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IEEE Vehicular Technology Magazine Special Issue on
6G: What is Next?

We are undoubtedly witnessing the transition into the 4th industrial revolution. Societies are becoming ever more data-centric and data-dependent. The increasing data-dependence of future economies poses a severe challenge on mitigating the digital divide to avoid an unequal distribution of wealth. Radical automation of industrial manufacturing processes will drive productivity. Autonomous systems are hitting our roads, oceans and air space. Millions of sensors will be embedded into cities, homes and food production environments, and new systems operated by artificial intelligence which often will reside in new local ‘clouds’ and ‘fog’ environments will create a plethora of new applications.

Communications networks resemble the nervous system of these new smart system paradigms. 5G made a significant step towards developing a low latency tactile access network, and by providing new additional wireless nerve tracts, i.e., data pipes. With the increase of large autonomy of systems, the protection of ‘nervous system’ against malicious attacks becomes increasing important. Moreover, the system autonomy and the large number of distributed sensor systems demand the simultaneous integration of new energy harvesting concepts. The move from personalized communication to machine-type communication demands radically new communication network architectures.

The objective of this special issue is to define the framework of the 6th generation of communication networks, its services and break-through technologies. We are soliciting original contributions that have not been published and are not currently under consideration by any other journals. Particular emphasis is placed on radically new concepts and ideas which are not just an evolution of 5G technologies. The topics of interest include, but not limited to:

- Key drivers and 6G requirements
- New wireless backhaul and fronthaul solutions
- New security concepts
- Integration of Artificial Intelligence and Machine Learning into new wireless systems solutions and applications
- Innovative applications
- New network architectures
- Concepts and technologies to harness new spectrum
- New energy harvesting technologies, and integration into mobile network architectures
- Techniques to improve energy efficiency
- New approaches to simultaneously increase peak data rates and data density not only in urban environments
- New system architectures stemming from the combination of computing, communication and storage.
- Breakthrough technologies and concepts

Submissions should clearly identify how they relate to topics under consideration in this special issue. Contributions describing an overall working system and reporting real world deployment experiences are particularly of interest. Submitted papers should contain state-of-the-art research material presented in a tutorial or survey style. Manuscript format must adhere to the IEEE VT Magazine submission guidelines. Articles should be about 3,000 to 4,000 words long with 5-10 figures and 10-15 references. The use of mathematical equations should be limited to three. Submit papers using ScholarOne Manuscripts™: http://mc.manuscriptcentral.com/vtm-ieee

Important Dates
Submission Deadline: 15 Dec 2018
First Editorial Decision: End Feb 2019
Acceptance Notification: 1 April 2019
Final Manuscript Due: 1 May 2019
Publication: Fall 2019

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