SoCG 2011
Report of the PC chairs

Ferran Hurtado (UPC Barcelona)

Marc van Kreveld (Utrecht University)

The PC

- Lars Arge
- Esther Arkin
- Jit Bose
- Sergio Cabello
- Éric Colin de Verdière
- Olivier Devillers
- Adrian Dumitrescu
- Herbert Edelsbrunner
- Joachim Giesen
- Joachim Gudmundsson
- Ferran Hurtado
- Naoki Katoh
- Klara Kedem
- Marc van Kreveld
- David Mount
- Micha Sharir

Submissions

- 173 abstracts

- 146 full papers
  - 1 withdrawn; 2 removed by chairs (double submission, plagiarism)
  - 55 accepted (=38%), 88 rejected

2011 (Paris):	**146**	**(55 → 38%)**
2010 (Snowbird):	145	(47 → 32%)
2009 (Aarhus):	170	(44 → 26%)
2008 (Washington):	130	(42 → 32%)
2007 (Gyeongju):	139	(45 → 32%)
2006 (Sedona):	138	(54 → 39%)

Procedure

- Fixed dates and times

- 3 reviews per paper (avg. 3.45);
  348 comments in total (avg. 2.43)

- No rebuttal (after feedback from previous PC chair)

- 6 weeks for reviewing (over Christmas)

- 4 weeks for discussing

Statistics on countries

Country	Submitted	Accepted	Rate
USA	55	21	0.38
Germany	13	5	0.38
Israel	11.5	4.5	0.39
France	9.6	5.8	0.60
Netherlands	7.6	2.7	0.35
Iran	6	0	0
Canada	5	3	0.61
Switzerland	4	2.3	0.58
Italy	3.6	0	0
Spain	3.5	0	0
Austria	3.4	2.9	0.85
Total	**143**	**55**	**0.38**

Issues (I)

- External reviewers (194 in number;
  275 reviews out of 493 were external)
  - Needed for quality and correctness (their expertise)
  - Needed to reduce work of PC
  - Risk of favoring highly specialized papers peripheral to computational geometry

Suggestion: PC chairs should ensure that the scores are of the PC members, not necessarily of the subreviewers. PC members must incorporate the interest in a paper within our community

Issues (II)

- Formatting and page limit, how strict should one be?

- Appendices
  - Not just omitted proofs, but whole sections of material → their length gets out of hand

Suggestion: Clear deviation from guidelines → reject
Mild deviation and not a high ranked paper → reject
A paper that deviates should never benefit from this

Allow only missing proofs, experimental results, algorithm output in appendices

Issues (III)

- Balance theoretical/applied (well-motivated, implementation)
  - Relatively few applied papers are submitted
  - We expect more of applied papers. Theory papers can be criticized only on theory, applied papers can be criticized on many grounds (criticized ≈ out):
    - Reviewers are not easily convinced by the motivation, or require the motivation to be novel
    - Reviewers think they know a better approach
    - Reviewers think the algorithmic contribution is minimal
    - Reviewers find the experiments not sufficient

Issues (III), continued

A remark and suggestion by a PC member:
I agree [..] that applied papers tend to get lower evaluations than theoretical ones. (It is hard in 10 pages to present an interesting algorithm and also a convincing experimental study. ***Perhaps future conferences should increase page limits just for experimental studies.*** *It might encourage people to perform implementations, which they skip now because they know they won't fit.)*

**Other suggestions?**

Issues (IV)

- Two opposing viewpoints: SoCG is the …

  flagship conference of CG to the World outside, it contains the highest quality papers from the year of our community

  annual event for the whole CG community, we want as many participants as possible, and many presentations as long as it is high-quality research in CG

Warning for future PC chairs

- You better like e-mail: ≈ 2600 in a year+;
  2100 from EasyChair; 500 outside EasyChair
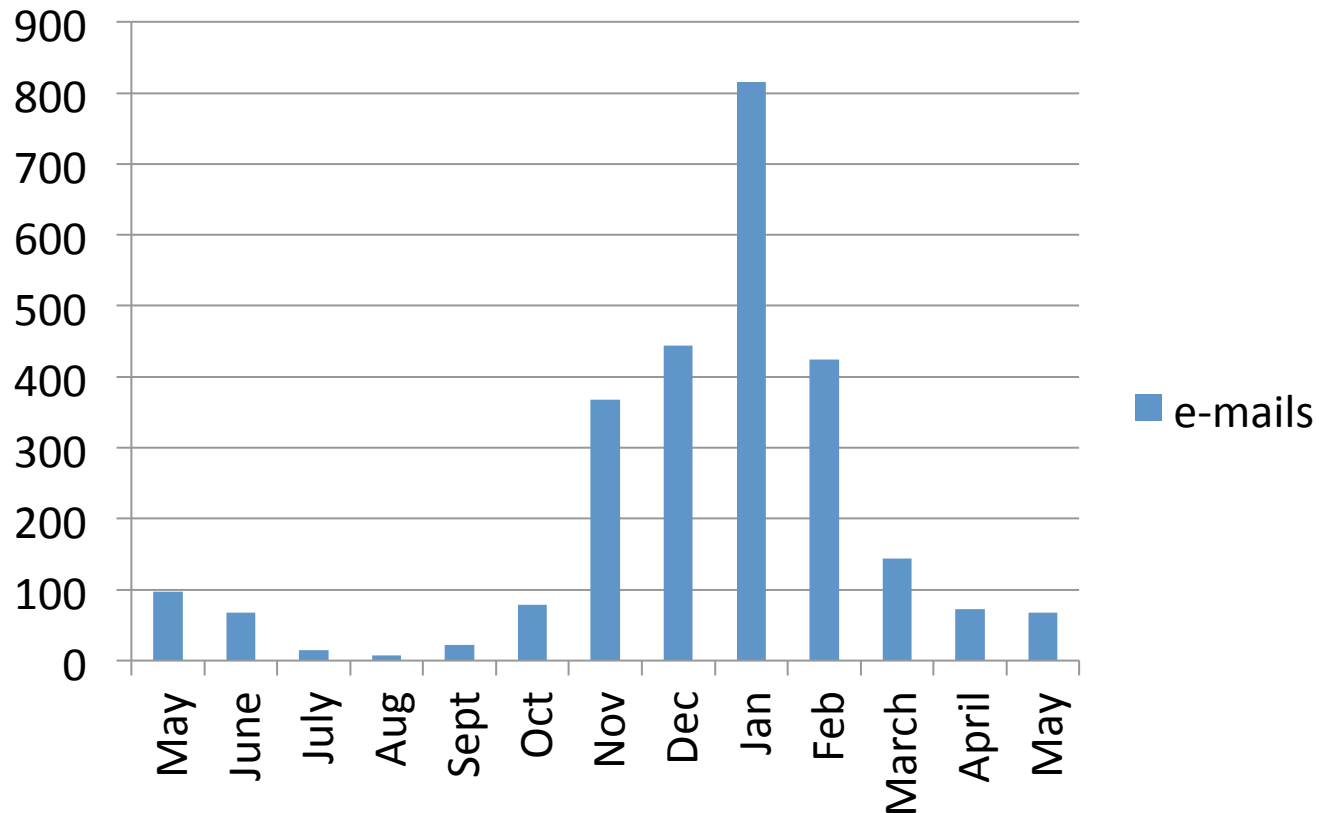
We thank …

- The whole PC
- The video chair and committee
- The local organizing committee
- The steering committee
- All external reviewers
- All submitters of papers
- All attendees
- The invited speakers Jan and Ross
- Each other: Ferran ⟷ Marc