

Universität Stuttgart

Institute of Parallel and
Distributed Systems (IPVS)

Universitätsstraße 38
D-70569 Stuttgart

Mobile Computing Lab

Assignment 3

Positioning

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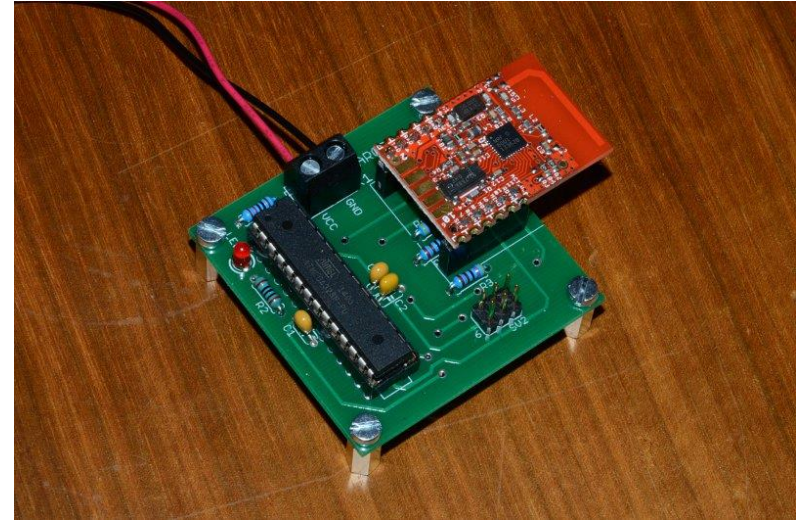
Outline

- Task 1: Reading Google Eddystone beacons with Android
- Task 2: GPS positioning with Android



Task 1: Reading Eddystone Frames with Android

- **Setup:** Eddystone Beacon in the lab
 - Faros beacon:
<https://github.com/duerrfk/Faros>
 - Broadcasts UID, URL, TLM frames alternating every second
- **Task:** Receive and decode UID, URL, TLM frames with Google Android and display the following information in an Android activity:
 - Beacon ID
 - URL
 - Voltage
 - Temperature
 - Distance to beacon in meter (optimize estimation/calibration)



Hint for the App

- Use the onLeScan method of the LeScanCallback

```
new BluetoothAdapter.LeScanCallback() {  
    @Override  
    public void onLeScan(  
        final BluetoothDevice device,  
        int rssi,  
        byte[] scanRecord) {  
  
        /* add your code here */  
  
    }  
};
```

RSSI

Content of
advertisement
record



Outline

- Task 1: Reading Google Eddystone beacons with Android
- **Task 2: GPS positioning with Android**



Goals

- Sense location of a real mobile device
 - Using the Android location manager & GPS
- Log location trace to SD-card
 - Using GPX file format
- Display logged track on your PC
 - In Google Earth or any other tool you like



Background: Android

We need some **technical knowledge of Android** to solve this task

- Last time, we provided the Android essentials:
 - Android Studio
 - Android Virtual Devices
 - Debugging (Breakpoints, logging)
 - Activities (Lifecycle & GUI)
- Now, we need in addition:
 - Android services
 - Android location manager
 - File handling in Android



