



The Impact of Racial/Ethnic Group Membership on Age Predictions

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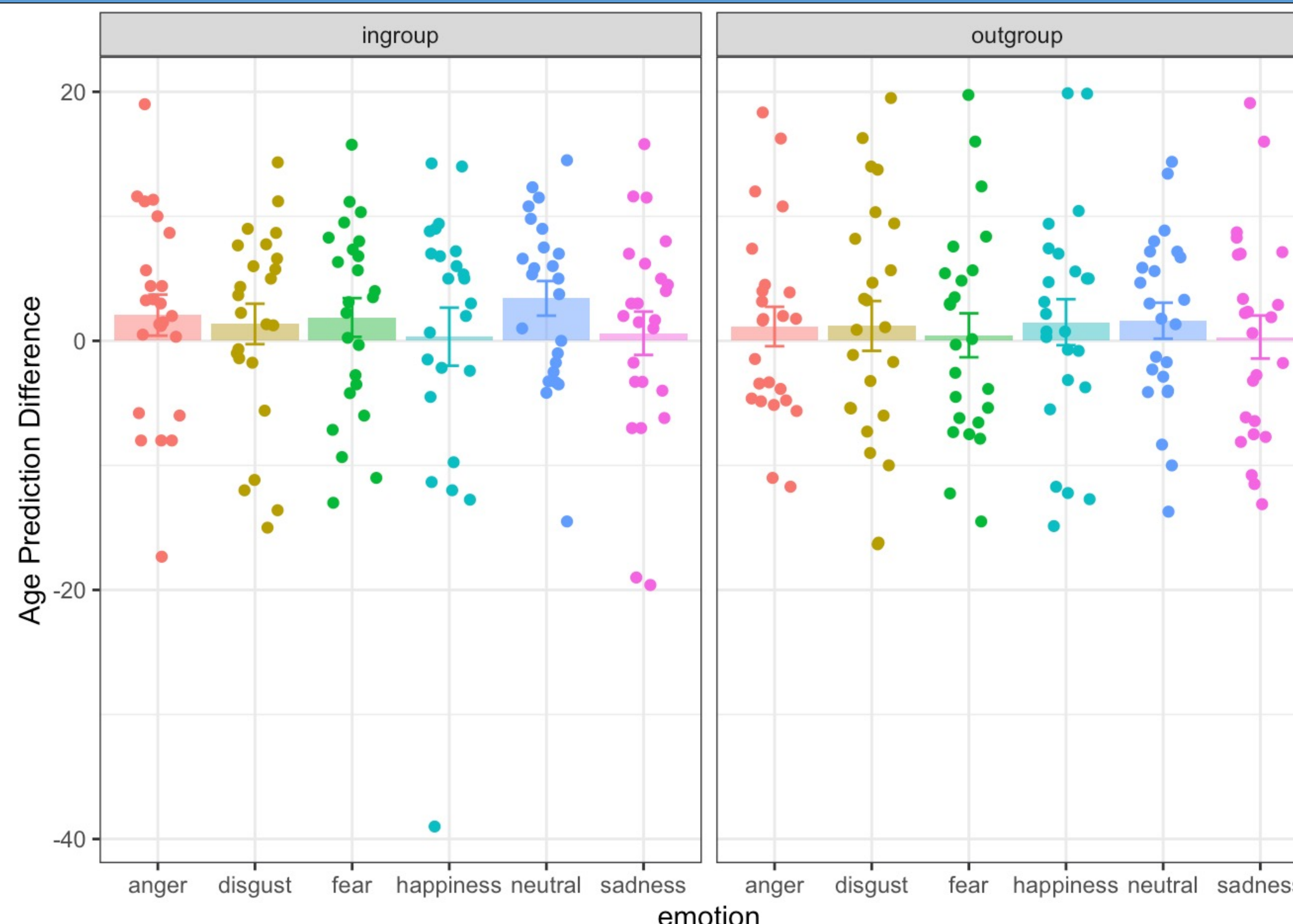
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Background

- The FACES database created facial stimuli that varied in emotional expression and age (Ebner et al., 2010)
- We are expanding the FACES database by taking pictures of Black/African American (B/AA) and Hispanic/Latine (H/L) community members modeling emotional expressions
- Participants (N = 48; 16 B/AA, 16 H/L, 16 white) viewed a subset of these images (36/144 images) and predicted the ages of the models
- **Is predicting age dependent on the specific emotion displayed?**
- **Does racial/ethnic group membership impact age predictions?**



