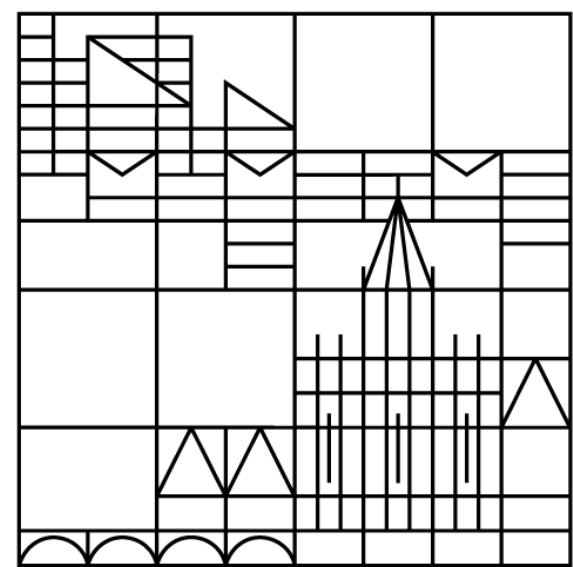


What types of situations trigger sarcasm?

A language generation study



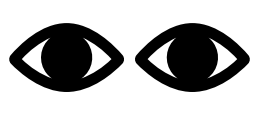
Hyewon Jang, Bettina Braun, and Diego Frassinelli

Research questions

- ✓ Do different situation types trigger sarcastic responses differently?
- ✗ Does the relationship to interlocutor affect the use of sarcasm?
- ✓ Do intentions to mock or be clever trigger sarcasm?

Experimental design

128 participants 1) read 40 situations



You go to a restaurant with Steve. He orders a hamburger and French fries. They are served on the same plate. Whenever a French fry touches the hamburger, he gets annoyed and pushes them to the opposite sides of the plate so they don't touch each other.

