Socio-demographic factors predicting HIV test seeking behaviour among MSM in 6 EU cities.

Results from the SIALON European Project (2008-2010)

Abstract number PS3/06

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Project Methodology

➢ IBBS - Integrated Biological and Behavioural Survey

➢ Time Location Sampling

➢ Questionnaire – UNGASS indicators

➢ GENSCREEN HIV 1 / 2 version 2, BIO-RAD

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Objective of the presentation

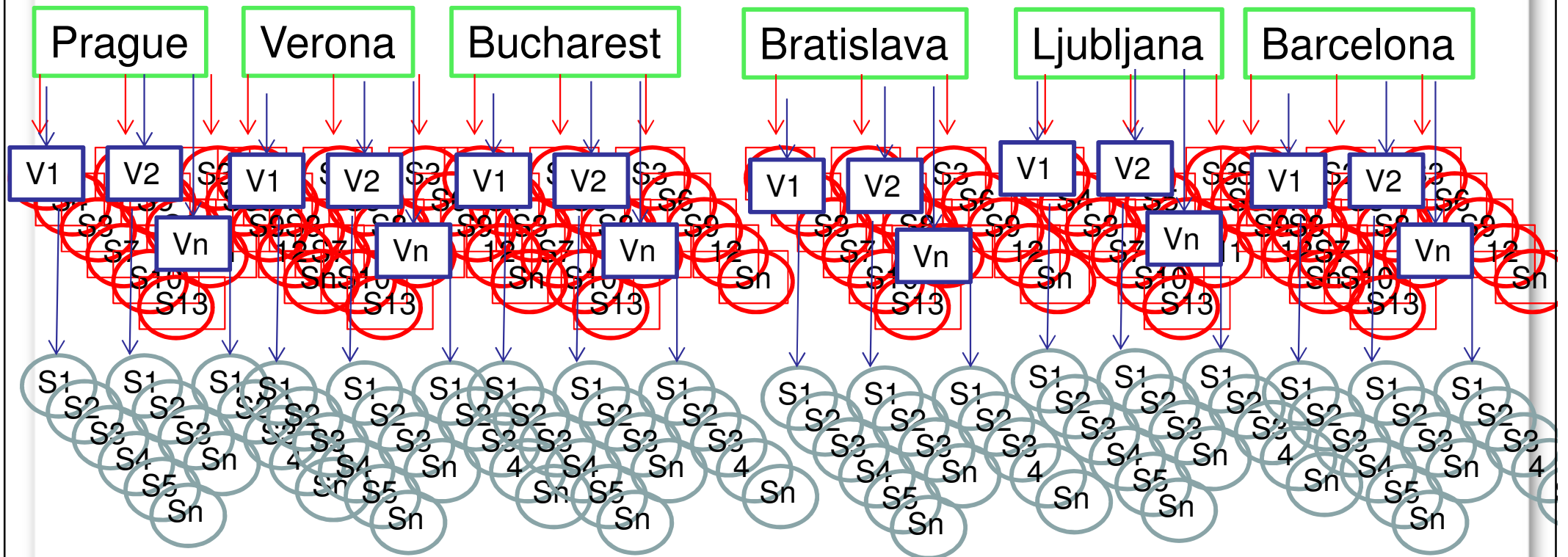➢ To model the relationship between HIV test seeking behaviour and individual, social and demographical factors
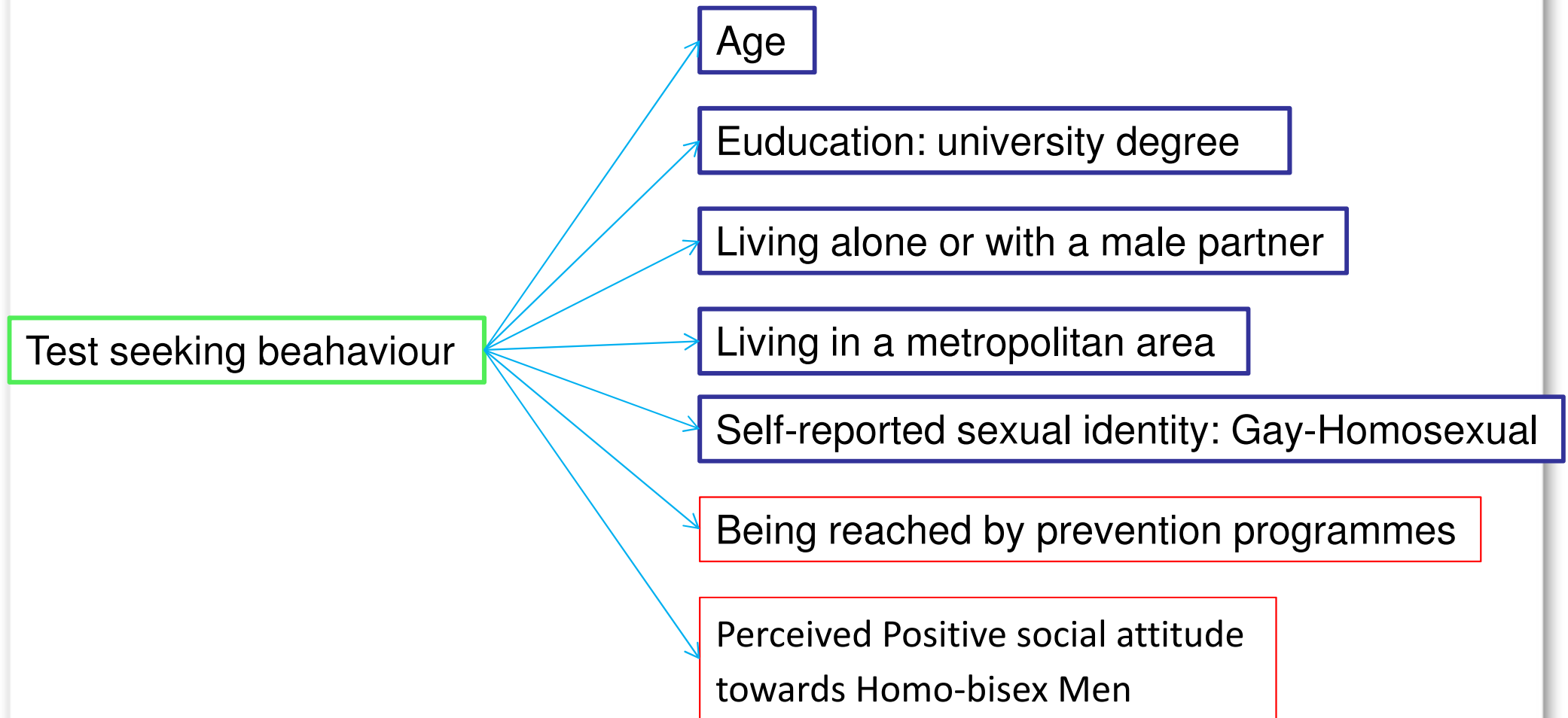
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The sample