Results

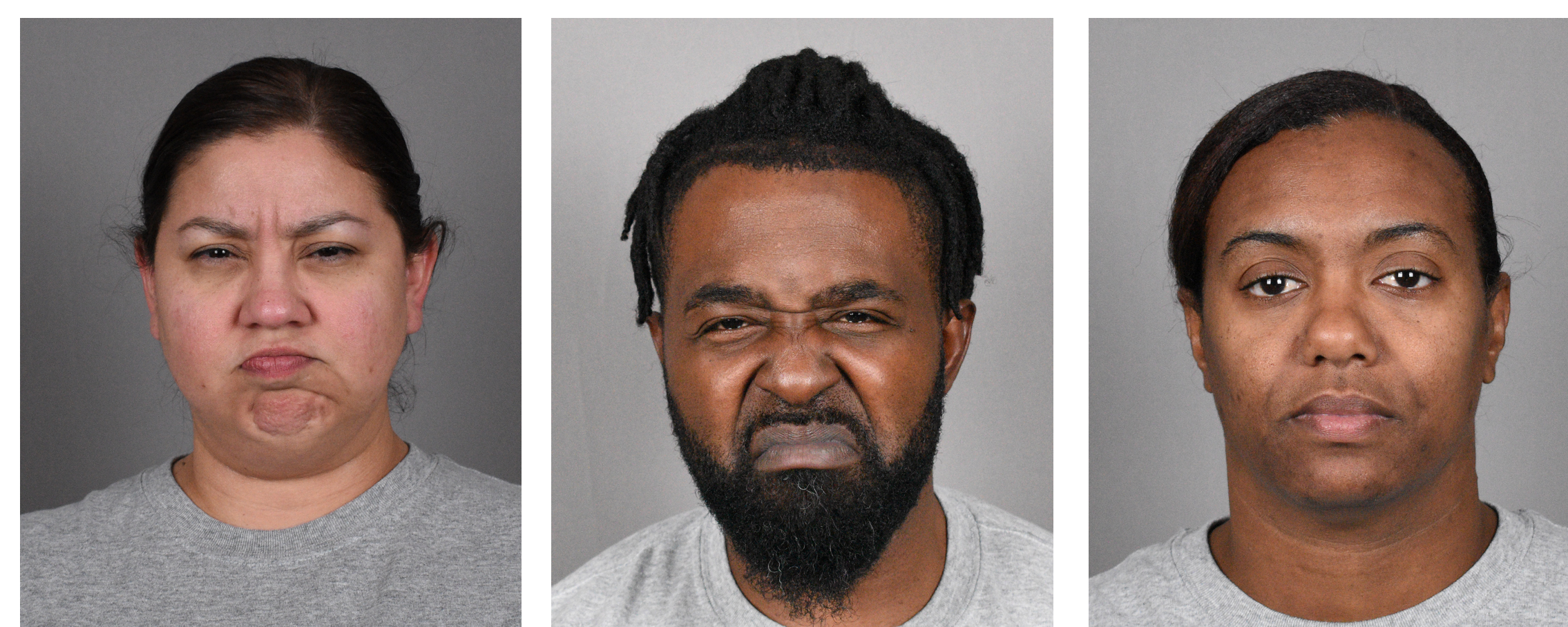
- No difference in age prediction based on the given emotion of the photo compared to neutral faces
- Belonging to a racial/ethnic in-group was associated with more overall error in age prediction, $p = .04$



Happy

Sad

Fear



Anger

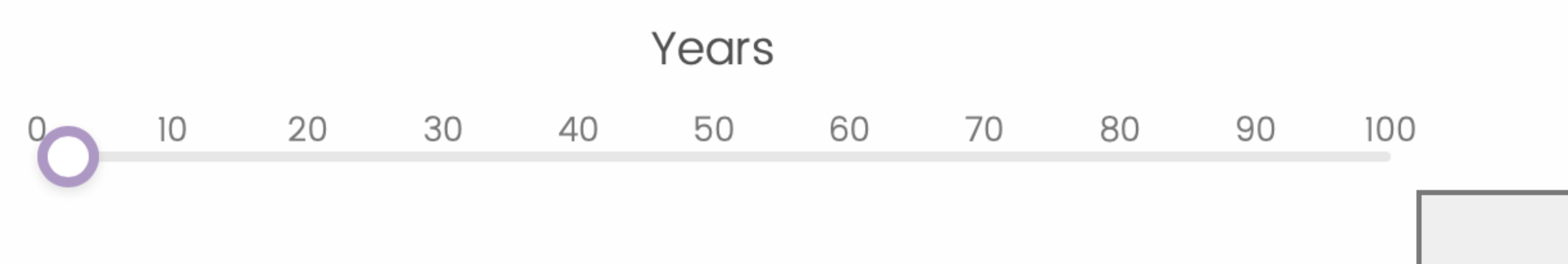
Disgust

Neutral

Method

- 12 models (female = 6; 7 B/AA, 5 H/L) recruited from community for photography session
- Two best representations of six common emotions chosen
- 48 online participants (female = 24; B/AA = 16; W = 16; H/L = 16) shown 36 randomly selected images
- Participants estimated the perceived age of the models on a slider scale (1-100)

How old is this person?



Conclusions

- Age predictions did not significantly differ based on emotion
- Age predictions were less accurate for racial/ethnic in-group members
 - Effect likely due to outlier predictions; further investigation needed
- Actively recruiting more community members for database development and validation