

The nexus between normative climates, intergroup contact and diversity attitudes

INED Workshop

Immigrants and Minorities: Measures,
Perceptions and Prejudice

The logo for the University of Lausanne (UNIL) features the word "Unil" in a stylized, blue, cursive script.

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nccr —→
on the move

The logo for the Swiss National Science Foundation (FNSNF) consists of the letters "FNSNF" in a bold, blue, sans-serif font, with the "S" being larger and more prominent.

FONDS NATIONAL SUISSE
DE LA RECHERCHE SCIENTIFIQUE

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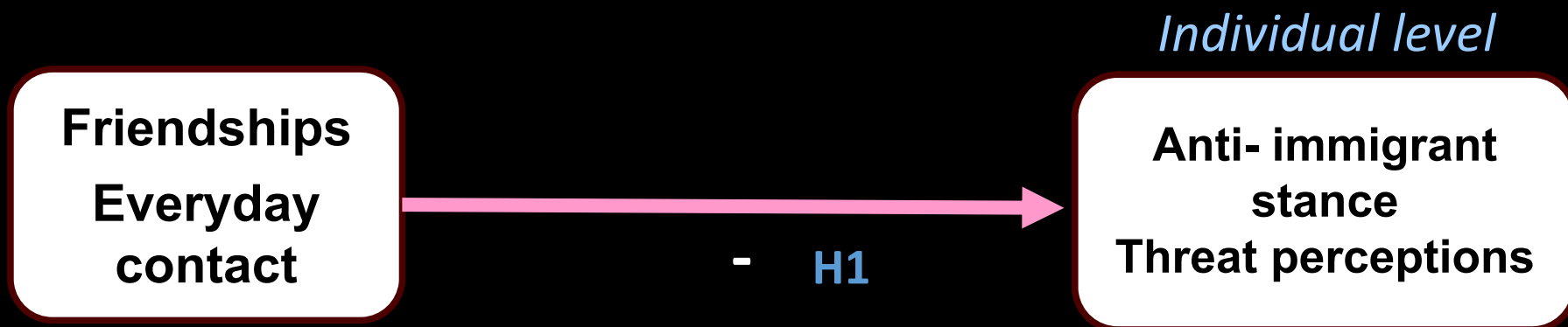


...make up an
normative
climate



How do national majorities react to immigration?

- Focus on explaining attitudes through the interplay of norms and intergroup contact / immigrant presence
- Multilevel approach (*Contextual- and individual-level explanations*)



Normative climates

- Values and norms of a society, legitimise social practices
 - « social climates», « atmospheres » (*Lewin et al. 1939*)
 - People are aware of and guided by social norms: they influence individuals' prejudice (e.g., *Crandall & Eshleman, 2003; Sherif & Sherif, 1953*).
- **Norms can be descriptive or injunctive**
- **Conformity to norms is not absolute**
(e.g., *Falomir-Pichastor et al., 2009; Jetten & Hornsey, 2011*)
 - Individuals can accept or reject shared beliefs : Climate homogenous or heterogeneous

(see also *Elcheroth et al., 2011; Fasel, 2013; Green & Staerklé, 2013; Guimond et al., 2014; Pettigrew, 1959, 2006*)

Political discourse

Laws and policies

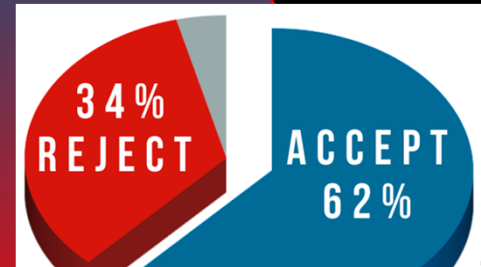


Normative climate

INDIVIDUAL

Everyday life

- Identities
- Interactions



Norms underlie anti-immigration prejudice

Hypothesis: Exclusive and intolerant normative climates reinforce negative immigration attitudes

Interplay of normative climates and contact: interaction hypotheses

- Inclusive norms (e.g., contexts with tolerant integration policies) reinforce the negative relationship between contact and anti-immigrant prejudice (Example 1)
- Exclusive norms will be associated to prejudice more for people with *little intergroup contact* (compared to people with a lot of intergroup contact) (Example 2) and when *immigrant presence is low* (compared to high) (Example 3)

Example 1. Integration policies as norms

Green, Visintin, Sarrasin, & Hewstone (2019 JEMS)

- Integration policies depict governmental orientation toward cultural diversity (e.g., assimilationist vs. multicultural policies) (*e.g., Berry & Sam, 2013*)
- **Inclusive integration policies should foster positive attitudes towards immigrants (less threat) H2**
(*Schlueter et al., 2013; see also Guimond et al., 2014; Weldon, 2006*)
and more contact (Pettigrew et al., 2007) H3
than exclusive integration policies

Interplay of norms and contact

- When interpreting everyday interactions, people should be sensitive to the surrounding normative setting, defined by institutions
- **Tolerant, inclusive integration policies should reinforce the negative relationship between contact and threat perceptions H4**

