SPECOM 2016 18th International Conference on Speech and Computer

1st International Conference on Interactive Collaborative Robotics

PROGRAM

August 23-27, 2016 Aquincum Hotel Budapest, Hungary

http://www.specom2016.hte.hu

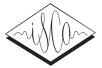




Budapest University of Technology and Economics



IN COOPERATION WITH



International Speech Communication Association (ISCA)



ITMO UNIVERSITY



Moscow State Linguistic University (MSLU)



St. Petersburg Institute for Informatics and Automation of the Russian Academy of Sciences (SPIIRAS)

SPONSORS



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CONFERENCE PROGRAM

	TUESDAY, AUGUST 23
16:00-18:00	Registration
18:30-20:00	Welcome Reception
	WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 24
08:00-08:30	Registration
08:30-09:00	Opening ceremony
09:00-10:00	Keynote lecture of Ralf Schlueter
10:00-10:30	Coffee break
10:30-12:30	Speech recognition and understanding
12:30-14:00	Lunch
14:00-16:00	SPECOM Poster session I
16:00-16:30	Coffee break
16:30-18:30	Speech synthesis
	THURSDAY, AUGUST 25
09:00-10:00	Keynote lecture of Attila Vékony
10:00-10:30	Coffee break
10:30-12:30	Multimodal human-machine interaction
12:30-14:00	Lunch
14:00-16:00	ICR Poster session
16:00-16:30	Coffee break
16:30-18:30	Interactive collaborative robotics
16:30-18:30	Speech signal processing
19:30-21:30	Gala dinner on the Danube
	FRIDAY, AUGUST 26
09:00-10:00	Keynote lecture of Nick Campbell
10:00-10:30	Coffee break
10:30-12:30	Natural language processing
12:30-14:00	Lunch
14:00-16:00	SPECOM Poster session II
16:00-16:30	Coffee break
16:30-18:30	Speaker and language recognition
	SATURDAY, AUGUST 27
09:00-15:00	Budapest tour

PROGRAM

23 08 2016 | TUESDAY

16:00-18:00	Registration
18:30-20:00	Welcome Reception

24 08 2016 | WEDNESDAY

08:30-09:00 HADRIANUS B OPENING CEREMONY

9:00-10:00	Κει	inote	speed	h:

HADRIANUS B Automatic Speech Recognition based on Neural Networks Ralf Schlueter, RWTH Aachen University, Germany Chair: Géza Németh, Budapest University of Technology and Economics, Hungary

10:00-10:30 *Coffee break*

10:30-12:30 HADRIANUS B	SPEECH RECOGNITION AND UNDERSTANDING Chair: Alexey Karpov, SPIIRAS, Russia
10:30-10:50	Adaptation of DNN Acoustic Models using KL-divergence Regularization and Multi-Task Training Lászlo Tóth and Gábor Gosztolya
10:50-11:10	Improving Automatic Speech Recognition Containing Additive Noise Using Deep Denoising Autoencoders of LSTM Networks Marvin Coto, John Goddard and Fabiola Martinez
11:10-11:30	Knowledge Transfer for Utterance Classification in Low-Resource Languages Andrei Smirnov and Valentin Mendelev

11:30-11:50	Designing Syllable M based Speech Recog Kseniya Proenca, Kris Dirk Van Compernolle	nition System s Demuynck and
11:50-12:10	In-document Adapta Guided Automatic Tra André Mansikkaniemi Krister Lindén	anscription Service
12:10-12:30	Automatic Summari Spontaneous Speec András Beke and Gyö	h
12:30-14:00	Lunch	APICIUS RESTAURANT

14:00-16:00 SPECOM POSTER SESSION I Chair: Ralf Schlueter, RWTH Aachen University, Germany

P1: Exploring GMM-derived Features for Unsupervised Adaptation of Deep Neural Network Acoustic Models Natalia Tomashenko, Yuri Khokhlov, Anthony Larcher and Yannick Estève

P2: DNN-based Acoustic Modeling for Russian Speech Recognition Using Kaldi Irina Kipyatkova and Alexey Karpov

P3: Improving the Quality of Automatic Speech Recognition in Trucks Maxim Korenevsky, Ivan Medennikov and Vadim Shchemelinin

