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DEVELOPING A MULTINATIONAL TIME-BUDGET ARCHIVE

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A Report on a Study for the
European Foundation for the Improvement
of Living and Working Conditions.

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SUMMARY

Time-use has been the subject of academic study for most of this century. In recent years, however, this study has come to be of more than merely academic significance; the pressing public issues of the future of work and alternatives to employment, of the application and impact of the new Information Technologies, of sexual distinctions in the access to work and leisure, are all most helpfully approached through the analysis of time use patterns. This project was intended to provide the basis for an international collaboration in "time budget analysis", by constructing a multinational archive of comparative time use data.

The development of this Archive is now well underway. We have, so far, agreements to deposit fifteen time-budget surveys, from seven countries; seven of these surveys are already processed into a form suitable for comparative analysis. We have also, through the medium of a working group of the International Sociological Association, set up a mechanism by which new surveys may be added to the Archive as they are carried out. This report discusses the current world stock of time use information (Section 2), the alternative strategies for a multinational study of time use (Section 3), and considers (in Section 4) the sorts of time use evidence that could become available without the

development of an international archive. (Sections 1 to 4 incorporate the preliminary report to the European Foundation, "International Time Use Comparisons", December 1984). Section 5 discusses the general nature of the scheme for a multinational time budget data collection, and Section 6 outlines the system for categorisations and coding of variables for surveys in the Archive, providing a key to the codebooks of the first surveys (which are attached to this report as Appendices). Sections 7 and 8 provide some examples of analysis (including a first look at the issue of activities associated with the reduction of working times), and Section 9 contains proposals for future work.

1. Why Study the Use of Time?

Time is the stuff of experience. All activities have position and duration; our natural accounts of our activities ultimately take the form of "time spent in this or that activity". So time use is potentially a sort of general social accounting tool, a numeraire for describing a society in much the same way that money may be used for describing the more limited economic subsystem. What is surprising is that this statement should be at all necessary: time use data (material from time budget surveys) is in fact among the less used of the social scientists' tools.

The current importance of studies of time use patterns does not however rest on this rather diffuse statement of time as an important sort of social indicator, time as a means of studying a range of disparate social phenomena. For a number of reasons, the use of time is now becoming itself the object of research. Time use patterns are now emerging as the subject of policy concern, for a range of public, corporate and private bodies. Let us consider what the interests of these bodies are.

First and most obvious is the interest in issues connected with the reduction of working time. For some this is a simple matter of job sharing: the reduction of working time leads, assuming

that the total amount of work remains constant, to an increase in the number of jobs available. Calculations about these somewhat straightforward consequences of the reduction of hours of work obviously need some time use information. Much more interesting, however, are the arguments emerging, for instance, from academic supporters of the 1983 IG Metal strike in favour of shorter working hours. These German economists argued that, as well as job sharing, shorter hours of employment may also be actually work generating. Their position relies on the fact that those not working must be doing something with their time; the new leisure activities encouraged by a reduction of work time (without a proportionate decline in take-home pay) may be expected to produce new employment opportunities in the service industries and in those manufacturing industries ancillary to the service sector. This then means a new focus for time use research; finding the consequences of work-time reduction for the pattern of non-work activities.

The second focus of policy concern has less pressing economic importance, but has nevertheless a substantial social and ethical significance. Women are in general in a disadvantaged position in the money economy; they work, often in gender segregated jobs, for less pay and with less hope of career advancement than their male counterparts. One of the main explanations for this disadvantaged status in the workplace is the nature of the sexual division of labour within the household. Women bear the major

responsibility for the regular and routine domestic work tasks within the household irrespective of whether or not they also have paid work responsibilities. This means that women's total of paid plus unpaid (ie domestic) work tends to exceed men's. And the differential responsibility for the household means that women may be (or may be perceived as) less involved with their workplace responsibilities than men. Time use data (particularly concerning the allocation of time to domestic work within the household) are perhaps the most useful means for measuring these gender inequalities, and for observing their change over long periods.

A third focus of policy concern is rather more futurological. The new information technologies have so far made themselves felt mostly through changes in production processes. There have indeed been a few new products (pocket calculators, home computers) for which there were no market equivalents before the advent of microprocessor chips. But in the main the new technology has been used largely to make existing sorts of products more cheaply (and employing less labour). Nevertheless there is still hope that the new technologies will begin to have a substantial employment generation effect - when genuinely new markets for new products (information technology hardware and software) begin to emerge. But what are the new products to be? Many high technology firms hope for new markets emerging from households' use of IT to satisfy their needs for various sorts of

services - the development of tele-shopping, remote and interactive educational, medical and social services, new forms of entertainment and information services. A major application of time use studies is the investigation of the way that new-product-related activities may find their place in the daily pattern of household activities.

2. The European Foundation Time Use Project.

The purpose of the European Foundation time use project is to organise a collection of data, an Archive, for a number of different countries, which may be used to throw light on these three policy question in particular, as well as providing some more general social accounting information. The established research instrument for time use study is the "time budget survey". Typically such surveys involve two parts: a conventional questionnaire covering both standard socio-demographic issues and more specialised geographical and other household information; and a diary (either for self-completion or completed by an interviewer) within which a detailed account of activities for a specified period (normally varying from a single day to a continuous week, or occasionally involving a series of widely separated days through a year) is entered.

This sort of research is enormously expensive. Sample sizes tend to be large, because of the wide scope for variation in lifestyle. The survey instruments tend to be cumbersome, because of the very large amount of contextuating information necessary to make sense of the diary material. And the process of coding the diary material - normally though not necessarily consisting of textual descriptions - and transferring it to machine-readable

form, is very labour intensive and time consuming. The limited resources made available by the Foundation would certainly not be sufficient to enable us to carry out any sort of new multinational data collection. The last such multinational time-use study was in fact carried out, under the auspices of UNESCO, just about twenty years ago (Szalai 1973). But individual national studies have been carried out by most developed countries within the last decade, and in some cases two or more such studies have been made. It was decided very early in the planning of the Foundation exercise that, rather than collecting our own data on a multinational basis, we would attempt to construct a multinational survey retrospectively by putting together existing surveys, or the results of existing surveys, from a number of different countries.

Before describing how we have set about this task it may be helpful to consider the reasons why we should wish to be involved in multinational research in the field of time use. Quite apart from the normal attractions of multinational intellectual cooperation, there are some quite specific advantages at this point in time. These relate to the previously mentioned small scale of social science research. Though the history of this field stretches back some sixty years, the activities during these six decades may perhaps be best characterised as a series of promising starts prematurely abandoned. The field has been a graveyard of high expectations - practitioners have seldom if at

all been able to move from description of time use patterns to analysis of the causes and consequences of these patterns. Yet such analysis is now precisely what is required if we are to begin to answer the questions posed in the previous section.

The few experts in the field, and the (in absolute terms) small amount of time budget data available, are now under some pressure to make a scientific input to the solution of policy questions of the highest possible importance. So the special reasons for a multinational approach to time use studies at this point in history come down to economies of scale. There is only a small pool of time budget researchers in any one country; bringing together researchers from a number of different countries may have the effect of providing a critical mass of intellectual effort from which some real advance may emerge. And making national data available to the international community enlarges every researcher's supply of evidence. It may also be helpful to add that while the diversity of instruments and survey techniques among the participating countries does cause some problems it also gives some very specific advantages. Each researcher is limited in the amount of information that can be collected in the questionnaire ancillary to the diary; international collaboration means that the individual researcher has access to answers to questions (eg concerning possession of particular consumer durables or frequency of participation in activities during a year) that were excluded for reasons of space from his or her own survey, but which nevertheless appear in a survey from another country where a different choice of questionnaire items was made.

There are various ways in which the multinational comparative exercise could be worked. The comparison could be operated at the level of published or otherwise acquired results from individual surveys. Or it could be operated through the development of a common multinational comparative dataset - bringing together the raw data into a single "lowest common denominator" form for re-analysis. The former course of action does have some advantages, and indeed some of this sort of work has been carried out. Section 4 describes some of the results of comparisons of time-use patterns in eleven different countries. But, as we shall see, data in this form is not really a suitable basis for answering the sorts of questions outlined in the first section of this paper, nor is it an appropriate framework for gaining the synergistic benefits of international cooperation. So, in Section 5 we outline the structure of a new multinational comparative data set. But first, Section 3 outlines the international stock of time-budget material from which our multinational comparative data is drawn.

3. An International Survey of Time Budget Material.

Tables 1 and 2 give some summary information about the international stock of time budget information. These tables are by no means comprehensive in their coverage; they exclude many "special purpose" time budget surveys (covering particular types of activity, such as transport or leisure, or particular occupational groups, such as teachers or managers). And they are probably not exhaustive; some important national surveys have doubtless been overlooked in the compilation of this present list. But even in this incomplete form the tables cover more than 50 surveys, for 29 countries. All of the major OECD states, and most of the Warsaw Pact economies, are included in the list.

Table 1. Time Use Studies in Various Countries

Country	Date	Sample	Ages	Days	Organisation
BEC -----					
Netherlands	1980	2700	12+	7	Soc. Cult. Planbu
	1975	1300	12+	7	Soc. Cult. Planbu
Belgium	1965	2100	18-65	1	Univ. Brussels
France	1984/5	20000*	*	1/7	INSEE
	1974/5	6650	18+	1	INSEE
	1967	2868	18-65	1/7	INSEE
	1966	2802	18-65	1/7	INSEE
	1963/4	696	"Adult"	1	CBS
	1958	2900	<47, F	1	INBD
	1947	1800	<47, F	1	INBD
West Germany	1979/80	4000	14+	1	EMNID
	1979	3000	16+	1	Hamburg CC
	1965	2500	18+	1	U. Koln, Munster
Denmark	1975	3700	16+	1	N. Inst. Soc. Res
	1961		16+	1	N. Inst. Soc. Res
U.K.	1983/4	10000	14+	1	BBC
	1983/4	1300	14+	7	SPRU, ESRC

	1981	1200	14+	7	Scot. Count. Comm
	1974/5	3500	16+	7	BBC
	1971	700	25-45	4	Inst. Comm. Stud.
	1961	2700	14+	7	BBC/SPRU
	1938	700	"Adult"	1	Mass Obs./SPRU
Italy	1979	3900	All	1	CNR, U. of Turin
	1973	3000	14+	1	U. of Rome
Other Europe	-----				
Austria	1981	22000	19+	1	Cent. Stat. Off.
Switzerland	1979	45000	14+	1	Fed. Stat. Off.
Norway	1980/1	5205	16-74	2/3	Cent. Bu. Stat.
	1971/2	3000	16-74	2/3	Cent. Bu. Stat.
Finland	1979	7355	10-64	2	Cent. Stat. Off.
Sweden	1981/2	3500	9-79	1	Swed. Broad. Corp.
Eastern Europe	-----				
Poland	1978				Inst. Phil. Soc.
	1965				
East Germany	1965		18-65	1	

Czechoslovakia	1979/80	35000	15-69	1	Inst. Phil. Soc.
	1965		18-65	1	
Hungary	1976/7	27600	15-69	4	Cent. Stat. Off.
	1965		18-65	1	Hung. Stat. Off.
	1963	12000	18-59	1	Hung. Cent. Off.
Yugoslavia	1965		18-65	1	
Bulgaria	1976/7				Bulg. Acad. Sci.
	1970/1				Bulg. Ac. Sci.
Soviet Union	1980	2000	18+	1	Inst. Soc. Res.
Far East	-----				
South Korea	1981	3365	5+	7	KBS, [U. of Seoul]
Japan	1980	54500	>10	1	NHK
	1975	30000	>10	1	NHK
	1970	34000	>10	1	NHK
	1965	24300	>10	1	NHK
	1960	170000	>10	1	NHK
North America	-----				
Canada	1981	2700	18+	1	Statistics Canada
	1971				

USA	1975/6	2400	18+	1-4	SRC, U. Michigan
	1965		18+	1	SRC, U. Michigan

Near East

Israel	1970	3700	18+	1	Hebrew U.
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Table 2 Reference Material on Time Budget Surveys.

Country	Date	References
BBC		
Netherlands	1980	Knulst and Schoonderwoerd (1983)
	1975	Knulst (1977)
Belgium	1965	Szalai (1973), Javeau (1970)
France	1984/5	Roy (1984)
	1974/5	Lemel (1976), Fouquet and Chadeau (1981), Roy (1984)
	1967	Lemel (1972, 1974), Goguel (1966)
	1966	Goguel (1966)
	1963/4	Guilbert, Lowit and Creuzen (1965)
	1958	Girard (1958), Girard and Bastide (1959)
	1947	Stoetzel (1948)
West Germany	79/80	EMNID
	1979	Dangschat et al (1982)
	1965	U. Koln and Munster
Denmark	1975	Madsen (1966)
	1961	Madsen (1967)
U.K.	1983/4	BBC (1984)

- 1983/4 Gershuny and Miles (1984)
1981 CCS (1982), Gershuny and Thomas (1985)
1974/5 BBC (1978), Gershuny and Thomas (1983)
1971 Young and Willmott (1973).
1961 BBC (1965), Gershuny and Thomas (1981)
1938 Thomas, Zmroczek (1983), Gershuny (1983)
- Italy 1979 Belloni (1984)
1973 Grazia-Rezi (1974)
- Other Europe -----
- Austria 1981 Cent. Stat. Off.
- Switzerland 1979 Fed. Stat. Off.
- Norway 1980/1 Lingsom and Ellingsaeter (1983)
1971/2 Lingsom (1975)
- Finland 1979 Niemi et. al. (1981), Niemi (1983)
- Sweden 1981/2 Sveriges Radio (1982), Gahlin (1983)
- Eastern Europe -----
- Poland 1978 Inst. Phil. Soc.
1965
- East Germany 1965 Szalai (1973)

Czechoslovakia 1979/80 Federal Statistical Office (Undated)
1965

Hungary 1976/7 Andorka and Falussy (1982)
1965 Szalai (1973)
1963 Ferge (1965)

Yugoslavia 1965 Szalai (1973)

Bulgaria 1976/7 Staikov (Undated)
1970/1 Staykov (1978)

Soviet Union 1980 Inst. Soc. Res.

Far East -----

South Korea 1981 KBS, [U. of Seoul]

Japan 1980 Nakanishi (1982)
1975 NHK (1976)
1970 NHK (1971)
1965 Nakanishi (1966)
1960 Nakanishi (1963)

North America -----

Canada 1981 Kinsley and O'Donnell (1983)

1971

USA

1975/6 Robinson (1978)

1965 Robinson and Converse (1973)

Near East

Israel

1970 Katz and Gurevitch (1976)

While this is a very large amount of information, it does not necessarily provide a very substantial basis for multinational comparative research. There is no standard form for a time budget survey; it might be helpful to consider the various ways in which the design of a time budget survey may vary:

- 1) It will vary according to the nature of the population from which the sample is drawn. Most surveys (though not all - see Belloni, 1984) place a lower age limit, and some an upper age limit for their respondents. Some restrict their coverage by other demographic criteria, by, for example, sex (Stoetzel 1948), or marital status (Young and Willmott 1973). Others still are restricted by the geographical region they cover (eg Staikov, no date).

- 2) Variation according to the sampling methodology also introduces complications for international comparative purposes. The very substance of a time budget survey is the nature of the respondents' activity patterns - and the nature of the individual's activity patterns determines his or her availability to complete the survey instrument. The effect of non-response bias in these surveys may then be assumed to vary according to the sampling methods (eg quota sampling involving knocking on doors in a specified area will produce a larger proportion of "stay-at-home" respondents than will a more classical postal-addressed based probability sampling procedure).

- 3) There is wide scope for variation in the design of the time-use diary. Activity categories can be precoded, either with a relatively small set of activities (eg Sweden 1981/2) or with a very large number of precoded activities (the Netherlands 1980 survey had more than 200) - or the activity coding may be left open. The time intervals for recording activities may be left open (as in the "start time, activity, start time, activity" format of 1960s UNESCO multinational study), they may be fixed as units of 5, 15 or 30 minutes (or combinations of these at different times of the day), they may be recorded at random instants (as in the "beeper" studies recorded in Robinson 1978), or they may be set against a time grid (the diaries used in the NHK Japanese surveys are particularly attractive examples of this last format - which is unfortunately best suited to the compact orthography of ideographic text). The single day interviewer-aided recall format (the "yesterday" diary) is the most common, but seven-day self-completion is also widely used, and some of the French studies combine a detailed one day with a less detailed seven day structure.
- 4) The activity classification schemes themselves vary very considerably, and this must be a major stumbling block for comparative work. However, one lasting consequence

of the UNESCO work of the 1960s is that the 100-activity categorisation used by its participants has become generally accepted as at least a starting point for the development of new activity coding schemes. Most of the modern surveys pay at least token respect to an unspoken principle that new coding structures should be at some level compatible with the Szalai activity set. Surveys also differ with respect to the possibility of multiple codings for simultaneously occurring activities, and for the opportunity for recording the spatial location of the activity, and the company of other people in the activity.

- 5) The demographic and other questionnaire information ancillary to the diary instrument varies very widely. There are a few variables (age, sex, family status, household composition, years of full-time education) which are both obvious candidates for inclusion in the questionnaire, and readily coded in a way which enables comparisons with other surveys. There are other variables (eg occupation, social class, educational status, geographical location of home) which are obvious candidates, but without readily available coding systems which make international comparisons easy. And there is a very wide range of other variables which might be included either because of some special subject of

interest (eg accessibility of sports or cultural facilities) or because of a particular framework of explanation for activity patterns (eg mothers' employment history as explanation of daughters' employment status). As previously noted this last source of diversity may be a strength as well as a weakness in comparative research.

The large number of surveys included in Tables 1 and 2 might potentially be used for comparative purposes in a range of different ways. Each of the listed surveys have some published results. In principle it would be possible simply to use a collection of the published tabulations from each survey as a basis for a comparison of time allocation patterns, their change over historical periods, and their variation as between countries ("Strategy 1"). But this procedure would be subject to almost all of the problems listed above. The variation in the age ranges covered (see column 4 in Table 1), and the differences in the geographical coverage of the surveys (some of those listed are entirely urban samples) would mean that we could not tell what part of the variation in time use is due to country differences and what part to population. And the great variety of different meanings attached to such commonplace terms as "at work" or "doing housework" would in any case render any comparisons rather less than meaningful.

A second approach ("Strategy 2") would be to identify the current community of time use researchers with current access to raw national data, whose data is of sufficient quality (ie sufficiently detailed activity coding and adequate socio-demographic information), and to request that they compile special-purpose tables, well specified as to the detail of population coverage, and the inclusiveness of activity categories. Table 3 lists the national surveys which might in principle be expected to be included in such an exercise.

Table 3.

"Strategy 2" Surveys

Netherlands 1980	France 1974/5
Denmark 1975	UK 1983/4
Italy 1979	Austria 1981
Switzerland 1979	Norway 1980/1
Finland 1979	Hungary 1976/7
Japan 1980	Canada 1981
USA 1975/6	

Further information might reveal that other national data sources (particularly those in Eastern Europe) might be added to this list. This does leave us with a minimum of fifteen countries as candidates for a "Strategy 2" multinational comparison. And indeed researchers in eleven of these countries have agreed to take part in such an exercise (described in Robinson, 1984); some of its findings are reviewed in the next section.

But the "Strategy 2" approach is less than satisfactory. Answering the sorts of questions outlined in Section 1 of this paper requires that we improve our fundamental understanding of the determinants of time use patterns. Once we have established and well-founded hypotheses about the determinants of time use, then we may be in a position to specify a small number of standard tables which cast light on our policy problems. The standard tables discussed in the following section are not very illuminating. For the moment we need, not the international time-use accounts that would emerge from "Strategy 2", but rather a multinational data set that the researchers can interact with in an exploratory mode. This gives us two further options: we can reprocess existing national survey material from different countries into a common set of categories, so as to approximate to a multinational study (Strategy 3); or we can form an international research consortium, and specify common standards for a new and properly multinational comparative dataset (Strategy 4). And in fact, both of these courses of

action are now under way: Sections 5 to 7 of this paper describe the Strategy 3 exercise initiated by the European Foundation; and this research is being conducted in parallel with a Strategy 4 exercise under the aegis of the International Sociological Association (described in Harvey 1985).