Method

European Social Survey ESS 2014-2015

$N = 32\,093$, $N = 20$ countries

53 % females, Age $M = 50.6$ years

Dependent variables

Symbolic threat perceptions

(3 items : cultural life, religious beliefs, worse place) Scale 0 to 10

$\alpha = .79$ (.68 - .85), $M = 4.83$ [3.48 – 6.07] , $SD = 1.95$; ICC = .083

Material threat perceptions

(4 items : jobs, taxes and services, crime, economy) Scale 0 to 10

$\alpha = .71$ (.56 - .81), $M = 5.68$ [4.73 - 6.53] , $SD = 1.73$; ICC = .064



Individual-level predictors

Everyday contact *How often do you have any contact with people who are of a different race or ethnic group from most [country] people when you are out and about? This could be on public transport, in the street, in shops or in the neighbourhood.*

1 (never) to 7 (every day); $M = 4.43$ [2.22-5.86] , $SD = 2.15$

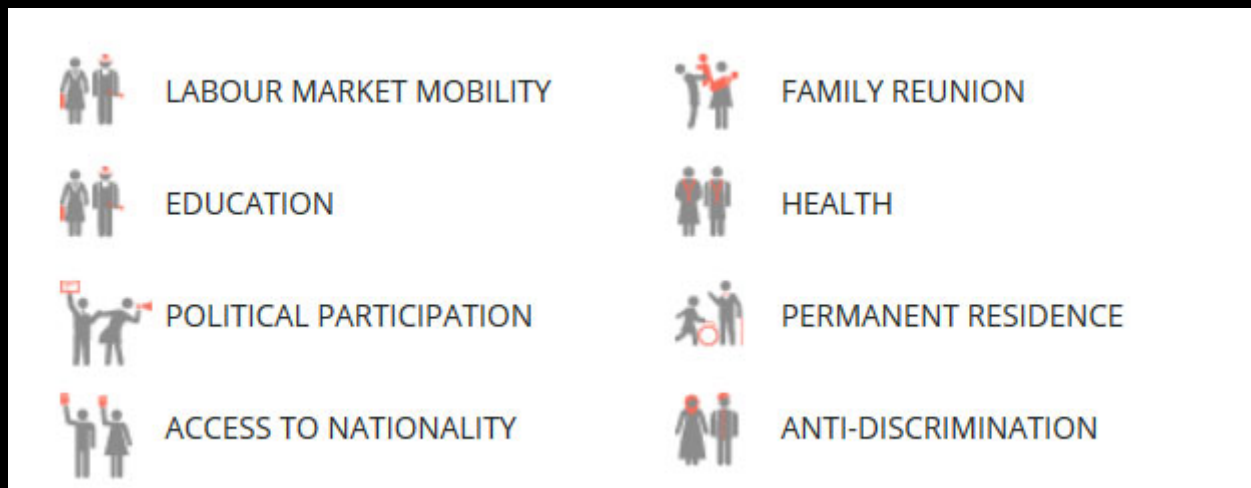
Controls included :

age, gender, years of education, subjective income, immigration background, religiosity, conservative values, perceived neighbourhood diversity

Country-level predictor: MIPEX

The Migrant Integration Policy Index ([MIPEX](http://www.mipex.eu)) for all EU Member States, Australia, Canada, Iceland, Japan, South Korea, New Zealand, Norway, Switzerland, Turkey and the US (www.mipex.eu; Huddleston et al., 2017)

167 indicators, 8 policy domains
 $M = 56.9$ [38 – 80] $SD = 12.26$



Final multilevel models

unstandardized regression coefficients

	Symbolic threat	Realistic threat	Intergroup contact
	Est. (SE)	Est. (SE)	Est. (SE)
Intercept	5.78 (0.13)***	6.95 (0.11)***	3.47 (0.11)***
<i>Main predictors</i>			
Intergroup contact	-0.08 (0.01)***	-0.05 (0.005)***	--
MIPEX	-0.02 (0.01)*	-0.01 (0.01)	0.03 (0.01)***
Contact x MIPEX	-0.003 (0.001)**	--	--