P4: Feature Space VTS with Phase Term Modeling

Maxim Korenevsky and Aleksei Romanenko

P5: LSTM-based Language Models for Spontaneous Speech Recognition Ivan Medennikov and Anna Bulusheva

P6: Speaker-dependent bottleneck features for Egyptian Arabic speech recognition

Aleksei Romanenko and Valentin Mendelev P7: Advances in STC Russian

Spontaneous Speech Recognition System Ivan Medennikov and Alexey Prudnikov **P8:** Combining Atom Decomposition of the F0 Track and HMM-based Phonological Phrase Modelling for Robust Stress Detection in Speech György Szaszák, Máté Ákos Tündik, Branislav Gerazov and Aleksandar Gjoreski

P9: Improving Recognition of Dysarthric Speech Using Severity Based Tempo Adaptation Chitralekha Bhat, Bhavik Vachhani and Sunil Kumar Kopparapu

P10: Comparison of Retrieval Approaches and Blind Relevance Feedback Methods within the Czech Speech Information Retrieval Lucie Skorkovska

P11: A Phonetic Segmentation Procedure Based on Hidden Markov Models Edvin Pakoci, Branislav Popović, Nikša Jakovljević, Darko Pekar and Fathy Yassa

P12: Stress, arousal, and stress detector trained on acted speech database Róbert Sabo, Milan Rusko, Andrej Ridzik and Jakub Rajčani

P13: Improvements to Prosodic Variation in Long Short-Term Memory based Intonation Models Using Random Forest Bálint Pál Tóth, Balázs Szórádi and Géza Németh

P14: Fusing various audio feature sets for detection of Parkinson's disease from sustained voice and speech recordings

Evaldas Vaiciukynas, Antanas Verikas, Adas Gelzinis, Marija Bacauskiene, Kestutis Vaskevicius, Virgilijus Uloza, Evaldas Padervinskis and Jolita Ciceliene

P15: Investigation of Speech Signal Parameters Reflecting the Truth of Transmitted Information

Victor Budkov, Irina Vatamaniuk, Vladimir Basov and Daniyar Volf



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P16: Trade-off between speed and accuracy for Noise Variance Minimization (NVM) pitch estimation algorithm Andrey Barabanov and Aleksandr Melnikov

P17: Study on the improvement of intelligibility for elderly speech using formant frequency shift method Yuto Tanaka, Mitsunori Mizumachi and Yoshihisa Nakatoh

P18: Quality Assessment of two Fullband Audio Codecs Supporting Real-Time Communication Michael Maruschke, Oliver Jokisch, Martin Meszaros, Franziska Trojahn and Mario Hoffmann

P19: A Deep Neural Networks (DNN) Based models for a Computer Aided Pronunciation Learning System (in absentia)

Mohamed Elaraby, Mustafa Abdallah, Sherif Abdou and Mohsen Rashwan

P20: Evaluation of Response Times on a Touch Screen using Stereo Panned Speech Command Auditory Feedback Hunor Nagy and György Wersényi

P21: Speech Enhancement with Microphone Array Using a Multi Beam Adaptive Noise Suppressor Mikhail Stolbov and Alexander Lavrentyev

P22: Microphone Array Directivity Improvement in Low-Frequency Domain for Speech Processing Sergei Aleinik and Mikhail Stolbov

P23: Optimization of Zelinski post-filtering calculation Sergei Aleinik

P24: Assessment of the relation between low-frequency features and velum opening by using real articulatory data

