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# Poster: Do You Think What I Think: Perceptions of Delayed Instant Messages between Romantic Couples

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**Abstract**

Computer-mediated communication (CMC) technology has supported communication between romantic couples. Literature shows that instant messaging provides much positive support to romantic couples. However, a lack of nonverbal cues and physical and perceived distance between romantic couples on instant messaging presents potential barriers to establish mutual understanding and leads to conflicts in romantic relationships, especially in the context of delayed responses. This work explores how different types of shared understanding affect communication and relationships between romantic couples in delayed instant messaging context. We conducted an interview study and revealed several sources of common ground that are important to romantic couples, including process, status, affection, semantic, and urgency. And we propose several designs based on our findings.

**Author Keywords**

Computer-mediated communication, instant messaging, romantic relationship, grounding

**ACM Classification Keywords**

H.5.m. Information interfaces and presentation (e.g., HCI): Miscellaneous