Online Supplement – Part 1:

Equations of the Longitudinal Multilevel Regression Models

The multilevel regression equations for both models (illustrated for ATOA as outcome; but equations for all other VoA outcomes were analogous) were as follows:

General-change-only model:

(1) $ATOA_{ti} = \beta_{0i} + \beta_{1i}(time)_{ti} + \varepsilon_{ti}$

General-change plus pandemic-related change model:

(2) $ATOA_{ti} = \beta_{0i} + \beta_{1i}(time)_{ti} + \beta_{2i}(pandemic\text{-}effect)_{ti} + \varepsilon_{ti}$,

with the pandemic-effect being 0 at each measurement occasion between 2012 and 2017 and 1 in 2020 [β = regression coefficients; i = individual; t = time/measurement occasion; ε = residual component],

Comparisons between models (1) and (2) were done by comparing the Bayesian information criterion (BIC) scores both models (Kass & Raftery, 1995; 2 (ΔBIC) $\geq$ 2: positive evidence in favor of the model with a lower BIC score; 2 (ΔBIC) $\geq$ 6: strong evidence; 2 (ΔBIC) > 10: very strong evidence) as well as the relative reduction in residual variance (R^2; computed according to Xu, 2003) obtained by each model.

The regression coefficients for the intercept (β_{0i}), for the slope ("time"; β_{1i}) component, and for the "pandemic-effect dummy variable" (β_{2i}) were, whenever estimable, specified as random effects, based on the assumption that intercept, intra-individual normative change as well as intra-individual COVID-19-induced change in VoA vary inter-individually in direction and magnitude.

Online Supplement – Part 2:

Additional Analyses Controlling for Covariates

When additionally controlling for age, gender, education, self-rated health, and depressive symptoms, the pandemic-specific change estimate for ATOA changed from 0.109 to 0.347 when adjusting for the covariates, but remained non-significant. Only education was a significant predictor of pandemic-specific ATOA change, which was less positive or even negative among those with more years of education.

For subjective age, controlling for the covariates did only slightly alter the pandemic specific change estimate (which changed from -0.014 to –0.016 and remained significant). As the random effect of this change had to be set to 0 to achieve model convergence, predictors of the pandemic-specific change were not investigated.
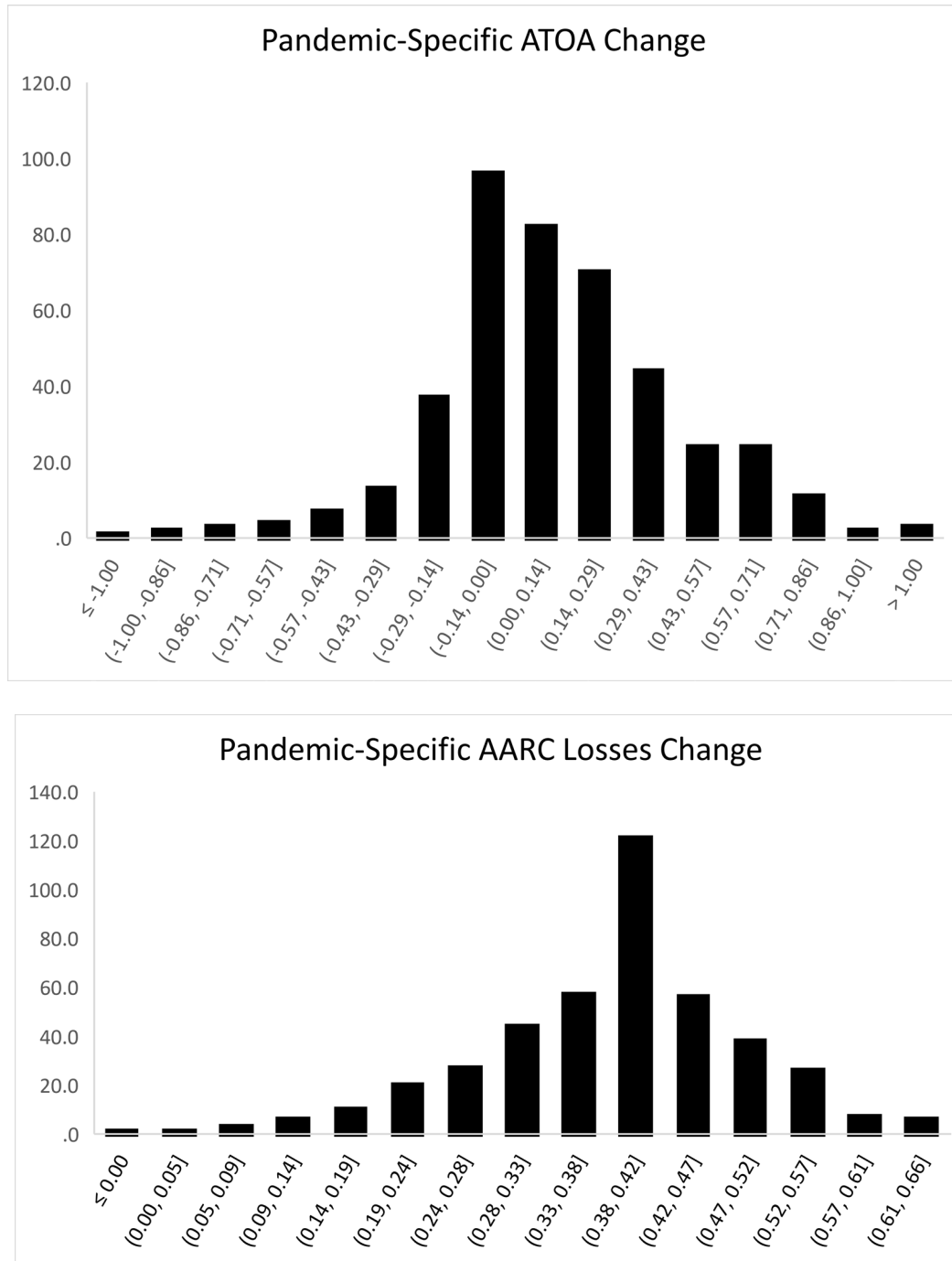
For AARC-gains, the pandemic-specific change estimate also remained significant and basically unaltered when adjusting for the covariates (the estimate changed from 0.540 to 0.525). Again, due to the random effect of this component set to 0, predictors of change could not be investigated.