Alexander Sepulveda-Sepulveda and German Castellanos-Dominguez

	P25: Evaluation of the speech quality during rehabilitation after surgical treatment of the cancer of oral cavity and oropharynx based on a comparison of the Fourier spectra Evgeny Kostyuchenko, Roman Mescheryakov, Dariya Ignatieva, Alexander Pyatkov, Evgeny Choynzonov and Lidiya Batatskaya
16:00-16:30	Coffee break
16:30-18:30 HADRIANUS B	SPEECH SYNTHESIS Chair: Géza Németh , Budapest University of Technology and Economics, Hungary
16:30-16:50	Ensemble Deep Neural Network based Waveform-Driven Stress Model for Speech Synthesis Bálint Pál Tóth, Kornél István Kiss, György Szaszák and Géza Németh
16:50-17:10	DNN-Based Duration Modeling for Synthesizing Short Sentences Péter Nagy and Géza Németh
17:10-17:30	Experiments with One-Class Classifier as a Predictor of Spectral Discontinuities in Unit Concatenation Daniel Tihelka, Martin Grůber and Markéta Jůzová
17:30-17:50	Phonetic Aspects of High Level of Naturalness in Speech Synthesis Vera Evdokimova, Pavel Skrelin, Andrey Barabanov and Karina Evgrafova
17:50-18:10	An agonist-antagonist pitch production model Branislav Gerazov and Philip N. Garner
18:10-18:30	An UMP (Universal Melodic Portraits) Model of Pitch Contours Stylization for Analysis and Synthesis of Intonation Boris Lobanov



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25 08 2016 | THURSDAY

9:00-10:00 HADRIANUS B	Keynote speech: Speech Recognition Challenges in the Car Navigation Industry Attila Vékony, NNG Software Developing and Commercial Llc. Hungary Chair: Andrey Ronzhin, SPIIRAS, Russia
10:00-10:30	Coffee break
10:30-12:30 Hadrianus B	MULTIMODAL HUMAN-MACHINE INTERACTION Chair: Milos Zelezny, University of West Bohemia, Czech Republic
10:30-10:50	Toward Sign Language Motion Capture Dataset Building Zdeněk Krňoul, Pavel Jedlička, Jakub Kanis and Milos Zelezny
10:50-11:10	Selecting Keypoint Detector and Descriptor Combination for Augmented Reality Application Lukáš Bureš and Luděk Müller
11:10-11:30	Human-Robot Interaction using Brain- Computer Interface Lev Stankevich and Konstantin Sonkin
11:30-11:50	Attention Training Game with Aldebaran Robotics NAO and Brain- Computer Interface Evgeny Shandarov, Stepan Gomilko and Alina Zimina
11:50-12:10	HAVRUS Corpus: High-speed Recordings of Audio-Visual Russian Speech Vasilisa Verkhodanova, Alexander Ronzhin, Irina Kipyatkova, Denis Ivanko, Alexey Karpov and Milos Zelezny
12:10-12:30	Speech Recognition combining MFCCs and Image Features (Skype) Stamatis Karlos, Nikos Fazakis, Katerina Karanikola, Sotiris Kotsiantis and Kyriakos Sgarbas

12:30-14:00 Lunch

APICIUS RESTAURANT

ICR POSTER SESSION

Chair: **Eugene Larkin**, Tula State University, Russia

P1: Decentralized Approach to Control of Robot Groups During Execution of the Task Flow Igor Kalyaev, Anatoly Kalyaev and

Igor Kalyaev, Anatoly Kalyaev and Iakov Korovin

P2: A Recovery Method for the Robotic Decentralized Control System with Performance Redundancy Iakov Korovin, Eduard Melnik and Anna Klimenko

P3: Control Algorithms for Heterogeneous Vehicle Groups Control in Obstructed 2-D Environments

Viacheslav Pshikhopov, Mikhail Medvedev, Anatoly Gaiduk and Aleksandr Kolesnikov

P4: Method of Spheres for Solving 3D Formation Task in a Group of Quadrotors Donat Ivanov, Sergey Kapustyan and Igor Kalyaev

P5: Multi-Robot Exploration and Mapping Based on the Subdefinite Models

Valery Karpov, Alexander Migalev, Anton Moscowsky, Maxim Rovbo and Vitaly Vorobiev

P6: Simulation of Commands Execution by Mobile Robot

Eugene Larkin, Alexey Ivutin, Vladislav Kotov and Alexander Privalov

P7: The Effectiveness of Rescuing Casualties when Using Robotic Systems Anna Motienko, Igor Dorozhko, Anatoly Tarasov and Oleg Basov

P8: Distributed Information System for Collaborative Robots and IoT Devices Siarhei Herasiuta, Uladzislau Sychou and Ryhor Prakapovich



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P9: Positioning Method Basing on External Reference Points for Surgical Robots

