Optical Communications and Networking Solutions for the Support of C-RAN in 5G Environments

Message from the Guest Editors

Dear Colleagues,

The widespread availability of mobile devices, such as tablets and smartphones, has led to a quick increase in mobile data traffic over the last few years. Demands for higher mobile networks capacity, increased data rates and for a larger number of simultaneously-connected devices are just few of the requirements posed in the evolution of radio access networks. Other fundamental factors are energy saving and cost of systems, latency, spectrum availability and spectral efficiency. Cloud Radio Access Network (C-RAN) or centralized RAN can be seen as a promising solution to deal the 5G requirements.

We invite investigators to submit original research articles in which solutions for the bandwidth saving in fronthaul networks are proposed and evaluated especially for the support of 5G traffic and system requirements. Potential keywords include, but are not limited to: Radio access network; 5G environment; CPRI; Virtualization; Ethernet; OTN; WDM.

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