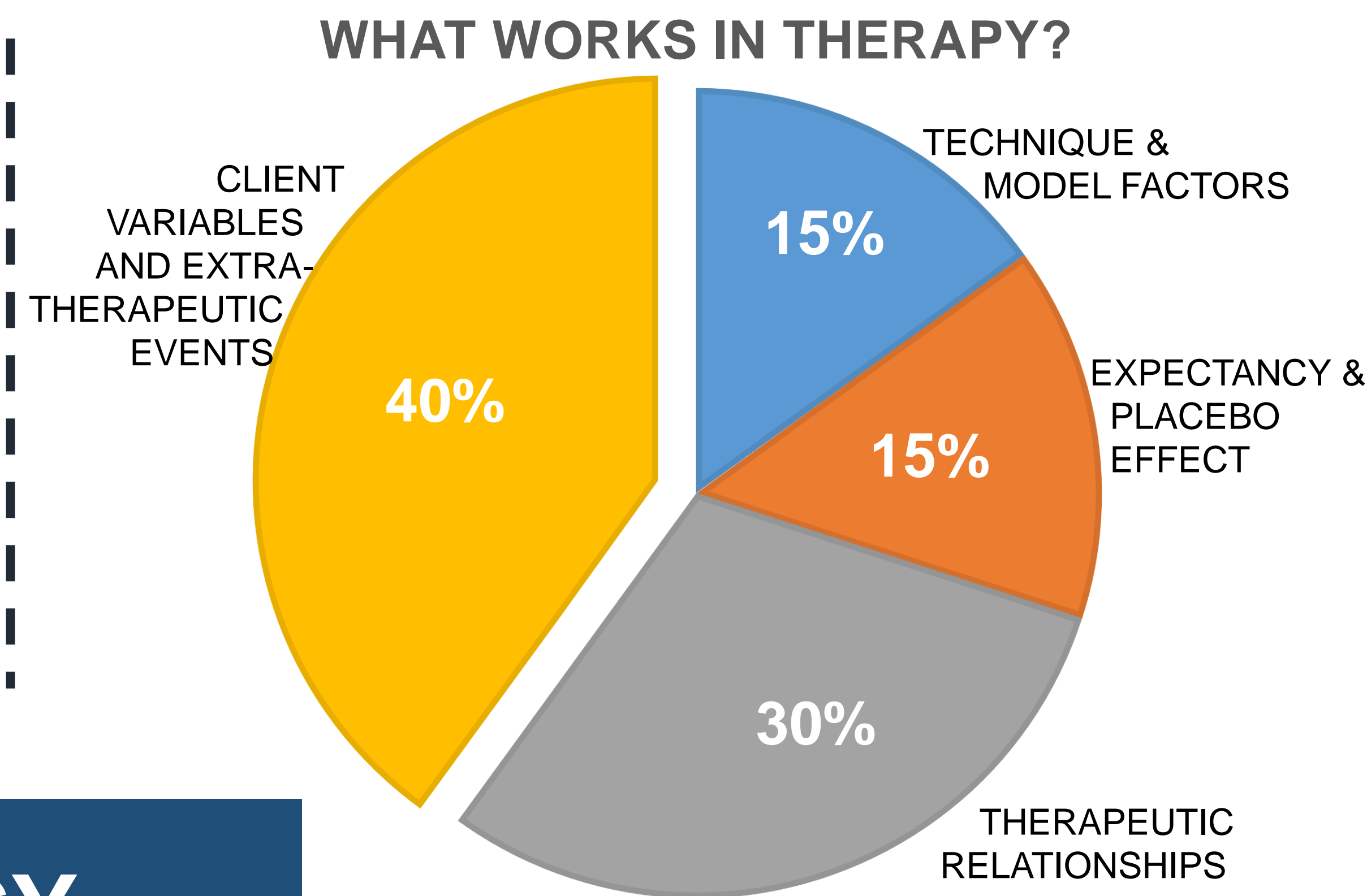


THE ROLE OF PATIENT AGENCY IN THE PSYCHOTHERAPEUTIC PROCESS

"If clients really do play a central role in therapy outcome, then more research needs to focus on how clients do this"
(Bohart & Wade, 2013)

BACKGROUND

- Patient = important but least understood component in psychotherapy
- Patient agency: active engagement with therapist's interventions
 - => Important theme in life narratives
 - => Related to psychological well-being
- Relation between patient agency and well-being is largely unexplored
- Missing longitudinal research, focusing on effect of therapist-patient interaction on agency



PATIENT AGENCY

AS A PRE-TREATMENT CHARACTERISTIC

AS AN INTERACTIONAL COMPONENT IN THE THERAPEUTIC PROCESS

PREDICTIVE VALUE?

NATURE OF AGENCY?

