## Field of specialization 17: Information and Communication

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## In a nutshell

Information and communication technology establishes the basics for the analysis, development and application of communication and sensor networks.

## **Fields of application**

Information and communication engineering play a key role in numerous technologies:

- Mobile and wired communication
- Automotive industry
- Aerospace sector
- Medical technologies
- Sensor / radar technologies and processing
- Industrial electronics and automation technolgy

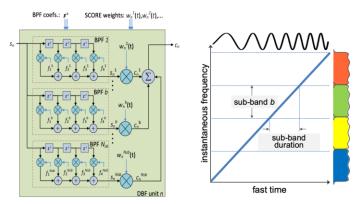
Graduates of this field of specialization will not only be qualified for jobs in research and development but also in technical sales and project management areas. An advanced career path in the mid- to high-level management is also possible without restrictions.

## **Content and background**

The invention of wired telegraphy was the basis of long-distance communications. After Heinrich Hertz was able to prove the existence of electromagnetic waves in Karlsruhe in 1887, there was a huge boost in the further development of wireline and then wireless telegraphy. While wireline telegraphy immediately became widespread, wireless mobile communication hardly played a role in the everyday life of individuals until the 1990s. With the introduction of digital cellular mobile radio systems, a mass market developed, the growth prospects of which are still significant.

An important basis for the operation of mobile communication systems is the existence of fixed networks that carry the traffic over long distances. The data is usually transported via fiber-optic-based networks, which today dominate the wide area networks down to the access networks and, with their high bandwidths, enable the individual subscriber to use applications with data rates in the triple-digit Gigabit/s range. The wireless radio network accesses the fiber optic networks locally and enables mobile access to the user.

Communication networks therefore usually combine radio and landline components. This requires an interdisciplinary knowledge of the physical properties of mobile radio channels as well as knowledge about antennas, glass fibers, transmitter and receiver principles, modulation methods, access mechanisms, algorithms of coding and encryption as well as transport and control protocols. Thus, the training areas, based on the mathematical-physical basics, can be found in high-frequency technology and electronics, communications engineering and optical communication.



Radar technologies and techniques have witnessed a quantum leap in the last years. This manifests itself by a transition from analog to digital techniques and technologies following an earlier trend in communication systems. This enforces an information-based approach for the data acquisition and processing. The increased information content of future imaging radar systems that can be achieved multi-channel operation. by improved range and azimuth resolution, time series as well as observation angle diversity (interferometry and tomography).