

Program

Speech Communication

15th ITG Conference
on Speech Communication

September 20 – 22, 2023
Aachen

www.iks.rwth-aachen.de/itg2023

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Welcome to the ITG Conference on Speech Communication

Welcome to the 15th ITG Conference on Speech Communication in Aachen! After the last symposium had to be postponed due to the Corona pandemic and with the kind organization of an online format by Prof. Dr. Gerhard Schmidt, it is gratifying to regain a bit of normality with this year's event in person. This is also reflected in the notably large number of contributions submitted.

The conference will be held at RWTH's "SuperC", near the heart of the city. This venue is ideal for scientific exchange and personal networking. The workshop character of previous conferences will be maintained through alternating blocks of oral and poster presentations. The program committee has deliberately included a mix of topics in the poster sessions to give all presenters the opportunity to visit related posters. Further highlights are three keynote lectures by renowned experts, as well as a parallel Show & Tell session.

The conference is organized by the Informationstechnische Gesellschaft (ITG) within the VDE, in collaboration with the Fachausschuss Sprachkommunikation AT3, as well as the technical program committee and the Institute of Communication Systems at RWTH Aachen University. The ITG Conference on Speech Communication focuses on the theory, algorithms, and applications of speech, audio, and spoken language processing.

The program committee has already made a significant contribution to the success of the conference during the preparation phase, as evident from the attractive program. Especially noteworthy is the special session on "Generative Methods for Speech Processing", organized by Prof. Dr. Tim Fingscheidt and Prof. Dr. Timo Gerkmann. I would like to express my sincere gratitude to all program committee members.

Special thanks go to the employees of the institute, especially to Dr.-Ing. Christiane Antweiler, Tobias Kabzinski, Sebastian Nagel, and Simone Sedgwick, for their great dedication in organizing and conducting the conference.

I look forward to welcoming you at RWTH Aachen University on September 20, 2023, and I wish all of us stimulating discussions and a pleasant "Speech Communication".

Peter Jax

Organizing Committee

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T. Schultz, Universität Bremen
P. Vary, RWTH Aachen

Further information about the event can be found at
<https://www.iks.rwth-aachen.de/itg2023>

Venue:

SuperC, RWTH Aachen University
Templergraben 57, 6th floor
52062 Aachen, Germany

■ Wednesday, September 20th, 2023

14:00-14:30 **Opening and Welcome**
Chairs: Peter Jax, Sebastian Möller

14:30-15:30 **Keynote I:**
**Leap into the Industrial Metaverse:
Where Wearables and Sensors Meet
Reality**
Dr. Hendrik Witt

15:30-16:00 **Coffee Break**

16:00-17:30 **Poster Session A**
Chair: Magnus Schäfer

**Ad Hoc Distributed Microphones
Clustering: A Comparative Analysis on
Using Coherence and Signal-specific
Features**

*Stijn Kindt, Martijn Meeldijk, Nilesh Madhu,
Ghent University, Belgium*

**Exploiting an External Microphone to
Improve Time-difference-of-arrival
Estimates for Euclidean Distance
Matrix-based Source Localization**

*Klaus Brümman, Simon Doclo, University of
Oldenburg*

16:00-17:30

Poster
Session A

**Hearing Impairment in Crowdsourced
Speech Quality Assessments: Its Effect
and Screening with Digit Triplet Hearing
Test**

*Benedikt Schuh, Wafaa Wardah, Babak Naderi,
Thilo Michal, Sebastian Möller, TU Berlin*

**Long-term Conversation Analysis:
Exploring Utility and Privacy**

*Francesco Nespola^{1,2}, Jule Pohlhausen³,
Patrick A. Naylor², Jörg Bitzer^{3,4}*

¹ Microsoft, London, UK

² Imperial College London

*³ Jade University of Applied Sciences,
Oldenburg*

⁴ Fraunhofer IDMT Dept. HSA, Oldenburg

**Towards a Natural Reproduction of
Binaural Recordings: Combining Binaural
Cue Adaptation and Adaptive Crosstalk
Cancellation**