Android Services

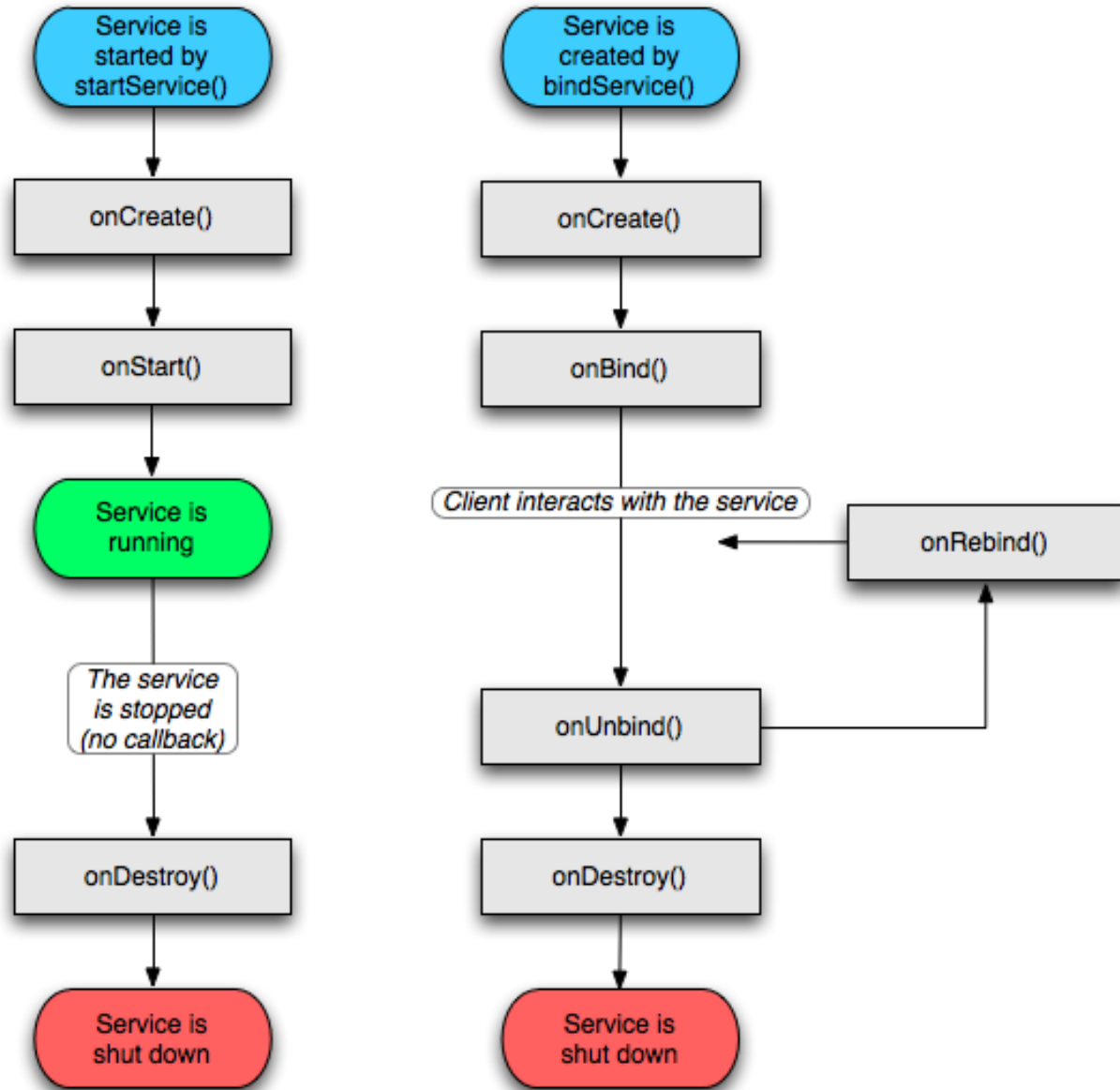
- Support long-running background task
- No GUI
- Activities can communicate with service (RPC)
- Examples:
 - Playing music in the background
 - Fetching/Sending e-mails in the background
 - Logging locations



Service Lifecycle

Service start mechanisms:

- **Explicitly** using `startService()` & `stopService()`
- **Implicitly** by binding an activity to the service (“using” the service)
 - After binding, activity invokes (remote) service methods (RPC)
- Both mechanisms can be mixed!



Starting Services

- **Explicitly** by specifying exact class to be run:

