## Figures

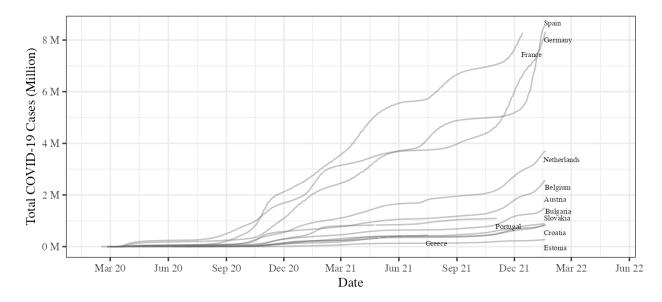


Figure 1: Cumulative COVID-19 cases number for selected European countries since the beginning of the pandemic. Source: COVerAGE-DB (Riffe, Acosta, and COVerAGE-DB team 2021).

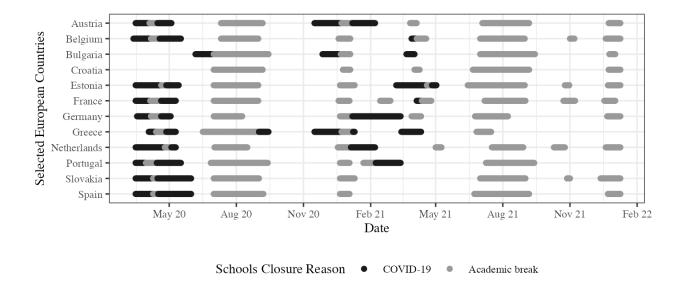


Figure 2: Periods of school closure since the beginning of the COVID-19 pandemic for selected European countries and their reason: regular academic break versus closure due to government decisions. Source: United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) (2022).

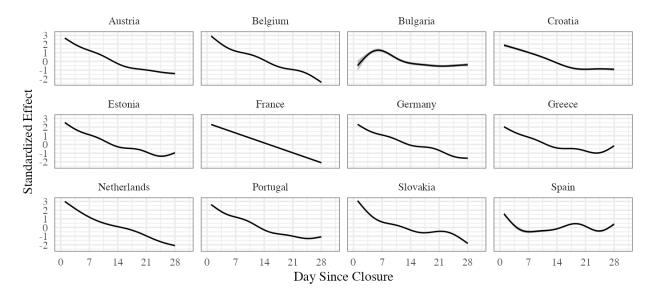


Figure 3: Standardized effect of the smooth term in Generalized Additive Model by country. Standardized effects are reported to compare the shape of the curve between countries.

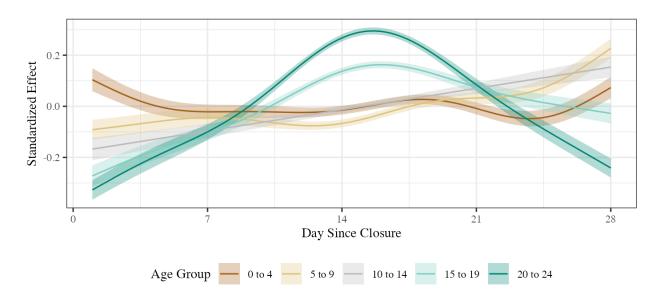


Figure 4: Standardized effect of the smooth term in Generalized Additive Model by age group. Standardized effects are reported to compare the shape of the curve between age groups.

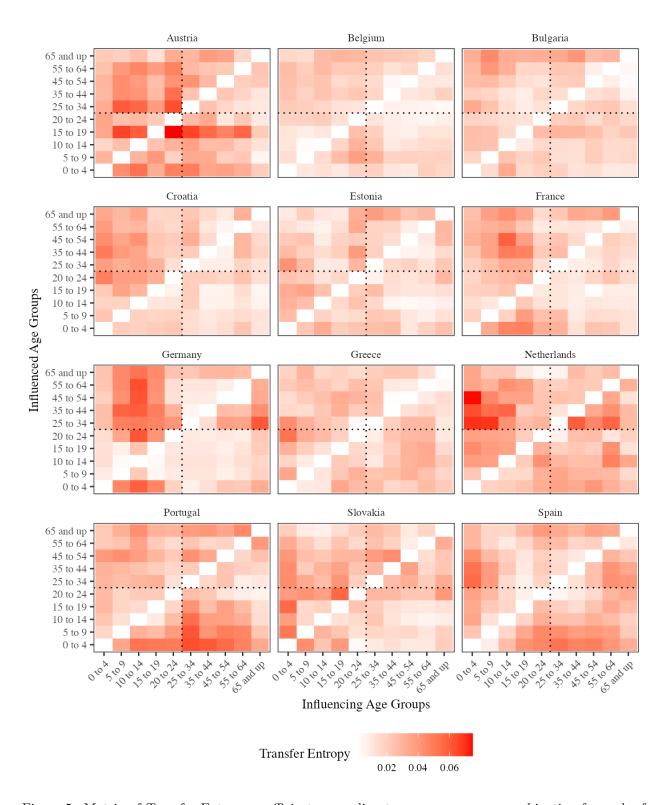


Figure 5: Matrix of Transfer Entropy coefficients according to every age group combination for each of the selected European country. Age groups on the x-axis are influencing the age groups on the y-axis  $(ag\,x \to ag\,y)$ . The significance of each Transfer Entropy coefficient is provided in Appendix 2.