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A new method to generate automatically highly standardized reading chart text in multiple languages: the case of MNREAD

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A new method to generate automatically highly standardized reading chart text in multiple languages: the case of MNREAD

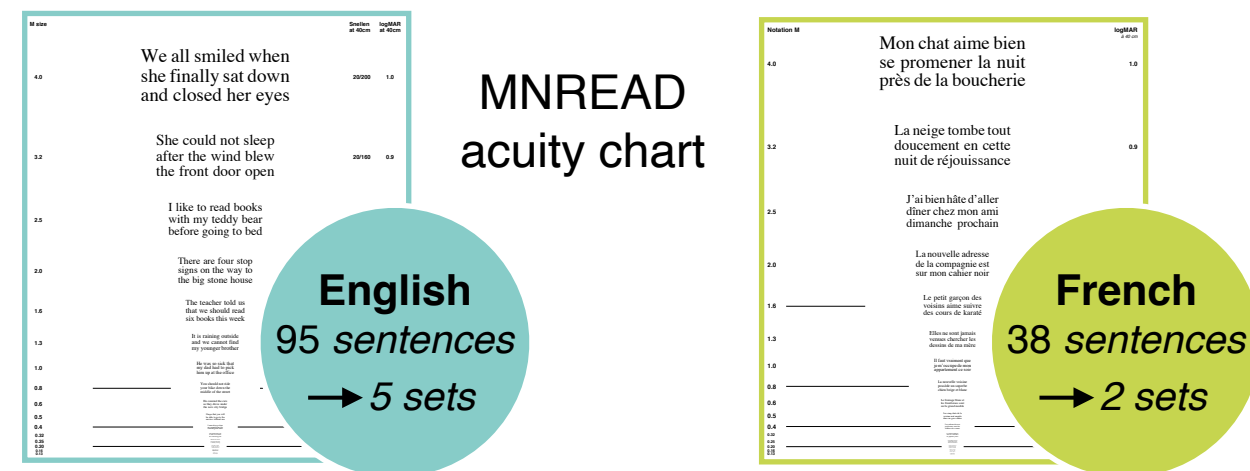
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poster #A0288

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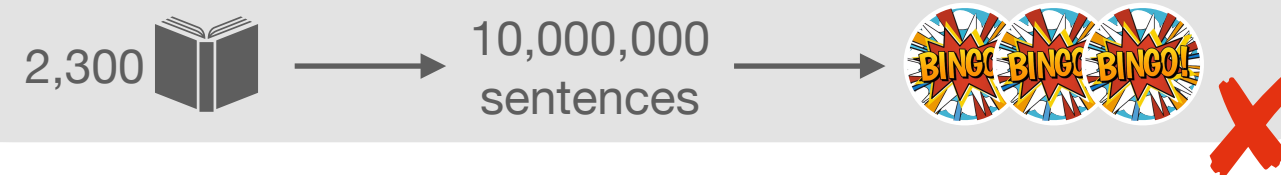
Background

- Measuring reading performance using reading charts requires highly standardized reading material.
- Such material is hard to produce and most charts are limited by their relatively small number of texts or sentences.

