Supplemental Material: Age Differences in Rapid Attention to Emotional Stimuli are Driven More by Valence than by Discrete Emotions

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Distractor Image Arousal and Valence Means

As we discuss in the main text, the databases from which images were sourced provided normative ratings of valence and arousal. Means and 95% confidence intervals of these metrics for each distractor category is reported in Table S1.

Table S1.

Means and 95% Confidence Intervals of Images from Image Databases

	Valence		Arousal	
	M	*95% CI*	*M*	*95% CI*
Disgust	3.12	[2.81, 3.44]	4.67	[4.34, 5.00]
Fear	3.32	[3.06, 3.58]	4.83	[4.50, 5.15]
Contentment	7.06	[6.80, 7.32]	4.27	[3.98, 4.55]
Excitement	6.01	[5.68, 6.33]	5.36	[4.98, 5.74]
Neutral	4.89	[4.70, 5.08]	3.62	[3.31, 3.92]

Main Comparisons Including Day as a Variable

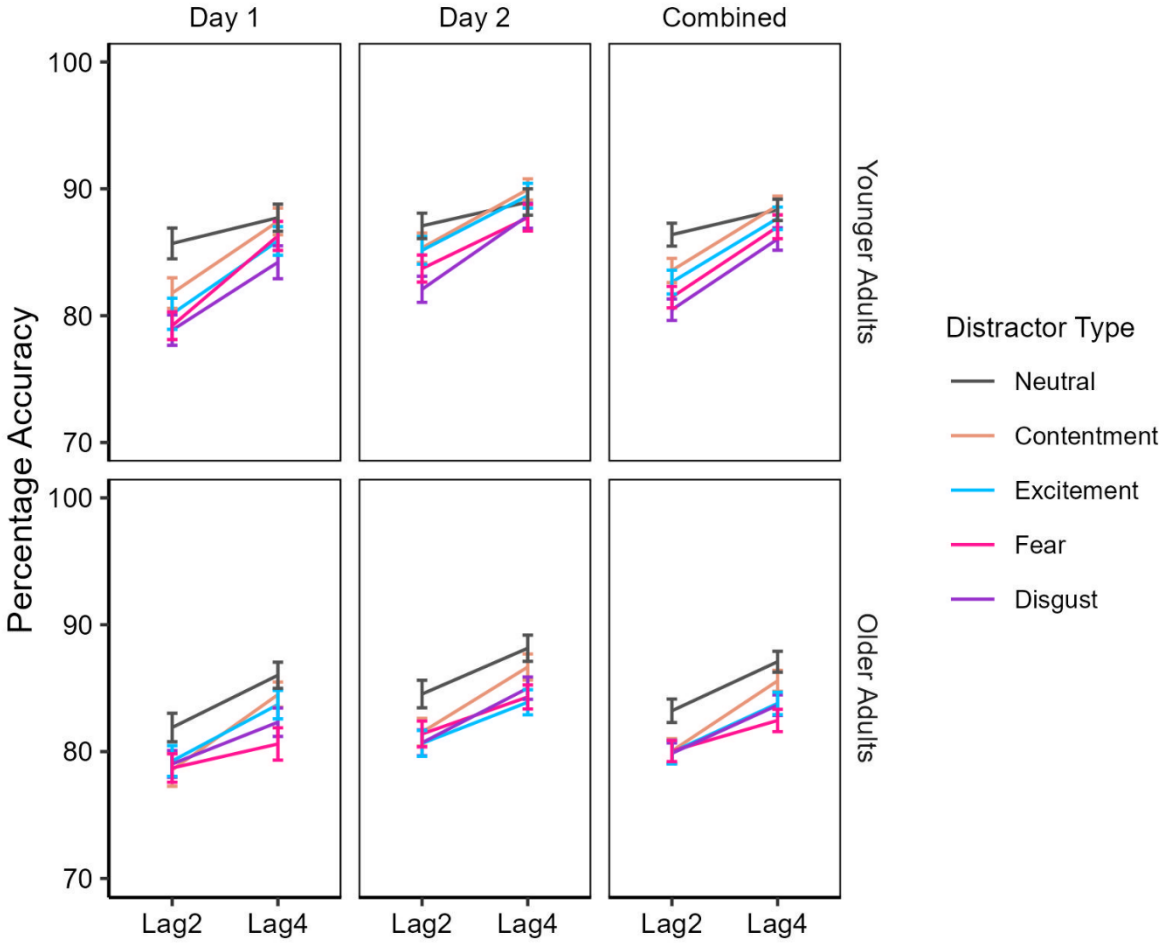
Participants completed the experiment across two sessions on different days. In our main analyses, we collapsed across day. However, here we report the main comparisons with day included as a variable, which revealed a similar pattern of results. *Figure S1* further depicts performance accuracy of each condition separated by day.