*Tobias Kabzinski, Sebastian Nagel, Peter Jax,
RWTH Aachen University*

**Screening of Alzheimer's Dementia up
to 12 Years ahead from Conversational
Speech of ILSE Study**

*Ayimnisagul Ablimit, Elisa Brauße,
Tanja Schultz, University of Bremen*

**Speaker's Articulatory Strategy Analysis:
Theoretical Framework and Preliminary
Experiment**

Antoine Serrurier, Uniklinik RWTH Aachen

16:00-17:30

Poster
Session A

Speech-based Age and Gender Prediction with Transformers

Felix Burkhardt¹, Johannes Wagner¹, Hagen Wierstorf¹, Florian Eyben¹, Björn Schuller^{1,2,3}

¹ *audEERING GmbH*

² *University of Augsburg*

³ *Imperial College London*

Transfer Learning using Musical/Non-musical Mixtures for Multi-instrument Recognition

Hannes Bradl¹, Markus Huber²,

Franz Pernkopf³

¹ *Joanneum Research, Graz, Austria*

² *sonible GmbH, Graz, Austria*

³ *TU Graz, Austria*

U-DiT TTS: U-Diffusion Vision Transformer for Text-to-speech

Xin Jing¹, Yi Chang³, Zijiang Yang¹,

Jiangjian Xie², Andreas Triantafyllopoulos¹,

Björn Schuller^{1,3}

¹ *University of Augsburg*

² *Beijing Forestry University, China*

³ *Imperial College London*

Using Perceptual Evaluation of Speech Quality (PESQ) Loss for DNN-based Speech Enhancement

Lars Thieling, Lars Nippert, Peter Jax, RWTH Aachen University

17:30-18:00 **Group Photo**

5th Floor, Room 5.31/5.32

18:00-19:00 **Meeting TPC/Fachausschuss
Sprachkommunikation AT3**

■ Thursday, September 21st, 202309:00-10:00 **Keynote II:****Alicia & Bernhard: A Communication
Love-story Through the Ages***Prof. Dr. Nilesh Madhu***5th Floor, Room 5.30 and 5.31/5.32****10:00-16:30 Show & Tell****3PASS – Realistic Testing Matters***Ekaterina Malkova, Christian Landauer,
Christian Schüring, HEAD acoustics GmbH,
Herzogenrath***Exploring Advanced Hearing Trends:
Live Demos of Occlusion Cancellation,
Low Noise Wide-band Transparency,
Wideband ANC and Spatial Audio
Immersion***Stefan Liebich, Henning Niendieck, Elevear
GmbH, Aachen***DemVis: Modular System for Speech-
based Dementia Screening***Jordan Behrendt, Ayimnisagul Ablimit, Elisa
Braube, Tanja Schultz, University of Bremen***10:00-10:30 Coffee Break****10:30-12:00 Poster Session B***Chair: Heiner Löllmann***Advances in End-to-end Conversational
Speech Quality Prediction***Stefan Bleiholder¹, Christian Kettler²,
Nils Rohrer¹, Steffen Weyer²**¹ HEAD acoustics GmbH, Herzogenrath**² FH Aachen*

10:30-12:00

Poster
Session B**Comparative Study of LC3plus and Lyra Codec on DNN-based Source Localisation for Hearing Aids**

Siyuan Song, Stijn Kindt, Jasper Maes, Alexander Bohlender, Nilesh Madhu, Ghent University, Belgium

Comparison of Different Neural Network Architectures for Spoken Language Identification

Tala Bazazo^{1,2}, Mohammad Zeineldeen¹, Christian Plahl², Ralf Schlüter¹, Hermann Ney¹
¹ RWTH Aachen University
² ebay, Aachen

Exploring Shapely Values for Blood Glucose Level Prediction from Speech

Simone Pompe¹, Adria Mallol-Ragolta¹, Nicolas Schauer², Björn Schuller^{1,3}
¹ University of Augsburg
² Vindex GmbH
³ Imperial College London

LibriWASN: A Data Set for Meeting Separation, Diarization, and Recognition with Asynchronous Recording Devices

Joerg Schmalenstroeer, Tobias Gburrek, Reinhold Haeb-Umbach, Paderborn University

Reduced-complexity Binaural Source Localization for Headphones and Hearing Aids using Low-rank DRTF Approximations

Jonas Förster¹, Helena Janning², Sebastian Nagel², Peter Jax²
¹ beyerdynamic GmbH & Co. KG
² RWTH Aachen University

