

Transmission within family from both sides: What is transmitted, what is remembered ?

Current developments in research on intergenerational transmission of memories

SARMAC 2023

10/08/2023

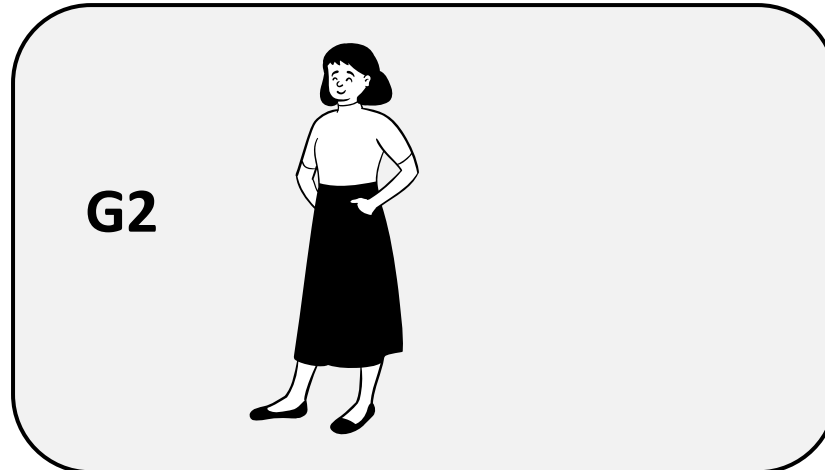
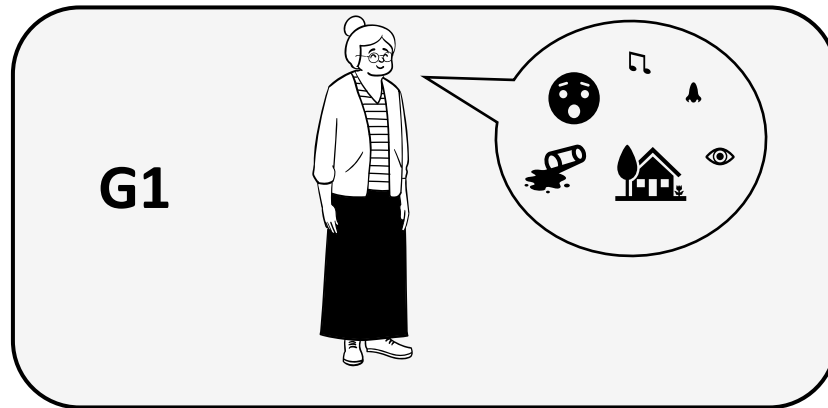
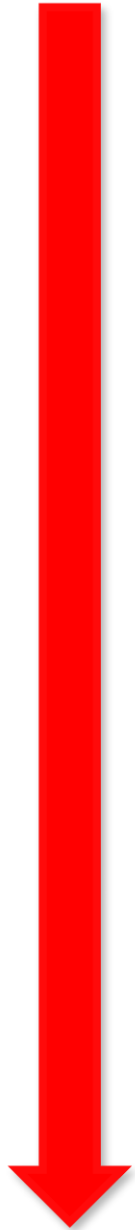
David Baudet

Ph.D. Candidate 2022-2026

Principal Investigators: Christine Bastin, Aline Cordonnier, Olivier Luminet



Transmission



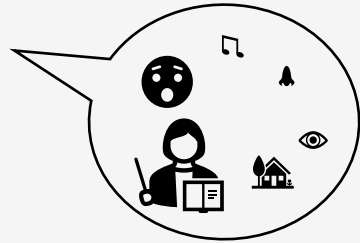
Direct transmission
throughout
generations



Top-down

How much do you share your past with your grand-child ?

G1



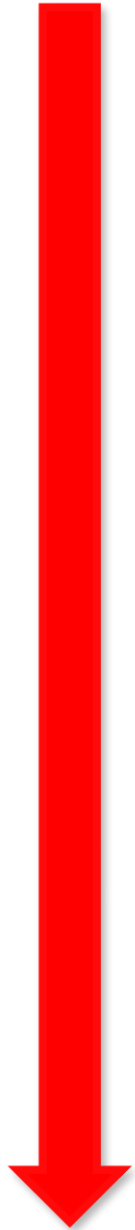
G2



G3



Transmission

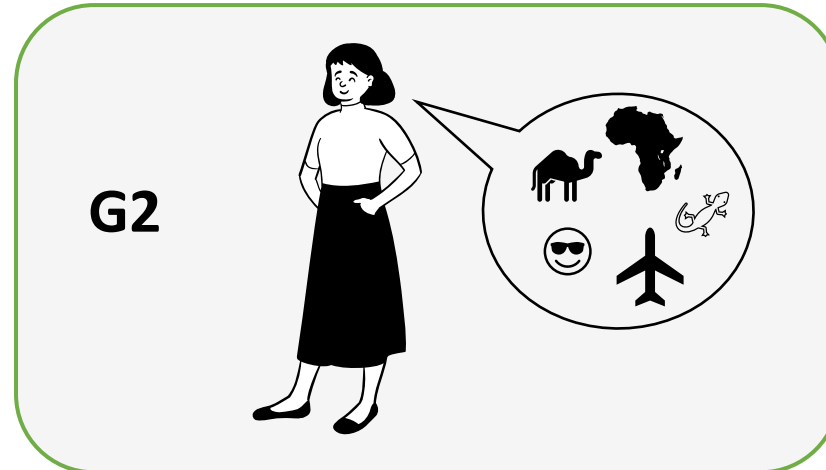
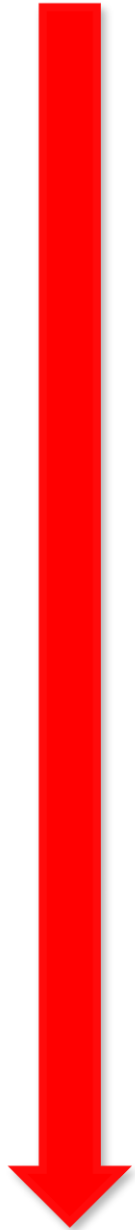




