IBM Debating Technologies

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Why do people in all societies argue, discuss, and debate? Apparently, we do so not only to convince others of our own opinions, but because we want to explore the differences between our own understanding and the conceptualizations of others, and learn from them. Being one of the primary intellectual activities of the human mind, debating therefore naturally involves a wide range of conceptual capabilities and activities, ones that have only in part been studied from a computational perspective. In this talk I will describe the IBM Research Grand Challenge, aiming to develop Debating Technologies, defined as *computational technologies developed directly to enhance, support, and engage with human debating.*