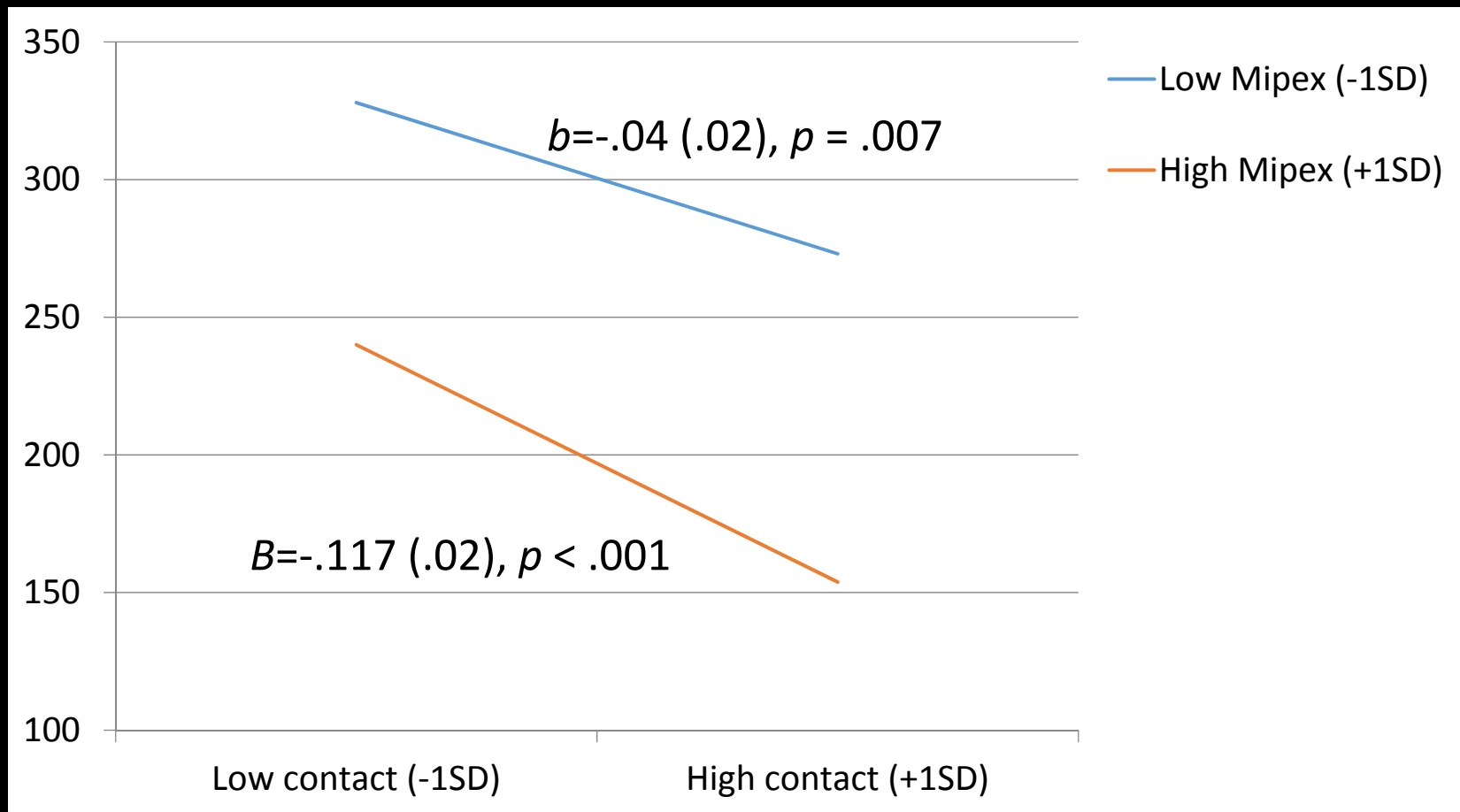
Notes. Unstandardized coefficients are reported. Standard errors are in parenthesis.

DV rescaled multiplying by 100. * $p < .05$. ** $p < .01$. *** $p < .001$.

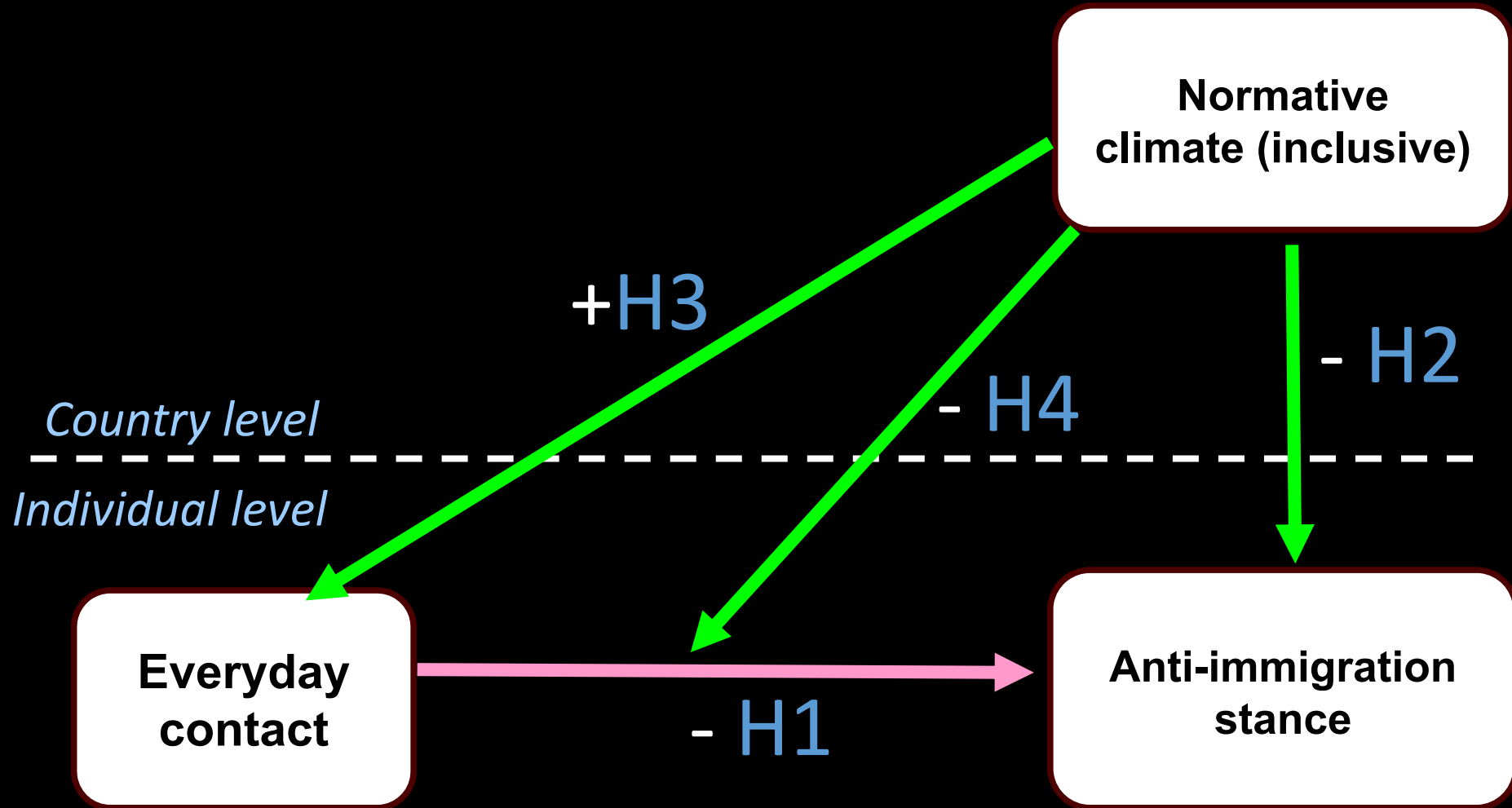
Level-1 controls: age, gender, years of education, subjective income, conservatism, religiosity, perceived diversity of neighbourhood.