Top-down

How much do you share your past with child ?

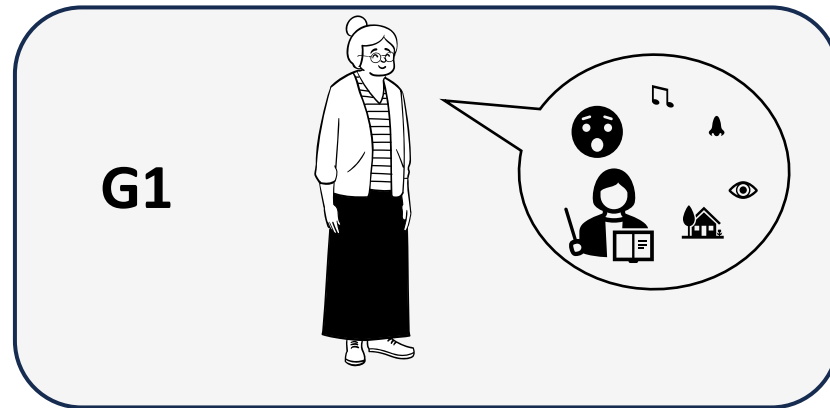
Transmission



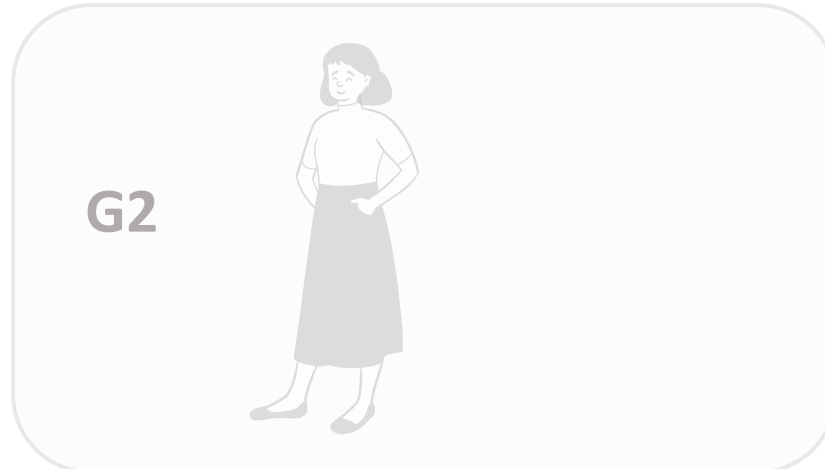


Bottom-up

How much do you know about your grandparents ?



G1

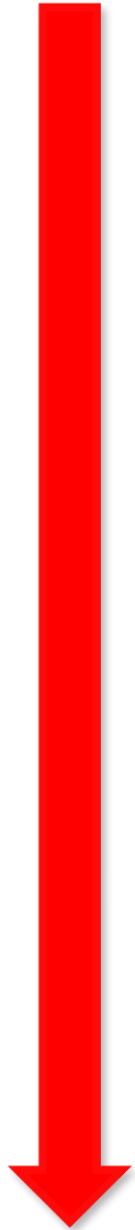


G2



G3

Transmission



(Vicarious memory?)

Autobiographical memory includes events that happened to the self AND some events recounted by others (Pillemer et al., 2015)

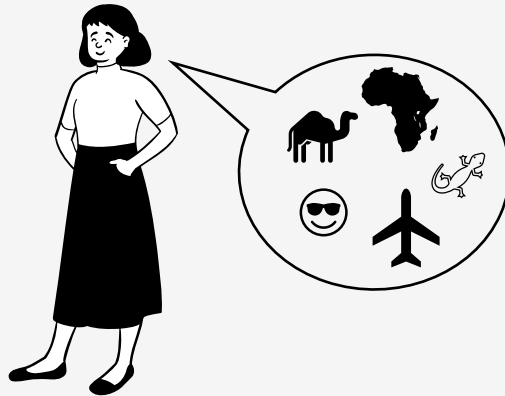


Bottom-up

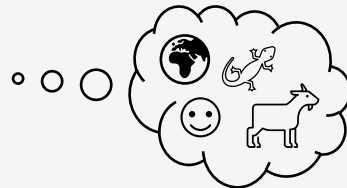
G1



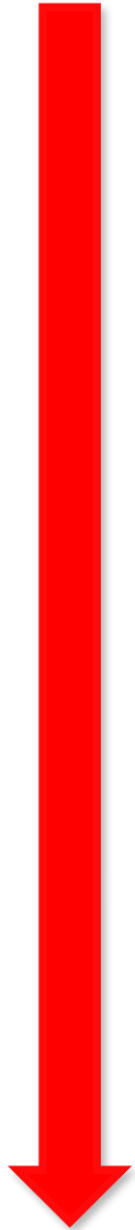
G2



G3



Transmission



How much do you know about your parents ?