Ekaterina Sinyavskaya, Elena Shestova, Mikhail Medvedev and Evgenij Kosenko

P10: Hardware-Software Solution for Three-Dimensional Model Control in Volumetric Display Testing Unit for Visualization and Dispatching Applications

Alexander Bolshakov, Arthur Sgibnev, Tatiana Chistyakova, Viktor Glazkov and Dmitry Lachugin

P11: Educational Marine Robotics in SMTU

Mikhail Chemodanov, Ryzhov Vladimir, Nickolay Semenov, Kirill Rozhdestvensky and Igor Kozhemyakin

P12: Designing Simulation Model of Humanoid Robot to Study Servo Control System

Alexander Denisov, Viktor Budkov and Daniil Mikhalchenko

P13: Speech Dialog as a Part of Interactive "Human-Machine" Systems Rodmonga Potapova

P14: Human-Machine Speech-Based Interfaces with Augmented Reality and Interactive Systems for Controlling Mobile Cranes

Maciej J. Majewski and Wojciech Kacalak

P15: Preprocessing Data for Facial Gestures Classifier on the Basis of the Neural Network Analysis of Biopotentials Muscle Signals Raisa Budko and Irina Starchenko

P16: Mimic Recognition and Reproduction in Bilateral Human-Robot Speech Communication Arkady S. Yuschenko, Sergey Vorotnikov, Dmitry Konyshev and Andrey Zhonin P17: Interactive Collaborative Robotics and Natural Language Interface Based on Multi-Agent Recursive Cognitive Architectures Murat Anchokov, Zalimkhan Nagoev, Vladimir Denisenko, Boris Tazhev and Zaurbek Sundukov

P18: An Analysis of Visual Faces Datasets

Ivan Gruber, Miroslav Hlaváč, Marek Hrúz, Miloš Železný and Alexey Karpov

P19: Voice Dialogue with a Collaborative Robot Driven by Multimodal Semantics Alexander Kharlamov and Konstantin Ermishin

P20: Human-Smartphone Interaction for Dangerous Situation Detection & Recommendation Generation while Driving

Alexander Smirnov, Alexey Kashevnik and Igor Lashkov

P21: Conceptual Model of Cyberphysical Environment Based on Collaborative Work of Distributed Means and Mobile Robots Anton Saveliev, Oleg Basov and Andrey Ronzhin

P22: The Humanoid Robot Assistant for a Preschool Children

Evgeny Shandarov, Alina Zimina, Dmitry Rimer, Evgenia Sokolova and Olga Shandarova

16:00-16:30 *Coffee break*



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16:30-18:30 MARCUS	INTERACTIVE COLLABORATIVE ROBOTICS Chair: Roman Meshcheryakov, TUSUR, Russia
16:30-16:50	Development of Wireless Charging Robot for Indoor Environment based on Probabilistic Roadmap Yi-Shiun Wu, Chi-Wei Chen and Hooman Samani
16:50-17:10	Mechanical Leg Design of the Anthropomorphic Robot Antares Nikita Pavluk, Victor Budkov, Andrey Kodyakov and Andrey Ronzhin
17:10-17:30	YuMi, come and play with me! A Collaborative Robot for piecing together a Tangram Puzzle David Kirschner, Rosemarie Velik, Saeed Yahyanejad, Mathias Brandstötter and Michael Hofbaur
17:30-17:50	A Control Strategy for a Lower Limb Exoskeleton with a Toe Joint Sergei Savin, Sergey Jatsun and Andrey Yatsun
17:50-18:10	Robot Soccer Team for RoboCup Humanoid KidSize League Evgeny Shandarov, Stepan Gomilko, Darya Zhulaeva, Dmitry Rimer, Dmitry Yakushin and Roman Meshcheryakov
18:10-18:30	Smart M3-Based Robot Interaction Scenario for Coalition Work Alexander Smirnov, Alexey Kashevnik, Sergey Mikhailov, Mikhail Mironov and Mikhail Petrov