A 2 (age: younger adults and older adults) × 5 (distractor type: fear, disgust, excitement, contentment, neutral) × 2 (lag: lag 2 and lag 4) × 2 (day: Day 1 and Day 2) ANOVA revealed that, as they were when day was collapsed, there were significant main effects of age, $F(1, 207) = 7.49$, $p = .007$, $\eta^2_p = 0.03$, distractor type, $F(3.93, 813.31) = 30.77$, $p < .001$, $\eta^2_p = 0.13$, and lag, $F(1, 207) = 236.74$, $p < .001$, $\eta^2_p = 0.53$. This ANOVA also revealed a

significant effect of day, $F(1, 207) = 23.25$, $p < .001$, $\eta^2_p = 0.10$, with overall better performance on Day 2 than Day 1. Like the main analyses, there were no significant interactions between distractor type × lag, $F(3.82, 790.83) = 2.39$, $p = .052$, $\eta^2_p = 0.01$, age × distractor type, $F(3.93, 813.31) = 2.05$, $p = .087$, $\eta^2_p < 0.01$, or age × lag, $F(1, 207) = 1.85$, $p = .175$, $\eta^2_p < 0.01$, but there was a significant age × distractor type × lag interaction, $F(3.82, 790.83) = 2.82$, $p = .026$, $\eta^2_p = 0.01$. When it came to interactions with the day variable, the age × day, valence × day, and lag × day interactions were all non-significant ($Fs < 1.15$, $ps > .284$), as were the three-way interactions between age × lag × day and distractor type × lag × day ($Fs < 1$, $ps > .369$). There was a significant three-way age × distractor type × day interaction, $F(3.87, 800.52) = 2.51$, $p = .042$, $\eta^2_p = 0.01$, indicating that overall, age groups differed in the way distractor types impacted attention across days. However, as we indicate in the main text, there was no significant age × distractor type × lag × day interaction, $F(3.96, 820.29) = 0.70$, $p = .594$, $\eta^2_p < 0.01$, which indicated that, along with results being essentially the same with day included, it was appropriate to collapse data across day.

Figure S1.

Younger and Older Adults' Mean Performance for Distractor Type Trials



Note. Trials represented on individual day sessions and combined across days. Error bars represent between-subjects standard error.

Reliability estimates for younger and older adults separately

In supplemental analyses, we examined the intraclass correlation coefficients (ICC) for younger and older adults separately. *Table S2* presents reliability estimates for younger adults only, and *Table S3* presents reliability estimates for older adults only.

Table S2.

Reliability Estimates for Younger Adults Only

Younger Adults (N = 101)				
Distractor Type	Lag	ICC	95% CI Lower	95% CI Upper
Contentment	Lag 2	0.444	0.184	0.622
	Lag 4	0.338	0.029	0.550
Disgust	Lag 2	0.254	-0.091	0.492
	Lag 4	0.289	-0.036	0.515
Excitement	Lag 2	0.436	0.170	0.617
	Lag 4	0.570	0.360	0.710
Fear	Lag 2	0.348	0.053	0.554
	Lag 4	0.628	0.450	0.749
Neutral	Lag 2	0.485	0.238	0.653
	Lag 4	0.424	0.146	0.612
Negative	Lag 2	0.419	0.149	0.605
	Lag 4	0.627	0.448	0.748
Positive	Lag 2	0.519	0.281	0.678
	Lag 4	0.564	0.352	0.706
Negative Minus	Lag 2	0.206	-0.181	0.466
Positive	Lag 4	0.424	0.144	0.612

Table S3.