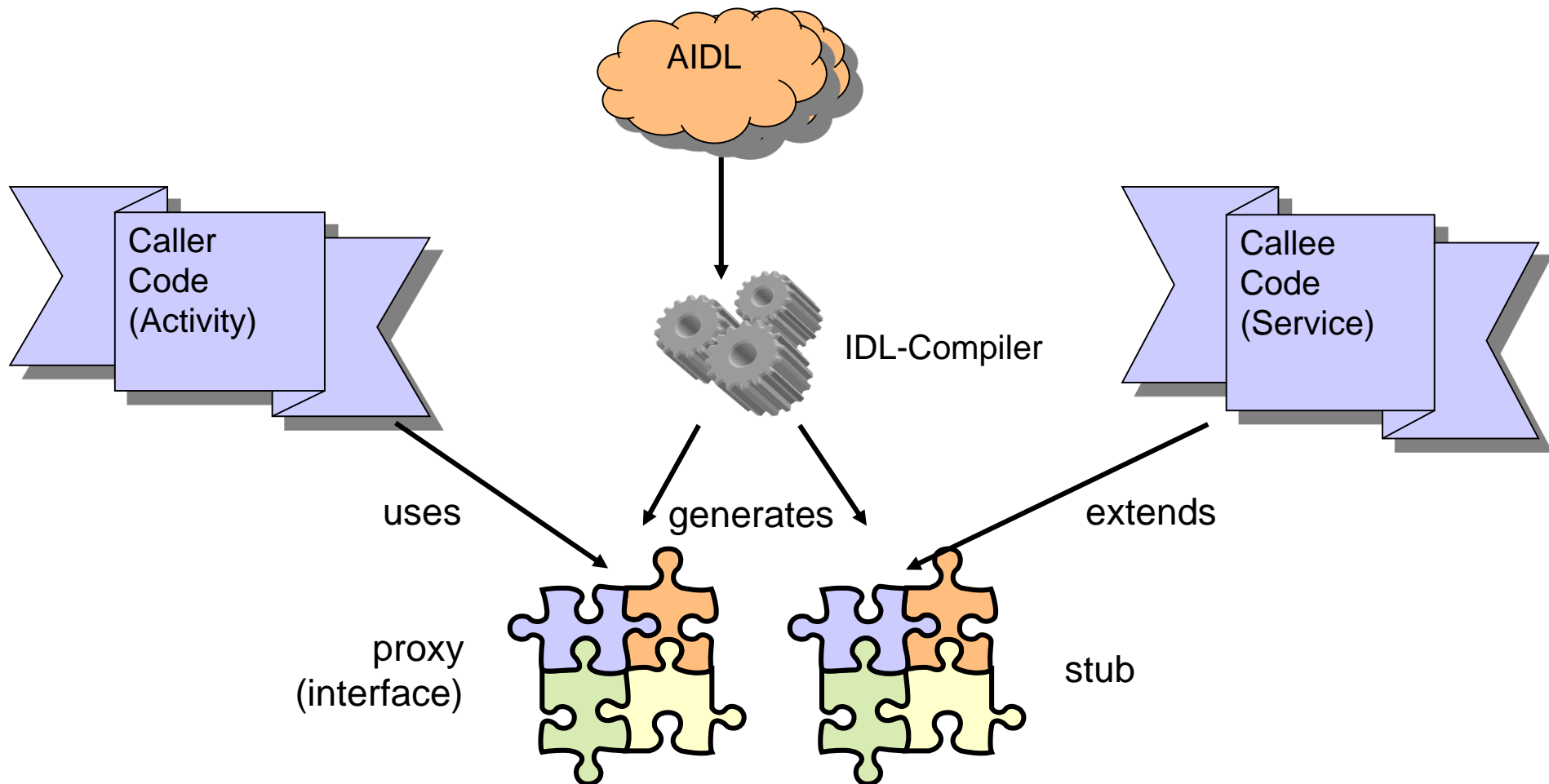
```
Intent i = new Intent(context, MyService.class);  
startService(i);
```

- **Implicitly** by binding to service:

```
Intent i = new Intent(this, MyService.class);  
bindService(i, this, 0);
```

Inter-process Communication (RPC)

- Activity calls method of service in local process
- Code is executed in remote process



Android RPC Example (1)

Service interface specified with [Android Interface Definition Language \(AIDL\)](#):

```
package de.uni_stuttgart.calculatorservice;  
  
interface ICalculatorService {  
    double add(double x, double y);  
}
```



Android RPC Example (2)

- Android IDL compiler generates **stub** class
- Stub must be extended by service implementation:

```
class CalculatorService extends Service {  
    ...  
    private class CalculatorServiceImpl extends  
        ICalculatorService.Stub {  
        public double add(double x, double y) {  
            return x+y;  
        }  
    }  
}
```

...



