Language regard towards speaker groups using English loanwords in Dutch

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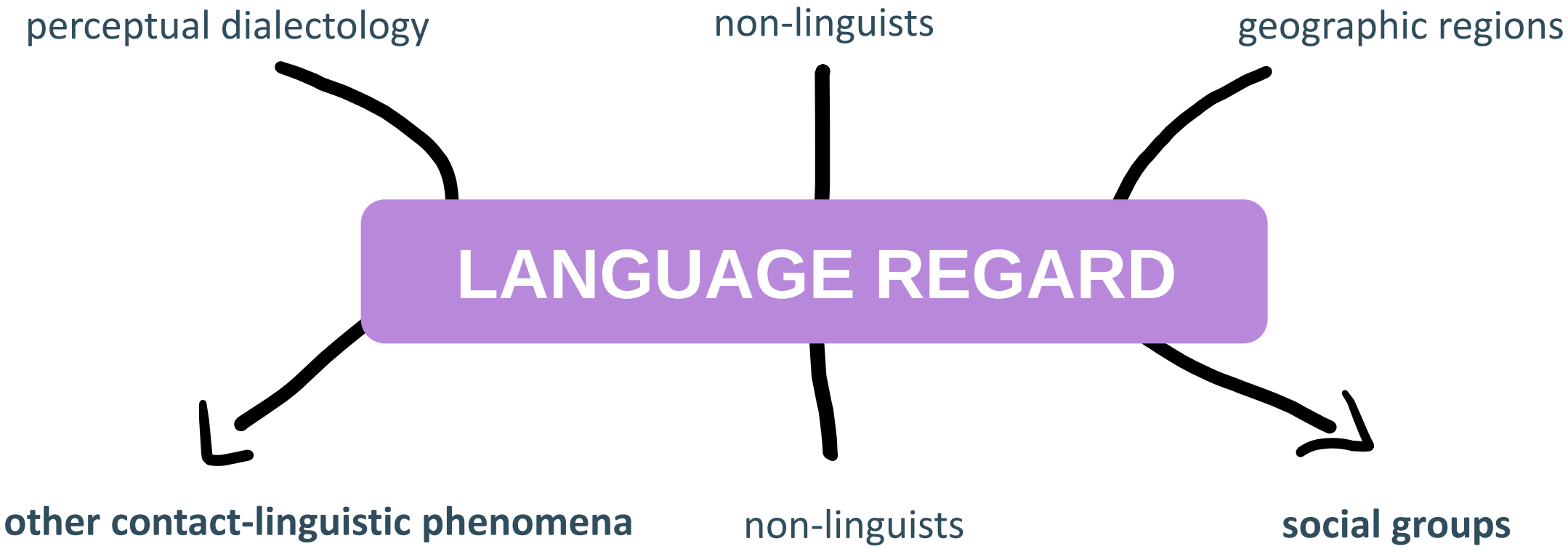
Background



Preston (2018); Niedzielski & Preston (2000)

Background

our case: lexical borrowing

English loanwords in Belgian Dutch

age — (pre)adolescents & young professionals

domains — sports, IT, finance, media -> soccer player
computer scientist

De Decker & Vandekerckhove (2013); Schuring & Zenner (2022); Zenner et al. (2021); van Meurs (2010)

Background

research questions

For Belgian Dutch-speaking language users, to what extent can we find:

RQ1 shared expectations on the use of English loanwords depending on the **age of the speaker**?

RQ2 shared expectations on the use of English loanwords depending on the **social role of the speaker**?

RQ3 signs of **downgrading the use of English** by social role actors who are not expected to use English loanwords?

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Methodology: questionnaire

RQ1

How often do these age groups use English words in Dutch?

7 pt likert scale

RQ2

How often do these social roles use English words in Dutch?

7 pt likert scale

RQ3

What do you think of English words in Dutch when used by the following social roles?

7 pt likert scale

7 age groups

- 0-6 y/o
- 7-13 y/o
- 14-20 y/o
- 21-30 y/o
- 31-50 y/o
- 51-65 y/o
- 65+

N=177

19 social roles

news reader
primary school teacher
politician
doctor
mayor
grandparents
gamer
vlogger
soccer player
rapper
superhero
business manager
film star
top model
children's tv presenter
chef
butcher
farmer

