



ERANID ImagenPathways Update from July 2018

Project leader Reinout Wiers

Project member Nicole Oei

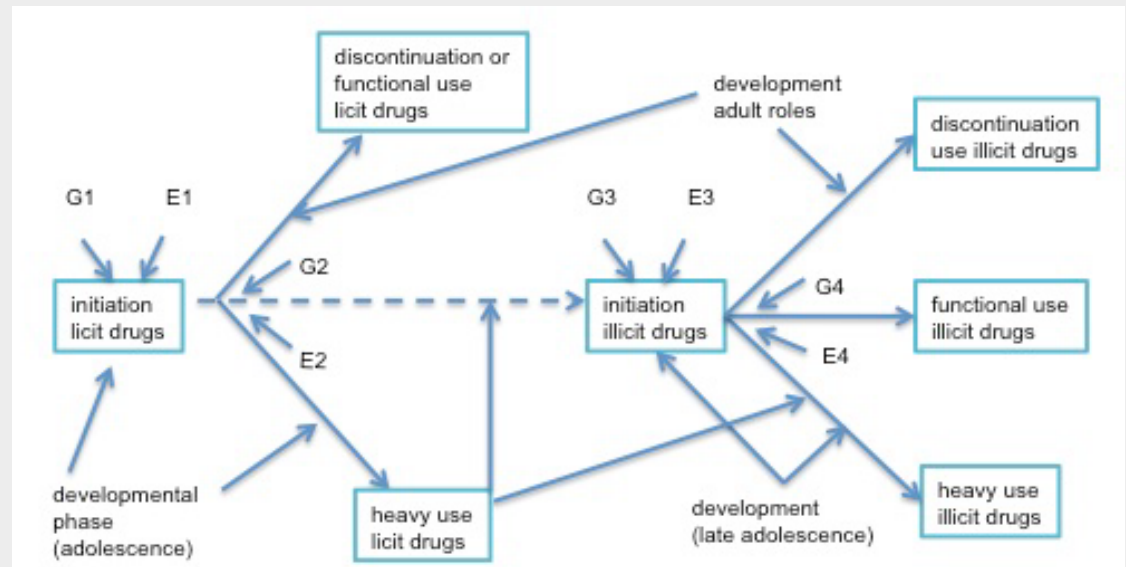
ImagenPathways update

- First impressions... focus on cannabis
 - I. First impression online data
 - II. First impression interviews
 - III. First impression hair-analysis



ImagenPathways (IP) - aims

- Predictors of initiation of drug use
- Predictors of escalation/controlled drug use
- Better phenotyping, using anthropological methods, may later be adapted for use in whole sample



I: Online Assessments (UvA Psy)

- FP7 project AliceRap: safe multilingual and multi-device internet platform
 - Questionnaires (short): drug use
 - consumption peers, romantic partner
 - Implicit drug & alcohol identity
 - Explicit drug & alcohol identity
 - Stress past 3 months
 - Instruction video hair sample at home



I: Online Assessment (UvA Psy)

