Text Simplification

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Presentation of the subject

- Texts are not easily understandable sometimes because of their complexity but it also depends of the number of words, the length of the sentences etc.

- The evaluation of the readability of a text depends of these characteristics (measured with a score).

Final goal:

Create a tool that takes a text as input and give as output a simplified version of this text.

Scope

4 different approaches combined

- Neurolinguistics;
- Syntactic simplification;
- Cognitive Science;
- Semantic Simplification

Neurolinguistics

Motivation:
Enhancing syntactic simplification by looking at data on people with
language disorders

Focus on:

- Sentence comprehension
- Discourse processing

Presentation of the subject
Scope
Neurolinguistics
Syntax
Cognitive science
Semantics
Evaluation
Questions
The End

Syntactic simplification

Motivation:
Attention is limited

Focus on:

- CC separation
- Limit on PP for ambiguity
- Passive-Active conversion (iff +by-phrase)
- Long Distance Dependency modification

Cognitive science

Motivation:
Reduction of strong emotion words/non-average words to avoid loss of focus

Focus on:

- Mood of the user
- Age of the user

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Semantic simplification

Motivation:
Common knowledge is subjective

Focus on:

- Subordinate-Superordinate conversion
- Term simplification
- Idiom clarification

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Evaluation

Methods:

- Flesch–Kincaid readability test
- Custom method

Questions

Questions?

The End

Thank you! :)