

2013 CLIMATE CHANGE ATTITUDES OF SOUTHEAST FORESTRY PROFESSIONALS



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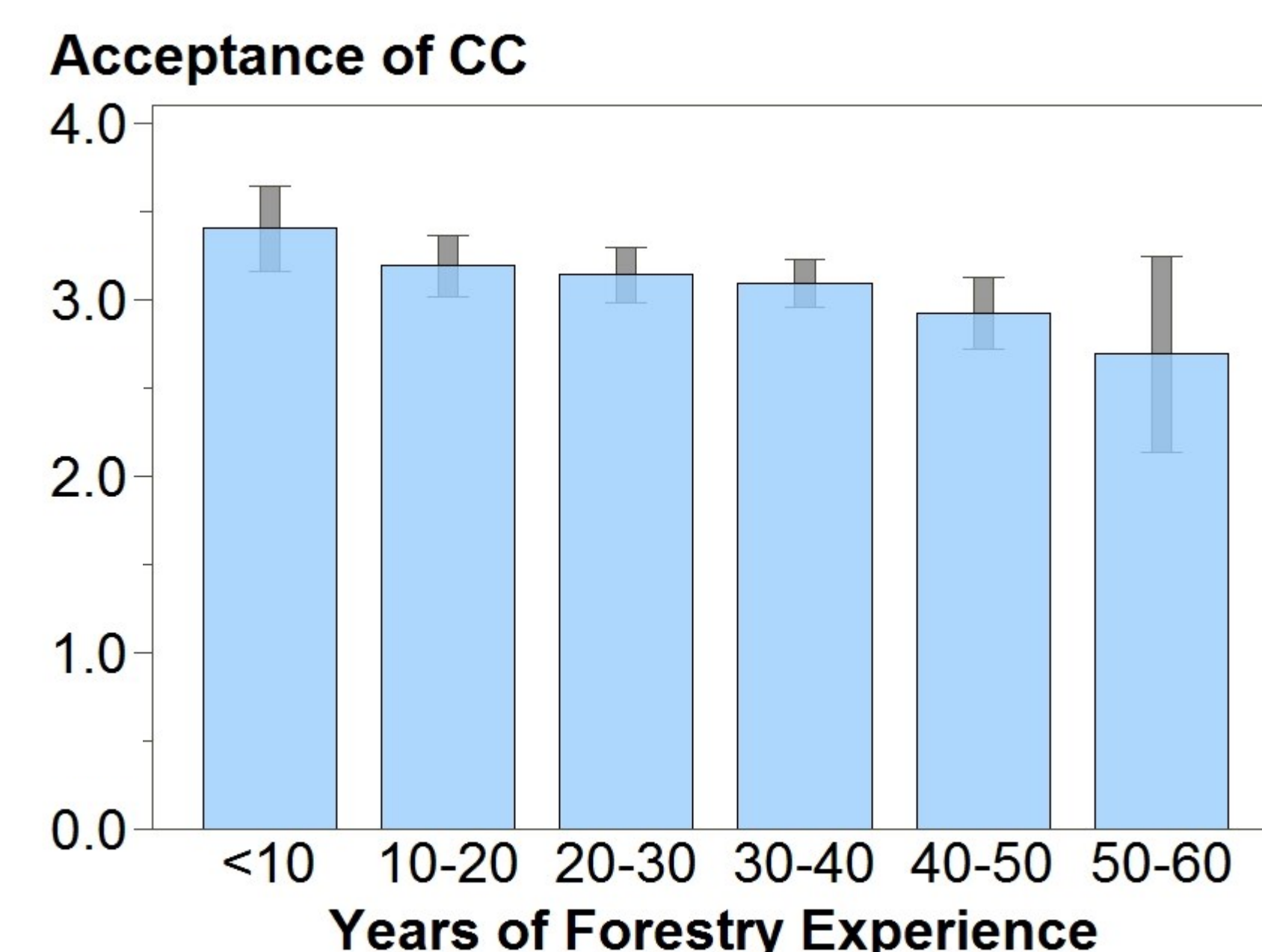
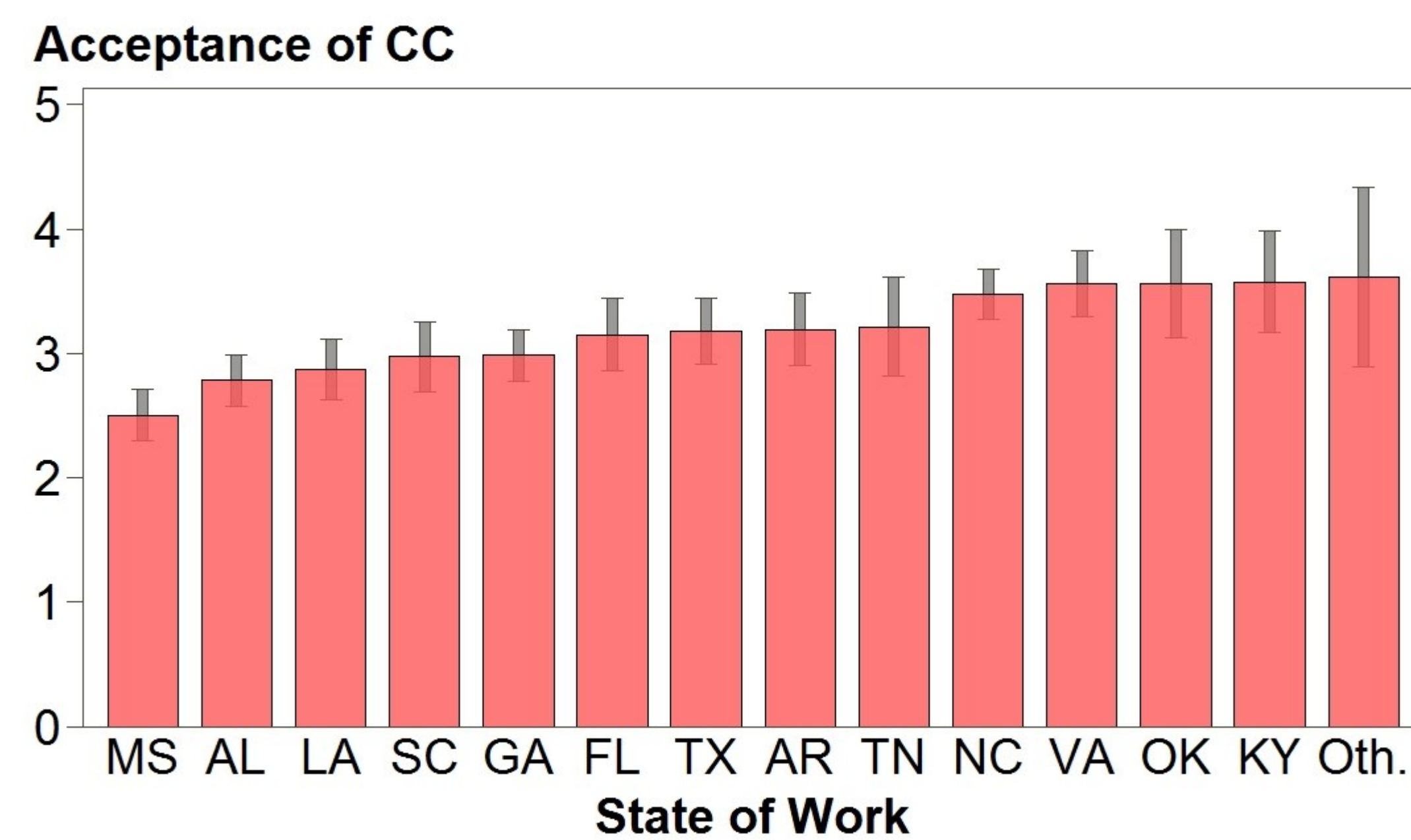
