



Proposal for BOOST 2017 + 2n in Boston

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We are interested in jointly organizing the BOOST 2017 + 2n workshop in the Boston area. Harvard and MIT have previously hosted two successful jet physics workshops in 2011 and 2014, so 2017 + 2n is the natural time to host a jet-related conference. Many BOOST participants have a connection to the Boston area, and Boston is very accessible to international participants, with a number of non-stop flights to Boston Logan Airport and good public transportation.

Possible Conferences Venues

There are numerous conference venues in the Boston area. Our preliminary idea is to use a venue on either the Harvard or MIT campus, which will help reduce costs. We could end up using a hotel conference space if it makes the logistics easier. The precise venue will depend on the dates for BOOST 2017 + 2n.

On the MIT campus, there are three main venues we are considering:

- *MIT Faculty Club*: The faculty club has undergone extensive renovations. It has a flexible use space with AV equipment and skyline views of Boston. We could use the faculty club catering, which is quite good, though the prices are on the expensive side.
- *Stata Center*: The Boston Jet Physics Workshop (2014) was held in the Stata Center, that the room we used has a maximum capacity of 90 people. There is a 300 people lecture hall which is quite comfortable, and was used for a similarly sized workshop in 2010, though it is not ideal for having group discussions. Stata has a number of secondary rooms we could reserve for breakout discussions and a nice space for group lunches.
- *MIT Media Lab*: A new beautiful top floor conference space, though we would have to rent AV equipment and it would likely end up being more costly than the faculty club. We are trying to figure out if that could be made an affordable option.

On the Harvard campus, we are considering:

- *Jefferson Laboratory*: This is the building which houses the physics department. We have had many successful conference here in the past, including the Boston Jet Physics Workshop (2011), a Dark Matter workshop (2013), and recently AndyFest (2015) and GeorgiFest (2017).

The large lecture hall holds 205 people. Coffee breaks can be hosted in the library, and there are lots of local places for lunch and dinner. It is free to use, and not very busy in the summer.

- *Maxwell-Dworkin*: This is a very newly renovated building, connected to Jefferson. It has a few modern lecture halls with stadium seating. The largest holds 120 people: <http://imsroombook.fas.harvard.edu/room.php?rm=rm0092>. There are also other suitable places on Harvard's campus where the conference could be hosted, see <http://imsroombook.fas.harvard.edu/search.php?type%5B%5D=Lecture%2BHall&minCap=120>.
- *Sheraton Commander Hotel*: This is more of a professional conference venue. We can get a room block in the same hotel which provides an advantage. The Harvard-Smithsonian Conference on Theoretical Astrophysics (2014) was held here.
- *American Academy of Arts and Sciences*: The academy is located about 10 minutes from Harvard's campus. It has a large room for the talks and areas for coffee breaks as well as a banquet hall. It is unfortunately expensive, estimated to cost around \$100k for the workshop.

Housing

The main challenge for organizing any event in Boston is the high cost of hotels. We have had success in the past getting group discounts, though, and we hope to make similar arrangements.

If the conference is held at MIT, some possible housing options are:

- *MIT Dorm Rooms*: MIT rents out dormitory space in the summer, and you can't beat the price (< \$100/night).
- *John Jeffries House*: Just over the river in Boston, this is an affordable hotel but it could not hold all of the conference attendees.
- *Le Meridien Cambridge*: This hotel could definitely hold everyone, and has been used in the past for other similarly-sized workshops at MIT.

If the conference is held at Harvard:

- *Sheraton Commander Hotel*: An ideal option if we decide to use this as a conference venue.
- *Harvard Square Hotel*: In the heart of Harvard Square, but surprisingly affordable.

Additional hotel options are listed on the webpages for previous Boston area workshops:

- *Boston Jet Physics Workshop*, MIT, January 2014
<http://jets.physics.harvard.edu/workshop2014/>
- *Boston Jet Physics Workshop*, Harvard, January 2011
<http://jets.physics.harvard.edu/workshop2011/>
- *Implications of First LHC Data*, MIT, August 2010
<http://ctp.lns.mit.edu/lhc/>

Financial Estimates

If we use an MIT or Harvard classroom, then the room costs would be very small. Using an outside venue would likely increase the conference fees. Based on previous workshop experience and anticipated financial support from MIT and Harvard, we can provide coffee breaks to all of the participants and keep the conference fee as for BOOST 2015 in Chicago (\$350, \$250 for students, \$70 for the conference dinner). Adding lunches would add costs, and that is something to discuss.