Dagstuhl seminar 15512 "Debating Technologies" – Schedule

Long talk: 20-25 min / Short talk: 5-10 min / Discussion: Longer discussion about a broadly defined topic / Outlook: Short discussion about other topics in the given context

Monday, December 14

Rhetorical/linguistic Models

Hovy, Slonim

1.1 Introduction & Basics of Rhetoric (8:50–10:20)

- **Short talk:** Introduction to the seminar (Gurevych, Hovy, Slonim, Stein)
- **Long talk:** What is argumentation and rherotic? (Hovy)
- **Long talk:** What is debating technologies? (Slonim)
- **Discussion:** The conceptual structure of a debating machine: What capabilities are required? (Slonim)

Coffee break (10:20–10:40)

1.2 Argument Structure (10:40–12:10)

- **Long talk:** Basics of argument stucture, including terminology, definitions, popular schemes, and models (Hirst)
- **Short talk:** The role of evidence in debates (Rinott)
- **Short talk:** Discourse structure vs. argument structure (Stede)
- **Discussion:** What argument representation capabilities would an automated debating machine need? (Reed)

Lunch (12:15–13:00)

1.3 Post-lunch walk or free time (13:00–14:00)

1.4 Points of View in Argumentation (14:00–15:30)

- **Long talk:** Rhetoric, bias, and reasoning in scientific argumentation (De Waard)
- **Short talk:** Opinions and why they differ from sentiment (Hovy)
- **Discussion:** Representing and managing multiple perspectives computationally (Hovy)

Coffee break (15:30–16:00)

1.5 From Argumentation Mining to Debating Technologies (16:00–17:00)

- **Short talk:** A brief introduction to argument(ation) mining (Gurevych)
- **Discussion:** The intimate relations of argument(ation) mining and debating technologies (Gurevych)

Dinner (18:00–19:00)

1.6 Traditional mock debate (19:30–21:00)

- Division into four groups + two moderators
- Manual preparation for two debates Debates with a break in-between

Tuesday, December 15

Computational Models

Wachsmuth, Hovy

2.1 Argument Mining and Generation (8:50–10:20)

- **Long talk:** Identification of argument units and relations (Habernal, Stab)
- **Short talk:** Evidence detection (Alzate)
- **Short talk:** Claim generation (Bilu)
- **Outlook:** Connections between semantic and argumentative relations, etc. (Dagan)
- **Discussion:** Coverage and reliability of state-of-the-art argument mining and generation (Wachsmuth)

Coffee break (10:20–10:40)

2.2 Grounding & Reasoning (10:40–12:10)

- **Long talk:** Textual entailment and argumentation networks (Teufel)
- **Short talk:** Analogies as a base for knowledge exchange and argumentation (Balke)
- **Demo or outlook:** Paraphrasing (Stein)
- **Outlook:** Aligning units across documents, discovering enthymemes, constructing argument graphs, dialog structure, standard representation, etc. (Hovy)
- **Discussion:** The need for logic and AI in debating technologies (Hou)

Lunch (12:15–13:00)

2.3 Post-lunch walk or free time (13:00–14:00)

2.4 Argumentation Analysis (14:00–15:30)

- **Long talk:** Analysis of stance and argumentation quality (Wachsmuth)
- **Short talk:** Argumentation schemes (Hirst)
- **Short talk:** Expertise detection and generation (Hovy)
- **Outlook:** Argumentative zoning, logical correctness, debating strategies, etc. (Wachsmuth)

Coffee break (15:30–16:00)

2.5 Humans vs. Machines (16:00–17:00)

- **Discussion:** Potential and limitations of debating technologies (Allwood)

Dinner (18:00–19:00)

2.6 Technology-based mock debate (19:30–21:00)

- Division into four groups + two moderators
- Preparation for two debates based on IBM Research Engine
- Debates with a break in-between

Wednesday, December 16

Data and Evaluation

Gurevych, Stab

3.1 Unshared Task (8:50–10:20)

- **Unshared task:** Introduction (Gurevych, Habernal)
- **Unshared task:** Hands-on (all participants)
- **Discussion:** Presentation and discussion of the results of the unshared task (Habernal)

Coffee break (10:20–10:40)

3.2 Data & Evaluation (10:40–12:10)

- **Long talk:** Existing resources (Stab, Habernal)
- **Short talk:** The web as a corpus of argumentation (Al-Khatib)
- **Short talk:** Past, present, and future of the argument web (Reed)
- **Demo:** Argotario – A game for collecting arguments (Habernal)
- **Discussion:** Requirements, challenges, visions (Balke, Gurevych)

Lunch (12:15–13:00)

3.3 Trip to Trier christmas market (13:00–18:00)

Dinner (18:00–19:00)

3.4 Annotation game / Free discussion (19:30-21:00)

- Argotario annotation game (Habernal)

Thursday, December 17

Users and Systems

Slonim, Rinott, Stein

4.1 User, Context & Visualization (8:50–10:20)

- **Long talk:** Detecting and generating personality in verbal and non-verbal behavior (Daelemans)
- **Short talk:** Emotions in argumentation (Cabrio)
- **Outlook:** Social context of debaters, etc. (Prakhabaran)
- **Short talk:** Communication of debate aspects to different audiences (Plüss)
- **Discussion:** Debate and argument visualization (Plüss)

Coffee break (10:20–10:40)

4.2 Retrieval & Applications (10:40–12:10)

- **Long talk:** Debating-oriented information retrieval (Fuhr)
- **Short talk:** Argument relevance (Stein, Wachsmuth)
- **Short talk and demo:** The dialogue game execution platform (Reed)
- **Outlook:** Detecting argumentative parts of articles, domain robustness, need for NLP within retrieval, etc. (Schütze)

Lunch (12:15–13:00)

4.3 Break-out Session, part 1 (13:00–15:30)

- **Organization:** Planning of working groups on specific topics (Rinott, Slonim)
- **Group work:** Some working groups predefined (e.g., quality, dialogue systems, visualizations), others specified during the seminar (all participants)

Coffee break (15:30–16:00)

4.4 Break-out Session, part 2 (16:00–17:00)

- **Short talks:** Presentation of results of all working groups for all participants (ad-hoc selected participants)

Dinner (18:00–19:00)

4.5 Movie / Games / Free time (19:30-21:45)

- Movie: The Great Debaters

Friday, December 18

Wrap-up and the Future

Stein, Gurevych

5.1 Research Agenda: The Vision (8:50–10:20)

- **Long talk:** Summary of results from all sessions (Al-Khatib, Wachsmuth)
- **Discussion:** Revisiting the relations between argumentation mining and debating technologies (Gurevych)
- **Long talk:** Overview of topics for the research agenda (Stein)
- **Discussion:** A roadmap for research (Stein)

Break (10:20–10:40)

5.2 Planning the Future (10:40–11:40)

- **Organization:** Planning of report document (Al-Khatib, Wachsmuth)
- **Discussion:** Establishing a debating technologies research community (Gurevych, Stein)
- **Organization:** Planning of a next meeting and closing (Gurevych, Stein)

Lunch (12:15–13:00)

5.3 Departure