The pandemic-specific change component changed from 0.379 to 0.484 and remained significant for AARC-Losses.

With regard to the general views on aging (age stereotypes), the pandemic-specific change in age stereotypes regarding family and partnership remained significant (unadjusted: -0.516; adjusted: -0.499). Predictors of this change component could not be estimated. The pandemic-specific change in age stereotypes regarding leisure remained non-significant (unadjusted: -0.008; adjusted: -0.068; change predictors not estimated). Also, pandemic-specific change in age stereotypes regarding personality remained non-significant (unadjusted: -0.215; adjusted: -0.163; all change predictors not significant). Pandemic-specific change in age stereotypes regarding health was no longer significant when controlling for the covariates (unadjusted: -0.374; adjusted: -0.344; all change predictors not significant).

Figure S 1

Inter-Individual Variation in Intra-Individual Change of Personal Views on Aging Between
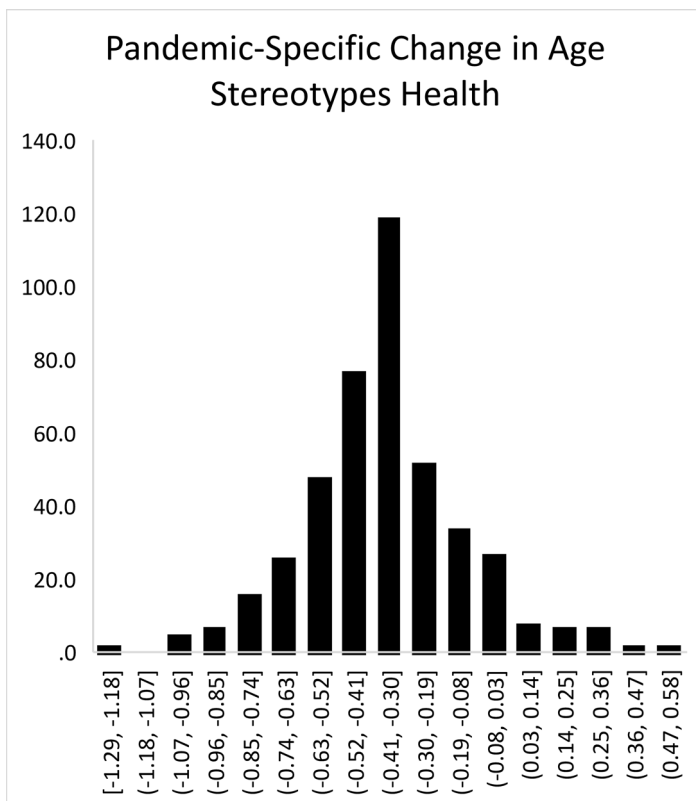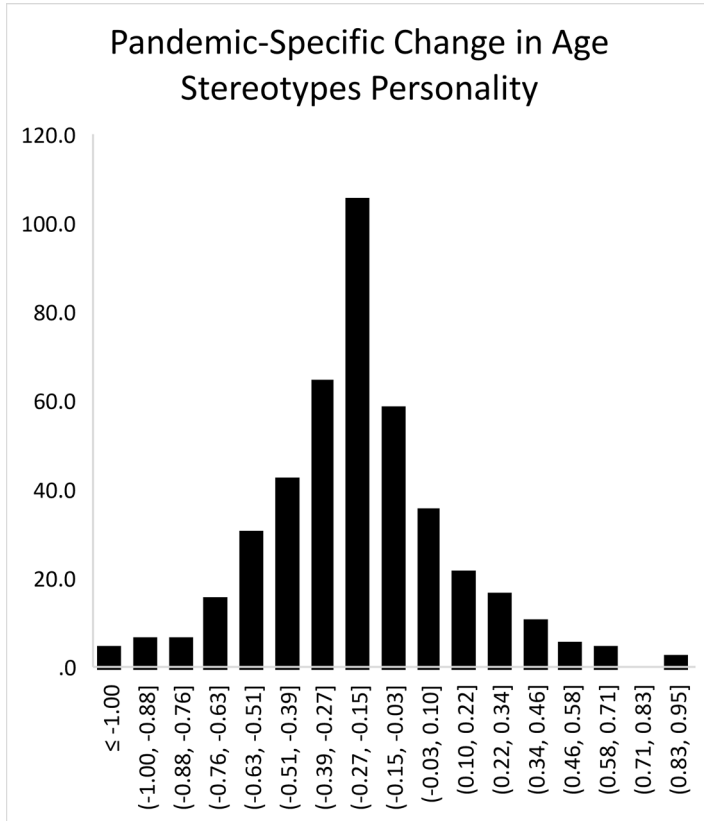
2012 and 2020

