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Authors' Abstracts

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 - (i) to help workers in the subject of the paper to decide whether to read it in full;
 - (ii) to give readers who are only marginally concerned in the subject enough information to make it unnecessary for them to read it in full;
 - (iii) to expedite and simplify the work of the reviewing journals and mathematical offprint services.
2. In writing abstracts, authors should bear in mind that these may be the only parts of the papers that are read.
3. The abstract should contain a brief but informative summary of the contents of the paper, but no inessential details.
4. The abstract should be self-contained, but may refer to the title.
5. If the paper is an announcement of results whose proofs are to be published in full elsewhere or later, the abstract should say so.
6. The abstract should be written in completely connected sentences, not as a list of headings. Abbreviations should be avoided.
7. The abstract should be non-technical, and intelligible without reference to the full paper. Specific references (by number) to a section, proposition, equation, bibliographical item should be avoided.
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