

NITELIDAR SUMMER SCHOOL

Ghent University

26 June – 4 July 2025

**In conjunction with the
ePIXfab Silicon Photonics Summer School**



Three Parts

1. Training in science communication

In the first two days, we will have a training about science communication. This will be very interactive. We will cover (amongst others) the following topics

- How to build a compelling presentation (so your audience doesn't fall asleep), and how to present it in an engaging way
- How to turn your PhD into a CV
- How to make a prize-winning science poster
- How to visualize your data in an understandable and appealing way.

There will be some preparation required for this part. This includes making a poster (which you are expected to do anyway for the second and third part of the school)

2. NITELIDAR Progress Meeting

At this progress meeting, we will dive into the work that was done in the NBITELIDAR project by the Doctoral Candidates (and some associated students). All DCs will present their work and their future plans, and we will discuss the overall progress and objectives of the project. You might be able to put some of the learnings from the previous days into practice already.

On Sunday we plan a social activity with the students and PIs of the project

3. ePIXfab Silicon Photonics Summer school

The ePIXfab Summer School is a yearly school focusing on the fundamentals, technologies and applications of Silicon Photonics. It has > 20 recognized expert lecturers from all over the world. During the school there is a poster session where you can present the poster that you have prepared.

<https://trainings.epixfab.eu/en/upcoming-trainings/training/10th-silicon-photonics-summer-school>

	Thu 26-Jun	Fri 27-Jun	Sat 28-Jun	Sun 29-Jun	Mon 30-Jun	Tue 01-Jul	Wed 02-Jul	Thu 03-Jul	Fri 04-Jul
Morning	Communication Training	Communication Training	Nitelidar meeting	Nitelidar meeting	ePIXfab Summer school	ePIXfab Summer school	ePIXfab Summer school	ePIXfab Summer school	ePIXfab Summer school
Afternoon	Communication Training + supervisory board	Communication Training	Nitelidar meeting	Nitelidar Social Activity	ePIXfab Summer school	ePIXfab Summer school	ePIXfab Summer school	ePIXfab Summer school	ePIXfab Summer school
Evening	Dinner	dinner on own	NITELIDAR dinner	dinner on own	Welcome reception + dinner on own	Poster session with food	Poster session with food	Gala dinner	end

Venue for the course

The different parts of the summer school will take place at different venues

- the **iGent Tower (Technologiepark-Zwijnaarde 126, 9052 Ghent, Belgium)**. This is where the first and second part of the school will take place. iGent is located on the *Tech Lane* Campus of Ghent University in Zwijnaarde, a few kilometers outside Ghent near the crossing of highways E40 (Oostende- Brussel) and E17 (Antwerpen-Kortrijk/Waregem).