Why ?

(Vicarious memory?)

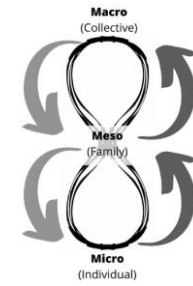
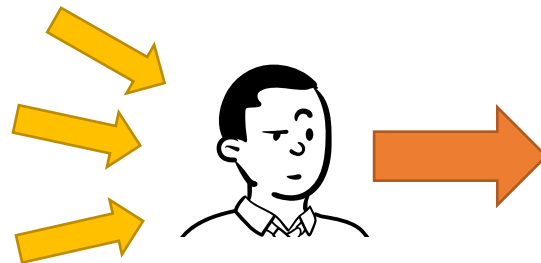
Autobiographical memory includes events that happened to the self AND some events recounted by others (Pillemer et al., 2015)

Family and transmission

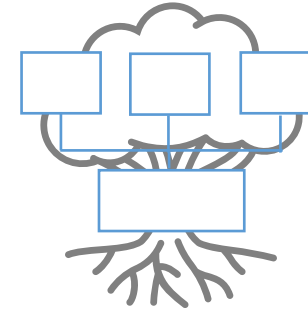
Conversation roles¹, from very young age²



Identity, well-being, finding meaning^{6,7,8}

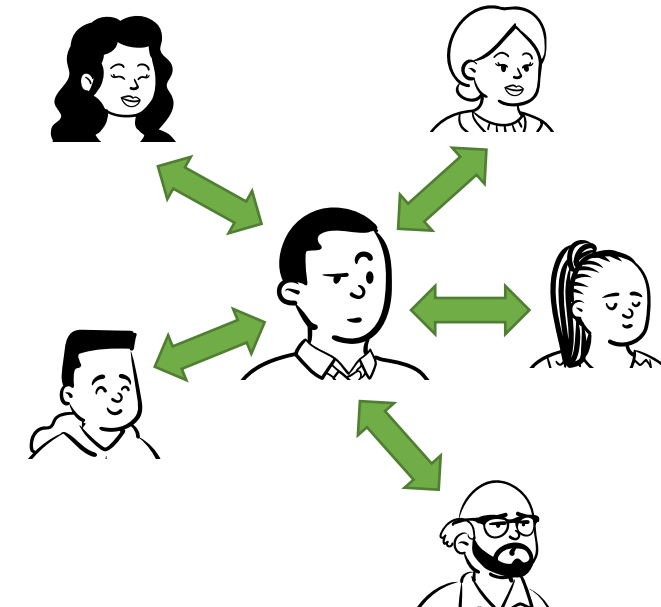


From Cordonnier et al., (2022)



Shared history², origin of autobiographical memory^{3,4}

Sense of belonging⁵ and individuality²





Survey on frequency of transmission

► **Online questionnaire** (Qualtrics©, 2022)

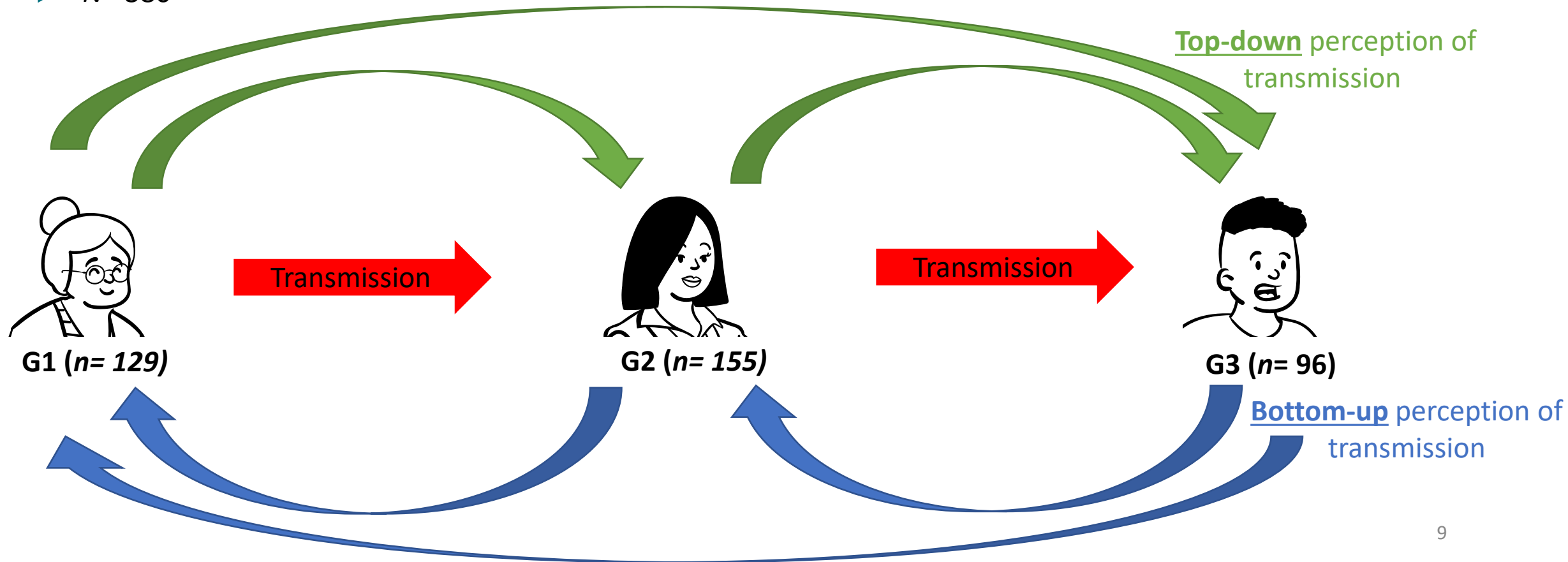
- Exploratory
- Study how frequently people perceive transmission within their family
- Get a better understanding of variables affecting transmission
- Recruit for current experimental studies