25 08 2016 | THURSDAY

16:30-18:30 HADRIANUS B	SPEECH SIGNAL PROCESSING Chair: László Tóth, University of Szeged
16:30-16:50	Robust Speech Analysis Based on Source-Filter Model Using Multivariate Empirical Mode Decomposition in Noisy Environments Surasak Boonkla, Masashi Unoki and Stanislav S. Makhanov
16:50-17:10	An Algorithm for Phase Manipulation in a Speech Signal Darko Pekar, Siniša Suzić, Robert Mak, Meir Friedlander and Milan Sečujski
17:10-17:30	Detecting Laughter and Filler Events by Time Series Smoothing with Genetic Algorithms Gábor Gosztolya
17:30-17:50	Bio-Inspired Sparse Representation of Speech and Audio Using Psychoacoustic Adaptive Matching Pursuit Alexey Petrovsky, Vadzim Herasimovich and Alexander Petrovsky
17:50-18:10	Statistical analysis of acoustical parameters in the voice of children with juvenile dysphonia Miklós Gábriel Tulics, Ferenc Kazinczi and Klára Vicsi
18:10-18:30	Precise estimation of harmonic parameter trend and modification of a speech signal Andrey Barabanov, Evgenij Vikulov and Valentin Magerkin

19:30-21:30 GALA DINNER ON THE DANUBE



26 08 2016 | FRIDAY

9:00-10:00 HADRIANUS B	Keynote speech: Machine Processing of Dialogue States; Speculations on Conversational Entropy Nick Campbell, Trinity College Dublin, Ireland Chair: Rodmonga Potapova, MSLU, Russia
10:00-10:30	Coffee break
10:30-12:30 HADRIANUS B	NATURAL LANGUAGE PROCESSING Chair: Rodmonga Potapova, MSLU, Russia
10:30-10:50	Text Classification in the Domain of Applied Linguistics as Part of a Pre-editing Module for Machine Translation Systems Ksenia Oskina
10:50-11:10	Backchanneling via Twitter Data for Conversational Dialogue Systems Michimasa Inaba and Kenichi Takahasi
11:10-11:30	Measuring prosodic entrainment in Italian collaborative game-based dialogues Michelina Savino, Loredana Lapertosa, Alessandro Caffò and Mario Refice
11:30-11:50	A Preliminary Exploration of Group Social Engagement Level Recognition in Multiparty Casual Conversation Yuyun Huang, Emer Gilmartin, Benjamin R. Cowan and Nick Campbell
11:50-12:10	Interaction Quality as a Human-Human Task-Oriented Conversation Performance Anastasiia Spirina, Olesia Vaskovskaia, Maxim Sidorov and Alexander Schmitt
12:10-12:30	A comparison of acoustic features of speech of typically developing children and children with autism spectrum disorders Elena Lyakso, Olga Frolova and Aleksey Grigorev

12:30-14:00 Lunch

APICIUS RESTAURANT

14:00-16:00 SPECOM POSTER SESSION II

Chair: **Nick Campbell**, Trinity College Dublin, Ireland

P1: Polybasic Attribution of Social Network Discourse Rodmonga Potapova and Vsevolod Potapov

P2: Detecting Filled Pauses and Lengthenings in Russian Spontaneous Speech using SVM Vasilisa Verkhodanova and Vladimir Shapranov

P3: Multimodal Perception of Aggressive Behavior Rodmonga Potapova and Liliya Komalova

P4: Designing High-Coverage Multi-Level Text Corpus for Non-Professional-Voice Conservation Markéta Jůzová, Daniel Tihelka and Jindřich Matoušek

P5: A Linguistic Interpretation of the Atom Decomposition of Fundamental Frequency Contour for American English

Tijana Delić, Branislav Gerazov, Branislav Popović and Milan Sečujski

P6: Emotional speech of 3-years old children: norm-risk-deprivation Olga Frolova and Elena Lyakso

P7: Profiling a Set of Personality Traits of a Text's Author: a Corpus-Based Approach

Tatiana Litvinova, Olga Zagorovskaya, Olga Litvinova and Pavel Seredin

P8: Unsupervised trained functional discourse parser for e-learning materials scaffolding

Varvara Krayvanova and Svetlana Duka

P9: Low Inter-Annotator Agreement in Sentence Boundary Detection and Personality

Anton Stepikhov and Anastassia Loukina



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P10: Modeling Imperative Utterances in Russian Spoken Dialogue: Verb-Central Quantitative Approach Olga Blinova

