# The iLab Experience -

## Making Teaching Better, at Scale Marc-Oliver Pahl panl@ium.de Jacobs University Bremen 2018-04-09











## Narc-Oliver Pan https://s2labs.org/

- Tübingen.
- Holds a PhD from Technical University in Munich (TUM, 2014). •
- Currently works on his Habilitation at TUM.  $\bullet$
- **Director Digital Teaching** Académie Franco-Allemande. 0
- **Research** Focus:  $\bullet$ 

  - **Digital Teaching** (Ernst Otto Fischer Teaching Prize 2013)

Studied Informatics with emphasis on Computer Graphics and Media Science in

Secure and Autonomous Management of Internet of Things (IoT) Systems



Content: Reach:









Jorg Liebeherr Magda El Zarki

## 2003 Universität Tübingen: Internetpraktikum 2003

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<ol> <li>Cartigure the routing routs or you need as wantse, and a muta configuration information</li> </ol>	table-entries of PC <sup>1</sup> and PC4, hou can effiter specify a detault pends routing ontrice for such remote notwork. For this for such inducture sentors network, as a nint, here is the ten for PC4:
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7. Contigure the routing routing entries will be	Schelenmes of the Princher X. (The connectives of the tested after Reuter Lines been setup.)
3. Depley the routing to	bio of PD1, PC2 and PC4 with actator -m sec save the output.
Lab Fiesori	
Inslude the coved output discuss the values of the	of the rauling table. Explain the entries in the rowling lasts and telesific each entry.
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## Why?

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The commands to delete the entries created with the show commands are

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## **Concrete Problems address**

- Does not scale.
- Inefficient:
  - Takes too much time for students.
  - Takes too much time for correctors.
- Not enough guidance to learn successfully.









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# Nethodology



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## Motivate, Motivate, Motivate

- Reward during learning
- Diversity in Teaching
  - Methods (discussion, multiple choice, free text, ...)
  - Tools (eLearning, feedback, moderation, ...)
  - Settings (group, individual, team, ...)
  - Formats (lecture, self-preparation, practical exercise, ...)









## Individual Preparation



= Happening wherever you have Internet

## Practical Teamwork





## no additional reports

## **2xIndividual Oral Exam**





= Happening within the eLearning environment

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## Demonstration lab

## So how does it work?

- All labs have two parts:
- The prelab
- The lab

config file).



## 1. Demonstration PreLab content

Hello The Tester (DemoUser), this lab is just for get You find all elements you'll find in a "real" lab here to g In a "real" prelab you will find many information that w

The prelab should give you the theoretical backgrou read the texts, the easier the lab will be for you. There are multiple choice questions after most of the p the most important aspects of the topics you have just

You won't have to wait until someone corrects your n entry of the prelab) you find a button "check prelab" what was wrong and what was right and sometimes y You have multiple attempts to answer the questions.



## Focussing & Constructive Alignment



Source: Marc-Oliver Pahl, "The iLab Concept -- making teaching better, at scale," IEEE Communications Magazine, Nov 2017.

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The exercises have a story!

## How should instructions be?





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## Learn from each other...





90min	~1-3h within 1 week	~1 day within 1 week	$\sim$ 10h for <20 teams within 1
lecture room	where is Internet	lab room	where is Internet
group	individual	team of two	corrector team

Source: Marc-Oliver Pahl, "The iLab Concept -- making teaching better, at scale," IEEE Communications Magazine, Nov 2017.



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## Individual Preparation Practical Teamwork

## Lecture











## Settings



















## lecture recording

## preparation texts





## not taken into account for grading (directly learn from errors)



## eLearning prelab



## multiple-choice motivation

ranking + who did not finish?







## eLearning lab

## credits for grading-





## all instructions online

## free text inputs inline





## cross correction course management

## no additional reports fast feedback





turn/ cs/ network architectures and services/ llab

log out my rights my statistics user rights

send mail. room schedule

## Lab2 winter 15

Welcome to the iLab<sup>2</sup>! Lecture Material Course Content Programming Language. Cisco IOS Tutorial Lab Slot Preference

Demonstration Prelab > all guestions

Demonstration Lab

all questions

⇒ lab status

Static routing Dynamic routing

1Pv6

Border Gateway Protocol Evil Twins - Wifi SSID S... Create your own dynD. Advanced Wireless LAN. WWW Security DIY 1: Hardware Your Exercise DIY 2: Software

schedule

## edit\_menu

Do-It-Yourself Smart D ... Getting to Know the Vir... Service Development f ...

