

Economic Crises and Long-Term Trends in Health

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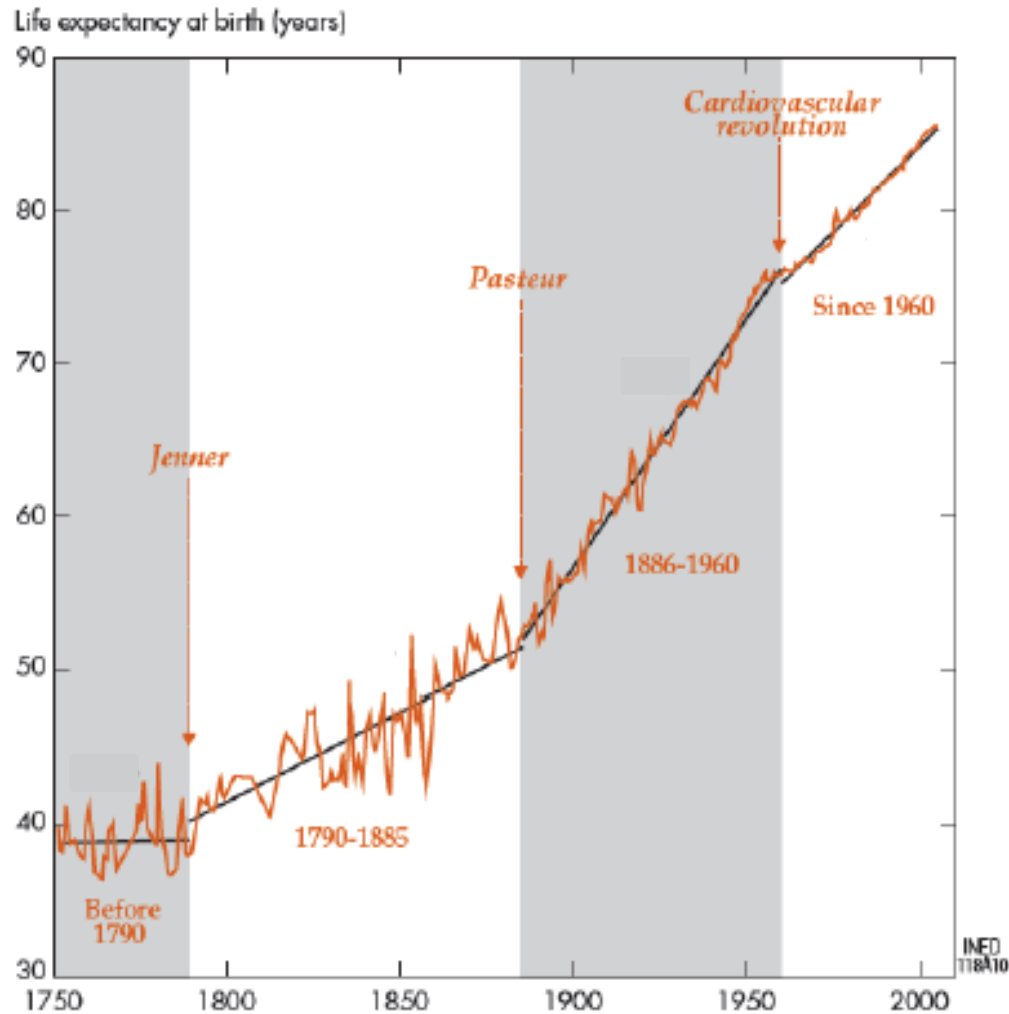
Ottawa, Ontario, Canada

Overview

- Long-term trends in health
- Convergence and divergence
- Do economic crises matter?

Female Life Expectancy in the Country with the Highest Female Life Expectancy, 1750-2008

Life
Expectancy
(Years)

