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**From:** Joscha Bach [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Sunday, September 6, 2015 9:09 PM  
**To:** jeffrey E.  
**Subject:** Re:

Am 06.09.2015 um 16:23 schrieb jeffrey E. <eevacation@gmail.com <mailto:jeevacation@gmail.com> >:

I don't want statistical modeling

exactly. the trick will be to find a challenge that cannot be cracked with more statistics alone

you and ben for years have stated you wanted to put an avatar, and hope it can do things a 2 year old can do. the challenge is learning a language. &nbsp; different that moving blocks in a video game.

On Sun, Sep 6, 2015 at 2:38 PM, Joscha Bach [REDACTED] > wrote:

This challenge idea is excellent; I really love it=

> first draft. of the Chomsky Challenge. &nbsp; Produce a non- living system that can be put into an environment for a while and --- 1. be able to discriminate language from noise. . prize . = a 1 dollar bill signed by Noam and 100k.

What is the system allowed to have when it starts? We would need to define the environment, for instance text based or audio, or movies/youtube. Once the contestants know the environment, they can use standard machine learning methods to discern entropy in the signal, and separate language-like noise from non language-like noise. Google does this pretty well, and automatically (but not perfectly) sub-title videos in a number of languages.

I imagine you want to go beyond that?

> . 2. be able to discriminate coherent sentences from non ( we provide 10 test sentences =).

I suspect that this is harder, Noam might point out that a lot of grammatically well-formed sentences used in politics are not coherent ;-)

> prize a 10 dollar signed Chomsky bill, and 500=. 3. a language learning module.

Build a system that is able to learn a new language without hand-coding, and translate sentences from this language into English and back? Excellent!

> 20 dollar bill signed and 1 million, 4. a sense making module that can understand meaning inference. . etc.  
the non recommendation recommendation. . ie the student has a nice family. etc. a 100 dollar signed bill and 10  
million dollars. ? ---

>

> lets also do a minsky challenge and if you want martin a NOVAK challenge.

Yes! Let us ask Marvin and Martin about the biggest unsolved problems in the field.

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