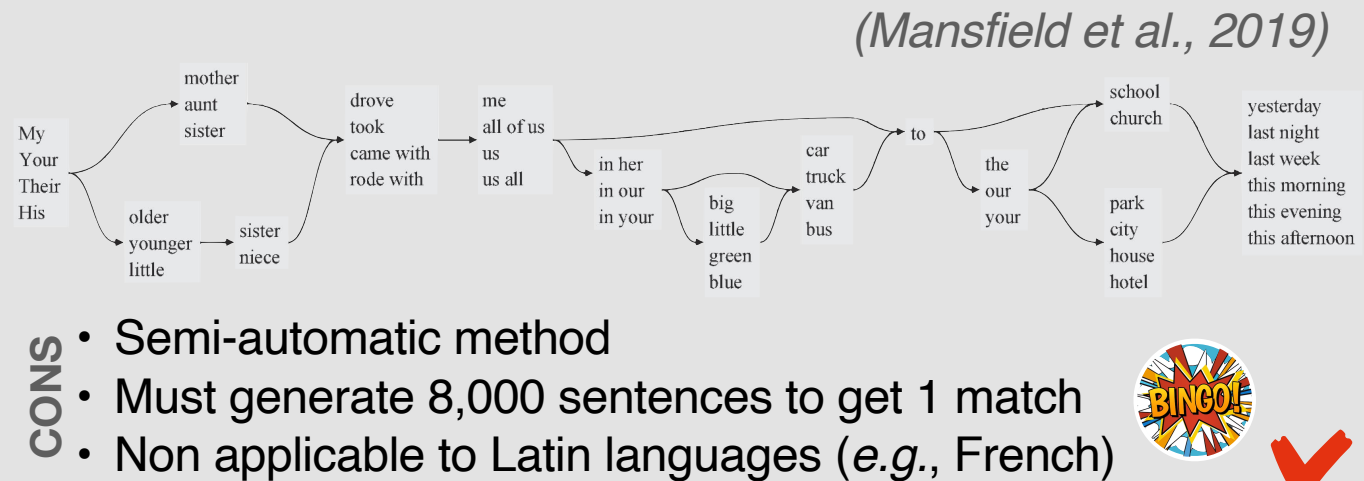


How to generate a large number of standardized sentences?

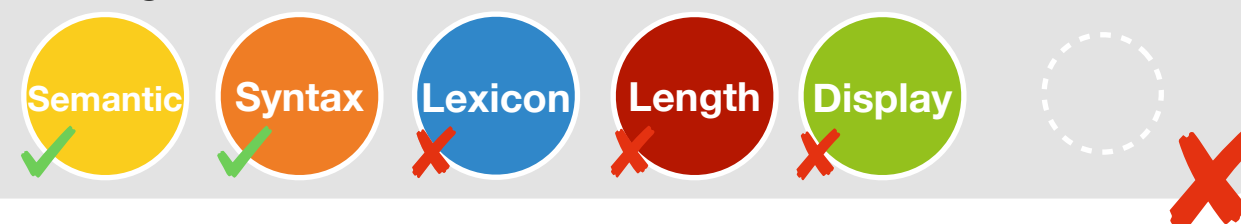
1 - Naïve method: search for MNREAD-like sentences in a corpus



2 - Ad-hoc method, based on hand-defined templates (Mansfield et al., 2019)