Note. ATOA = attitude toward own aging.

Subjective age and AARC gains are not shown as inter-individual variability in pandemic-specific change had to be constrained to 0 for these outcomes to obtain model estimates.

Figure S 2

Inter-Individual Variation in Intra-Individual Change of General Views on Aging Between

2012 and 2020

Note. Age stereotypes regarding family and partnership as well as leisure not shown as inter-individual variability in pandemic-specific change had to be constrained to 0 for these outcomes to obtain model estimates.

**Online Supplement – Part 3:**

Findings from repeated-measure ANOVA

The within-subject effect of time on personal VoA, when considering the entire time period from 2012 to 2020, was significant for all measures (ATOA: $F(3, 627) = 3.09$, $p = .027$, partial $\eta^2 = .015$; subjective age: $F(2.76, 502.02) = 4.89$, $p = .003$, partial $\eta^2 = .026$; AARC-Gains: $F(2.89, 615.00) = 35.69$, $p < .001$, partial $\eta^2 = .144$; AARC-Losses: $F(2.89, 614.69) = 21.18$, $p < .001$, partial $\eta^2 = .090$). For all personal VoA, the contrast between each measure in 2020 vs. in all prior measurement occasions was significant (ATOA: $F(1, 209) = 4.53$, $p = .035$, partial $\eta^2 = .021$; subjective age: $F(1, 182) = 6.14$, $p = .014$, partial $\eta^2 = .033$; AARC-Gains: $F(1, 213) = 102.09$, $p < .001$, partial $\eta^2 = .324$; AARC-Losses: $F(1, 213) = 39.84$, $p < .001$, partial $\eta^2 = .158$).

For general VoA, the effect of time was also significant for all measures (age stereotypes family and partnership: $F(3, 594) = 11.45$, $p < .001$, partial $\eta^2 = .055$; age stereotypes leisure: $F(3, 612) = 4.03$, $p = .007$, partial $\eta^2 = .019$; age stereotypes personality: $F(3, 618) = 2.93$, $p = .033$, partial $\eta^2 = .014$; age stereotypes health and appearance: $F(2.86, 576.69) = 3.28$, $p = .023$, partial $\eta^2 = .016$), but the contrast of the 2020 measurement occasion vs. the previous occasion was not significant for any of the general VoA (age stereotypes family and partnership: $F(1, 198) = 1.86$, $p = .17$, partial $\eta^2 = .009$; age stereotypes leisure: $F(1, 204) = 2.87$, $p = .09$, partial $\eta^2 = .014$; age stereotypes personality: $F(1, 206) = 1.81$, $p = .18$, partial $\eta^2 = .011$; age stereotypes health and appearance: $F(1, 202) = 0.72$, $p = .40$, partial $\eta^2 = .004$).

