

IVA 09

AMSTERDAM

14 - 16 September 09

9th International Conference on Intelligent Virtual Agents

Foto: Mor (bebits)

Practical information

Times

Scientific program in NEMO

Monday, 14 Sept 10.00-19.00
Tuesday, 15 Sept 9.00-18.30
Wednesday, 16 Sept 9.00-13.30

Social event in ARTIS

Tuesday, 15 Sept 19.30-23.00

Local conference desk open

Monday, 14 Sept 9.00-17.30
Tuesday, 15 Sept 8.30-17.30

Contacts

Before and after the conference

Charlotte Bijron or Alice Vissers secretaries
+31 53 489 3740

In non-office hours, in case of emergency

Betsy van Dijk local organizer chair
+31 6 21557703

During the conference

Dennis Reidsma senior local assistants
+31 6 45382167

The conference location: Science Center NEMO, Oosterdok 2

NEMO is a public museum, located in a modern green building in the shape of a ship, in the eastern part of the city center. From Amsterdam's Central Station (S on map) you can walk in just 15 minutes to NEMO. Do not get shocked by the construction works of the metro around the Central Station, but:

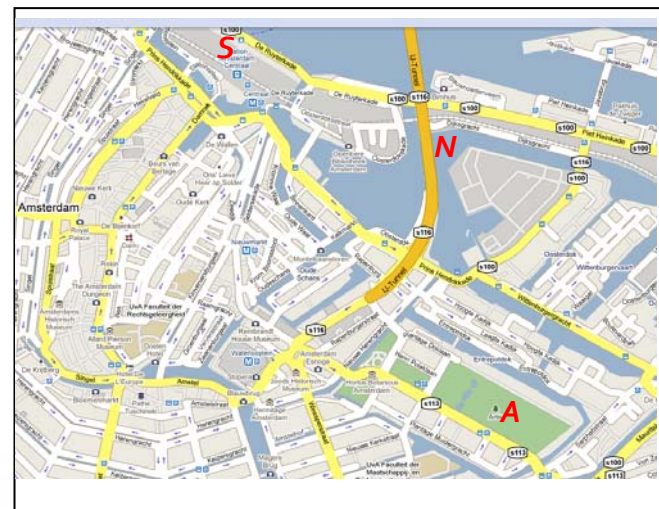
- Leave the station on the eastern exit (Oost).
- Turn left and follow the yellow sign post to Oosterdok.
- Be sure that you walk with *water on your right* and on the footpath (which turns into a long bridge).

Inside NEMO, the lectures and the poster session will take place in the Theater Hall. There will be a smaller, quiet room available for meetings or discussions during the breaks. In both locations there will be wireless. Bring your own laptop along.

You are supposed to have your badge on inside NEMO. In museum opening hours it is possible to visit the exhibits and use all facilities of the building. Do not miss the views from the deck on the top.

The dinner location: Artis Partycentrum, Plantage Middenlaan 41 A

Artis (A on map) is the zoo of Amsterdam. We will be getting there from NEMO together. It can be reached by tram 9 from the station.



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Getting around in Amsterdam

Amsterdam has a compact city center. You can walk along, but watch out for the cyclists. Remember that often there is separate section of the road for them, and you are to keep off. You may rent a bike yourself, which provides easy mobility. But be sure that you leave your bike locked behind all the time.

You may use the public transport, especially trams. You can by one-time ticket on the tram, or purchase a cheaper '[strippenkaart](#)' and stamp 2 slots each time you travel. One stamp is valid for 1 hour, so you can change.

Parking is difficult and strictly controlled in Amsterdam. If you have a car, the best is to have it parked at your hotel or in a public parking garage for the entire stay.

Local transport info: <http://journeyplanner.9292.nl/>

Train timetable: <http://www.ns.nl/cs/Satellite/travellers>

Airport information: <http://www.schiphol.nl/Flightinfo.htm>

Watch out for

Amsterdam is in general safe and pleasant, also in the evening. Watch out for pickpockets. Sometimes junkies approach foreigners. If you take a taxi, settle the price and ask for a bill after the trip.

Things to do in Amsterdam

There are many famous musea and attractions such as the Rijksmuseum, the Van Gogh Museum or the Anna Frank House, the Rembrandt House and Boathouse Museum. You can find information about these and other attractions at: <http://www.amsterdam.info/>

If you are with kids, bring them along to NEMO and Artis for some hours.

In addition, a few suggestions for exploring the city:

- The OBA (public library of Amsterdam) is on your way from the station to NEMO. It is worth a visit, because of the collection, the interior design, and the cheap self-service restaurant on the top floor.
- Charming markets on Saturday at Noordermarkt and Lindengracht.
- Flee market on Monday morning at Noordermarkt
- Climbing the Westertoren. The bell "concert" is every Tuesday from 12.00-13.00.
- There are many small restaurants in the Jordaan.

Boat trip

Each participant will receive a *free ticket* for a trip with Holland International, Prins Hendrik kade 33, opposite of Central Station, 1 hour trip, departure daily 9.00-22.00 several times per hour. You have to arrange the trip on an individual basis, and not later than Wednesday.