Report of the PC

Monique Teillaud

SoCG'08 - June 9-11 2008

THANKS!

Submitting authors

Steering committee
Pankaj Agarwal, Jeff Erickson (SoCG'07), Marc van Kreveld,
Joe Mitchell, Günter Rote (SoCG'05 scoring instructions)
for their trust

Program Committee
Marc (chaired my papers marked with 'conflict of interest')

Subreviewers for their precious work

David Mount and Sándor Fekete for easy collaboration

Overview

- Review process
- Statistics
- Feedback to authors
- *Questions/remarks*

Program Committee

Franz Aurenhammer	Siu-Wing Cheng
Sariel Har-Peled	Martin Held
Michael Joswig	David Kirkpatrick
Christian Knauer	Patrice Koehl
Marc van Kreveld	Stefan Langerman
André Lieutier	Sylvain Petitjean
Alla Sheffer	Shakhar Smorodinsky
Diane Souvaine	Emo Welzl

Agenda

- October 5: Call for papers sent to various mailing lists
- November 21: Paper titles and abstracts due

- December 3: Paper submissions due

- February 14   : Notification of acceptance or rejection

Agenda

- June 2007–···: PC discussions about process...
- October 5: Call for papers sent to various mailing lists
- November 21: Paper titles and abstracts due
- Bidding and paper assignments
- December 3: Paper submissions due
- Assignments fixed
- December 4 – January 20: Review
- January 21 – February 8: Electronic discussion
- February 1/4 12: Notification of acceptance or rejection
- *February 14: Feedback to authors*

- *in spite of Sylvain Lazard's invitation (Barbados workshop) thanks!*
- nice experience in 2005 (Joe+Günter)
- if meeting, every PC member *must* attend, otherwise his opinion does not count
- time to discuss, ask for additional opinions, read papers again, think. . .
- archives of written discussions
- less bias: people speak more or less loudly, are more or less talkative, more or less fast, more or less shy, more or less fluent in English, more or less experienced, more or less famous, more or less physically impressive,. . .

Review process

Each paper was assigned to 4 PC members

Each PC member reviewed at most 33 papers

The PC was helped by 267 subreviewers

Scoring instructions publicly accessible

- Easychair
- archived private mailing list
- protected web site (deadlines, guidelines, etc)
- Excel. . .

Review process

Strict deadlines

155 abstracts submitted
> some papers withdrawn before submission deadline
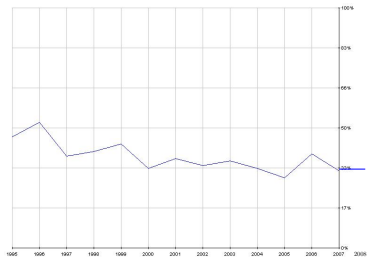> some papers never submitted

130 submitted papers
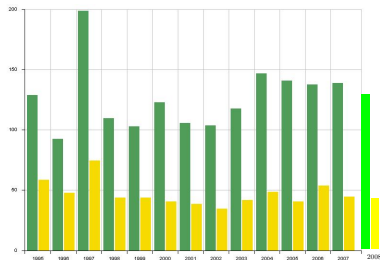> 3 papers subsequently withdrawn

42 accepted papers

Acceptance rate: 32% (33%)
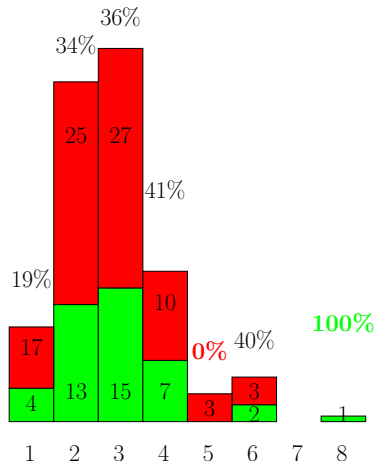
Statistics
Evolution

stability in 2008

submitted/accepted

country	authors	submitted	accepted	acceptance rate	PC members
China	1	0.17	0	0	0
Serbia and Montenegro	1	0.17	0	0	0
Poland	1	0.25	0	0	0
Spain	1	0.25	0.25	1	0
Australia	1	0.33	0.33	1	0
Hong Kong	1	0.33	0	0	1
Norway	1	0.33	0.33	1	0
Brazil	1	0.33	0.33	1	0
Hungary	1	0.33	0.33	1	0
unknown	1	0.5	0	0	0
Iran	2	0.53	0	0	0
Belgium	2	0.58	0.33	0.57	1
Greece	2	0.67	0	0	0
Finland	2	0.73	0.33	0.45	0
Switzerland	3	0.75	0.25	0.33	1
Russia	1	1	0	0	0
Korea, South	2	1	0	0	0
Taiwan	4	1.25	0.25	0.2	0
Japan	6	2	2	1	0
Netherlands	9	2.42	1.92	0.79	1
Denmark	5	3.17	1.5	0.47	0
India	9	3.38	0.46	0.14	0
Germany	21	9.75	3.5	0.36	2
Israel	26	12.29	3.96	0.32	1
Canada	24	12.52	4.17	0.33	2
France	35	14.95	6.3	0.42	3
United States	120	57.02	15.45	0.27	3

