

Minutes of the 5th Meeting of IFIP WG 10.5

San José, CA, USA, 11 Nov. 1996 (at ICCAD-96)

Attendees

- Members present:

Franc Brglez, Raul Camposano, Francisco Corella, Giovanni DeMicheli, Nikil Dutt, Masahiro Fujita, Dan Gale, Ganesh Gopalakrishnan, Graham Hellestrand, Masaharu Imai, Steve Johnson, David Luckham, Hillel Offek, Ricardo Reis, Wolfgang Rosenstiel, P. A. Subrahmanyam, Takayuki Yanagawa.

- Apologies received from:

Einar J. Aas, Kurt J. Antreich, Ed Cerny, Luc Claesen, Ed Clarke, Carlos Delgado Kloos, Karl-Heinz Diener, Reiner Hartenstein, Peter Ivey, Jean Mermet, Gerry Musgrave, Wolfgang Nebel, Richard Newton, Pierre Paulin, Franz J. Rammig, Jørgen Staunstrup, Alexander Stempkovsky, Akihiko Yamada, Flavio Wagner, Ronald Waxman.

The meeting was called to order by Vice-Chair Nikil Dutt at 12:40 pm. N. Dutt thanked N. DeMicheli for arranging the meeting room during ICCAD-96.

0. Approval of previous minutes

The minutes of the previous meeting were approved (Johnson, DeMicheli: 8-yes, 0-no, 3-abstain).

1. Welcome for new members

Dr. Osamu Karatsu was introduced to the working group by T. Yanagawa and welcomed as a new member.

2. Vote for new members

The WG voted on and approved the membership of the following new members:

Number of members voting: 16

	For	Against	Abstain
Prof. Warren Hunt	13	2	1
Prof. Donatella Sciuto	12	0	4
Prof. Wayne Wolf	16	0	0

A short discussion followed on the procedures for elections and mechanisms for e-mail responses. R. Camposano and F. Corella mentioned that there was too much e-mail traffic sent to all members of the WG regarding support for individual candidates. A suggestion was made that the Chair specify the balloting procedures, and specifically indicate that all e-mail relating to a vote or nomination be sent to the Chair, instead of sending e-mail to all the WG members.

The WG members were also reminded to use discretion when replying to e-mail messages on the WG mailing list (i.e., whether to send a reply to the entire WG or to an individual).

3. Possibilities for telephone conversation meetings in the future

F. Corella outlined a possible scheme for telephone meetings: carriers such as MCI charge 23 cents a minutes/per site to allow phone-in conferencing to a centralized phone number. Additionally, all callers pay long distance charges.

A short discussion of how this scheme might be implemented followed. The possibility of the WG paying for the centralized telephone charge was raised. H. Ofek suggested considering phone conferencing at selected sites (e.g., silicon valley area). R. Camposano suggested the possibility of using the facilities of some WG member's company/organization for teleconferencing.

N. DeMicheli raised a concern that teleconferencing may decrease the attendance at the WG meetings, resulting in potentially less interactions during the meetings. He further emphasized the need to have the agenda and general discussions conducted over e-mail prior to such WG meetings.

A motion was made for the chair to make arrangements for WG members to join the next meeting by telephone at their own cost. (Corella, Camposano: 8-yes, 3-no, 4-abstain, motion passes)

A discussion followed on how decisions within the WG are currently made. Specifically, the issue of whether voting is done by e-mail was raised.

N. DeMicheli reiterated that the actual WG meeting should be used mainly to brainstorm and discuss future issues, and that voting should primarily be done via e-mail. P. Subrahmanyam seconded this idea and recommended that we proceed with it.

A motion was then made to organize future meetings so that only a minor amount of time is spent in clerical issues including voting, and more time spent on brainstorming. The motion also charged the WG chair with the task of organizing e-mail and web-based voting schemes to facilitate efficient WG meeting, and if necessary find a person to conduct this activity. (Camposano, DeMicheli: 14-yes, 0-no, 1-abstain, motion passes).

S. Johnson suggested that the WG should provide support for web-based activity, since it takes a lot of work. Specifically, such web-based activity should be subsidized if we decide to go in that direction.

F. Brglez suggested that the WG meetings should rotate between North America, Europe and Asia-Pacific regions. Several members indicated that this was already the case.

4. Name change of EUROVHDL

This issue was discussed at the previous WG meeting but did not result in any action.

A motion was made to change the name from EUROVHDL to EUROHDL from 1998 onwards. (DeMicheli, Camposano, Subrahmanyam: 6-yes, 4-no, 5-abstain, motion passes)

Another motion was made to repeat the previous vote within a month via e-mail (Imai, Corella: 6-yes, 1-no, 8 abstain, motion passes)

Action: The chair should conduct an e-mail vote on this matter, due within a month.

5. Report of SIG-VHDL (no report was made)

6. Report of SIG-CODES (no report was made)

7. Past events

- VHDL Forum Dresden (...)
- Codes/Cashe'96 Pittsburgh: G. Hellestrand indicated that the workshop was a success at Pittsburgh.
- IFIP working conference on HW/SW codesign, Poland (...)
- Cobra design workshop (...)
- EUROVHDL'96 (...)
- APCHDL'96: N. Dutt indicated that APCHDL'96 drew approximately 80 attendees in Bangalore, India, and was a successful event. The next event will be held in HsinChu, Taiwan.
- VHDL Forum - Sept. 16, 1996, Geneva (...)