Mean-level trajectories of the personal VoA and general VoA according to the repeated-measure analyses of variance are illustrated in Figures S3 and S4.

Figure S 3

Mean Change of Personal Views on Aging between 2012 and 2020 from Repeated-Measure ANOVAs
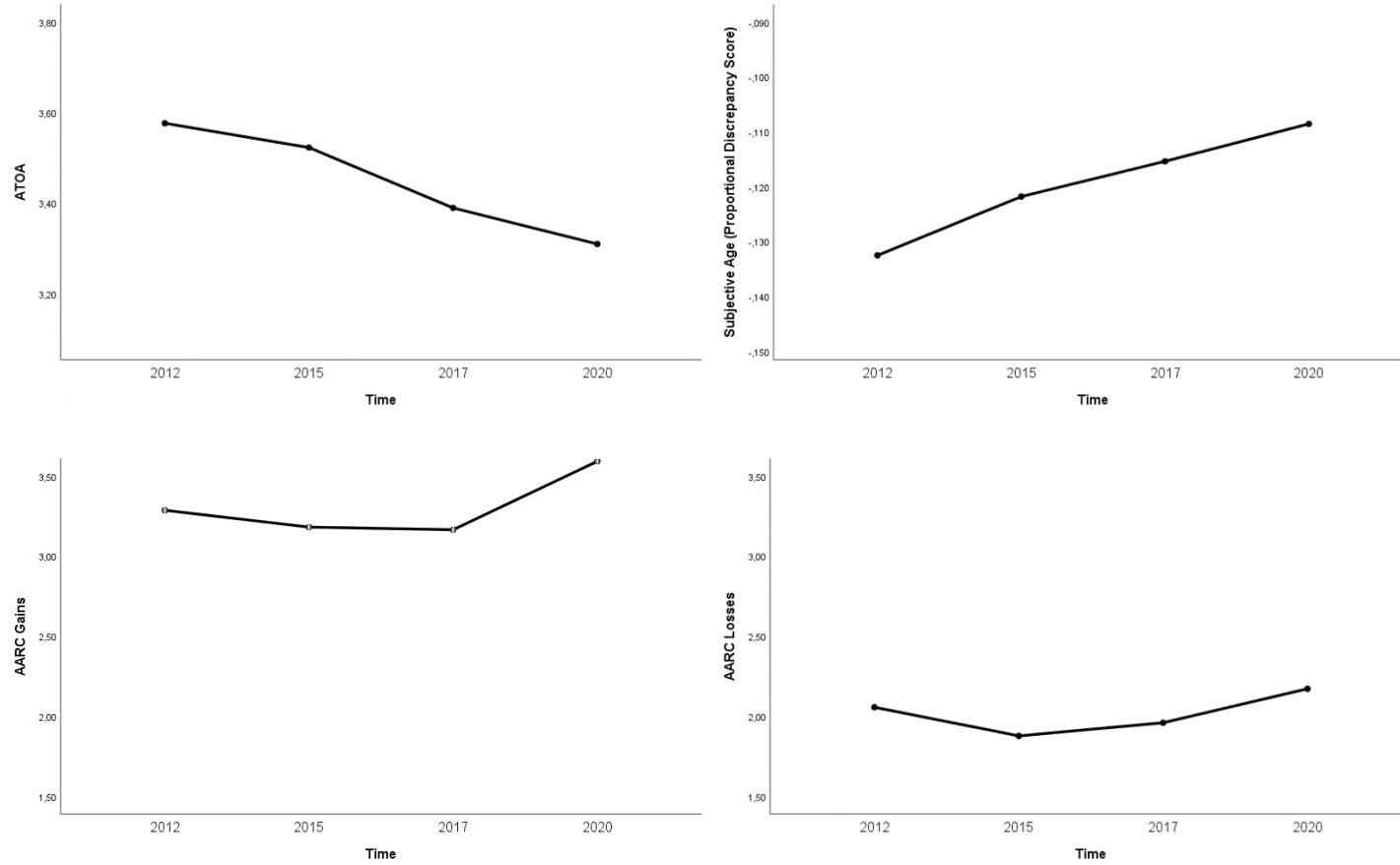
Note. ATOA = attitude toward own aging. AARC = awareness of age-related change. Subjective age was computed as a proportional discrepancy score (Rubin & Berntsen, 2006), corresponding to the extent felt age deviates from chronological age (subjective age = [felt age – chronological age]/chronological age), with scores indicating a person's felt age as a percentage of their chronological age.

Figure S 4

Mean Change of General Views on Aging between 2012 and 2020 from Repeated-Measure ANOVAs