Android RPC Example (3)

1. Activity (Client) binds to service:

```
Intent i = new Intent(this, CalculatorService.class);  
bindService(i, this, 0);
```

2. Activity gets proxy object when service connection is established (callback)

```
public void onServiceConnected(ComponentName name,  
    IBinder service) {  
    ICalculatorService calcServiceProxy =  
        ICalculatorService.Stub.asInterface(service);  
}
```

3. Activity calls remote method

```
double result = calcServiceProxy.add(5, 6);
```

4. Activity unbinds service

```
unbindService(this);
```

Location Manager (1)

- **Location Manager** provides applications with location information
 - Longitude, latitude, height
- Android implements two **location providers**:
 - **GPS:**
 - satellite-based
 - only outdoors
 - high precision & high energy consumption
 - **Network:**
 - positions of WiFi access points and cell towers
 - indoors & outdoors
 - less precise & smaller energy consumption



Location Manager (2)

Application can **query** last known position or register for **notifications** on location updates:

```
LocationManager locationManager = (LocationManager)
    getSystemService(Context.LOCATION_SERVICE);

locationManager.requestLocationUpdates(
    LocationManager.GPS_PROVIDER, // use GPS device
    interval, // hint for notification interval
    minDistance, // hint for minimum position distance
    subscriber); // callback receiver

locationManager.removeUpdates(subscriber);
```



Location Manager (3)

Location event subscriber implements callback interface
`android.location.LocationListener`:

```
public void onLocationChanged(Location location) {  
    double longitude = location.getLongitude();  
}  
  
public void onProviderDisabled(String provider) {}  
public void onProviderEnabled(String provider) {}  
public void onStatusChanged(String provider, int  
status, Bundle extras) {}
```



Location Manager (4)

Position information is **privacy sensitive data**!

- Application must declare that it uses location information in manifest:

```
<uses-permission android:name=  
    "android.permission.ACCESS_FINE_LOCATION" />
```

- User can deny installing App

File I/O (1)

- Similar to standard Java file IO
 - See Oracles's Java tutorial:
<http://docs.oracle.com/javase/tutorial/essential/io/index.html>
- Special to Android:
 - By default, files are private to an application
 - Open private files with

```
Context.openFileInput(filename)
Context.openFileOutput(filename, mode)
```
 - To make files reachable from other apps, check:
`FileProvider` class
 - Need to set permissions to access SD card in manifest:

```
<uses-permission android:name=
"android.permission.WRITE_EXTERNAL_STORAGE" />
```



File I/O (2)

- Accessing files on SD-card:

```
File sdDir = Environment.getExternalStorageDirectory();  
File myFile = new File(sdDir, "foo.txt");  
...
```

- To use SD-card with emulator, you have to create an SD-card image file and tell the emulator about it:
 - SD card size can be specified during creating of Android Virtual Device (AVD)
- Reading file from SD-card image:

```
adb pull sdcard/myfile.txt
```

Recommended Reading

- Android services:
<http://developer.android.com/guide/components/services.html>
- Location information in Android:
<http://developer.android.com/guide/topics/location/index.html>