4. Time Use in Eleven Countries: Some Illustrative Examples

Figure 1 shows an overall picture of the allocation of time, in the eleven participating countries, to four basic categories of activities. Tables giving a more detailed account of leisure activities in these 11 countries may be found in Robinson (1984) which is the source for Figures 1 to 8. The category "sleep" includes also other personal care activities, such as washing, dressing, and non-sociable eating. "Paid work" also includes travel to work and other activities ancillary to employment such as changing into work clothes. "Domestic Work" includes childcare, shopping, domestic paperwork and household (and vehicle maintenance. "Leisure" is the residual category; the four categories together sum to the 24 hours of the average day for each country.

Figure 1

National Average Division of Time.

AUSTRIA 1981			
CANADA 1981			
DENMARK 1975			
FINLAND 1979			
FRANCE 1974-5			
JAPAN 1976			
NETHERLANDS 1980			
NORWAY 1971-2			
SWITZERLAND 1979			
UNITED KINGDOM 1974-5			
UNITED STATES 1975			
sleep	paid	dom	leis

The four categories have been quite tightly specified. Yet the differences between the various countries are striking. Finland has a little less, and France rather more, than the average amount of sleep. Japan appears to have three times more paid work than the Netherlands, and correspondingly less leisure. What construction can we put on these differences?

In principle there are three possible sources of variation:

- 1) There may be differences related to the method of data collection - particular sectors of the population may be disproportionately represented in the national samples, for example, or differences in the designs of the diaries may lead to differences in the pattern of non-response bias between the countries.

- 2) There may be real differences in the proportions of the population falling into those particular categories which, on the basis of prior theory or evidence developed from national data, we expect to determine time allocation patterns. National differences in the proportion of women in paid employment, for example, would lead to differences in the balance between paid and unpaid work, even if the various national samples were otherwise equivalent in terms of such characteristics as age, sex, social class, household composition etc. So international variation in aggregate time use statistics may reflect differences in socio-economic structure.

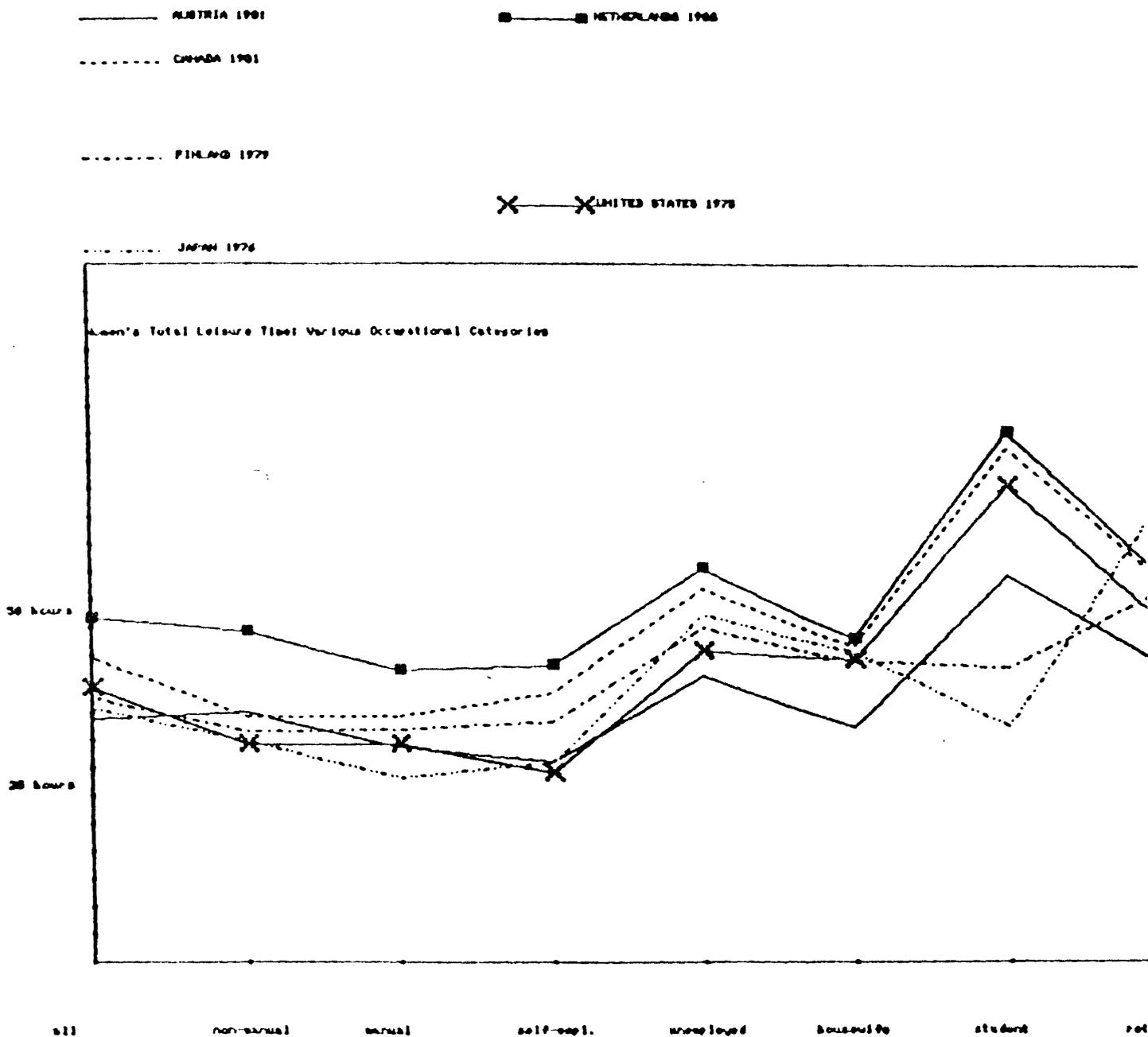
- 3) Suppose, however that we have reweighted the national samples so as to dispose of variation due to the socio-economic and demographic factors that can be identified on a national basis - and there still remains some variation in aggregate time use patterns. These are now genuine national time use differences, due to history, or culture, or current circumstances. They are national differences in the consequences of social structural variables - we might think of these as international differences in socio-economic processes.

Some of the national differences in Figure 1 will certainly be traceable to the sorts of methodological inconsistencies which fall under the first of these explanations. It is, among other concerns, the likelihood of this sort of inconsistency, that leads us to reject "Strategy 1"-type international comparative work from previously prepared time use material. The essence of Strategy 2 is to use nationally-based knowledge of the socio-economic and demographic variables which determine time-use patterns to specify a set of tables which minimize the variation due to both the first and second of these explanations, so that the remaining international variation reflects the genuine national differences in time use patterns and socio-economic processes. (To get a little ahead of the narrative, it is the exploration of these differences that is the purpose of Strategy 3; and it is here that multinational research transcends the capabilities of national.)

So how well does the Strategy 2 approach cope with the variation we find in Figure 1? Let us take for example the aggregated "leisure" category. National studies show that sex and employment status are both important determinants of the total amount of leisure time. Figure 2 shows the total of leisure time for men, broken down by various employment statuses, for the six out of our set of eleven Strategy 2 countries who were able to supply this data.

Figure 3

Women's Weekly Leisure Time: Various Occupational Categories



It is immediately clear that there is a strong cross-national similarity among these six countries. The Netherlands still emerges as the most leisured society, with something like an hour per day of extra leisure time in most of the main occupational categories. But the other countries in general cluster rather closely together. And most important, the relative positions of the various occupational groups are, with two exceptions, constant for all of the countries. Manual employees seem to have slightly more leisure than the self-employed, and non-manual employees to have slightly more leisure than the manual. The unemployed, unsurprisingly, all have more leisure time than any of the employed groups. For men in the workforce, then, we can say that employment status has a strong and internationally consistent effect on leisure time.

But for the remaining categories, the consistency is less marked. Students in the Netherlands, the USA and in Canada, all seem to have more leisure than even the unemployed (a total of about eighty hours per week). Students in Austria, by contrast, seem to have slightly less leisure than the unemployed, while those in Finland and Japan have hardly more than adults in employment. This contrast may be an example of a "social process" difference. Students in Finland and Japan may find themselves under much more pressure for success than those in the USA, the Netherlands and Canada. However it is also possible that this difference reflects either a bias in the sampling procedure, or a difference

in the inclusiveness of the term "student". Similarly, it seems likely that the variation in the total amount of leisure time for retired men reflects differences in age-related sampling biases rather than genuine social processual differences.

Let us now turn to the equivalent evidence about women's time use (Figure 3). The general shape of the relationships is other similar - with the unemployed having rather more leisure than the employed, and with the same contrast between North American students on one hand, and Finish and Japanese on the other. But some of the differences are instructive. If we compare them employment category by employment category, men have systematically more leisure time than women. So as we might have expected on the basis of the national evidence, sex is an important structural variable; but though the direction of the sex effect is constant (ie men having more leisure time than women), the scale of the effect is not constant. Another readily visible difference between Figures 2 and 3 is that the men's leisure time aggregates for each occupational category seem to show more cross-national similarities than do the women's. A small part of this difference may be explained by the fact that the exclusively female membership of the housewife category leads to a smaller number of women (and hence higher standard errors of the means) in the employed categories. But most of this may be a genuine international difference in the nature of the division of work between men and women.

Figure 4 takes the data from Figures 2 and 3, expressing, for each occupational category, men's weekly leisure time as a percentage of women's. A certain regularity does emerge from this analysis: in almost every case the male leisure is substantially higher than the female. But notice the contrast between this figure and the two preceding ones. In the two preceding cases, while there were clear national differences, there were also similarities; while the absolute mean values for the categories certainly differed, there were nevertheless international similarities in the patterns of relation among the various nations' occupational categories. In Figures 2 and 3 we have telegraph lines, lines running for the most part in parallel across the graph; Figure 4, by contrast, is irregular, with lines running in contrary directions, and frequently crossing each other.

Figure 4

Men's Leisure Time as a Percentage of Women's: Various Employment Categories

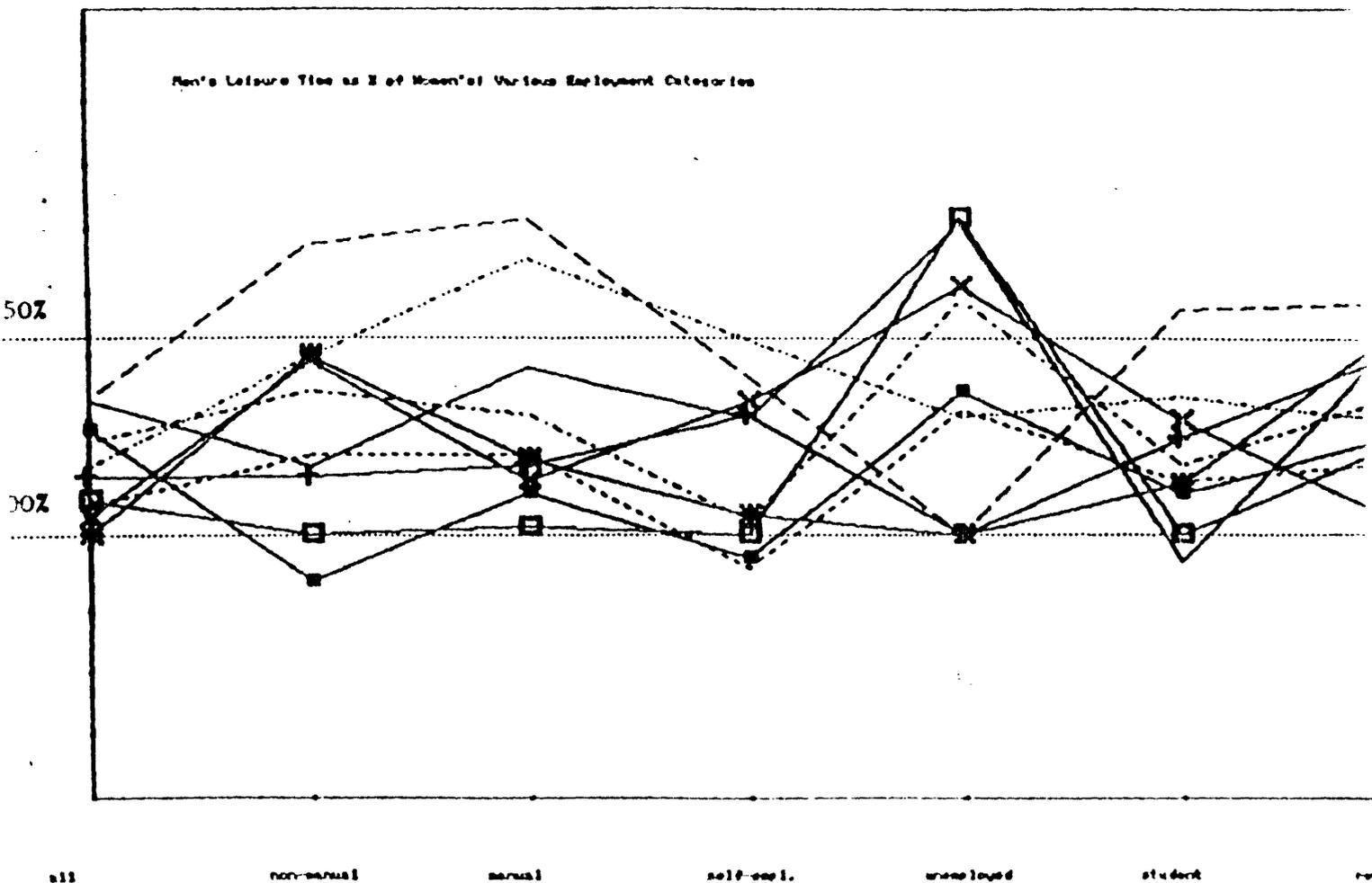


Figure 5
Total Weekly Hours of Free Time By Household Type

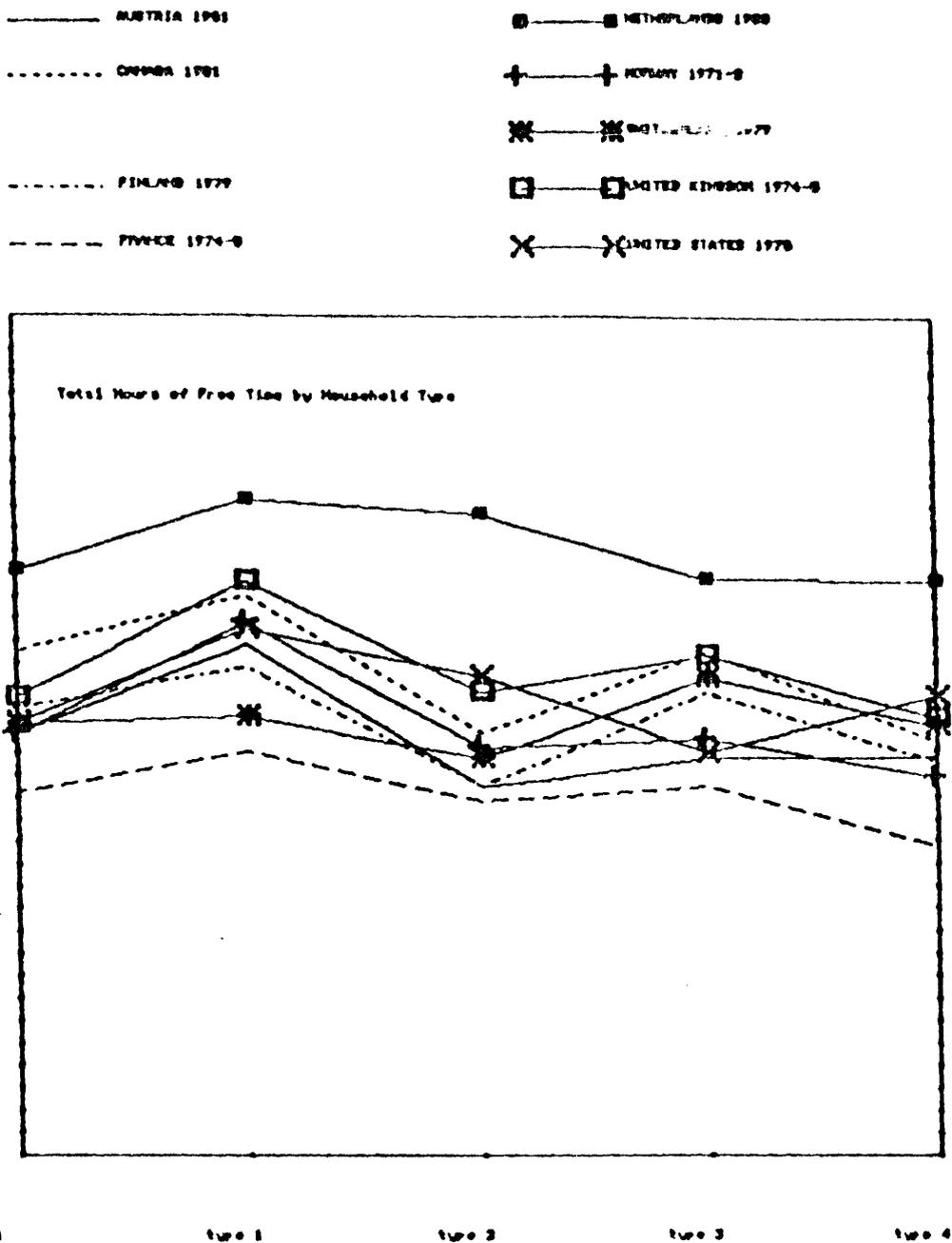
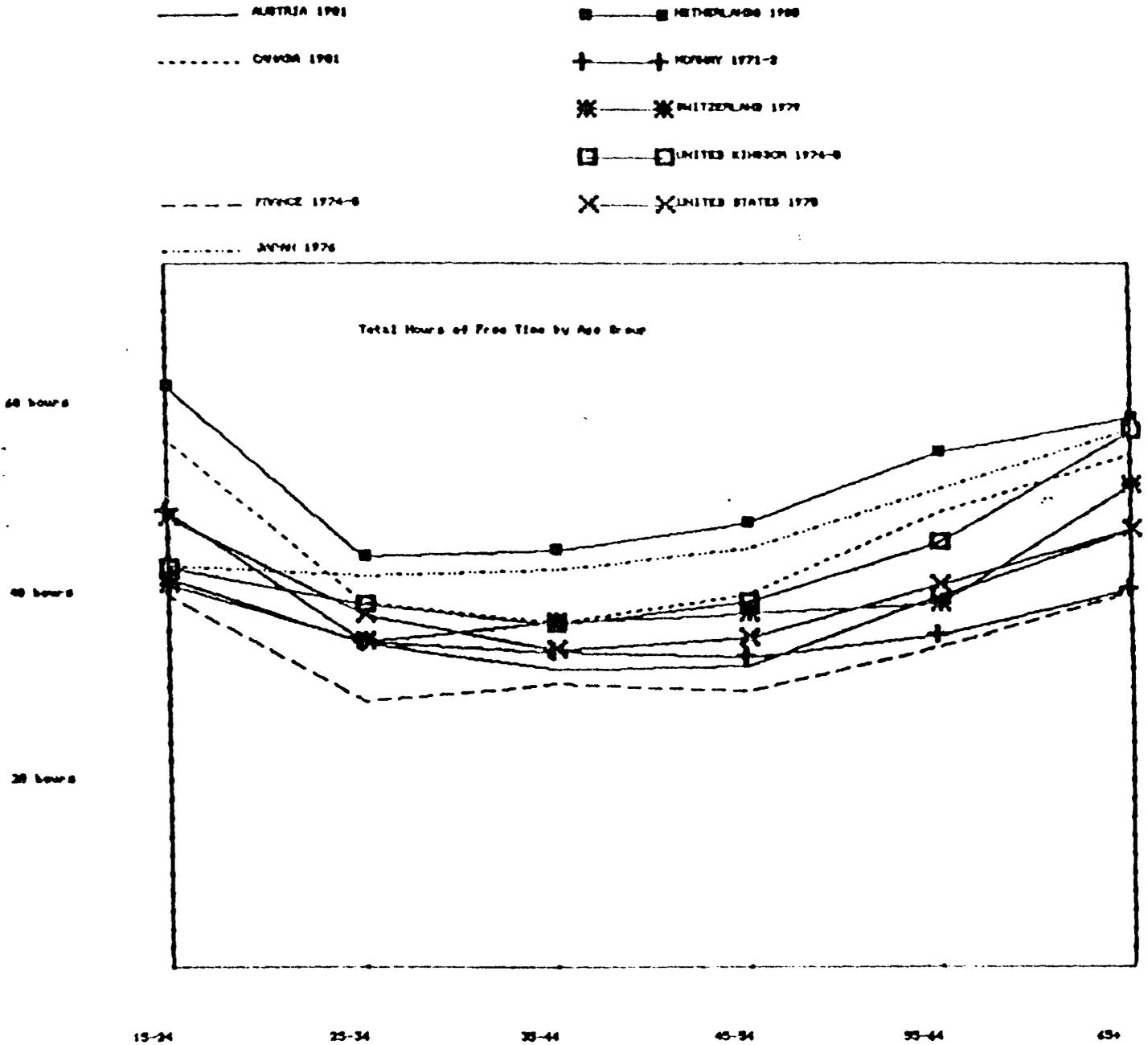


Figure 6
Total Weekly Hours of Free Time by Age Group



Consider, for example, the "non-manual employees" category. In the UK and the Netherlands, men and women in this occupational group have about the same amount of leisure time. Men in the same group in the USA, Switzerland and Japan however have about 50% more leisure time than women in equivalent jobs; while non-manual employed French men seem to have 80% more leisure time than equivalently employed French women. The variation appears even more extreme for manual employees, and hardly less extreme for the self-employed. We may suspect that part of the variation in the unemployed and retired categories reflects cross-national differences in the sampling biases in the various surveys; nevertheless, the data as presented shows a reversal in the international patterns of inequality. The UK, which is consistently among the lower levels of gender inequality for the employed groups, becomes, with Norway, the most unequal in its sexual division of leisure time for the unemployed (unemployed UK men have more than 80% more leisure than unemployed women); France, consistently among the most unequal for the employed, becomes just about the most equitable in its division of leisure time for the unemployed. It is tempting to speculate on the reasons for these international differences; for present purposes, however we need only note that these international differences in the sexual division of leisure time will clearly repay some further research work.

