



The abstract

- I usually write the abstract last
- Used by program committee members to decide which papers to read
- Four sentences [Kent Beck]
 1. State the problem
 2. Say why it's an interesting problem
 3. Say what your solution achieves
 4. Say what follows from your solution

15



Example

1. Many papers are badly written and hard to understand
2. This is a pity, because their good ideas may go unappreciated
3. Following simple guidelines can dramatically improve the quality of your papers
4. Your work will be used more, and the feedback you get from others will in turn improve your research

16