A process maturity model for conferences

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Context

- Predatory conferences & predatory journals
- Causes
- Ensuing problem
What could be done

- Papers' selection is self-referential
- Quality level of content depend on the community
- Research areas come and go
- Increasing inter and multi disciplinary topics
- Is it possible a general approach?
A proposal

• Focus on the conference organizational process, evaluating its "maturity"
• Inspired by Software Engineering
• Most relevant aspects of the entire process of papers selection have to be clearly defined and publicly available
• For each of them define a "maturity level" from the informal (artisanal, \textit{ad hoc}) to the formal (industrial, standardized)
Practicalities

• The higher the overall maturity level the higher the chances of producing good scientific publications
• The goal is not to define a single best model for this process, but to help the community to evaluate the maturity of the model each conference chooses to have.
• Start a working group identifying relevant aspects and proposing individual and overall "maturity levels"
• Experiment, discuss, and refine
• Extension to journals might be considered in a subsequent stage.
Cooperations

- Involvement of ACM Europe Council?
- Elsevier and Springer?
- National Informatics Associations
- European Informatics Scientific Associations
- After initial work discuss possible proposals in open workshop