



# ISPD

March 15-18, 2026, Bonn, Germany



# Welcome to the 2026 ACM International Symposium on Physical Design

Stephan Held (University of Bonn)  
ISPD 2026 General Chair

# ISPD Timeline

- 2021 – 2023 Online with 167 –239 attendees
- 2024 Taipei with 141 attendees, 1st outside US
- 2025 Austin with 95 attendees
- 2026 Bonn, 1st in Europe, > 100 attendees



# Symposium Logistics



- 16 sessions across 3 days, March 16–18.
- All but two presentations will be in person (US-Iran war lead to flight cancellations)
- Talks will be recorded and put online (after review & speaker permission) on Youtube
- Slide PDFs will be available on the ISPD web page.
- Papers are available on the ISPD program page now  
User: [ispd26](#) Password: [iloveispd26](#)

# Session Logistics



- Paper sessions:
  - Regular talks are 12 minutes in length, with 5 minutes for Q&A.
  - Budget two minutes for speaker introduction and for transitions.
  - Extra discussions at the end of the session in a panel style.
- Keynotes: 35 to 40 min presentation, followed by Q&A
- No breaks between keynotes & the following sessions!
- Speakers and session chairs need to arrive in the conference room during the last break before their session. Test your slides!  
Uploaded slides will be pre-loaded onto the conference laptop.

# Lifetime Achievement Award



- 2026 Lifetime Achievement Award goes to Professor Jens Lienig for his pioneering contributions in physical design automation.
- Congratulations from all of us!
- Commemoration session:  
16:20 - 18:00, Tuesday



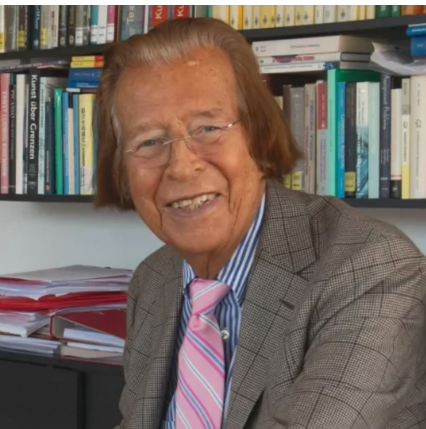
# In Memoriam



## Bernhard Korte

November 3, 1938 – April 26, 2025

Founder of the **Research Institute for Discrete Mathematics** & the **Arithmeum** in Bonn.



Started **collaboration with IBM** in 1987.

## John Patrick Lillis

August 19, 1967 – September 7, 2025

Seminal contributions to **buffering** and **placement**, with many influential ISPD papers.



# Technical Program



- 55 abstracts submitted and 41 papers reviewed
- Double-blind review process and virtual TPC meeting
- 14 papers accepted with 2 best paper candidates
- 4 keynotes, 15 invited talks, 6 panelists
- 4 talks by Professor Lienig and his colleagues and students.

# Keynotes



- **Monday Morning:**
  - [Chip Design in the Era of Quantum and AI](#), Leon Stok(IBM)
- **Monday Afternoon:**
  - [How Optical Lithography Enables the Digital Age](#), Thomas Stammler (Zeiss)
- **Tuesday:**
  - [Use of AI/ML in Electronic Design Automation and Engineering Simulation](#), Prith Banerjee (Ansys/Synopsys)
- **Wednesday:**
  - [Studying the Brain from the Perspective of EE](#), Louis Scheffer (Janelia Research Campus)

# Best Paper Candidates



- **LiDAR 3.0: Photonics-Aware Planning-Guided Automated Electrical Routing for Large-Scale Active Photonic Integrated Circuits"**, Hongjian Zhou, Haoyu Yang, Nicholas Gangi, Bowen Liu, Meng Zhang, Haoxing Ren, Xu Wang, Rena Huang and Jiaqi Gu (Arizona State University, NVIDIA, Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute, Cadence), **Monday 11:10 AM**.
- **"Gradient-Guided RC Weighting for Timing-Driven Global Routing"**, Liang Xiao, Qinkai Duan, Leilei Jin, Jinwei Liu, Tsung-Yi Ho, Evangeline F.Y. Young and Martin Wong (The Chinese University of Hong Kong, Hong Kong Baptist University), **Monday 1:10 PM**.