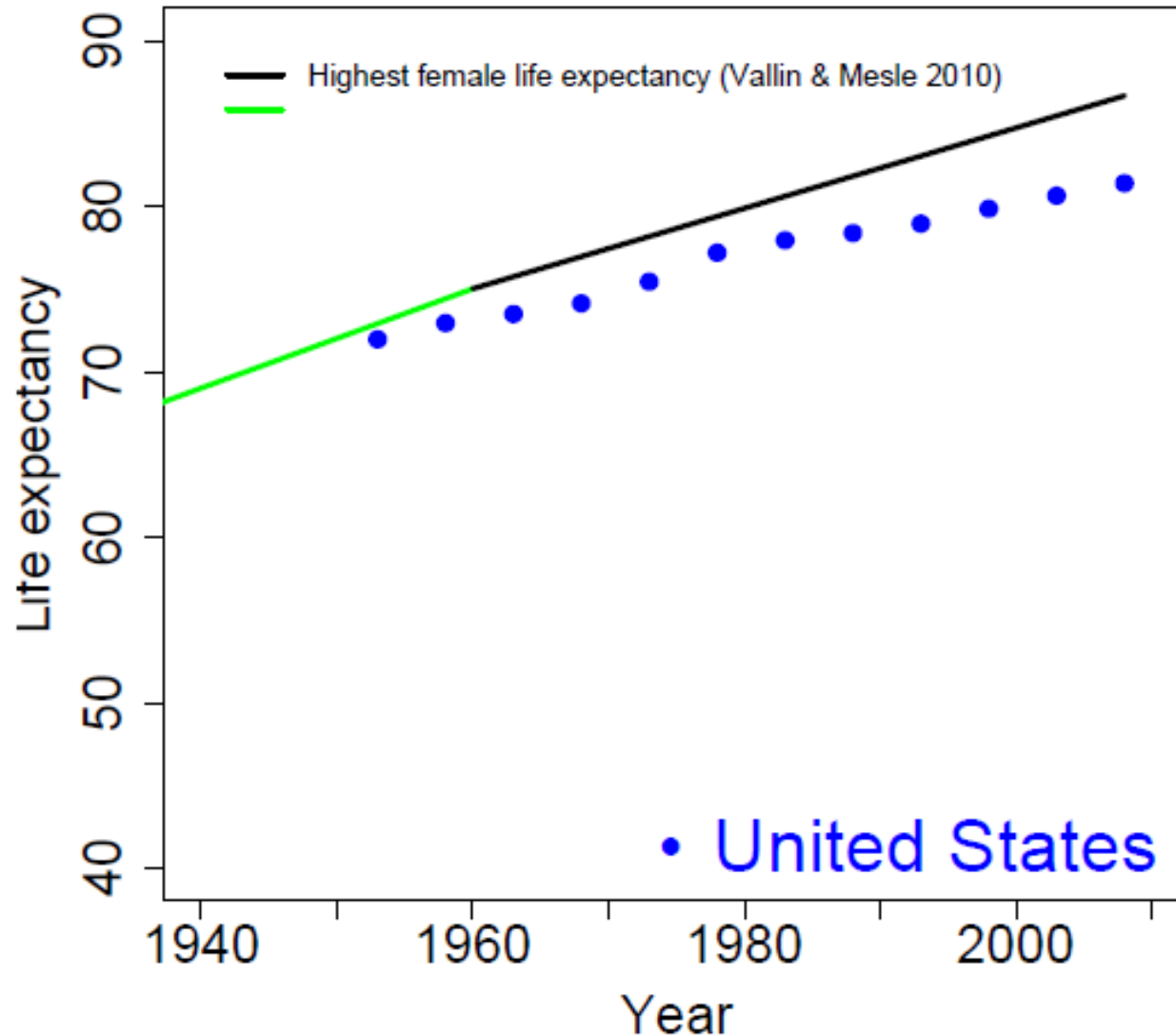


Growth Rate in Best Female Life Expectancy

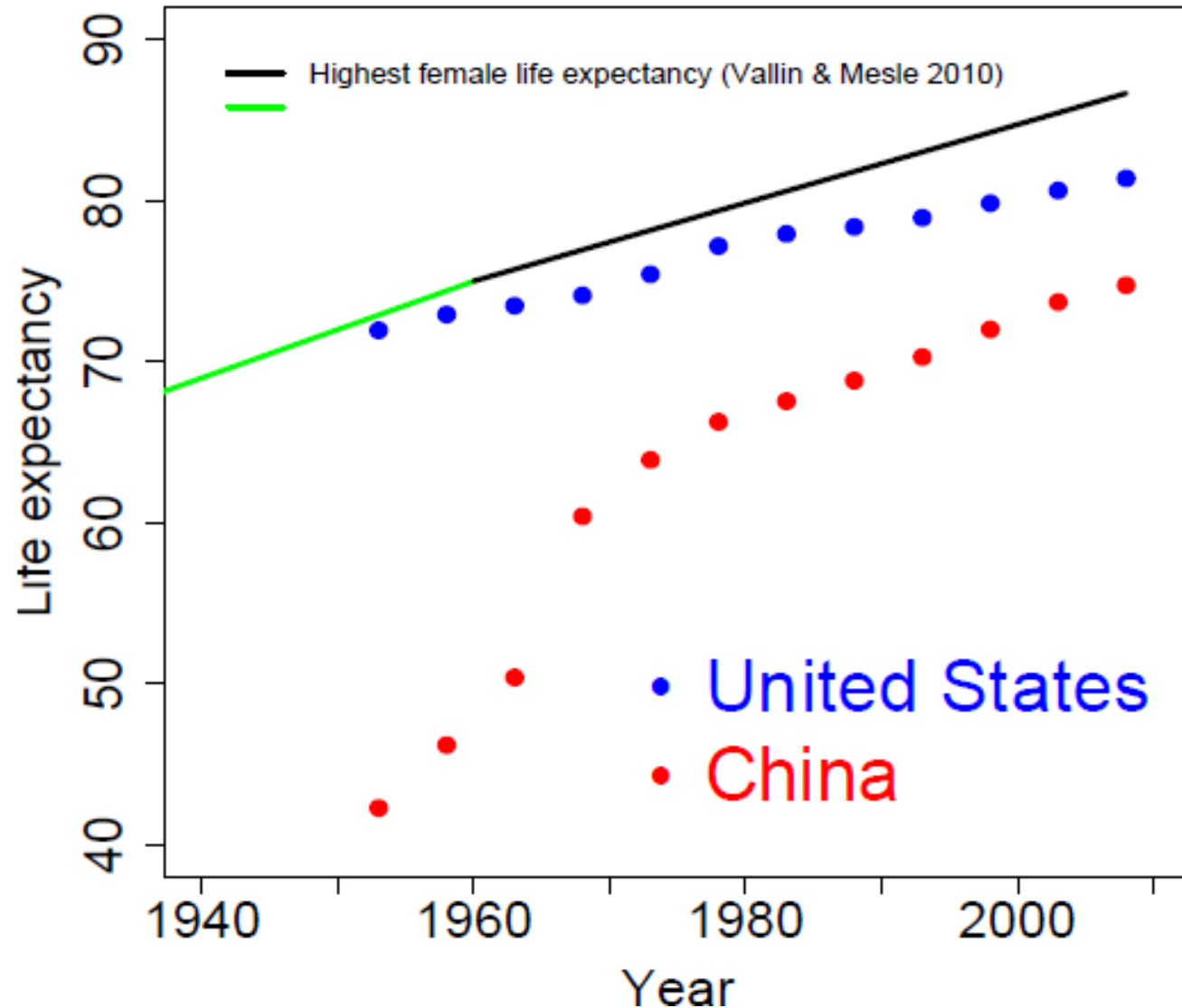
Era	Growth rate (years per decade)
Before 1790	0.05
1790-1885 (Jenner)	1.1
1885-1940 (Pasteur)	3.2
1960- (Cardiovascular revolution)	2.3

