

The background image shows a picturesque European town, likely Tübingen, with a river in the foreground. A long wooden boat filled with people is on the water, and a person is standing at the back, possibly a gondolier. The town features colorful houses with red and green shutters, and a large church with a tall spire is visible in the background. The sky is clear and blue.

Robust Assessment & Safe Applicability:
A New Field of **L**anguage **S**cience and **T**echnology

LaSTing

Participants' handbook for the kick-off event
8-9 October 2026
Tübingen

Welcome

Dear participants,

On behalf of the organizing team, we are pleased to welcome you to the first annual meeting of the Priority Program LaSTing. This kick-off event will be the official start of the new program. The program is led by Prof. Michael Franke. The coordination is based at the University of Tübingen. The LaSTing network consists of 20 projects across Germany, working on robust assessment and safe applicability of language modeling.

The annual meeting brings together all members of the LaSTing network to exchange ideas and share their progress. In this kick-off event, we aim to foster collaborations between the projects. We look forward to your active participation and to stimulating discussion and networking.

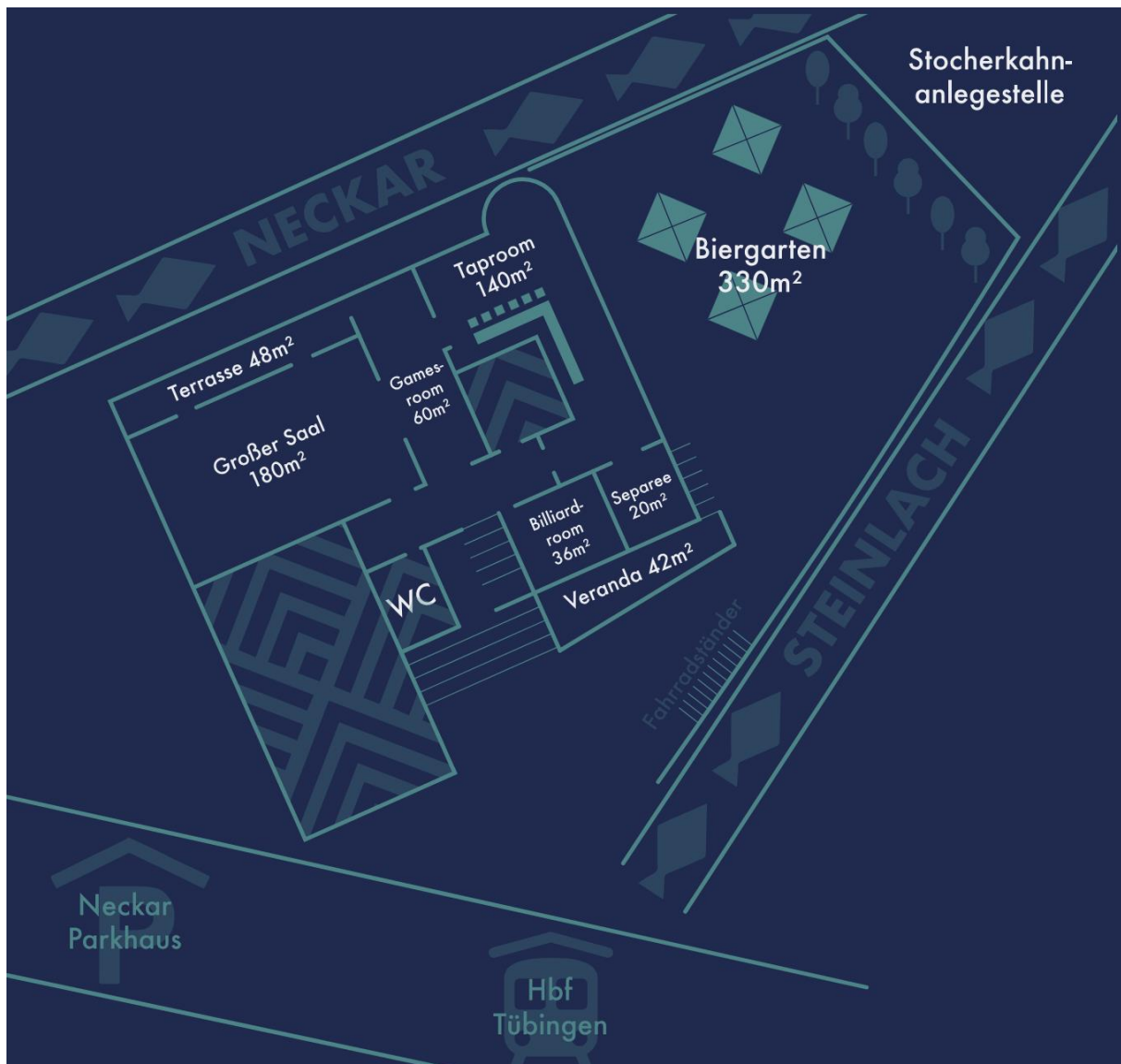
Alongside the scientific program of the kick-off event, we hope you will also enjoy our social program including mentoring and coaching as well as a few beautiful autumn days in Tübingen.

