must be on a course leading to a first degree. Note that team members do not necessarily have to be on a computer science degree course – the only restriction is that they are students.

A top prize of \$7,000 will be awarded to the team the judges declare the overall winner.

Prizes of \$1,000 will be awarded to the winning team in each of these categories:

- o Originality of the architecture designed
- o Functionality, quality, and versatility of the simulator
- o The use of software engineering in the design of the simulator

The deadline for registration is 11 January 2010 & for the submission is 9 April 2010.

For more details, pl. visit: <http://www.computer.org/portal/web/competition/home>

Visit our Website
www.ewh.ieee.org/r10/madras

IEEE Student Branch Website Launch at Jeppiaar Engineering College



The IEEE members meet was held on 7th July, 2009 in Jeppiaar Engineering College Auditorium. It was a meet filled with surprises. The chief guests for the event were the directors of Jeppiaar Eng College, Mr.N. Marie Wilson and Mrs. Regeena Wilson. The function was also preceded over by the HOD of EEE department Mr. R.Madhusudhanan, HOD of ECE department Mr.Venugopal and our branch counselor Mr.S. Sellakumar.

The welcome address was given by Mr.F.Felix Chairman IEEE Student Branch JEC. The first surprise gift for the members was the

launch of IEEE Student Branch-JEC website. The site was launched by our beloved directors Mr.N.Marie Wilson and Mrs. Regeena Wilson. The launch of the website was followed by a session explaining the various features available in it and its varied applications. The site was designed by our student member Mr. M. Bertin, Final year EEE, our web designer who has put a lot of effort in building this website.

After the launch on the web session, it was the turn of our directors to give their feedback about the site and their valuable insights. The first in line was our madam

Director Mrs. Regeena Wilson who was overwhelmed by the efforts put in by our members and also appreciated the efforts of our web designer for my coming out with such a beautiful product. She concluded her speech by saying that she expects more from the team and hopes that they will satisfy her expectations.

Mr. Marie Wilson, appreciated the efforts taken by the IEEE Student Branch JEC, as he was thrilled and upheld by the continuous growth of this student branch and its path breaking success. The interactive features of the website were specially highlighted and he suggested the involvement of more students from different departments in the forth coming events. He had made some surprise announcements for the members. He announced that the best innovative project from the final year would earn a prize of Rs. 25,000 and a laptop, the best IEEE student member from the final year would be given a prize of Rs. 20,000. The webmaster or the person updating the website would be given Rs.1000 per month. These announcements were a heartening surprise to the members, as they were enthralled by the opportunity of obtaining recognition through sincere efforts.

Inauguration of Student Branch activities at Sri Eshwar College of Engineering



The IEEE student branch activities of Sri Eshwar College of Engineering were inaugurated on 31st October 2009. Prof. Ramalatha Marimuthu, IEEE WIE Asia-Pacific co-ordinator and HOD, Karpaga Vinayaga College of Engineering & Technology, graced the occasion as the chief guest.

The function started with a prayer song. The Principal Dr. S. John Alexis welcomed the gathering. IEEE student branch member Ms.R.Tharani, II EEE introduced the chief guest. The chief guest inaugurated the IEEE student branch activities and delivered the inaugural address detailing out the benefits of

being an IEEE member and also encouraged the students to join in Women-In-Engineering affinity group. The student branch members Mr.V. Arun and Mr. S. Karthick explained the students about the mission of IEEE.

The director, Mr. R. Rajaram presided over the function. At the end, Mr. B. Hemananth, IEEE student branch counsellor proposed vote of thanks.

Behind the success of this function, lie the hard work of all teaching and non teaching staff members and the young energetic students of Sri Eshwar College of Engineering.

The student branch office bearers

Chair person	: Divya. S (II EEE)
Vice-Chair person	: Tamil Selvan. S.N (II ECE)
Secretary	: Samson Amalkumar. S (II EEE)
Join secretary	: Arun. V (II ECE)
Treasurer	: Sriram. G (II EEE)

Student Membership

Join IEEE and the IEEE Computer Society, and receive FREE access to the Computer Society Digital Library (CSDL) for only \$40. The 2010 membership year begins early September 2009 — mark your calendar now to become a member of IEEE and the IEEE Computer Society for just \$40, and get access to the Computer Society Digital Library.PI. visit <http://www2.computer.org/portal/web/membership/join>

Section Membership as on 15th December 2009

Life Fellow	-	1
Fellow	-	1
Life Senior	-	7
Senior Member	-	74
Life Member	-	4
Member	-	1648
Associate	-	98
Affiliate	-	39
Graduate Student Member	-	765
Student Member	-	4748
Total	-	7,385

Induction Program at Jeppiaar Engineering College



The Induction program at Jeppiaar Engineering College was held on 12th Sep 2009. The challenging part about this program was that we did not invite any guest speakers from outside the college. We ourselves (i.e. 2nd,3rd & 4th years) not only took charge as the organisers, but also held the responsibility of presenting the various topics.

The welcome address was given by Ms.Vinya, 2nd ECE. The first presentation was given by Ms.Satya Prabha, 2nd CSE on "Mission of IEEE". This was followed by a presentation by Bertin.M, 4th year EEE (Web-designer, IEEE SB JEC) on "Benefits of IEEE" - a valuable session as it highlighted the various benefits experienced by any IEEE member.