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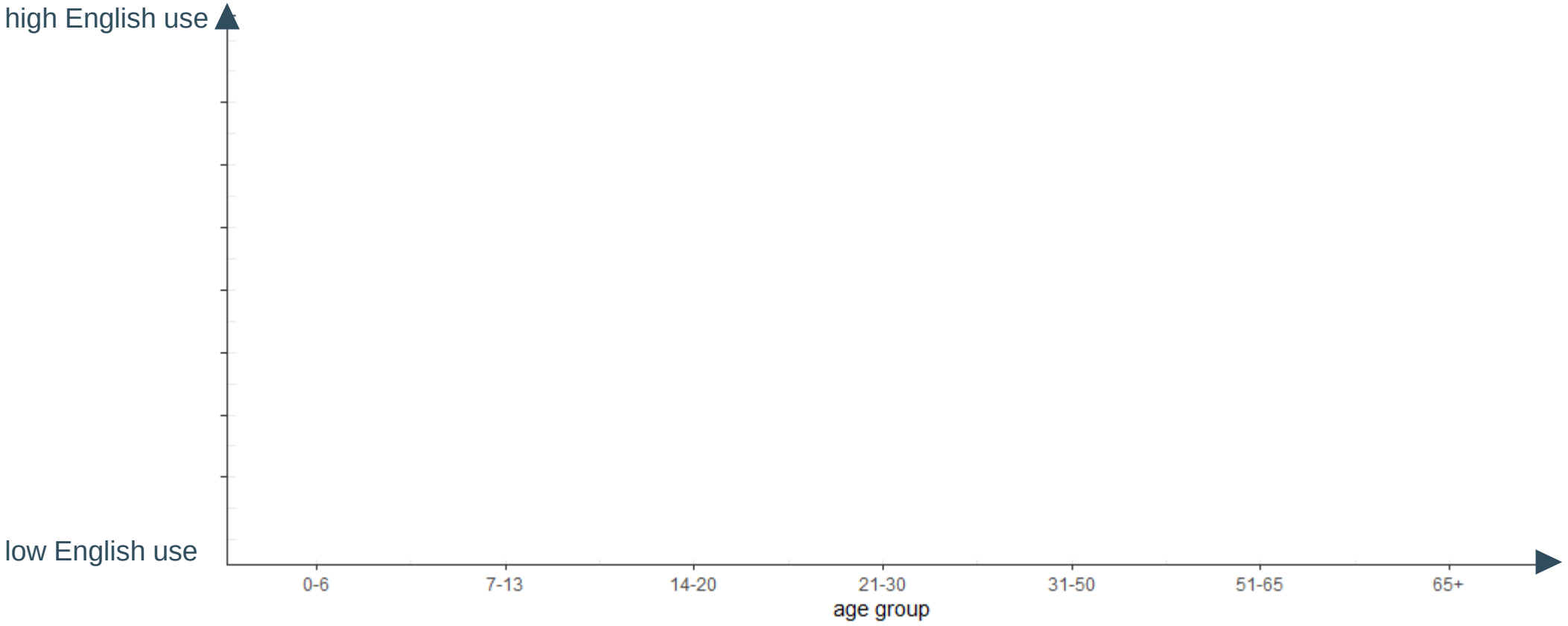
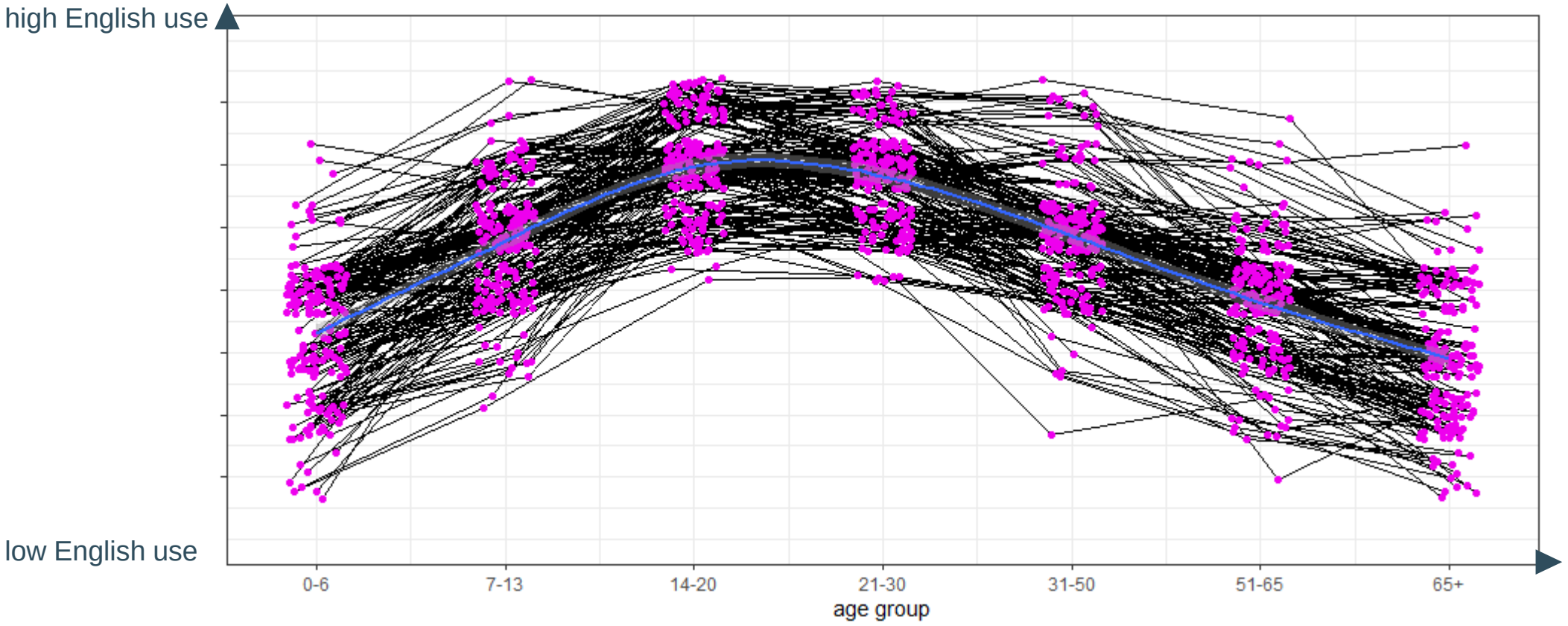
Results RQ1 age expectations



