Minutes of the AES Technical Committee on Coding of Audio Signals

19th Meeting called to order at the 122nd AES Convention, Vienna, at 13:00, Sun 6 May 2007, by J. Herre, co-chair.

The agenda was approved, as listed in the annex. The chair pointed out that in order to join the TC, an email should be sent to him after the convention.

The ongoing activities of the committee and other coding-related events were reviewed. There were 2 sessions (1 lecture and 1 poster) on Audio Coding at the convention. These showed a wide mixture of interesting research and applied technology.

New TC activities for upcoming events were discussed next (specifically for the upcoming 123rd AES convention in New York):

1) Jeff Levison (chair of the TC on Multi-Channel Audio) visited to report about plans in his TC to work on a combination of a tutorial and a workshop, both on the issue of "what is given up in audio quality when going down to lower bitrates?". The subject clearly concerns both the multi-channel and the coding TC. A tutorial in the morning, to be given by a user (not a technology provider), could show practical issues. It was noted that it is important that the tutorial would only cover hands-on, non-controversial issues, whereas the aspects that are to be debated/discussed would be covered in the afternoon workshop. The idea will be further discussed in the multi-channel TC, and the coding TC chair will be kept in the loop as a link to the discussions inside the coding TC.

2) Jürgen Herre proposed a workshop that should display the brand-new MPEG activities on "Spatial Audio Object Coding", including the results of the recent MPEG Call for technology that will be available by the time of the 123rd convention. Jürgen Herre will follow up on this proposal and forward it to the convention planners.

3) Andreas Ehret noted that the presentation of quality tests as papers usually does not allow as much discussion as the audience would like to have (an example being the presentation of the EBU multi-channel test results at this AES convention). He suggested that the results of the second round of testing be presented as a workshop. Obviously the key persons having conducted the test should be involved in such an effort. Thus, Jürgen Herre will contact Gerhard Stoll and Andrew Mason and offer the idea of having a workshop on this topic to them.

4) At the previous TC meeting Markus Erne (not present at this meeting) made an offer to make available the results of a student project (an MP3 encoder/decoder written in MATLAB plus documentation) as an educational package for audio researchers. As of now, the documentation is written in German language. The chair will check at the Technical Council meeting that this could be made available to the public (or AES members). In addition, one could ask for help in translating into English either on the TC reflector or in a request that is bundled with the software package when downloading.

No other business was conducted.

The next meeting will be held in conjunction with the upcoming AES 123nd Convention in New York in October 2007.

The meeting was adjourned at 13:45.

Annex I: Agenda

1) Approval of Agenda
2) Opening Remarks of Chairman
3) Review of recent activities for current convention / conference
   - Richard C. Heyser Memorial Lecture Series
   - Other activities
4) Review of / proposals for activities at upcoming conventions, conferences, workshops etc.
   - 123rd AES convention New York
5) Any Other Business
6) Next Meeting
7) Closing of the Meeting

Annex II: Attendees:

Name	Affiliation
Juergen Herre	Fraunhofer IIS
Bert den Brinker	Philips
Heiko Purnhagen	Coding Technologies
Andreas Ehret	Coding Technologies
Karlheinz Brandenburg	Fraunhofer IDMT
Gerald Schuller	Fraunhofer IDMT
Jeff Levison	Levison Audio / DTS