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Subjects enrolled by city

	Prague	Athens	Verona	Bucharest	Bratislava	Ljubljana	Barcelona
Number of Subjects	408		405	398	394	401	401
Mean (Age)	29.2		35.8	26.3	30.2	31.1	38.2
Mdn (Age)	28		35	25	28.5	29.5	38
SD (Age)	8.3		10.3	6.6	8.9	8.3	10.2

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The model

multilevel data structure

The Model

Test seeking beahaviour

- Age
- Euducation: university degree
- Living alone or with a male partner
- Living in a metropolitan area
- Self-reported sexual identity: Gay-Homosexual
- Being reached by prevention programmes
- Perceived Positive social attitude towards Homo-bisex Men

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Multilevel logistic model on HIV test seeking behaviour

* p<0.05   ** p<0.001

| Predictor	Random Intercept Model		Random Coef. M. Sex orientation		Random Coef. M. Sex Orient. & age	
	OR	SE	OR	SE	OR	SE
Fixed part						
Age	1.04**	0.01	1.04**	0.01	1.01**	0.01
Education: university degree	1.31*	0.16	1.31*	0.16	1.31*	0.16
Living alone or with a male partner	1.64**	0.19	1.63**	0.19	1.64**	0.19
Living in a metropolitan area	1.90**	0.23	1.91**	0.24	1.96**	0.24
Sexual orientation: gay/homosexual	1.73**	0.25	1.73*	0.36	1.77*	0.45
Reached with HIV prevention programme (condom)	1.59**	0.20	1.56**	0.20	1.53**	0.20
Perceived Positive social attitude towards Homo-bisex Men	1.07*	0.02	1.07*	0.02	1.07*	0.02
Random part						
$\sigma1^2$ city level	0.10	0.07	0.25	0.28	0. 22	0.31
$\sigma2^2$ sex orient. at city level			0.13	0.16	0.24	0.22
$\sigma3^2$ age at city level					0.003	0.0003
Loglikelihood	-972.460		-970.869		-968.971	

