

# Approaches to make cooperation productive despite time differences, different language skills and cultural differences?

## How to support collaboration with foreign partners

- **Smaller steps** in international cooperation e.g. start with co-teaching instead of student collaboration in teams between different universities (TUBS-Tongji)
- Have **good working tools** that allow you to see changes done by partners, e.g. github, sharelatex
- Block **time slots** in which everyone can participate across time zones
- Send **meeting invites in formatted time** to accommodate for different time zones
- **Detach lecture from the lecturer:** provide materials digitally so students can engage asynchronously (independent of time zone)
- **Setting a goal** that everyone agrees on
- **Preparation of meetings**
  - Outline of meeting agenda
  - Required results
- Making **regular updates** on developments

## How to address different language skills

- Send **materials in advance** so partners can do translations in advance and prepare for meetings
- Being **strict about language requirements** for courses, e.g. level of English required to attend