Reliability Estimates for Older Adults Only

Older Adults (N = 108)				
Distractor Type	Lag	ICC	95% CI Lower	95% CI Upper
Contentment	Lag 2	0.469	0.228	0.635
	Lag 4	0.510	0.287	0.664
Disgust	Lag 2	0.394	0.116	0.585
	Lag 4	0.453	0.206	0.624
Excitement	Lag 2	0.513	0.288	0.667
	Lag 4	0.565	0.362	0.703
Fear	Lag 2	0.343	0.046	0.548
	Lag 4	0.363	0.081	0.561
Neutral	Lag 2	0.561	0.361	0.699
	Lag 4	0.425	0.163	0.605
Negative	Lag 2	0.420	0.159	0.602
	Lag 4	0.479	0.242	0.642
Positive	Lag 2	0.632	0.462	0.748
	Lag 4	0.601	0.417	0.727
Negative Minus Positive	Lag 2	0.256	-0.093	0.493
	Lag 4	-0.126	-0.634	0.226

Individual Differences Measures

In addition to the emotion-induced blindness task, we had participants complete several questionnaires to measure individual differences related to affect, quality of life, disgust

reactions, and emotion regulation. We collected these measures to conduct secondary, exploratory analyses examining if individual differences could predict positivity biases on the emotion-induced blindness task. Previous research indicates that older adults report higher levels of well-being than younger adults (Blanchflower & Oswald, 2008; Carstensen & DeLiema, 2018; Kim & Barber, 2022), so we expected older adults to report greater positive affect and life satisfaction than younger adults, and individuals who reported high levels of these measures to demonstrate a stronger positivity effect. Since we were especially interested in the role of disgust, we chose to include a questionnaire exploring reactions to disgust (Fergus & Valentiner, 2009). We expected that if we found a difference in patterns between disgust and fear, we could see if individuals with greater disgust sensitivity and propensity would be more distracted by disgusting negative images. Additionally, as prominent positivity effect theories propose that emotion regulation may drive the effect, we included a measure of cognitive emotion regulation strategies to see if certain strategies were associated with a positivity bias (Carstensen, 2006; Reed & Carstensen, 2012).

In secondary analyses, we examined the role of individual differences. Using an exploratory approach, we examined how individual differences related to performance and contrasted between age groups. We were interested in whether affect, quality of life, disgust reactions, or emotion regulation would be associated with individuals' positivity bias in their task performance.

We first examined how younger and older adults differed on the self-reported individual differences questionnaires. We used the *psych* package in R to run the correlations and formatted the tables using the *gt* package. As predicted, age groups differed across most of the individual differences and in predicted directions (see Table S4). Compared to younger adults, on average, older adults reported lower levels of depression, anxiety, stress, negative affect, and reported higher levels of positive affect and quality of life. Older adults also

reported lower levels of disgust sensitivity than younger adults, although there were no differences between age groups in disgust propensity. In self-report measures of emotion-regulation strategies, older adults reported using less self-blame, rumination, catastrophizing, and other blame than younger adults. However, there were no age differences in self-reported levels of acceptance, refocus on planning, positive reappraisal, or putting things into perspective.

Table S4.