LINGUISTIC MARKERS?

FLUCTUATIONS IN AGENCY?

RELATION FLUCTUATION – CHANGE?

FACILITATION OF AGENCY?

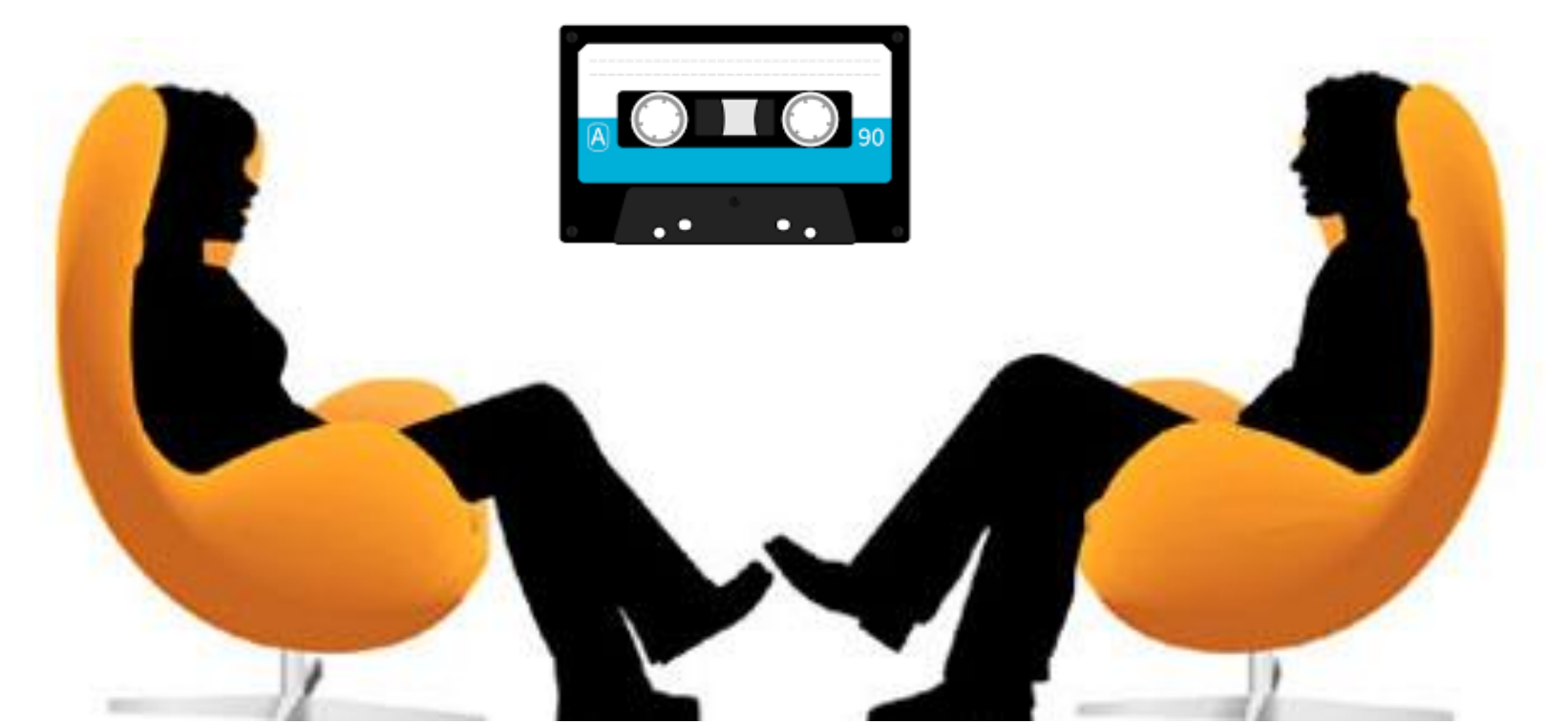
Interviews



Self-report Questionnaires



Audiotaped therapy sessions



Quantitative coding (Mc Adams, 2002) Relating to outcome measures, using GLM

Exploring discursive positions using discourse analysis

Discourse analysis and Automatic coding (in collaboration with the IDLab)

Descriptive statistics mapping on case level the amount and nature of patient

Multilevel analyses (with variable intercept and slope)

Discourse analyses of therapy sessions with a focus on talk negotiating agency

PhD Candidate: Emma Acke

Promotor: Prof. Dr. Reitske Meganck

Co-promotor: Prof. Dr. Ir. Chris Develder

Doctoral Committee: Prof. Dr. Mattias Desmet, Prof. Dr. Maarten Vansteenkiste

Prof. Dr. Ir. Chris Develder Prof. Dr. Reitske Meganck

Contact

Emma.Acke@ugent.be

Universiteit Gent

@ugent

Ghent University