Source: Vallin & Meslé, 2010

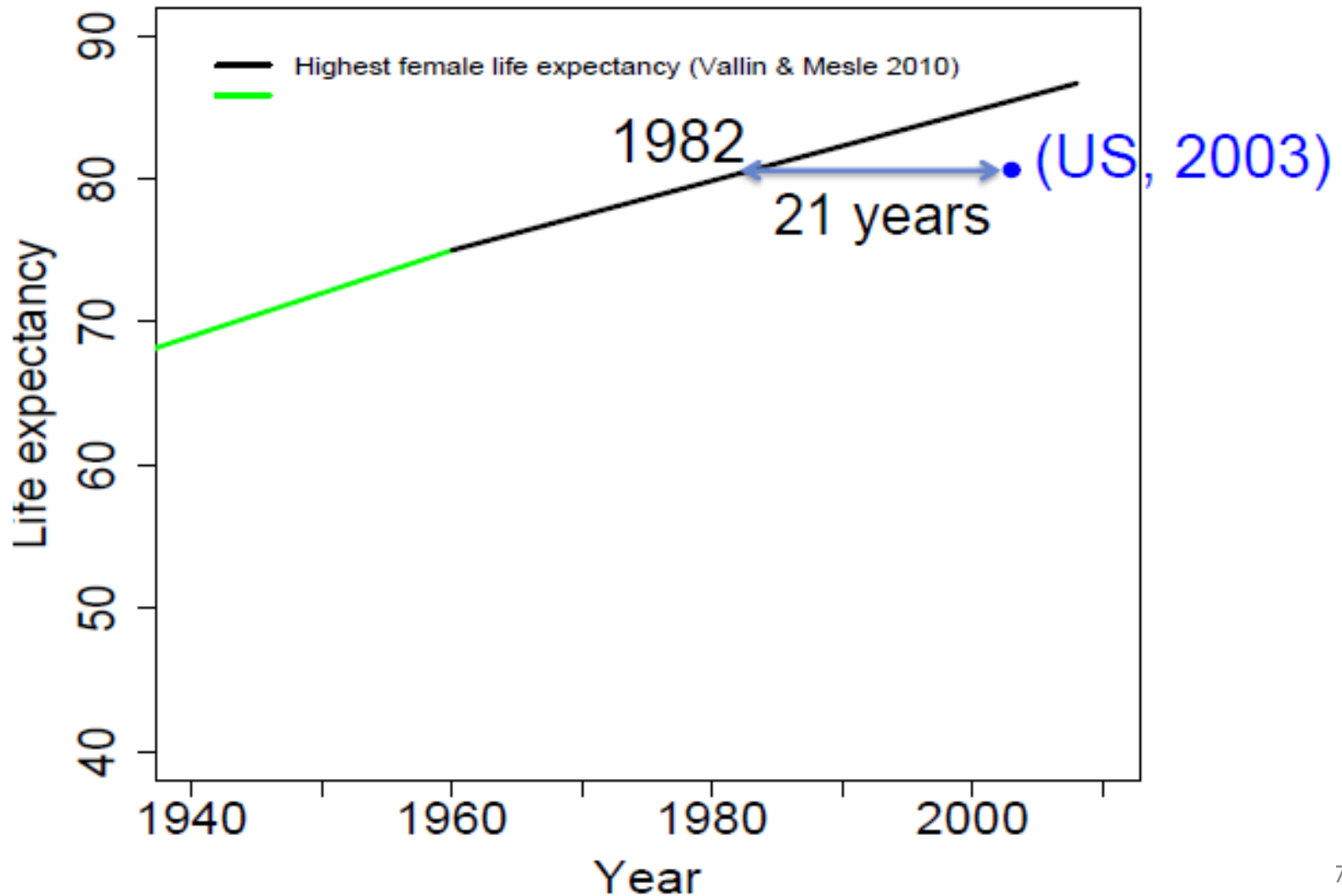
Female Life Expectancy in the U.S.



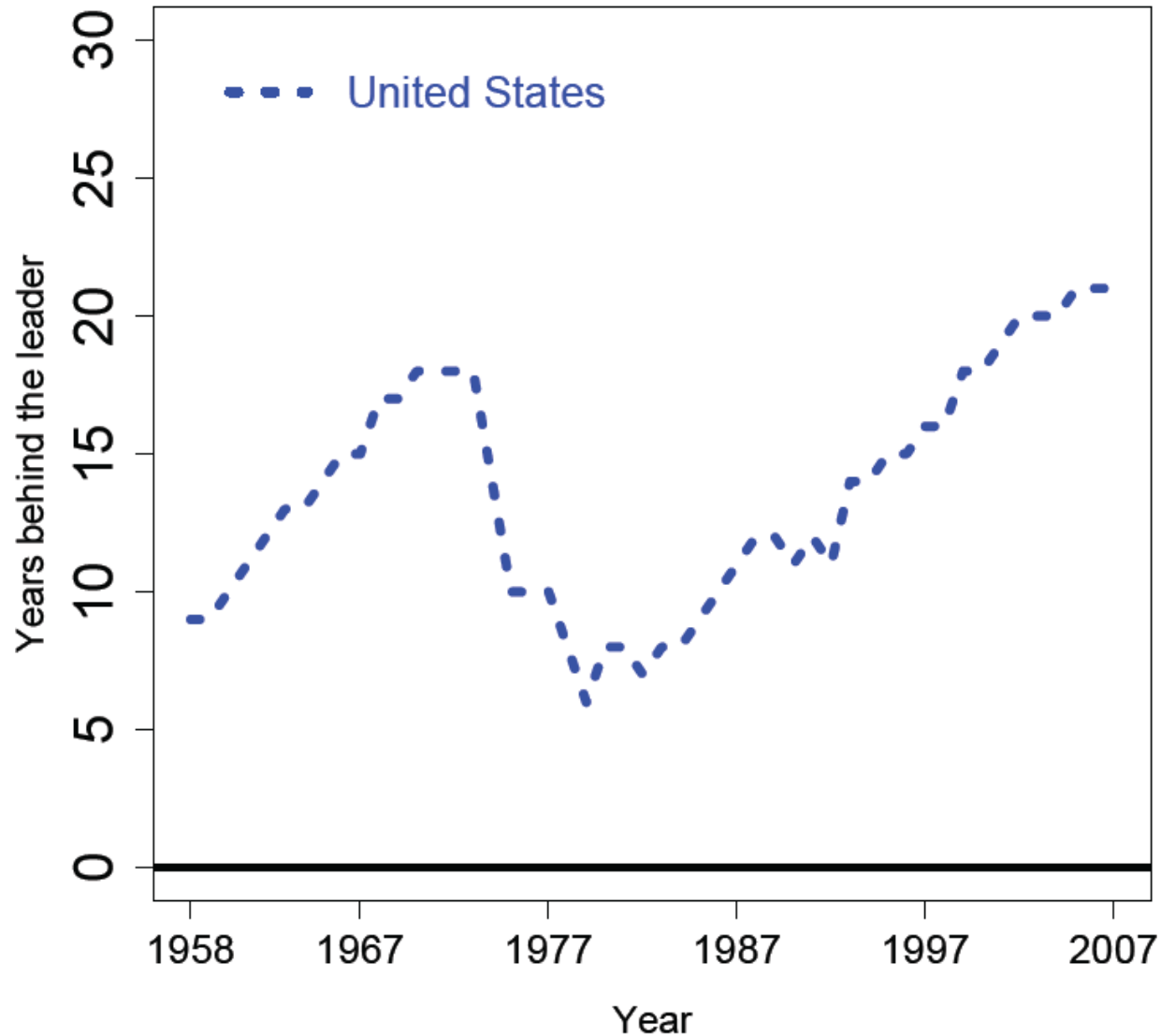
Female Life Expectancy in the U.S. and China, 1950-2010