Scores from Self-Reported Individual Differences Measures

	Younger Adults			Older Adults			Age Comparison		
Measure	*Mean*	*CI Lower*	*CI Upper*	*Mean*	*CI Lower*	*CI Upper*	*t*	*p*	*d*
dass depression	5.90	4.76	7.04	1.86	1.13	2.59	5.95	<.001	.84
dass anxiety	4.07	3.26	4.88	1.21	0.83	1.58	6.38	<.001	.91
dass stress	6.05	4.99	7.11	2.36	1.75	2.96	6.01	<.001	.85
panas pos	28.21	26.38	30.04	33.63	32.30	34.95	4.76	<.001	.67
panas neg	19.00	17.29	20.71	13.13	12.18	14.08	5.94	<.001	.84
qoflife transformed	62.75	58.88	66.62	71.57	68.40	74.74	3.50	.001	.49
propensity sum	21.90	20.82	22.98	20.32	19.38	21.26	2.19	.477	.31
sensitivity sum	19.50	18.22	20.78	15.96	14.96	16.97	4.32	<.001	.61
self blame	11.03	10.24	11.82	8.34	7.77	8.90	5.51	<.001	.77
acceptance	13.16	12.50	13.82	12.81	12.17	13.46	0.75	1.000	.10
rumination	12.33	11.57	13.09	9.35	8.70	9.99	5.95	<.001	.83
refocus on planning	13.30	12.59	14.01	14.24	13.51	14.98	1.83	1.000	.25
positive reappraisal	12.18	11.38	12.98	12.77	12.02	13.51	1.07	1.000	.15
putting into perspective	12.22	11.51	12.93	13.14	12.45	13.83	1.83	1.000	.26
catastrophizing	9.47	8.71	10.23	6.62	6.13	7.10	6.30	<.001	.89
other blame	8.73	8.05	9.41	7.45	7.00	7.90	3.13	.032	.44

Note. Means, 95% confidence intervals, and *t*-tests between age groups are reported. *p*-values are reported with Bonferroni correction applied.

We wanted to examine if individual differences related to individuals' positivity biases on the emotion-induced blindness task. Since we did not find substantial differences between discrete emotions, we chose to examine how distraction by negative, positive, and negative versus positive trials differed with each of the individual differences. For each participant, regardless of their age, we created six separate dependent variables: lag-2-negative, lag-2-positive, lag-2-negative-minus-lag-2-positive, lag-4-negative, lag-4-positive, and lag-4-negative-minus-lag-4-positive. We correlated all individual differences measures with these performance scores using Pearson correlations.

Two participants (one younger adult and one older adult) did not complete the questionnaires on Day 2, so their data were excluded from individual differences analyses. Correlations between individual differences measures are presented in Table S5 and are separated by younger and older adults in Tables S6 and S7 respectively. As noted in the tables, p-values are presented both with and without False Discovery Rate (FDR) corrections applied. With corrections for multiple comparisons applied, no individual differences correlated with any of the six performance variables.

In general, individual differences related to affect, quality of life, disgust reactions, and emotion regulation differed between younger and older adults in predicted directions. Compared to younger adults, older adults reported being more positive in affect, lower in negative affect, higher in quality of life, and less likely to use certain maladaptive emotion regulation strategies. However, these self-report measures had no meaningful relationships with the way individuals were distracted by positive relative to negative distractor images. In some ways, this is consistent with previous work that observed the positivity effect in a variety of measures, but that individual performance did not correlate between tasks (Barber et al., 2020). Future work should continue to consider how mechanisms that impact patterns

in attention may relate to other tasks, keeping in mind there may be multiple mechanisms at play where the positivity effect is observed across domains (see also Kim & Barber, 2022).

Table S5.