Evil Twins - Wifi SSID S. AirHopper: Bridging the. **IP** Multicast SCTP Advanced NAT Measurement **IPv6** Firewall OpenVPN in restricted Defeat the Lag Honeypots SNMP Network Element. Traditional vs Software . RADIUS **IPv6** Multicast or How L Polsoning Networks Virtual Private Network. Create your own dynD. TCPStealth Using Tor as a road wa.. Kerberos - The three h ...

Multi-level Prefix Deleg... Quality of Service (Qo5 ... Heartbleed reconstructi. ICMP Tunneling Sniffing the Air with SDR Google's TCP successor ....

Let's Encrypt, just anot... past courses

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Demonst	ration Lab
	This lab module makes you familiar with the web-based learning system and the didactical principles behin the course.
Demor	stration Prelab
1. De	emonstration Prelab Content
2. Pa	asteBin & Feedback
3. G	o to all questions

[mop log out]

[Show pseudo names > ]

download the ePub version of your lab. The ePub will always contain the data you currently have access to.

[Hide example solutions ] Fri, 22 Jan 2016 01:11:28 -0100 [ en

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## Demonstration Lab

- 1. Demonstration Lab content...
- Leaving the room the way you want to find it next time...
- 3. PasteBin & Feedback

LAB	Here you can
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## Demonstration Prelab

- 1. Demonstration Prelab Content.
- 2. PasteBin & Feedback
- Go to all guestions...

## 1. Demonstration Prelab Content

Hello Marc-Oliver Pahl (mop), the aim of this lab module is getting familiar with the didactical concept behind the practical exercise and the lab system (this web portal)!

You find all elements you'll find in a "real" lab module in this demonstration lab.

## So how does it work with this system?

A lab module usually consists of two parts:

- A so-called "prelab" for theoretical preparation
- A so-called "lab" with the practical part of the exercise

The part you are currently in is the prelab. In a "real" prelab you will find much information that will help you (and is necessary) during the lab.

The prelab should give you the theoretical background of what you will do later on in the lab session. The more careful you read the texts, the easier the lab will be for you.

There are multiple choice questions after most of the prelab sections. These questions should help you to recover and memorize the most important aspects of the topics you have just read about.

You won't have to wait until someone corrects your multiple choice questions. On the page with all prelab questions (last menu entry of the prelab) you find a button "check prelab". Clicking it makes the system check your answers. You'll see immediately what was wrong and what was right and sometimes you will also get some information why that is the answer.

You have multiple attempts to answer the questions. By default you have three (3) attempts (that value can be changed in the config

up-to-date content Diversity clear flow of the exercises · Getting the expected result is guaranteed Questions inline; no additional reports Learning support · Mandatory PreLab · Instantly correcting multiplechoice questions • Fast correction · Redundancy Oral exams Teamwork - help each other! English
Additional skills (esp. iLab2)



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wrong and what was right and sometimes you will also get some information why that is the answer.

You have multiple attempts to answer the questions. By default you have three (3) attempts (that value can be changed in the config file).

To be able to do the lab, each group member has to have finished the prelab by having answered all prelab-questions. When all your teammates are finished with the prelab session, the lab session will automatically become visible to each team member. Before one can see on the "lab status" page if other course members already finished.

In the lab you will use the tools and methods you read about in the prelab. You solve interesting challenges as a team. The available lab text gives you some instructions. During the lab you'll have to answer questions. You do this as a team (as you will see all of you have the same answer fields). You should switch formulating the answers so that each group member writes down some of the answers. It is one of the courses learning goals to become able to formulate one's thoughts clearly ....

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1.3 This is a multiple choice question. Click on "give answers" to set the check marks. Don't forget to "save"...

This answer is correct.

This answer is wrong.