Results RQ1 age expectations



Results RQ2 social role expectations

Factor Analysis

news reader	gamer	film star
primary school teacher	vlogger	top model
politician	soccer player	children’s tv presenter
doctor	rapper	chef
mayor	superhero	butcher
grandparents	business manager	farmer

47,6% of variation explained

Results RQ2 social role expectations

Factor Analysis

47,6% of variation explained

Results RQ2 social role expectations

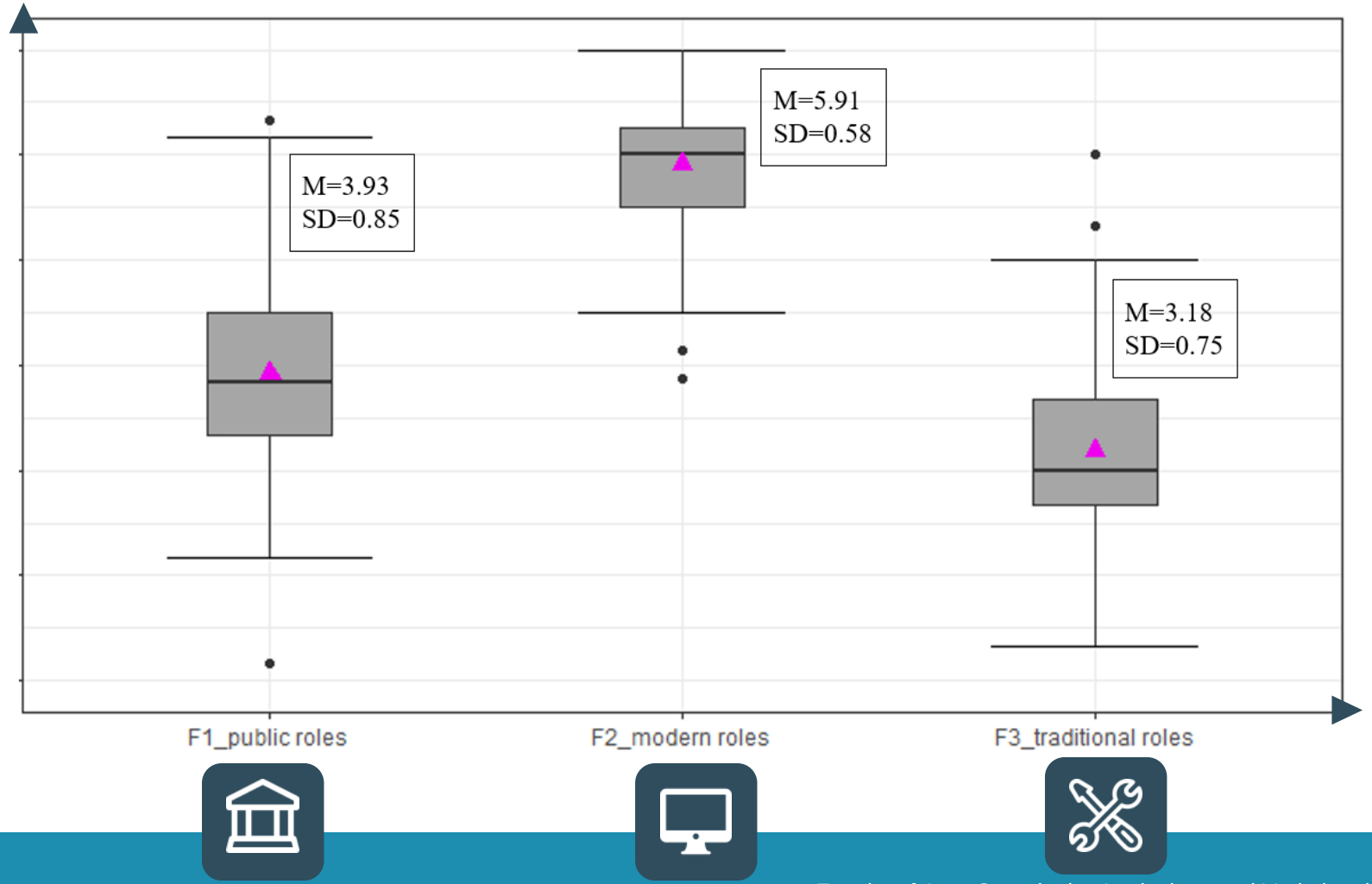
47,6% of variation explained

Results RQ2 social role expectations

Results RQ2 social role expectations

high English use

low English use



Results RQ3 downgrading

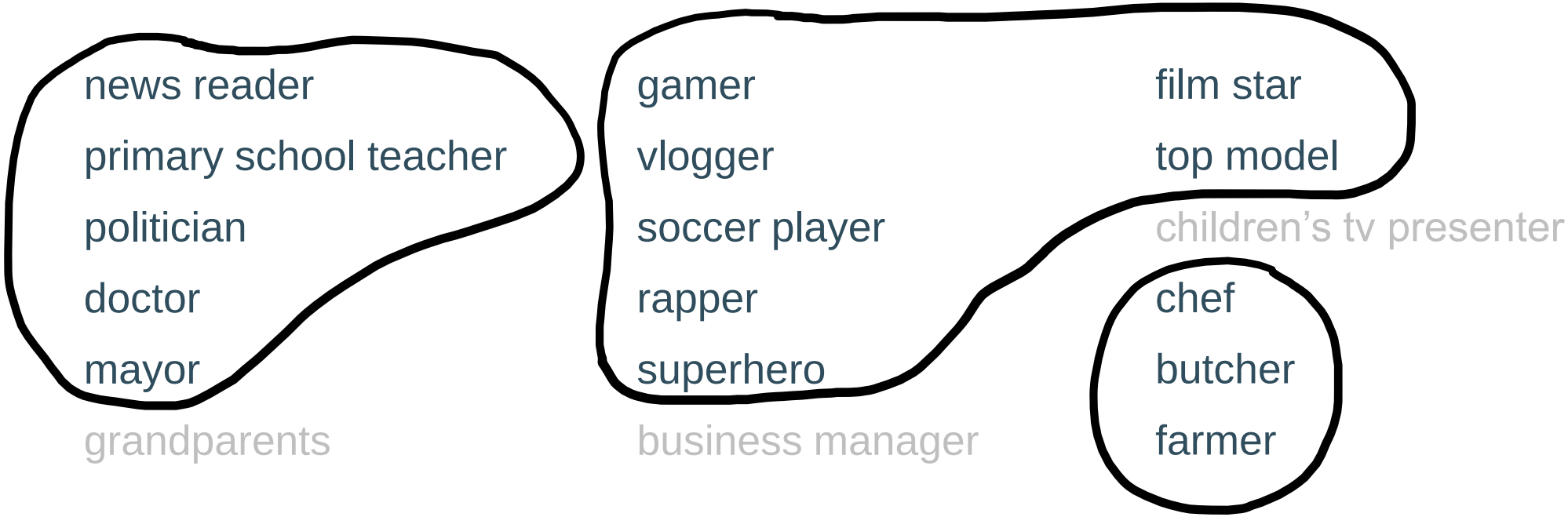
Factor Analysis

news reader	gamer	film star
primary school teacher	vlogger	top model
politician	soccer player	children’s tv presenter
doctor	rapper	chef
mayor	superhero	butcher
grandparents	business manager	farmer