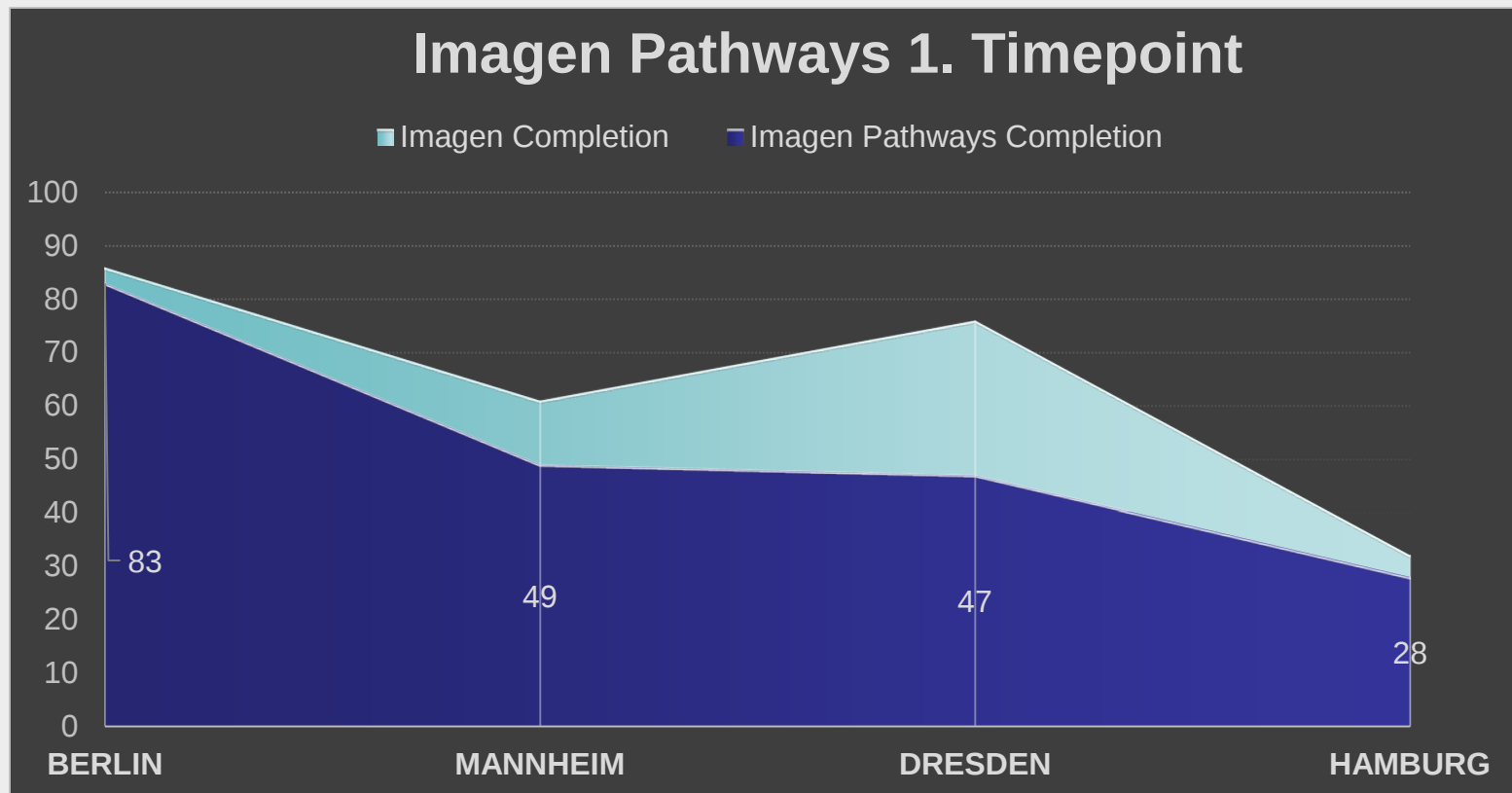
- *Completions so far*



I: Online Assessment (UvA Psy) July 2018

Center	Code	IP1	IP2	IP2.2
London	1	140	50	11
Nottingham	2	144	47	9
Berlin	4	112	40	6
Hamburg	5	90		
Mannheim	6	96	9	
Paris	7	110		
Dresden	8	65	17	7
Totals		757	163	33

IP following Imagen completions: numbers in Germany



I: Online Assessment (UvA Psy) July 2018

- Identity = a set of meaningful definitions, ascribed or attached to self
- In young people, drinking (or smoking pot) could become part of their identity
- Can be assessed directly (questionnaire) and indirectly (e.g. IAT)
- For alcohol several studies showing unique prediction use (Lindgren et al, '13,'15,'16)
- Cannabis?



