

Automatically simplifying news articles

Media Futures

Using AI to create dyslexia-friendly news articles

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Abstract

News have never been more available than today. With just the click of a button, you can read about, listen to, or watch an event as it is happening. However, for people with dyslexia, text-based news content can be time consuming and difficult to read.

The goal of our master project is to make news articles more accessible for people with dyslexia by developing a prototype that uses AI to simplify text.

Standard version:

Vincent van Gogh was a Dutch **Post-impressionist**¹ painter who **posthumously**² became one of the most famous and influential figures in Western art history.³

Easy-read version:

Vincent van Gogh was a Dutch painter. He is known for the French art movement called Post impressionism. He became an important painter in Western art history after his death.

¹ Artistic term is not explained
² Difficult word
³ Long sentence

Example of text simplification

Research question

How can AI be used to automatically transform the content of a news article into a simplified version for people with dyslexia?

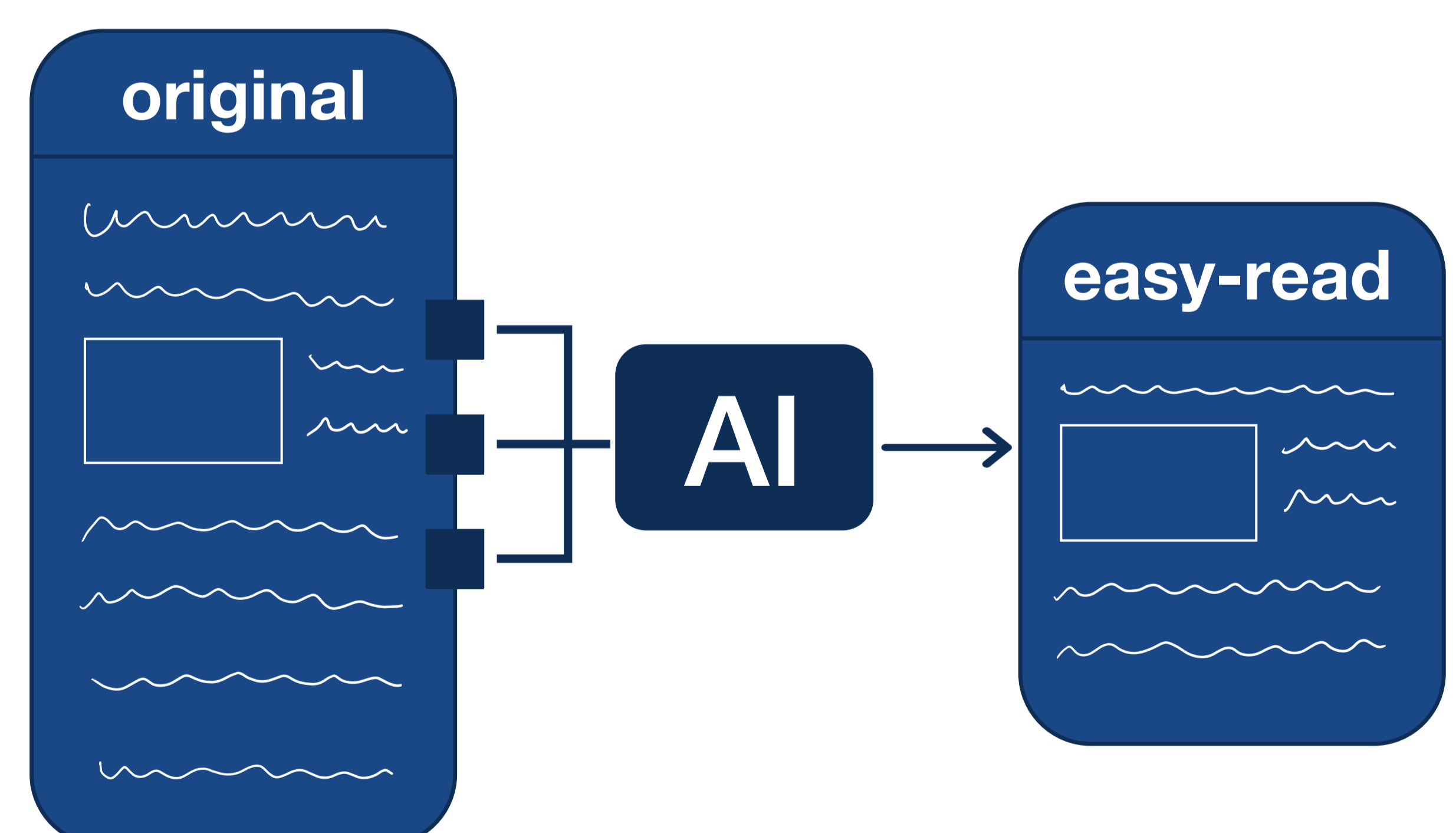
Goal

Existing simplification algorithms are mostly developed for English text, whilst there are no current Norwegian solutions available. We therefore want to focus on developing a Norwegian version based on our conducted research.

Method

The prototype should be able to simplify and shorten text. In order to do that, it is necessary to restructure sentences and find new, simpler words for a term. The technology should be able to find those replacement words, depending on the context.

Layout adjustments, including increasing the font size, adding more space between letters, words and lines, or changing the font, should be made additionally.



PARTNERS



HOST



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