So far we have sex and employment status as common international determinants of time use patterns. There is however still some remaining cross-national variation in total leisure time even when we control for these variables. Let us briefly consider two other variables: household type and age. Household types have been divided into four groups: "type 1" households are two person households with no children, "type 2" consist of two adults plus children, "type 3" consist of single individuals, while "type 4" are single adults plus one or more children. Figure 5 shows the total amount of free time available to adult members of each of these types of household in nine countries. Again we find some considerable national variations, Holland, with the most leisure overall, having something like three hours more leisure time per day than France, which is the least leisured.

But within these rather large national differences, we also find some quite unmistakable national similarities. The four household types have a more or less constant cross-sectional relationship within each country. In all cases except Norway, children seem to reduce the amount of leisure time available both to single-adult and to multiple-adult households. And in all cases except the USA, the single-adult-no-children households have more leisure time than the two-adult-plus children households.

A similar blend of cross-national differences and similarities emerges for the relationship of leisure time to age (Figure 6). There is (since the population is identical) the same three hours of leisure per day gap between France and Holland. But nevertheless, the cross-sectional relationships are very regular. In all cases there is a "U shaped" evolution of leisure time through successive age cohorts. In most cases, leisure time decreases monotonically to the 35-44 age cohort, and subsequently increases regularly to the 65+ age groups (the two exceptions are France and Switzerland where the 25-34 cohort have the least leisure).

What emerges from this brief discussion is that the availability of leisure time in a wide range of developed countries does seem to be affected by a common set of social structural variables. The same social structural variables will serve as explanations for time spent in a number of more detailed leisure activities (see for example Figures 7 and 8), and for the amounts of time spent in paid and unpaid work. It is however also clear that a substantial proportion of the variation in time use patterns remains unexplained by this set of social structural variables. How much of the variance remains to be explained? And how do we set about explaining this remaining variance? The answers to these questions require that we move from a "Strategy 2" to a "Strategy 3" approach.

Figure 7
Weekly Hours of Television Watching by Age

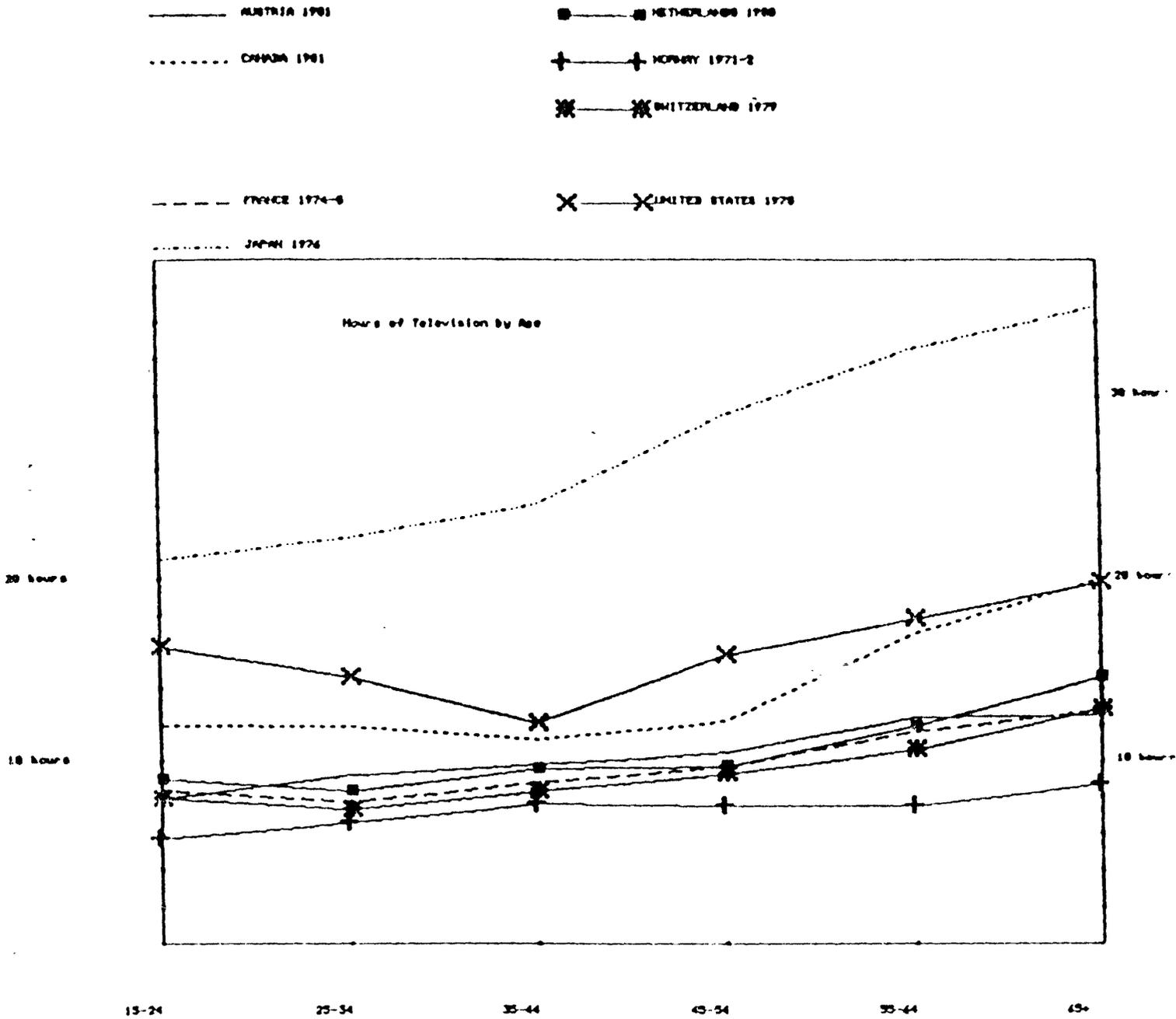
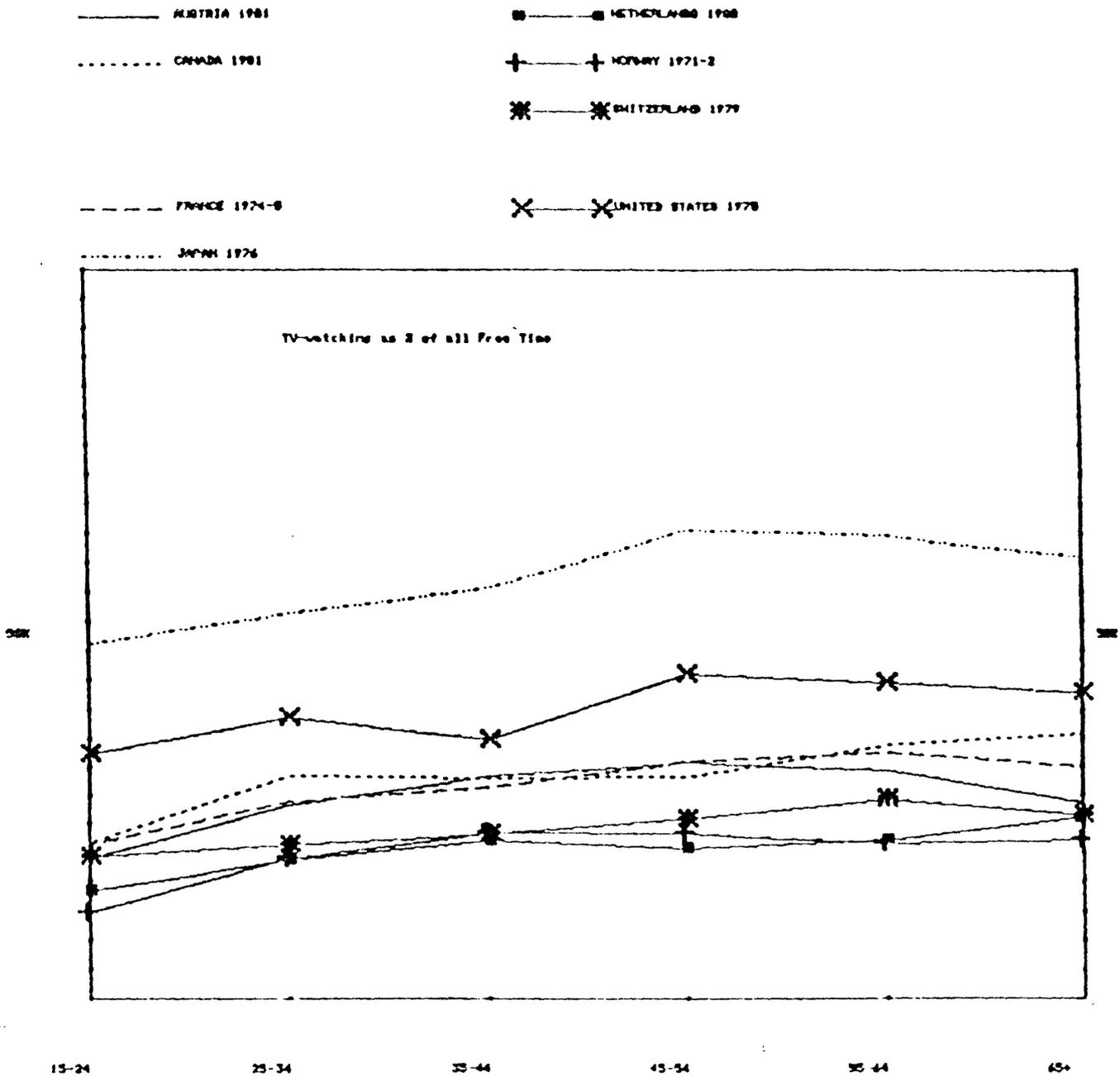


Figure 8

Television Watching as a Proportion of All Free Time: By Age.



5. A Multinational Comparative Dataset.

The discussions in the previous section should draw the reader's attention to some of the shortcomings of the "Strategy 2" approach. It is difficult to specify tables of sufficient complexity to control for all the social structural variables which constitute the common multinational explanatory model for variation in time allocation patterns. The brief outline in Section 4 suggests that each time use category would need to be broken down across at least four basic variables (sex, employment status, household status, age - and probably in addition occupational status and educational level) together with some interaction variables (eg sex/employment status combinations) - in order to identify adequately the structural similarities between the countries. The difficulties encountered in abstracting even the one- or two-independent-variable breakdowns on which the Figures in Section 4 were based suggest that this much more complex task is to be avoided if possible.

Even if these tabulations were accessible, it would still not be possible to calculate exactly how much of the overall variation in time allocation was explained by the structural variables. (Though if the national tables of mean time use broken down by the structural variables were accompanied by information about the "between" and "within" variances for time use variables this

calculation would be possible.) And experience suggests that any given set of breakdowns of the time use variables immediately gives rise to speculations as to the explanation of any remaining unexplained cross-national differences. So the initially simple "Strategy 2"-type appeal for a well-specified set of time use breakdowns from colleagues in a dozen different countries, very quickly escalates into a quite unmanageable iteration of increasingly complex and unintelligible demands for ever more obscure statistics - and one might expect, ever decreasing levels of cooperation from the initially well-disposed colleagues.

On these grounds alone, we might wish to argue for the "Strategy 3" approach, attempting to put together a multinational collection of raw data, to avoid the increasingly demanding process described above. But in fact there is a much stronger reason. Consider the sorts of "explanation" for time allocation patterns described above, in the context of the time allocation issues raised in the first section of this paper - the consequences of shorter working time, change in the sexual division of labour, the development of new patterns of time use as a result of new technological possibilities. Certainly there is a sense in which age and sex and occupation and so on determine time use patterns. But this is merely cause in the "positivist" sense - a strong statistical association between a presumed "independent" and an assumed "dependent" variable. In fact gender does not itself really "cause" behaviour, any more than occupation or age or family circumstances do. These are merely intermediate variables in rather complex causal processes.

The sorts of models most commonly used in the analysis of time budget data involve the use of social structural variables to "explain" time allocation patterns, rather in the manner of the preceding section. These models work adequately where we are concerned simply to describe behaviour. But the questions outlined in the first section of this paper call for more than just description. They ask in effect for predictions: "what would be the time-use consequences of this policy, of that new mode of service provision? To answer such question, it will be necessary to move forward from the traditional, variance explaining, positivist models, to the development of models which involve some of real processes whereby activity patterns are determined. We need to develop models which mirror the complex interactions of spatio-temporal constraints, social norms, legal requirements and personal expectations which actually determine our patterns of time use. Such models are now in their very early stages of development (e.g. Jones, 1983). But they are a long way off at present.

So perhaps even more important than international comparison of data, may be the international collaboration of experts, in the development of a new generation of time use models. The "Strategy 3" approach outlined in the next section is intended to promote both goals.

The essence of the exercise is simply to bring together a number of different national datasets, translate them and their codebooks into a single language (English), make them available on one computer software package (SPSS/SPSSX), and reduce them to a common comparative format. One additional constraint has been adopted: data has been drawn, in the first instance, from countries in which there exist more than one comparable dataset. This for two reasons: it enables us to compare "longitudinal changes over historical time" against "cross-sectional differences between countries"; and it may also allows us to compare changes over time cross-nationally (which may cancel out the effects of national differences in coding systems).

Rather than a single and finite exercise of comparison, the European Foundation project is viewed as an open-ended process of research cooperation. It has, so far, four collaborating countries within the EEC, and three from outside; the Netherlands, Denmark, the UK, France, Norway, Canada, and the USA will all contribute material. Table 4 sets out the surveys which will eventually be included in this exercise.

Table 4. "Strategy_3" Countries

Agreed to participate:

Netherlands	1975, 1980, (planned 1985)
Denmark	1961, 1975
UK	1961, 1974/5, 1983/4
France	1965, 1975*, (planned 1985)
Norway	1971, 1980
Canada	1971, 1981
USA	1965, 1975*, (Planned mid-1980s)

* indicates data-sets not yet received.

The Canadian and Norwegian data and the earlier material from France and the USA were only finally received during September 1985, and the later French and US material has not yet been submitted. So only the material from the Netherlands, Denmark and the UK has been processed; the full data set (other than the material from the three planned 1985 surveys) will be ready by mid 1986.

This exercise is being conducted in parallel with a Strategy 4 project coordinated by Prof. Andrew Harvey of Dalhousie University, on behalf of the Time Budgets Working Group of the International Sociological Association. The TBWG is developing a set of "lowest common denominator" standards for the design and coding of time budget surveys; the European Foundation data set will constitute the historical record of time budget material, to be continuously extended by the addition of new material collected according to the TBWG protocols.

6. The European Foundation Archive

[This and the following sections will be updated as additional material becomes available].

The work carried out on each survey in the dataset follows a natural sequence, from the initial translation of the codebook into English, through the cleaning and mounting of the data, to the transformation of the diary material. This last process is the crucial element of the current project.

The essential characteristic of a time budget survey is the collection of material about the sequence of activities during one or more days. We have already seen (in Section 3) that the diaries may be collected in a wide range of different formats. But irrespective of the differences, the central structure, the record of a sequence of events with their temporal locations, is common to all time budget surveys, and it is this that makes the current comparative exercise possible.

There are a number of different possible ways of handling this data. It is possible to use the material directly in its initial, sequential form, so that the data tape consists of an ordered set of activities, together with the times of their occurrence. Analyses have in the past been carried out from this sort of material; for example Berk and Berk (1979) in the USA

have used such a dataset to explore model "production sequences" for domestic services; and this is the normal basis for the analysis of "viewer availability", as carried out by such organisations as the BBC.

It would have been possible in principle to prepare each dataset in such a sequential form. Diaries recorded with variable length time slots (ie in the form "start time / activity / finish time") can be distributed into a sequence of fixed intervals (of five or fifteen minutes duration). Diaries lasting longer than one day can be divided into multiple single-day diaries. And indeed there may in the longer term be some reason for developing this sort of dataset: in the final section we shall see that some of the more promising future lines of analysis require data organised in this manner. But for a number of reasons we decided against preparing a comparative dataset of this sort at this point in the project. The great bulk of current time-use analysis looks at "aggregated" data (ie total amounts of time spent in particular activities rather than the sequential occurrence of activities). Most of the standard analyses use this sort of data, so there is comparatively little software available for handling the sequential data. And since the whole purpose of the exercise is to extend and consolidate an international community of researchers, it seemed most sensible to start with the data in the form most widely used by the current international community.

So the data was "decommutated", transforming the sequence of activities in the original diary into a set of totals of time spent in each of a set of activity categories. Since some of the surveys covered just one day, while others cover a full week, the total time in each activity has been recorded in the form of "minutes per average day"; since a record of the day of the week that the diary was kept has been preserved in the one-day diary surveys, it becomes possible to compare the one day diaries with the week diaries by a relatively straightforward weighting procedure. There should of course be a total of 1440 minutes in each average day; unfortunately some diaries cover less than 24 hours - the Danish and the earlier UK surveys for instance miss 3 and 6.5 hours respectively in the middle of the night. To cope with this we have simply added the equivalent number of minutes to the totals in the sleep category. This is misleading, because of insomnia, shift work, late night TV viewing etc, but with care in analysis most of these problems can be avoided. (For example, most surveys contain a variable indicating whether the respondent is a shift-worker; activity times can be calculated excluding night-shift workers, so as to estimate the effect of the attribution of the missing night-hours to sleep.)

The activity categories vary between each survey, and between each country. In many cases the activity classifications used in the surveys bear a family resemblance to the activity categories of the 1960s UNESCO survey. But even in these cases, the special

interests of the national sponsor lead to detailed changes which mean small inconsistencies between the daughter classification and its parent. And often (as with the Danish, and the BBC-derived British surveys) there is not even this residual familial similarity. So we have, perforce, adopted a rather permissive approach to the activity classification, with a forty-activity list, which aggregates up further to an eight-category activity categorisation. Our intention is to attempt to aggregate the sequences of activities in the surveys to the forty-category level, but recognising that in some surveys, some of the more detailed categories will have to be grouped together. Table 5 gives the activity classifications that we have adopted as our norm, while Table 6 shows the actual groupings of activities available for each survey.