10:30-12:00

Poster
Session B**Single Channel Source Separation in the Wild – Conversational Speech in Realistic Environments***Emil Berger, Barbara Schuppler, Martin Hagmüller, Franz Pernkopf, TU Graz, Austria***Subjective Performance Evaluation of Single-channel Speaker-conditioned Target Speaker Extraction Algorithms for Complex Acoustic Scenes***Ragini Sinha¹, Ann-Christin Scherer¹, Simon Doclo^{1,2}, Christian Rollwage¹, Jan RENNIES¹
¹ Fraunhofer IDMT Dept. HSA, Oldenburg
² University of Oldenburg***Toward Semi-supervised Transcription of NAKO+ILSE: Influence of Automatic Speech Recognition Performance on Manual Transcription Effort***Elisa Brauße, Kevin Scheck, Tanja Schultz, University of Bremen***Towards a Brain Computer Interface for Speech Perception***Harald Höge, University of the Bundeswehr Munich***Wind Noise Reduction with a Diffusion-based Stochastic Regeneration Model***Jean-Marie Lemerrier¹, Joachim Thiemann², Raphael Koning², Timo Gerkmann¹
¹ Universität Hamburg
² Advanced Bionics, Hannover*

12:00-13:00

Lunch

13:00-15:00

**Lecture Session:
Best Paper Award Contest***Chair: Walter Kellermann***Investigating Speaker Embedding
Disentanglement on Natural Read Speech***Michael Kuhlmann¹, Adrian Meise¹,
Fritz Seebauer², Petra Wagner²,
Reinhold Haeb-Umbach¹**¹ Paderborn University**² Bielefeld University***BRUDEX Database: Binaural Room
Impulse Responses with Uniformly
Distributed External Microphones***Daniel Fejgin, Wiebke Middelberg,
Simon Doclo, University of Oldenburg***Comparative Analysis of the wav2vec 2.0
Feature Extractor***Peter Vieting¹, Ralf Schlüter^{1,2},
Hermann Ney^{1,2}**¹ RWTH Aachen University**² AppTek GmbH, Aachen***Design of Low-order IIR Filters Based on
Hankel Nuclear Norm Regularization for
Achieving Acoustic Transparency***Florian Hilgemann, Christoph Weyer,
Peter Jax, RWTH Aachen University***Fast Tracking of Time-variant Systems
Using Local Affine Subspaces***Till Hardenbicker, Peter Jax, RWTH Aachen
University***Generalized Wiener Filter for Nonlinear
Acoustic Echo Control***Svantje Voit, Gerald Enzner, University of
Oldenburg*

15:00-16:30 **Poster Session C**

Chair: Ralf Schlüter

Compression of End-to-end Non-auto-regressive Image-to-speech System for Low-resourced Devices

*Gokul Srinivasagan^{1,2}, Michael Deisher²,
Munir Georges^{3,4}*

¹ Saarland University

² Intel Corporation, Hillsboro, Oregon USA

³ Intel Labs, Munich

⁴ Technische Hochschule Ingolstadt

CRNN-based Multi-DOA Estimator: Comparing Classification and Regression

*Pieter Cooreman, Alexander Bohlender,
Nilesh Madhu, Ghent University, Belgium*

Development of Hybrid ASR Systems for Low Resource Medical Domain Conversational Telephone Speech

*Christoph Lüscher^{1,2}, Mohammad Zeineldeen^{1,2},
Zijian Yang^{1,2}, Tina Raissi¹, Peter Vieting¹,
Khai Le-Duc¹, Weiyue Wang², Ralf Schlüter^{1,2},
Hermann Ney^{1,2}*