Level-2 controls: Unemployment rate, GINI, immigrant ratio, immigrant ratio change

Decomposition of cross-level interaction: symbolic threat on contact by MIPEX



Summary



Example 2. Shared beliefs as norms

Visintin, Green, Falomir-Pichastor & Berent

(in press, Group Processes and Intergroup Relations)

- Intergroup contact moderates the relationship between intolerant shared norms and prejudice
- Intolerant shared norms will be associated to prejudice more for people with less intergroup contact (compared to people with a lot of intergroup contact) **H4b**

Overview of the studies

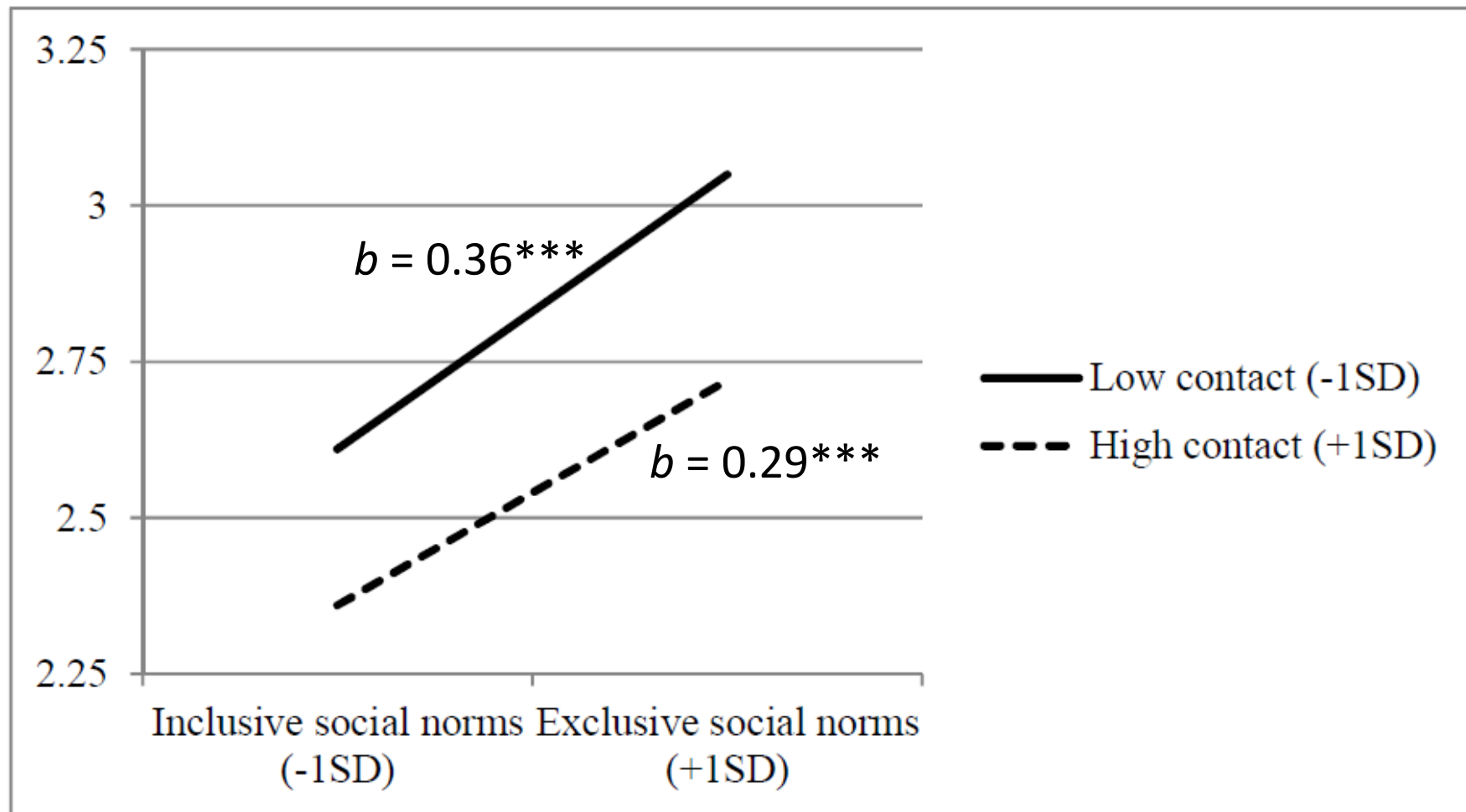
Study	Intergroup context	Social norms	Intergroup contact
1. correlational (N = 576)	Ingroup: ethnic Bulgarians Outgroup: Bulgarian Turks	Perceived (measured)	Self-reported
2. correlational, multilevel, ESS7 (N = 38,075)	Ingroup: citizens in a country (21 countries) Outgroup: immigrants	Prevailing (shared perceptions derived from ESS5)	Self-reported
3. quasi- experimental (N = 75)	Ingroup: Swiss-French population Outgroup: immigrants	Experimentally manipulated (fictitious survey)	Self-reported
4. quasi- experimental (N = 58)	Ingroup: Swiss population Outgroup: immigrants	Experimentally manipulated (fictitious survey)	Self-reported
5. experimental (N = 300)	Ingroup: Swiss-French population Outgroup: immigrants	Experimentally manipulated (fictitious survey)	Experimentally manipulated (imagined contact)