Table 5. The Eight and Forty-category Activity Lists.

A. Formal Work.

- | | |
|------------------------|-------------------|
| 1) At Work | 2) Work at home |
| 3) Second Job | 4) School/Classes |
| 5) Travel to/from Work | |

B. Domestic Work

- | | |
|-----------------------|----------------|
| 6) Cooking/Washing up | 7) Housework |
| 8) Odd Jobs | 9) Gardening |
| 10) Shopping | 11) Child Care |
| 12) Domestic Travel | |

C. Personal Care

- | | |
|---------------------|-----------------------|
| 13) Dressing/Toilet | 14) Personal Services |
| 15) Meals/Snacks | 16) Sleep/Naps |

D. Outdoor Leisure

- | | |
|--------------------|--------------------|
| 17) Leisure Travel | 18) Excursions |
| 19) Playing Sport | 20) Watching Sport |
| 21) Walks | |

E. Civic Activities

22) At Church

23) Civic Organisations

F. Out-of-Home Leisure

24) Cinema/Theatre

25) Dance/Party etc.

26) Social Clubs

27) Pubs

28) Restaurants

29) Visiting Friends

G. Passive Leisure

30) Listening to Radio

31) Watching TV

32) Listening to Music

H. Other Home Leisure

33) Study

34) Reading Books

35) Reading Papers/Magazines

36) Relaxing

37) Conversation

38) Entertaining Friends

39) Knitting/Sewing

40) Pastimes/Hobbies

I. No Information

Table 6. Activity Coding in Participating Countries.

	UK '61, '75, '84	NETH '75, '80		DANISH '64	'75
FORMAL WORK					
At work	AV1	A1	Paid work	TOT19	TOT19
Work at home	AV2	A2	Paid work at home	TOT6	TOT6
Second job	AV3	A3		-	-
School/classes	AV4	A4		-	TOT24
Travel to/from work	AV5	A5	Travel in general	TRAVEL	TOT20
DOMESTIC WORK					
Cooking, washing up	AV6	A6	Housework	(TOT4	(TOT4
Housework	AV7	A7		(TOT4	(TOT4
Odd jobs	AV8	A8	Other practical work	-	TOT5
Gardening	AV9	A9	Gardening	-	TOT35
Shopping	AV10	A10	Shopping	TOT23	TOT23
			Errands		TOT22
Childcare	AV11	A11	Collecting children	-	TOT21
Domestic travel	AV12	A12		-	-
PERSONAL CARE					
Dressing; toilet	AV13	A13	Dressing, etc.	(TOT2	(TOT2
Personal services	AV14	A14		(TOT2	(TOT2
Meals, snacks	AV15	A15	Eating, drinking	TOT3	TOT3
Sleep	AV16	A16	Sleeping	TOT1	TOT1
OUTDOOR LEISURE					
Leisure travel	AV17	A17		-	-
Excursions	AV18	A18	Excursions	EXCURS	
			Library		TOT26
			Cultural interests		TOT28
Playing sport	AV19	A19	Play or watch sport	(SPORTS	(TOT30
Watching sport	AV20	A20		(SPORTS	(TOT30
Walks	AV21	A21	Walks	-	TOT31
CIVIC ACTIVITIES					
Church	AV22	A22	Church	-	TOT27
Civic organisations	AV23	A23	Meetings	-	TOT29
OUT-OF-HOME LEISURE					
Cinema, theatre	AV24	A24	Theatre, cinema	TOT25	TOT25
Dance, party, etc.	AV25	A25	Entertainment, restaurant	(TOT34	(TOT34
Social club	AV26	A26		(TOT34	(TOT34
Pubs	AV27	A27		(TOT34	(TOT34
Restaurant	AV28	A28		(TOT34	(TOT34
Visiting friends	AV29	A29	Visiting people	VISITS	
			Visiting family		TOT32
			Visiting non-family		TOT33
			Other out-of-home activities	TOT36	TOT36

PASSIVE LEISURE

Listening to the radio	AV30	A30	Listening to the radio	(TVRAD	TOT11
Watching television	AV31	A31	Watching television	(TVRAD	TOT12
Listening to music	AV32	A32	Listening to music	-	TOT10

OTHER HOME LEISURE

Study	AV33	A33	Home study	TOT17	TOT17
Reading books	AV34	A34	Reading non-newspaper	(READING	TOT19
Reading papers, magazines	AV35	A35	Reading papers	(READING	TOT10
Relaxing	AV36	A36	Resting	-	TOT17
Conversation	AV37	A37	Together with near family	-	TOT13
Entertaining friends	AV38	A38	Entertaining guests	GUESTS	
			Family guests		TOT14
			Other guests		TOT15
Knitting, sewing	AV39	A39		-	-
Pastimes and hobbies	AV40	A40		TOT16	TOT16
			Other at-home activities	TOT36	TOT36

OTHER

No information	AV41	A41			
Total time		TOT	Total time	TTIME	TTIME

The UK and the Dutch surveys correspond quite closely. For some purposes it will be possible to use some of the more detailed 40-activity categories for comparison between these countries. (It might also be worth mentioning at this point that since the raw data is also maintained in the European Foundation Archive, it would also be possible to carry out pairwise comparisons between countries at the original, much more detailed 100 - 200 activity classification level.) The Danish surveys, by contrast, have much less detail than is normal (because of their "pre-coded activity" format), and have been made to correspond at the eight, but not the forty-activity level. (In fact the three out-of-home leisure activity categories, "outdoor", "civic", and "other out-of-home", have proved difficult to manage: we are considering merging the civic category with the other out-of-home.)

The business of matching activity categories between surveys raises an issue of principle which has yet to be resolved. The European Foundation dataset is comparative in two quite different senses. It is comparative across nations, and it is also comparative across time. And this gives two different, and to some extent conflicting, criteria for developing activity classifications. Let us illustrate the problem through the Danish example. The 1961 Danish survey had only a total of 19 distinct activities, where the 1975 Danish survey had 35 different activity categories. The Danish case as a whole is thus only comparable with the general data set at the 8 category

level - whereas the Danish 1975 survey could for most purposes be set against the UK 1974/5 and the Dutch 1975 surveys at the 40-category level. For the moment, and for the sake of simplicity, we have adopted the former procedure, with just one, lowest-common-denominator, activity classification for each country. But as this project develops, it may well become advantageous to maintain the archive in a more complex form, so as to allow different levels of detail of comparison for different subsets of the surveys.

Alongside the "what were you doing?" questions that are the centre of any time budget survey, diaries often ask for information about "other activities", about the location of activities, and about other people present or participating in the activities. With the same motive of keeping the data as simple as possible, we have also decided not to maintain any other diary information in the European Foundation Archive for the present. (Though again this decision may be reversed at a later date.)

The diary-based activity material itself is only a part of the data included in time budget surveys. There are four other general categories of information.

Most closely similar to the diary material, is questionnaire evidence about activity patterns. Diaries cover only one day, or one week, yet activities recur in individuals' lives in cycles which might have a periodicity of a few days, a week, several weeks, or several months. So the picture of daily life which emerges from the diaries is in one respect a misleading one; it shows the individual respondent participating in only a subset of his or her full range of activities. For this reason, time budget diary data is frequently accompanied by additional questionnaire evidence about longer term activity patterns. Single day diaries are difficult to use unless they are associated with information about the number of hours spent in paid work during the diary week. 7-day diaries are also usefully augmented by information about the respondents' frequency of participation in various sorts of recreational and sports activities.

Table 7. Ancillary Information in the Seven Surveys

DUTCH 1975, 1980 Surveys, codebook analysis

SPSSX system file NETHX

1) Demographic variables:

Sex	C135
Age or agegroup	C136
Personal status	C142
Social economic class	C190
Whether in full-time education	C153
Present and expected level of educational attainment	C154 to C161
Respondent's position within the family	C138
Family structure	C139, C196
Total size of family or household	C191
No. of people over 12 yrs; over 7 yrs	C137
Number of children	C192
Age of the youngest child	C194
Age of the oldest child	C195
Number of lodgers	C193
Whether the respondent is the main wage earner for the household	C162, C163
Work pattern of MWE	C171 to C173
Educational background of MWE	C174 to C180
Work pattern of husband or wife, if any	C164 to C170
Employment status and profession of HoH	C143, C144
Work pattern of HoH	C145 to C147
No. of days holiday per year	C148

2) Housing variables:

Type of housing	C185
Degree of urbanisation	C186
Size of municipality	C187
Province	C188
Second home	C222
Access to weekend cottage	C221
Type of garden	C134
Own allotment	C133
Accessibility of local public transport, long-distance public transport	C229 C230
Whether respondent is always able to drive	C228
Location of shops (various types)	C15 to C21
Availability of various consumer durables, e.g a fridge, washing machine, car, bicycle or caravan, camera, VCR, audio tape-recorder, gramophone, sewing machine	C197 to C220
No. of TV sets and reception of various television channels	C1 to C8

3) Questionnaire reported activities:

Frequencies of respondent's visits to various out-of-home leisure facilities - e.g theatre, cinema, snackbar, restuarant, dance, museum, etc., and their general location	C28 to C43
How long since the respondent last read a book	C26, C27
Whether the respondent watches TV news and documentary programmes, and how often	C9, C10
Whether the respondent listens to radio news bulletins; is a radio in use	C11 to C13
Respondent's sporting activities	C44 to C74
Respondent's musical activities	C75 to C87
Respondent's hobbies	C89 to C121
Participation in community life	C122 to C132
Respondent's religious activity	C181 to C184
Who usually manages the HH's finances, does domestic jobs, handles the shopping	C140, C141, C22 to C25
Domestic jobs: context	C88
Whether the respondent's workplace varies, usual commuting time to and from work, whether home for lunch, time ordinarily arrives home after work	C149, C150, C151, C152, C153
Working status each day Sunday to Saturday	C232 to C238
Whether respondent has paid domestic help	C223

4) Time budget diary activities:

Aggregated activities, 40 categories	A1 to A40
Aggregated time unaccounted for in diary	A41
Aggregated total time accounted for	TOT
Aggregated activities, 8 categories	PAIDAV, DOMAV PERSAV, OUTDRAV CIVICAV, AWAYAV PASSAV, HLESAV

5) Attitudes:

Respondent's political preference	C231
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6) Interview data variables:

Diary keeping week	C189
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DANISH 1964 codebook analysis

SPSSX system file DANISHX

1) Demographic variables:

Survey identifier	SURVEY
Geocode	OV4
Household number	OV5
Respondent number	OV6
Sex	SEX
Age	AGE
Civil status	CIVSTAT, OV11
Relationship with householder	RELHH, OV27
Composition of household	FAMCOMP, OV25
Number of children in family	KIDS
Employment category	JOBTYPE, OV16
Occupational category	OCCSECT, OV14
Industry respondent is employed in	OV18
Whether respondent has a second job	SECJOB, OV19
Gross income 1964-1965	OV21
Price-index plan	OV22
Pension plan (1)	OV23
Pension plan (2)	OV24
Number of people in household	OV28
Number of children under 15 and over 7	OV30

2) Household variables:

Type of dwelling	OV29
Television set owned by household	OV49
Years television set has been owned	OV51
Number of radios in the house	OV68
Type of radios	OV69, OV70

3) Questionnaire reported activities:

Hours per week worked on main job	OV17
Hours per week worked on sideline	OV20
Church attendance	OV37
Free time, in hours per average weekday	OV38
Time spent reading for pleasure	OV39
Adult education courses	OV48
Frequencies with which respondent participated in: reading newspapers, entertaining at home, visiting others, visits to the cinema, theatre, opera, concerts, sporting occasions, museums or art exhibitions, club or organisational meetings.	QPAPERS QQUESTS, QVISITS QCINEMA, QTHEATRE, QOPERA QCONCERT, QSPORT QART, QMEETS
Changes in respondent's interest in TV	OV53
Hours per day spent watching TV	OV54
Previous use of time now spent on TV	OV55
Interest in a range of TV programmes	OV56 to OV67

Interest in a range of radio programmes OV71 to OV76
Whether respondent listens to the radio
during television broadcasting hours OV77

4) Time budget diary activities:

Aggregated activities, diary categories TOT1 to MSCENT
Aggregated activities, 8 categories PAIDAV, DOMAV
PERSAV, OUTDRAV
CIVICAV, AWAYAV
PASSAV, HLESAV

5) Attitudes:

Respondents were asked to agree or disagree with a series of statements, such as: 'I often feel lonely', 'I dislike much of my work but have to earn a living,' and 'I can't do much about today's important problems'. ATT1 TO A116

6) Interview data variables:

Diary day (i.e. Sunday to Saturday) WEEKDAY
Date of interview OV283
Month of interview OV284

DANISH 1975 codebook analysis

SPSSX systems file DANISHX

1) Demographic variables:

Survey identifier	SURVEY
Sex	SEX
Age	AGE
Civil status	CIVSTAT
Year of birth	NV14, NV339
Whether underage	NV337
Social status	NV89
Relationship with the head of house	RBLHH
Occupational sector	NV90, OCCSECT
Type of employment	JOBCAT, JOBTYP NV90 to NV93, NV15, NV101, NV338
Secondary jobs	NV97, NV102 SECJOB
Number of days holiday per year	NV261
Education	NV104 to NV108 NV138 to NV144
Church membership	NV229, NV230, NV232
Membership of various kinds of association	NV246 to NV253, NV257
Respondent's gross and net income	NV109, 110
Family's gross and net income	NV111, NV112
Number in family	NV11, NV19
Number of children	KIDS
Number under 18 years	NV12
Number under 16 years	NV20
Number in employment	NV21
Number of incomes	NV113
Number of wage earners	NV22
Family structure	NV23, FAMCOMP
Respondent's position in the family	NV24
Data was also collected on the sex, year of birth and employment of many other members of the family and of the household, including the HOH, the person lived with, parents and grandparents, and up to 7 children.	NV16 to NV18, NV25 to NV87

2) Housing variables:

Type of dwelling	NV114
Degree of urbanisation	NV115
Size of local community	NV116
EBA local authority code	NV330
Whether the household possessed a tape-recorder or gramophone	NV212 to NV214
Approx. number of books owned by the family	NV225

3) Questionnaire reported activities:

Frequencies with which respondent participated in: reading newspapers, entertaining at home, visiting others, visits to the cinema, theatre, opera,	QPAPERS QGUESTS, QVISITS QCINEMA, QTHEATRE, QOPERA
concerts, sporting occasions, museums or art exhibitions, club or organisational meetings.	QCONCERT, QSPORT QART, QMEETS
Main method of transport	NV136
Education since leaving school	NV138 to NV144, NV228
Repairs or improvements carried out on the family dwelling in the last year	NV145 to NV147
Questions about the kinds of political TV programmes watched in the last month	NV148 to NV153
Whether the respondent had discussed the programmes with various people	NV154 to NV161
Frequency with which various other kinds of programme were watched	NV163 to NV176
How often radio news and regional programmes were listened to	NV177, NV178
Whether the respondent regularly visits sick or old people, helps the neighbours, looks after grandchildren, or takes part in the work of associations	NV181, NV182 NV183 NV184
Usual activity on weekday evenings	NV185
When the respondent last went to the cinema, and how that film was chosen	NV186, NV187
Whether the respondent has ever been to a theatre to see a play, ballet, opera, etc. and if not, why not	NV188 to NV201 NV202
Theatre club member	NV203
Interest in art and attendance at art exhibitions and museums that season	NV233 to NV236
Visits that season to other museums	NV237
Musical events attended in the last year (folk, jazz, pop)	NV205 to NV207
Whether the respondent sings or plays, and on which instrument	NV208, NV209
How often various newspapers are read	NV217 to NV221
Use of public libraries	NV222 to NV224
Type of book currently being read	NV226, NV227
Church attendance	NV231
Sports practiced in the last year	NV238 to NV240
Type and timing of main holiday	NV241, NV242
Frequency of visits to other people, guests entertained in the home	NV243 NV244
Frequency of visits to or from the family	NV245
No. of association meetings attended in the last month	NV254

4) Time budget diary activities:

Aggregated activities, original categories	TOT1 to MSCENT
Aggregated activities, 8 categories	PAIDAV, DOMAV PERSAV, OUTDRAV

CIVICAV, AWAYAV
PASSAV, HLESAV

5) Attitudes:

Respondents were asked to agree or disagree with a series of six statements (identical with those used in the Danish 1964 Leisure Survey)	ATT1 to ATT6
Rating the pleasure (or otherwise) of normal travel	NV137
Whether the respondent usually feels tired or bright, or often feels stressed; and the main source of stress	NV258 to NV260
The respondents were also asked whether they would prefer more free time or higher pay at work, and their preferred form if they were offered more free time	NV262 NV263

6) Interview data variables:

Diary day (i.e. Sunday to Saturday)	WEEKDAY
Sample batch 1 or 2	NV340, NV341
Number of visits, the time and date of up to three visits, whether anybody else was present, whether there were difficulties, and the general result.	NV117 to NV135

UK 1961 codebook analysis

SPSSX system file BBC6175

1) Demographic variables:

Case identification number	ID
Survey identification	SURVEY
Sex	SEX
BBC social grade	GRADE
Age in four groups	AGEGP6
School leaving age	SLV6
Occupation type	OCCUP6
BBC family type - includes age of youngest child	YCHILD6

2) Household variables:

Whether radio or television broadcasts were available within the household	MEDIA6
-------------------------------------------------------------------------------	--------

3) Questionnaire reported activities:

none

4) Time budget diary activities:

Aggregate activities in 40 categories	AV1 to AV40
Aggregate activities in 8 categories	PAIDAV, DOMAV PERSAV, OUTDRAV CIVICAV, AWAYAV PASSAV, HLESAV

5) Attitudes:

none

6) Interview data variables:

none

UK 1975 codebook analysis

SPSSX system file BBC6175

1) Demographic variables:

Case identification number	ID
Survey identification	SURVEY
Sex	SEX
BBC social grade	GRADE
Age	AGE7
School leaving age	SLV7
Family occupational status (i.e. social class)	FOS7
Age of youngest child (grouped)	YCHILD7
Respondent's position within the household	HHPOS7
Relationship to the HoH (part 1)	HHREL17
Relationship to the HoH (part 2)	HHREL27
Type of household	HHTYPE7
Level of economic activity	ECONACT7
Employment of other family members	FAMEMP7
Unusual working hours	SHIFT7
Civil status	MARRY7

2) Household variables:

Location, by BBC broadcast regions	REGION7
------------------------------------	---------

3) Questionnaire reported activities:

none

4) Time budget diary activities:

Aggregate activities in 40 categories	AV1 to AV40
Aggregate activities in 8 categories	PAIDAV, DOMAV PERSAV, OUTDRAV CIVICAV, M YAV PASSAV, HLESAV

5) Attitudes

none

6) Interview data variables:

none

UK 1984 codebook analysis

SPSSX system file TTB84A

1) Demographic variables:

Sex	DEM112
Age	DEM111
Marital status	DEM116
Family unit	DEM114
Relationship to interview respondent	DEM113
Age at end of full-time education	DEM118
Pre-school attendance	DEM115
Whether a householder	DEM117
No. of people in household	DEM147
Household income	DEM152
Respondent's occupational classification	DEM145 to DEM147
Respondent's employment status	DEM136
Whether the respondent has ever had a paid job, and, if applicable, how long respondent has been unemployed	DEM139 DEM140
Hours normally worked	DEM137
Shift work	DEM138
No. of people supervised by resp.	DEM141
No. of people at workplace	DEM142
Whether selfemployed	DEM143
Type of employing organisation	DEM144

2) Housing variables:

How long at that address	DEM14
How long in that area	DEM15
Type of dwelling	DEM16
Type of tenure	DEM17
Furnished or unfurnished	DEM18
Type of landlord	DEM19
No. of rooms	DEM20
Use of kitchen (shared or not), phone, workroom and garden	DEM21 to DEM25
Whether the household owns various consumer durables e.g. freezer, washing machine, VCR, hifi or stereo, home computer, camping equipment	DEM53 to DEM67
Whether a newspaper is delivered	DEM26
How far it is to the shops, the usual mode of travel and travel time to get there	DEM93 to DEM95
How far to a doctor	DEM97
How far the respondent has to travel to work, the usual mode of travel, and usual travel time	DEM148 to DEM150

3) Questionnaire reported activity:

Who usually does various household chores DEM83 to DEM92

e.g. shopping, cleaning, washing dishes,
washing and ironing clothes, cooking,
gardening, repairs, bed-making
Help, paid or unpaid, with various tasks DEM68 to DEM82
e.g. housework, child minding,
nursing, gardening, shopping
Whether the respondent can drive a car DEM133
and ride a motorbike or bicycle DEM134, DEM135
Whether respondent has a usual pub DEM96
Whether respondent usually buys a paper DEM27
Whether the respondent suffered from DEM162 to DEM168
any of a variety of minor ailments
in the last week e.g. headaches, flu,
and if so whether they cut down on DEM169, DEM170
the respondent's normal activities or
caused the respondent to stay in bed more
Whether the respondent suffers from any DEM171, DEM172
chronic illness, and if so whether it
limits the respondent's activities
How often the respondent: uses a library, DEM175 to DEM202
does DIY and car maintenance, gardens,
plays team or other sports or indoor games,
goes to a pub or club, educational classes,
or a political meeting, visits museums etc.,
eats out, has people to a meal at home,
goes to a cinema or a theatre or concert,
knits or sews, brews beer or makes wine,
sees a doctor, applies for a job,
goes to church, talks over problems,
does the household shopping,
or does oddjobs for love or money

4) Time budget diary activities:

Aggregated activities, 40 categories	AVE1 to AVE40
Aggregated total time accounted for	TOT
Aggregated activities, 8 categories	PAIDAV, DOMAV PERSAV, OUTAV CIVAV, OHLAV PASSAV, HLES AV

5) Attitudes:

Whether resp. is happy with own health	DEM173
Whether resp. is happy with own life	DEM174

6) Interview data variables:

Length of questionnaire interview	DEM103
Interview day of the month	DEM104
Interview month	DEM105
How interesting the diary had been	DEM203
Diary-filling minutes per day	DEM204

As Table 7 makes clear, the different surveys contain very different sorts of information in the "questionnaire-based activity indicators" category. Some surveys contain no such information (UK 1961), others contain a great deal of data on participation in activities, but relatively little on the frequency of participation (the Dutch material). Evidently much of the material in this field will be of limited use for comparative purposes. But it will nevertheless be valuable to the international research collaboration insofar as the very different sorts of questions in the various surveys offer a very wide range of possibilities for analysis - a range much broader than could be achieved from any single survey instrument.