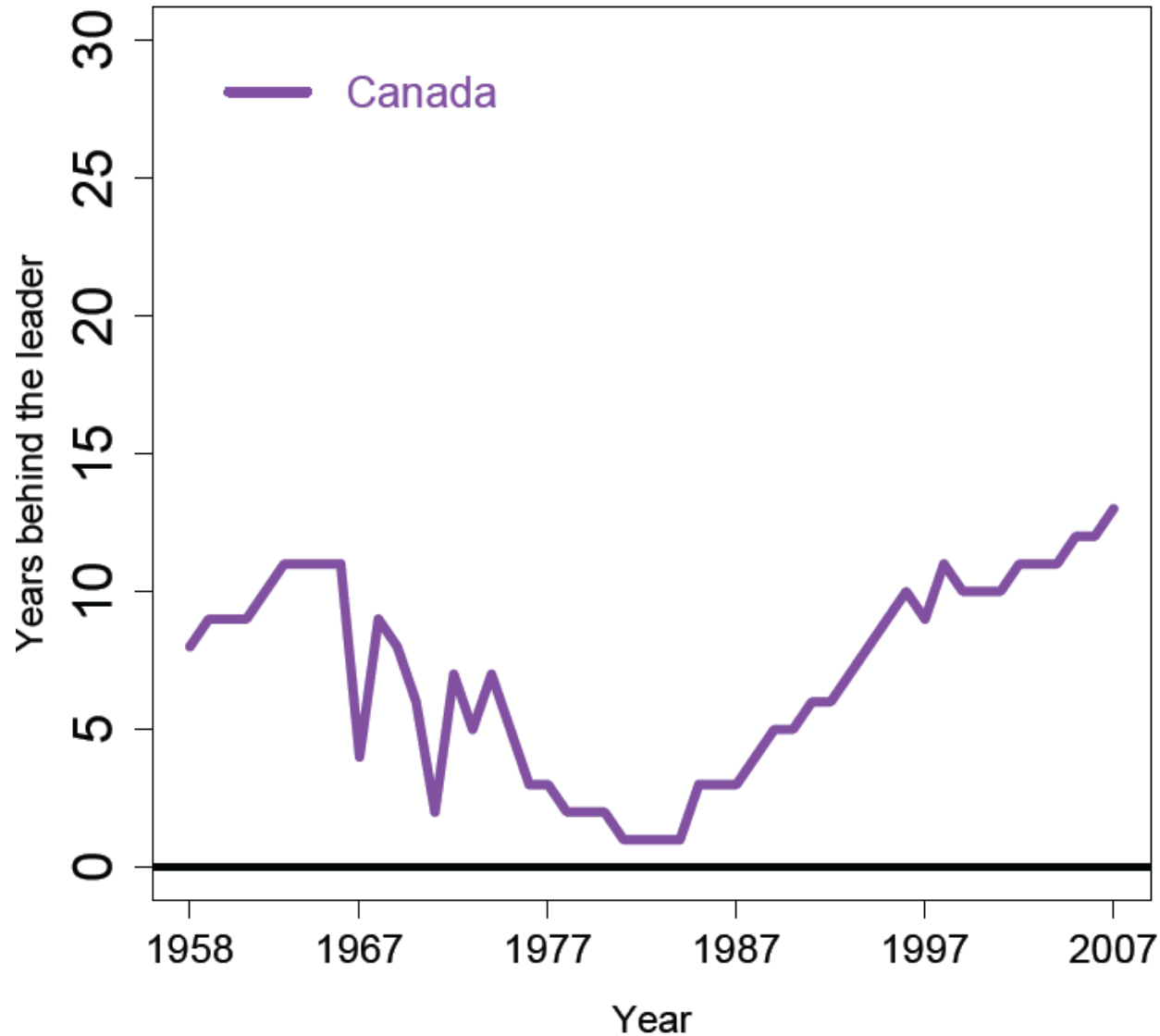
How Many Years Behind?



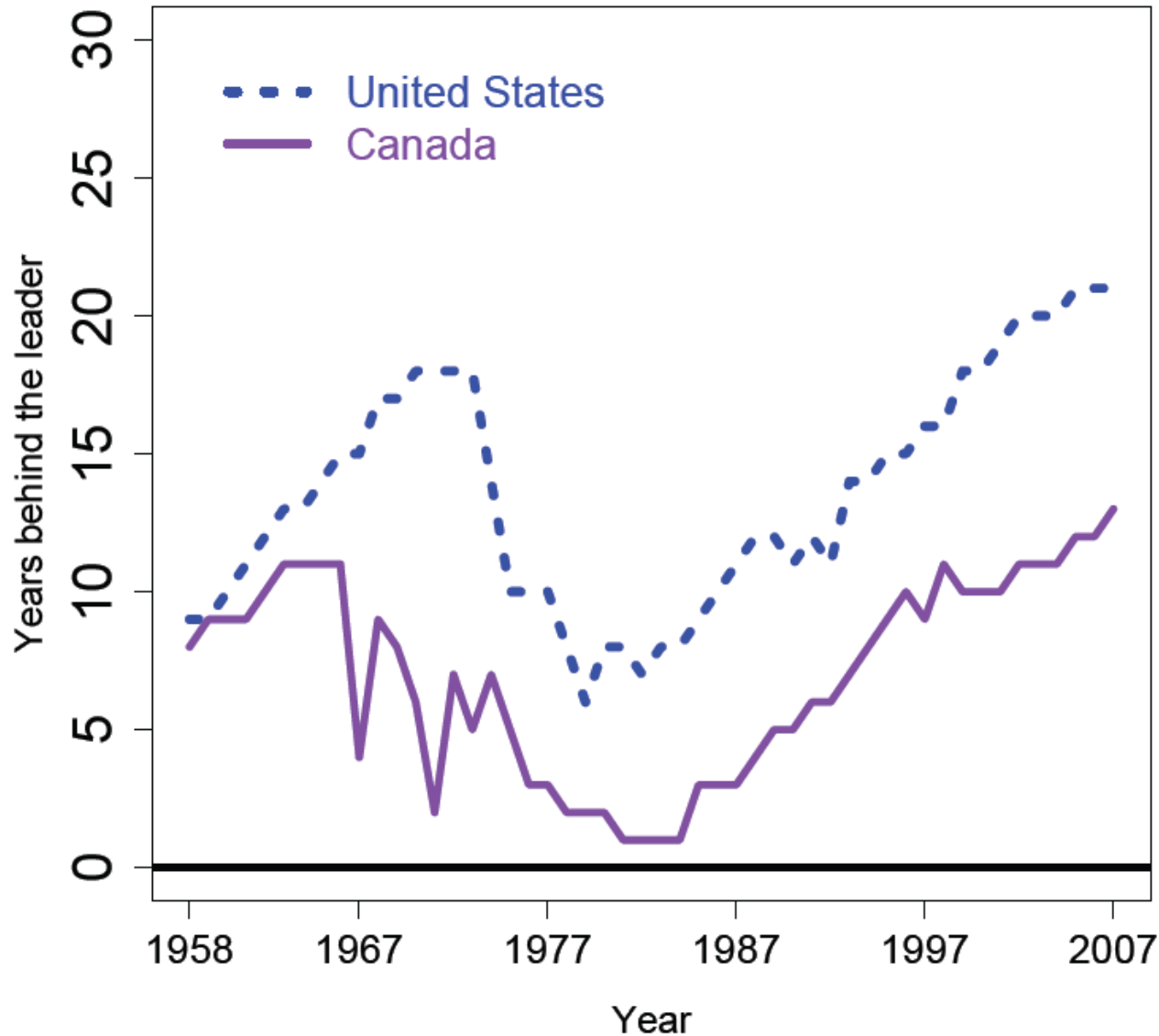
Female Life Expectancy in the U.S., Calendar Years Behind the Leader