"Eye Opener -I" session was presented by Hemanth.S (Chief Advisor, IEEE SB JEC),

4th year ECE, which highlighted the various qualities that a successful professional should possess. As its title suggests, it was a completely eye opening session, as the young professionals were given the opportunity to know about the various successful people in all walks of life.

This was followed up by the activities like "Answer my previous question" and "Spin-a-yawn", for which there were many volunteers from the audience took part. The hosts for this session were Bhokasio Bervin Raja, 3rd EEE (Vice-Chairman, IEEE SB JEC), Anish Amal Raj.A, 2nd EEE, Anjali, 2nd ECE, Snehaline Viji, 2nd ECE. These activities were an instant hit among audiences as it invoked their enthusiasm to participate in the events.

The activities were followed up by a

session on "About IEEE" by Anand, 2nd EEE, Rohit, 2nd ECE. This was the session which broke the basic myth on the various confusions related to a person's role on IEEE.

The "Eye Ppener-2" session conducted by F. Felix, (Chairman, IEEE SB JEC) was dedicated to enlighten the students about the various aspects of human life. The session as a whole could be summarised in four letters "IIII" which stands for insight, innovation, inspiration and influence. The speaker linked these four 'I's with the various ways in which it affects an individual. The "Eye Ppener-2" revealed the difference between response and reaction to a particular instance.

All the above mentioned sessions were actually a culmination of thought, actions and effective implementations, along with the active participation of the audience. The program was a instant hit among the first years and the feedback session revealed that we have achieved, what we had actually targeted. There were more than 200 students, who were interested in joining as student members, which not only achieved our initial target but also went beyond our expectations.

We thank our chairman Dr.Jeppiaar our beloved directors Mr.Marie Wilson, Mrs.Regeena Wilson and our dynamic SB Councillor Mr.Sella Kumar.

Report by F.Felix, Chairman, IEEE SB Jeppiaar Engineering College

CIO Meet on "Openbravo - an open source, Web based ERP and Point-of-Sale solution"

IEEE Computer Society, Madras Chapter & CIO Forum of CSI Chennai jointly organized along with Essentia Soft Solutions, the CIO meet and a presentation on "Openbravo - an open source, Web based ERP and Point-of-Sale solution" by Mr. Manel Sarasa, CEO, Open Bravo and Mr. Paolo Juvara, CTO, Openbravo on Tuesday, 27th Oct 2009.

Mr. H.R. Mohan, Chairman, IEEE CS in his opening remarks highlighted the growing adoption of Open Source Products by the enterprises to reduced the TCO and avoid vendor lock-in. He also said that the professional from India have started contributing for the Open Source. He added that the IEEE CS & CSI have started the Open Source Software Product Development Forum in association with Essentia to induct the engineering students in the OSS area. Then Dr. Gopi Ganapathy, CEO and Director of Essentia Soft Solutions

provided an overview of Essentia and Open Bravo and said that Essentia is setting up competency and support centre for many open source products in India in particular at Chennai.

Mr. Manel Sarasa and Mr. Paolo Juvara presentation covered details on Openbravo (www.openbravo.com), an award-winning developer of professional open source solutions for businesses, offering the industry's first real alternative to proprietary enterprise software. It's web-based Enterprise Resource Planning (ERP) and Point of Sale (PoS) solutions, the most popular in their respective market, have been downloaded more than a million times and are used in over 50 countries. Openbravo's growth is fueled by an ever expanding international community of users, partners and developers. Openbravo's commercial open source business model eliminates software license fees, providing support, services, and

product enhancements via an annual subscription.

Openbravo, offers real alternative to proprietary ERP solutions and has attributes that are appealing to Small and Medium Enterprises. It was highlighted that till now, many companies have been unable to afford an ERP solution and now Openbravo ERP gives them an option to go for a full-fledged ERP solution at an affordable cost and at a fraction of the cost of other existing commercial solutions. The presentation highlighted the features and comparative advantages of Openbravo Vs other standard ERP solutions.

This CIO meet attracted a participation of over 80 and comprised of industry professionals and academic community. The industry professionals looking for alternative solutions at a lower cost got their apprehensions on open source products clarified. Dr. Gopi Ganapathy of Essentia, to a query on SaaS model for Openbravo said that there is a proposal to set up such a facility at Chennai soon.



IEEE MAS LINK SRA Systems

Info Contest

H.R. Mohan

Chairman, IEEE CS, Madras Chapter
Editor, IEEE MAS LINK
AVP (Systems), The Hindu, Chennai

This is the 20th edition in the series of Info Contest – a regular column in our newsletter IEEE MAS LINK. The content mix now includes some General Knowledge questions in addition to IT related. This, we believe would provide an overall exposure and also facilitate more participation.

TWO lucky winners who answer to maximum no. of questions and early (selected by lot if multiple entries qualify) will receive an award of Rs. 500/= each, sponsored by SRA Systems.

Members are encouraged to participate in the contest and win prizes. Answers are to be sent by EMAIL ONLY. Please follow the guidelines provided at the end of the questions.

Info Contest – 0912

This contest has 25 questions in five sections — A, B, C, D & E — each having five questions.