To make any sense of the diary material, it is also necessary to collect information about the personal characteristics of the respondents. Some of the variables which fall under this heading are common to all the surveys - age, sex, employment status, civil status (ie single/married/divorced/widowed) and the number of people in the household. And these have natural codings which make them easy to compare across surveys. Some other important categories of the respondents, while they are regularly recorded, do not have any natural system of classification, so occupation, educational qualifications, and position in the household, are rather difficult to compare between surveys, and particularly difficult to compare between countries.

Another class of information concerns the household equipment and other material characteristics. One of the major applications of time budget surveys is in the calculation of the value of household production; for this purpose it is helpful to know the extent of the household's endowment with different sorts of equipment. The extent of this information varies considerably between the surveys. Also falling within this general category of information is the nature of the housing itself - size, number of rooms, facilities - and the household's geographical situation, the distance from schools, workplaces, shops, cinemas and so on.

And finally, several of the surveys contain attitude questionnaire data, concerning feelings about particular sorts of activity, reactions to the task of completing the diary, or more general questions which may be used to construct indices of well-being, life-satisfaction or good health. These are in general not comparable between surveys, but have again been left in the Archive material, on the grounds that they add to the variety of material available to the community of researchers.

For the moment the variable names and orderings for each survey in the Archive have been left as near to those in the original national form as is possible. Tables 6 and 7 may therefore be used as a key to the codebooks for the individual surveys, which are attached to this Report as Appendices. But in the next phase we hope to develop a single system of classification for the variables, intended to be homogeneous across surveys and participating countries.

7. Examples of Analysis: Demographic Characteristics and Activity Patterns.

To resume Section 5: as of September 1985 the European Foundation Time Budget Archive has seven active surveys covering Denmark, Holland and the UK. Tapes containing six more surveys (for Norway, France, Canada and the USA) have now arrived and are being processed; and more surveys are promised - one each from France, Canada and the USA. Thus the examples of analysis in this and the following section are drawn from rather less than half of the material that will shortly become available.

In Section 4 we saw from the "Strategy 2" comparisons that sex, employment status, family status and age were all important determinants of activity patterns - and that these characteristics seemed to have roughly similar effects in each country. We are now in a position to examine this proposition more formally. Table 8 provides a number of statistics from an analysis of variance of six main activity categories ("out of home leisure" in this table comprises the three categories "outdoor", "civic" and "other out of home" in Table 6). For each category of activity, the table provides a simple Eta statistic for each of the four demographic characteristics, to serve as an indicator of their relative importance in determining the amount of time devoted to that activity; and a Multiple R-squared

statistic indicating the proportion of total variation in the time use categories explained collectively by the four demographic characteristics. (Statistics not significant at the .05 level are placed in parentheses.)

Table 8 Analysis of variance in the seven surveys

(Simple eta statistics and multiple R²)

SOURCES OF VARIATION

	NETHERLANDS		DENMARK		BRITAIN		
	1975	1980	1964	1975	1961	1975	1983
PAID WORK							
SEX	.55	.60	.22	.31	.56	.55	.28
EMPLOY. STATUS	.72	.68	.53	.58	.95	.82	.79
FAMILY STATUS	.14	.09	.05	(.09)	(.07)	.17	
AGE	.30	.27	.30	.40	.37	(.25)	.44
R SQUARED	.64	.64			.90	.68	.71
DOMESTIC WORK							
SEX	.60	.62	.52	.48	.64	.65	.44
EMPLOY. STATUS	.47	.42	.32	.37	.77	.78	.49
FAMILY STATUS	.27	.33	.19	.16	.25	.25	
AGE	.35	.52	.21	.16	.30	.29	.42
R SQUARED	.54	.65			.74	.71	.54
PERSONAL CARE							
SEX	(.15)	(.15)	.06	(.08)	.21	.14	(.07)
EMPLOY. STATUS	.33	.31	.26	.26	.44	.23	.38
FAMILY STATUS	.11	.18	.02	(.06)	(.07)	.05	
AGE	.20	.20	.30	.29	.27	.16	.30
R SQUARED	.14	.13			.23	.08	.18
OUT OF HOME LEISURE							
SEX	.07	.07	.05	(.01)	.04	.09	.09
EMPLOY. STATUS	.06	(.05)	(.02)	(.04)	.05	(.15)	(.09)
FAMILY STATUS	.15	(.08)	.11	.09	.16	(.04)	
AGE	.21	.22	.12	.16	.26	.32	.22
R SQUARED	.07	.05			.01	.11	.06
RADIO AND TV							
SEX	.18	.29	.12	.02	.09	.09	.24
EMPLOY. STATUS	.17	.19	.13	.16	.17	.16	.30
FAMILY STATUS	.12	.17	.06	(.06)	(.09)	(.03)	
AGE	.23	.18	.22	.24	.27	.19	(.22)
R SQUARED	.12	.14			.11	.07	.17
OTHER HOME LEISURE							
SEX	(.09)	.11	.06	.03	.14	(.17)	(.12)
EMPLOY. STATUS	.28	.30	.20	.28	.39	.34	.39
FAMILY STATUS	(.11)	.14	.08	.09	(.09)	.10	
AGE	.21	.17	.14	.25	.33	.25	.36
R SQUARED	.11	.12			.20	.15	.21
ALL LEISURE							
SEX	.10	.13	.10	.00	.02	.04	.15
EMPLOY. STATUS	.30	.29	.24	.33	.40	.32	.47
FAMILY STATUS	.21	.27	.19	.19	.24	.12	
AGE	.31	.32	.22	.26	.42	.29	.42
R SQUARED	.21	.22			.34	.20	.33

The activities fall into three groups. First, the two work categories, which both show very high levels of explanation from the four demographic variables. To some extent the explanation is circular: after all "employment status" might be expected to serve as a good predictor of hours of paid work. But in fact even if we remove the employment status variable, the remaining three demographic variables still serve to explain half to two-thirds of the variation in paid work time. It does also appear that the collective performance of the four variables in explaining variation in paid work time has been declining over the last two decades. In the case of domestic work time, again, more than half of all the variation may be attributed these four characteristics.

Second, "personal care", which includes sleep, washing, dressing and eating, shows a very low level of explanation by the set of four independent variables. But as we shall see in a moment there is in relatively little variation overall in this category, sleep time being almost constant across groups, and we may presume that any variation is due more to physiological than social or economic variables.

And third, there are the leisure categories. The three individual categories again show very low levels of explanation from the four demographic variables. But consider: we have already found high levels of explanation for the work category,

and that time devoted to personal care is approximately constant across groups. The total of leisure time is the residual, and we might expect that the high level of explanation of variance in work time will be mirrored by a similar level of explanation of total leisure time. So, while the particular sorts of leisure have only very weak correlations with the socio-demographic categories, leisure as a whole shows rather stronger correlations.

Overall, the analysis of variance statistics in Table 8 show a reasonably strong degree of similarity between surveys within the same country, and a fair degree of similarity between countries. Both in the work categories, where the Eta statistics are high, and in the other categories where the Etas are rather low, the individual demographic characteristics are seen to have a rather similar order-of-magnitude of effect in each survey and in each country.

The analysis of variance statistics tell us simply the strength of the relationships between the sociodemographic variables and the time use variables. The statistics in Table 9 give us the beginnings of a picture of the nature of the relationships. Table 9 shows "effect parameters" - more specifically, unadjusted coefficients from a multiple classification analysis. For each time-use category, we see first the overall sample mean for each survey, and then the "effect" of belonging to each category. So

for example, we start with a sample average of 219 minutes per day devoted to domestic work in Holland in 1975, and we find that the "effect" of being a man is -116 minutes per day, which means that the average time spent by Dutch men in domestic work in 1975 was 103 minutes (ie 219-116), whereas the average time spent by Dutch women was 303 minutes (219+84). (The coefficients presented here are "unadjusted" with respect to the other sociodemographic variables - that is to say, we cannot add together the effects of a sex and an employment category from Table 9 to obtain the group mean for a particular sex/employment subgroup; but the results discussed in the following paragraphs would be hardly affected if Table 9 gave the equivalent "adjusted" effect parameters.)

Table 9 MCA deviations from the mean, 3 country comparison.

		Unadjusted 1960s 1970s 1980s			Unadjusted 1960s 1970s 1980s			Unadjusted 1960s 1970s 1980s		
		PAID WORK			DOMESTIC WORK			PERSONAL CARE		
MEAN	Netherlands		164	165		219	226		653	649
	Denmark	247	245		152	134			463	
	Britain	262	254	216	209	188	210	658	660	653
SEX										
MEAN	M		118	131		-116	-129		-15	-15
	D	59	84		-92	-71		9	-12	
	B	131	109	61	-118	-103	-78	-31	-10	-8
MEAN	M		-85	-82		84	83		11	10
	D	-59	-85		92	73		-9	12	
	B	-119	-102	-45	105	96	59	10	16	6
EMPLOYMENT STATUS										
FT	M		186	185		-108	-110		-39	-38
	D	144	158		-57	-57		-39	-38	
	B	185	167	169	-118	-105	-89	-31	-25	-34
PT	M		-39	-34		62	74		-6	-4
	D		-17			60			-7	
	B	-92	-67	-45	69	41	89	41	20	0
UNEMP	M		-164	-87		-25	-33		61	-18
	D									
	B		-229	-192		-27	-3		82	75
WOMEN	M		-94	-77		56	38		20	19
	D	-144	-100		57	50		39	47	
	B	-257	-244	-143	161	163	77	38	26	28
FAMILY STATUS (AGE OF YOUNGEST CHILDREN)										
NONE	M		-25	-1		-1	96		3	-41
	D	-13	-18		-33	-18		3	7	
	B	10			-34			3	-	
15	M		-14	-22		62	73		-14	15
	D	13	33		33	33		-3	-13	
	B	-32	-55		69	60		3	5	
5-14	M		20	6		-31	-27		12	11
	D									
	B	-1	18		38	-12		-11	1	
Older	M		42	16		-64	-55		-1	8
	D									
	B		24			-36			-5	

AGE										
12-24	M	64	67		-93	-135		9	22	
	D	88	83		-49	-39		-28	-40	
	B	116	55	65	-117	-82		3	6	
25-49	M	0	-20		43	60		-14	-12	
	D	26	72		53	19		-31	-33	
	B	9	-8	34	35	30		-7	-1	
50-64	M	-51	-57		8	21		16	7	
	D	16	22		10	9		9	-2	
	B	1	-1	3	3	10		-11	-10	
65+	M	-148	-164		7	20		45	48	
	D	-130	-176		13	11		67	76	
	B	-211	-209	-205	26	32		60	51	

		Unadjusted 1960s 1970s 1980s			Unadjusted 1960s 1970s 1980s			Unadjusted 1960s 1970s 1980s			Unadjusted 1960s 1970s 1980s		
		AWAY FROM HOME LEISURE			RADIO AND TELEVISION			OTHER HOME LEISURE			ALL LEISURE		
MEAN	Netherlands	135	122		98	95		185	184		418	400	
	Denmark	92	132		175	109		143	174		409	417	
	Britain	76	119	96	149	132	158	86	90	121	311	339	383
SEX													
MEN	M	7	6		15	22		-9	-12		13	17	
	D	-8	3		18	2		11	-5		21	0	
	B	4	8	10	10	9	26	-11	-13	-12	2	4	22
WOMEN	M	-5	-4		-11	-14		7	7		-9	-11	
	D	8	-3		-18	-2		-11	5		-21	0	
	B	-2	-8	-8	-9	-8	-19	10	12	9	-2	-4	-17
EMPLOYMENT STATUS													
FT	M	-3	-4		-4	6		-32	-38		-39	-36	
	D	4	-3		-20	-16		-35	-43		-52	-62	
	B	2	-4	4	-14	9	-20	-25	-23	-38	-36	-17	-54
PT	M	1	-4		-13	-22		-4	-10		-16	-36	
	D	-16			-8			-12			-40		
	B	-2	7	-8	-12	-6	-39	-4	5	-3	-19	-17	-49
UNEMP	M	25	12		61	77		42	49		128	139	
	D												
	B	62	33		67	74		42	15		173	117	
WOMEN	M	0	2		0	-1		17	19		17	20	
	D	-4	9		20	21		35	54		52	83	
	B	-4	-1	-6	24	18	21	38	36	43	58	44	55

FAMILY STATUS (AGE OF YOUNGEST CHILDREN)

NONE	M		4	-13		7	-23		12	-17		23	-54
	D	19	12			8	5		14	11		42	28
	B	9				7			5			21	
15	M		-13	-7		-11	-13		-10	-16		-34	-36
	D	-19	-23			-8	-12		-14	-20		-42	-53
	B	-14	-4			-19	-4		-8	-2		-41	-11
5-14	M		-4	1		8	5		-4	4		-1	11
	D												
	B	-15	0			-4	0		-8	-7		-26	-7
Older	M		24	8		-6	11		4	14		22	32
	D												
	B		5			3			10			17	
AGE													
12-24	M		28	26		-6	14		-3	5		20	45
	D	36	55			-40	-36		-13	-22		-17	-3
	B	43	52	32		-24	-12	2	-21	-19	-10	-2	21
25-49	M		-11	-10		-8	-8		-9	-9		-29	-27
	D	-8	-10			-16	-15		-24	-34		-49	-58
	B	-5	-13	-5		-21	-4	-11	-12	-4	-26	-37	-20
50-64	M		-10	-12		19	6		18	34		27	29
	D	-10	-26			2	14		-6	-17		-14	-29
	B	-10	-15	-16		14	4	-12	3	12	8	7	1
65 (M		-4	-11		47	45		52	62		95	97
	D	-18	-19			55	37		43	73		79	90
	B	-14	-32	-8		71	84	51	68	75	73	125	126

79 90

B

The sample means for paid work and domestic work are not particularly similar between the countries (though they do show an interesting stability across time). It should be remembered that this may reflect a number of different possibilities. It may reflect actual differences of behaviour between the countries, that, for example, people of a given sex and age and employment status do more paid work and less domestic work in the UK than in Holland. Or it may reflect differences in the populations - that there are more of the sort of people who do a lot of paid work in the UK - or perhaps differences in the make-up of the samples. In this particular case the difference is partly to be explained by population differences - the relatively low level of women's employment in the Netherlands - but it is nevertheless likely that a large part of the difference is to be explained by differential biases in the composition of the samples. (We require some further investigation here to determine an appropriate scheme for weighting subsamples.)

The sample means for personal care, by contrast, show a striking stability both between surveys and countries. All of the estimates are quite closely clustered around 650 minutes per average day. Only about two-thirds of this total, around 450 minutes per day, is accounted for by sleep, so the small extent of variation is quite remarkable. The overall leisure time mean for the Netherlands is rather higher than for the UK, balancing the difference in overall work times - again, this difference may be somewhat diminished by the application of an appropriate weighting system.

Striking, in Table 9, is the similarity in the pattern of the effects of the various sociodemographic categories in the different surveys. Table 10 summarises the effects, simply by counting the number of parameters with positive and negative signs for each sociodemographic category. We can see immediately that, as the analysis of variance statistics would lead us to expect, age, sex, employment and family status have a very regular pattern of effect on the paid work, domestic work and the overall leisure category, but a somewhat less regular effect on the personal care and more detailed leisure categories.

Table 10.

SIGN DIFFERENCES IN MCA COMPARISONS

	PAID WORK		DOMESTIC WORK		PERSONAL CARE		OUT OF HOME LEISURE	
	+ve	-ve	+ve	-ve	+ve	-ve	+ve	-ve
SEX								
Men	7	0	0	7	1	6	6	1
Women	0	7	7	0	6	1	1	6
EMPLOYMENT STATUS								
Full time	7	0	0	7	0	7	3	4
Part time	0	6	6	0	3	3	2	4
Unemp.	0	4	0	4	3	1	4	0
Nonemp.	0	6	7	0	7	0	3	4
FAMILY STATUS								
None	1	4	1	4	4	1	4	1
< 5	2	4	6	0	3	3	0	6
5-14	3	1	1	3	3	1	1	2
Older	3	0	0	3	1	2	3	0
AGE								
12-24	7	0	0	7	4	2	7	0
25-49	5	2	7	0	0	7	0	7
50-64	4	3	7	0	3	3	0	7
65 <	0	7	7	0	7	0	0	7
NONCONTESTED GROUPS								
		9		12		3		7
RADIO & TV								
OTHER HOME LEISURE								
TOTAL LEISURE								
SEX								
Men	7	0	1	6	7	0		
Women	0	7	6	1	0	6		
EMPLOYMENT STATUS								
Full time	2	5	0	7	0	7		
Part time	0	6	1	5	0	6		
Unemp.	4	0	4	0	4	0		
Nonemp.	5	1	7	0	7	0		
FAMILY STATUS								
None	4	1	4	1	4	1		
< 5	0	6	0	6	0	6		
5-14	2	1	1	3	1	3		
Older	2	1	3	0	3	0		
AGE								
12-24	2	5	1	6	4	3		
25-49	0	7	0	7	7	0		
50-64	6	1	5	2	4	3		
65 <	7	0	7	0	7	0		
NONCONTESTED GROUPS								
		7		7		10		

So from this preliminary examination of data from the first completed contributions to European Foundation Archive, come some striking international regularities - and also some very puzzling differences. Presumably the low level of explanation of detailed leisure patterns from the sociodemographic variables, implies that other causal variables are implicated. Presumably circumstantial factors - household equipment and mobility household location and the accessibility of leisure facilities - are of some importance here; the availability of the very wide range of indicators of such circumstantial variables in the various surveys in the Archive, means that it provides a very fruitful source for future research in this area.