Correlation Matrix of Individual Differences Measures

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22
1. neg lag2		.68**	.2	.64**	.67**	0	-.05	-.04	-.03	-.08	-.08	-.08	-.05	-.08	.04	.18	0	-.03	-.1	-.07	-.04	-.11
2. pos lag2	.68**		- .59**	.73**	.76**	.01	-.02	-.01	.02	-.1	-.04	-.07	-.05	-.07	.01	.15	.08	-.01	0	-.05	-.09	-.12
3. negminpos lag2	.2*	- .59**		- .27*	- .28*	-.01	-.04	-.03	-.06	.04	-.03	.01	.01	.01	.04	0	-.1	-.02	-.1	-.01	.07	.03
4. neg lag4	.64**	.73**	- .27**		.75**	.41**	-.06	-.06	-.03	-.08	-.11	.01	-.09	-.08	.01	.15	.06	.07	.04	-.03	-.12	-.18
5. pos lag4	.67**	.76**	- .28**	.75**		- .29*	-.02	.02	.02	-.14	-.04	-.11	-.01	-.03	.05	.15	.09	-.02	-.05	-.09	-.02	-.09
6. dass depression	0	.01	-.01	.41**	- .29**		-.07	-.1	-.07	.08	-.11	.16	-.11	-.08	-.05	0	-.04	.13	.13	.08	-.16	-.13
7. dass anxiety	-.05	-.02	-.04	-.06	-.02	-.07		.72**	.8**	- .5**	.77**	- .63**	.3*	.37**	.53**	.08	.43**	-.23	-.26	-.15	.54**	.34**
8. dass stress	-.04	-.01	-.03	-.06	.02	-.1	.72**		.79**	-.24	.76**	- .5**	.29*	.47**	.53**	.06	.49**	-.15	-.12	-.05	.54**	.43**
9. panas pos	-.03	.02	-.06	-.03	.02	-.07	.8**	.79**		- .4**	.86**	- .56**	.39**	.5**	.57**	.03	.54**	-.15	-.19	-.07	.58**	.44**
10. panas neg	-.08	-.1	.04	-.08	- .14*	.08	- .5**	- .24**	- .4**		- .35**	.57**	-.09	-.13	-.24	.01	-.11	.39**	.51**	.33**	-.19	.01
11. qoflife transformed	-.08	-.04	-.03	-.11	-.04	-.11	.77**	.76**	.86**	- .35**		- .51**	.4**	.47**	.56**	0	.53**	-.17	-.21	-.06	.58**	.44**
12. propensity sum	-.08	-.07	.01	.01	-.11	.16*	- .63**	- .5**	- .56**	.57**	- .51**		-.18	-.24	- .35**	.05	- .27*	.42**	.5**	.31*	- .35**	-.23
13. sensitivity sum	-.05	-.05	.01	-.09	-.01	-.11	.3**	.29**	.39**	-.09	.4**	- .18*		.77**	.36**	.02	.32**	.06	-.04	.07	.43**	.45**
14. self blame	-.08	-.07	.01	-.08	-.03	-.08	.37**	.47**	.5**	-.13	.47**	- .24**	.77**		.5**	.02	.45**	-.03	-.03	.04	.54**	.48**
15. acceptance	.04	.01	.04	.01	.05	-.05	.53**	.53**	.57**	- .24**	.56**	- .35**	.36**	.5**		.29*	.58**	.11	.05	.15	.56**	.31*
16. rumination	.18*	.15*	0	.15*	.15*	0	.08	.06	.03	.01	0	.05	.02	.02	.29**		.23	.33**	.3*	.34**	.07	-.06
17. refocus on planning	0	.08	-.1	.06	.09	-.04	.43**	.49**	.54**	-.11	.53**	- .27**	.32**	.45**	.58**	.23**		.2	.14	.05	.63**	.44**
18. positive reappraisal	-.03	-.01	-.02	.07	-.02	.13	- .23**	- .15*	- .15*	.39**	- .17*	.42**	.06	-.03	.11	.33**	.2*		.68**	.52**	-.07	.03
19. putting into perspective	-.1	0	-.1	.04	-.05	.13	- .26**	-.12	- .19*	.51**	- .21*	.5**	-.04	-.03	.05	.3**	.14	.68**		.67**	-.08	0
20. catastrophizing	-.07	-.05	-.01	-.03	-.09	.08	- .15*	-.05	-.07	.33**	-.06	.31**	.07	.04	.15*	.34**	.05	.52**	.67**		-.11	-.02
21. other blame	-.04	-.09	.07	-.12	-.02	- .16*	.54**	.54**	.58**	- .19*	.58**	- .35**	.43**	.54**	.56**	.07	.63**	-.07	-.08	-.11		.61**
22. neg lag2	-.11	-.12	.03	- .18*	-.09	-.13	.34**	.43**	.44**	.01	.44**	- .23**	.45**	.48**	.31**	-.06	.44**	.03	0	-.02	.61**	

