SoCG 2010
Program Committee
Chair Report

David Kirkpatrick UBC

June 14, 2010

- Hee-Kap Ahn
- Nina Amenta
- Tetsuo Asano
- Sergey Bereg
- Therese Biedl
- Robert Bridson
- Erin Chambers
- Hazel Everett
- Sandor Fekete
- Efi Fogel
- David Kirkpatrick,
- Valentin Polishchuk
- Raimund Seidel
- Bettina Speckmann
- Csaba Toth
- Chee Yap

Program Committee

- Local Arrangements Committee (Suresh Venkatasubramanian and Valerio Pascucci)

- Past PC Chairs (John Hershberger, Monique Teillaud and Guenter Rote)

- Sheridan Printing (Lisa Tolles)

- CG Steering Committee (Jack Snoeyink, *Chair*, Mark de Berg, *Secretary*, Joe Mitchell, Guenter Rote and Monique Teillaud)

More thanks …

- submitting authors: 290 (379)
- invited speakers: Helmut Pottmann and Claudio Silva
- external reviewers: 178 (?)
- EasyChair conference support system

More thanks ...

- Sept-Oct Discussion of PC issues
- Oct. 9 First call for papers posted
- Nov. 23 Submission titles & abstracts
- Dec. 2 Full submissions due
- Jan. 15 Preliminary evaluations completed; questions sent to authors
- Jan. 20 Author responses due
- Jan. 24 Full/revised evaluations completed
- Jan. 25 – Feb. 8 Committee deliberations
- Feb. 9-14 Finalize decisions & prepare feedback
- Feb. 14 Notifications sent to authors
- Feb. 17 Edited reviews sent

Timeline

- 172 titles&abstracts received
- 147 full submissions received (6 were subsequently withdrawn)
- Dec. 3 papers assigned to PC members
  - based on interest/expertise
  - 3 (90), 4(51) primary reviewers
  - 29-31 papers per PC member

Process – submission phase

- 178 external reviewers engaged
- 477 reviews
- 49 papers received (*non-null*) comments/ questions following preliminary assessment
- 47+ author responses received

Process – reviewing phase

- Jan. 24 – Feb. 13 EasyChair-facilitated PC discussion
  - guided (but not determined) by confidence-weighted rankings
  - ~12 rounds of accept/reject proposals
  - considerable discussion of "borderline" cases
  - 47 papers were accepted (33%)
  - 7 papers with weighted average scores at least 2.0 ["a vote for acceptance"] were *not* accepted