This answer is correct

Here you might find some remarks why the solution is correct.

## Multiple-Choice answers shuffle themselves...

When you have a look at your team partner's screen you will see the answers to the multiple-choice question in a different order there. This is included to not taking you the joy of doing the prelab by exchanging the answer vectors (3,5,7 are correct) with others.

The aim of the prelab questions is to support you in your individual learning process by setting a focus helping you to memorize the important things better. Cheating there is only cheating yourself ...

1.5 This is another multiple choice question. Now I don't give you the answers ;) When was the first web based internet lab held in Tübingen?

winter semester 2003/ 2004

summer semester 2004

winter semester 2004/ 2005

summer semester 2005

winter semester 2005/ 2006

Well the lab started in winter 2003/ 2004 based on a book of Jong Liebeherr. It was maintained by Live Bilger then. In summer 2004 it got totally renewed by Marc-Oliver Patil and Live Bilger The later pretabs were edited by heiko Niedermaner. All was put on the predecessor of the system you are just using. The correct system was introduced in summer 2005

## Navigation elements

⇔ ⇒ If you have multiple pages you can navigate with the arrows. The Ŷ links to the table of content.

For each element there exists a history.

For instance you can see who edited the answer above by clicking on the lower book. Information on who corrected your question will be found there too.

The upper one tells you who edited the question and when this was done. Similar information can be found next to the texts etc.

## 2. PasteBin & Feedback

You find this page at the end of every prelab and lab. It is shared between all team members and between prelab and lab. So all of you see the same files and information.

## PasteBin

Sometimes you might want to save some text snippets or files to have them available when you restart with the lab or on another computer.

This section is exactly intended for this. You can temporarily store your configurations, commands, etc. here.

Paste your texts and store your files here...

This input is intended to be used as a PasteBin for texts and files by the teams (could replace a home directory)

Up-to-date content Diversity clear flow of the exercises · Getting the expected result is guaranteed Questions inline; no additional reports Learning support · Mandatory Prelab · Instantly correcting multiplechoice questions Fast correction Redundancy Oral exams Teamwork - help each other! English
Additional skills (esp. iLab2)







Students should always be encouraged to offer their opinions and findings here

Valuable suggestions that lead to improvement of the lab can be rewarded with bonus credits.

[0 credits]

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Next go to the all questions page in the menu to check the preiab up and get access to the lab!

You will see a summary page of all multiple choice questions there. The system will tell you which answers are right and which are wrong. As this is a demo lab make errors to see what happens...

When you did the maximum amount of checks or you answered all questions correctly, the lab will appear in the menu. In a real lab you will have to wait for your team partner to finish at this step. On the status page you can see who finished when. Especially if your team partner did finish yet...

## Demonstration Lab

- 1. Demonstration Lab content...
- Leaving the room the way you want to find it next time...
- PasteBin & Feedback

## Demonstration Lab content...

Well done Marc-Oliver Pahl, you and all your teammates finished the prelab!

Now you have access to this lab part. Here you will find the exercises.

You can answer the questions during the schedule. If the schedule is up the answers will close automatically.

If you finish the lab earlier than the schedule end is set you should close the lab to enable the correctors to correct your answers earlier ....

How to do this? Just as with the prelab: Click on all lab guestions in the menu and press the close lab button on top.

So in a real lab here would be some instructions on how to perform a cool experiment...

1.2. ...and here will be an interesting question to the experiment. You can answer this demo question by clicking on "give answer" below. Maybe there are some answers yet. How come? Well probably another teammate inserted something yet...

Well here will be what you should have answered ...

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An important part of an exercise is that you learn to formulate and express yourself as a team. Discuss about the answers. Formulate them together. Rotate the one finally writing the answer so that every one of you does it regularly.

Then you learn the most! And these skills count independent of the topic you are currently working on...

Do not copy & paste here! If you do it you are not only plagiarising of you do not cite correctly but you also take yourself the chance of learning how to formulate and answer...

## Leaving the room the way you want to find it next time...

At the end of each practical part (lab) you find this hint to "reset" your workplace after using it and before leaving. Please leave your workspace as proper as possible. The next team will highly appreciate it.