A. In the following acronyms/ abbreviations “L” stands for what.

- A1. LF
- A2. DLL
- A3. LZW
- A4. BLOB
- A5. CJLI

B. Provide / Select the answer.

- B1. According to Google zeitgeist, in 2009, the largest queries were made on Michael Jackson / Facebook
- B2. First IT Company to surpass \$100 billion in annual revenue. IBM / HP
- B3. Jungle-Search.com is associated with finding the deals available with which Web site
- B4. Identify the company from its tagline “The ultimate in clean power”
- B5. Whose winning entry for the

Doodle4Google India contest appeared for the whole day on Google’s India homepage.

C. Provide the answer / Fill in the blanks.

- C1. _____ is the initial name of Google
- C2. AMD codenames its notebook platforms based on _____
- C3. _____ is the Indian researcher behind ‘SixthSense’, “a wearable gestural interface”
- C4. The nationality of Linus Torvalds is _____
- C5. Sir Tim Berners-Lee, the creator of the World Wide Web, has confessed and apologised for _____, the ‘unnecessary’ part of a Web address

D. Select the correct answer.

- D1. Murphy & Kelly are the common names of Ireland / Scotland
- D2. Which is considered as the universal currency? Euro / US Dollar
- D3. After Delhi, which metro leads in teledensity. Chennai / Mumbai
- D4. The oldest model from Maruti. Omni / 800
- D5. World’s largest two wheeler maker. Hero Honda / Bajaj

E. Fill in the blanks / Provide the answer.

- E1. ‘The World On Time’ is the tagline of _____
- E2. The game, Table Tennis is also known as _____
- E3. Cloned animals age faster than normal animals. State True / False
- E4. The recent UN Climate Summit was held at _____
- E5. Duodecennial occurs every _____ years.

Guidelines to submit the answers to the Info Contest by email.

In the Subject,

- Write the Contest No. (Info Contest – 0912) in the subject line.

In the body of the mail,

- In the first line, write the contest No: Info Contest – 0912
- In the second line, write your membership no.

- In the third line, write your email id.
- In the fourth line, write your name.
- In the fifth line, write your college / organization name
- In the sixth line, write the answers to the five questions of Section A, separated by comma.
- In the seventh line, write the answers to the five questions of Section B, separated by comma.
- In the eighth line, write the answers to the five questions of Section C, separated by comma.
- In the ninth line, write the answers to the five questions of Section D, separated by comma.
- In the tenth line, write the answers to the five questions of Section E, separated by comma.

As the evaluation of the entries is automated, pl. ensure the above guidelines are followed.

Email the answers to:
hrmohan.infocontest@gmail.com

The last date to receive the answers by email is 5th Jan 2010.

Info Contest – 0911 Answers & Winners

Answers:

Computer, Certified, Cyan, Commerce, Command
Catamaran, HDD, Google Wave, Asus, False
Doodle, Nook, Photon+, HTC, Sixth Sense
Japan, Nile, Germany, Kozhikode, Dubai
Aghani Bora, Chandigarh UT, Demark,
Andhra Pradesh, Meira Kumar

Winners:



Sanjiv Kumar C.A
M.N.M Jain Engineering College
Mem No.: 90697124
Email: sanjivece@gmail.com



Melappalayam N. Gokul
Mahindra Satyam
Mem No : 80659991
Email: ngokul25@gmail.com

Both the above will be awarded a prize of Rs. 500/= each. LINK acknowledges with thanks the sponsorship of the awards by SRA Systems (www.srasystems.com).

Workshop on 'Combating Cyber Crimes in financial transactions and the role of Standards'

A workshop on Combating Cyber Crimes in financial transactions and the role of Standards was held on 23rd Oct 2009. The workshop was organized by the Cyber Society of India and supported by the Madras Chapter of the IEEE Computer Society and CSI Chennai Chapter.

The workshop started with a welcome address by Chairman Shri R. Ramamurthy. He gave an introduction of CySI's activities and a brief account of CySI's commitment in spreading awareness on Cyber Crimes and related areas. Talking from his past experience of participating in international conferences on Cyber Crimes, he narrated the various crime-prone areas and the tasks ahead for citizens, investigators, governments and finally the NGOs.

The Chief Guest of the workshop Shri T.S. Krishnamurthy was introduced by Shri K. Srinivasan, CEO Prime Point Foundation and a founder-life member of CySI. While introducing, he narrated the tremendous contribution of Shri TSK in his role as Chief Election Commissioner, when for the first time, the country went on a 100% EVM-based elections.

Shri T. S. Krishnamurthy former Chief Election Commissioner inaugurated the workshop. In his inaugural address, he briefly discussed the cyber crime scenario in the country. He narrated the various vulnerable areas in computers and stressed the need for increasing awareness on the use of computers, its fraud-prone areas. He wondered how even educated people fall an innocent prey to computer crimes falling victims to greed for money. He presented the modus operandi in Nigerian Crimes; credit card frauds etc., and finally lauded the efforts of CySI and assured to be closely associated with the activities of CySI in all its socio-academic activities in future.

Shri A. Vijay Kumar, Life Member of CySI introduced Shri C.L. Ramakrishnan, former DGP adding that as a former DGP and a former DVAC, he has rendered memorable service in the police force, which is worthy of emulation for any police official. He added that Shri CLR enrolled for and completed his Ph.D. in Vedanta after his retirement.