Note. * denotes $p < .05$; ** denotes $p < .001$, such that asterisks in the top half of the matrix indicate significance with FDR corrections for multiple comparisons, and asterisks in the bottom half of the matrix indicate significance without FDR corrections applied.

Table S6.

Correlation of Individual Difference Measures in Younger Adults Only

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22
1. neg lag2		.68**	.24	.68**	.71**	.08	-.1	-.09	-.02	-.14	-.13	-.1	-.09	-.03	.05	.22	.02	-.02	-.05	-.02	-.08	-.17
2. pos lag2	.68**		-.55**	.74**	.8**	.03	-.08	-.1	-.02	-.1	-.13	-.04	-.26	-.17	-.09	.09	-.07	-.07	-.03	-.03	-.24	-.3
3. negminpos lag2	.24*	-.55**		-.2	-.26	.05	-.01	.03	.01	-.02	.02	-.06	.23	.19	.18	.13	.12	.07	-.02	.01	.23	.2
4. neg lag4	.68**	.74**	-.2*		.74**	.5**	-.2	-.15	-.11	-.07	-.24	.1	-.28	-.23	-.08	.07	-.06	.08	.1	.01	-.33	-.34
5. pos lag4	.71**	.8**	-.26*	.74**		-.21	-.07	-.02	.05	-.15	-.06	-.12	-.14	-.09	.02	.15	.04	-.04	-.05	0	-.15	-.25
6. negminpos lag4	.08	.03	.05	.5**	-.21*		-.2	-.19	-.22	.09	-.27	.3	-.23	-.22	-.15	-.1	-.14	.17	.21	.01	-.3	-.17
7. dass depression	-.1	-.08	-.01	-.2*	-.07	-.2*		.75**	.82**	-.37	.72**	-.66**	.36	.38	.5**	.13	.4*	-.12	-.22	-.05	.42*	.37
8. dass anxiety	-.09	-.1	.03	-.15	-.02	-.19	.75**		.8**	-.12	.75**	-.49**	.32	.47**	.55**	.09	.44*	-.12	-.11	.02	.44*	.42*
9. dass stress	-.02	-.02	.01	-.11	.05	-.22*	.82**	.8**		-.3	.84**	-.58**	.45*	.52**	.56**	.07	.53**	-.09	-.19	-.05	.48**	.43*
1. panas pos	-.14	-.1	-.02	-.07	-.15	.09	-.37**	-.12	-.3*		-.18	.55**	-.1	-.09	-.19	0	-.03	.34	.55**	.29	-.01	.08
11. panas neg	-.13	-.13	.02	-.24*	-.06	-.27*	.72**	.75**	.84**	-.18		-.5**	.47**	.51**	.53**	-.01	.51**	-.08	-.15	.04	.52**	.46**
12. qoflife transformed	-.1	-.04	-.06	.1	-.12	.3*	-.66**	-.49**	-.58**	.55**	-.5**		-.14	-.18	-.3	.06	-.23	.49**	.63**	.35	-.25	-.21
13. propensity sum	-.09	-.26*	.23*	-.28*	-.14	-.23*	.36**	.32*	.45**	-.1	.47**	-.14		.79**	.38*	.06	.36	.11	.04	.09	.51**	.52**
14. sensitivity sum	-.03	-.17	.19	-.23*	-.09	-.22*	.38**	.47**	.52**	-.09	.51**	-.18	.79**		.51**	.03	.44*	.01	-.01	.08	.55**	.46**
15. self blame	.05	-.09	.18	-.08	.02	-.15	.5**	.55**	.56**	-.19	.53**	-.3*	.38**	.51**		.42*	.6**	.15	.04	.23	.59**	.28
16. acceptance	.22*	.09	.13	.07	.15	-.1	.13	.09	.07	0	-.01	.06	.06	.03	.42**		.32	.46*	.42*	.46**	.13	-.03
17. rumination	.02	-.07	.12	-.06	.04	-.14	.4**	.44**	.53**	-.03	.51**	-.23*	.36**	.44**	.6**	.32*		.28	.12	.11	.57**	.4*
18. refocus on planning	-.02	-.07	.07	.08	-.04	.17	-.12	-.12	-.09	.34**	-.08	.49**	.11	.01	.15	.46**	.28*		.73**	.44*	.03	.07
19. positive reappraisal	-.05	-.03	-.02	.1	-.05	.21*	-.22*	-.11	-.19	.55**	-.15	.63**	.04	-.01	.04	.42**	.12	.73**		.68**	0	.03
2. putting into perspective	-.02	-.03	.01	.01	0	.01	-.05	.02	-.05	.29*	.04	.35**	.09	.08	.23*	.46**	.11	.44**	.68**		-.01	0
21. catastrophizing	-.08	-.24*	.23*	-.33**	-.15	-.3*	.42**	.44**	.48**	-.01	.52**	-.25*	.51**	.55**	.59**	.13	.57**	.03	0	-.01		.64**
22. other blame	-.17	-.3*	.2*	-.34**	-.25*	-.17	.37**	.42**	.43**	.08	.46**	-.21*	.52**	.46**	.28*	-.03	.4**	.07	.03	0	.64**	