We will be here

but you have to take
this entrance and then
the stairs/elevator to
the 4th floor

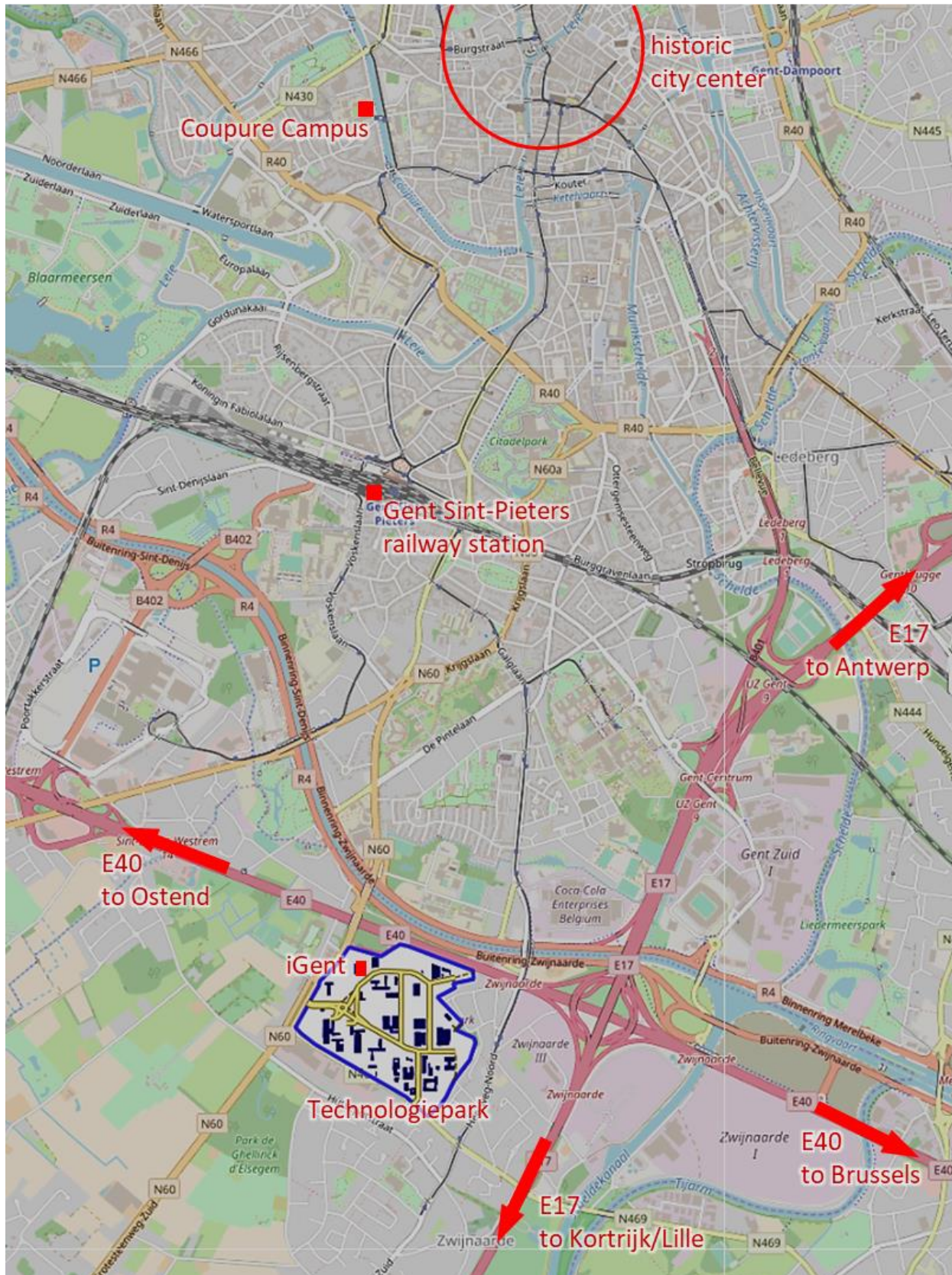
- the **Oehoe Auditorium on the Campus of Bioengineering (Coupure, 9000 Ghent)**. This is where the ePIXfab silicon photonics summer school will be organized. This is closer to the city center.



Both locations can be directly searched in Google maps. “Ghent iGent” and “Ghent Oehoe” should get you there.

City of Ghent

The map below highlights the point of interests in the city of Ghent.



Reaching Ghent and the Course Venues

Using public transport

From Brussels airport to Ghent by train (about 55 minutes)

At the arrival hall of Brussels Airport go to the railway station at level -1. **Every hour there is a direct connection to Ghent, with direction “Brugge”**. This train leaves at 2 minutes past the hour.

If this train does not fit well with your schedule you can **take any of the trains that go to Brussels Midi (Brussel Zuid)**, and then **switch to a train going to Ghent** (at least 2 direct trains per hour, be careful not to take a slow train with intermediate stops).

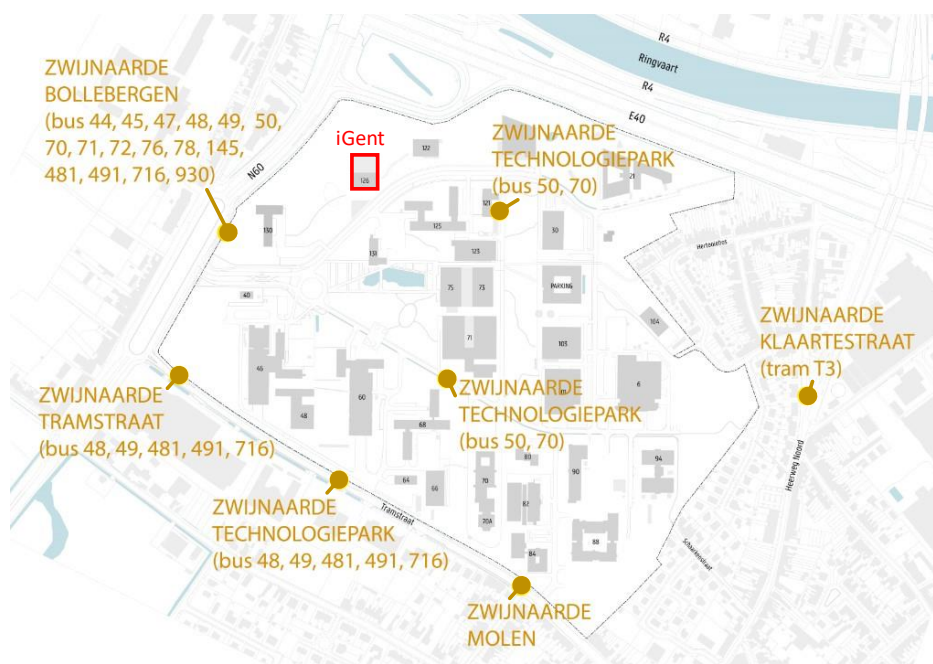
Buy your tickets upfront, either through the web site, the electronic vending machines or by installing the NMBS/SNCB app (Or at the very rare ticket offices that are still available). Buying a ticket on the train comes with a very hefty ‘administrative fee’ (i.e. a fine word for ‘fine’).

