

Software Testing Conferences 101

TAIC PART 2016, Chicago USA



63 academic +
38 industrial :)

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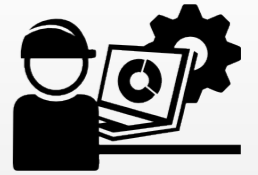
Motivation

ACADEMIC



- Public dissemination of results
- Networking
- Project generation
- Paper

INDUSTRIAL



- Finding applicable solution/tool
- Networking
- Business
- Education

Objectives

1. Listing

a “reasonably comprehensive” list of conferences

2. Analysis

public information:
history, publication,
committee, joint tracks...

3. Classification

academic - joint - industrial

4. Recommendations

for participants and
organizers from both
sides

Conference Selection



- Realistic listing
 - Not exhaustive and systematic – but realistic for a potential conference attendee
- Internet search
 - software testing, reliability, quality...
 - ACM, IEEE, ISTQB
- Conferences and workshops
 - General conferences excluded, but co-located specific workshops included

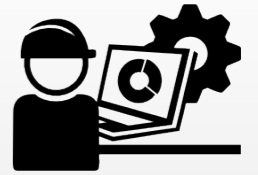
Main Properties

ACADEMIC



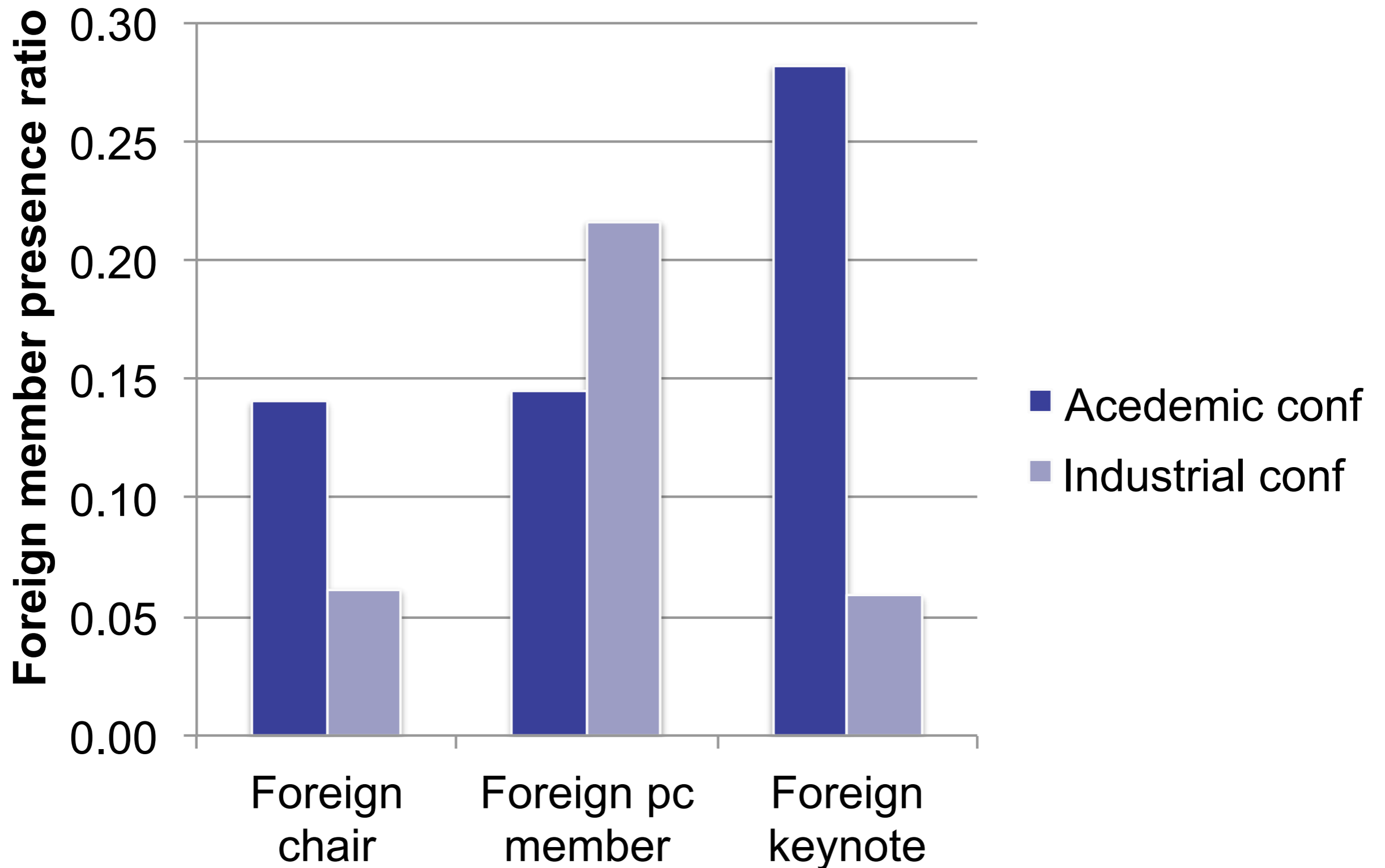
- **63** conferences
- Papers, proceedings
- Call for papers
- Support from non-profit
- Transparency
- Avg. OC size: 2.9
- Avg. PC size: 24.1
- Avg. keynote num: 1.7