Female Life Expectancy in Canada, Calendar Years Behind the Leader



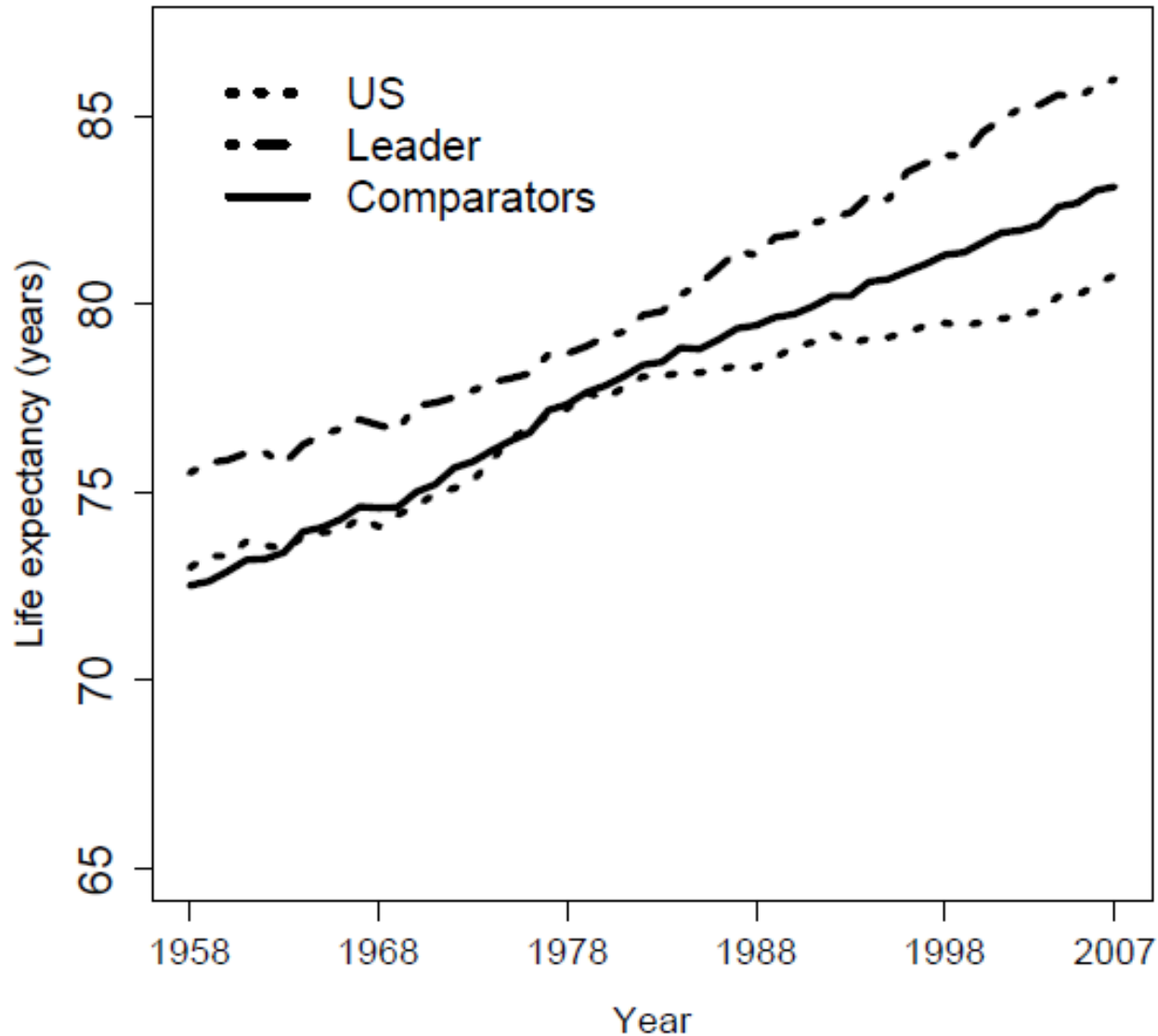
Female Life Expectancy in the U.S. and Canada, Years Behind the Leader



