As you all know, two of the major objectives of this course are – (1) conceptualize a piece of empirical research using quantitative methods, and (2) to understand and evaluate the empirical research work of others. In this assignment, you will be critically evaluate a empirical research paper by giving your comments on the following aspects of the empirical study presented in the paper

A. Technical [Correctness and Completeness]
   1. Identification and framing of goals, questions and measures (metrics)
   2. Choosing research method(s)
   3. Planning, designing, and carry out investigations
   4. Data collection,
   5. Data Analysis
   6. Results
   7. Conclusions

B. Presentation

All these aspects are to be carefully and clearly evaluated by identifying various validity threats that might be there and the mitigation efforts applied by the researcher(s), i.e. authors of the paper.

Evaluation: The evaluation exercise will be undertaken in groups of two students each and will consist of two parts: Part-I and Part-II.

In Part-I, you are supposed to evaluate the assigned paper on the following accounts
   1. Research work summary (that will summarize the research work undertaken including its finding in not more than 150 words)
   2. Detailed comments (on all of the above mentioned aspects)
   3. Evaluation summary (the summary of your reviews – clearly highlighting overall positive and negative aspects of the research work presented in the paper in not more than 100 words)

In Part-II, you will be critically assess the evaluation perform by some other group and provide your comments on all of the aspects mentioned above. This will be done in a round-robin fashion, i.e. group #1 will assess the evaluation perform by group #2, group #2 will do the same for group #3, … and so on. The last group will carry out the assessment for group #1.

Submissions: Part-I evaluations are to be completed on or before 31st October 2009 (midnight) and submitted to ase.submission@gmail.com. These submissions will be posted on the google group qmse_iitdm@googlegroups.com on 1st of November, 2009.
Subsequently, Part-II will be performed and resulting assessments are to be submitted to ase.submission@gmail.com on or before 7th November 2009 (midnight).