

The Challenge of Living and Working in Germany

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Job-Information Convention in Madrid

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Outline

- Personal Information
- Work at IMST GmbH
- Life in Germany
- Conclusions

Personal Information

→ About me

- Telecommunication Engineer at University Carlos III Madrid [Oct 2005 – Jan 2011]
- Final thesis in the Radiofrequency Group
- Working in the Antenna Department at IMST GmbH
- 2.5 years living in Duisburg, Germany

→ How did it begin

- Traineeship for 1 year as engineer
- Just graduated
- No German knowledge
- 1700 km by car



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IMST GmbH - Facts & Figures

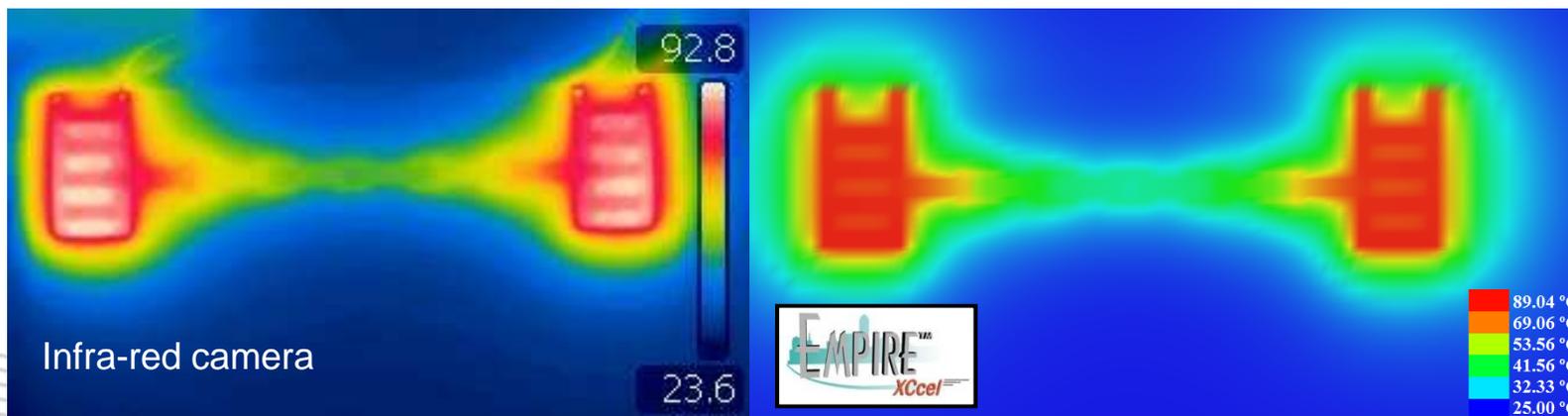
Foundation:	1992
Share Holder:	Prof. Dr. Ingo Wolff Dr. Peter Waldow
Staff:	180
Location:	Kamp-Lintfort, Germany