Explicit Cannabis-Identity

■ Cannabis Self-Concept Scale (CSCS)

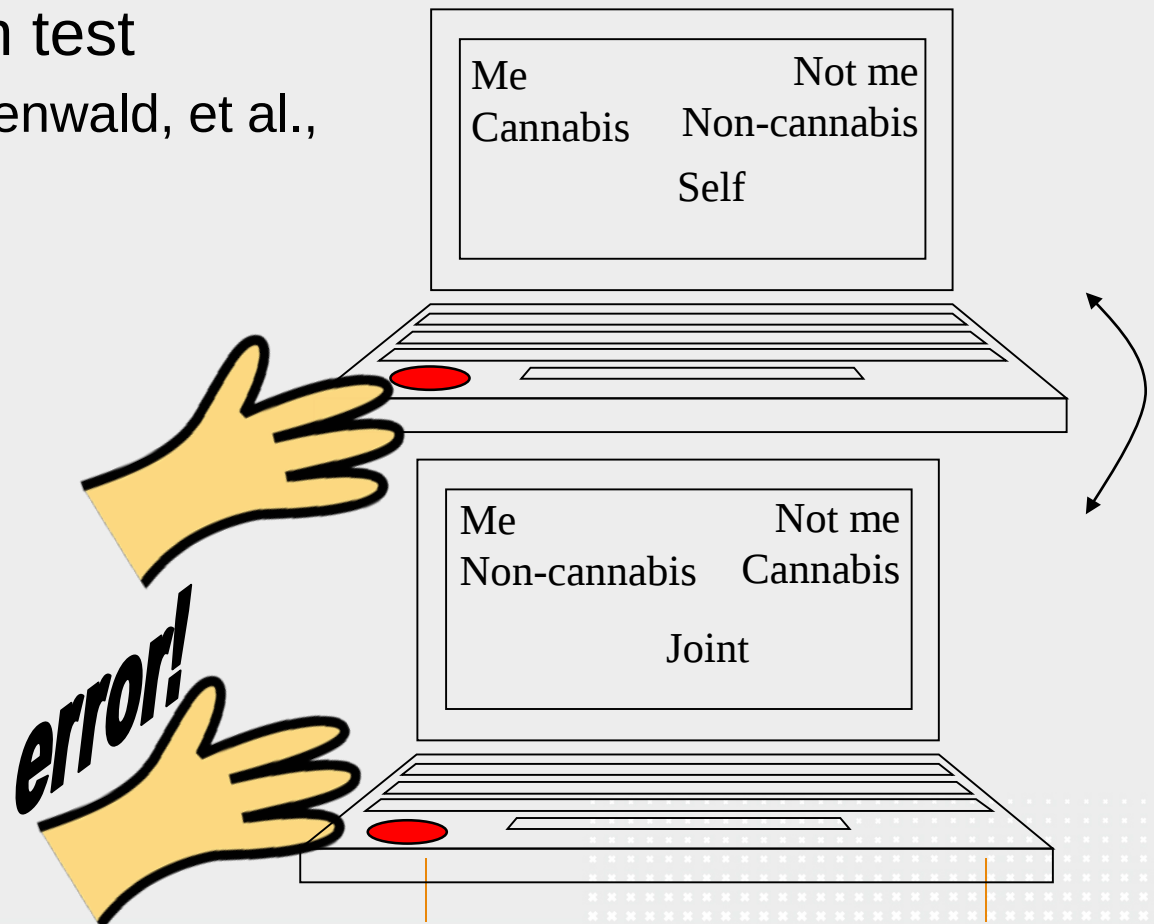
- ☐ Using cannabis is a part of my self-image.
- ☐ Using cannabis is part of "who I am".
- ☐ Using cannabis is a part of my personality.
- ☐ Using cannabis is a large part of my daily life.
- ☐ Others view cannabis use as part of my personality.



Implicit Cannabis-Identity

Implicit association test

- D-measure (Greenwald, et al., 2003)
- RT & errors



I: Online Assessment (UvA Psy) July 2018

- Very preliminary results: some indication of usefulness of the indirect identity measure (significant predictor of use in ever users), while explicit measure does not show relationship

Correlations		Explicit	Implicit	Use
Explicit Cannabis ID	Pearson Correlation	1	.193	-.063
	Sig. (2-tailed)		.007	.385
	N	219	195	190
Implicit Cannabis ID	Pearson Correlation	.193	1	.175
	Sig. (2-tailed)	.007		.020
	N	195	195	177
Use past 3 months	Pearson Correlation	-.063	.175	1
	Sig. (2-tailed)	.385	.020	
	N	190	177	190

II: Ethnographic interviews

(lead UvA Anthropology)