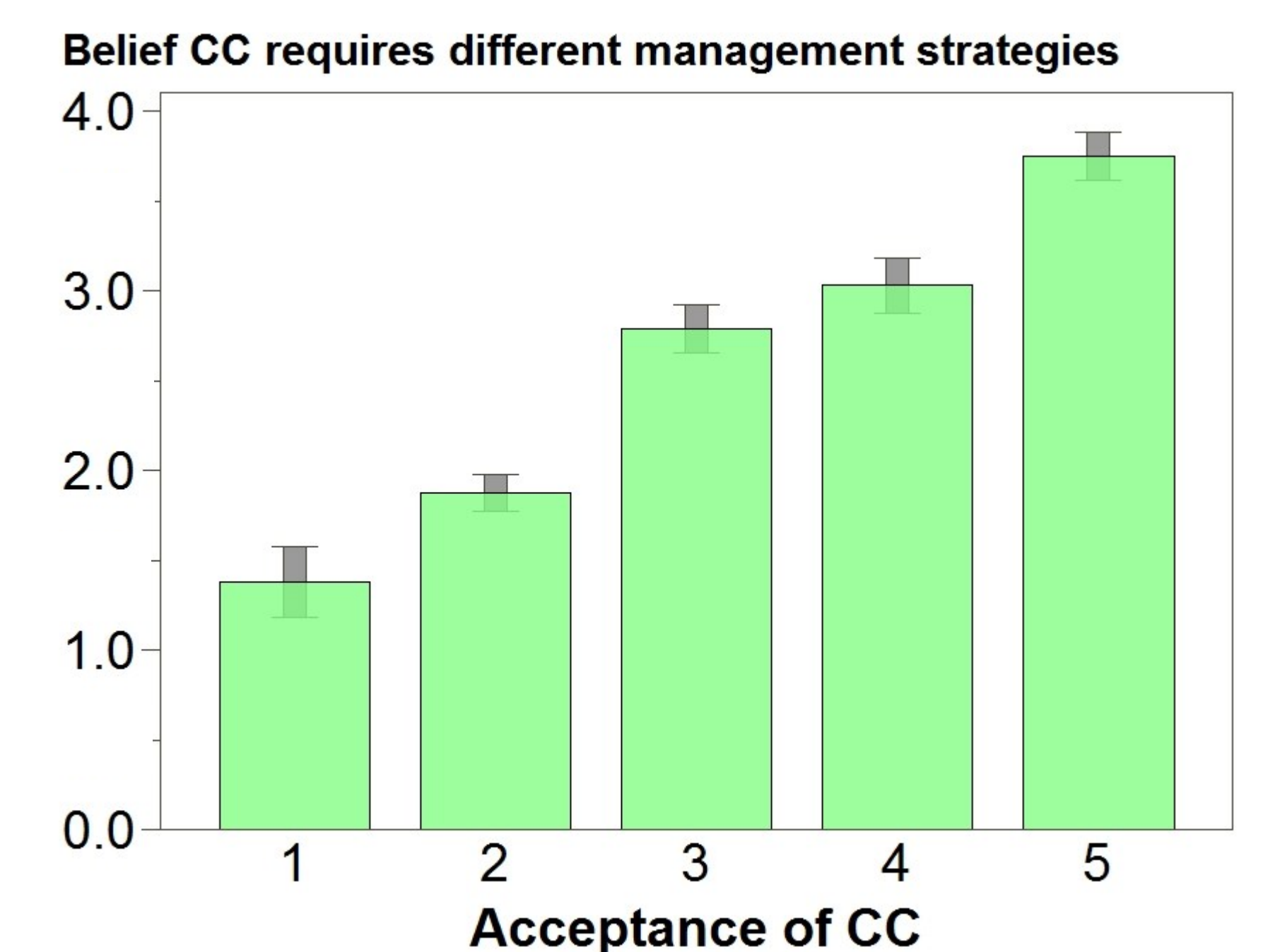
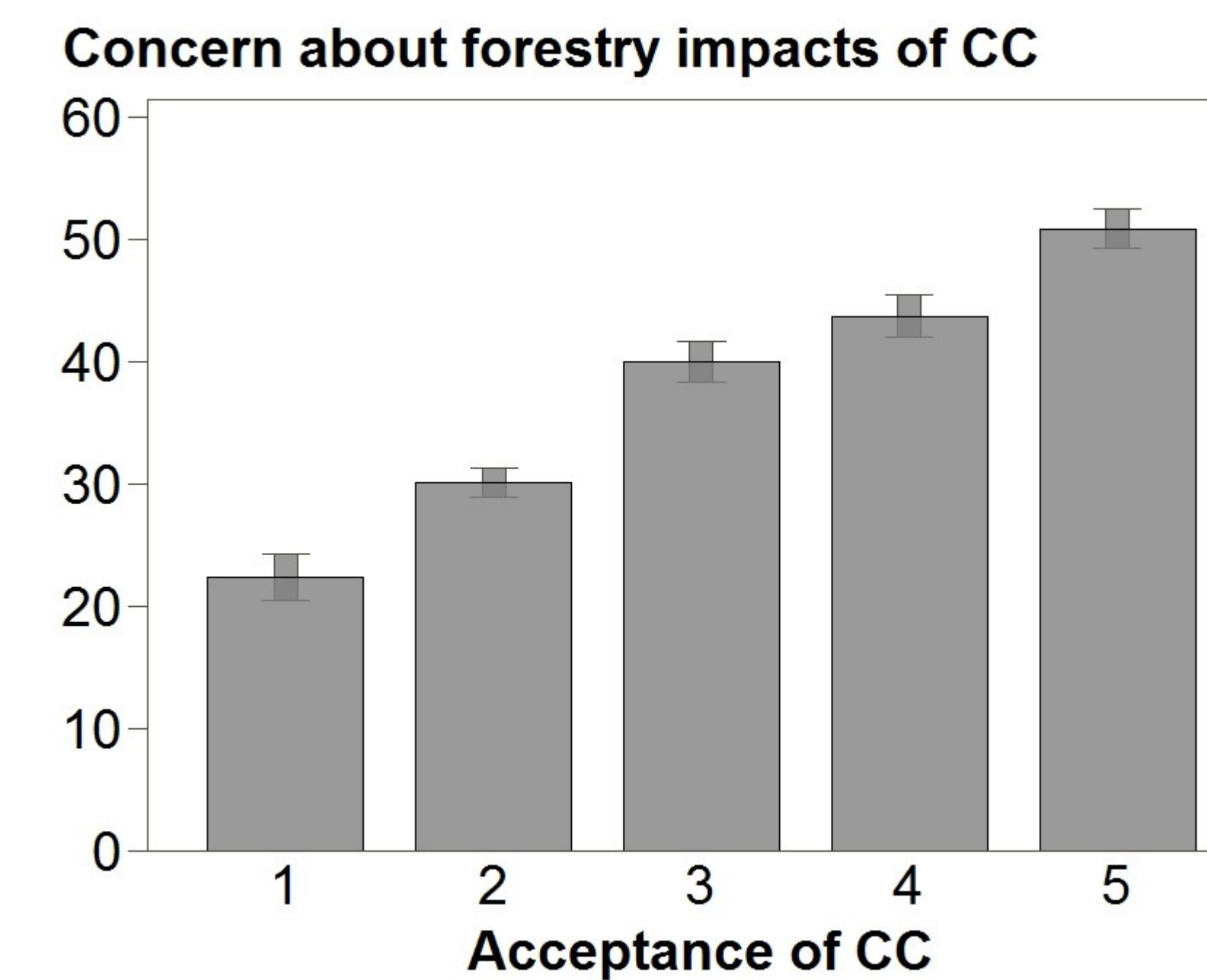
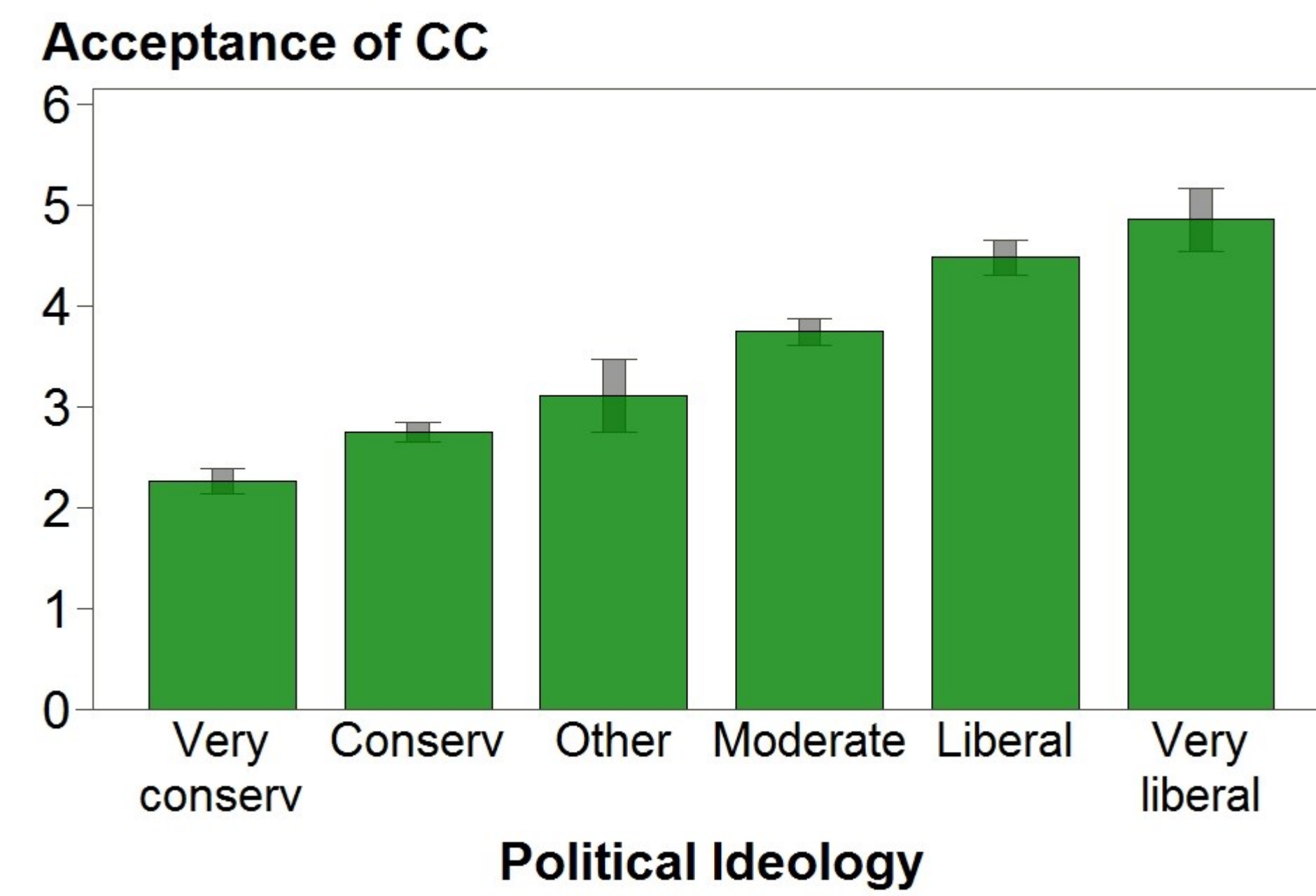
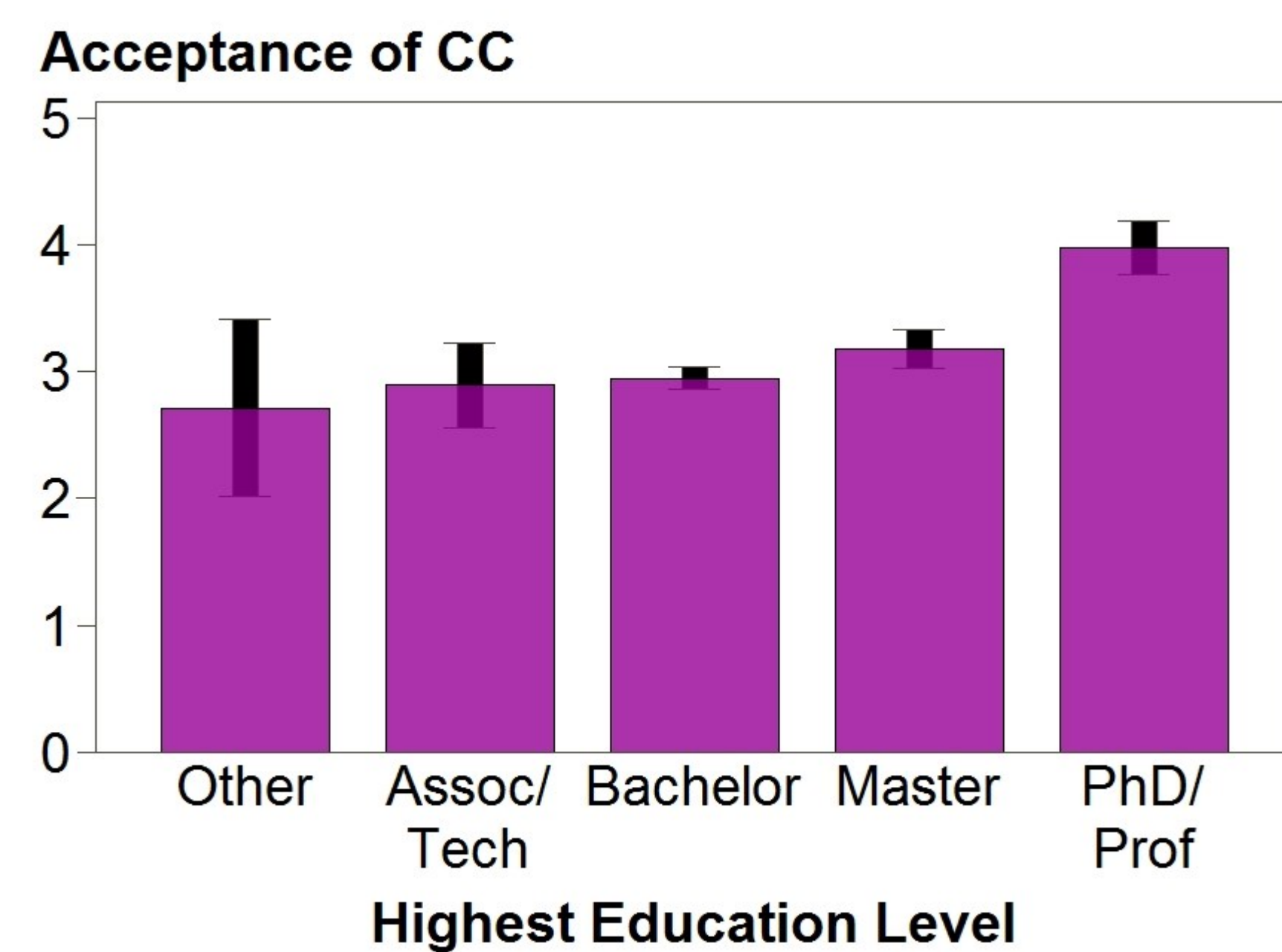
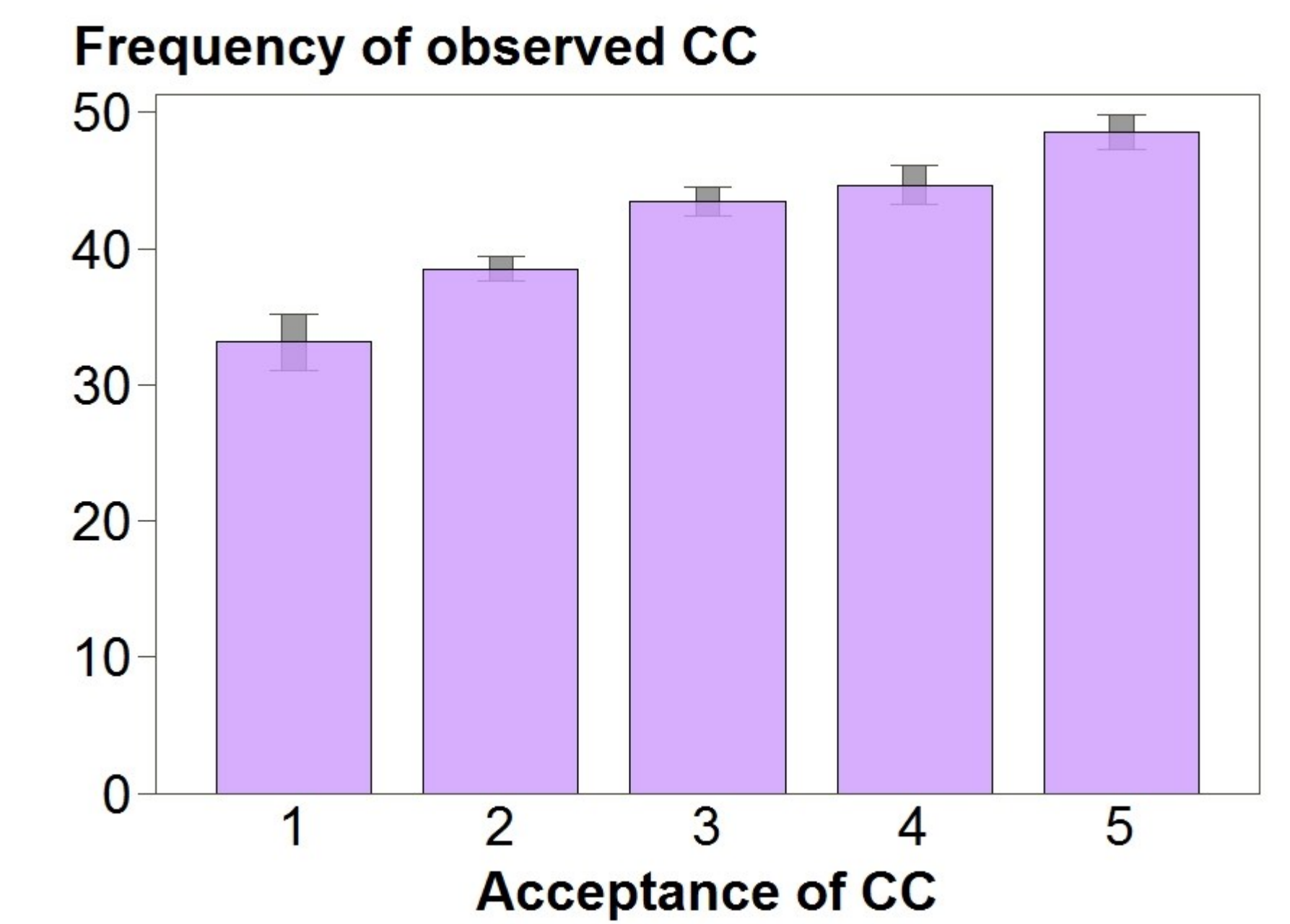
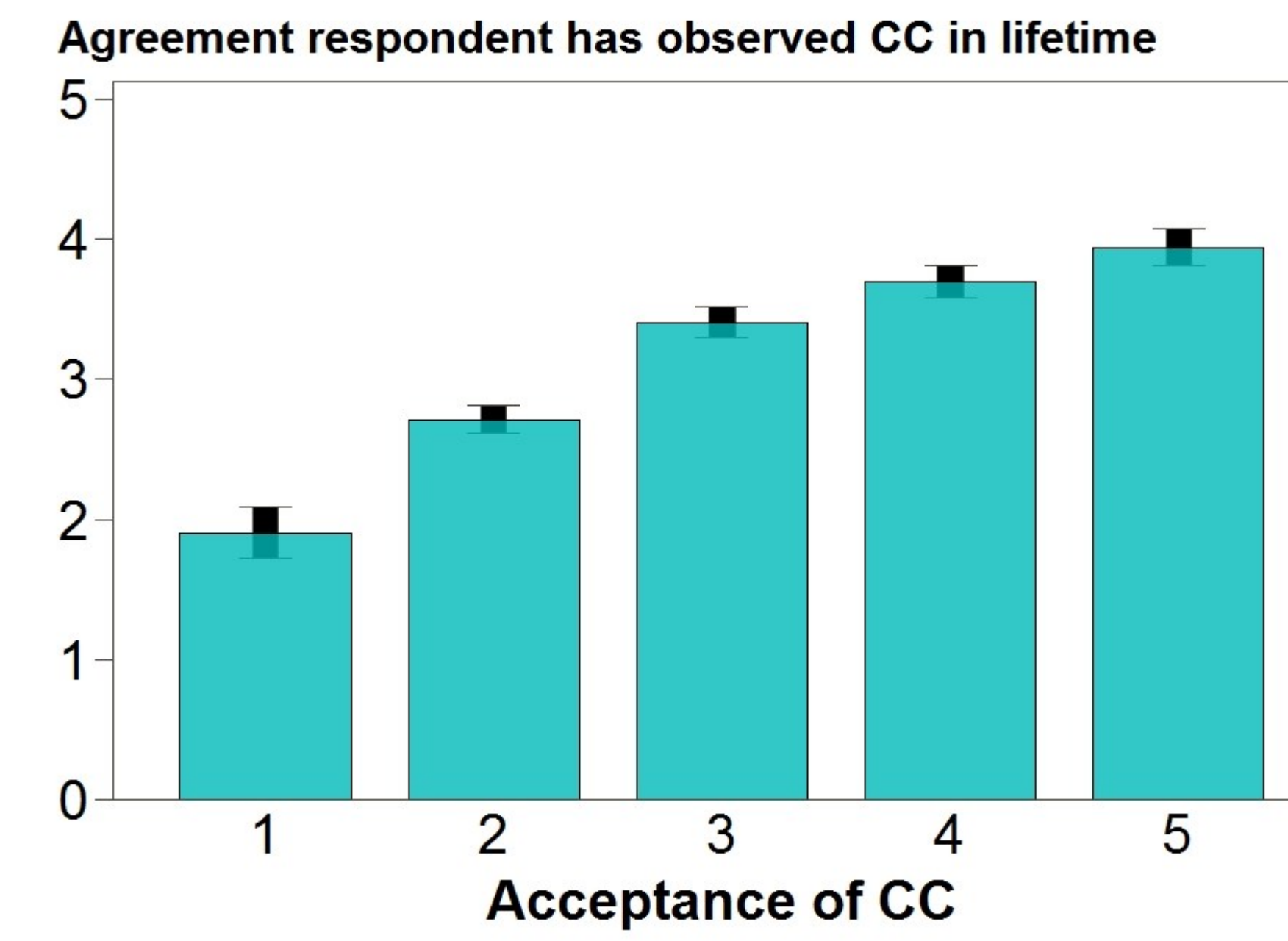