Check railway connections (and buy tickets) on the web site of the Belgian railways SNCB/NMBS: <https://www.belgiantrain.be/en>

From Ghent-Sint-Pieters railway station to iGent by bus

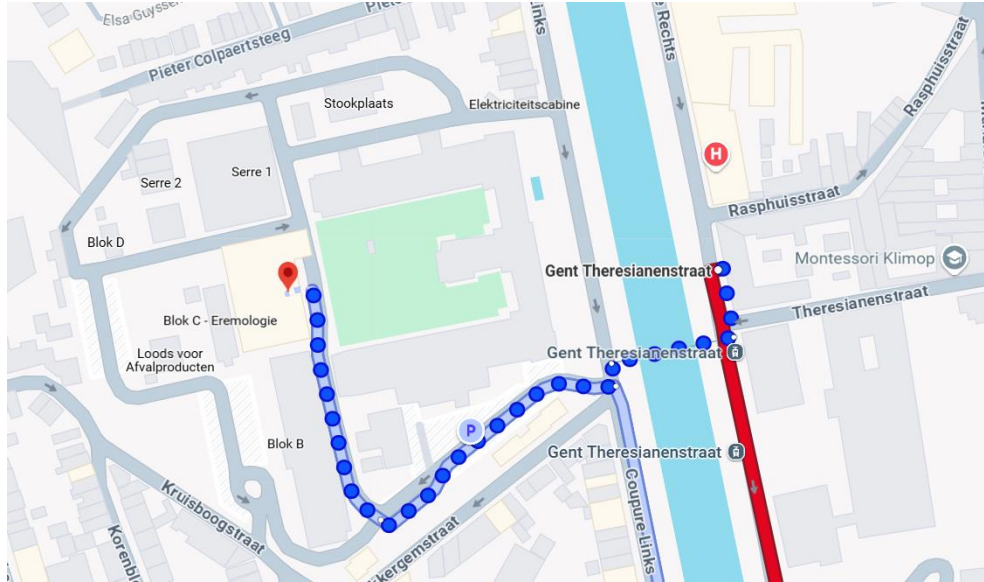
Several buses ride between Gent-Sint-Pieters railway station and the *Technologiepark*. All busses leave from platform 6 or 7 at the train station.

- either bus 70 or 50 (direction *Technologiepark Zwijnaarde*) to have a stop on the campus itself.
- bus 44, 45, 47, 48, 49, 50, 70, 71, 72, 76, 78, 145, 481, 491, 716 or 930, to have a stop nearby the campus
- You can also take the tram T3, which stops at the backside of the Park (slightly longer walk).



From Ghent-Sint-Pieters railway station to Coupure by bus or tram

You can take a direct tram connection from the station to the Coupure campus. At the station, take tram T4 in the direction of 'Rabot/Muide' and get off at the 'Theresianenstraat' stop. Then cross the water to the Coupure campus.

