

Communication in Computer Science

# **All the other shoes**

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# Exercise empathy

A paper is not only for its authors.

It is

- an information for its readers, and
- a contribution for its domain.

# The successive readers of a paper

1. its authors
2. the students / colleagues of its authors
3. peer reviewers
4. copy editors
5. conference attendees / journal subscribers
6. other researchers

Put yourself in their shoes.

# The first circle of readers

Writing a paper forces its authors  
to articulate their point, which

- feeds back,
- crystallizes,
- reinforces, and
- often deepens

their understanding.

# The second circle of readers

The first readers outside the authors.

The maiden flight of the paper.

See “Proof”

(either the theater play or the movie).

# The third circle of readers

The peer reviewers.

Is the paper acceptable?

# The fourth circle of readers

The copy editors.

For better or for worse,  
your paper shall fit the forum's editorial style.

So: proof-read it carefully.

# The fifth circle of readers

- in the conference proceedings (attendees)
- in the journal (subscribers)
- online (interested parties)



# The sixth circle of readers

- other researchers in the area
- graduate students

# The seventh circle of readers

- students, as homework (if really successful)