Survey on frequency transmission

► Online questionnaire (Qualtrics©, 2022)

► $N = 380$





Method

- Transmission {
- « How frequently do you talk about personal events with your child? » (*top-down*)
 - « How frequently does this parent talk to you about public events? » (*bottom-up*)



- Importance of transmission



- Interpersonal closeness: Inclusion of Other in the Self Scale (Aron et al., 1992)
 - For family and transmitter/receiver



- Frequency of interaction





Method

Independent Variable:

- Both perspective (bottom-up and top-down)
- Two-generation gap vs. One-generation gap
- Public and personal events
- Events that occurred before / after receiver's birth and recent events

Top-down vs. bottom-up



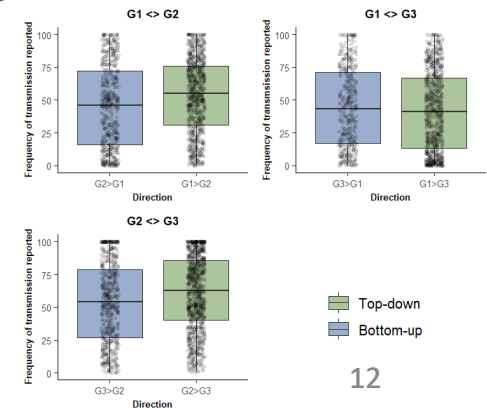
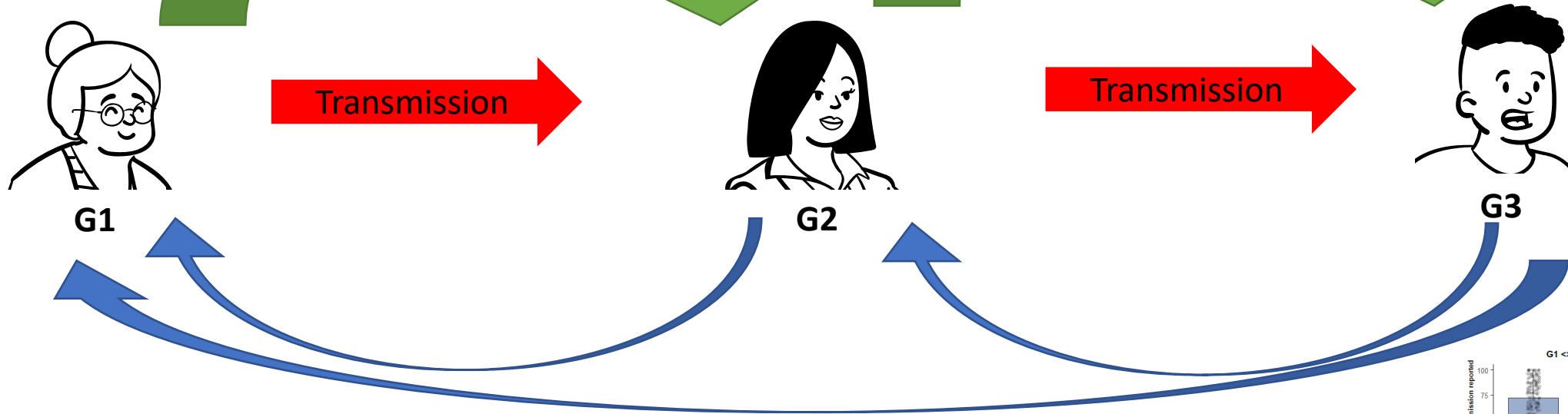
G1 reports transmitting more to G2 than G2 reports receiving from G1