DV: Anti-immigrant prejudice

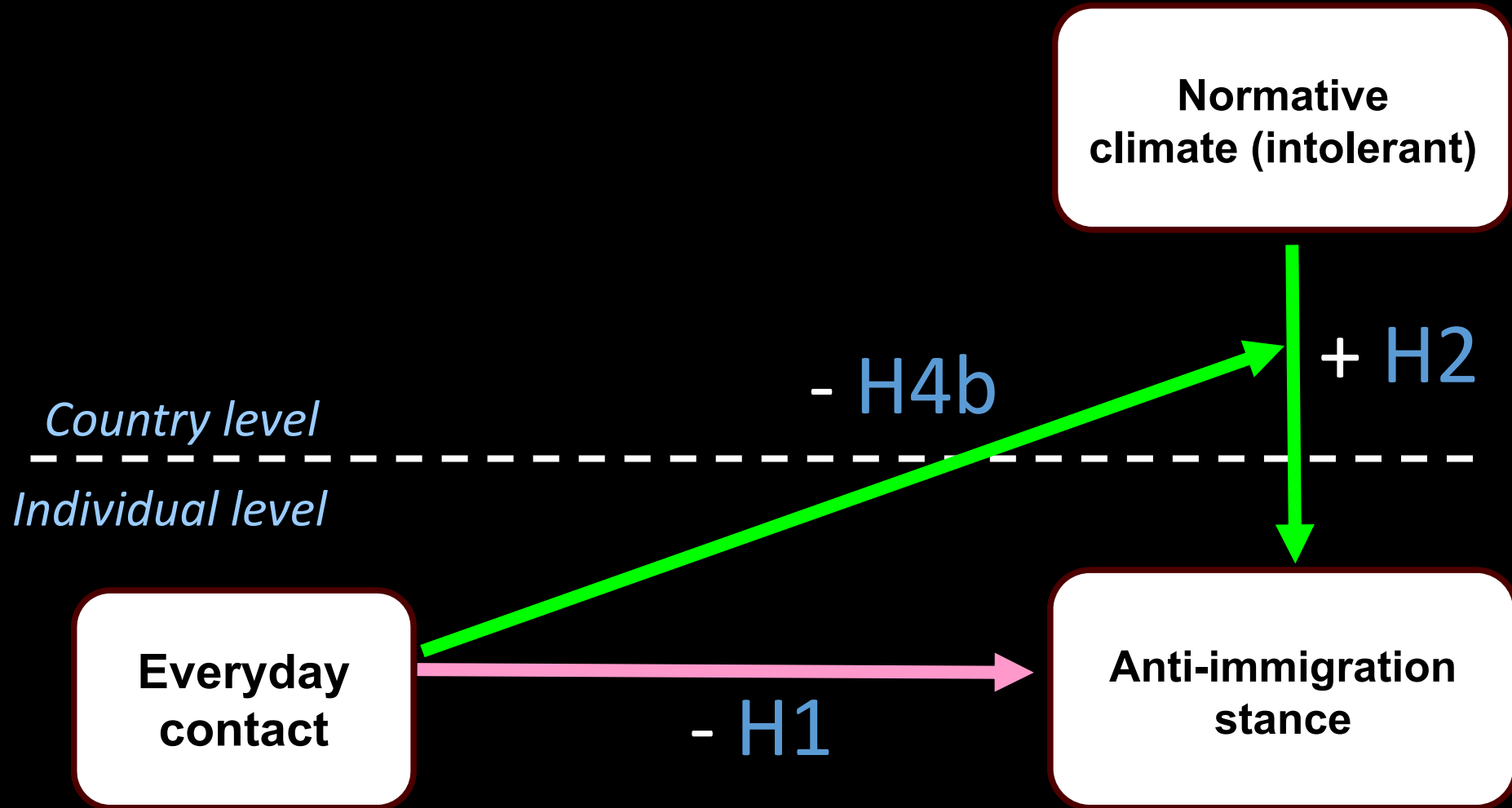
Study 2 – Anti-Immigrant Prejudice

Contact X Norms: $b = -0.05$, $SE = 0.02$, $p < .05$

Figure 2. Generalized prejudice as a function of social norms and intergroup contact.