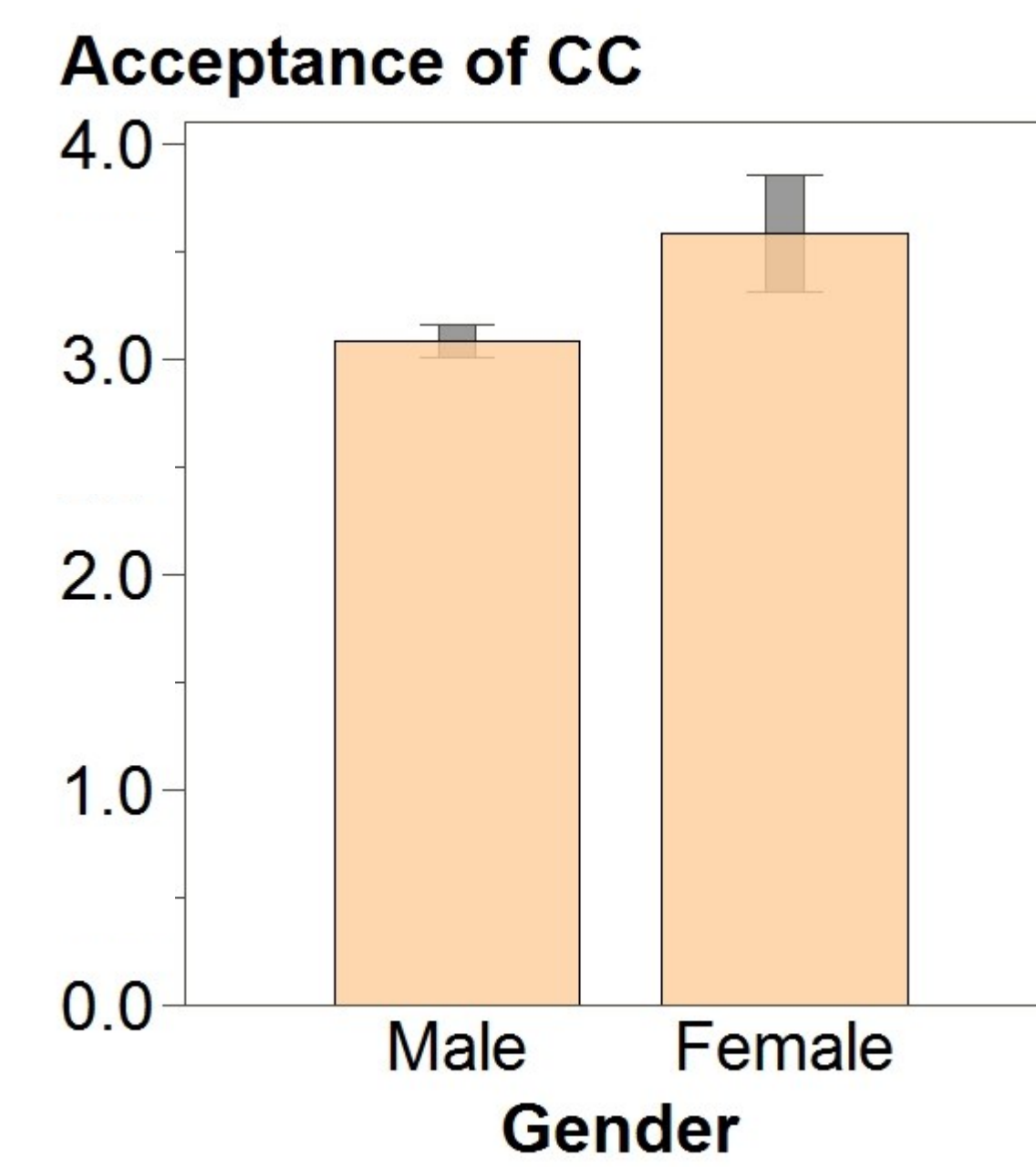
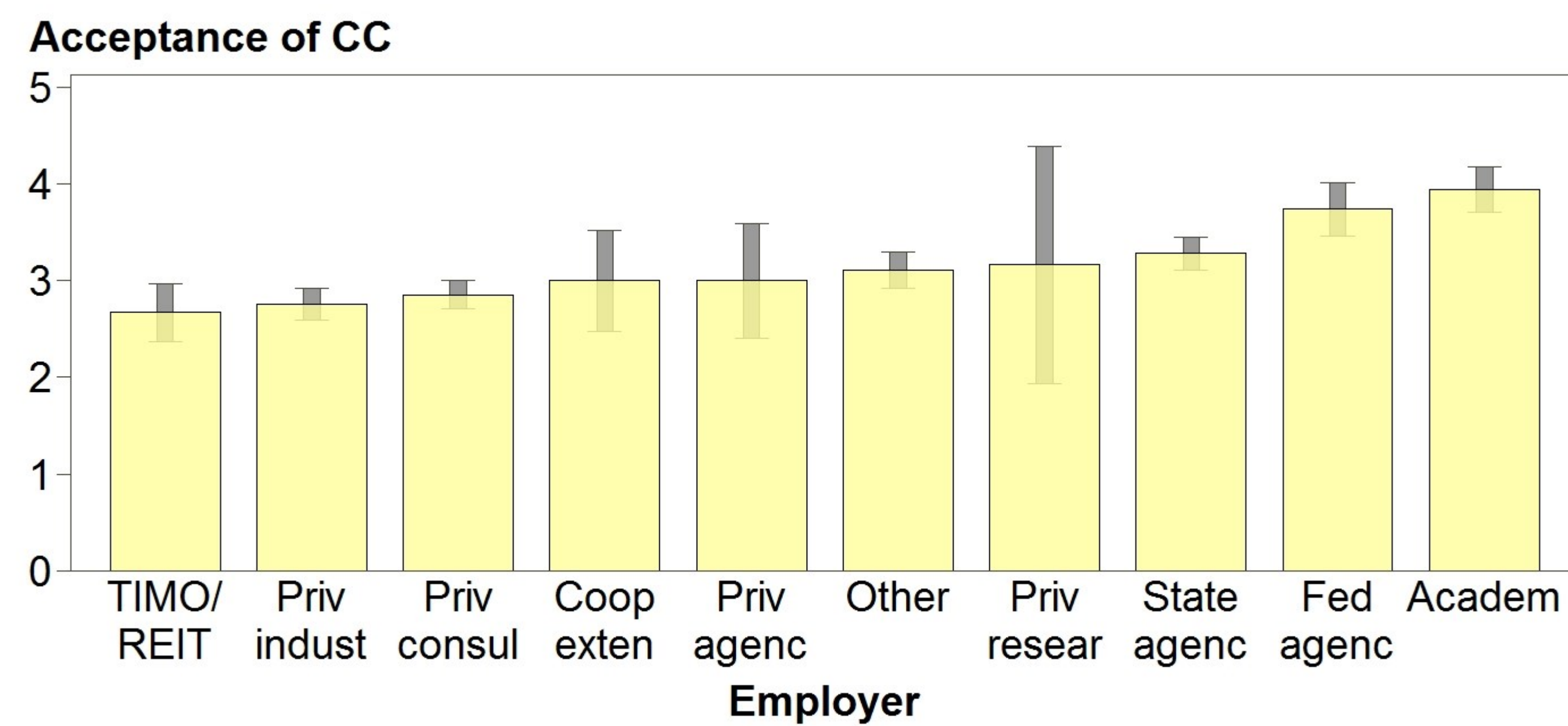


How do demographic characteristics influence acceptance of anthropogenic climate change?

How does attitude toward climate change influence personal experiences and management responses?

- Respondents' employer, gender, education level, political ideology, state of work (p<.001) and forestry experience (p<.05) were significantly associated with climate change attitude (one-way ANOVA).

- Climate change attitude was a significant predictor of personal climate change observations, concern about forestry impacts from climate change, and perceived need for adaptive management strategies (linear regression, p<.001).



Summary

- Demographic trends for foresters are consistent with the general public, suggesting both audiences pose similar challenges for climate science outreach.
- Educational programming focused on “no regrets” solutions to future uncertainty should prove most effective.
- Observed climate variability, concern about climate change impacts, and perceived need for different management strategies increased directly with acceptance of climate change.
- Encouraging relevant resource and adaptive management actions should rely on teachable moments (drought, wildfire, extreme weather, etc.) related to risk avoidance.