

Paper. XYZ, “Data Analytics” in VLDB 20XY.

Summary. An overview of the main idea and contributions in one paragraph.

- What is this paper about?
- What is the main contribution?
- Describe the main approach & results. Just facts, no opinions yet.
- Summarize the insights resulting from the empirical study.

Strengths. State the strengths of the paper in three sentences.

- Is there a new theoretical insight?
- Or a significant empirical advance? Did they solve a standing open problem?
- Or a good formulation for a new problem?
- Or a faster/better solution for an existing problem?
- Any good practical outcome (code, algorithm, etc)?
- Are the experiments well executed?
- Useful for the community in general?

Weaknesses. State the weaknesses of the paper in three sentences.

- What can be done better?
- Any missing baselines? Missing datasets?
- Any odd design choices in the algorithm not explained well? Quality of writing?
- Is there sufficient novelty in what they propose? Minor variation of previous work?
- Why should anyone care? Is the problem interesting and significant?

Reflections. Discuss one question or comment regarding the paper in one paragraph.

- How does this relate to other papers we have read?
- What are the next research directions in this line of work?
- What (directly or indirectly related) new ideas did this paper give you? What would you be curious to try?
- What experiments can deepen our understanding?
- How can your own research benefit from the insights provided in the paper?
- Why is the paper not interesting?
- What is the paper’s potential impact on the field?