P11: An Exploratory Study on Sociolinguistic Variation of Spoken Russian

Natalia Bogdanova-Beglarian, Tatiana Sherstinova, Olga Blinova and Gregory Martynenko

P12: Speech Acts Annotation of Everyday Conversations in the ORD corpus of Spoken Russian Tatiana Sherstinova

P13: Design of a Speech Corpus for Research on Cross-Lingual Prosody Transfer

Milan Sečujski, Branislav Gerazov, Tamás Gábor Csapó, Vlado Delić, Philip Garner, Aleksandar Gjoreski, David Guennec, Zoran Ivanovski, Aleksandar Melov, Géza Németh, Ana Stojković and György Szaszák

P14: Sociolinguistic Extension of the ORD Corpus of Russian Everyday Speech

Natalia Bogdanova-Beglarian, Tatiana Sherstinova, Olga Blinova, Olga Ermolova, Ekaterina Baeva, Gregory Martynenko and Anastasia Ryko

P15: Detecting state of aggression in sentences using CNN Denis Gordeev

P16: Tonal Specification of
Perceptually Prominent Non-Nuclear
Pitch Accents in Russian
Nina Volskaya and Tatiana Kachkovskaia
P17: Lexical Stress in Punjabi and its
Representation in PLS
Swaran Lata, Swati Arora and

Simerjeet Kaur

P18: Comparative analysis of classifiers for automatic language recognition in spontaneous speech Konstantin Simonchik, Sergey Novoselov and Galina Lavrentyeva **P19:** Semi-automatic Speaker Verification System Based on Analysis of Formant, Durational and Pitch Characteristics

Elena Bulgakova and Aleksei Sholohov

P20: Scores Calibration in Speaker Recognition Systems Andrey Shulipa, Sergey Novoselov and Yuri Matveev

P21: Speech Features Evaluation for Small Set Automatic Speaker Verification Using GMM-UBM System Ivan Rakhmanenko and Roman Meshcheryakov

P22: Approaches for Out-of-Domain Adaptation to Improve Speaker Recognition Performance Andrey Shulipa, Sergey Novoselov and Aleksandr Melnikov

P23: Prosody Analysis of Malay Language Storytelling Corpus Izzad Ramli, Noraini Seman, Norizah Ardi and Nursuriati Jamil

P24: Finding speaker position under difficult acoustic conditions Evgeniy Shuranov, Alexander Lavrentyev, Alexey Kozlyaev and Valeriya Volkovaya

P25: Scenarios of Multimodal Information Navigation Services for Users in Cyberphysical Environment Irina Vatamaniuk, Dmitriy Levonevskiy, Anton Saveliev and Alexander Denisov

16:00-16:30 Coffee break



SATURDAY | 27 08 2016 | FRIDAY | 26 08 2016

16:30-18:30 Hadrianus B	SPEAKER AND LANGUAGE RECOGNITION Chair: Iosif Mporas, University of Hertfordshire, UK
16:30-16:50	Investigation of Segmentation in i-Vector based Speaker Diarization of Telephone Speech Zbynek Zajic, Marie Kunesova and Vlasta Radova
16:50-17:10	Improving Robustness of Speaker Verification by Fusion of Prompted Text-Dependent & Text-Independent Operation Modalities Iosif Mporas, Saeid Safavi and Reza Sotudeh
17:10-17:30	Convolutional Neural Network in the Task of Speaker Change Detection Marek Hruz and Marie Kunesova
17:30-17:50	Online Biometric Identification With Face Analysis in Web Applications Gerasimos Arvanitis, Konstantinos Moustakas and Nikos Fakotakis
17:50-18:10	Language Identification using Time Delay Neural Network D-Vector on Short Utterances Maxim Tkachenko, Alexander Yamshinin, Nikolay Luibimov, Mikhail Kotov and Marina Nastasenko
18:10-18:30	On Individual Polyinformativity of Speech and Voice Regarding Speaker's Auditive Attribution (Forensic Phonetic Aspect) Rodmonga Potapova and Vsevolod Potapov