INDUSTRIAL



- **38** conferences
- Talks by invitation
- Call for presentations
- Support from industry
- Marketing, sales
- Avg. OC size: 1.3
- Avg. PC size: 7.3
- Avg. keynote num: 5.1

Ratio of foreign members in main roles



Analysis of Synergies

VIEWPOINTS

- Age of conference
- Program/Organization Chairs
- Program Committee
- Keynote speakers
- “Synergistic Factor”, e.g.:
 - Explicit strategic goal
 - Dedicated track

INDUSTRY INDEX ACADEMIA INDEX

- Weighted average of the ratio of “foreign” members among:
 - Chairs ($w=3$)
 - Program Committee ($w=2$)
 - Keynotes ($w=1$)
- Scale by the Synergistic Factor
 - $\times 2$ if explicit goal
 - $\times 1.5$ if special track, etc.

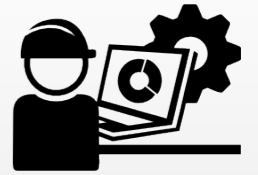
Top Synergistic Events

ACADEMIC



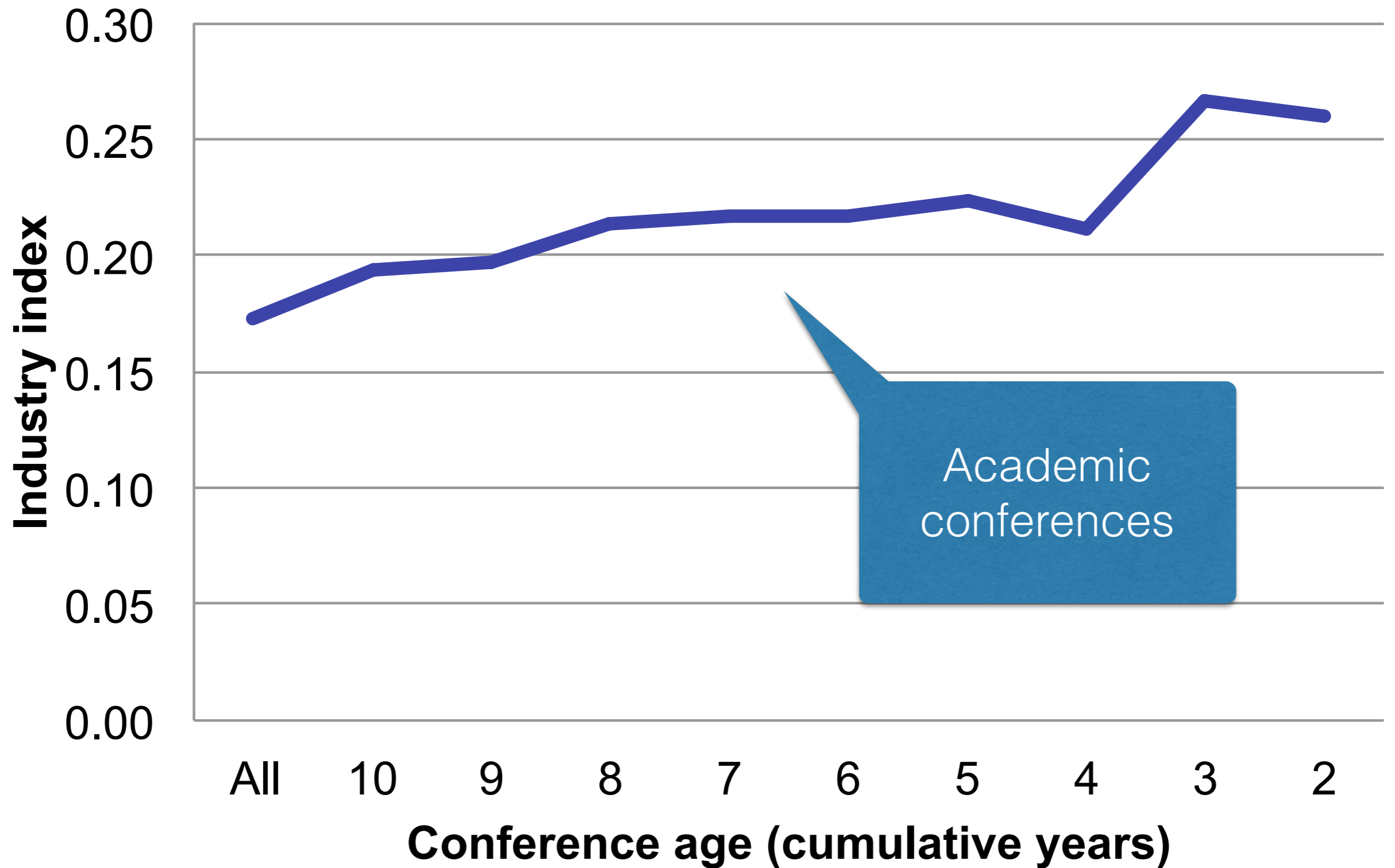
- JAMAICA
- AISTQ
- ASQT
- InSTA
- A-TEST
- STV
- TAIC-PART :)