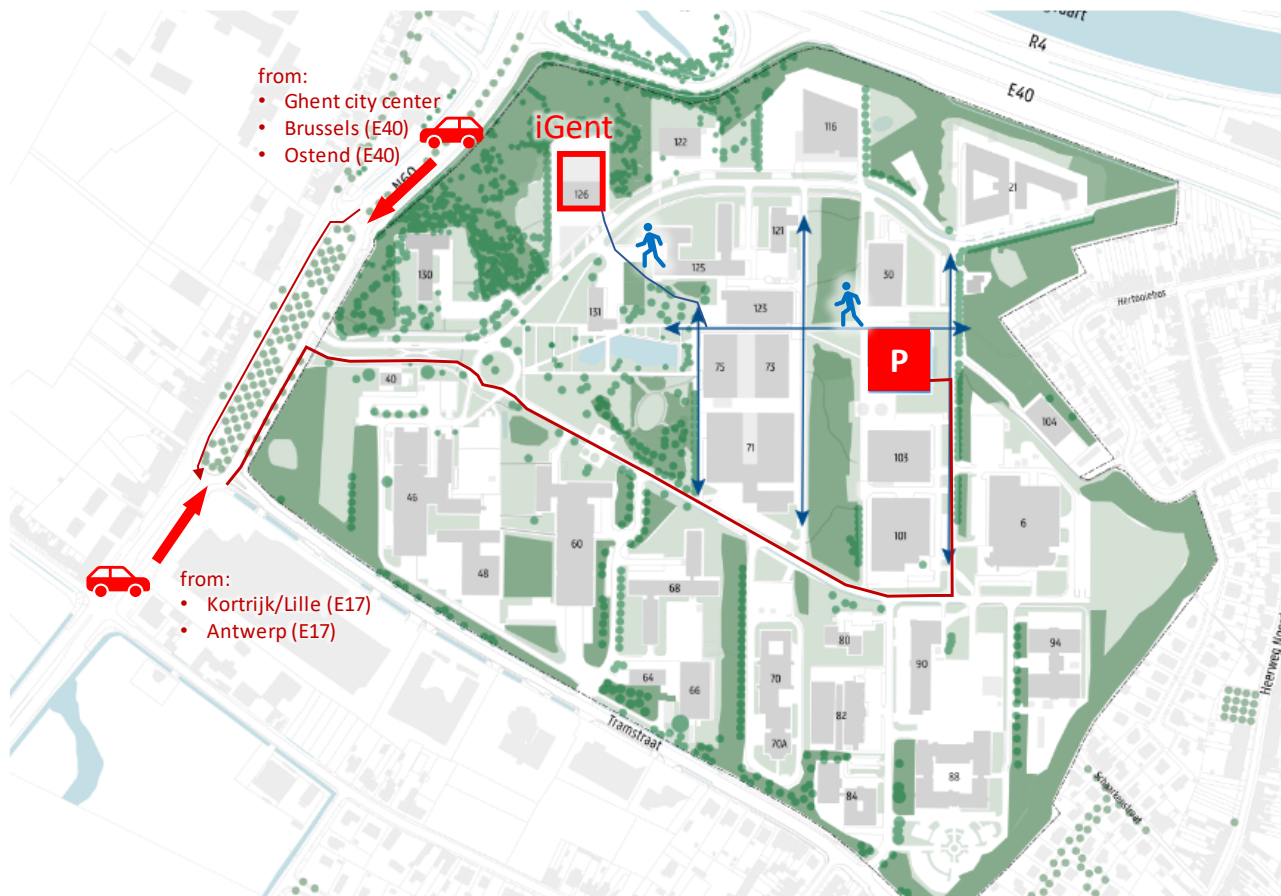


By car

If you are coming by car, you will need parking permission on the campus of iGent. Access is controlled through an automatic license plate scanner. **Please send us your license plate upfront if you will be coming by car.** Then we can make sure you have automated access.

From Brussels to iGent

- On the E40 take exit 16 ‘Merelbeke / R4’.
- Keep driving on the R4 in the direction of ‘Eeklo R4 Gent’ (you will need to make a 270° turn) until the Coco-Cola factory (about 4 km). Take the exit ‘N60 Oudenaarde / Zwijnaarde / Gent’.
- On the exit, keep left, pass underneath the bridge and immediately turn right. Follow the N60 in the direction of ‘Oudenaarde / Zwijnaarde’.
- Keep driving on the N60 until you are at the elongated roundabout. Follow the roundabout for 270° (U-turn before the 2nd traffic lights on the roundabout) and drive back in the direction of Ghent.
- Still on the roundabout, the *Technologiepark* is on your right. Take a right turn onto the campus.
- Your license plate will be scanned. If you did not send us your license plate, take a parking ticket from the machine.
- Go on the small roundabout and follow the loop road of the science park until you reach the parking building. Please do not park on the curbside.
- Walk to the iGent Tower. This is the ‘brownish’ tower, 12 floors high, with the solar panels on the full south-facing façade. It also has IMEC and UGENT logos on the roof (not visible from all angles)



From Ghent city center to iGent

- Take the N60 in the direction of ‘Oudenaarde’.
- Keep driving on the N60 until you are at the elongated roundabout. Follow the roundabout for 270° (U-turn before the 2nd traffic lights on the roundabout) and drive back in the direction of Ghent.
- Still on the roundabout, the *Technologiepark* is now on your right. Take a right turn onto the campus.
- Your license plate will be scanned. If you did not send us your license plate, take a parking ticket from the machine.
- Go on the small roundabout and follow the loop road of the science park until you reach the parking building. Please do not park on the curbside.
- Walk to the iGent Tower. This is the ‘brownish’ tower, 12 floors high, with the solar panels on the full south-facing façade. It also has IMEC and UGENT logos on the roof (not visible from all angles)

To Coupure by Car

You can reach the Coupure campus by car, but this is not a recommended mode of transport, as parking in the neighbourhood might be difficult. There are no large parking lots nearby.

