Leesbaarheid:

An Analysis of Dutch Traditional Readability Formulas on Texts for Children

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1. Background

- Children gain knowledge through books and online resources.
- Readability formulas can help pick understandable texts for children.
- Not much is known about how Dutch formulas fare on texts aimed at children.
- Readability formulas were created using physical texts.

2. Research Question

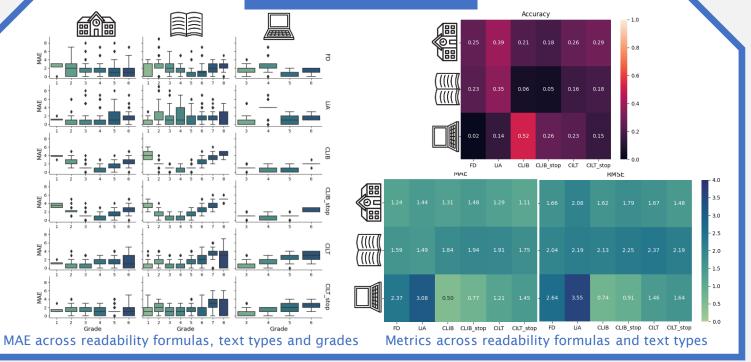
How do Dutch traditional readability formulas fare when estimating the readability of Dutch texts targeting children and is there a significant difference between estimations of different types of texts?







4. Results



3. Method **BasiLex Corpus** 45,393 children's texts • Textstat: Text statistics library • CELEX: Dutch syllables data

Dutch formulas

Flesch-Douma | Leesindex A | CLIB | CILT

Metrics

Textstat

CELEX

Accuracy | MAE | RMSE

5. Findings

- No overall best readability formula.
- CILT best fit on school materials and books for grades 1-6.
- CLIB more appropriate on media, likely due to data distribution.
- Overall significant difference between text types.

6. Limitations

Limited media entries in BasiLex

Syllable counter based on older data set

"Incomplete" CLIB formula

Dated score-to-grade mappings

References:

- school", "book" and "laptop" pictograms by Selmo