Task 2

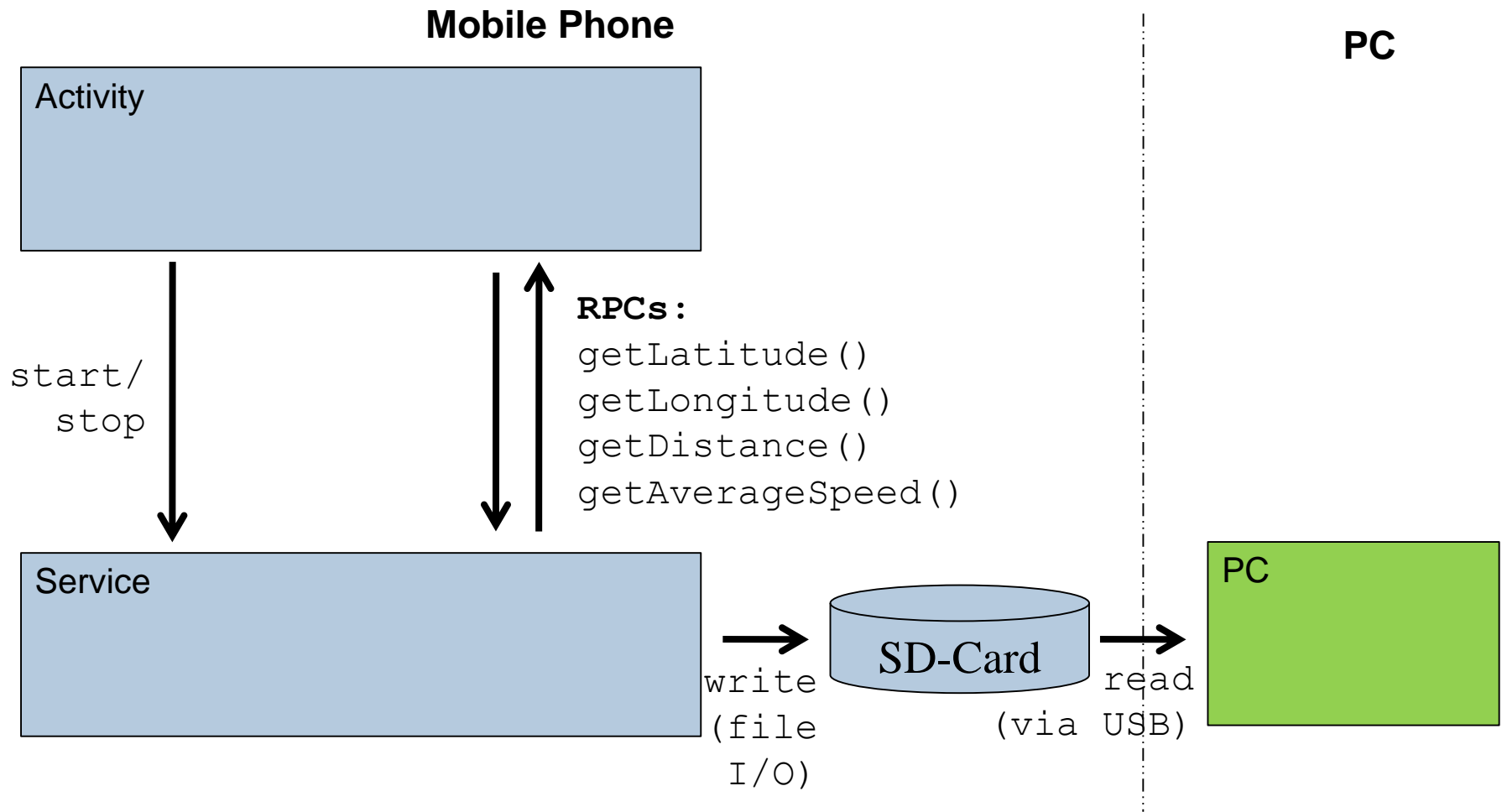
- Sense positions using location manager
 - Use GPS
 - Subscribe to location updates
 - Define reasonable values for distance and time thresholds for updates
- Log positions to file on SD card
 - Using GPX file format
- Test your App with emulator and real device
- Display trace
 - In Google Earth or any other tool you like

Logging done in background (service).

Logging must continue even if no activity is displayed.



Architecture



The Activity

- **Controlling service**
 - Starting
 - Stopping
 - Querying location information
- **Displaying location information**
 - Current position
 - Distance travelled
 - Average speed

Click updates
the above
location
information



IPVS

Research Group
Distributed Systems

The Service

- **Logs GPS position information**

- Write log file onto SD-card
 - New logs override old log files
- Logging starts when service is started and stops when service is stopped via GUI
- Logger service must keep running even if GUI (Activity) is finished

- Provides **RPC interface** to the client/activity:

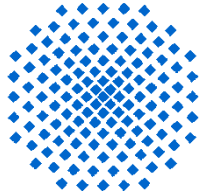
- getLongitude: current position
- getLatitude: current position
- getDistance: travelled distance since service has been started
- getAverageSpeed: averageSpeed



Testing

- First, test with **Android Virtual Device**
 - Playback provided NEMA/GPX file
- Testing with **real hardware**
 - Can use your own Android device
 - Or use our phones: Samsung Galaxy Nexus (Android 4.3)
 - Ask the tutors for access
 - Don't take devices with you (test around computer science building)
 - Only WiFi communication (EDUROAM)





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Organizational Information

Submission & Next Meeting

- Post questions on the ILIAS board
- You have **2+1 weeks time** to work on this assignment until the final date of submission!
- Next assignment and demonstration of your results scheduled for **Wednesday, June 20, 2018**
 - Room 0.153 at 3:45 pm
- **Submit via Ilias**
 - **Source code** of you evaluation results
 - Group submission!



Questions?

