**VoiceID**

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**Title:**

Impression formation across the life-span: Differential contributions of face and voice

**Abstract (Max. 250 words).**

When forming first impressions, information from faces and voices is rapidly integrated into a unified representation of an individual (Young et al., 2020). Although many aspects of a person can be inferred from either modality, one modality may be preferred when both are available (Mileva et al., 2018). To disentangle differential contributions of faces and voices to first impression formation based on an individual’s age, we combined photos of middle-aged faces (40-50 years old; Ebner et al., 2010) with voices (Zäske et al., 2019) that were younger or older than these faces (~ 20 vs. 70 years old). Participants were asked to rate each “audiovisual person” for trustworthiness, attractiveness, and dominance, and to estimate their age. In two experiments, we assessed how participants’ own age affected these ratings: Experiment 1 tested 27 students (𝑀 = 22 years old); Experiment 2 tested 29 senior citizens (𝑀 = 75 years).

The students rated faces combined with younger voices as more attractive than the same faces combined with older voices; for senior raters, voice age did not affect attractiveness ratings. For dominance ratings, the pattern reversed: Students experienced faces combined with older voices as more dominant; senior raters found faces with younger voices more dominant. Trustworthiness ratings were not affected by age. Age estimates relatively accurately reflected the age of the face. Interestingly, despite age differences of ±20 years between faces and voices, face-voice pairings were rarely experienced as mismatching, suggesting that face and voice age can differ considerably without appearing implausible.

**Keywords**: Impression Formation, Person Perception, Life Span, Attractiveness, Dominance, Age Estimation, Face-Voice Pairing

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