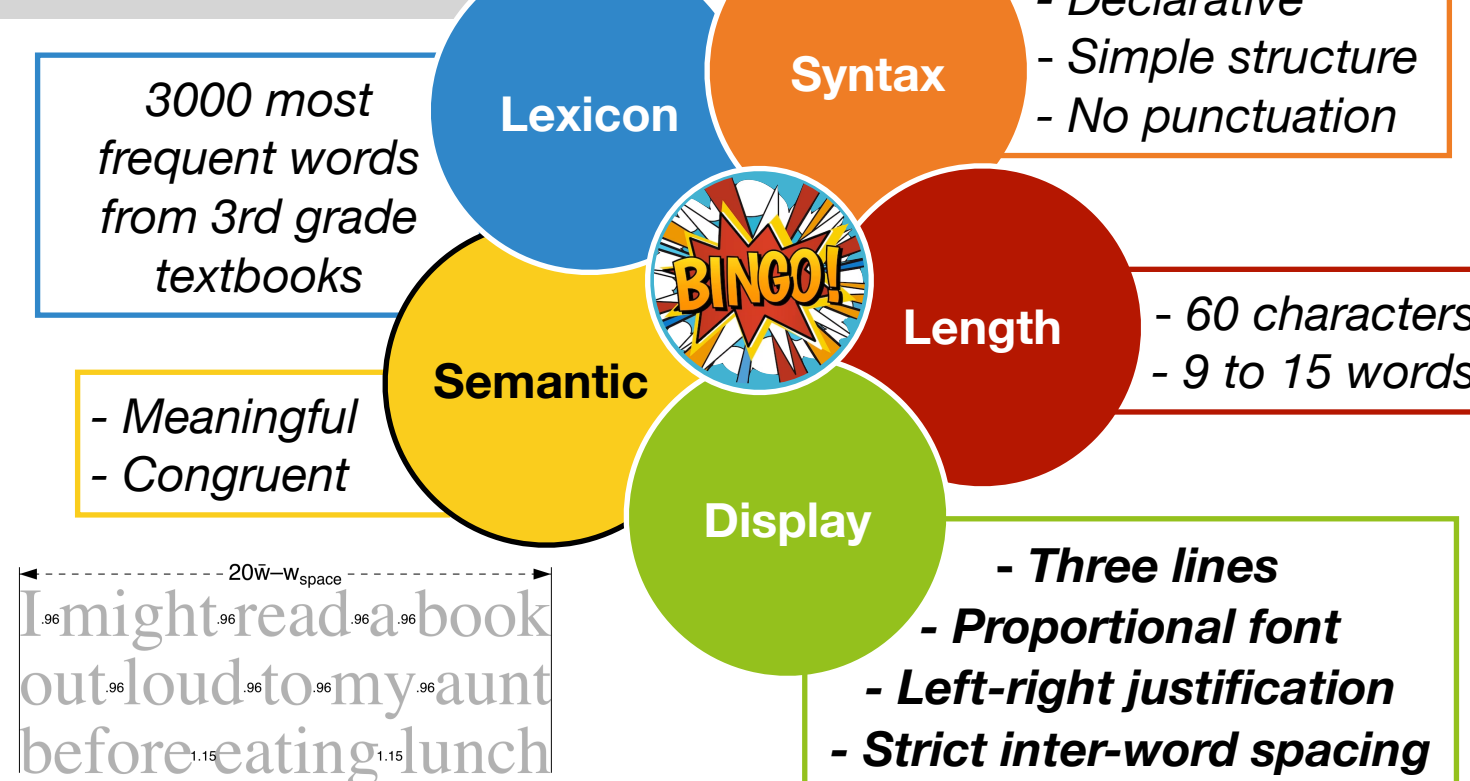


3 - Trending method... ask chatGPT

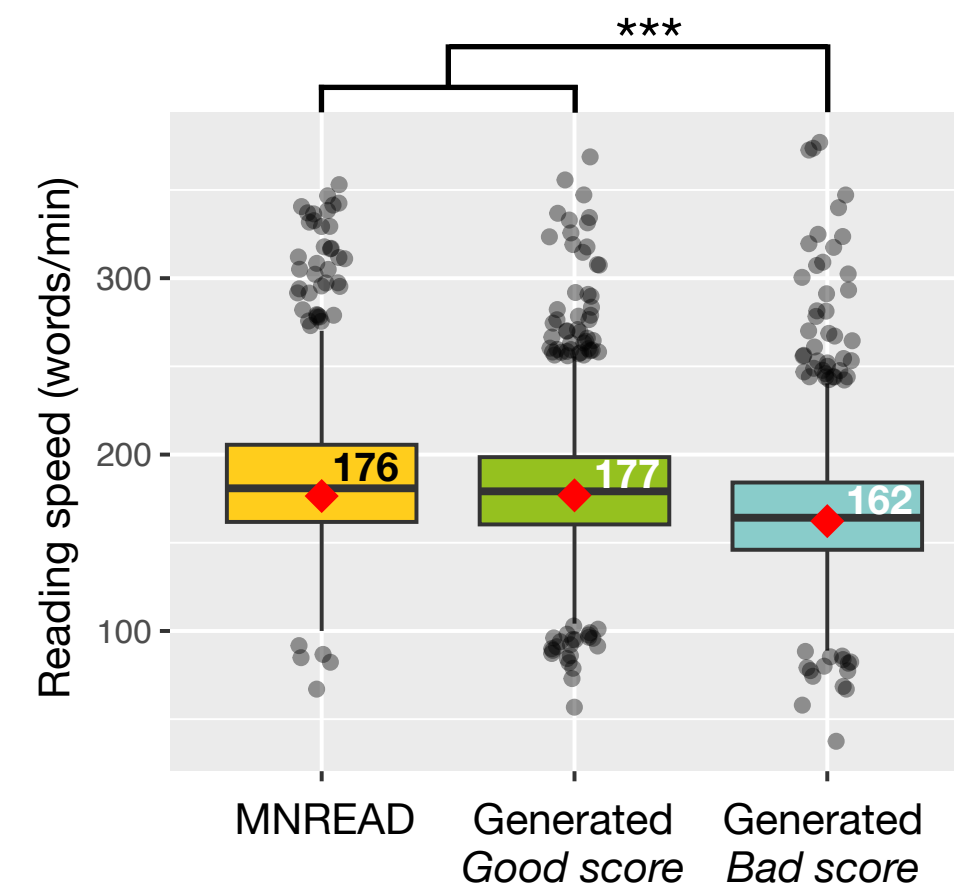


Mansfield JS, Atilgan N, Lewis AM, Legge GE. Extending the MNREAD sentence corpus: Computer-generated sentences for measuring visual performance in reading. *Vision Res.* 2019 May;158:11-18.

MNREAD rules



Results



Generated sentences

Good score (Low PPL)

No one will be able to get in and out of the room right now
Score 12

Ses parents ne sont pas au courant de la maladie de sa mère
Score 7

Bad score (high PPL)

She hesitated at the door to the back of her nose and mouth
Score 189

Une hache reposait près de lui et de ne pas jouer aux héros
Score 241

Conclusions

- Our method provides valid standardized sentences that follow the MNREAD rules and yield similar performance, at least in French.
- This method is flexible and allows to customise the rules easily.
- This method is applicable to other languages and remains to be validated in English, Spanish, Italian, etc.