Shri C.L. Ramakrishnan, delivering the key-note address stressed the relevance of I.T. Act, the circumstances under which the Act was passed and its use in investigation. Drawing

from his experience as a top police official of the State, he said the basic urge to commit any fraud is greed and lust for some thing that do not belong to the individual. He said that only the modes of committing the crime vary in a cyber crime and it is basically an electronic variant of normal crime only. He jocularly added that in a cyber crime, it is sometimes easy to commit and difficult to detect, whereas a normal and physical crime is difficult to commit and easy to detect. He highlighted the efforts of the police in nabbing a cyber criminal and the special tasks that it normally involves.

Mr. H.R. Mohan, Chairman, IEEE Computer Society in his brief address stated that the computer crimes are not reported properly and awareness level on cyber crimes is low even among professionals and added that the professional bodies such as CySI, CSI & IEEE CS should join together and organize similar events across the country.

After the tea break, Shri V. Rajendran, Secretary of Cyber Society of India and a practicing Cyber Law Advocate and Consultant presented the various cyber crimes reported and the role and relevance of I.T. Act 2000 and the amendment Act 2008. He presented some of the most important sections of the Act and compared it with the significant provisions of I.P.C. which bear relevance in the I.T. scenario. He presented how effective the Act has been, over the past years and the significance of the 2008 amendments.

Shri N.R. Krishnamukar, Regional Director of DNV, the main sponsors of the event gave a very rich presentation. He described the best practices in the industry to combat cyber crime and the usefulness of ISO 27001 standards and 27002 standards. He discussed the requirements of such standards and highlighted the importance of putting these into practice and going for the appropriate certification adding that expenditure on adherence to best practices and standards is like expenditure spent on a life-jacket or a fire-extinguisher and that the return on such expenditure should never be calculated in simple terms.

After the lunch break, Dr B. Muthukumaran, Chief Security Consultant of Gemini Communications Ltd presented the security aspects in a typically networked environment stressing upon the need for having sound systems like anti-virus, fire-wall with intrusion prevention and intrusion detection. He

gave a demo in the form of video clipping of a typical scenario describing the features of good security practices in a corporate organization. He urged upon the corporates and security heads present to understand the requirements of a sound security policy in the organisation.

Shri S.N. Ravichandran, from CySI Coimbatore gave a simple interesting and user-friendly talk on the various cyber crime cases being reported to the police every day. He explained the practical difficulties in investigating a cyber crime. He stressed the importance of parental care and monitoring when the children browse the net. He also explained how many vital cases go un-reported and how many ISPs and Banks handle such issues without proper care that they deserve, like opening an account without address verification in a Bank, giving a mobile with an id proof etc.

Shri M.L. Srinivasan, started his rich presentation commenting about the meaning of the words, threats, vulnerabilities and risks. He described the practical implications of risks in an enterprise and described what is popularly called a bot and botnet. He gave pictorial representations of how a computer system gets affected by a bot and how it acts as a zombie invariably without the knowledge of the rightful owner of the PC. He gave useful tips on how to guard against such threats for a home user as well as for a corporate user.

Participants gave a wonderful feed-back introducing one after another. Participants from banks commented that more sessions could have been included on topics concerning cyber crime areas in financial transactions especially in banking. Almost everyone praised the way the workshop was conducted sticking to the time schedule and giving a good coverage of all the areas planned for.

There was a very good interactive session with participants posing questions on the various areas covered by the speakers, right from mobile frauds, credit card frauds, phishing, guarding against id theft etc

At the end, Shri U.P. Prakasham, Treasurer of CySI summed up the entire proceedings of the day in a very brief and crisp manner narrating the highlights of every session. He proposed vote of thanks thanking everyone for the successful conduct of the programme and every participant for the valuable contribution in the interactive and other sessions.

*Report by Shri V. Rajendran, Secretary,
Cyber Society of India*

The Navigator GPS Receiver



S. Bala Ragavendraa
II year, EEE
Sri Muthukumar Institute
of Technology.
E-Mail: balaphantom@gmail.com

Abstract: *Until now, Global Positioning System (GPS) receivers, while providing an accurate and inexpensive means of navigation, have been limited to low Earth orbit (LEO) missions. This innovative receiver technology developed by NASA Goddard Space Flight Center is a leap forward for GPS technology. The Navigator is an autonomous, real-time, fully space-flight-qualified GPS receiver with exceptional capabilities for fast signal acquisition and weak signal tracking. These features enable the use of GPS navigation in high Earth orbit (HEO), geostationary orbit, and other high altitude applications.*

Technology Details

Because GPS signals at altitudes above the GPS constellation are 10 to 100 times weaker and less densely populated, GPS receivers have not been feasible for use above LEO. The Navigator is a radiation-hardened GPS receiver specifically designed for use in high Earth orbits. It is capable of significantly faster acquisition times and tracking for both strong and weak signals. It requires no external data, and its fast acquisition enables it to be powered down in any orbit until needed.

