CS311 - Assignment 3
Due: Tuesday March 12, beginning of class (in class)

Peer review   Credit: Gary Larson - The Far side

http://www.news9.com/Global/story.asp?s=11601883&clienttype=printable
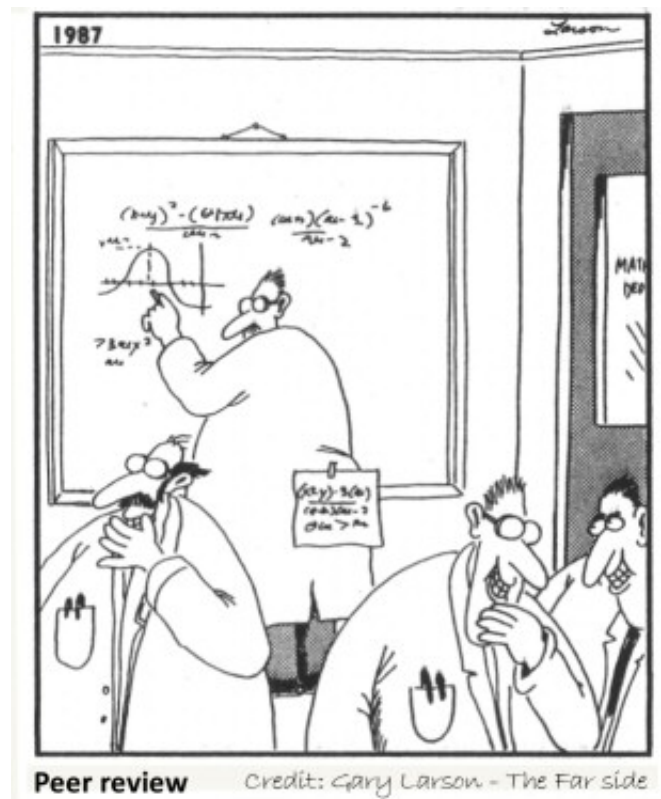
For this assignment, you will be reading a research paper of your choice from recent AAAI proceedings (Association for the Advancement of Artificial Intelligence) and then providing a review of the paper. You may choose any paper from AAAI proceedings from 2008, 2010, 2011 or 2012:

http://www.aaai.org/Library/conferences-library.php

AAAI is one of a number of places where people publish research on AI conferences (in particular, many of the subfields of AI have their own conferences where people frequently publish).

Picking a Paper

To pick a paper, first pick high-level category that you're interested. The papers are grouped by these categories, e.g. "Artificial Intelligence and the Web" and "Reasoning about Plans, Processes, and Actions". I'd suggest picking a category that we have covered in class or that you already know about, but anything is fair game.

To pick the actual paper, look at the title and then also glance at the abstract to try and find one that is on a topic that is interesting to you. You will be doing a final project on some topic, so this is also a good chance to investigate a topic you might be interested in doing a final project on. Before you finalize your selection, it is also worth quickly scanning over the paper to make sure that it won't be too technically challenging. Once you've picked a paper, read the paper thoroughly. Even though the papers are only 8 pages, this can take an hour or two.

The Review

Then, write a brief review of the paper. When writing the review you should pretend like you're a reviewer for a conference and you are trying to decide whether or not the paper should be accepted. Specifically, this is NOT simply a *summary* of the article. Instead, this is a review (think product review) of the quality of the article pointing out what things are good, what things are bad and overall how the article could be improved. **No paper is perfect.**

Your review should include the following (*make explicit sections for each bullet*):

- What paper are you reviewing? Give the full reference. Look at reference section at the end of the paper for examples of what information you need to include in the reference and what the order/formatting should be.

- Summarize the work in 1 paragraph

- What problem are the authors trying to solve? What are this work's main contributions?

- Is this work technically sound? (i.e., How good is the solution? How convinced are you that it works? Are the evaluation methods appropriate?). Give specific examples to support your claims.

- Comment on the quality of the writing. Give specific examples to support your claims.

- Did the paper convince you that they accomplished what they set out to do? Give specific examples to support your claims.

- What parts are confusing? How could the paper be improved? Give specific examples to support your claims.

For your review, be brief and to the point. Back your claims/comments using **specific examples** from the paper. *NOTE*, this is not a summary, this is a review. Your comments should be useful to both the authors (to improve the quality of the paper) as well as other researchers to understand the quality of the paper.