## Thank you!

## **Please remove the Cables**

Please leave the place as clean as you want to find it the next time. If the last team did not clean up properly please do so anyway. The







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## Thank you!



If the space you leave looks like this: great ;)

## 3. PasteBin & Feedback

You find this page at the end of every prelab and lab. It is shared between all team members and between prelab and lab. So all of you see the same files and information.

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Sometimes you might want to save some text snippets or files to have them available when you restart with the lab or on another computer

This section is exactly intended for this. You can temporarily store your configurations, commands, etc. here.

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2. Paste your texts and store your files here	
This input is intended to be used as a PasteBin for texts and files by the teams (could replace a home directory),	
E List of uploaded files	
No files uploaded yet.	
19	credits]

## Please give us feedback!

What did you (dis-)like most about this lab? Do you have suggestions on what could be improved? Did you find any errors? If you have any suggestions or comments about the prelab or lab please let us know! This question has no bearing on your prelab completion.

	L. 0
2. Please submit your comments here:	
Good student answers to this guestion contribute greatly to the further improvement of the lab. Students should always be encouraged to offer their opinions and findings here! Valuable suggestions that lead to improvement of the lab can be rewarded with bonus credits.	
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- up-to-date content
- Diversity
- clear flow of the exercises
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  - · Instantly correcting multiplechoice questions
- Fast correction
- · Redundancy
- Oral exams
- Teamwork help each other! • English
- · Additional skills (esp. iLab2)



## Feedback

Self-Learning Support

Discussion with Others

Ranking in the Group

Multiple-Choice Results



Credits

Multiple-Choice Results

Feedback

Interaction

Lab Credits

## **Correction Comments**

Discussion at the Lecture

Exam Feedback

Exam Mark

## Oral Exam Impression

Discussion at the Lecture

Feedback to the Teachers

Feedback is important to encourage the learners to continue learning. It is a main mean for motivation. Feedback is important for the teachers as well as it helps them to adapt to the needs of the current student group. The student feedback is continuously used to improve the exercises.







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grow from continuous exchange. Exchange within the group of learners and between the students and the professors. The iLab encourages to exchange wherever possible. It is an important element of the success of the concept.

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"Good insight into various technologies. Comprehensive exploration of the topics at hand. Nice e-Learning system!"

## Evaluation

"Perfectly organized lab course with a good balance of team work, selfstudy and lecture."

"[I like the] syllabus and the way the assignments are organized. The course content, paradigm, and the



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## Big thanks to my team members!

- and the concept in the first years (~2004-2006).
- Joachim Schiele and Andreas Korsten did a great job for evolving the hardware setup back in Tübingen.  $\bullet$
- Stephan Günther did the entire hardware and software setup for Munich in 2008.
- $\bullet$ Markus Teich), the lab room hardware setup, and the exercises! Their great expertise and dedication are unforgettable.
- Also thank you to all advisors (chronoligical order):
  - Tübingen: Uwe Bilger, Heiko Niedermayer, Marc Fouquet, Ralph Holz, Dirk Haage;  $\bullet$
  - Rouhi, Dominik Scholz, and Stefan Liebald.
  - And all student tutors!

• Uwe Bilger was of invaluable help in designing the initial new set of exercises, and in iterating through the material

Benjamin Hof and Lukas Schwaighofer did invaluable contributions to both labs including the iLabOS software (with

• Munich: Andreas Müller, Holger Kinkelin, Florian Wohlfart (!!), Benjamin Hof (!!!), Lukas Schwaighofer (!!!), Minoo





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## Resources

- M.-O. Pahl, "The iLab Concept: Making Teaching Better, at Scale," IEEE Communication Magazine, vol. 55, no. 11, pp. 178–185, 2017.
- Labsystem eLearning Environment <a href="http://github.com/m-o-p/labsystem">http://github.com/m-o-p/labsystem</a>
- iLab Build your own Internet <u>https://ilab.net.in.tum.de/</u>
- iLab2 You set the Focus <u>https://ilab2.net.in.tum.de/</u>
- iLabX The virtualized Networking Laboratory <u>https://s2labs.org/?</u> <u>site=mooc4masters</u>

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