Summary



Example 3. Moderating role of immigrant presence ?

Green, Visintin, & Sarrasin (2018 IJCS)

Presence of **immigrants** buffers the impact of conservative climates **H5**

Immigrant ratio change

- a) Buffers the impact of conservative climates (*contact theory*) **H6a**
- b) Reinforces the impact of conservative climates (*threat theories*) **H6b**



Method

International Social Survey Programme ISSP 2013

$N = 1,019$ Swiss citizens, $N = 136$ districts

51 % female, $M_{age} = 50$ years

Dependent variable: **Ethnic concept of nation**

To be truly Swiss (5 items, *born in Switzerland, Swiss citizenship, lived in Switzerland most of life, Christian, Swiss ancestry*) ; 1 (not important at all) to 4 (very important)

$\alpha = .81$, $M = 2.73$, $SD = 0.40$

$\sigma^2 = 359.95$, $SE = 124.10$, $p = .004$; $ICC = .07$

Individual-level predictors

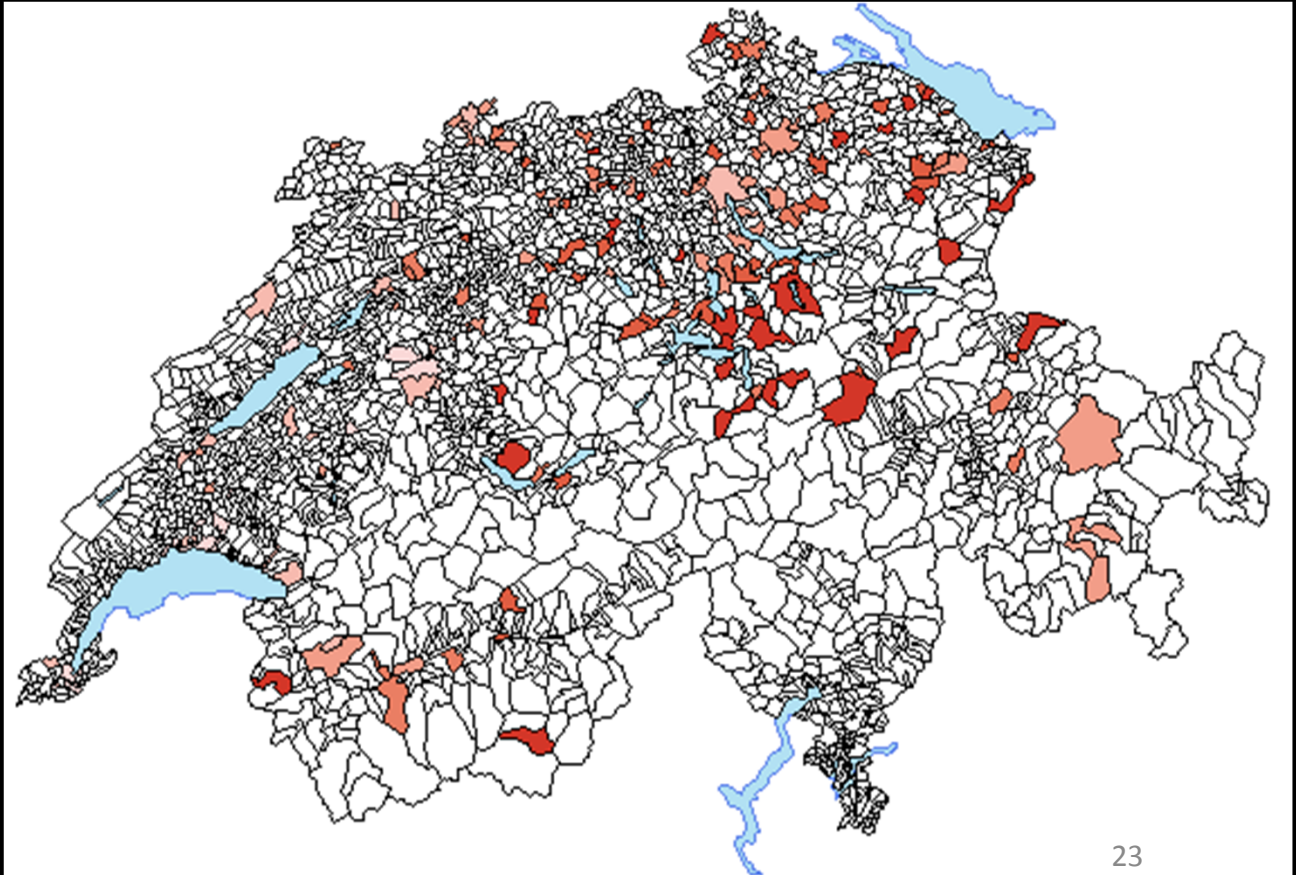
Contact with immigrants in 5 contexts (*family, friends, associations, work or school, neighbourhood*),
0 (*never*) to 5 (*more than once a week*)

$\alpha = .81$, $M = 2.54$, $SD = 1.33$

Controls included in models: *age, gender, years of education, perceived economic situation, political orientation*

Contextual predictor : normative climate

Three referenda from 2013; $\alpha = .90$:
*abolition of compulsory military service, salary capping,
stricter asylum seeker laws*



Révision de la loi sur l'asile:

NON à une culture de bienvenue irresponsable!



