A Comparative Analysis of Time Transfers between Generations and Genders

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The not-so-secret weapon of NTA: Comparative analyses

• Global network with local expertise and harmonized approach

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 Huge contribution to our understanding of (monetary) intergenerational transfers

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- Time transfer accounts are under construction or being finalized in several NTA countries.
- Feeling that the future of NTA includes Time Use



A preview of time transfers?

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• There is no perfect data sets...

A preview of time transfers?

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A preview of time transfers?

- There is no perfect data sets...
- ...but Jonathan Gershuny et al. saw the potential of harmonized time use data long ago and created MTUS
- MTUS may not be the best data source for NTA in the long term, but excellent right now

Goals for this talk

• A "trailer" for the upcoming "Time NTA"

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• What are Emilio and Marina up to?

Goals for this talk

- A "trailer" for the upcoming "Time NTA"
- What are Emilio and Marina up to?
- Discuss preliminary results, challenges and ideas for collaboration

Outline

- Multinational Time Use Study (MTUS)
- Profiles of time production, consumption, and life cycle deficit
- Factors that explain similarities and differences

- What's next?
- Methodological issues

Multinational Time Use Study (MTUS)

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- Selected a subset of countries with data that are recent and appropriate for the methods: Italy (2002), Spain (2002), Germany (2001), France (1998), USA (2003), Austria (1992)
- Selected activities that meet the "third party criterion": cook, wash, other domestic work, gardening, shopping, childcare, domestic travel, civic activities

Time production profiles

- Estimated averages directly from survey data
- Disaggregated by age, sex and country
- Disaggregated by other demographic characteristics (e.g., household structure)

Smoothed profiles

Time consumption profiles

• Method of Regression:

 $C_j = \beta(0) \times N_j(0) + \beta(1) \times N_j(1) + \cdots + \beta(80) \times N_j(80)$

where:

 C_j = total time for unpaid productive activities produced/consumed by household j

 $N_j(a) =$ Number of members of age *a* for household *j*

 $\beta(a) = OLS$ parameter estimate. Can be interpreted as time consumption by a person of age a



Italy



Spain

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France

Age

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Age

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Women – Time Life Cycle Deficit



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Men – Time Life Cycle Deficit



Age

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Time production by activity

Women - Childcare





Time production by activity

Italy Spain France Austria Germany

- USA

80

60



Hours per day

0.1

0.5

0.0

0

20

Women - Housework

40

Age





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Profiles by age, sex and household structure Italy



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Profiles by age, sex and household structure Spain



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Profiles by age, sex and household structure France



Profiles by age, sex and household structure Austria



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Profiles by age, sex and household structure Germany



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Profiles by age, sex and household structure USA



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• Qualitative profiles are similar across countries, but relevant differences in levels

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- Qualitative profiles are similar across countries, but relevant differences in levels
- Time flows from women to men and from adults to children (mean age at time production is larger than mean age at time consumption)
- Social norms, labour market rigidities, family welfare, etc. affect time use, which in turn translates into incentives/disincentives to fertility decisions

• Population age structure

Longer lives and low fertility may increase mean age at consumption

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- Efficiency in household production
- Institutional settings

What's next?

Consequences of population aging on time transfers

- Inequality of time production and consumption
 - Variability of profiles by age, sex, country
 - Disaggregation by presence of people with disability in the household

- Longitudinal profiles

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Consequences of population aging on time transfers

• Inequality of time production and consumption

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- Longitudinal profiles

 \Rightarrow Combine time use data/profiles with demographic microsimulation (SOCSIM)

What's next? Methodological issues

- little data about children's time use
 - Model profiles: "borrow strength" from countries with data

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- Allocate childcare time equally to all children in the household

What's next? Methodological issues

- little data about children's time use
 - Model profiles: "borrow strength" from countries with data
 - Allocate childcare time equally to all children in the household
 - ⇒ Use indirect approaches based on data about who is present during the activity (e.g., in the same location). For example who is present during childcare?

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Time, pm	What were you doing? Record your main activity for each 10-minute period from 04.00 pm to 77.00 amit Only one main activity on each line! Doing the mose of transposition. Doing the mose of transposition. Damguin relevant frast second pit. Tany.	What else were you doing? Record the most important parallel activity.	Were you alone or together with somebody you know?				
			Alane	Children up to 9 Ilving in your household	Other household members	Other persons that you know	
04.00-04.10	Bus from work to the day care centre	Planned a birthday party for my son	×				1-1-
04.10-04.20							
04.20-04.30	Talked with the child minder	Helped the children dressing					
04.30-04.40	Went to the grocery, on foot	Talked with my children					
04.40-04.50	Bought food for my family and my neighbour						
04.50-05.00	Went home on foot						<u> </u>
05.00-05.10	Delivered food to my neighbour					X	
05.10-05.20	Put own food in fridge						
05.20-05.30	Cooked supper	Listened to the radio					
05.30-05.40					X		
05.40-05.50	Had supper	Talked with my family					
05.50-06.00							
06.00-06.10	24	1942		X	X		
06.10-05.20	Cleared the table						
06.20-05.30	Had a rest						<u> </u>
06.30-06.40	Watched TV with my children	Knitted					
06.40-06.50							H-
06 50-07 00							Ju-

Who spends time with whom - Household



Average time of exposure with household members from TU data for Italy (in minutes)

Age (years)

₹ **_** ��. �

Who spends time with whom - overall



Based on Zagheni et al. (2008) *American Journal of Epidemiology*. Used to analyze the spread of infectious diseases



- We showed some descriptive findings in a comparative perspective (an appetizer for more detailed country analyses)
- We raised some substantive questions
 - Relationship between fertility and time use
 - Inequality of production and consumption of time
 - Impact of population aging on availability and care needs of families

- We raised some methodological issues
- We are looking forward to fruitful conversations

Thank you

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