70,7% of variation explained

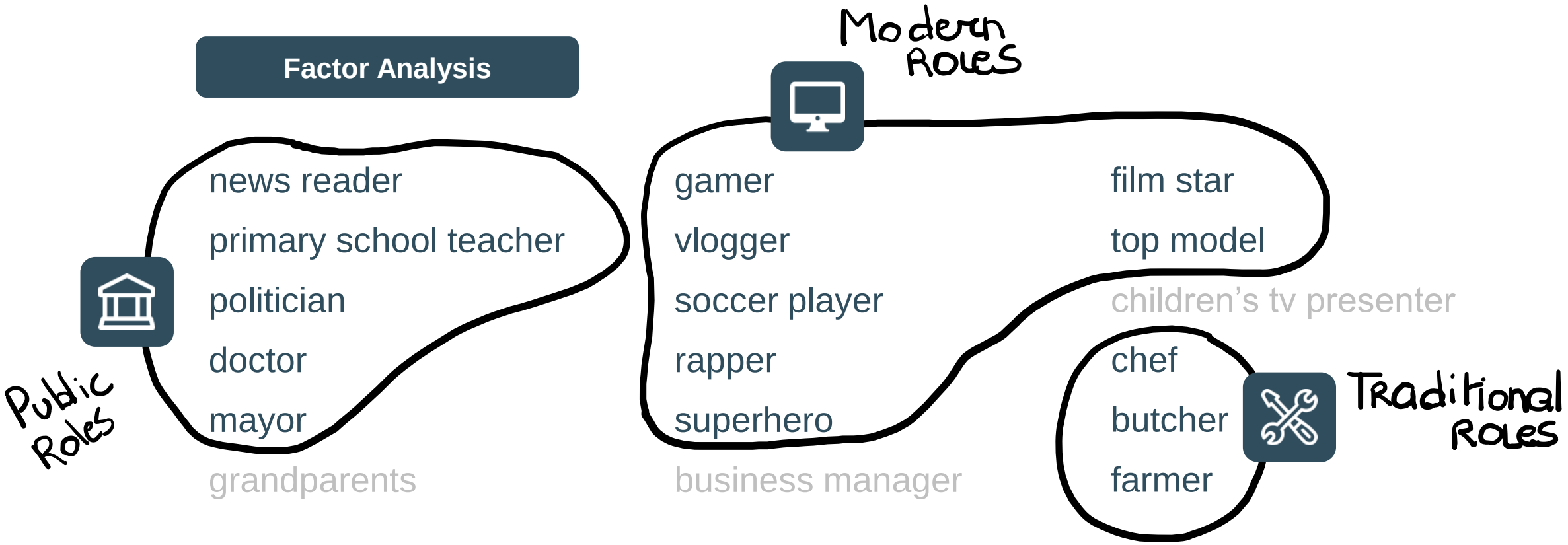
Results RQ3 downgrading

Factor Analysis



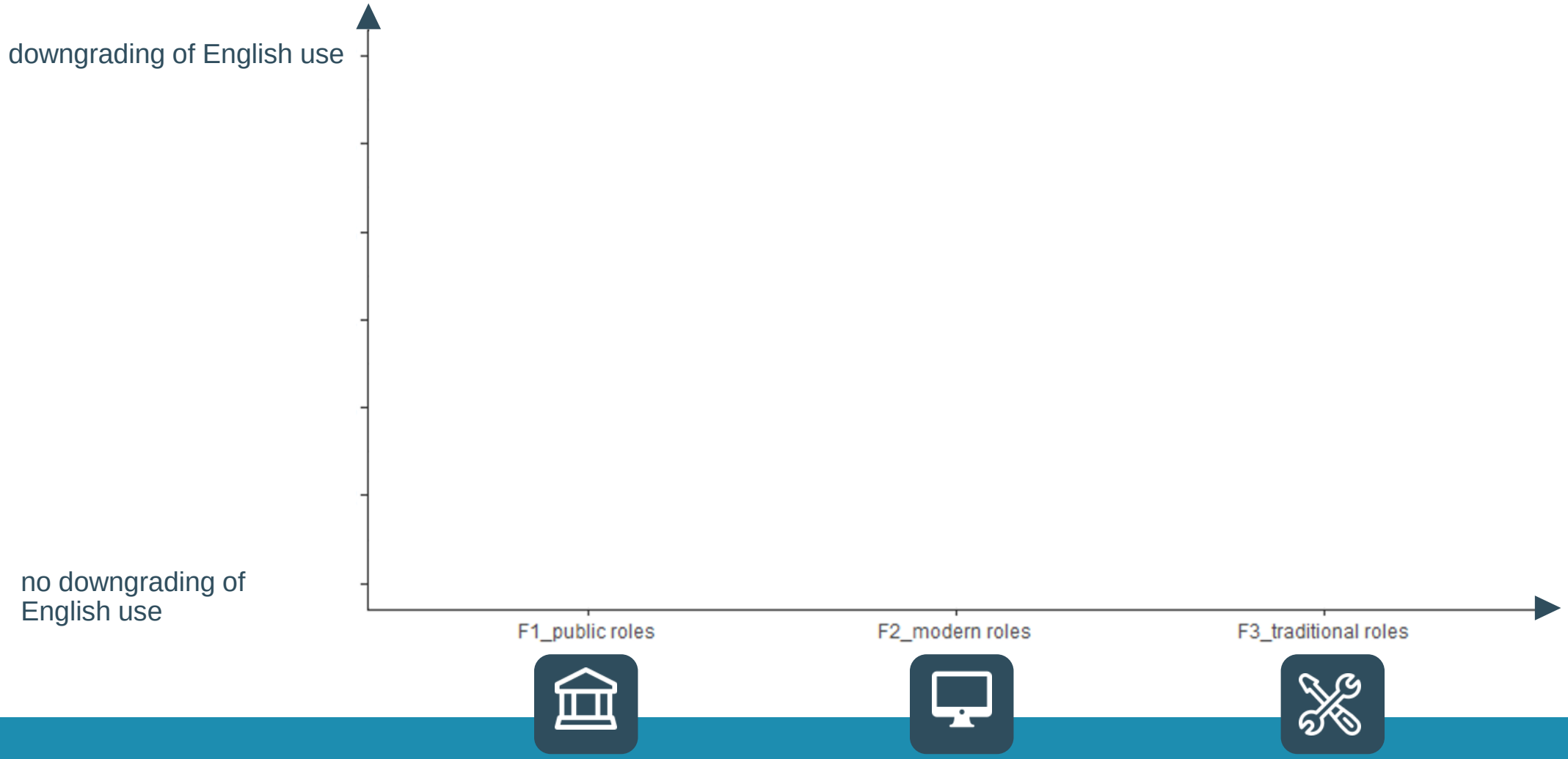