- EURODAC'96 (...)
- FMCAD'96: G. Gopalakrishnan indicated that approximately 150 people attended FMCAD'96. There were some discussions of possible conflicts between the timing of FMCAD, CHDL, CHARME; discussions will continue by e-mail.

8. Future Events

- Workshop on Logic and Architectural Synthesis, Grenoble (...)
- CHDL'97 (...)
- VHDL Forum Spring 97 (...)
- Workshop on Libraries, Components and Modeling (...)
- ED&TC'97 (...)
- Codes/Cashe'97 (...)
- Async'97, April 97 (...)
- Reed Muller Workshop: M. Fujita will organize this workshop, and has sent the IFIP event request form to L. Claesen. The event will be held Sep. 4-5 in Oxford, England, and is sponsored by Oxford University. Ten PC members have been identified.

M. Fujita formally requested in-cooperation-with status from WG 10.5, and a vote was taken. (13-yes, 0-no, 1-abstain, workshop is now officially in cooperation with IFIP WG 10.5).

- VLSI'97: R. Reis detailed several aspects of the upcoming conference to be held in Gramado, Brazil, and handed out copies of the CFP. L. Claesen is the Program Chair for the event and a final program committee is being fielded. R. Reis invited other WG members who are interested in becoming WG members to contact him or L. Claesen. He also indicated that the tutorials chair is inviting suggestions for tutorials. The proceedings will be published as a book by Chapman and Hall. A homepage for the conference has been created. VLSI'97 will be held jointly with the Brazilian Symposium on VLSI. The IFIP TC 10 meeting and the IFIP general assembly meeting will be held in Gramado after the conference.
- EURODAC'97 (...)
- EUROVHDL'97 (...)
- CHARME'97 (...)
- APCHDL'97 (...)
- CAV'97 (...)
- Fall VHDL (...)
- CHDL 2001: G. Hellestrand briefly discussed a proposal to organize CHDL-2001 in Sydney, Australia. A short written proposal will be prepared and forwarded to the WG for an e-mail vote on this item.
Several members indicated that although CHDL'99 and VLSI'99 are scheduled to be held in the US, there are currently no volunteers who have stepped forward to organize these events in the US. Interested WG members are encouraged to send proposals to the chair.
- FMCAD'97: G. Gopalakrishnan will organize FMCAD'97 just before ICCAD'97.

9. Event Approval Forms:

The WG members organizing conferences and workshops were reminded to take care of filling out the IFIP Event Approval Forms. This needs to be done for all IFIP related events (also for the ones that have in-cooperation status). This information provides bare essentials on the events which IFIP cooperates with or sponsors. For every event there needs to be an IFIP working group representative who takes care of providing this information for the event in question. Forms are distributed each time with the minutes by the working group secretary.

10. New topics for workshops

The WG members were encouraged to think about organizing workshops in emerging areas of the WG. Workshops are typically to address new and upcoming issues in a group of interested researchers.

R. Reis conveyed the request of TC10 for members to propose a conference or workshop at the IFIP Congresses in 1998 at Budapest/Vienna and in 2000 at Beijing.

11. Other business

- Updating e-mail and postal addresses

The WG e-mail reflector has some WG members e-mail addresses that do not seem to work, and this hampers electronic communication with the WG members. N. Dutt reminded the WG members to intimate the WG secretary of any changes in their e-mail and postal addresses.

- N. DeMicheli suggested that organizers of WG-sponsored and co-sponsored meetings should have web pages for the conferences and should have conference summaries (or pointers to web pages) sent to the WG website administrator.

A discussion then followed of who should design the web pages and pay for maintenance of the WG web page on an ongoing basis.

A motion was made that the WG will seek a subsidy of upto US\$5000 per year to an individual who is willing to organize and maintain a web page for the WG. (Johnson, DeMicheli:14-yes, 0-no, 2-abstain; motion passes)

N. DeMicheli added that most of the work should be done by the conference organizers, and not passed on to the web manager.

R. Reis reiterated his concern that we should think about CHDL'99 and VLSI'99 in order to allow for their announcement at conferences in 1997, specifically at VLSI'97. A brief discussion followed about whether to consider either joint conferences or alternate years for the CHDL and VLSI conferences. S. Johnson suggested that the procedure for future scheduling of CHDL and VLSI should be formalized within the WG.

P. Subrahmanyam encouraged interactions between the WG and the IEEE Technical Committee on VLSI.

S. Johnson raised a concern regarding publication of proceedings (e.g., CHDL). He suggested that the WG investigate mechanisms to record WG conference and workshop proceedings on CD ROM, since the proceedings may run out of print and are currently not archived. He added that the WG should consider using manpower for postprocessing of proceedings to allow CD ROM publication. G. Hellestrand suggested that an electronic form could also be maintained, in addition to the CD-ROM. D. Luckham raised the question of whether IFIP itself should be responsible for archiving of WG proceedings? S. Johnson indicated that the proceedings currently have no ISBN numbers, and typically have only 400 copies printed. Furthermore, the publisher has copyright restrictions currently for CHDL and VLSI. The WG should really look at long-term solutions for this problem. S. Johnson suggested that we ask the chair to set up a committee to discuss this matter further with TC 10.

The meetings was adjourned at 2:10 pm.