

Colloquium Notice

Sheryl Woodward

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Optical Networking: the Evolution from Point-to-Point Links to Agile Photonic Networks

The first commercial optical communications system was deployed over 30 years ago, since that time new technologies have dramatically enhanced the capabilities of optical networks. The explosive growth of the Internet has been enabled by these technical innovations, and this trend continues. The early simple point-to-point links have been replaced with systems with more than 10⁵ times more capacity per fiber, connected in a sophisticated mesh network. This talk will survey the history of optical communications, with special emphasis on recent innovations that enable the optical layer to be more agile than ever before.

Sheryl Woodward received her Ph.D. degree in Physics from Caltech. For over 25 years she has been in AT&T's research organization - first with the Crawford Hill Laboratory of Bell Labs Research, and then with AT&T Labs-Research in Middletown, NJ. She has done research on topics ranging from technologies for cable television to optical networking for continental-backbone networks. Her current research focuses on software-defined networking for the wide-area network.

Monday

March 31, 2014

Starts at 12:15 PM

Coffee at 12:00 PM

Physics Conference Room, SB B326