Process – decision phase

- Review editing:
  - each paper assigned to one PC member
  - objectives: collect reviews; clarity/civility; some account of discussion and author response; helpful feedback
  - non-objectives: "explanation" of decision; uniformity/consistency of reviews
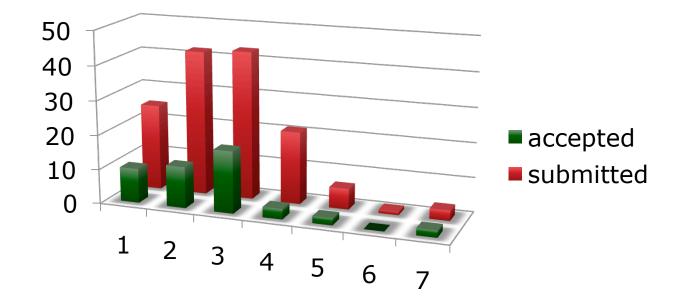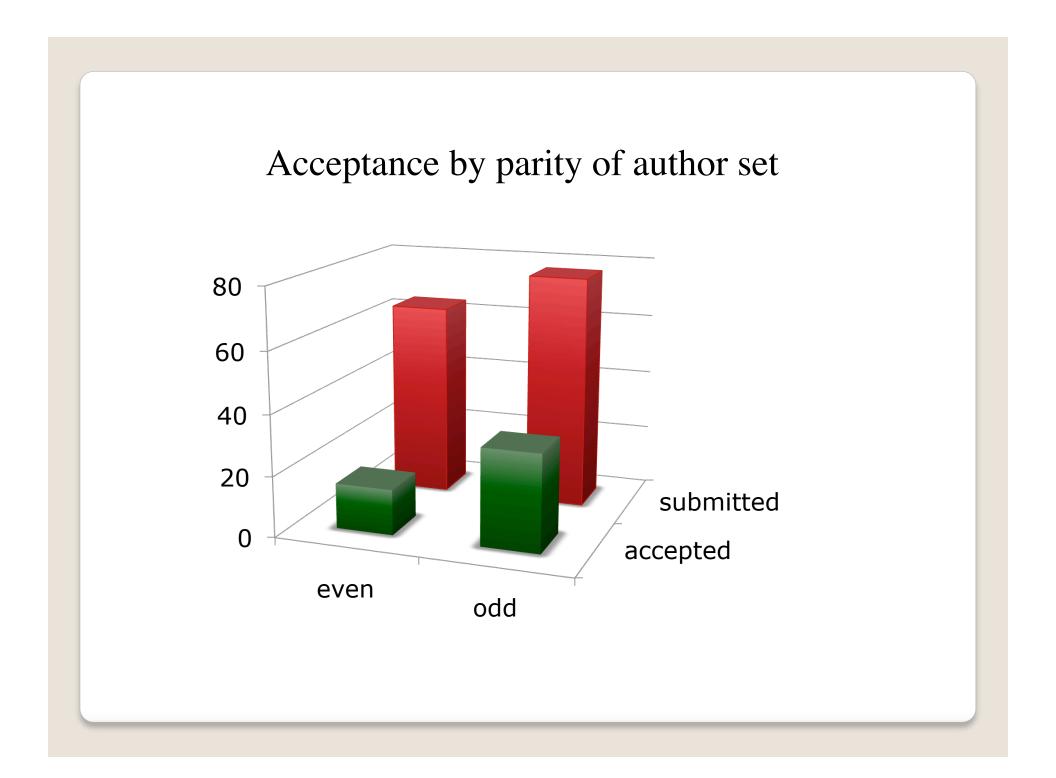- Decisions and reviews sent "on schedule"
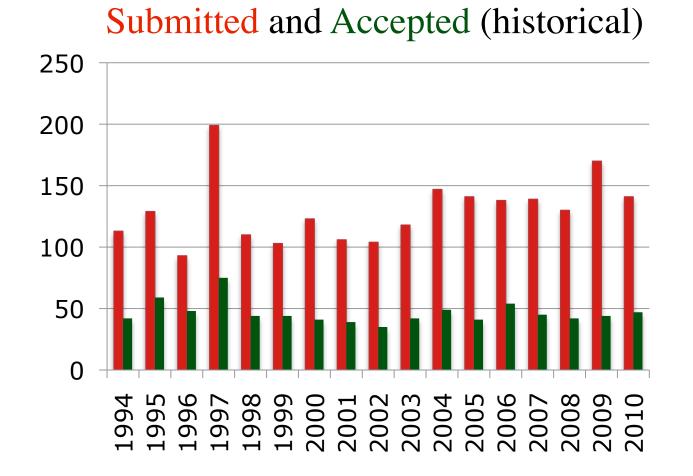
Process – notification phase

- From EasyChair
  - acceptance by country
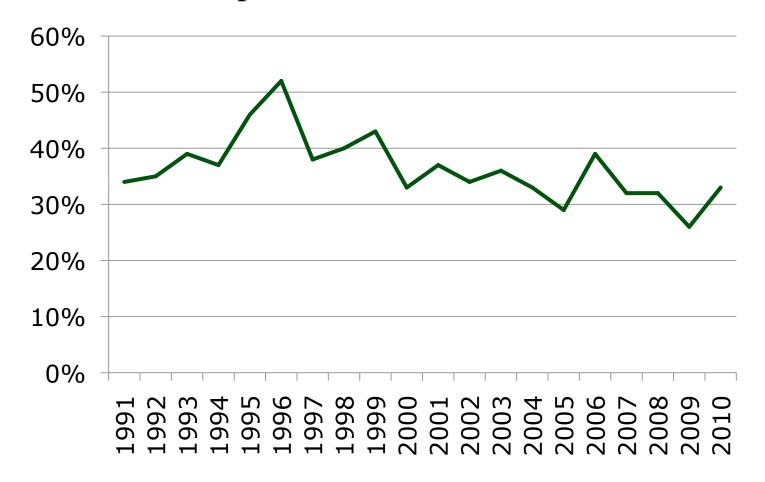 - acceptance by topic

Statistics

Acceptance by number of authors

Acceptance by parity of author set

Submitted and Accepted (historical)

Acceptance Rate (historical)

- Where is our focus…is it understood?
  - theory/applications
  - algorithms/other mathematical foundations
  - results vs. techniques
- What does SoCG acceptance connote?
  - correctness, interest, potential impact…
- What is "value added" of an SoCG paper?
  - For the authors
  - For the community
- Proceedings (non-issue this year)

Issues/Discussion Points

- Process
  - Submission content/format
    - emphasis
    - page limits/style
  - Blind reviewing?
  - Rebuttal?
    - Would opportunity (*properly implemented*) to respond to questions provide most of the benefit of a full rebuttal?
  - EasyChair submission/review management
  - Electronic PC discussion

Issues/Discussion Points

- This year's author question/response experiment
  - should not be confused with rebuttal!
  - required extra work and created some confusion, *but could have been implemented less awkwardly*
  - seemed to be appreciated by most authors
  - sought response on ~1/3 of papers (about 1/4 of which were accepted
  - clearly impacted the evaluation of >10 submissions

Issues/Discussion Points

Final thanks...