8. Examples of Analysis: Changing Work Times.

So far, little in the way of consistent change in work times has emerged from the surveys (though some may emerge as more material is added). But we can nevertheless use the material to explore the issue of the effects of shorter working hours, by looking at cross-sectional material. That is, we can try to get some picture of the effect of shorter working hours, by looking, not at changes in work time between historical periods, but by looking at differences between activity patterns of people who work shorter or longer times at one historical period.

This form of analysis was in fact identified by A. Szalai, one of the progenitors of the UNESCO multinational study, as being of major importance; he suggested that understanding the relative "compressibility" (we might prefer to think conversely of the same phenomenon as the "elasticity") of various activities with respect to paid work time, would provide the essential tools for understanding the process of determination of activity patterns (Szalai 1964). Whether or not this is the case, such analysis is certainly of great current significance for public policy. Extra free time, as suggested in Section 1, may enable employment generating leisure or domestic production activities; the analysis of work time elasticities provides just about the only source of information about these possible consequences of shorter working hours.

Figure 9: Time Use Elasticities, Holland

Netherlands 1980, women

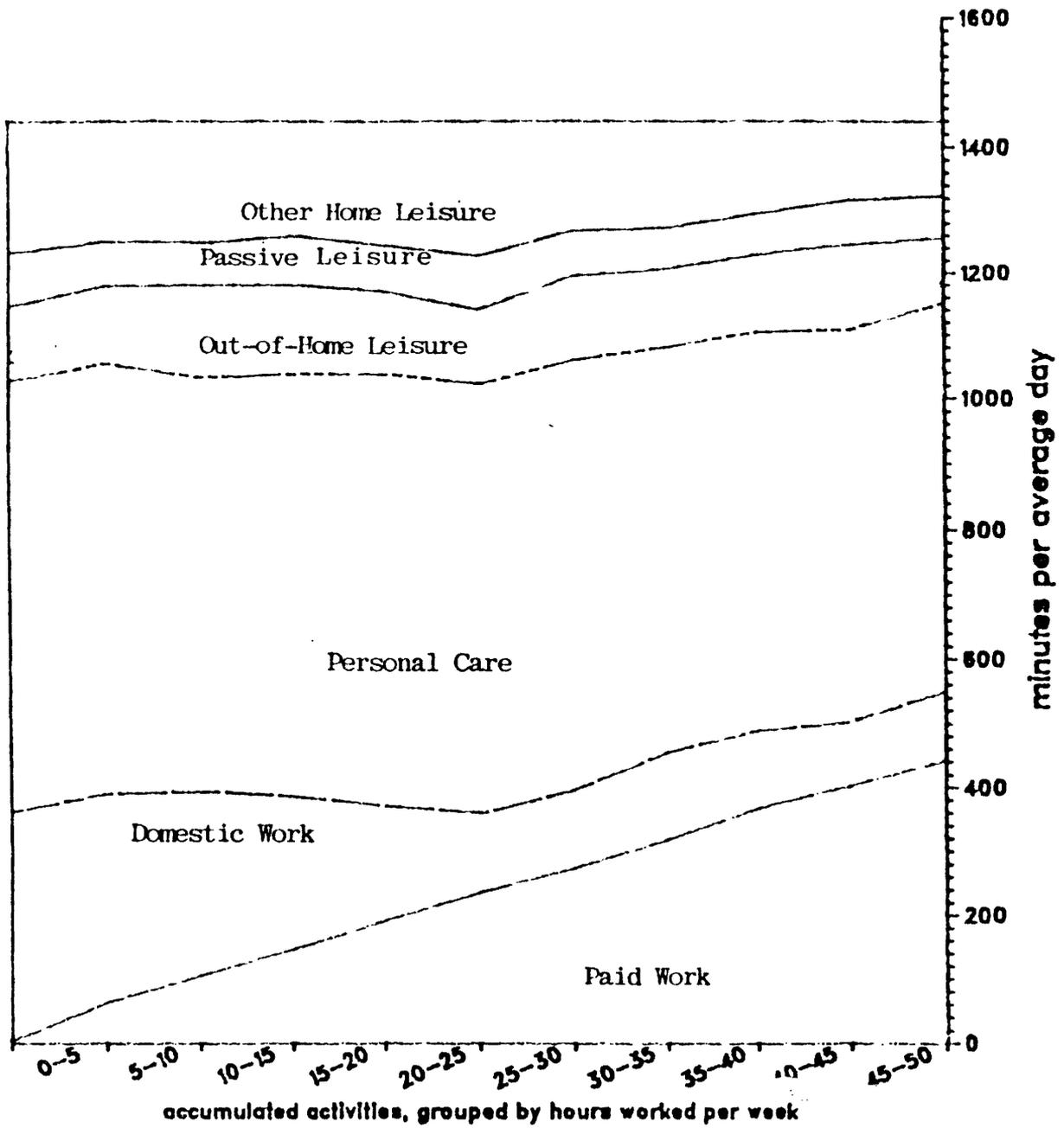


Figure 9 (Cont'd)

Netherlands 1975, women

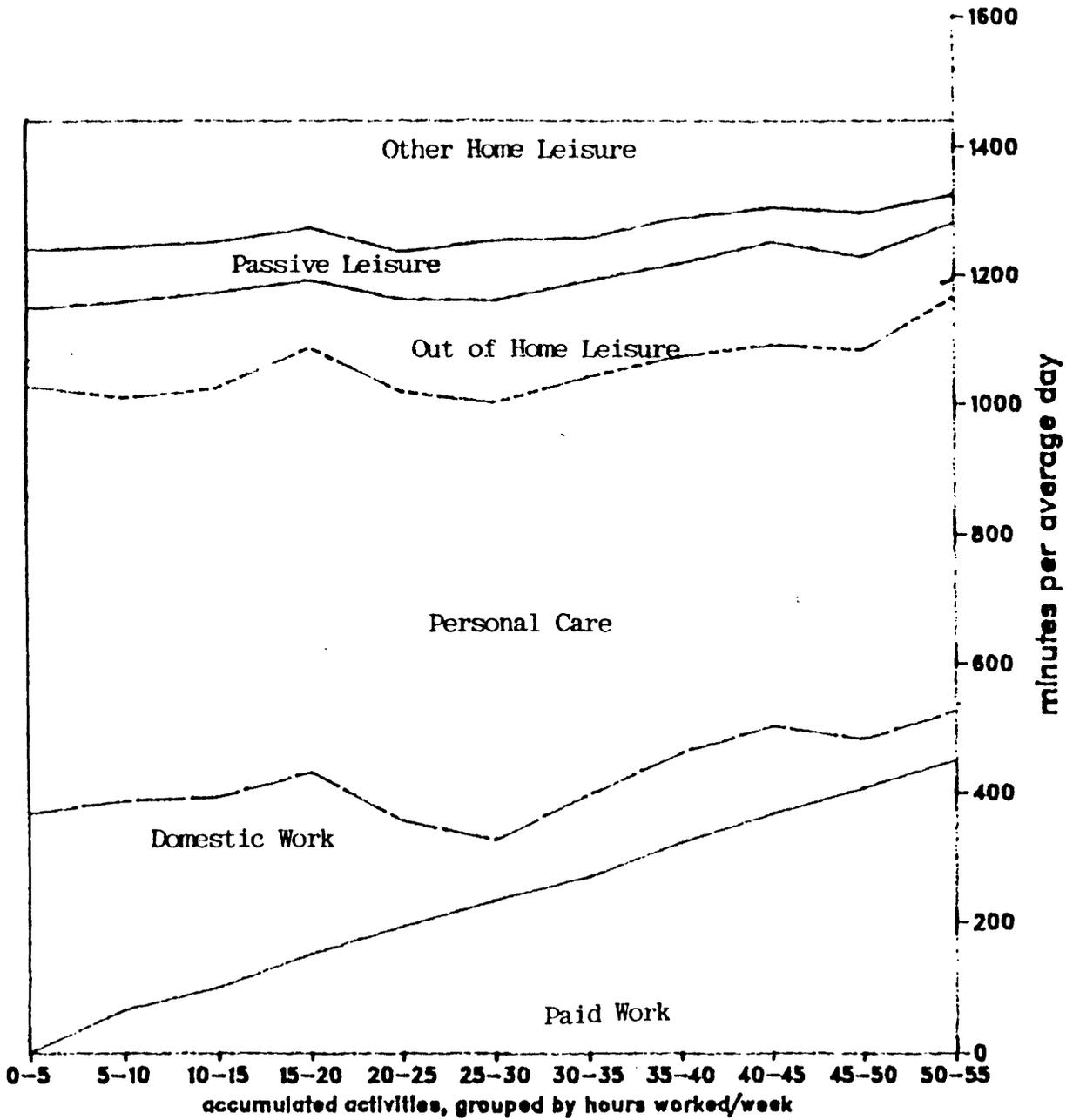


Figure 9 (Cont'd)

Netherlands 1975, men

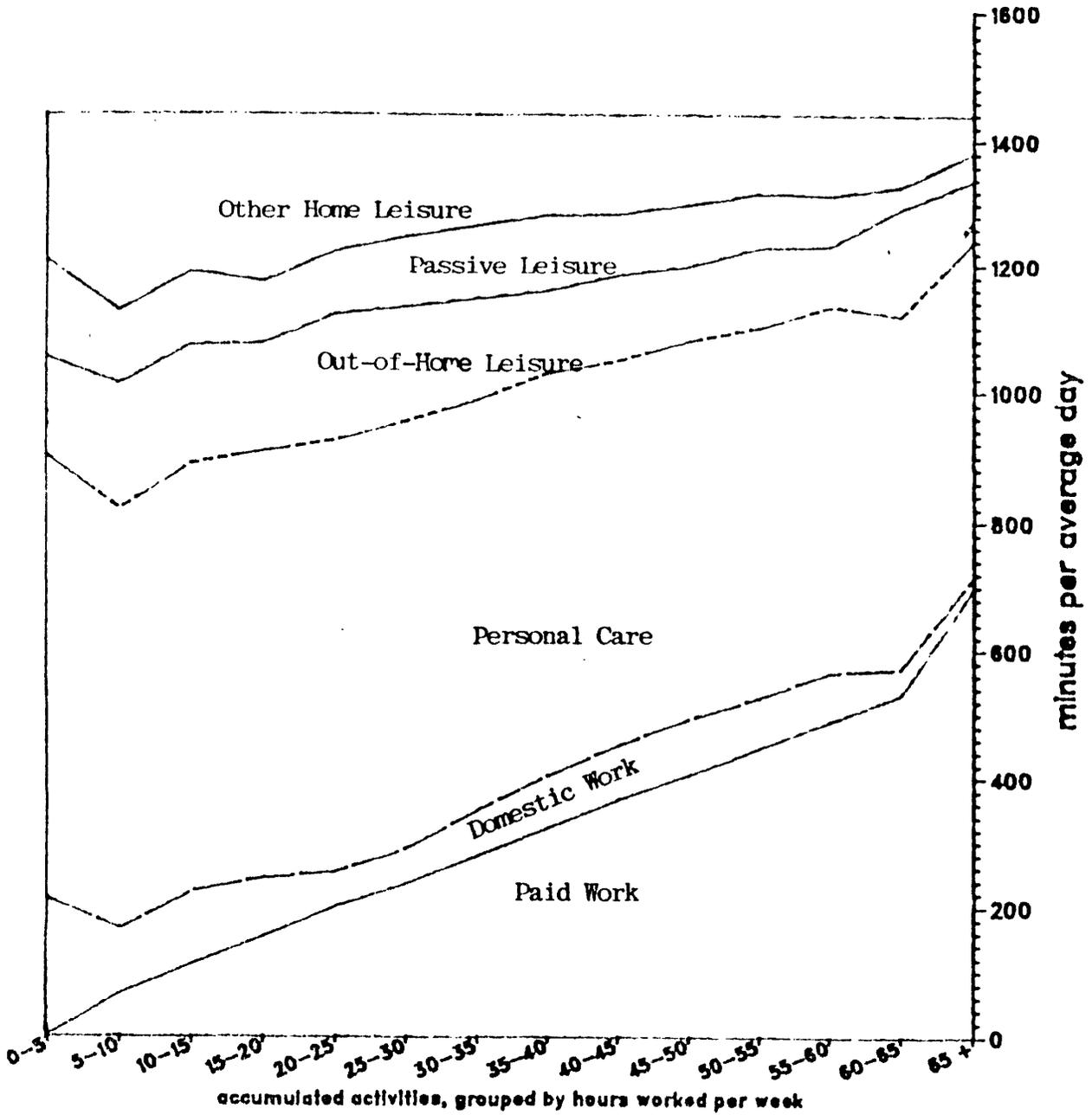


Figure 9 (Cont'd)

Netherlands 1980, men

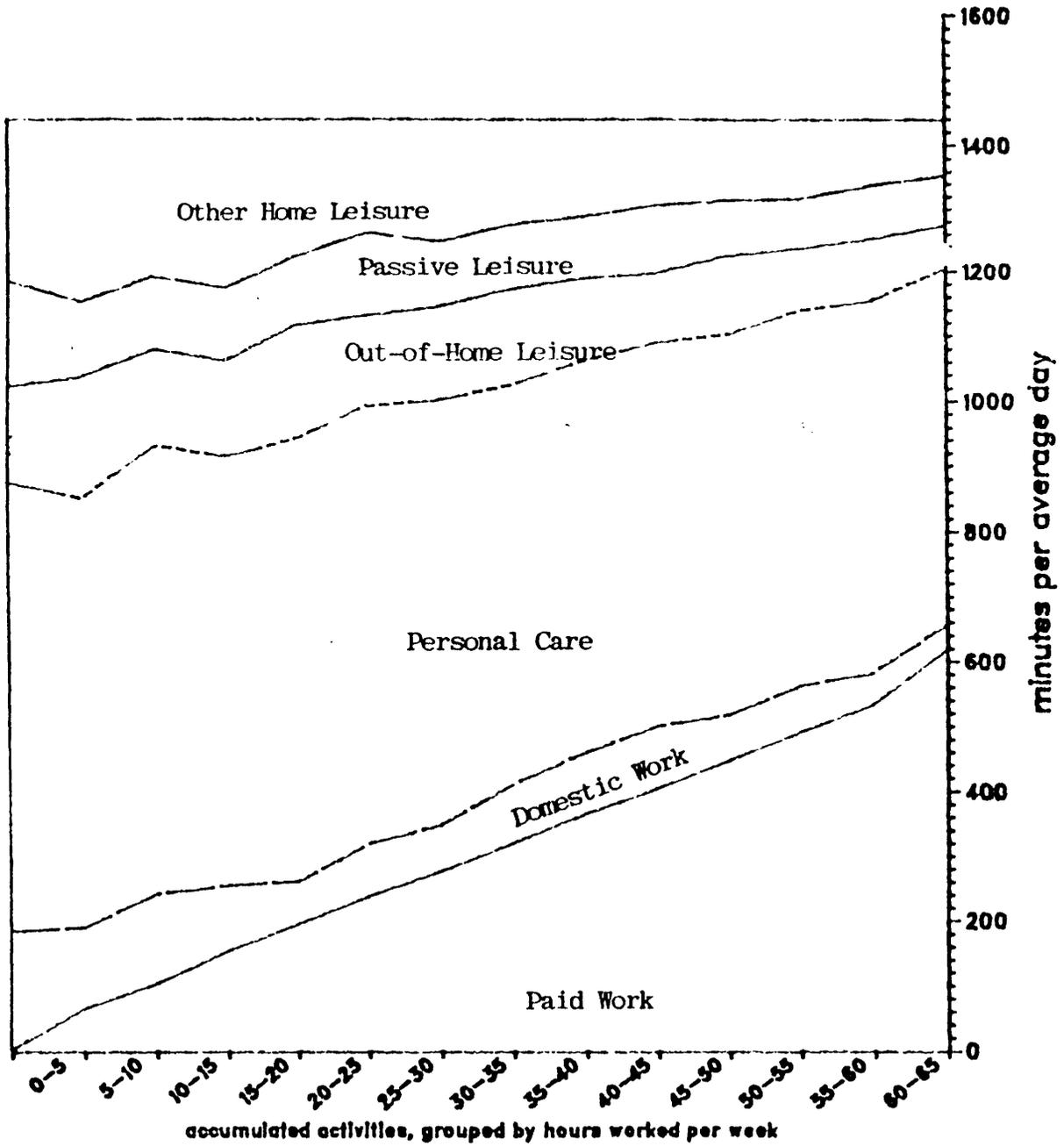


Figure 9 gives an overall view of the differences in time allocation of groups working different numbers of hours per week in Holland in 1975 and 1980. Some categories of activity are, for both men and women, plainly quite incompressible, or inelastic, with respect to time in paid work. Personal care, for example, stays more or less constant irrespective of the length of the working day (this is also the finding reported by Szalai in the previously cited article). Perhaps more surprising, time spent watching television stays more or less constant for a wide range of different hours of work. There are some very clear sexual differences, however. Most notable is the effect of reduction of paid work: for women, below about 25 hours of paid work, each successive hour's reduction in paid work, brings with an equivalent (or in 1975 more than equivalent) increase in the quantity of domestic work. Men, by contrast, show only the very mildest of propensities to increase their domestic work with decreases in paid work. Instead, they show a tendency to increase time devoted to leisure at home (whereas women treat this category as incompressible/inelastic). Similarly, out of home leisure time appears more elastic for men than for women.