G2 reports transmitting more to G3 than G3 reports receiving from G2

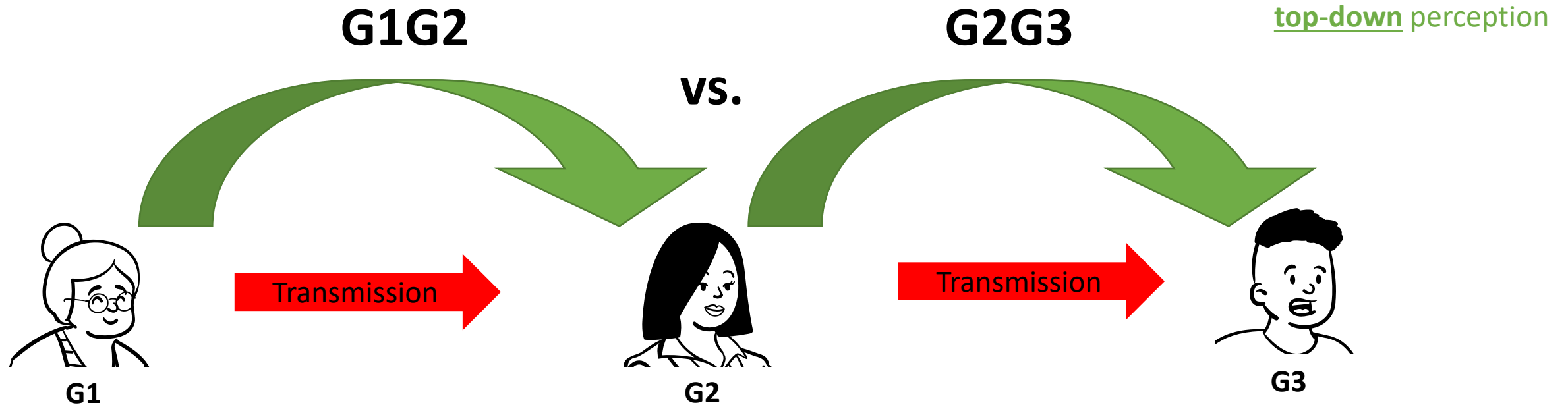
No difference between bottom-up vs. top-down between G1 and G3

top-down

bottom-up

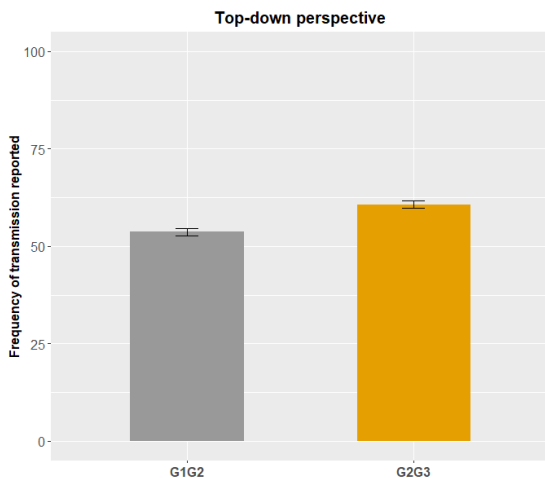
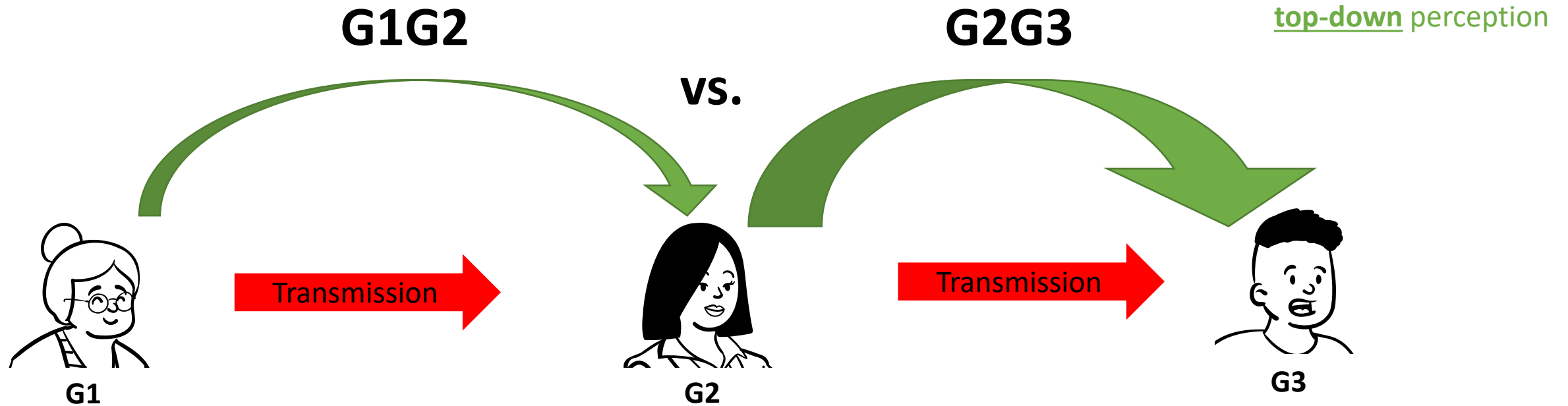


Cohort effect ?





Cohort effect ?



G2 report transmitting more to G3 than G1 report transmitting to G2

Effect of age ?
Social generation ?

Contrast	Estimate	95% CI	<i>p</i>	ϵ^2_p
<u>G2G3 vs. G1G2</u>	-7.04	[-11.65, -2.43]	.003	0.02 [0.00, 0.07]

Note. First generation in a duo (e.g. G1G2) is the one rating the transmission to the other generation. Underlined combinations are top-down transmissions.

Effect of generation gap?

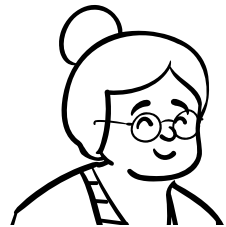


top-down perception

2 generations

vs.