Objective

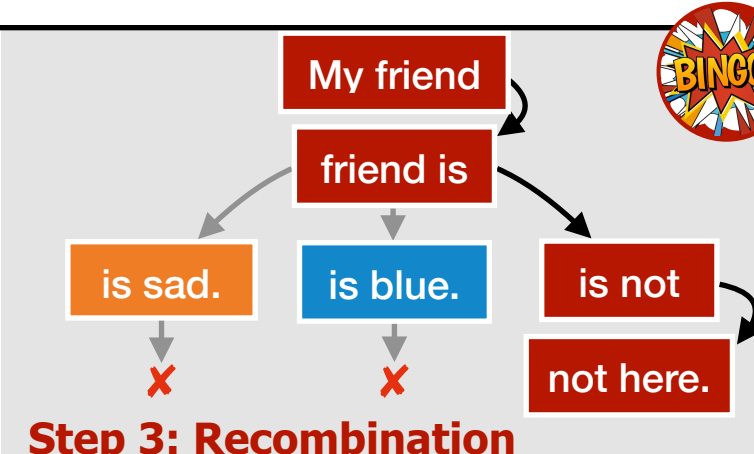
Using the MNREAD as a proof-of-concept, we propose a new automated method to generate highly constrained short sentences, following the strict rules of MNREAD and applicable to different languages.

Methods

1- Creating the sentences

The sky is blue.
My friend is sad.
She is not here.

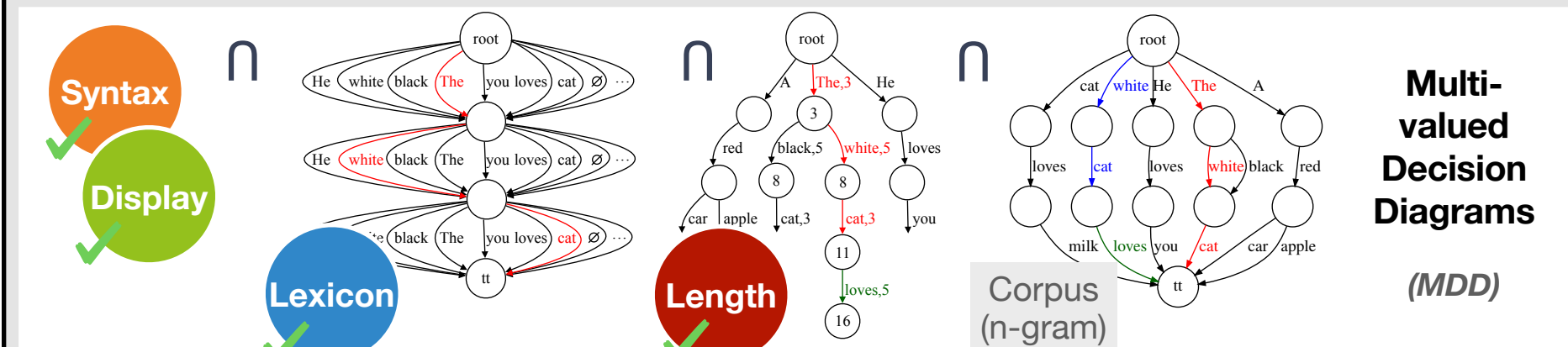
The sky sky is is blue.
My friend friend is is sad.
She is is not not here.



Step 1: Corpus

Step 2: Set of n-grams

Step 3: Recombination



- Each MNREAD rule is modeled using a Multi-valued Decision Diagram (MDD).
- The intersection of all diagrams results in MNREAD-like sentences → 7,000 in 72 sec.

2- Scoring the sentences

- Semantic** ✓
- GPT-2 was used to assign a perplexity score (PPL) to each sentence.
- The lower the score, the most "natural" the sentence.

3- Validating the sentences

→ Normally sighted subject read French sentences at fixed print size (1.2 logMAR at 40 cm)

Experiment 1

- N = 14
- Mean age = 33±14
- VR headset
- 38 + 30 + 30

Experiment 2

- N = 24
- Mean age = 40±14
- Computer screen
- 38 + 30 + 30

Experiment 3

- N = 12
- Mean age = 24±6
- Computer screen + eye tracker
- 38 + 100 + 100