Welcome to the LaSTing kick-off event.



Meeting venue

The kick-off event will take place in the Großer Saal at Neckawa, Wöhrstraße 25, 72072 Tübingen, which is a 7-minute walk from the Tübingen main station. The conference dinner will also take place at Neckawa. The lunch breaks will be spent in the city center of Tübingen.



Schedule

Day 1: 8 October 2026

09:00-09:30	Introduction Michael Franke
09:30-10:30	Project pitches 3-minute presentation per project in alphabetical order by project ID
10:30-11:00	Coffee break
11:00-12:30	Breakout session key scientific questions of the SPP / overlaps between projects
12:30-13:30	Lunch
13:30-15:30	Findings of groups 10-minute presentation per group in numerical order by group number
15:30-16:00	Coffee break and group picture
16:00-17:00	PhD Workshop: How to use Claude Code for research Marcel Binz
18:30-20:30	Dinner at Neckawa
20:30	informal get together with drinks

Day 2: 9 October 2026

09:00-10:00	Keynote Roger Levy		
10:00-10:30	Coffee break		
10:30-12:30	Poster session one poster per project		
12.30-13:30	Lunch		
13:30-14:00	Measures in the SPP Michael Franke		
14:00-15:30	Steering committee meeting Games Room	Mentoring Großer Saal	Coaching Großer Saal
15:30-16:00	Coffee break		
16:00-17:00	Panel discussion What have language models actually learned about language?		
17:00	farewell		

Travel directions to Tübingen

By plane

The closest airport is Stuttgart airport (STR). The airport shuttle buses 828 and X82 take you from the airport to Tübingen. You can find more information on prices, timetables, and tickets [here](#). The journey by bus takes about one hour.

By train

Within Germany and parts of Western Europe it is recommended to travel by train via Stuttgart. Stuttgart's main station is connected to the European high-speed rail network and is served by both ICE trains of Deutsche Bahn and French TGV. The onward journey from Stuttgart to Tübingen takes place with local train of Deutsche Bahn. The journey takes about one hour and can be booked via the Deutsche Bahn [website](#).

By car

Tübingen is easily accessible by car via various freeways. The Bundesstraße 27 leads directly from the Autobahn 8 at Stuttgart Messe to Tübingen. Road users on the Autobahn 81 take the Herrenberg exit coming from the north and the Rottenburg exit coming from the south. From Herrenberg the Bundesstraße 296 leads to Tübingen. From the Rottenburg exit, take the Bundesstraße 28 as well as state roads. The closest car park to the venue is [Neckar Parkhaus](#).

Organizers

This event is organized by the LaSTing coordination team:

Michael Franke, michael.franke@uni-tuebingen.de

Miriam Schiele, miriam.schiele@uni-tuebingen.de

Fidan Can, fidan.can@semsprach.uni-tuebingen.de

Contact

Please direct your questions to spp-lasting@uni-tuebingen.de.

Funding

The LaSTing program is funded by the German Research Foundation (deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft), project number 579278587.