Figure 10: Women UK 1975

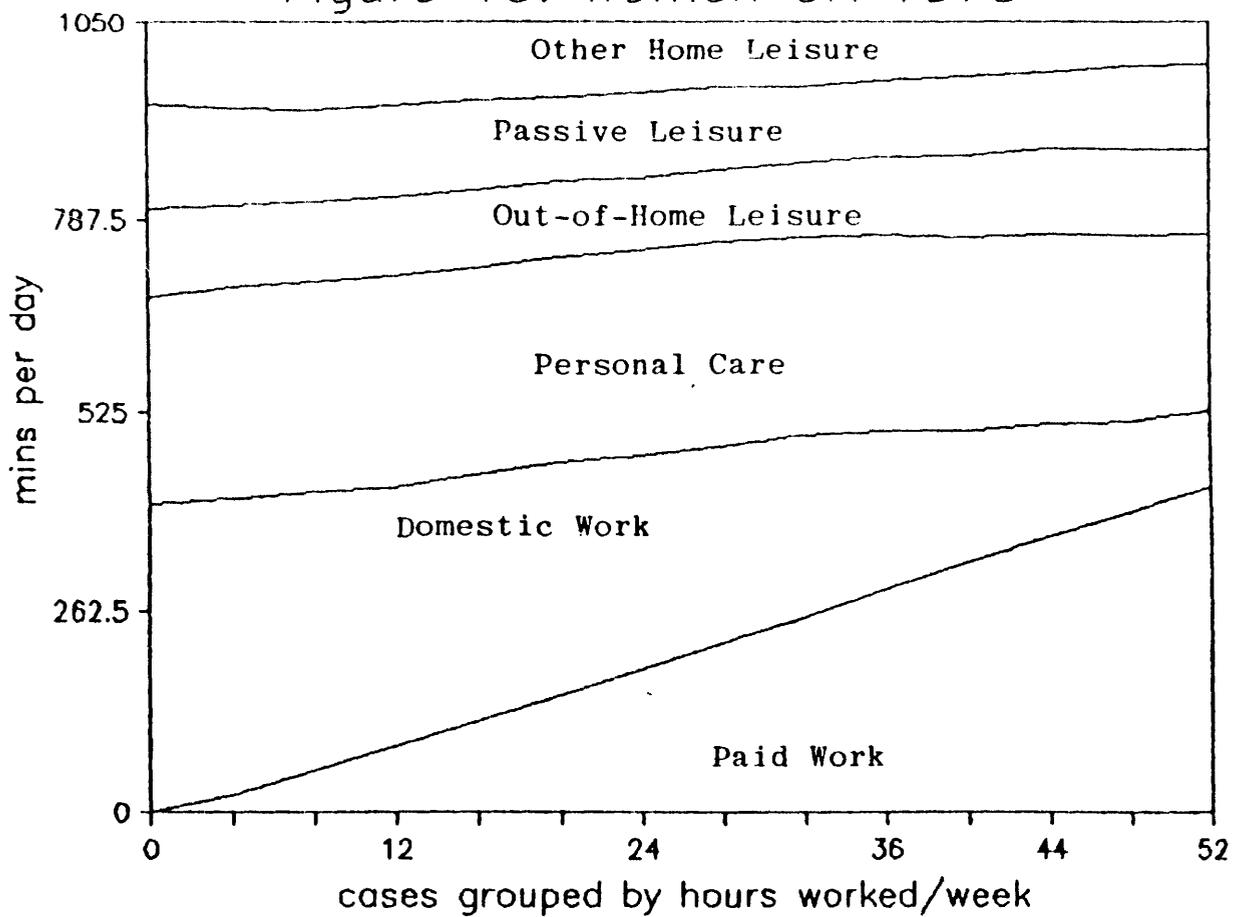


Figure 10: Women UK 1961

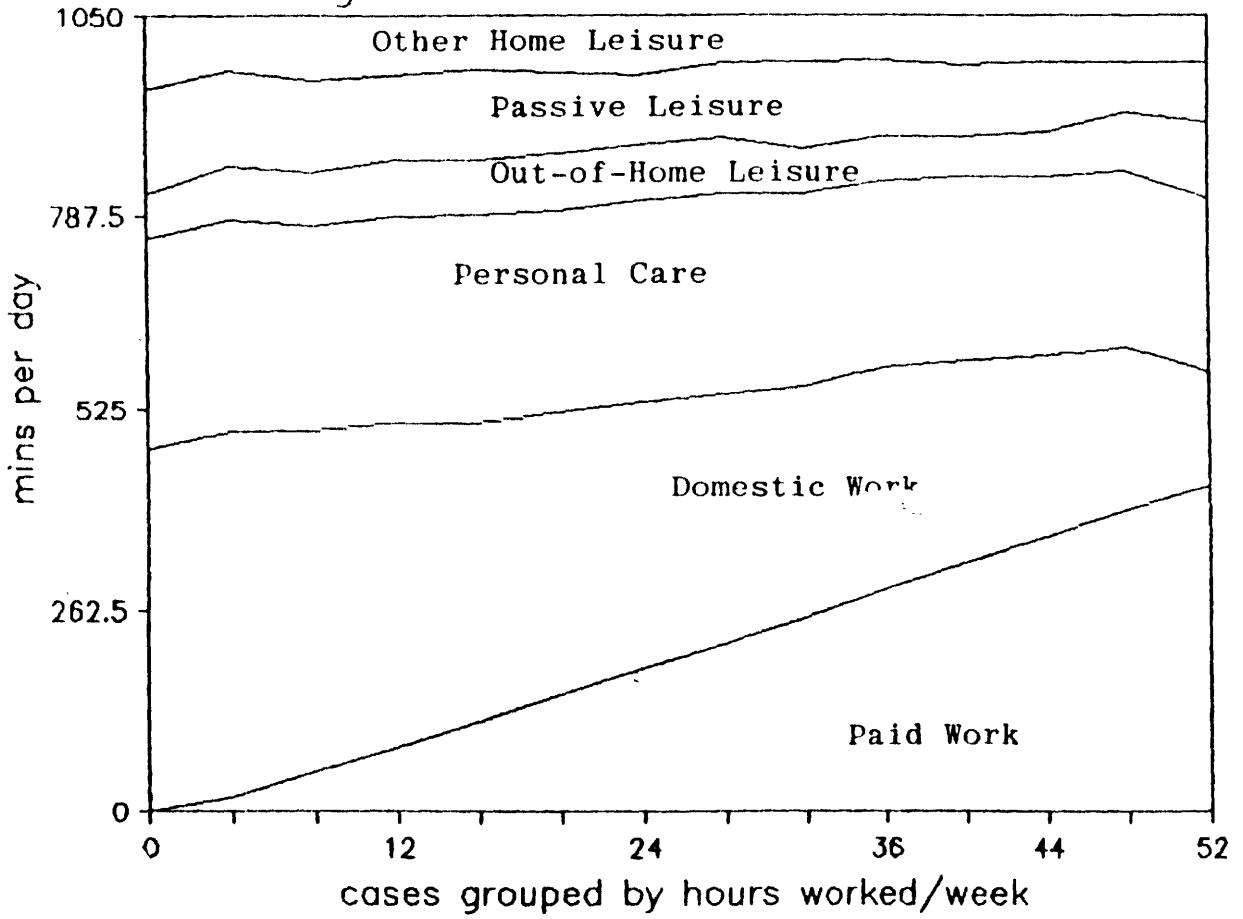


Figure 10: Men UK 1975

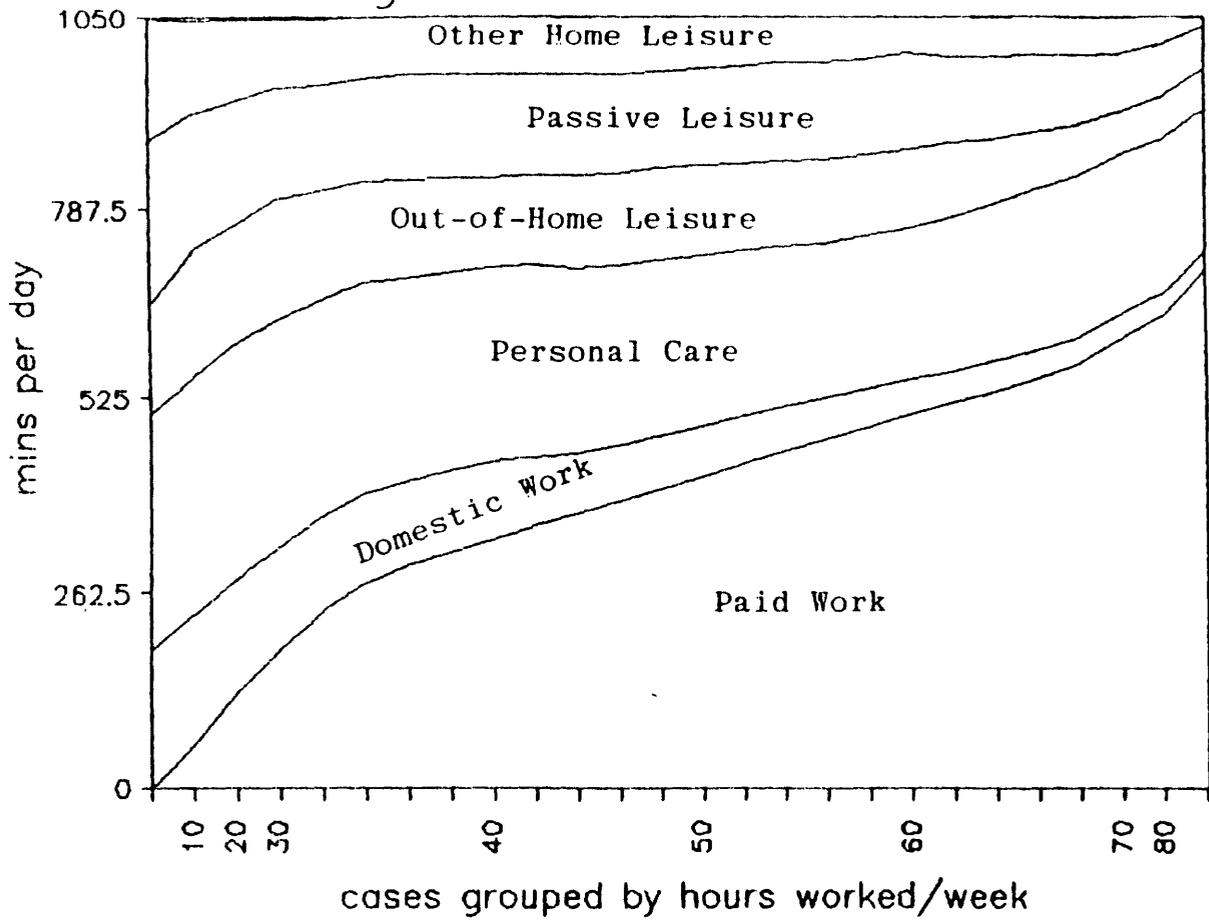
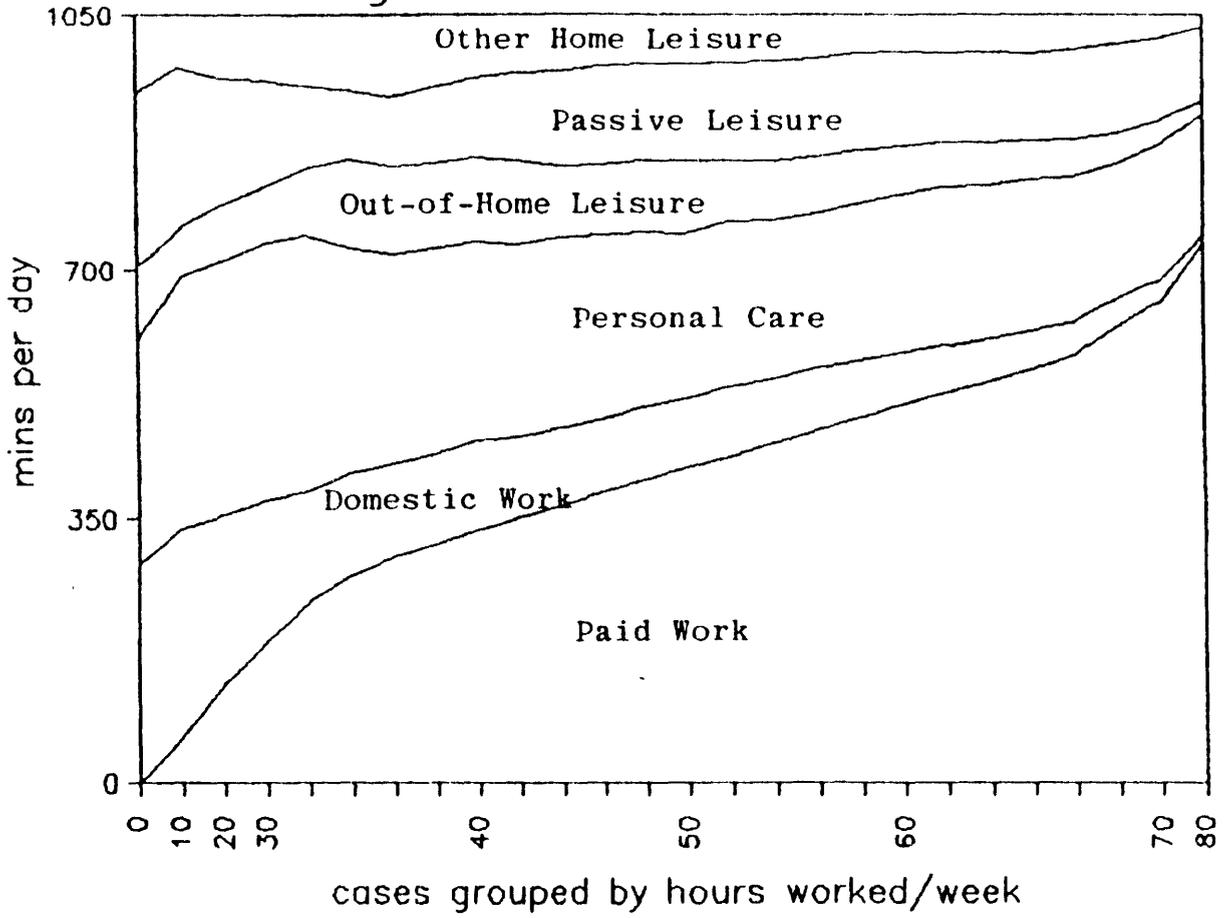


Figure 10: Men UK 1961

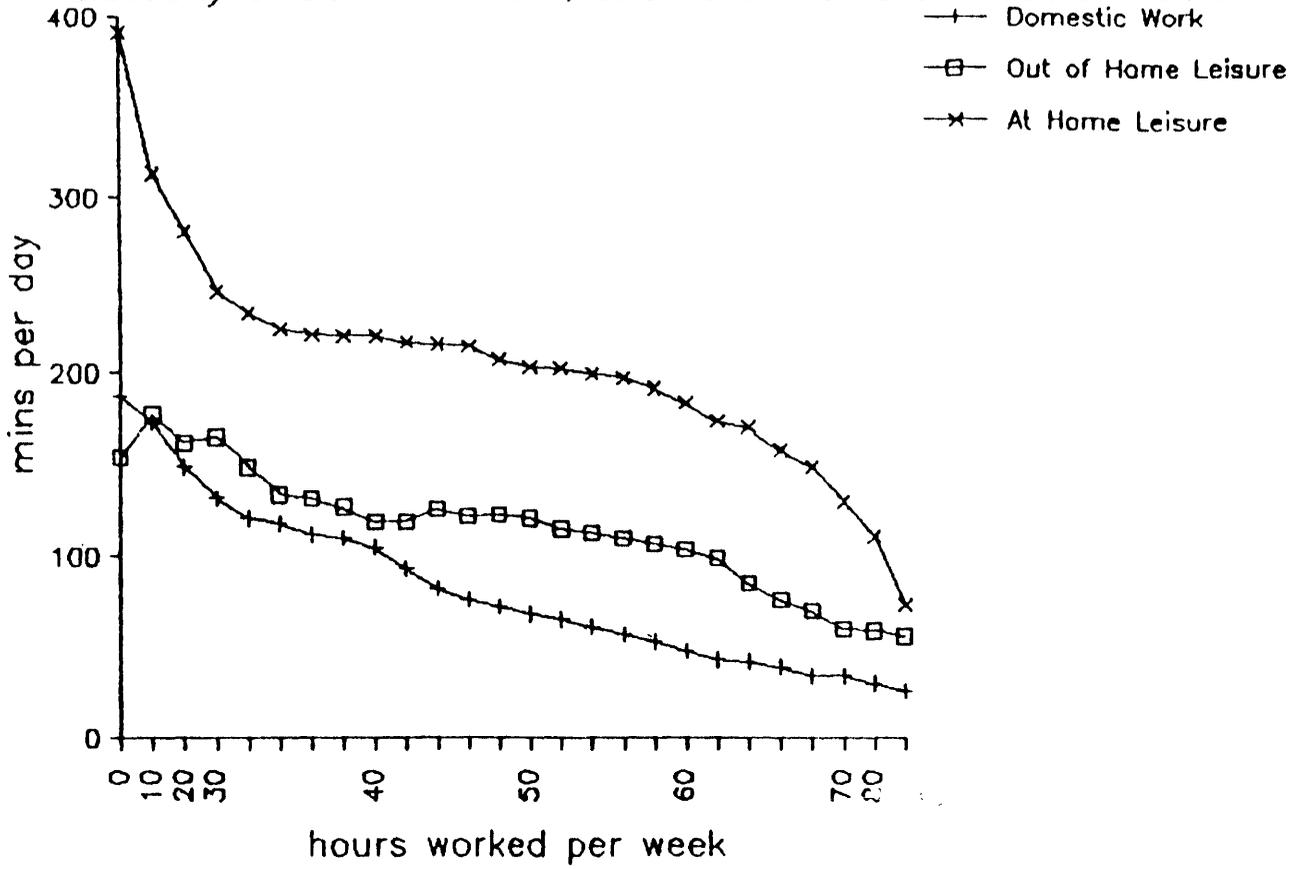


Now consider Figure 10, for the UK. Almost the whole of the previous paragraph applies to this as well as to Figure 9. Television viewing is rather more elastic for men than in the Dutch case, other at home leisure a little less so. But with this exception the two sets of figures are almost interchangeable.

This sort of analysis however has some serious shortcomings. It covers the whole population - and there is a wide range of different reasons for working shorter hours. A man may work short-time because he is semi-retired, or unemployed, or takes a principled decision to do so. Figures 9 and 10 cover the whole of the sample, from schoolchildren to retired people; the relative constancy of the proportions in the various activities reflect a whole host of differing purposes. We get a rather clearer picture of the nature of time-use elasticities by looking at rather more sharply defined groups. The following sequence of pictures takes, for the sake of example, men between the ages of 25 and 45; though of course choosing an even more tightly specified group than this (as for example women with children below the age of 6) would provide us with a correspondingly even more sharply defined picture.