How it works

In order to determine positioning using GPS, a receiver must first acquire the GPS signals and then track those signals simultaneously. When tracking the signal, the receiver holds and extracts data, making range measurements from each satellite. Those measurements are processed to determine the position of each satellite and then extrapolate the receiver's position. To enable it to acquire GPS signals very quickly and also track weak signals, the radiation-hardened Navigator receiver utilizes a bank of hardware correlates, a Cold Fire microprocessor, and a specialized fast acquisition module. The hardware is implemented in VHSIC Hardware Description Language (VHDL) to target radiation-hardened Field Programmable Gate Arrays (FPGA) rather than Application-specific Integrated Circuits (ASIC), in order to maintain flexibility for growth and design modifications.

Autonomous operation

One of the Navigator's two design principles was autonomous operation to

promote the feasibility of using GPS for onboard navigation of geostationary (GEO) or other high altitude space missions. With the exception of GPS signals, Navigator requires no external data (e.g., current estimate of time, recent GPS almanac, or converged navigation filter estimate of the receiver dynamics).

Data processing software

By double buffering data up front in 1ms blocks, data can be processed as it is acquired. A discrete Fourier transform (DFT) is used to calculate the 1 ms correlations. Time is significantly reduced by using a FFT algorithm to compute these DFT's. Computational efficiency is optimized and tradeoffs among sampling rate, data format, and data-path bit rate are carefully weighed in order to increase performance of the algorithm.

In addition, the Navigator's hardware-independent receiver software includes both a hardware interface to perform low-level functions, such as controlling the acquisition engine and tracking loops as well as basic navigation software. The navigation software runs on the Nucleus real-time operating system and forms measurements; provides standard position, velocity, and time-point solutions (when four or more satellites are being tracked); and handles commanding and telemetry messages. It also is capable of determining attitude when it is set up with an appropriate antenna configuration. Onboard orbit determination and accurate state estimation/propagation during periods with no GPS access are accomplished by integration with the GPS Enhanced Onboard Navigation System (GEONS).

Accuracy enhancement: Augmentation

Augmentation methods of improving accuracy rely on external information being integrated into the calculation process. There are many such systems in place and they are generally named or described based on how the GPS sensor receives the information. Some systems transmit additional information about sources of error others provide direct measurements of how much the signal was off in the past, while a third group provide additional navigational or vehicle information to be integrated in the calculation process.

Future take-up

It is likely that GPS will remain the hub around which navigation applications are centered for some time to come, although gradually this role will be taken on by a few different GNSS, including Galileo and Glonass, which will work alongside GPS. However, the role of other techniques, such as map-matching

and inertial systems, as well as GNSS assistance and augmentation data, is likely to be critical in the future success of GNSS.

For many tasks, especially those that are not critical, GPS alone is adequate. For the rest, the perceived success of GNSS (and GPS) will be underpinned by many other underlying positioning techniques and technologies. It will be the way these disparate technologies can be fused together that will lead to wide-scale robust and reliable positioning for navigation applications.

Benefits

- **Enables GPS in High Earth Orbit:** It can acquire and track even very weak signals and requires no external data, (e.g., ground station uplinks of position, velocity or time), the Navigator receiver enables use of GPS in high Earth orbits (HEO), geostationary orbits, and other high altitude uses.
- **Acquires Signals Faster:** By employing efficient Fast Fourier Transform (FFT) algorithms and Field Programmable Gate Arrays (FPGA) to implement a massively parallel search, even weak signals can be acquired thousands of times faster than in traditional serial search methods.
- **Operates Autonomously:** With the exception of GPS signals, the receiver requires no external data for operation.
- **Is robust and reliable:** The radiation-hardened receiver can reliably operate in the harsh environment of space. (High altitude orbits can present particularly harsh radiation environments.)
- **Improves GPS Navigation in LEO:** When used in LEO, the receiver's fast acquisition rate eliminates the approximately 20-minute cold start delay time, acquiring GPS signals in only seconds.

Applications

- **High altitude spacecraft** (e.g., Geostationary Operational Environmental Satellite (GOES), Magneto Multiscale Science (MMS), other geostationary orbit (GEO) satellites)
- **Low Earth orbit spacecraft** (offers enhanced GPS navigation via Navigator's fast-acquisition capability)

Editorial Team

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Emerging Technology in 2009: An Engine for Growth

In 2009 we saw plenty of new and innovative technologies that not only offer a boost to current users and businesses but also point the way toward future technological improvements that could become the next wave that will lift up businesses and individuals.

What were some of these products and technologies? Here are some innovative technologies and sectors that stood out in 2009.

HTML 5 - While it is not yet a full standard and has yet to be fully implemented in any major Web browser or application, the next iteration of HTML is already having a big effect on the future of the Web. HTML 5 will allow for much greater interactivity and richness in Web applications, will allow browsers to handle video natively and will bring desktop like features to Web applications. We've seen implementations of this forthcoming standard in Firefox, Google Chrome, Apple Safari and Opera. And one tangible impact of the coming effect of HTML 5 is Google's recent decision to stop development of its Gears technology, since Gears features for offline support of Web applications are a core feature of HTML 5.

Mobile Operating Systems - Not long ago, mobile operating systems were seen as weak, inflexible and closed systems. For developers, they were difficult to build for and offered nearly impossible hurdles in order to get applications to users. And users often found them unfriendly and to have limited options for customization. The iPhone bucked these expectations by providing an excellent operating system and a (more) open forum for creating and delivering applications. And then in 2009 we saw the rise of Android based phones and new systems such as Palm WebOS, which have shown that mobile operating systems can be dynamic, flexible and more open to application developers.