If using a satnav program, check if it had recent updates (google maps is OK). The Ghent circulation plan is quite strict, and outdated navigation data can get you into trouble.

Curbside parking is allowed in most of the streets around the campus, but it is quite expensive. Make sure you pay at one of the paystations, because otherwise it will be assumed that you chose the very expensive ‘full-day tariff’. And they check a lot in Ghent.

By Bicycle

Ghent is a bike friendly city. Bikes are one of the most commonly observed forms of wildlife in the city, somewhere between rats and cockroaches. It is quite easy to get around by bike, if you can get used to the driving style of cyclists in Ghent (i.e. traffic rules are considered to be ‘merely guidelines’).

The Technologiepark campus is a few kilometers outside the city center. It will take you about 20-30 minutes depending on your riding style.

How to get a bicycle?

- Rent a bike at the Ghent ‘Fietsambassade’: <https://fietsambassade.gent.be/en/rent-bike>
- Rent a bike from the Belgian Railways: <https://www.blue-bike.be/en/>
- Use the bike-sharing app from Donkey Republic: <https://www.donkey.bike/cities/bike-rental-ghent/>
- For e-bikes, look for the blue bikes from Dott (<https://ridedott.com/blog/>) or Bolt (<https://bolt.eu/en-be/>). Also with a app.

You can also decide to go bike hunting, and invest in a strong cutter, a buzzsaw or a power grinder. However, this is not recommended, as the bike hunting season is closed in summer.

Accommodation

There are plenty of good hotels in the city center of Ghent. The city center can be reached by taking **tram T1, T3** or **T4** from the front of the railway station.

If you are coming by car, note that Ghent has a quite complicated ‘circulation plan’. If you want to reach the correct part of the city center, it is wise to follow the city ring road (R40) for the correct parking near your hotel (e.g. P4, P7, ...). This is well indicated on the ring road with available space.

1. NH Gent Belfort ****
Hoogpoort 63
B-9000 Gent, Belgium
nhgentbelfort@nh-hotels.com
www.nh-hotels.com
2. Ghent Marriott *****
Korenlei 10
B-9000 Gent, Belgium
info@marriottghent.com
www.marriottghent.com
3. Hotel IBIS Gent Centrum Opera ***
Nederkouter 24-26
B-9000 Gent, Belgium
H1455@accor.com
www.ibishotel.com
4. Novotel ***
Goudenleeuwplein 5
B-9000 Gent, Belgium
H0840@accor.com
www.novotel.com
5. Hotel IBIS Gent Centrum Kathedraal ***
Limburgstraat 2
B-9000 Gent, Belgium
H0961@accor.com
www.ibishotel.com

The map on the next page marks the locations of the recommended hotels for accommodation (blue rectangles), parking lots in the city center (red cars P1-P7), train station and the transportation routes.

Contact Details

If you have any question before, during or after the course, feel free to contact:

Prof. Wim Bogaerts

Email: Wim.Bogaerts@ugent.be

Dr. Mattias Verstuyft

Email: Mattias.Verstuyft@ugent.be

Registration

You will need to register for the different parts of the course using different procedures. Both registrations will require a payment through the system with credit card.

- **Silicon Photonics Summer School:** Cost = 700 Euro (for university members or ePIXfab members)
<https://trainings.epixfab.eu/en/upcoming-trainings/training/10th-silicon-photonics-summer-school>
(Register before June. After that, prices increase with 200 Euro)
- **Communication training (includes project meeting):**
There is a separate registration page for the communication training. This will be organized for NITELIDAR students and UGent students.
 - **UGent students (including NITELIDAR students in UGent)** should register by sending an email to wim.bogaerts@ugent.be
 - **Non-UGent NITELIDAR students** should register and pay through Eventbrite through the following link. <https://www.eventbrite.be/e/science-communication-workshop-nitelidar-tickets-1311929930739?aff=oddtcreator>

The cost for the communication training is 450 Euro.

You are also responsible for booking your own hotel (see previous section). On most days, food is provided, except when the program mentions 'dinner on own'.