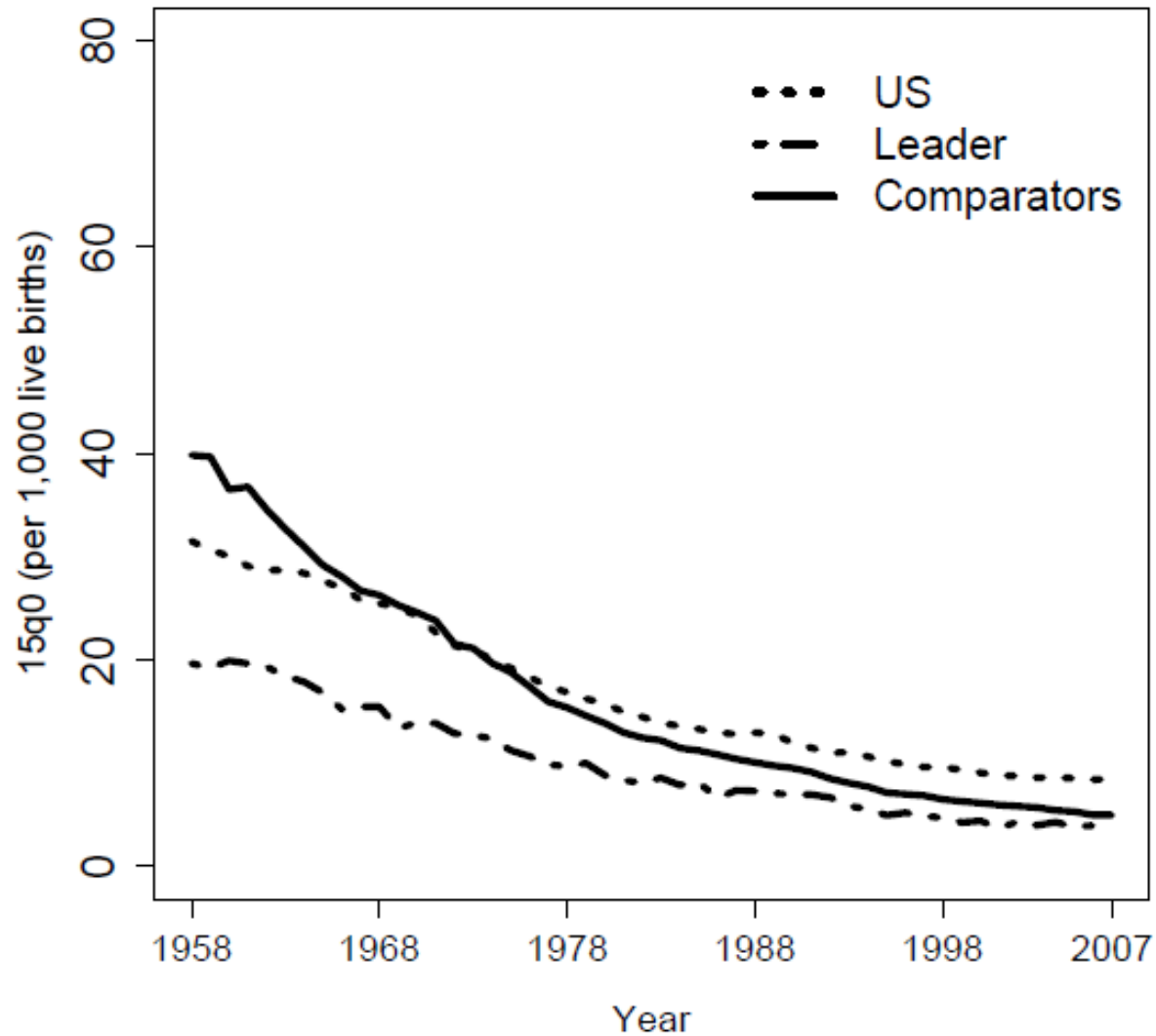
Convergence and Divergence

(The following slides were prepared for the U.S. National Academy of Sciences in collaboration with my UW colleague Stephane Verguet.)