- Prof. Anita Hardon, UvA and team
- Ethnographic interview: First Grand tour; then Probing; 2 day recalls; Projective techniques
- With interviewers in Berlin, Paris, London, trained in Amsterdam

Aim: is to understand the systems of shared ideas, concepts, rules, meanings and behaviour that are expressed in the ways humans live – in specific contexts, as well as **insights in dynamics of change**

II: Ethnographic interviews July 2018

- 15 participants completed 3 cycles of ethnographic interviews
- Between 1.5 and 2 month between interviews



Emerging themes:

- Materials (e.g., associated with use)
- Space-Time (locations, use at work, weekends etc)
- Identity and Self-Image
- Social environment
- Personal ethics (e.g., change of norms)
- Meaning and representation (e.g., rituals, combinations, meaning to their life)



Meaning of Substance use

(Nala, 23, student)

*“(...) when I think back to my school time, **nobody of those people understands remotely what I am doing here and what a part of my life it is.** It is not a big part in the sense of time, but they do not understand what I am doing there and they judge what I do”.*



Meaning of Substance use

(Nala, 23, student)

“(Drugs are) experiences that precisely not everybody shares and that, especially with hallucinogens have a strong influence on me because they give experiences that one can barely describe to people who never tried them”.



Emerging themes:

- Materials (e.g., associated with use)
- Space-Time (locations, temporality of use (work, weekends etc))
- Meaning and representation (e.g., rituals, combinations, meaning to their life)
- Self-regulation and harm reduction
 - E.g. dosing, combining, info



Self-regulation, dose, and setting

(Charlotte, 22,
unemployed)

*“I reduce the dosage when I go out with my friends. **I pay attention to the dose (cannabis and MDMA) when I am outside**, I do not go extreme because here the goal is only to take a good dose. **But if I stay at home** or at a friend's house and I do not have anything important the next day (...) **I will increase the dosage**”*

III. Hair Analysis (Lead: UCL)

- Idea: Objective assessment (il)licit drugs past 3 months
- Cannabinoids: THC, CBD, CBN, 11-OH-THC & 11-COOH-THC
- Alcohol: ethyl glucuronide (EtG) and fatty acid ethyl esters (FAEE)
- Other drugs (MDMA, cocaine, amphetamine, ketamine, mephedrone)
- All hair analyses are carried out at the Biomolecular Sciences Research Centre (BSRC) at Sheffield Hallam University

Hair Analysis status **July 2018**

- $n=132$ UK IP1, for cannabinoids
- $n=31$ German IP1, for cannabinoids, alcohol & other drugs
- Validity issues
 - **high false positive and high false negative rate,**
when comparing the hair results to self-report
 - high false negative rate is to be expected, but the
false positive rate should be close to zero

Hair Analysis current status

Most worryingly, 36% of those who self-reported recent cannabis use had a positive hair result for THC and THC-COOH, while 37% of those who self-reported **no** recent cannabis use had a positive hair result.

Sensitivity = 36% (i.e. probability that the hair test result will be positive when they have self-reported cannabis use i.e. true positive rate)

Specificity = 63% (i.e. probability that the hair test result will be negative when they have self-reported no cannabis use i.e. true negative rate)

Accuracy (taking self-report as true): 56%

Alarming poor..

Hair Analysis current status

In Sheffield we reprocess data

Validation checks (buy in hair with confirmed amounts of drugs)

Other things considered:

- Contamination at collection? (but Imagen researchers wear gloves & use clean scissors)
- Contamination at analysis (but they clean everything between samples & run blank sample inbetween)
- Self-report unreliable?
- Biggest question is high false positive rate



Wat maakt uw project waardevol?

Unique combination of qualitative and quantitative research...

....which also brings some difficulties > to translate findings to quantitative analyses we need to translate some qualitative findings to mass quantitative measures (e.g., Imagen fMRI data)



Wat wilt u andere projectleiders vragen?

U kunt bijvoorbeeld tips en suggesties vragen over...

- § de aanpak van het project of projectonderdeel

- § in contact komen met sleutelfiguren, - vooral – die aan de slag kunnen met uw resultaten

- § ‘meedoen’ of betrekken van de doelgroep

- § samenwerking met internationale stakeholders