My work at IMST

→ Thermal studio for antenna front-ends

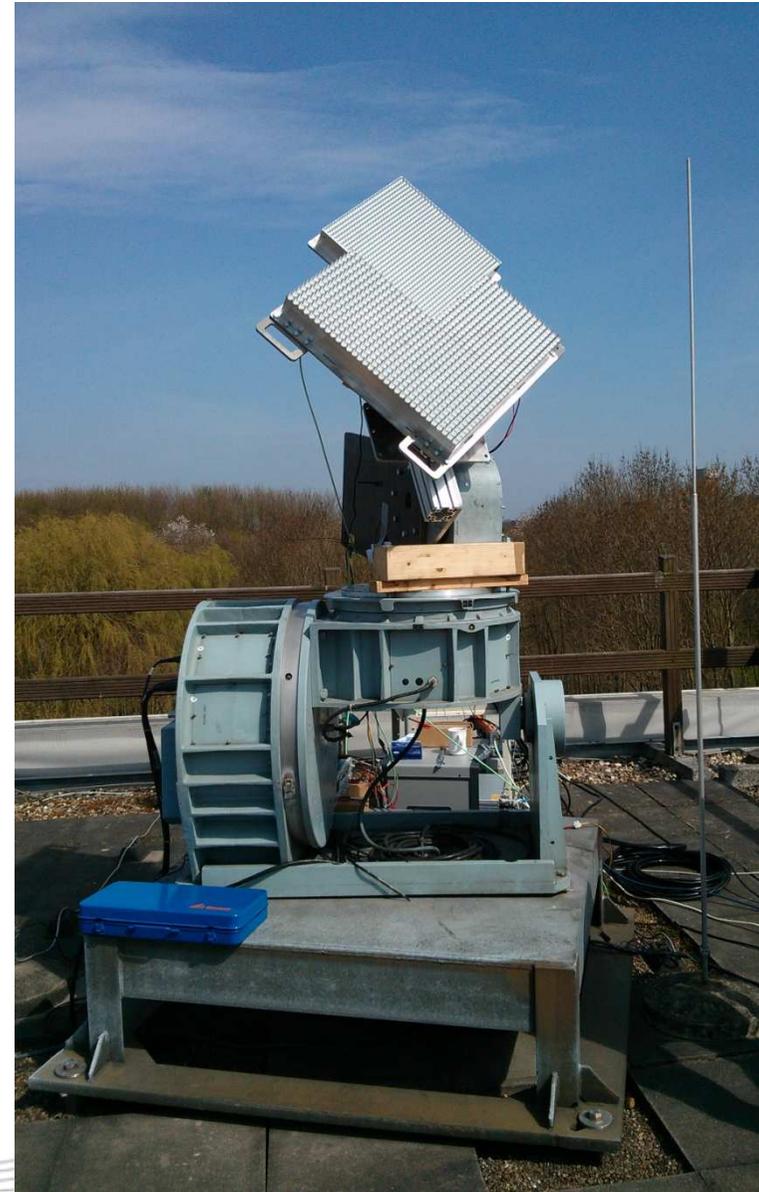
- Python Programming
- Integration in EMPIRE XCcel™
- Tests IR camera
- Paper in EuCAP 2012 Prague
- *Thermal Calculation Using a 3D-EM Solver and Thermal-Electrical Analogy*



My work at IMST

→ Satellite Antenna in Ka Band

- Design and simulation in EMPIRE XCcel™
- Integration with all the RF devices
- Measurements
- Tests through Satellite
- DLR and Astrium (EADS)



At work

- 38.5 hours per week
- 30 days of holiday to choose. Some companies also let you take holidays due to overtime hours
- You decide when you come/leave the work but you must be there from 9 to 15:00
- 45 minutes for lunch time (at 12:00!)
- Freitag (Friday) = Free Day => ~ 15:00 “Feierabend“

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What to do first

- Look for accomodation
- Registration in the city (“Anmeldung“)
- Bank account
- Finance office (“Lohnsteuerkarte” or “ELStAm”)
- Mobile phone
- Embassy

Accommodation

→ Student residence

- Friends and cheap
- Languages (English – German)

→ Share an apartment

- Integration in the German culture
- German Language

→ Rent an apartment (affordable price)

- Furnish/kitchen (Ikea, kleinanzeigen.ebay.de or Diakonie)
- “Caution“ and/or “Provision“
- Difficult if temporal job
- www.immobilienscout24.de or www.immowelt.de

German Language

→ You can survive with English but not live

- Public institutions: German necessary
- People and shops
- Meetings at work

→ How to learn

- Göthe Institut: The best and most expensive choice
- Private schools: Optimum but no afternoon courses
- VHS (Volkshochschule) always offer afternoon courses but the classes are extremely slow
- University tandems or German friends: Very recommended

→ Time

Transport

→ Public

- Very good communications
- Expensive but all included (train, tube, tram and bus)

→ Private

- Officially: need to register after 3 months
- Spanish insurance in Germany just for 1 month max.
- No German insurance with a Spanish car
- Good second-hand market
- Learn before where to park
- Winter wheels

Social life

→ Spanish community

- Language facility
- Low integration

→ International community

- English
- Same situation

→ German community

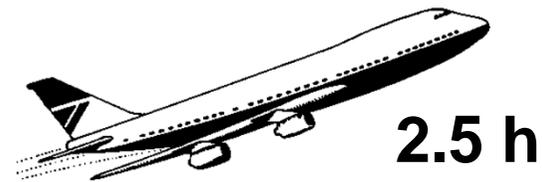
- Activities
- People from work
- Dating

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Conclusions

- 😊 Experience
- 😊 New culture
- 😊 New language
- 😊 New friends
- 😊 Personal and professional enrichment
- 😞 Family and friends
- 😞 Weather



FUTURE?

Thank you for your attention