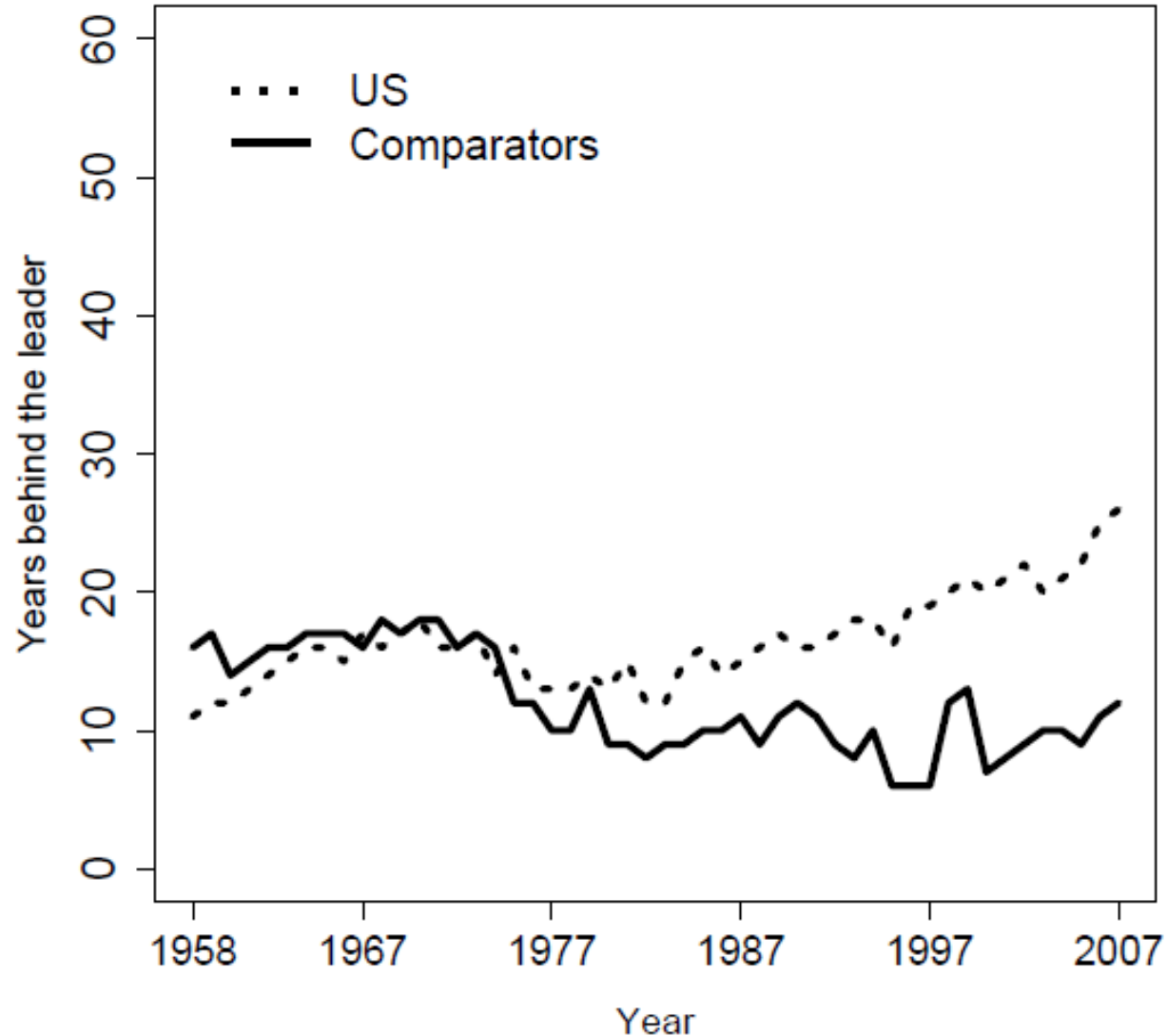
Life Expectancy, Females, 1958-2007



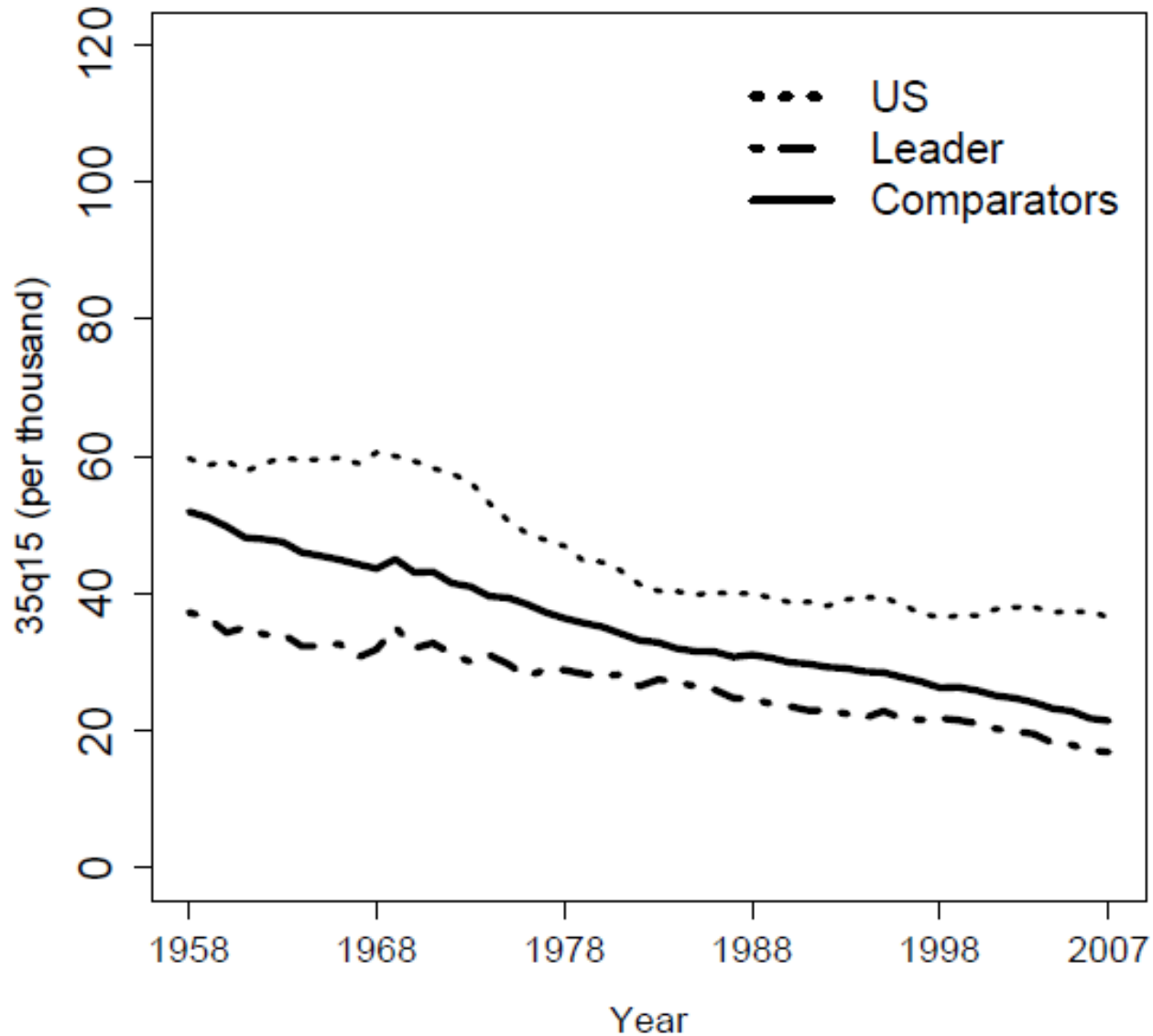
15q0, Females, 1958-2007



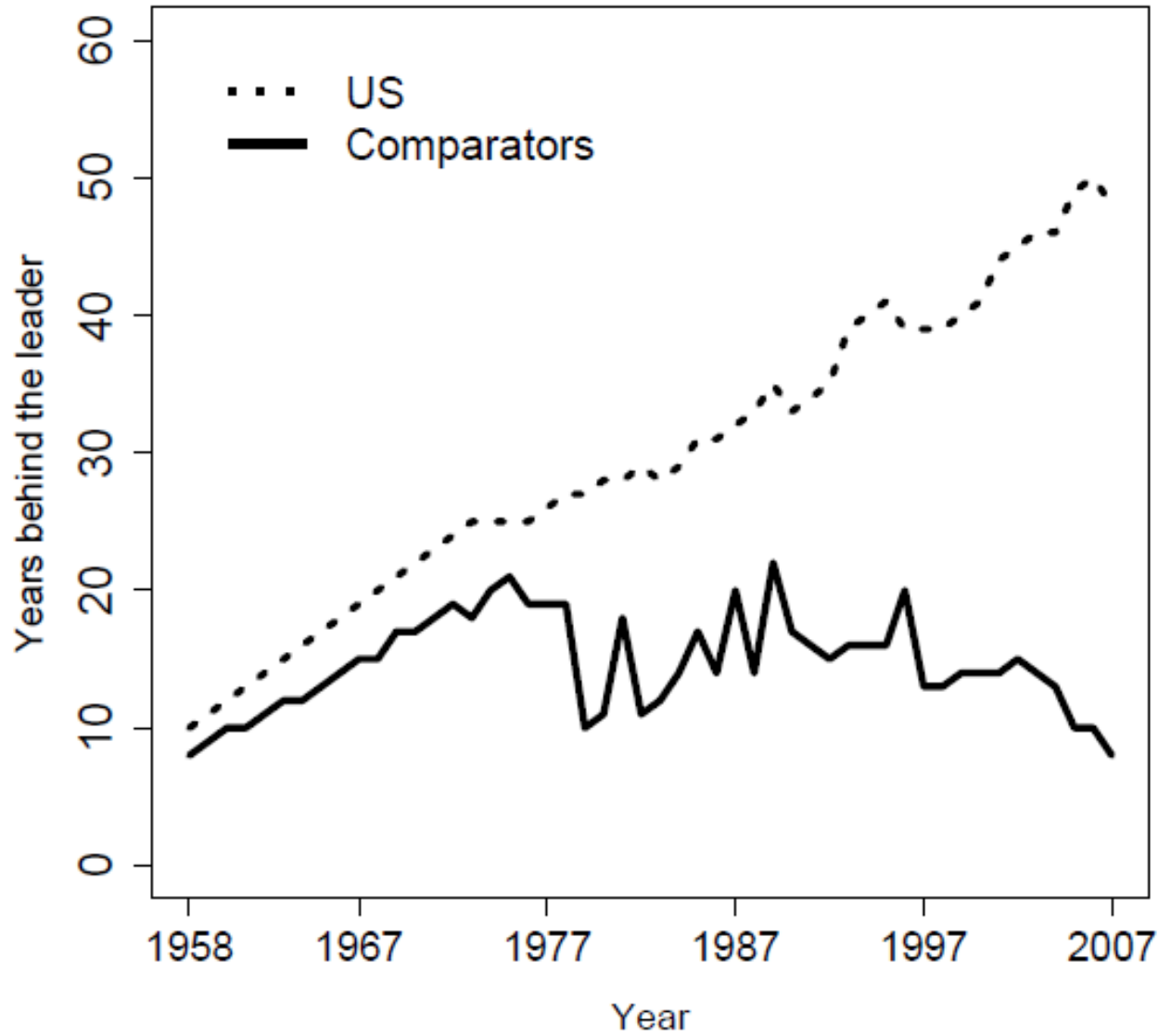
Years Behind the Leader, 15q0, females, 1958-2007