Google Chrome OS - People have long talked about the idea of the browser as the operating system. And with the release of an early developer version of the Google Chrome OS, we finally got a look at one. The main interface for Chrome OS is the Chrome Web browser, and nearly all applications on Chrome OS are expected to be Web-based. While this Chrome OS is still in its early stages, I expect it to change before its release late next year. And I also expect to see some of the ideas shown in Chrome OS spread to other systems and hardware.

Next-Generation Processors -

Typically processor growth is measured in small performance improvements that mean little to most users. However, 2009 saw several major upgrades in processor technology both on the high and on the low end. The Intel Xeon Nehalem family of processors provided a massive boost in performance and scalability for servers. And new advances in Ultra Low Voltage processors made it possible to build laptops that have good performance but also use little power.

Search Engines Compete Anew -

Google's dominance of Web search saw a few major new challenges in 2009. Wolfram Alpha, though not a traditional Web search engine in that it searches a closed database of information, offered an interesting look at a search engine designed to provide actual answers to questions rather than just provide lists of results. But the biggest (and probably most surprising) challenge came from Microsoft's Bing, which made inroads against Google and offered a much more attractive and interactive search engine. While Google had long championed basic and simple as the preferred interface for search, Bing showed that there is a place for attractive, interactive and dynamic search interfaces.

New Ways to Collaborate - In 2008, most of the attention when it came to collaboration focused on Web 2.0 technologies such as social networks, wikis and Twitter. Plus,

we saw the rise of services designed to adapt these technologies for business use. But 2009 saw some radical new twists on the idea of collaboration. Browser maker Opera released a new technology called Opera Unite, which was essentially a Web server inside a browser. While wearing my security hat I was greatly concerned of the implications of a Web server on everyone's system. But from a functionality standpoint, Unite is an intriguing idea where every Web user can connect with and serve data to others without the need of external servers and cloud-based systems. 2009 also saw the introduction of Google Wave, probably one of the most misunderstood technology releases of the year. While many focused on the initial beta of Wave and its focus on collaboration and task management, the truly interesting aspect of Wave is its potential to be a platform for open and constant development of systems for collaboration and content delivery.

SSD in the Data Center - Solid-state drives are as common as anything in tech. From USB drives to cameras to MP3 players to phones, you probably have multiple SSDs in your possession. And in recent years SSD has become a popular option in netbooks and other small mobile devices. But their biggest impact could come in the biggest systems, as the use of SSDs in servers offers much greater performance and operations benefits.

*Courtesy : Jim Rapoza,
<http://etech.eweek.com/>*

Common Myths about Ubiquitous Computing

Ubiquitous computing is quite a broad vision. There is a danger that it becomes too encompassing. Here a few unrealistic expectations about ubiquitous computing are discussed:

There is a single definition which accurately characterizes ubiquitous computing: rather there is a range of properties and types for ubiquitous computing which vary according to the application.

The ideal type of ubiquitous computing is where all the properties of ubiquitous must be fully supported: it may not be required, useful or usable in many cases in practice, to support the full set of these properties.

Ubiquitous computing means making computing services accessible everywhere: this is unnecessary, too costly and makes smart environments become too cluttered, overloading the user with too many choices and contravening

the hidden computer idea. Ubiquitous computing is also about computing being localised within a context and being available only when needed. Hence it is more appropriate to speak of context-aware ubiquity.

Ubiquitous computing is boundless computing: this means that the virtual ICT world can extend fully into the physical world and into the human environment, replacing human and physical world systems and their interactions with computer interaction. But there limits to what computer systems can achieve, at least in the short term, e.g., UbiCom systems are not (yet) capable of completely supplanting human cognition and behaviour. Hence, UbiCom must strike a careful balance between supporting being human and living in harmony and experiencing the physical world, between being designed to give humans more fulfilled control of the their environment and

taking away the less fulfilling control of the environment.

Ubiquitous computing is just about HCI: automatic interaction and decisions are also needed in order to reduce human task and cognition overload and to enable tasks to be performed more safely, quicker, repeatedly and accurately. It is also less practical for humans to interact with micro-sized devices in the same way as interacting with macro-sized devices. Human interaction with compositions of multiple devices spatially distributed in shared physical spaces and time cannot be controlled centrally in the same way that humans can control a single device.

Calm computing should be used as a model for all HCI. Calm computing is where the system is active, reducing some decision-making by humans. There are many applications and situations, where human users should clearly lead and control the interaction. Calm computing needs to be selectively used. Degrees of calm computing are needed from weak to strong.

Ubiquitous computing is just about augmenting reality: UbiCom systems may not only enhance human-physical world interaction but it may also change it in wider ways. It may even diminish reality in some ways in order to aid the user in focusing on particular contexts. UbiCom is more about mediated reality.

Ubiquitous computing is just distributed or virtual computing: UbiCom is more than being distributed in terms of interlinked,

transparent and open ICT systems. UbiCom also focuses on particular models of human and physical world interaction involving context-awareness of the physical world and human and on supporting implicit human computing interaction.

Ubiquitous computing is just mobile wireless computing: The ability to carry around higher resourced, multi-functional wireless mobile devices is useful but is also limited. Too many functions can cause clutter. Increasing numbers of functions can interfere with each other. It can be complex to make mobile devices strongly locally situated and adapt to the physical world. Ubiquitous computing also concerns being situated and embedded in the physical world.