1 generation



G1



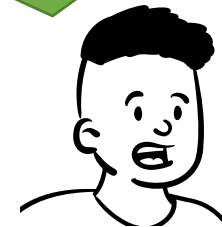
Transmission



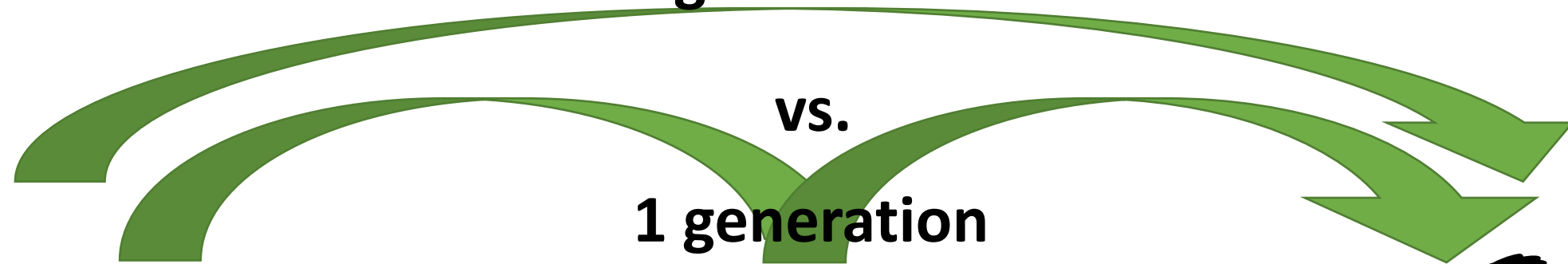
G2



Transmission



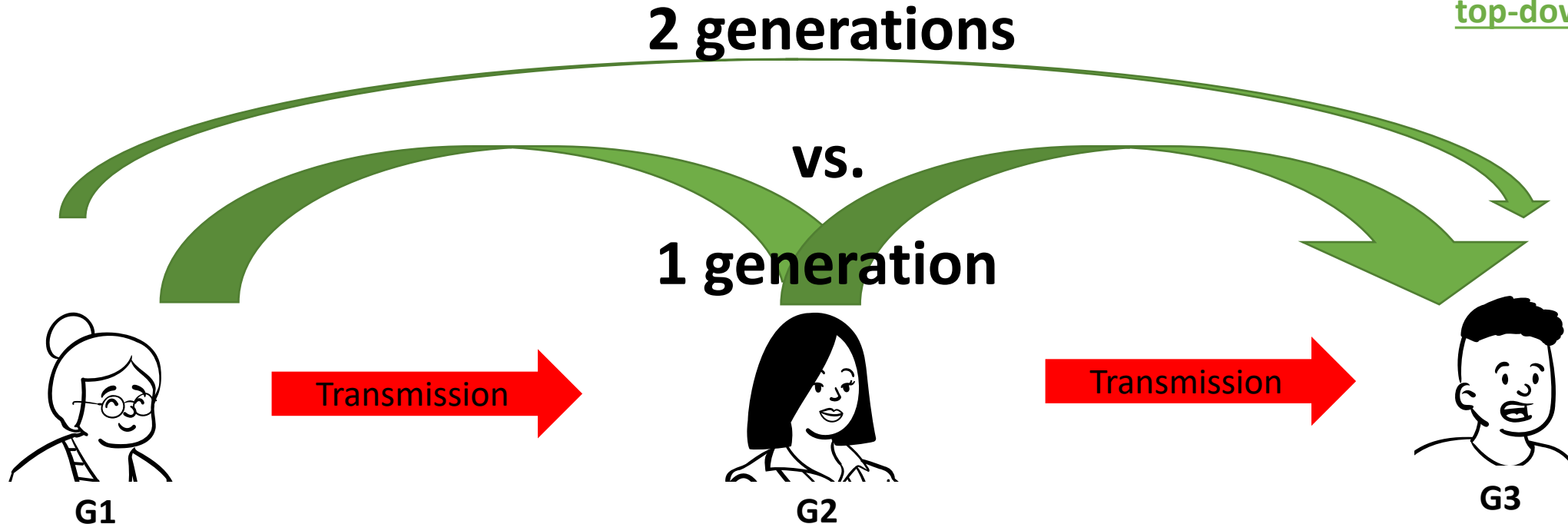
G3





Effect of generation gap

top-down perception

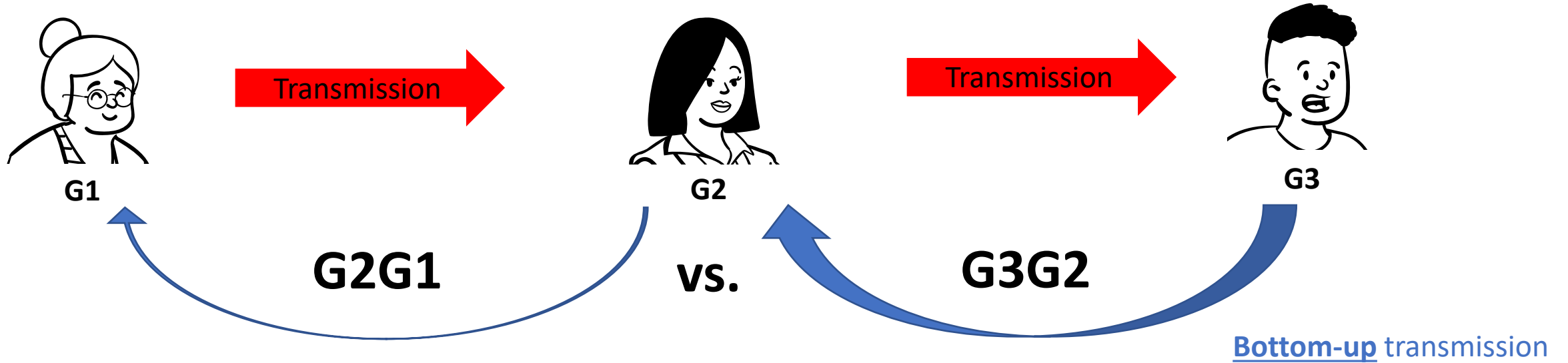


Greater reports of transmitted memory when only one generation gap, compared to two generations (Cordonnier et al., 2021)