UK 1975

Elasticity of Domestic Work, Leisure at Home and Out of Home



Netherlands 1980

Elasticity of Domestic Work, Leisure, at Home and Out of Home

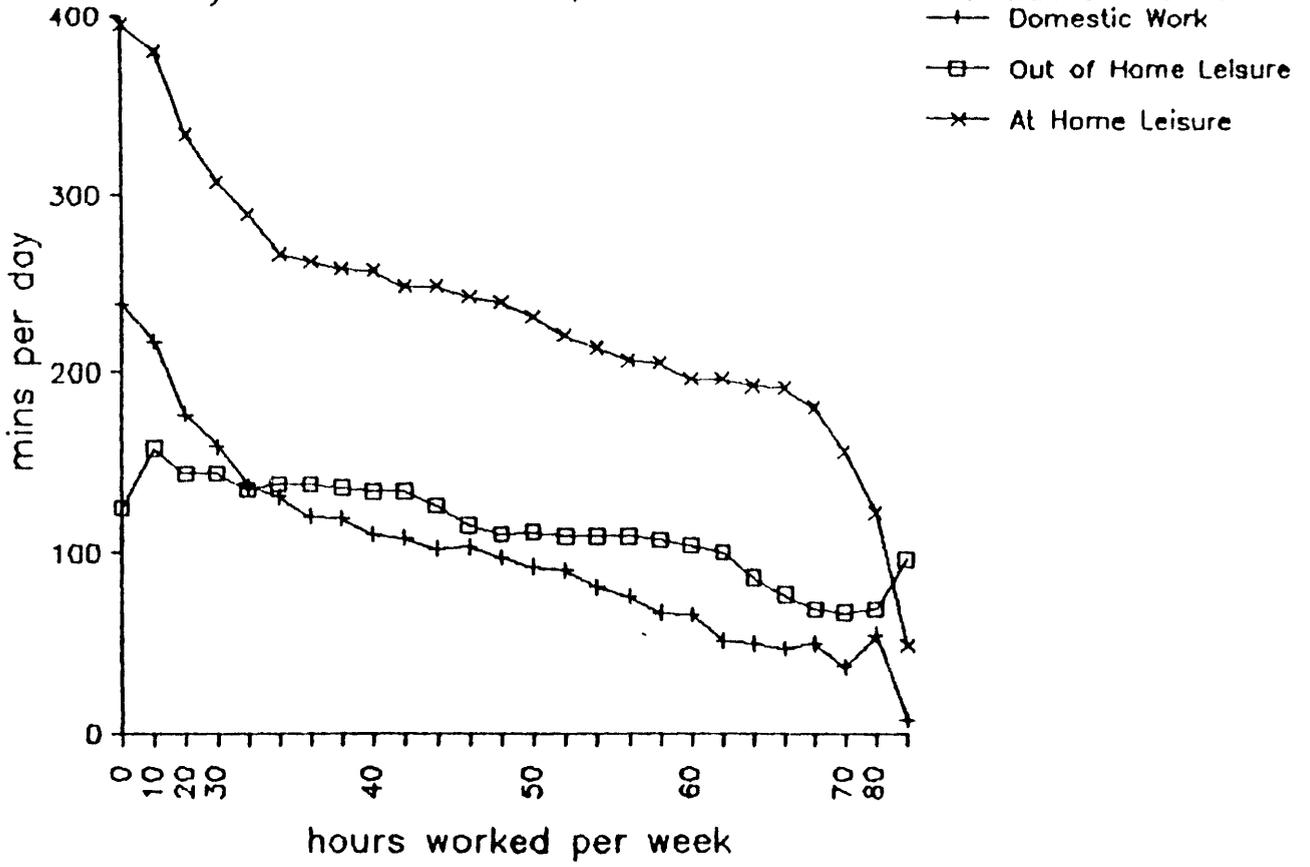
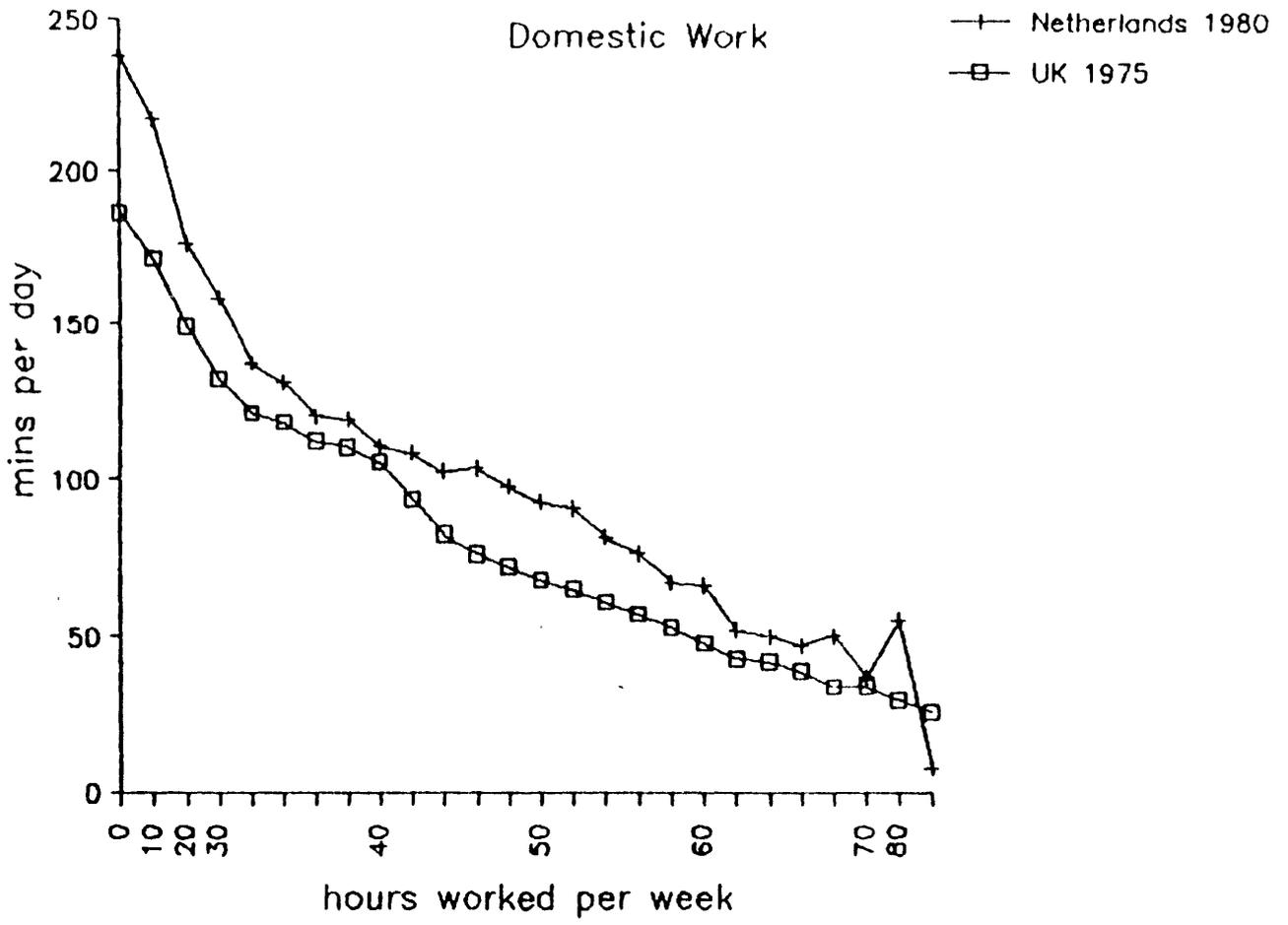
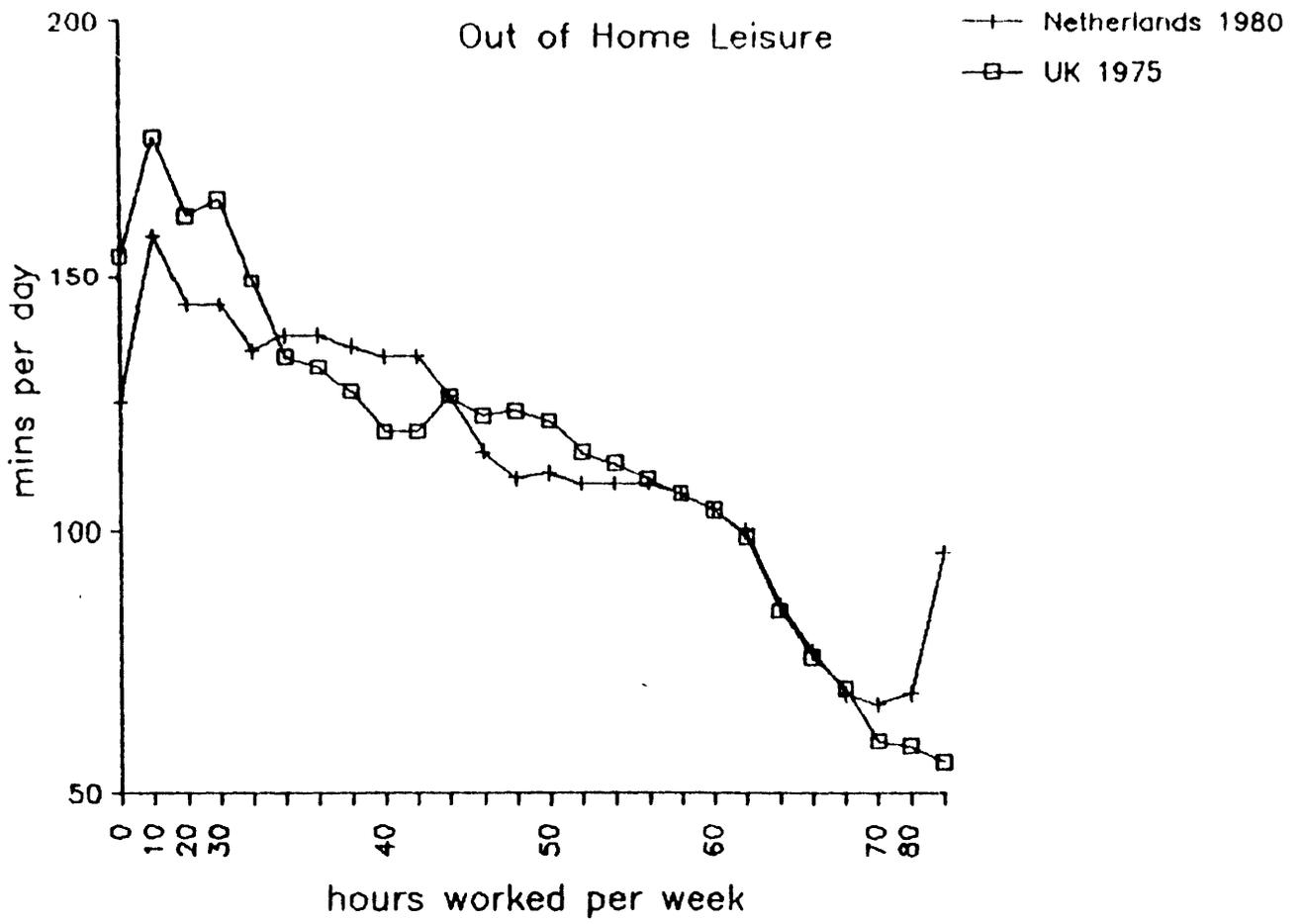


Figure 11 shows time-use elasticities for three broad categories of activity: domestic work, out-of-home leisure, and at home leisure (including both passive leisure and the other at-home category). In the Netherlands there is a clear difference between the slopes of the different sorts of activities. Out-of-home leisure seems relatively elastic with respect to reductions in paid work time from very long hours down to around 40 hours per week, but from then on remains relatively inelastic, at around 2.5 hours per average day. Domestic work, and leisure time at home, by contrast, seem to be quite markedly elastic throughout the full range of working hours. The UK pattern is rather less clearly differentiated; through much of the range of hours of work the three classes of activity seem to show approximately similar elasticities.

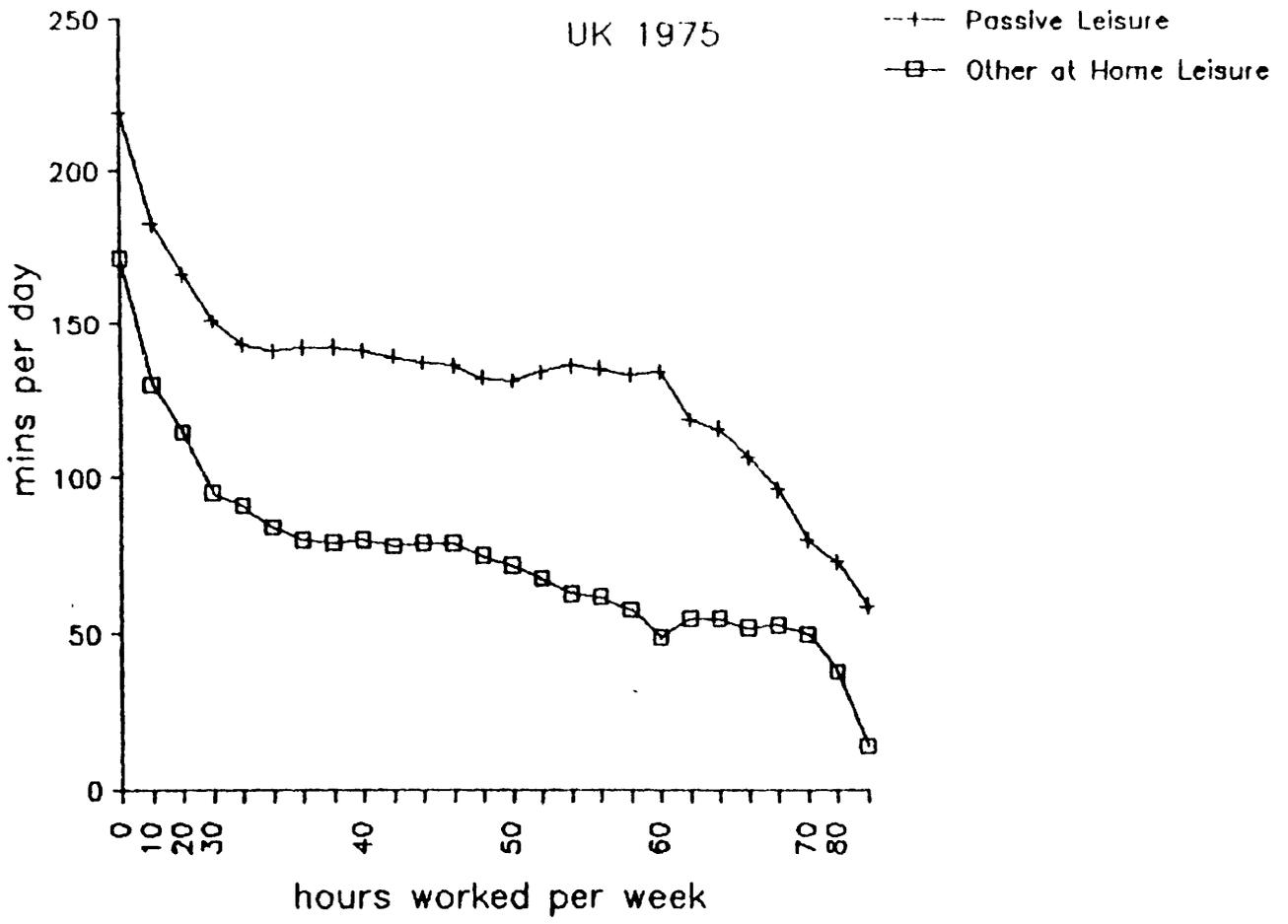
Figure 12 uses exactly the same data, but plots each of the activities for the two countries together. There are differences, but nevertheless the overall picture is in each case very similar for the two countries. Domestic work and leisure taken at home showing the same elasticity throughout the range of work times, out-of home leisure showing a rather lesser elasticity overall. Why should out-of-home leisure be less elastic? It could be that this reflects the lower disposable income of those working shorter hours, making the out of home activities, which tend to have monetary costs, less attractive relative to the home-based activities which tend to be cost free.

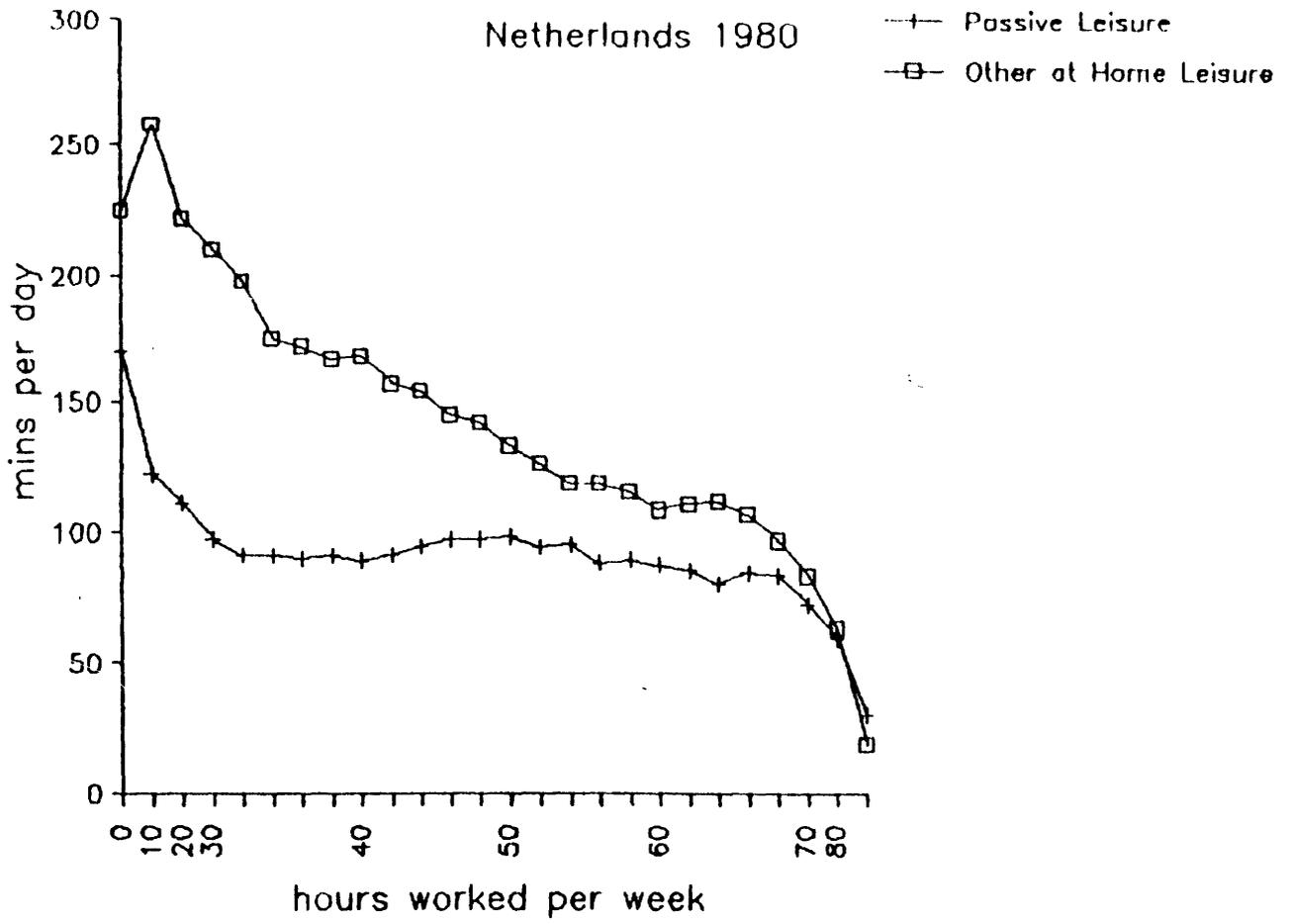
The European Foundation Archive has collected material that may allow us to answer this question - which has not-insignificant implications for the question of whether shorter working hours adopted for the purpose of employment creation should be accompanied by pay reductions.





The curves in Figure 12 are strikingly similar for the two countries; there are also some striking differences. Figure 13 disaggregates the "at home leisure" category into its two components, passive and other home leisure. In the UK, passive leisure occupies a great deal more time than the other home leisure category, and both show a moderate degree of elasticity; conversely, in Holland, other home leisure activities predominate strongly over television and radio, which shows something of an inelasticity with respect to paid work time over a good part of the range. Why should these two countries, whose behaviour is so similar in broad outline, show such marked differences in detail? Again, we can hope to use the archive material to answer such questions.





9. The Next Steps

This work is obviously at a relatively early stage in its development. Over the next year, two rather different sorts of exercise are contemplated: we must complete the data collection exercise; and we must also press ahead with the first round of analysis.

The completion of the data collection exercise involves four different sorts of activity:

- 1 Adding material from other countries (Norway, France, and it is hoped Canada and the USA) to the dataset. This involves, in some cases, procuring additional raw data (part of the promised survey materials from France, Canada, and the USA has not yet been supplied); mounting "foreign" data tapes at Bath and reading them; translating code books for the surveys, and writing them into SPSSX system files; recoding data to give compatibility between surveys at different dates, and between countries.
- 2 It may also be possible to add more recent surveys from some of the countries represented in the sample. France, Holland and Denmark are each undertaking new time budget surveys during 1985; if this material can be made available, then (given that the UK data already includes 1984 material) four of the countries will be have three surveys each, giving a good coverage from the 1960s to the 1980s.

- 3 It may also be desirable to relax the requirement that all the contributing countries should have more than one survey to contribute. While intertemporal (historical) comparisons within countries remains a central focus of the research, it may nevertheless be desirable to extend the cross national component by including material from, for example, Sweden, Germany, and Italy, even though they can each only contribute one survey to the collection.

- 4 We must also continue the process of renaming and re-ordering variables within each survey. We intend to provide a degree of commonality of organisation across the data, so as to ease its use and improve the accessibility of the material to other researchers.

We also intend to continue our basic analysis of the data set, concentrating mainly on the issue of the reduction of working time. We intend three different sorts of analysis:

- 1 We shall continue the sort of basic descriptive work covered in Section 7. This sort of work is certainly important in itself, since it establishes the basic patterns of similarity and dissimilarity between the countries. But it is also a necessary preliminary to intertemporal comparisons, since we must ensure that apparent differences in time-allocation between earlier and later surveys is a reflection of actual behavioural changes rather

than compositional changes in the samples or populations. The analysis of variance and effect parameter analyses included here provide the raw material for the weighting procedures necessary for making comparisons between surveys undertaken at different dates.

- 2 We will continue the cross-sectional analysis along the line started in Section 8; making inferences about the likely changes in life-style that might emerge as a result of reduction in working time, from evidence drawn from the differences of life-styles between people with shorter and longer work weeks. From some of the material, it may also be possible to look at the alternative consequences of different styles of reduction of work time (ie shorter work day vs shorter work week vs shorter work year). And this material will certainly enable us to explore the life-style consequences of shorter working life, through the comparison of activity patterns at different stages in the life-cycle.
- 3 This "cross-sectional" form of analysis does only allow us to make inferences; the longitudinal components of our data set however allow us to make certain sorts of tests of these inferences. Where we have an earlier and a later data set, we can test to see if the cross sectional inferences from the earlier period do serve to predict the changes between the earlier and the later. The evidence as to the quality of cross-sectionally based inferences

- and also our observations as to how changes in tastes and options serve to reduce the usefulness of such inferences - provides a reasonably firm basis for thinking about the likely future consequences of work-time changes.

It is hoped that this work will continue through 1985 and 1986. By the end of 1986, both the data preparation and the basic analysis will be completed.

The work discussed so far lies quite solidly within the tradition of academic time-budget analysis. But the implications of the work spread far beyond this academic speciality, and are likely to be of major importance for a range of issues of public policy. The research programme of the European Foundation covers a range of issues ("time management", "the organisation of time", "time and the family") to which this programme of data preparation and analysis may contribute. It is intended that this material should be made available for use by the wider community of researchers into time-related issues.

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