70,7% of variation explained

Results RQ3 downgrading

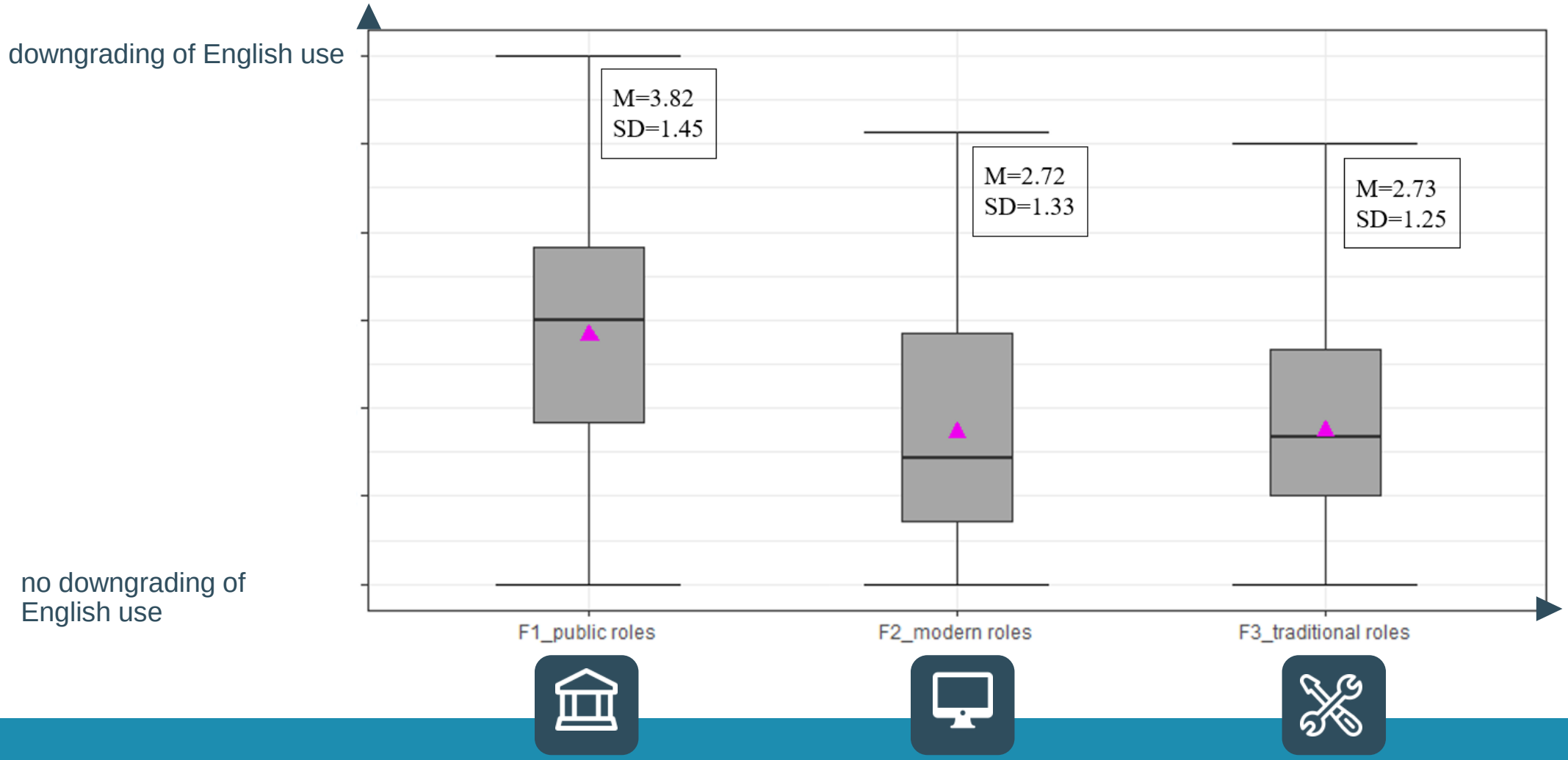


70,7% of variation explained