Statistics
Number of authors

rejected/accepted

Statistics

Topics

topic	submissions	accepted	acceptance rate	PC members
economics	1	0	0	0
machine learning	3	1	0.33	1
database systems, robotics	3	1	0.33	0
computational biology	3	1	0.33	0
computer-aided design and manufacturing	3	0	0	5
scientific computing	4	1	0.25	1
differential geometry	4	2	0.5	3
sensor networks	5	2	0.4	3
geographic information systems	5	2	0.4	2
numerical issues	6	2	0.33	4
algebraic objects	6	2	0.33	2
computer graphics	8	3	0.38	2
other	9	4	0.44	0
experimentation	9	0	0	3
reconstruction	10	3	0.3	4
meshing	10	2	0.2	2
graph drawing	11	6	0.55	4
geometric modeling	12	4	0.33	2
implementation	13	2	0.15	4
applications	14	2	0.14	3
lower bounds	14	4	0.29	3
high dimensions	15	4	0.27	3
mathematical issues	15	6	0.4	4
optimization	17	5	0.29	5
triangulations	17	8	0.47	8
polygons, polyhedra	19	5	0.26	6
arrangements	20	6	0.3	8
computational topology	22	9	0.41	3
data structures	22	5	0.23	7
points, lines, hyperplanes, segments...	29	11	0.38	8
approximation	32	10	0.31	6
combinatorial geometry	43	18	0.42	6
algorithms	86	28	0.33	9

Statistics are very approximate

Low number of submissions
Low acceptance rate   *(meaningful?)*
   of experiments/implementation/application papers

Appropriate criteria

- state of the art of previous implementations
- comparison with previous known results on the same topic
- details on the method
- convincing tests (diverse, numerous, realistic) and interpretation
- novelty, deepness, difficulty of the work

Conjecture

100% accepted papers had been submitted

0% rejected papers among non-submitted papers

Goals:
- send useful information to authors
- avoid misunderstandings, bad feelings,...

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- For each submitted paper, one PC member in charge
  - removed: really confidential parts (only a few)
  - removed: mistakes by reviewers that were corrected by other reviewers
  - included: divergent opinions of reviewers
  - added when applicable: summary of discussions

Possible topics for discussion

- Format of submission
- Abstract submission
- Easychair
- Sheridan printing
- Proceedings cover page

- Some authors are asking for a submission in final form
- Nobody wants to review > 30 papers in double-column format and tiny fonts...

$\longrightarrow$ still 11-point font and single column

future: allow more pages ? (how many?)

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- impossible with Easychair (?) to automatically reject papers submitted without prior abstract submission
  $\Longrightarrow$ manual rejection after automatic acceptance of paper submissions

CONS

- mistakes of authors
  ex: new submission for paper instead of modification of abstract submission, etc
  $\Longrightarrow$ manual fixes needed

- assignments heavily impacted by strategies of PC members when bidding
  $\Longrightarrow$ manual fixes needed

- limited access to internal database
  ex: no list of PC members for a paper (only reverse)
  ex: no sorting of papers by score discrepancy

- printing table of status of papers impossible
  (seems to depend on the browser used)
  $\Longrightarrow$ manual copy-paste to Excel...!

PROS

- easy to use, intuitive
- rather flexible, adaptable
- never failed during the process

not perfect, but very good tool

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Security. . . ? Confidentiality. . . ?
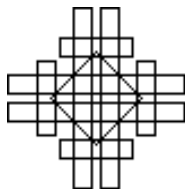*What if the Easychair computers are attacked. . . ?*

example:

- Easychair allows several corresponding authors
- I sent the whole list to Sheridan
- Only one corresponding author was kept by Sheridan
  $\Rightarrow$ the other authors did not get the instructions for camera-ready versions

- new "ACM Visual Identity Standard":
    - completely different cover page
    - with picture of the conference place
    - no SoCG logo

Joseph
O'Rourke

The minimum convex cover for a simple polygon might need to employ vertices that do not lie on the arrangement of lines induced by the extension of the edges of the polygon.

The central diamond covers the five gaps left by the union of the eight isothetic rectangles.

"The complexity of computing minimum convex covers for polygons"
Proc. 20th Allerton Conf. Commun. Control Comput., 1982

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- second proposal by Sheridan:
    - truncated logo in place of the picture

- so, traditional cover page kept for this year

Questions
Proceedings cover page

- cover for next years?