**12 x PLUS
DE SALAIRE,
ÇA SUFFIT.**

1:12
STOP AUX ABUS
POUR DES SALAIRES JUSTES

OUI!



UNIA

Parce qu'on n'a pas tous
le temps de jouer à la guerre.

Le 22 septembre:
OUI à l'abrogation du
service militaire obligatoire
GSSA

Affaiblir la Suisse

NON à l'initiative contre l'immigration
Non à la suppression de l'obligation

Contextual predictor : Proportion of immigrants

District-level proportion of immigrants in 2013

M = 20.72 % , *SD* = 7.36, range = 5.90 – 45.40 %

District-level immigrant ratio change (2013-2008)

M = 2.04 % , *SD* = 1.60, range = -0.07 – 5.60 %

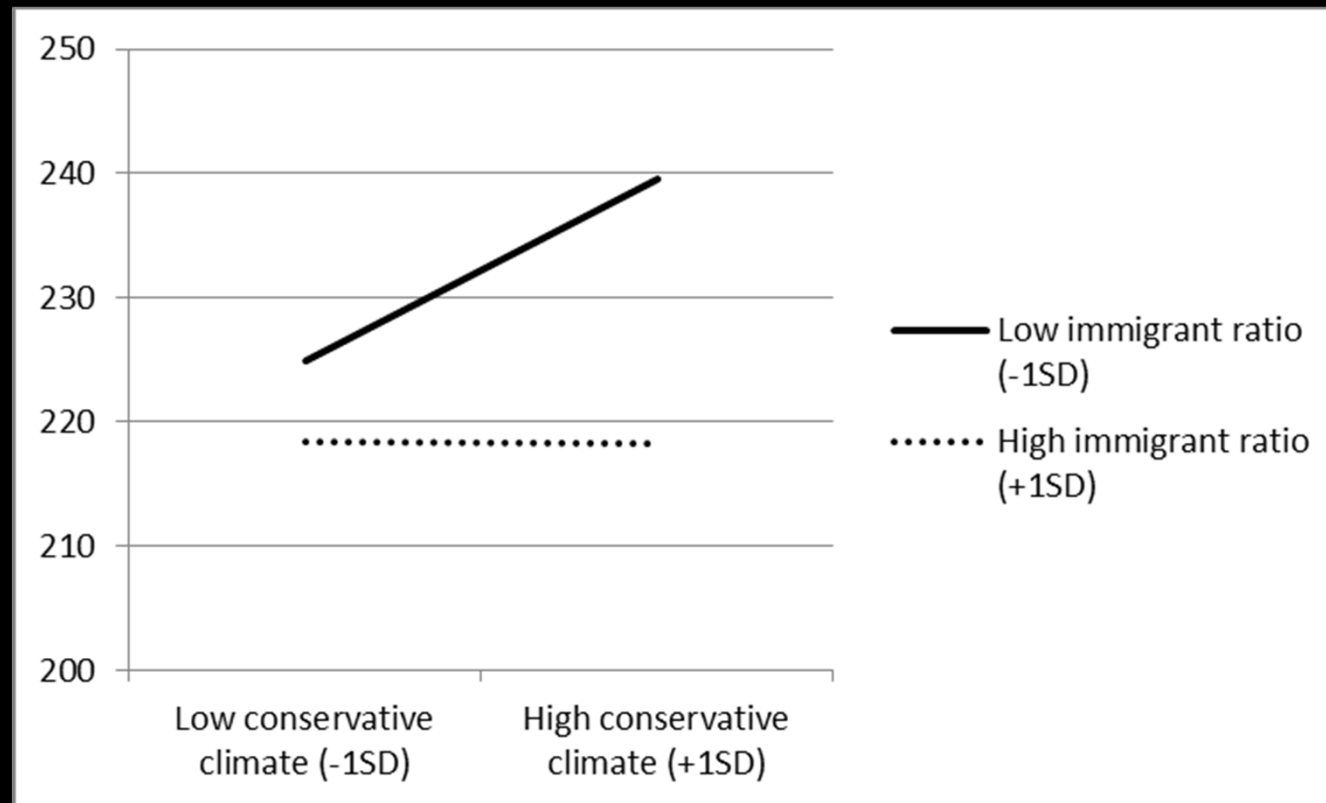
	Model 1 Individual-level predictors	Model 2 District-level predictors	Model 3 District-level interactions
Individual level			
1. Intergroup contact H1	-12.68 (1.83)***	-12.30 (1.89)***	-12.36 (1.87)***
District level			
2. Conservative climate H2		0.36 (0.33)	0.59 (0.41)
3. Immigrant ratio H1_context		-0.63 (0.36) [°]	-0.95 (0.42)*
4. Immigrant ratio change H1_context_bis		-2.13 (2.36)	-0.94 (2.27)
2 X 3		H5	-0.08 (0.04)*
% explained variance: individual level	28.33%		
% explained variance: districtlevel	37.12%	51.77%	57.37%
Corrected $\Delta-2*\log(\Delta df)$	286.69 (6)***	10.58 (3)*	5.06 (1)*

Notes. Unstandardized coefficients are reported. Standard errors are in parentheses.