Ubiquitous computing is just about smart environments: while smarter physical world interaction can be facilitated through embedding active computing in the real world, UbiCom also involves interactions of smart, flexible, mobile devices which are human-centred and which support personal and social interaction spaces.

Ubiquitous computing need to be highly autonomous systems: systems' autonomy is often limited in practice as computers are not able to design themselves, to completely adapt to new environments and user requirements and to maintain themselves in the face of changing requirements.

Ubiquitous computing is just about physical world context-awareness: many types

of context aware systems are episodic, considering only the current physical environment state in order to determine their next actions. This is not effective in a partially observable and non-deterministic world. In addition, the physical world context needs to be considered as part of the user context.

Ubiquitous computing is just distributed intelligence: action selection and many operations can become overly complex and computationally intractable, requiring substantial computation to enable intelligent deliberation to reach an outcome. Interaction is more effective and easier to compute and execute if it has minimal intelligence, e.g., it is based upon reactive system design, rule-based behaviour as used in self-organising and self-creating systems. However, intelligence is very useful when systems have to deal with uncertainty and to handle autonomous systems that are themselves complex and intelligent.

Ubiquitous computing systems can operate effectively in all kinds of environments: It is unrealistic to expect that ubiquitous computing systems can behave deterministically in non-deterministic, partially observable, etc., human and physical environments. Current systems cannot reliably actively adapt to user contexts where users act in an ad hoc manner. A weather context-aware system cannot reliably and accurately predict which clothes users should wear when the weather itself is unpredictable.

Kaizen

What is Kaizen?

The Kaizen method of continuous incremental improvements is an originally Japanese management concept for gradual, continuous (incremental) change (improvement).

Kaizen is actually a way of life philosophy. It assumes that every aspect of our life deserves to be constantly improved. The Kaizen philosophy lies behind many Japanese management concepts such as: Total Quality Control, Quality Control circles, small group activities, labor relations.

Key elements of Kaizen are: quality, effort, involvement of all employees, willingness to change, and communication. Japanese companies distinguish between: Innovation, a radical form of change, and Kaizen, a continuous form of change. Kaizen means literally: change (kai) to become good (zen).

The Five Foundation Elements of Kaizen

1. Teamwork.
2. Personal discipline.
3. Improved morale.
4. Quality circles.
5. Suggestions for improvement.

Out of this Foundation, three Key Factors in Kaizen arise

1. **Elimination of waste**
(muda) and inefficiency.
2. **The Kaizen five-S framework for good housekeeping.**
 1. Seiri - tidiness
 2. Seiton - orderliness
 3. Seiso - cleanliness
 4. Seiketsu - standardized clean-up
 5. Shitsuke - discipline

3. Standardization.

When should the Kaizen philosophy be applied? Although it is difficult to give generic advice it is clear that it fits well in gradual, incremental change situations that require long-term change and in collective cultures. More individual cultures that are more focused on short-term success are often more conducive to concepts such as Business Process Reengineering.

Kaizen Compared To Business Process Reengineering

When Kaizen is compared with the BPR method it is clear the Kaizen philosophy is more people-oriented, more easy to implement, but requires long-term discipline and provides only a small pace of change. The Business Process Reengineering approach on the other hand is harder, technology-oriented, it enables radical change but it requires considerable change management skills.

Source & Courtesy: <http://www.12manage.com/>

Effects of Climate Change Today

Over 100 years ago, people worldwide began burning more coal and oil for homes, factories, and transportation. Burning these fossil fuels releases carbon dioxide and other greenhouse gases into the atmosphere. These added greenhouse gases have caused Earth to warm more quickly than it has in the past

How much warming has happened? Scientists from around the world with the Inter governmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) tell us that during the past 100 years, the world's surface air temperature increased an average of 0.6° Celsius (1.1°F). This may not sound like very much change, but even one degree can affect the Earth. Below are some effects of climate change that we see happening now

- ◆ **Sea level is rising.** During the 20th century, sea level rose about 15 cm (6 inches) due to melting glacier ice and expansion of warmer seawater. Models predict that sea level may rise as much as 59 cm (23 inches) during the 21st Century, threatening coastal communities, wetlands, and coral reefs.
- ◆ **Arctic sea ice is melting.** The summer thickness of sea ice is about half of what it was in 1950. Melting ice may lead to changes in ocean circulation. Plus melting sea ice is speeding up warming in the Arctic.
- ◆ **Glaciers and permafrost are melting.** Over the past 100 years, mountain glaciers in all areas of the world have decreased in size and so has the amount of permafrost in the Arctic. Greenland's ice sheet is melting faster too.
- ◆ **Sea-surface temperatures are warming.** Warmer waters in the shallow oceans have contributed to the death of about a quarter of the world's coral reefs in the last few decades. Many of the coral animals died after weakened by bleaching, a process tied to warmed waters.
- ◆ **Heavier rainfall cause flooding in many regions.** Warmer temperatures have led to more intense rainfall events in some areas. This can cause flooding.
- ◆ **Extreme drought is increasing.** Higher temperatures cause a higher rate of evaporation and more droughts in some areas of the world.
- ◆ **Ecosystems are changing.** As temperatures warm, species may either move to a cooler habitat or die. Species that are particularly vulnerable include

endangered species, coral reefs, and polar animals. Warming has also caused changes in the timing of spring events and the length of the growing season.