Test seeking behaviour predicted probability by age, city and sexual orientation
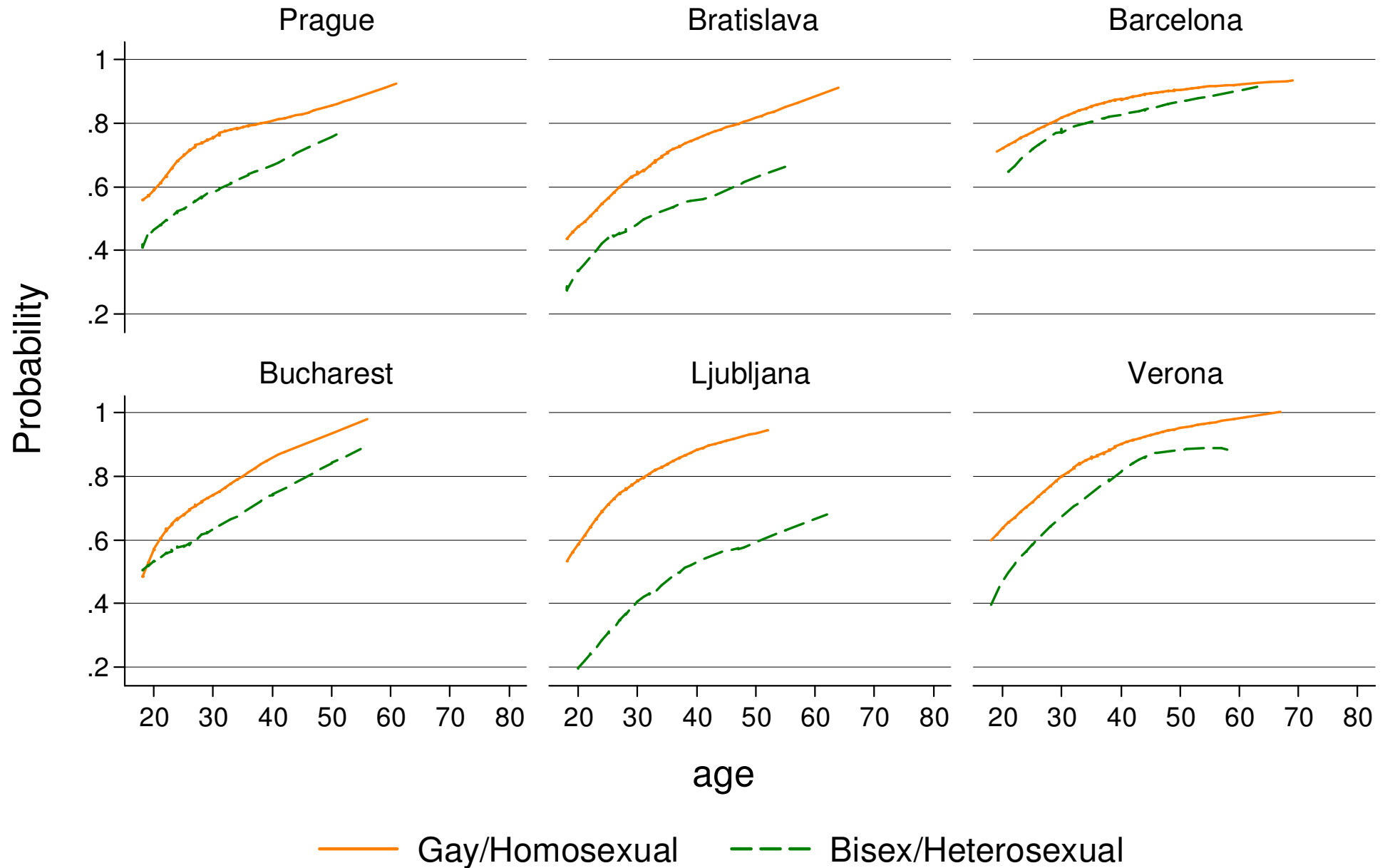
Test seeking behaviour predicted probability by age and sexual orientation
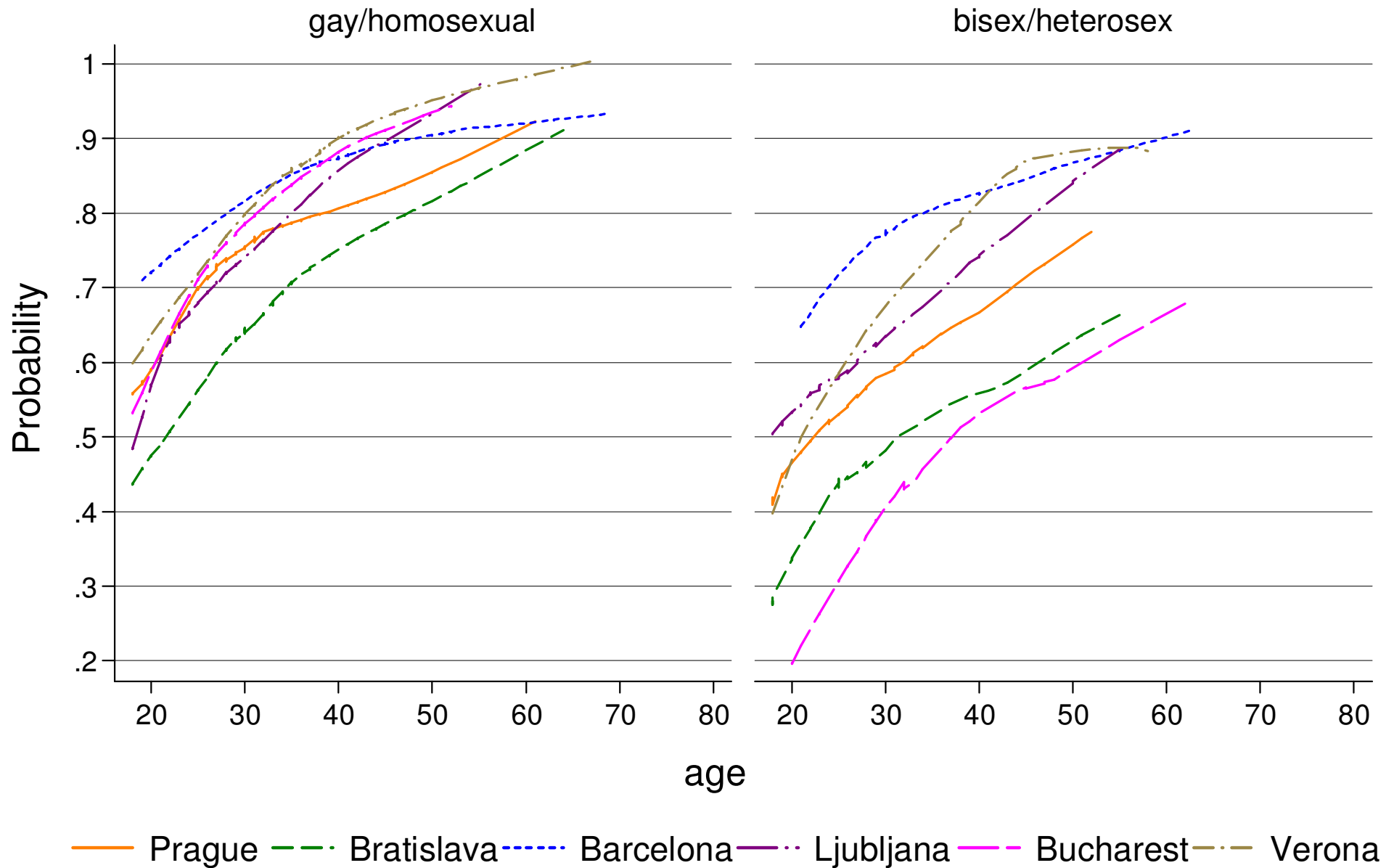
Some conclusions 1/2

➢ All factors used in the model are relevant predictors of HIV test seeking behaviour

  ➢ Age is an (obvious) predictor. The model predicts an increase in this behaviour with the increase of age

  ➢ Self reported sexual orientation/identity plays also an important role in predicting testing seeking behaviour.

  ➢ Living in a metropolitan area shows the strongest effect in the fixed part of the model

  ➢ Being exposed to preventive programmes increases the probability of test seeking behaviour.

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Some conclusions 2/2

➢ Preventive programmes should be targeted to MSM in general, but particular attention should be paid to those:

  ➢ self-identified as bisexual/heterosexual.

  ➢ Young

  ➢ Living in rural areas

  ➢ With lower level of education

  ➢ Living with Parents or female partners

➢ Social and contextual factors at city level (i.e. social attitude towards homosexuality, low threshold testing programmes) should be addressed in order to facilitate HIV test seeking behaviour (dream in many areas)

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