

# Welcome

ADFOCS is an international summer school held annually at the Max Planck Institute for Informatics (MPII). It is organized as part of the activities of the MPII, in particular the International Max-Planck Research School (IMPRS), MPII's graduate program. The purpose of this summer school is to introduce young researchers to topics which are the focus of current research in theoretical computer science. This year's focus is "Spectral Graph Theory and Algorithmic Game Theory", and we have 90 participants from 20 countries.

Saarbrücken is the capital of the Saarland, the smallest German federal state. This region has moved back and forth between Germany and France in the lively joint history of the two countries. Saarland University was founded in November 1948 with the support of the French Government and the University of Nancy as a bilingual university combining French and German educational traditions while offering a unique European perspective.

Saarbrücken has approximately 190, 000 inhabitants, a medium size for German cities. There are several tourist attractions nearby and a lively downtown area with a pedestrian-only street and many restaurants. Saarbrücken is located at the border to France, and halfway between Paris and Frankfurt on the high-speed railway connecting both in less than four hours.

For more information on the history of Saarbrücken, you can also visit

<http://www.saarbruecken.de/en/home>

or its Wikipedia entry at

<http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Saarbruecken>

In order to make ADFOCS as convenient as possible we provide some basic information on transportation, locations, and organization.

## 1 Public Transportation

The University Campus is very well connected to Saarbrücken downtown by the local bus system, Saarbahn. **Wearing your badge entitles you for unlimited travel inside the entirety of Saarbrücken (by bus, tram or train) during ADFOCS** (the badge is only valid from August 13 to August 17).

Both the central station ("HBF", which is short for "Hauptbahnhof") and the town hall ("RATHAUS") provide frequent connections from/to campus. The "HBF" and "RATHAUS" stops are connected by a frequent-running tram and only 2 stops from each other. The main bus lines that serve the University Campus are 101, 102, 109 and 124. All of them show the word "UNI" or "UNIVERSITÄT" or "DUDWEILER DUDOPLATZ". To arrive at the Max Planck Institute for Informatics, you should get off at "UNI MENSA" or "UNI BUSTERMINAL"; see the green-yellow H-signs in Figure 1.

August 15 (Wednesday) is a holiday in Saarbrücken and buses run much less frequently than the usual. We suggest you to check Wednesday's bus schedule through the website

<http://www.saarfahrplan.de/>

## 2 Campus and Rooms

Registration and coffee breaks will be in Building E14, the MPII main building. All lectures will be in Building E13. All exercise sessions will be in Building E14. See Figure 1 for details.

## 3 Internet Access

There is a freely accessible WLAN available in the MPII. The network ID is *wlan-mpii-public*. Saarland University campus network also supports educational roaming with **eduroam**.

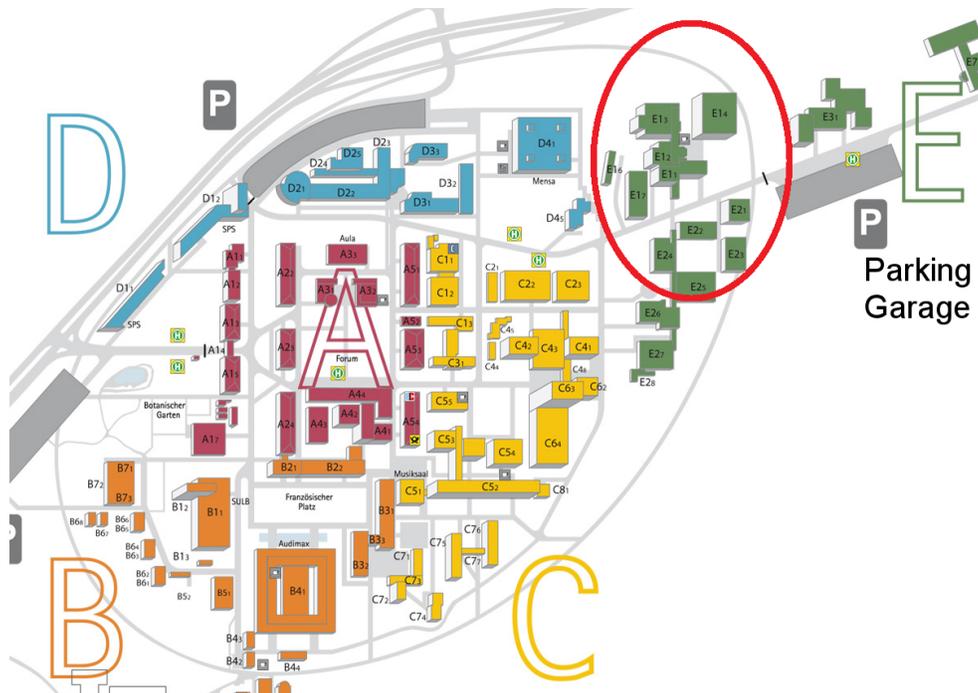


Figure 1: Campus Map

## 4 Catering

**Coffee breaks** are provided in the foyer of the Max Planck Institute for Informatics (Building E14).

**Lunch** is always between 13:00 and 14:30. Every attendee of ADFOCS is given a bunch of vouchers for the University’s “Mensa” in Building D41 (located the street and stairs up, follow the signs). Grab your food from the upper level after entering the building. Each voucher is valid for a main dish, a side dish, a dessert and a soft drink. Our Mensa offers a vegetarian menu in access B (sometimes one more in the free-flow area C).

The vouchers are *not* valid for “Mensa Café” on the ground level of the building, or for “Canossa” in the basement. However, these places offer additional options (at your own expense) if the Mensa selection is not to your liking.

## 5 Social Event

The excursion brings us to Strasbourg, which is the capital and principal city of the Alsace region in eastern France and is the official seat of the European Parliament. In Strasbourg we will arrange a 90 minute guided-tour.

Please **take the passport** if you attend the excursion.

### Rough Schedule

12:30 Buses leave from MPII

14:00 Arrival in Strasbourg

19:00 Buses leave towards Saarbrücken