Results RQ3 downgrading



Results RQ3 downgrading



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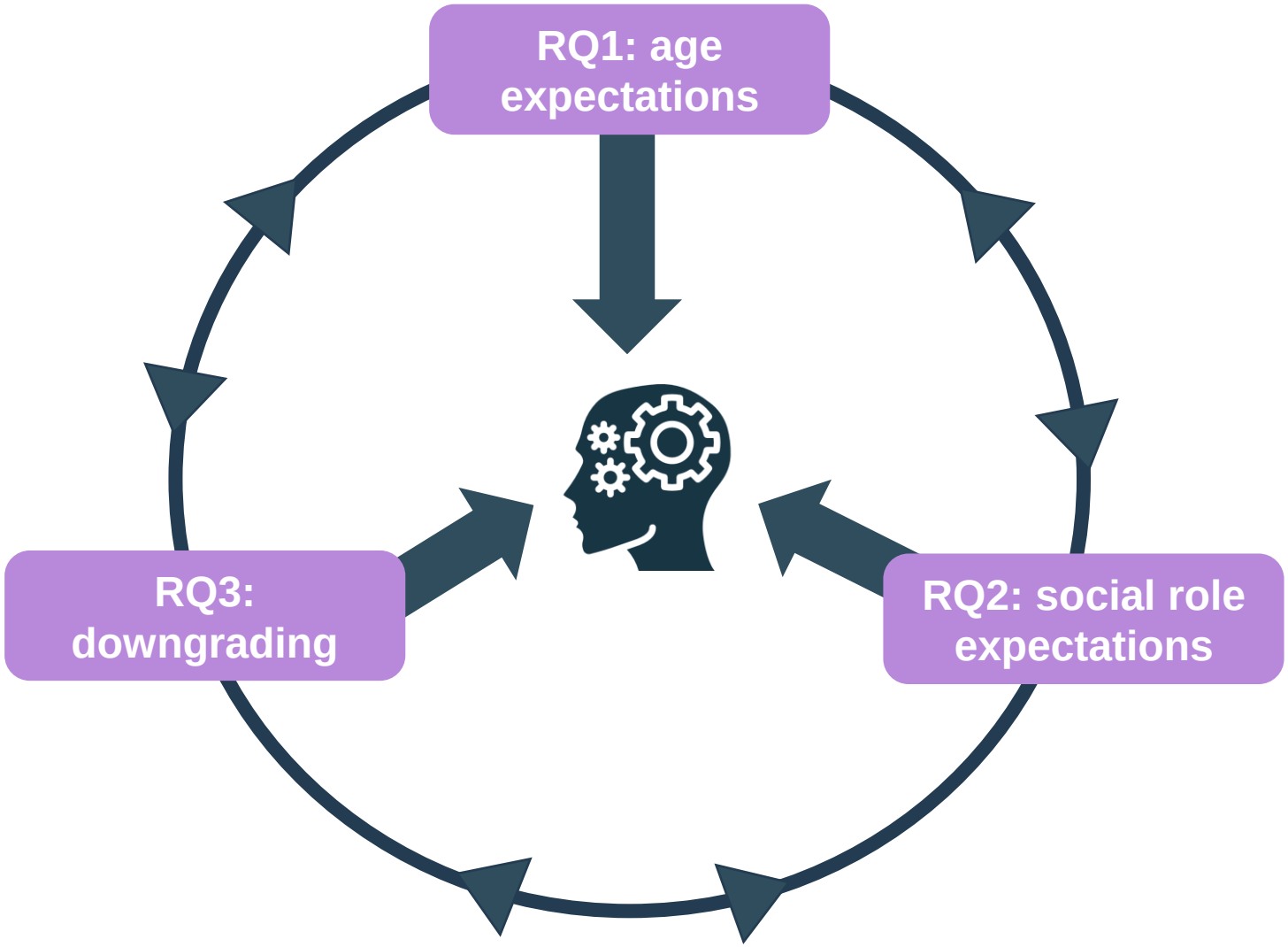

