



Proposal for Hosting IFAC NMPC 2021/22 in Shanghai, China by Boris Houska

The School of Information Science and Technology would be proud to host the 7th IFAC Conference on Nonlinear Model Predictive Control (NMPC) at ShanghaiTech University in either 2021 or 2022. Because previous NMPC conferences have been held in the US and Europe, the goal of this proposal is to invite the NMPC community to China.

Venue

We propose to host NMPC 2021/22 on the new campus of ShanghaiTech University, which was opened in December 2016. The venue is the brand-new Conference Center of ShanghaiTech University, located in the north of the campus. The local organization team is planning to reserve Auditorium 1 and 2 (see the pictures below), which have both more than 300 seats and are provided directly by ShanghaiTech University (no costs!). A number of smaller seminar rooms will be reserved, too. A variety of Western and Chinese Restaurants, ATMs, library and internet (including “eduroam”), swimming pools and other sport facilities, first aid, etc. are available on campus.

Hotels

ShanghaiTech University is currently building a 4-star hotel on campus, which will open in 2019. The hotel has about 191 bedrooms, which will be made available for conference participants at reasonable cost (details available in 2019). In addition, there is a 5-star hotel (Parkyard Hotel) in 3km distance to the campus, which provides luxury hotel rooms for approx. 850 RMB / night. A bus shuttle service between Parkyard Hotel and ShanghaiTech campus will be available on request.

New Conference Center (max. 880 people), and hotel on campus (max. 191 beds)



Entrance Hall (space for coffee breaks and poster sessions)



Auditorium 1: max. 377 seats



Auditorium 2: max. 320 seats



Transport

ShanghaiTech campus is located in the Zhangjiang High Tech Area of Shanghai, which can be reached from Pudong International Airport by subway (approx. 40min) or taxi (approx. 30min). We will organize personal pick-ups for VIP participants upon request.

Proposing team

The local organization of IFAC NMPC 2021/22 would be led by prof. Boris Houska and Ying Xue, who are both working at ShanghaiTech University.



Boris Houska is an assistant professor at the School of Information Science and Technology at ShanghaiTech university. His research interests include numerical optimization and optimal control, robust and global optimization, as well as nonlinear model predictive control algorithms. He has served as area chair as well as associate editor of IFAC NMPC 2018. Boris Houska has published numerous papers in IFAC Journals (Automatica) and IFAC conferences including IFAC World Congress, ROCOND, and many others. He also serves as international program committee member of the (upcoming) 12th IFAC Symposium on Dynamics and Control of Process Systems.



Ying Xue is a staff member at the School of Information Science and Technology. She is in charge of international exchange, symposium organization, and conference management at ShanghaiTech and handles all related financial affairs. Ying Xue has helped to organize and manage four SIST conferences (all with 1000+ participants), as well as a couple of IEEE conferences (e.g. IEEE DSP 2018) that have been held at ShanghaiTech University.

The local arrangements and organization team will be supported by ShanghaiTech Automation and Robotics (STAR) Center including prof. Soeren Schwertfeger, prof. Andre Rosendo, and prof. Lu Jie. We are planning to reach out to all STAR Center students to help voluntarily with the local arrangements and organization (this has worked well for many other international workshops and conferences that were held at ShanghaiTech during the past 3 years).

Visas

Most international participants will need a visa in order to enter China. The local organization team can help to send out invitation letters for visa application purposes.

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