18:30-18:40 CLOSING CEREMONY

27 08 2016 | SATURDAY

09:00-15:00 BUDAPEST TOUR

VENUE

The conference will be organized in the Aquincum Hotel Budapest. This Hotel is located in a prime area alongside the river Danube, on the Buda side of this magnificent city and across the river from the serene Margaret Island, with its famous thermal waters. The Hotel is surrounded by medieval streets, wine bars, restaurants and its own green park. The main feature of this business and leisure property is its well renowned natural spa, which derives its therapeutic water directly from Margaret Island. With its panoramic views of the Buda Hills, 310 guestrooms, restaurant and bars, 14 versatile meeting rooms and 1,660 square metre Spa, the hotel provides a relaxed atmosphere for leisure visitors and a comfortable business environment for corporate guests.

AQUINCUM HOTEL BUDAPEST

H-1036 Budapest, Árpád fejedelem útja 94. Hungary Phone: 36 1 436 4100 http://www.aquincumhotel.com GPS coordinates: 47.53805,19.046586

SOCIAL EVENTS

WELCOME RECEPTION

Monday, August 23, 2016

Registered participants of the conference are welcome to take part at the Welcome Reception that will be held at the conference venue. The reception is included in the registration fee, extra ticket for non registered participants can be purchased on-site. *Price is 30 EUR/person.*



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GALA DINNER

Thursday, August 25, 2016

Registered participants of the conference are welcome to take part at the Gala Dinner that will be held on boat "Ludwig" with a 2-hour boat trip on the river Danube. A dinner will be served for you on board. More information regarding meeting point and time will be available later at the registration desk of SPECOM 2016.

The Gala Dinner is included in the registration fee for one person. Extra ticket for non registered participants can be ordered at the registration desk. *Price is 90 EUR/person.*

HALF DAY GRAND CITY TOUR

Saturday, August 27, 2016 | 10.00-14.00

All participants are invited to take part at Half Day Grand City Tour in Budapest by bus. The tour is not included in the registration fee. Ticket for the tour can be ordered at the registration desk till August 25, 12.00 a.m. The tour will be held in case of minimum 10 people.

TOUR DESCRIPTION

Meeting point is in front of The Aquincum Hotel (venue of SPECOM 2016) at 9.45. The bus leaves at 10.00. First. uou take the Margaret Bridge and drive over to Buda. You stop in the Castle District and during a short walk you can see the main attractions of the area. You walk to the Matthias Church and the Fishermen's Bastion (from where you can enjoy the beautiful panorama). Next, you drive to the Gellért Hill (Citadel) and show you the most spectacular view of Budapest. Then the bus takes you across the Elisabeth Bridge to Pest and show you the famous Central Market Hall, followed by the largest Synagogue of Europe and the City Park. You pass by Europe's largest thermal spa and the Budapest Zoo, after which you stop at the Heroes' Square (with statues of the most famous Hungarian kings and dukes). Next you take the Andrássy Avenue to downtown Pest passing by the Opera House and St Stephen's Basilica. Then you get off the bus again and take an interior visit of the impressive neo-gothic House of Parliament (guided tour incl.). The tour ends in the city centre about at 14.00.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

Due to the different admission fees for EU and Non EU citizens at the Parliament there are different prices for EU and Non EU citizens.

Price for EU citizens is 32 EUR/person, for Non EU citizens is 42 EUR/person.

Please make sure to choose the right price in the registration system. Interior visit of the parliament is possible only with passport or ID card.

Cancellation for Parliament visit: 10 EUR/person

ABOUT HUNGARY

Situated at the crossroad of East and West Europe, sustaining original traditions and culture in the course of a unique history of glories and tragedies Hungary offers special regions and monuments on the UNESCO World Heritage worth to be visited.

ABOUT BUDAPEST

There are those who fall in love with the city at first sight and those who only warm up after a longer relationship, still everyone agrees that it is one of the most beautifully situated cities in the world. The great river Danube cuts it in two, and separates the hills and valleys of the western, Buda side from the flat, Pest side in the east. The settlement of Buda is as old as the Conquest itself (896), but it only started to develop in the 13th century when King Béla IV built a castle on the hill for protection against the Mongol attacks. The court moved to Buda in 1347, and the castle was enlarged into a palace in the Gothic style of the time. During the reign of King Matthias it became a dazzling Renaissance royal residence. Partially based upon its ruins the palace was enlarged in its present baroque style. The city Budapest was born in 1873 with the unification of Buda, Óbuda and Pest, for which a new, representative royal palace was built. Out of the seven road bridges four are part of the World Heritage.