¹ RWTH Aachen University

² AppTek GmbH, Aachen

Evaluation of HRTF Models for Binaural Cue Adaptation

*Sebastian Nagel, Peter Jax, RWTH Aachen
University*

Global vs. Local Federated Learning in Heterogeneous Acoustic Environments

*Rene Glitza, Luca Becker, Rainer Martin, Ruhr
University Bochum*

15:00-16:30

Poster
Session C**In-the-wild Speech Emotion Conversion Using Disentangled Self-supervised Representations and Neural Vocoder-based Resynthesis***Navin Raj Prabhu, Nale Lehmann-Willenbrock, Timo Gerkmann, Universität Hamburg***Low-complexity Real-time Single-channel Speech Enhancement Based on Skip-GRUs***Ragini Sinha¹, Christian Rollwage¹, Simon Doclo^{1,2}**¹ Fraunhofer IDMT Dept. HSA, Oldenburg**² University of Oldenburg***Multi-speaker Text-to-speech Using ForwardTacotron with Improved Duration Prediction***Kishor Kayyar Lakshminarayana¹, Christian Dittmar¹, Nicola Pia¹, Emanuël A.P. Habets²**¹ Fraunhofer IIS, Erlangen**² International Audio Laboratories Erlangen***On Feature Importance and Interpretability of Speaker Representations***Frederik Rautenberg¹, Michael Kuhlmann¹, Jana Wiechmann², Fritz Seebauer²,**Petra Wagner², Reinhold Haeb-Umbach¹**¹ Paderborn University**² Bielefeld University***Quantifying Harmonic Distortions in Audio Playback Systems***Magnus Schäfer, HEAD acoustics GmbH, Herzogenrath***Stream-ETS: Low-latency End-to-end Speech Synthesis from Electromyography Signals***Kevin Scheck, Darius Ivucic, Zhao Ren, Tanja Schultz, University of Bremen*

■ Friday, September 22nd, 2023

09:00-10:00 **Keynote III:**
**Information Extraction from Speech
and Audio Sensor Data – Challenges for
Applied Research in the Security Domain**
Prof. Dr. Frank Kurth

10:00-10:30 **Coffee Break**

10:30-12:00 **Poster Session D**
Chair: Christiane Antweiler

**Analyzing and Improving Neural Speaker
Embeddings for ASR**

*Christoph Lüscher^{1,2}, Jingjing Xu^{1,2},
Mohammad Zeineldeen^{1,2}, Ralf Schlüter^{1,2},
Hermann Ney^{1,2}*

¹ RWTH Aachen University

² AppTek GmbH, Aachen

**Distribution Mismatch Correction for
Acoustic Scene Classification**

*Lukas Maier, Alexander Fuchs, Franz Pernkopf,
TU Graz, Austria*

**Exploratory Evaluation of Speech Content
Masking**

*Jennifer Williams¹, Karla Pizzi^{2,3}, Paul-Gauthier
Noé⁴, Sneha Das⁵*

¹ University of Southampton, U.K.

² Fraunhofer AISEC, Garching

³ Technical University Munich

⁴ University of Avignon, France

⁵ Technical University of Denmark

10:30-12:00

Poster
Session D**Exploring Visualization Techniques for Interpretable Learning in Speech Enhancement Deep Neural Networks***Eike Nustede, Jörn Anemüller, University of Oldenburg***Feedback-aware Design of an Occlusion Effect Reduction System Using an Earbud-mounted Vibration Sensor***Christoph Weyer, Peter Jax, RWTH Aachen University***Fuzzy-clustering-supported Assignment of Smart-speaker-based Microphone Arrays to Acoustic Sources in Reverberant Acoustic Environments***Luca Becker¹, Stijn Kindt², Rainer Martin¹**¹ Ruhr University Bochum**² Ghent University, Belgium***Investigating Disentanglement of Speaker Identity and Characteristics through User Experience***Sai Sirisha Rallabandi¹, Sebastian Möller^{1,2}**¹ TU Berlin**² German Research Center for Artificial Intelligence, Berlin***Language Recognition for SSB Modulated HF Radio Signals of Short Duration***Alessia Cornaggia-Urrigshardt, Fabian Fritz, Lukas Henneke, Frank Kurth, Christian Schlich, Kevin Wilkinghoff, Fraunhofer FKIE, Wachtberg***Self-learning and Active-learning for Electromyography-to-speech Conversion***Zhao Ren, Kevin Scheck, Tanja Schultz, University of Bremen*

10:30-12:00

Poster
Session D**Target-speaker Voice Activity Detection
in Multi-talker Scenarios: An Empirical
Study**

*Ahmad Aloradi, Mohamed Elminshawi,
Srikanth Raj Chetupalli, Emanuël A.P. Habets,
International Audio Laboratories Erlangen*

**Uncertainty-driven Hybrid Fusion for
Audio-visual Phoneme Recognition**

*Huajian Fang, Simone Frintrop,
Timo Gerkmann, Universität Hamburg*

12:00-13:00

Lunch

13:00-14:30

**Lecture Session: Generative Methods for
Speech Processing**

Chairs: Tim Fingscheidt and Timo Gerkmann

**On the Behavior of Intrusive and Non-
intrusive Speech Enhancement Metrics in
Predictive and Generative Settings**

*Danilo de Oliveira, Julius Richter, Jean-Marie
Lemercier, Tal Peer, Timo Gerkmann,
Universität Hamburg*