Note. * denotes $p < .05$; ** denotes $p < .001$, such that asterisks in the top half of the matrix indicate significance with FDR corrections for multiple comparisons, and asterisks in the bottom half of the matrix indicate significance without FDR corrections applied.

Table S7.

Correlation of Individual Difference Measures in Older Adults Only

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22
1. neg lag2		.68**	.18	.59**	.64**	-.08	-.07	-.07	-.15	.03	-.12	-.02	-.02	-.19	-.03	.14	-.08	-.02	-.13	-.09	-.09	-.09
2. pos lag2	.68**		-.6**	.7**	.71**	-.02	-.11	-.11	-.13	.02	-.13	-.01	.1	-.09	-.03	.19	.1	.09	.05	-.03	-.11	0
3. negminpos lag2	.18	-.6**		-.3	-.25	-.06	.07	.07	.01	.02	.05	-.01	-.16	-.09	.01	-.11	-.22	-.14	-.21	-.06	.05	-.1
4. neg lag4	.59**	.7**	-.3*		.74**	.34	-.1	-.21	-.17	.05	-.19	.03	.05	-.07	-.08	.21	.01	.12	.01	-.02	-.1	-.09
5. pos lag4	.64**	.71**	-.25*	.74**		-.38*	-.18	-.23	-.28	0	-.29	.01	.04	-.11	-.11	.14	-.03	.05	-.03	-.13	-.1	-.03
6. negminpos lag4	-.08	-.02	-.06	.34**	-.38**		.12	.03	.16	.06	.14	.02	.01	.06	.05	.09	.05	.09	.06	.15	-.01	-.09
7. dass depression	-.07	-.11	.07	-.1	-.18	.12		.43*	.64**	-.55**	.75**	-.52**	.14	.15	.37	-.02	.23	-.32	-.3	-.21	.5**	.12
8. dass anxiety	-.07	-.11	.07	-.21*	-.23*	.03	.43**		.62**	-.16	.6**	-.45*	.16	.28	.23	-.06	.32	-.13	-.1	-.02	.49**	.31
9. dass stress	-.15	-.13	.01	-.17	-.28*	.16	.64**	.62**		-.34	.83**	-.44*	.22	.28	.39*	-.07	.36	-.14	-.18	.01	.52**	.32
10. panas pos	.03	.02	.02	.05	0	.06	-.55**	-.16	-.34**		-.44*	.52**	.03	.03	-.08	.08	.09	.43*	.49**	.33	-.18	.09
11. panas neg	-.12	-.13	.05	-.19*	-.29*	.14	.75**	.6**	.83**	-.44**		-.41*	.22	.21	.41*	-.03	.36	-.23	-.29	-.11	.48**	.26
12. qoflife transformed	-.02	-.01	-.01	.03	.01	.02	-.52**	-.45**	-.44**	.52**	-.41**		-.17	-.19	-.28	.08	-.16	.33	.36	.22	-.34	-.16
13. propensity sum	-.02	.1	-.16	.05	.04	.01	.14	.16	.22*	.03	.22*	-.17		.72**	.25	-.03	.2	.05	-.11	.09	.24	.31
14. sensitivity sum	-.19*	-.09	-.09	-.07	-.11	.06	.15	.28*	.28*	.03	.21*	-.19*	.72**		.34	-.02	.3	.01	0	.1	.37	.41*
15. self blame	-.03	-.03	.01	-.08	-.11	.05	.37**	.23*	.39**	-.08	.41**	-.28*	.25*	.34**		.14	.41*	.19	.14	.19	.29	.19
16. acceptance	.14	.19*	-.11	.21*	.14	.09	-.02	-.06	-.07	.08	-.03	.08	-.03	-.02	.14		.13	.24	.19	.24	-.04	-.14