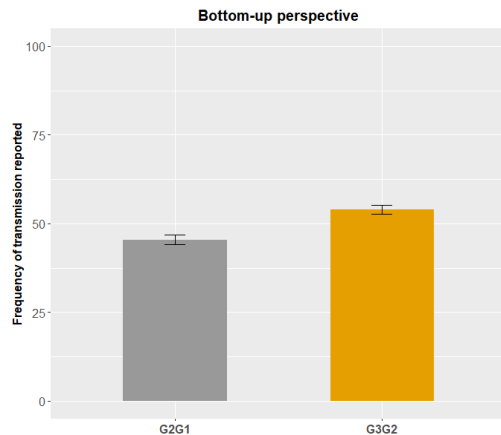
Contrast	Estimate	95% CI	p	ϵ^2_p
<u>G1G3 vs. G1G2 & G2G3</u>	15.90	[13.08, 18.72]	< .001	0.15 [0.11, 0.20]

Note. First generation in a duo (e.g. G1G2) is the one rating the transmission to the other generation. Underlined combinations are top-down transmissions.

Cohort effect



G3 report receiving more from G2 than G2 report receiving from G1

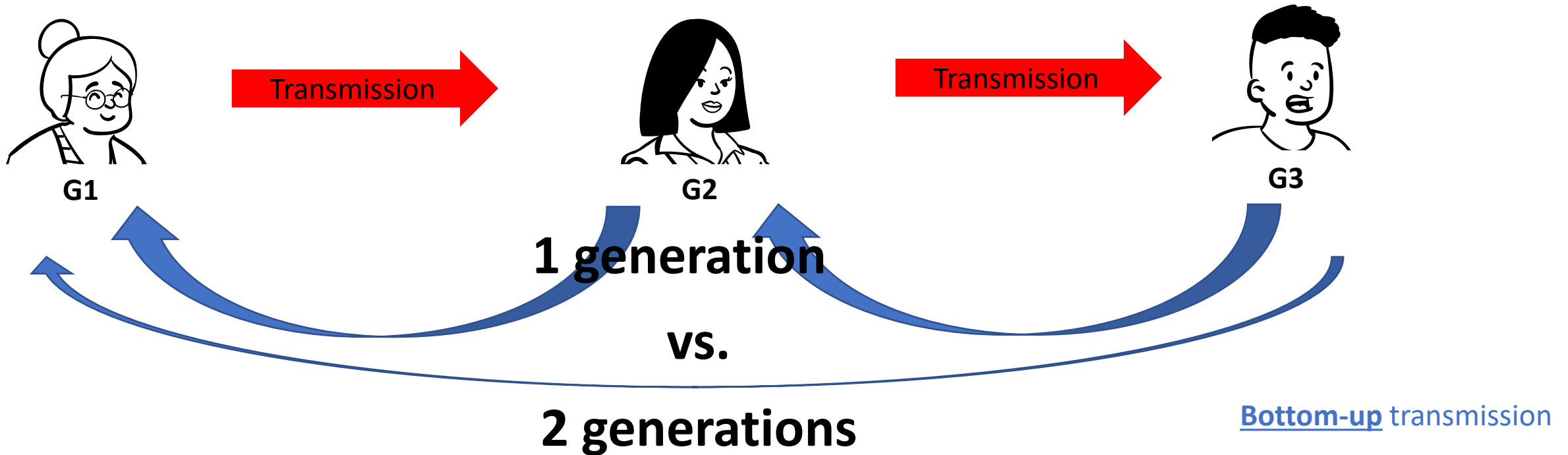


Contrast	Estimate	95% CI	p	ϵ^2_p
G3G2 vs. G2G1	-8.46	[-13.93, -2.99]	.003	0.04 [0.00, 0.10]

Note. First generation in a duo (e.g. G1G2) is the one rating the transmission to the other generation.