**Evaluation Metrics for Generative
Speech Enhancement Methods:
Issues and Perspectives**

*Jan Pirklbauer¹, Marvin Sach¹, Kristoff Fluyt²,
Wouter Tirry², Wafaa Wardah³, Sebastian
Möller³, Tim Fingscheidt¹*

¹ TU Braunschweig

² Goodix Technology (Belgium) BV, Leuven

³ TU Berlin

13:00-14:30
Lecture
Session

Improving the Naturalness of Synthesized Spectrograms for TTS Using GAN-based Post-processing

*Paolo Sani¹, Judith Bauer¹, Frank Zalkow¹,
Emanuël A.P. Habets^{1,2}, Christian Dittmar¹*

¹ Fraunhofer IIS, Erlangen

² International Audio Laboratories Erlangen

Audio-visual Speech Enhancement with Score-based Generative Models

Julius Richter, Simone Frintrop,

Timo Gerkmann, Universität Hamburg

A Maximum Entropy Information Bottleneck (MEIB) Regularization for Generative Speech Enhancement with HiFi-GAN

*Marvin Sach¹, Jan Pirklbauer¹, Kristoff Fluyt²,
Wouter Tirry², Tim Fingscheidt¹*

¹ TU Braunschweig

² Goodix Technology (Belgium) BV, Leuven

14:30-15:00

Award Ceremony and Closing

Chairs: Peter Jax, Sebastian Möller

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General Information

The lecture and poster sessions will take place in the Generali and Ford hall of the SuperC (6th floor) at RWTH Aachen University. The SuperC, located at Templergraben 57, is right next to the main building of the RWTH. In room 5.31/5.32 on the 5th floor, the Show & Tell sessions and the TPC meeting will take place.

Please refer to the conference website for further information about the conference:

www.iks.rwth-aachen.de/itg2023

Further information about the RWTH University can be found on the internet at:

www.rwth-aachen.de

Interesting information about the city of Aachen:

www.aachen.de

www.aachen-tourismus.de

Registration Fees and Conference Proceedings

The registration fee includes participation in all sessions, the conference proceedings as download, coffee breaks, lunches (Thursday and Friday), and attendance at the social events on Thursday, including the guided city tour and the evening event.

The following registration fees apply for attending the conference:

	until August 8	after August 8
Full registration	€ 320	€ 380
VDE/DEGA Member	€ 250	€ 300
Student registration */**	€ 50	€ 100

* The student discount does not apply to doctoral/ PhD students.

** Banquet & city tour are not included.

Booking an additional ticket for the social events is possible for a fee of 60 €.

Different Guided City Tours

In the early afternoon of September 21, various guided tours will be offered in the vicinity of Aachen. You can choose from the listed tours below:

- Old Town Tour
- Old Town Tour in English
- Cathedral Tour
- Cathedral Treasury Tour
- Charlemagne
- Lousberg Tour
- Really True? - The Lies Tour
- 70 Years of the International Charlemagne Prize in Aachen

Spaces for each tour are limited and will be allocated on a first-come, first-served basis. All tours are conducted in German language. Only for the Old Town Tour, a group is offered in English language. We would like to inform you that in some individual cases, we had to rebook you to another guided tour in order to save costs.

The assignment to one of the tours is completed through the regular VDE conference registration. If you have not yet registered for one of the tours, please contact the conference office.

All guided tours start at the conference venue at 16:30.

Banquet at the „Altes Kurhaus“ Aachen

In the evening, the banquet of the ITG Conference on Speech Communication 2023 will take place at the historic ballroom of the Altes Kurhaus in Aachen at 19:00. The breathtaking architecture of the ballroom is a unique event space.

Altes Kurhaus Aachen
Kurhausstraße 1
52062 Aachen

By Train:

The nearest train station to RWTH Aachen is Aachen West train station. Please note that, so far, the Aachen West train station is not wheelchair accessible. From here, the SuperC can be reached in a 10-minute walk, but also by bus to the bus stop „Driescher Gässchen“ (a 3-minute walk from SuperC).

Further information concerning the bus connections, see www.iks.rwth-aachen.de/itg2023 (Venue/Travel) or on <https://auskunft.avv.de>.