35q15, Females, 1958-2007



Years Behind the Leader, 35q15, Females, 1958-2007



Timing of U.S. Divergence

Indicator	Males	Females
Life expectancy	Late 1970s (temporary reconvergence late '80s to late '90s)	Late 1970s
15q0	Late 1970s (US had lower mortality than comparators before 1965)	Late 1970s (US had lower mortality than comparators before 1965)
35q15	About 1990 (US already substantially behind comparators before divergence)	Late 1970s (more rapid divergence after about 1990)

Do Economic Crises Matter?

Recessions in the U.S.

1969

1974

1979

1982

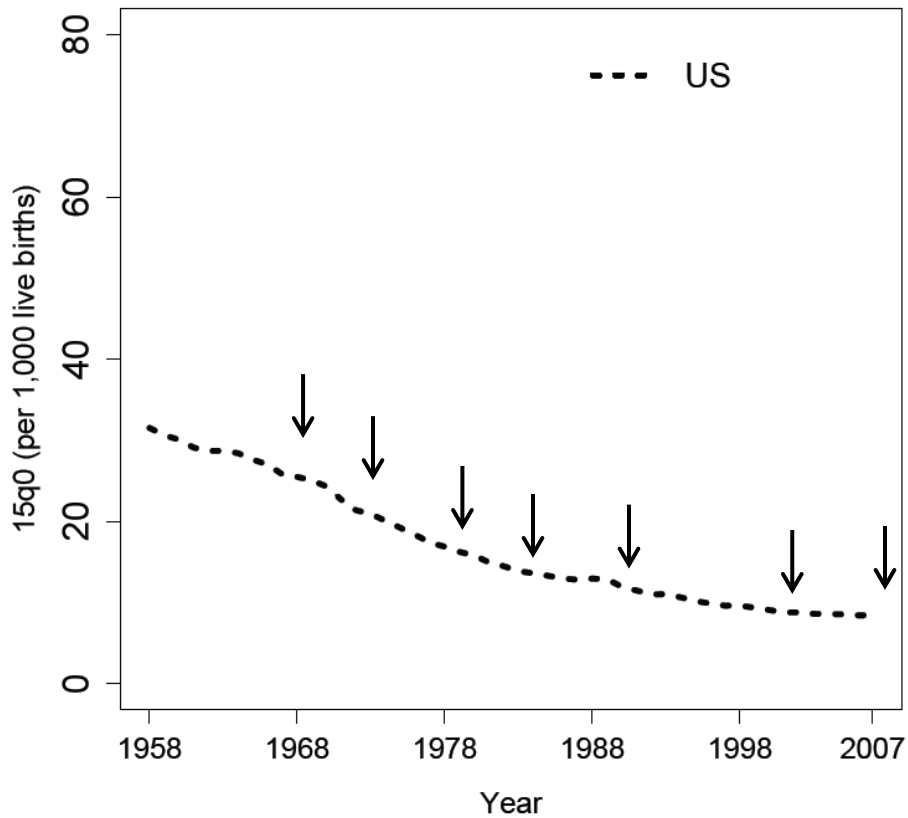
1990

2001

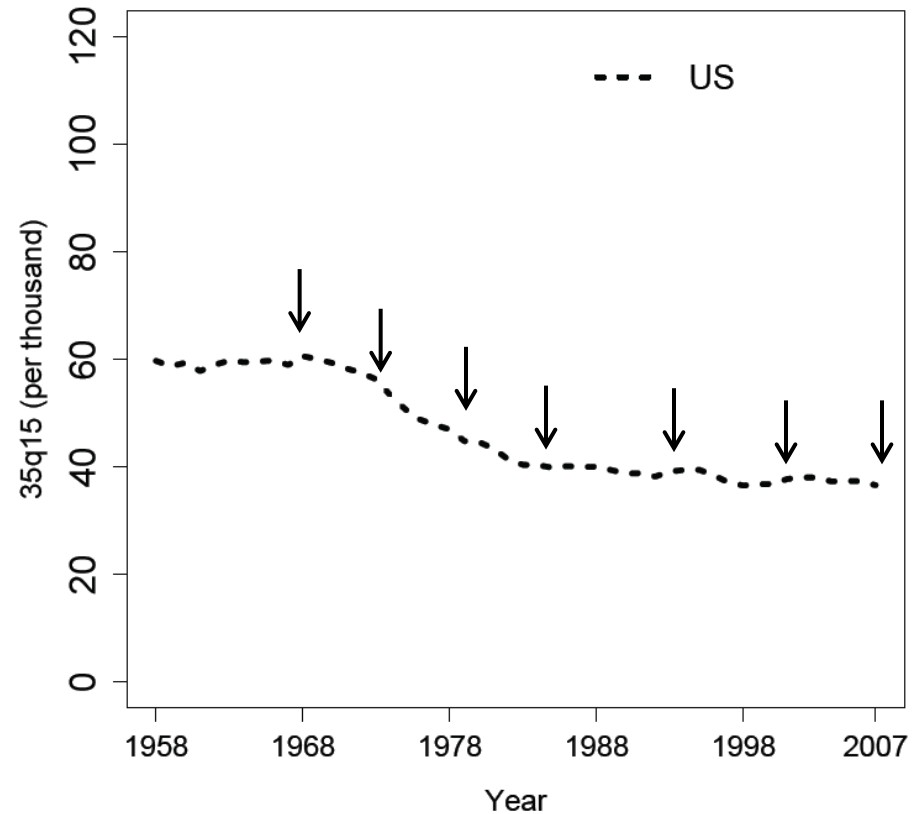
2009

15q0, Females, 1958-2007 and 35q15, Females, 1958-2007

15q0



35q15



Thank You

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