

## TALK ANNOUNCEMENT

**Seminar Series:** The Science of Complex Networks (description below)

**Speaker:** Martin Holzer, Institute of Computer Science, University of Karlsruhe, Germany

**Title:** How to Plan a Road Trip

**Abstract:** Please see below.

**Date & Time:** Monday, February 27, 2006. 4:00-5:00 PM

**Location:** Virginia Tech Corporate Research Center, Building XV, Conference room 2018

**Web:** <http://ndssl.vbi.vt.edu/seminars>

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### Abstract

Looking up the shortest route on a road map is certainly an everyday problem. Another situation all of us are familiar with is booking train or flight tickets through a travel agency, where we typically might ask how to get to our destination in the shortest time (quickest route, cheapest option and so on). In this talk, we will present various shortest-path-finding techniques as well as look at the algorithmic aspects behind the travel agency scenes.

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### Seminar Series: "The Science of Complex Networks"

A new seminar series titled "The Science of Complex Networks" is being started. It is organized by the group NDSSL at VBI, on the web at <http://ndssl.vbi.vt.edu>. The theme of the seminar is mathematical and computational aspects of dynamics over large graphs. Examples include the dynamics on networks in communication, urban traffic systems, and networks arising in biological systems such as the molecular networks in the genome and the immune system.

The systems and network models that come from these various areas describe very different phenomena and dynamics and may seem to have little in common. Contrary to this intuition, there are large classes of models with fundamental similarities in both structure and dynamics. This common and generic structure has already motivated research, and is an extremely active area of current research.

The seminars will have a formal flavor, and at least proof ideas and outlines will be encouraged. Presentations of experimental data and findings displaying interesting phenomena that point to possible general results are also welcome.