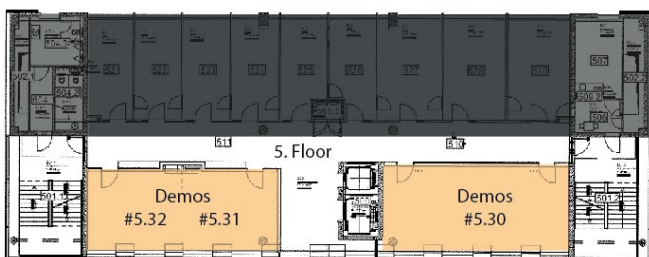
By Car:

From Düsseldorf (A44) / Cologne (A4)

- At the highway intersection Kreuz Aachen follow the signs to Heerlen / Antwerpen (A4).
- Take exit number 2 Laurensberg / Richterich and turn right onto the expressway to Aachen.
- Follow the road (L232) to the old city gate (Ponttor).
- At the traffic light, turn right into Pontwall and take the first left (Wüllnerstraße).
- The SuperC is located at the crossing Wüllnerstraße/ Templergraben.

Please keep in mind that parking space is rare around the SuperC. RWTH does not provide guest parking. Furthermore, street parking especially around SuperC is limited to one hour and thus not convenient. For a list of official car parks, visit the web page of the APAG.

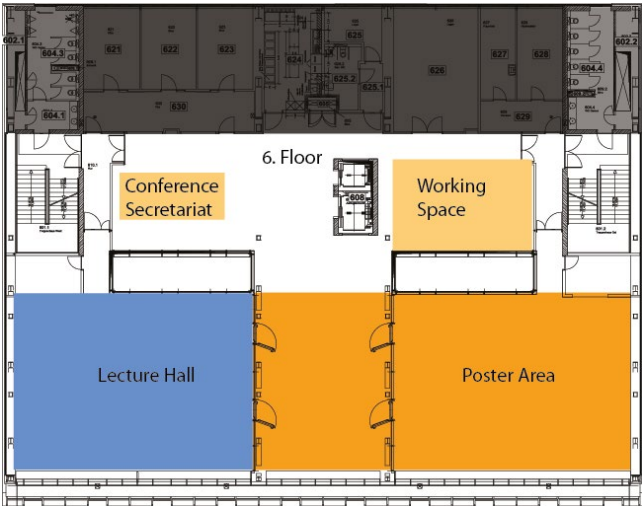
SuperC, 5th Floor: Show & Tell and Meetings



Campus Mitte



SuperC, 6th Floor: Lectures and Posters



Conference at a Glance

Venue:

SuperC, RWTH Aachen University
Templergraben 57, 6th floor
52062 Aachen, Germany

■ Wednesday, September 20th, 2023

- 14:00-14:30 **Eröffnung und Begrüßung**
Prof. Dr. Peter Jax
Prof. Dr. Sebastian Möller
- 14:30-15:30 **Keynote I:**
**Leap into the Industrial Metaverse:
Where Wearables and Sensors Meet
Reality**
Dr. Hendrik Witt
- 15:30-16:00 **Coffee Break**
- 16:00-17:30 **Poster Session A**
- 17:30-18:00 **Group Photo**
- 18:00-19:00 **Meeting TPC/Fachausschuss
Sprachkommunikation AT3**

■ Thursday, September 21st, 2023

- 09:00-10:00 **Keynote II:**
**Alicia & Bernhard: A Communication
Love-story Through the Ages**
Prof. Dr. Nilesh Madhu
- 10:00-10:30 **Coffee Break**
- 10:30-12:00 **Poster Session B**
- 12:00-13:00 **Lunch**
- 13:00-15:00 **Lecture Session:
Best Paper Award Contest**
- 15:00-16:30 **Poster Session C**
- 16:30-18:30 **Guided Tours**
- 19:00 **Banquet**

10:00-16:30
Show & Tell

■ Friday, September 22nd, 2023

- 09:00-10:00 **Keynote III:**
**Information Extraction from Speech
and Audio Sensor Data – Challenges for
Applied Research in the Security Domain**
Prof. Dr. Frank Kurth
- 10:00-10:30 **Coffee Break**
- 10:30-12:00 **Poster Session D**
- 12:00-13:00 **Lunch**
- 13:00-14:30 **Lecture Session:**
**Generative Methods for Speech
Processing**
- 14:30-15:00 **Award Ceremony & Closing**

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