DBMS Conferences/Publications are Broken

by

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- Around 700 attendees
- Scope is a mile wide
- AI, human factors, algo, …
- Many-tracked
- Long lead times on papers (and getting longer)
- Looks more and more like journals
- Talks are invariably boring
- LPUs
- Of interest to 3 people on the planet

I.E.

HPTS

Net-Net

- Elephants should self-destruct
- Or at least decompose into K co-located sub-conferences
- So how to deal with promotions, deans, hiring, ...
- Not an issue at the good places
- Second rate places are going to get MOOC-ed, so ignore them

A Modest Proposal: Web Repository

- Everybody publishes any/all their papers in a common place
- "The field" is responsible for getting a collection of "serious reviews"
- Anybody else can also review
- All reviews are public
- Accessible by Deans, etc.
. Who can write scoring functions (just like now)

Could Do This For

- HPTS talks
- Blogs
- Mohan's pictures

How to Prevent Paper Diarrhea
(and the resulting information overload on all of us)

- Competitive PhDs graduate with at least half a dozen published papers; tenure cases usually have 20 or more
- Numbers for Mike Stonebraker 40 years ago were (0, 5)
- Submit only 5 papers for a tenure case, 3 for a non-tenure appointment

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Another Way to Deal With Hiring (borrowed from English)

- Hold a conference in December
- Anybody looking for a job would go
- Anybody with an opening would go
- "Speed dating"

Another Way to Deal With Promotions

- Appoint a "DBMS super committee" to review 5 year asst. professors and new grads
- Give them a public review
- Easier than writing the myriad of letters we all get asked to do