Modelling the Last Mile

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Many superlatives are attached to the access part of a telecommunication network: it is the most expensive part, most widespread, and altogether most limiting to network evolution. All these aspects contribute to the fact that the so-called "last mile to the customer" is one of the main fields of network modelling and hence, of mathematical interest. Modelling facets include optimization of network topology, traffic forecasts, and cost scenarios. The talk gives an insight in different approaches of access network modelling. In particular, typical questions that arise in the context of topics like regulatory concerns and broadband access are discussed.