Labov 1994, 2001; Crombez et al. 2022; Drager & Kirtley 2016; Docherty & Foulkes 2014

Thank you!

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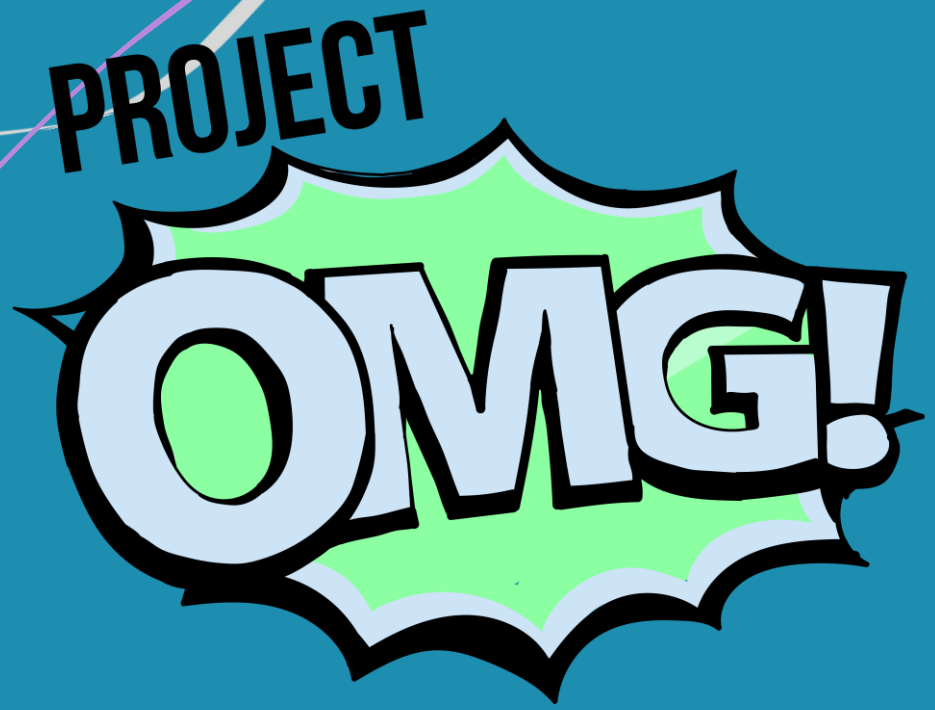

Curious to know more?

11.15 am

Project OMG: The social meaning of contact-induced variation in preadolescence

@Cupertino

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Supplementary material

Methodology

RQ1

How often do these age groups use English words in Dutch?

RQ2

How often do these social roles use English words in Dutch?