- ◆ **Hurricanes have changed in frequency and strength.** There is evidence that the number of intense hurricanes has increased in the Atlantic since 1970. Scientists continue to study whether climate is the cause.
- ◆ **More frequent heat waves.** It is likely that heat waves have become more common in more areas of the world.
- ◆ **Warmer temperatures affect human health.** There have been more deaths due to heat waves and more allergy attacks as the pollen season grows longer. There have also been some changes in the ranges of animals that carry disease like mosquitoes.
- ◆ **Seawater is becoming more acidic.** Carbon dioxide dissolving into the oceans is making seawater more acidic. There could be impacts on coral reefs and other marine life.

Source & Courtesy:

<http://www.windows.ucar.edu/windows.html>

A user-friendly learning system covering the Earth and Space sciences for use by the general public.

Talk on on “Web 2.0 / Web 3.0 – Hope or Hype”



A talk on “Web 2.0 / Web 3.0 – Hope or Hype” by Dr. K. Satya Sai Prakash, MD, Amphisoft Technologies Pvt Ltd & Dean – SoC, SKR Engineering College was organised jointly by IEEE Computer Society, Madras Chapter and the Chennai Chapter of Computer Society of India on Saturday, 14th Nov 2009.

Mr. H.R. Mohan, Chairman, IEEE CS welcomed the gathering and Mr. S. Ramasamy,

Chairman, CSI Chennai Chapter introduced the speaker Dr. K. Satya Sai Prakash.

The talk focussed on the fact that technology and business share an intriguing relationship and the speaker stressed that Technology without business opportunity is redundant as well as Business without technological advancement/adoption is void. He was of the opinion that academic intelligentsia, business acumen, and corporate creativity aims at striking a balance point that enables technological advances which create ample business opportunities.

Dr. Sai, in his talk, stated that Web, a killer application created on gigantic Internet platform started as a fledgling HTML based information representation and with time evolved into a complex ‘web’ of activities, transactions, and exchange of services. He added that careful and graded evaluation of this exponential growth gave us insights into Web 1.0 ... Web 2.0 ... Web 3.0. He explained with examples the various generations of Web

technologies and Web 3.0 is more on machine based learning and will be the technology of the future. His interactive demo of the application of interactive web technology for a saree shop was well appreciated.

Mr. G. Ramachandran, Past Vice President, CSI presented a memento to Dr. Satya Sai Prakash and Mr. Ramesh Bashyam, MC Member, CSI Chennai Chapter proposed the vote of thanks.

During the meeting, the students who had sponsored by CSI and participated in the SEARCC Software Contest held at Sri Lanka and won in the contest were felicitated along with the staff co-ordinator Mr. Kumar from Rajalakshmi Engineering College who had accompanied the students to Sri Lanka. Wg Cdr (Retd) M. Murgesan, Regional Director, CSI gave an overview of the contest and the role of CSI in nurturing the talent of students. Mr. H. R. Mohan, who was associated with the SEARCC contest right from 1989 held at Singapore where our students won the first prize recalled the experiences and fall and rise of our students over the two decades in this contest.



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REGISTRATION:

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Registration Fee: Industrial Delegates: Rs. 1000/-; Academic Staff: Rs. 750/-; Students & Research Scholars: Rs. 600/-; IEEE/CSI Members: Rs. 600/-

The registration fee is to be paid through Demand Draft drawn in favor of “The Principal, AVIT”, payable at Chennai. The applicants should send the filled in Registration form, DD, copy of ID card and a copy of IEEE/CSI membership card (if applicable) to the program chair on or before 10th Feb 2010.

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Presentation on Data Integration Technology and Tools



An interesting presentation on Data Integration Technology and Tools was made by Mr. Mike Hoskins CTO and Executive VP, Pervasive Software Inc, USA on 25th Nov 2009 at IEEE Section premises. The event was sponsored by IEEE Madras Section, IEEE Computer Society, Madras Chapter IEEE Technology Management Council, Madras Chapter, IEEE Power & Energy Society, Madras Chapter and Computer Society of India, Chennai Chapter.

Mr. Hoskins described this latest 'State of the Art' Technology for tackling the maze of

data ('Infloglut') in any organization. He said that his company was the pioneer in this field.

Mr. K.V.Rupchand, Chair IEEE PES & TMC, Madras Chapters welcomed the gathering and highlighted the relevance and importance of the topic. Dr. Sakthivel, Professor, Anna University & Vice Chair, CSI introduced the Speaker. Mr. S. Ramasamy, Chairman, CSI Chennai Chapter proposed a Vote of thanks.

There was a lively interaction at the end of the presentation which was attended by over 60 professionals.

Report by Mr. K.V.Rupchand, Chair, PES & TMC Chapters



LINK congratulates Mr. Darwin Jose Raju (IEEE Member No.80362015) IEEE Student Branch coordinator and Sr. Lecturer at St. Xaviers Catholic College of Engineering for being selected as the 2009 Outstanding Branch Counselor and also been elevated to the grade of Senior Member in the IEEE.

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Posted On : 24th December 2009

Posted at: Egmore RMS (Patrika)

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