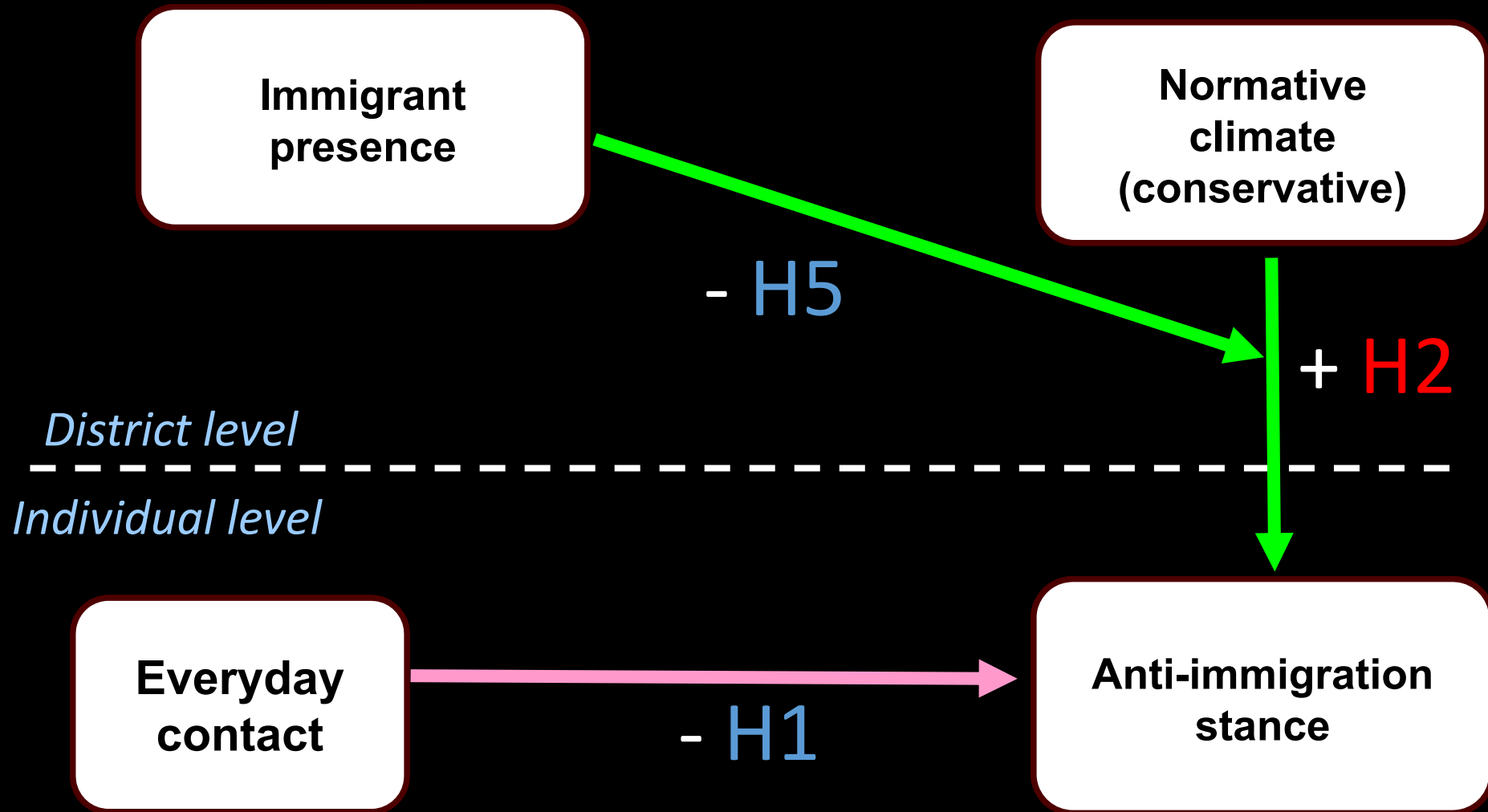
[°] $p = .083$. * $p < .05$. ** $p < .01$. *** $p \leq .001$.

Adding the 2 X 4 interaction did not improve model fit. [H6ab]

Ethnic conception of the nation as a function of district-level conservative climate and immigrant ratio.



Summary





Discussion

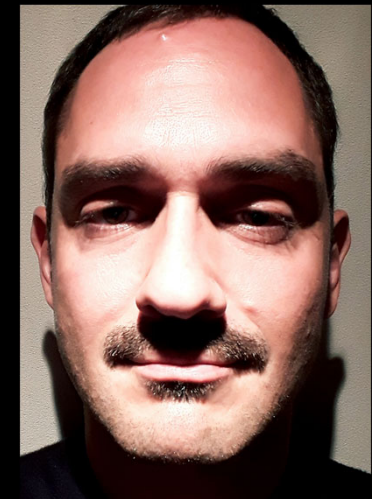
- Demonstrations of interplay of ideological climates and intergroup contact/immigrant presence
- Developing the notion of ideological climate as an explanation of anti-immigration stances
→ Accounting for variation (*Sarrasin, Green, & Van Assche, 2018*): consensual vs. polarized climates; vary over time
- Triangulation of survey and experimental findings
(*SNF project Green & Falomir Pichastor, 2015-2017, NCCR On the move 2016-2018 and Green, Falomir Pichastor & Manatchal NCCR On the move 2018-2022*)

Thank you!
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