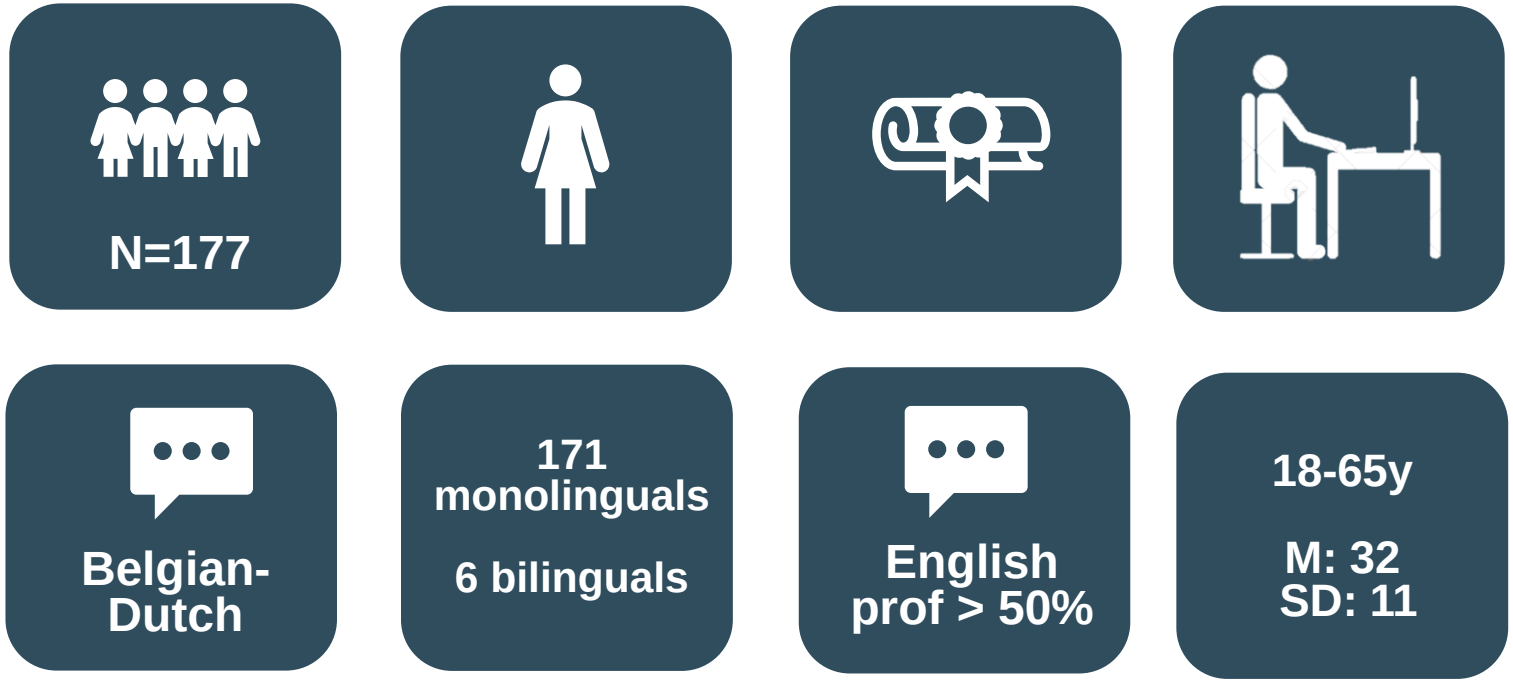
RQ3

What do you think of English words in Dutch when used by the following social roles?

never	very rarely	rarely	some-times	often	very often	all the time	I don't know
○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○
○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○
○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○
○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○
○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○

don't bother me at all	don't bother me	don't really bother me	neutral	bother me a little	bother me	bother me very much	I don't know
○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○
○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○
○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○
○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○

Methodology: respondents



Homogenous sample selected out of N = 407

Results RQ2

47.6%

social role	F1 public roles	F2 modern roles	F3 traditional roles
nieuwslezer 'news reader'	**0.784**	0.160	0.102
leerkracht lager onderwijs 'primary school teacher'	**0.560**		0.284
eerste minister 'prime minister'	**0.787**	0.235	
politieagent 'police officer'	**0.613**	0.143	0.327
dokter 'doctor'	**0.551**	0.139	0.354
burgemeester 'mayor'	**0.671**	0.272	0.312
gamer 'gamer'		**0.814**	
vlogger 'vlogger'		**0.682**	
voetbalspeler 'soccer player'	0.262	**0.436**	0.216
rapper 'rapper'		**0.742**	
bedrijfsleider 'business manager'	0.311	**0.533**	
superheld 'superhero'	0.187	**0.419**	
filmster 'film star'	0.212	**0.491**	-0.109
topmodel 'top model'	0.196	**0.441**	
kok 'chef'	0.297	0.224	**0.401**
slager 'butcher'	0.149		**0.888**
boer 'farmer'	0.314		**0.673**

Test of the hypothesis that 3 factors are sufficient: the χ^2 statistic is 108.45 on 88 degrees of freedom. The p-value is 0.07.

Results RQ3

70,7%

social role	F1 public roles	F2 modern roles	F3 traditional roles
nieuwslezer 'news reader'	**0.807**	0.320	0.143
leerkracht lager onderwijs 'primary school teacher'	**0.693**	0.210	0.227
eerste minister 'prime minister'	**0.772**	0.323	0.150
politieagent 'police officer'	**0.778**	0.151	0.368
dokter 'doctor'	**0.736**	0.179	0.350
burgemeester 'mayor'	**0.867**	0.286	0.121
gamer 'gamer'	0.205	**0.720**	0.234
vlogger 'vlogger'	0.309	**0.771**	0.109
voetbalspeler 'soccer player'	0.273	**0.629**	0.373
rapper 'rapper'		**0.803**	0.220
superheld 'superhero'	0.329	**0.689**	0.298
filmster 'film star'	0.325	**0.814**	0.171
topmodel 'top model'	0.245	**0.749**	0.334
kok 'chef'	0.310	0.375	**0.634**
slager 'butcher'	0.318	0.287	**0.774**
boer 'farmer'	0.229	0.338	**0.719**

Test of the hypothesis that 3 factors are sufficient. The χ^2 statistic is 149.36 on 75 degrees of freedom. The p-value is smaller than .0001.