Proposal for
IEEE European School
on Information Theory 2020

Stephan ten Brink
Christian Senger
We propose a $9\frac{1}{2}$ days school, from Monday morning to Friday noon.

The slot **May 25–29 2020** seems to be free of conflict with other major 2020 events.

Temperature average in Stuttgart is 19° in May.

Proposed slot is well within University of Stuttgart’s lecture period, which will help to attract local participants.

**Other relevant events:**

**2020**
- WCNC: April 20–23
- ICC: June 7–11
- CTW: June 17–20
- ISIT: June 21–26
- Globecom: December 7-11

**2019 and before**
- ESIT: April 15–19
- BSC (Canada): June 6–7
- SPAWC: July 2–5
- NASIT: July 2–5
- ITW: August 25–28
- Allerton: October
Organizers

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Helpers will include the ten Ph.D students with full-time emyployments at the institute, two secretaries, technical staff and student volunteers.

University of Stuttgart goes back to the year 1829 and currently has more than 25k students listed in approx. 150 degree programs offered by 10 different faculties. It employs more than 5k people and is run by the state of Baden–Württemberg.
Stuttgart

Stuttgart (pronounced SHTUUT-gart) is the capital and largest city of the German state of Baden–Württemberg. Stuttgart is located on the Neckar river in a fertile valley known locally as the „Stuttgart Cauldron“. It lies an hour from the Swabian Jura and the Black Forest. Its urban area has a population of 609,219, making it the sixth largest city in Germany. 2.7 million people live in the city’s administrative region and another 5.3 million people in its metropolitan area, making it the fourth largest metropolitan area in Germany.

Several major companies have their headquarters in Stuttgart, including Porsche, Bosch, Mercedes–Benz, and Daimler.

Photo credit: andrs85/Flickr
Schedule

Six half-day lectures and two poster sessions for participants:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Monday</th>
<th>Tuesday</th>
<th>Wednesday</th>
<th>Thursday</th>
<th>Friday</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>am</strong></td>
<td>Lecture 1</td>
<td>Lecture 3</td>
<td>Lecture 4</td>
<td>Lecture 5</td>
<td>Lecture 6</td>
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<td><strong>pm</strong></td>
<td>Lecture 2</td>
<td>Posters 1</td>
<td>Social Event</td>
<td>Posters 2</td>
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Poster sessions prefaced by „one minute madness“ sessions (students pitch their results in no more than 60 seconds).

There will be a welcome reception on Sunday evening (most likely BBQ), a social event, and a social dinner.

Social event and the dinner at the Mercedes-Benz Museum.

A shortlist of invited speakers consistent with the ITSOC school best practices has been assembled. Possible topics include:

- Machine Learning for Communications
- Multiterminal Information Theory
- Short Block-Length Codes
- Quantum Information and Coding Theory
- Coded Computing
**Venue**

- **Main venue:** Internationales Begegnungszentrum (IBZ)

- In walking distance to main campus of University of Stuttgart in Stuttgart/Vaihingen.

- IBZ is run by the university itself, the German Aerospace Center (DLR), Fraunhofer, and the Max Planck Society.

- As university members, we can use the IBZ free of charge.

- The IBZ offers beverages, coffee breaks will be supported by a catering company. Ballpark estimate for coffee and beverages for the whole event is €2500.

- Whole venue will be reserved for the school, no other guests on premises.

- **Photos:** http://www.uni-stuttgart.de/ibz/bildergalerie.html

- **1 Lecture hall** (up to 100 people)

- **2 seminar rooms**

- **Permanent exhibition:** History of the University of Stuttgart

- **Fireplace room**

- **Atrium**

- **Outside area w/ BBQ facilities**
Accomodation/Amenities

- University of Stuttgart owns a conference hotel located on campus, in walking distance to the school venue, the campus.guest.
- More than a hundred rooms are available and be pre-allocated for the participants.
- A single room is €85 and a double room is €110 (both including full breakfast).
- Restaurant-style lunch can be provided at campus.guest for approx €12, cheaper options (approx. €6) are available as well.
- Cheap lunch also available at the „Mensa”
- Several cafes and bistrros on campus where breakfast and snacks are provided throughout the day.
- Regional train station is located right on campus with direct connections to Stuttgart International Airport, Stuttgart Main Station, the Mercedes–Benz Museum, and the downtown area.
- Free WiFi (eduroam and a guest WiFi) will be available both at the school venue and the university campus.
Social Event/Dinner

- Social event: visit to the Mercedes–Benz Museum (https://www.mercedes-benz.com/en/mercedes-benz/classic/museum/), with a personal welcome (in English) by the staff.
- Attendees can freely explore the museum with multilingual audio guides.
- Social dinner will be held on the very impressive premises of the museum.
- Cost for the museum (admittance, personal welcome, audio guides) will be approx. €800.

Photo credit: http://julianherzog.com/
Expenses/Revenue

- Numbers based on actual quotes and realistic estimates but subject to change.
- Assumptions: 90 participants, 6 speakers

**Expenses:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>Cost</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Students hospitality</td>
<td>€7650</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Speaker hospitality</td>
<td>€660</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Speaker travel</td>
<td>€4800</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Speaker dinner</td>
<td>€1500</td>
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<tr>
<td>Future organizer travel</td>
<td>€400</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Coffee breaks and beverages</td>
<td>€3500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Welcome reception (BBQ)</td>
<td>€3000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Social event</td>
<td>€1000</td>
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<tr>
<td>Social dinner</td>
<td>€4500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bits and bobs</td>
<td>€1500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>€28510</strong></td>
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- Prospective registration fee: **€175**.
- Could be lowered in case the school attracts local sponsors. Organizers are in touch with companies such as Nokia, Sony, Daimler, Porsche, and Bosch.

**Revenue:**

- IEEE ITSOC: **€13000**
- Student registrations: 90 x €175 = **€15750**
- Local sponsors: tbd. after approval

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<td>IEEE ITSOC</td>
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<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
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- Under the given assumptions the school will close at a black zero.
Motion

- We kindly ask the IEEE Information Theory Society to approve our proposal to hold the 2020 IEEE European School of Information Theory in Stuttgart, Germany.

- We kindly request support from the society the amount of €13000 (approx. $15000), a similar amount as previous European schools have received. As detailed, this amount will be used to partially cover costs of organization, keeping the registration fee as affordable as possible.