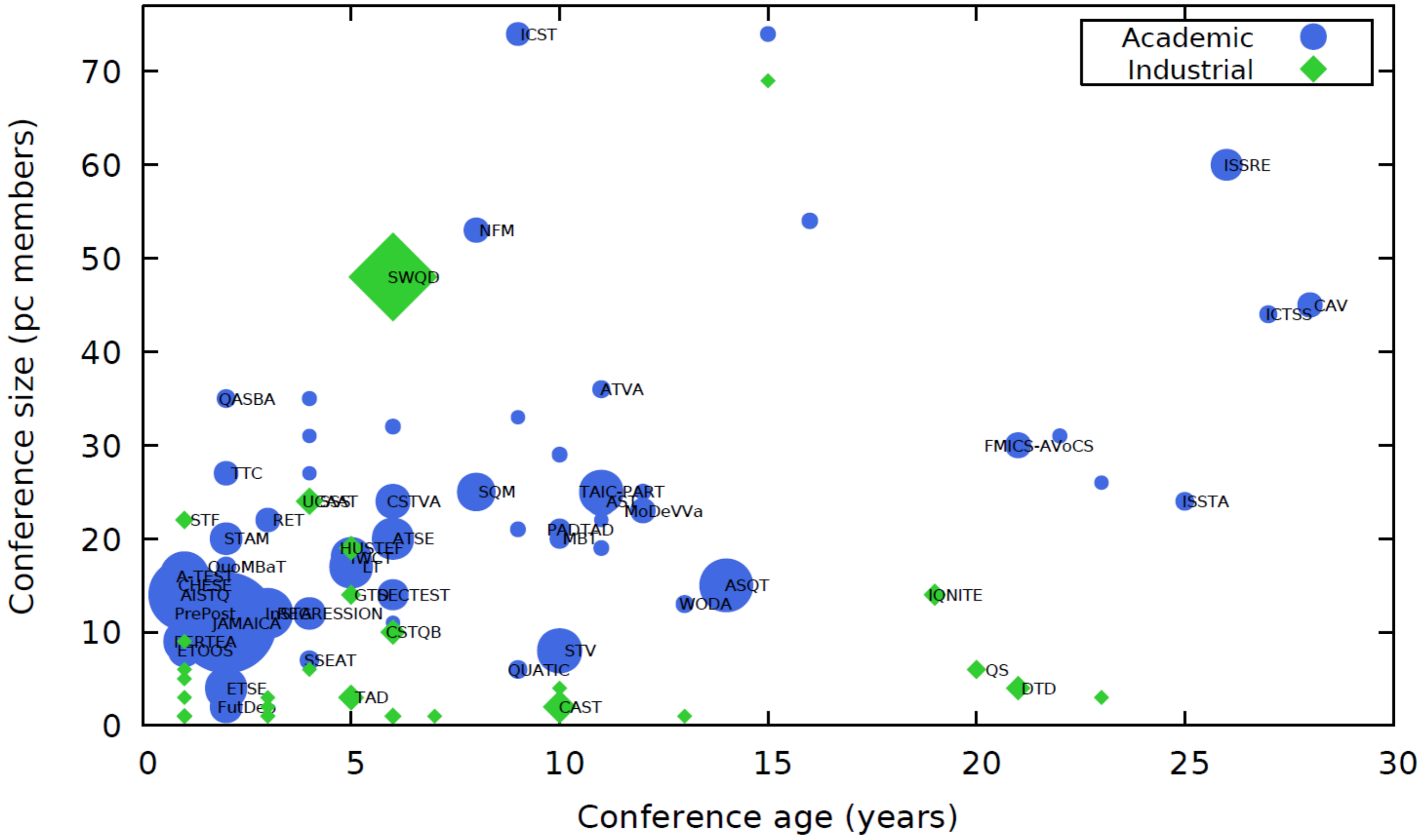
INDUSTRIAL



- SWQD
- CAST
- UCAAT
- TAD
- CSTQB
- HUSTEF
- DTD
- IQNITE

Industry index trend





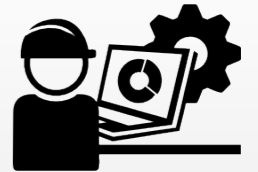
Take Away Messages

ACADEMIC



- Seem to show more ambitions
- Seems like younger conferences are more industry oriented
- *Practitioners*: you are welcome :)
- *Organizers*: involve more practitioners in the organization!

INDUSTRIAL



- Seem to be more closed
- Dedicated “research” track, keynote, etc. is rare
- *Researchers*: there are some conferences with peer reviewed papers!
- *Organizers*: be more transparent and open!

Final Slide

*Industry-academia
collaboration:*

- Possible improvements:
 - Investigate participants and program composition
 - Contact organizers and participants
 - Analyze earlier editions, too
 - Refine for “mature” conferences only
 - Refine according to the type and size
- Spreadsheet available from the authors
 - Online repository?