USEFUL INFORMATION ABOUT HUNGARY

LOCAL TRANSPORTATION

To discover Budapest you can use different means of transport such as metro, bus, tram, trolley bus and HÉV (suburban train).

The city centre is linked to the City Park by the 100-yearold underground railway, the first on continental Europe. The funicular railway takes you up to the Buda Castle, and the chairlift and the cogwheel railway to the Buda Hills.

Tickets must be bought in advance from ticket offices, tobacconists', news agents' or automatic machines.

Tickets must be validated on the vehicle or at the entrance to metro stations. Daily, weekly and monthly season tickets are available or you can use the Budapest Card as a ticket.

TRANSPORT TO THE AIRPORT

The service provides the transfer with a boarding capacity of 8 to 10, and 30 to 50 passengers. The Airport Shuttle-Minibus Desks are to be found at every terminal and welcome the arriving guests to Hungary at the "Gates of the Country". All Minibuses arrive to and depart from the Terminals' Main Entrance. Reservations can be made in person at the Airport Shuttle-Minibus Desks or 24 hours before your flight departure.

LANGUAGE

Official language of the country is Hungarian, but English and German are widely spoken.

CLIMATE

The climate is continental. The weather in August is usually warm, the average daytime temperature is 25° C.

ELECTRICITY

Connector Two-pin electric outlets (230 V, 50 Hz) are provided, type C.

CURRENCY

Currency / EUR = 310 HUF. Though Hungary is not a member of the Euro Zone, you may use EUR cash for payment in hotels and some shops, supermarkets and petrol stations. Please see special signs indicating this possibility.

BANKING

In Hungary banks are usually open between 8.00 - 16.00 on weekdays, although some close an hour earlier on Fridays. With the exception of some shopping mall bank branches, Hungarian banks are not open on Saturdays. ATM machines and currency exchange machines are available throughout the country. Credit cards – Diners Club, Euro/MasterCard and VISA – can be used to withdraw cash from banks and ATM machines and to pay bills in hotels, restaurants and shops.

TIME ZONE

Clocks are on CEST (Central European Summer Time) UTC/GMT +2 hours.

BUDAPEST CARD

With the Budapest Card you can use the Airport Minibus with a discount and you can travel free on public transport in the capital. It ensures free or reduced priced entrance to museums, the Zoo, the Fun Fair and the Buda caves. Sightseeing tours and numerous cultural events are also cheaper with it and certain restaurants, cafés and shops give reductions to card holders. The Budapest Card is available from Tour inform offices, bus and metro ticket offices and many travel agencies, hotels and museums.

TAXIS

Taxis have the word "Taxi" written on them and have yellow registration number plates. Be careful to choose a well marked car with logos and not just a 'Taxi' sign on the top! By far the most common complaint of tourists in Budapest is being "taken for a ride" in a taxi





and charged exorbitant fees.

It is compulsory for taxis to use a faremeter that can give a receipt. The price charged is calculated according to the distance travelled and will also include a fixed booking fee and (if appropriate) a waiting fee.

It is customary to give a tip of ten percent, depending on the level of satisfaction.

Taxis are often cheaper if you call ahead than hailing one on the street.

SPECOM HISTORY

SPECOM-2016, Budapest, Hungary SPECOM-2015, Athens, Greece SPECOM-2014, Novi Sad, Serbia SPECOM-2013, Pilsen, Czech Republic SPECOM-2011, Kazan SPECOM-2009. St. Petersburg SPECOM-2007, Moscow SPECOM-2006, St. Petersburg SPECOM-2005, Patras, Greece SPECOM-2004, St. Petersburg SPECOM-2003, Moscow SPECOM-2002, St. Petersburg SPECOM-2001, Moscow SPECOM-2000, St. Petersburg SPECOM-1999, Moscow SPECOM-1998, St. Petersburg SPECOM-1997. Romania SPECOM-1996. St. Petersburg



















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