17. rumination	-.08	.1	-.22*	.01	-.03	.05	.23*	.32**	.36**	.09	.36**	-.16	.2*	.3*	.41**	.13		.27	.24	.1	.57**	.38*
18. refocus on planning	-.02	.09	-.14	.12	.05	.09	-.32**	-.13	-.14	.43**	-.23*	.33**	.05	.01	.19	.24*	.27*		.63**	.58**	-.09	.04
19. positive reappraisal	-.13	.05	-.21*	.01	-.03	.06	-.3*	-.1	-.18	.49**	-.29*	.36**	-.11	0	.14	.19*	.24*	.63**		.65**	-.14	.01
20. putting into perspective	-.09	-.03	-.06	-.02	-.13	.15	-.21*	-.02	.01	.33**	-.11	.22*	.09	.1	.19	.24*	.1	.58**	.65**		-.14	.02
21. catastrophizing	-.09	-.11	.05	-.1	-.1	-.01	.5**	.49**	.52**	-.18	.48**	-.34**	.24*	.37**	.29*	-.04	.57**	-.09	-.14	-.14		.49**
22. other blame	-.09	0	-.1	-.09	-.03	-.09	.12	.31*	.32**	.09	.26*	-.16	.31*	.41**	.19*	-.14	.38**	.04	.01	.02	.49**	

Note. * denotes $p < .05$; ** denotes $p < .001$, such that asterisks in the top half of the matrix indicate significance with FDR corrections for multiple comparisons, and asterisks in the bottom half of the matrix indicate significance without FDR corrections applied.

Altogether, in these secondary exploratory analyses, we found several individual differences that differed between age groups, but these poorly predicted the positivity effect in attention. Individual differences related to affect, quality of life, disgust reactions, and emotion regulation differed between younger and older adults in predicted directions. Compared to younger adults, older adults reported being more positive in affect, lower in negative affect, higher in quality of life, and less likely to use certain maladaptive emotion regulation strategies. However, these self-report measures had minimal relationships with the way individuals were distracted by positive relative to negative distractor images. In some ways, this is consistent with previous work that observed the positivity effect in a variety of measures, but that individual performance did not correlate between tasks (Barber et al., 2020). Future work should continue to consider how mechanisms that impact patterns in attention may relate to other tasks, keeping in mind there may be multiple mechanisms at play where the positivity effect is observed across domains (see also Kim & Barber, 2022).

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