Effect of generation gap



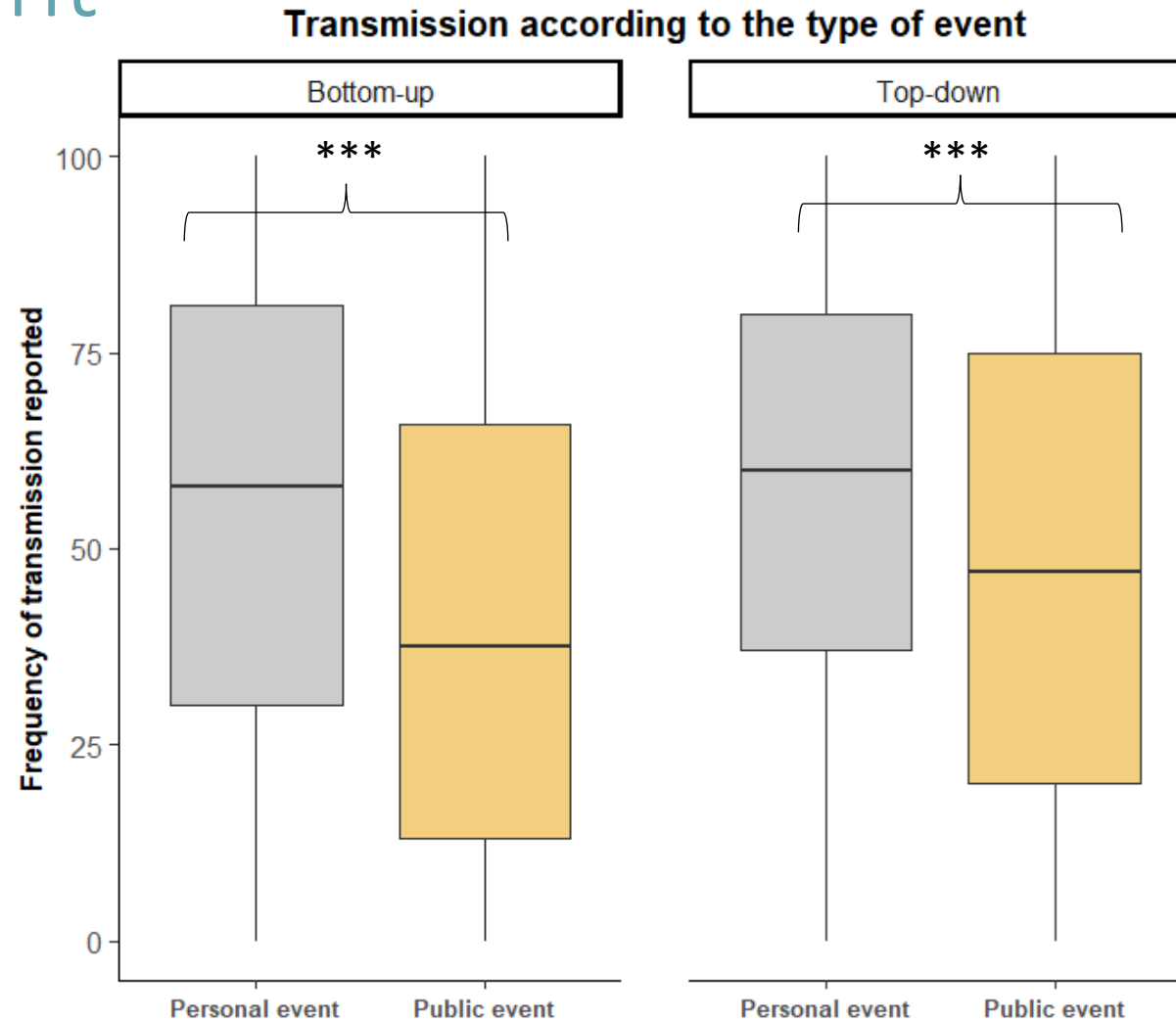
Greater reports of received memory when only one generation gap, compared to two generations

Contrast	Estimate	95% CI	<i>p</i>	ϵ^2_p
<u>G1G3</u> vs. <u>G1G2</u> & <u>G2G3</u>	4.84	[0.87, 8.82]	< .017	0.007 [0.00, 0.02]

Note. First generation in a duo (e.g. **G1G2**) is the one rating the transmission to the other generation.



Type of event





Correlations between measures

- Transmission and feeling of proximity (IOS, Aron et al., 1992)

Variable1	Variable2	Combination	Spearman ρ
Transmission frequency	Feeling of closeness	<u>G1G2</u>	0.43 [0.273, 0.558]
		<u>G1G3</u>	0.67 [0.563, 0.756]
		<u>G2G3</u>	0.33 [0.182, 0.463]
		G2G1	0.27 [0.060, 0.452]
		G3G2	0.32 [0.128, 0.490]
		G3G1	0.57 [0.376, 0.709]

Note. First generation in a duo (e.g. **G1G2**) is the one rating the transmission to the other generation. Underlined combinations are top-down transmissions.



Gender preferences

Generation	Women in respondents	Combination	Preference	Women among preference
G1	55.04%	G1G2	26.8%	50%
		G1G3	47.5%	56.14%
G2	68.39%	G2G1	62.6%	70.37%
		G2G3	29.2%	57.6%
G3	70.83%	G3G1	83.6%	76.8%



Discussion

- There is a difference in how receivers and transmitters perceive transmission
 - Differences in functions ? Socioemotional selectivity theory (Carstensen, 2006)
- Transmission plays a different role according to the generations ?
 - Correlation between feeling of closeness and transmission



Discussion

- Difference in frequency of transmission for public vs. personal events
 - Personal events more frequent, more vivid, serve more directive/identity functions (Abel & Berntsen, 2021)
- Greater frequency of transmission when only one generation gap (Cordonnier et al., 2021)
- Different roles for transmission in the family? Grand-mother effect ?



Discussion

- Only hypotheses! Exploratory study
 - Current studies will help understanding these results
- Current studies:
 - Type and content of the memories
 - Functions of the memories

Thanks for your attention !

Do not hesitate to ask me questions !

david.baudet@uliege.be