2) responded freely

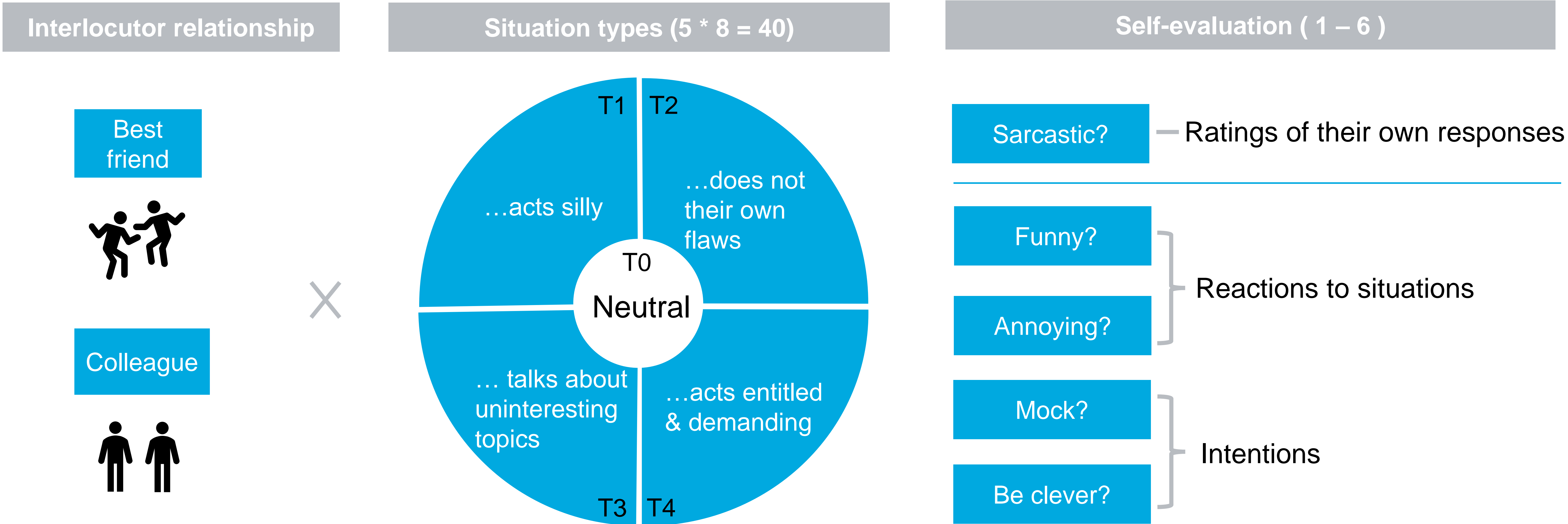


Chill mate, let the burger and fries have a party!

3) evaluated their responses post-hoc.



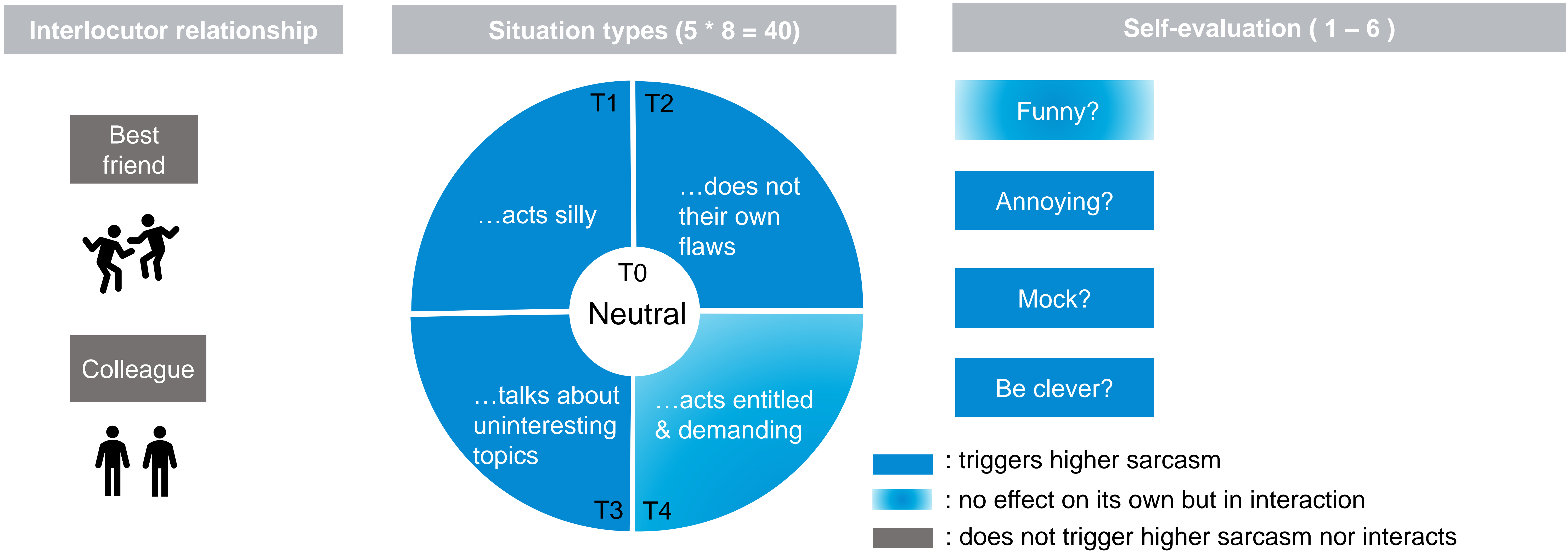
Funny (4), annoying (1), sarcastic (6)



Analyses

- Imer (sarcastic ~ situation types * (funny + annoying) + interlocutor relationship * (funny + annoying))
- Imer (sarcastic ~ mock + clever)

Results



Interactions

- Finding the situation *funny* interacted with all situation types in triggering higher sarcasm.
- T4 either triggered higher (when finding it *funny*) or lower sarcasm (when finding it *annoying*).