Tung-Chieh will announce the winners in the **last session on Wednesday!**

# Organizing Committee



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Cadence Design Systems



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Stephan Held  
University of Bonn



TPC Chair  
Tung-Chieh Chen  
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- Evangeline Young  
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- Ismail Bustany (AMD)
- Iris Hui-Ru Jiang  
(National Taiwan University)
- Jens Lienig  
(Dresden University of Technology)
- Jiang Hu (Texas A&M University)
- Gracieli Posser  
(Chair, Cadence Design Systems)
- Mark Ren (Nvidia)
- Patrick Groeneveld  
(AMD & Stanford University)
- Patrick Madden  
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- Stephen Yang (Leda Technology)
- Yao-Wen Chang  
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- Hong Xin Kong (AMD)
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- Jiaqi Gu (Arizona State University)
- Markus Olbrich (Leibniz University Hannover)
- Mehmet Yildiz (Cadence)
- Nancy Zhou (IBM)
- Pei-Yu Lee (Mediatek)
- Ramprasath S (Indian Institute of Technology Madras)
- Rickard Ewetz (University of Florida)
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- Samuel Pagliarini (Carnegie Mellon University)
- Siting Liu (Huawei Hong Kong Research Center)
- Sung-Kyu Lim (Georgia Institute of Technology)
- **Tung-Chieh Chen (Chair, Synopsys)**
- Uday Mallappa (Intel)
- Wai-Kei Mak (National Tsing Hua University)
- Wenkai Guan (University of Minnesota)
- Yu-Guang Chen (National Central University)

# Additional Reviewers



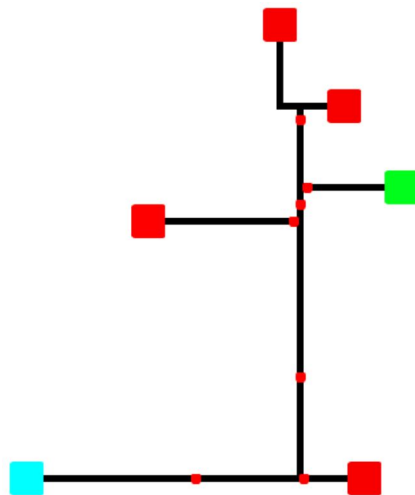
- Brian Guttag
- Dehua Liang
- Erfan Aghaeekiasaraee
- Hailiang Hu
- Jianfeng Song
- Jiayi Jiang
- Jnana Ranjan Panigrahi
- José Rodrigo Azambuja

- Lang Feng
- Lin Huang
- Mayler Martins
- Peiyu Liao
- Rongliang Fu
- Shixi Chen
- Yuhao Ji

# ISPD 2026 Contest



- Topic: [Post-Placement Buffering and Sizing](#)
- [Last session](#) on Wednesday will present details and the [winning teams](#).
- 36 teams registered.
- Main organizers: [Yiting Liu](#) and [Zhiang Wang](#)
- Co-Organizers: Andrew B. Kahng, Seokhyeong Kang, Sayak Kundu, Davit Markarian, and Seonghyeon Park



Example from the [Arithmeum buffering video game](#).

# Sponsors



• Sponsor



Technical sponsors



• Corporate sponsors

• Gold



• Silver



• Bronze



# Banquet



- Tuesday 7 PM in this room
- 6 PM, after the lifetime achiev. session:  
    conference group photo  
in the garden.
- Please, avoid this room 6-7 PM.  
It is being prepared.

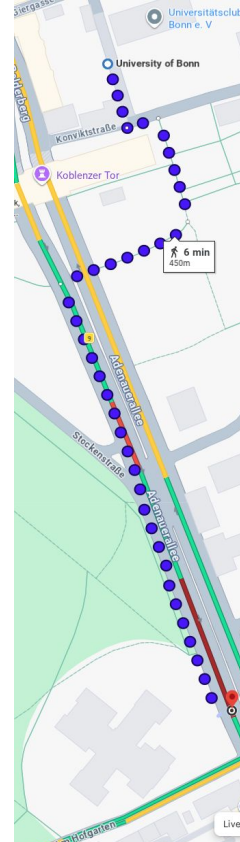


# Social Tour

- 12 – 5 pm, Wednesday
- Registration required (4 free spots available)!
- Shuttle **bus departs 12:30** at the corner of Adenauerallee/ Am Hofgarten. (6 min. walk)
- 1 – 2:25 PM lunch at Bredershof
- 2:30 PM: bus to Drachenfels station
- **3:00 PM:** train to top of Drachenfels
- **4:15 PM:** downhill train (**trains will not wait!**)
- **4:35 PM:** bus departs at Drachenfels

If you get lost, the train **line 66** takes you back to the center of Bonn for EUR 5.10.

- **5:00 PM:** Arithmeum tours (free spots avail.)



# Policy Against Harassment at ACM Activities

- The open exchange of ideas is central to ACM.
- This requires an environment in which every individual is treated with respect.
- Unacceptable behaviors include:
  - abusive actions such as threats and bullying,
  - racism, homophobia, or other discriminatory behavior,
  - sexual harassment of any kind,

If you have been subjected to any such incident please report ACM using the online form (either anonymously or identified) at

<https://www.acm.org/about-acm/reporting-unacceptable-behavior>

# A Big Thank You!



- Speakers, sessions chairs, and all of the attendees
- Organizing committee + Yuxuan Zhao (webadmin) and steering committee members
- Technical program committee and additional reviewers
- ISPD 2026 contest organizers
- ACM, particularly the folks behind the scenes
- Sheridan Communications for their work on the proceedings
- IEEE, all our corporate sponsors,
- Administration at our institute & University Club, Arithmeum team, students

A warm welcome to all of you!