

Intergeneration and intrageneration social mobility in Britain

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Outline

Enduring questions and persistent criticisms

Data and method

Results

Conclusion

Origin and destinations

Analyses of social mobility remains divided between structuralist (e.g. class structural) and individualist (e.g. status attainment) perspectives.

- ▶ social mobility relied on cross sectional surveys
- ▶ social mobility is the product of individual attributes
- ▶ measures of class are themselves too crude to accurately measure mobility

Origin and destinations, contd.

The need to focus on heterogeneity and temporal dynamics.

Some propositions:

- ▶ despite combinatorially large number of associations between O and D , the underlying patterns of association are neither homogeneous nor defy any attempt at summary
- ▶ limited number of patterns, trajectories, of intra-generational mobility are commonly traced over decades of labour market participation
- ▶ the family of origin matters in putting people into these trajectories

Intergenerational and intragenerational social mobility

Some new questions

- ▶ What do patterns of intra-generational mobility or trajectories look like across the two cohorts?
- ▶ What is the relative contributions of ability, effort and education versus social class of origin on destination in putting people into these trajectories?
- ▶ Can we uphold the contention that one particular snapshot or stage in the life cycle is representative?
- ▶ Should we be interested in the possibility that the 'mature' age when occupational changes is retreating further into the horizon?

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Two British cohorts

- ▶ NCDS 1958 and BCS 1970
- ▶ (Mixture) Latent class growth model

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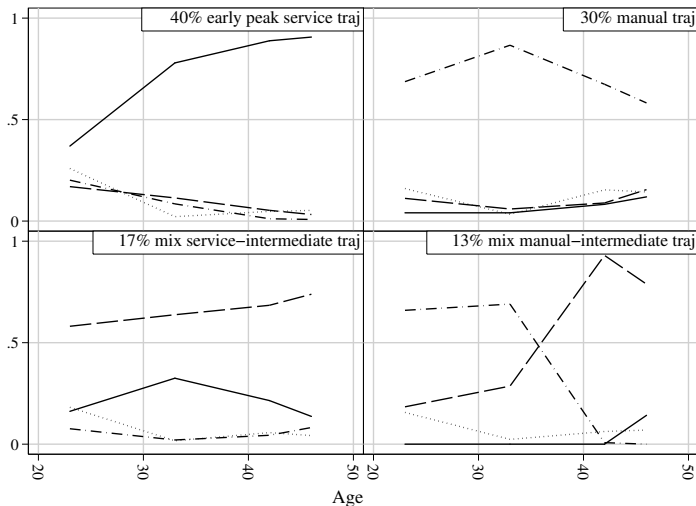
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NCDS male cohort

Latent trajectory groups of male cohort members of the NCDS up to age 46. Solid: service class, long dash: intermediate class, dash-dot: manual class, dot: out of the labour force



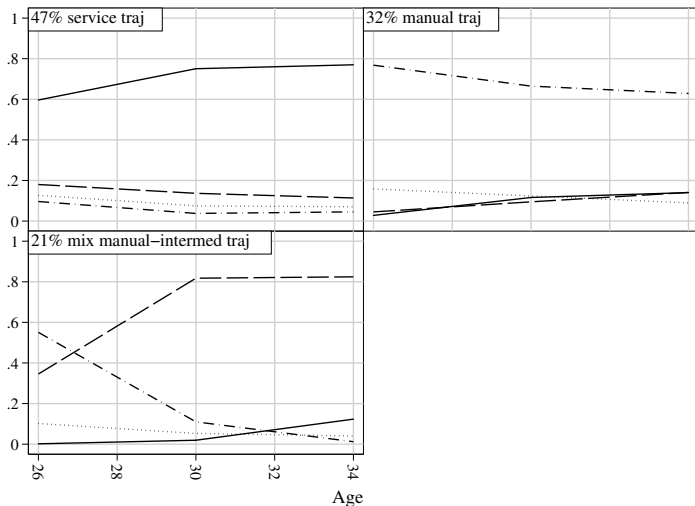
NCDS male cohort, contd

Where do the families put their sons into? Profile of latent trajectories of NCDS up to 2004 in terms of social class of origin

Trajectories	Early peak service	Manual	Downward service-intermed	U manual-int
Size	40%	30%	17%	
Social class of origin				
Service	59%	14%	19%	
Intermediate	40%	25%	21%	
Manual	30%	40%	15%	

BCS male cohort

Latent trajectory groups of male cohort members of the BCS up to age 34. Solid: service class, long dash: intermediate class, dash-dot: manual class, dot: out of the labour force



BCS male cohort, contd

Time varying coefficients of latent trajectories

Variable	Service	Manual	Upward manual-intermed	p
Size	47%	32%	21%	
Social class of origin				
Age	0.987	1.046	1.368	< 0.001
Age ²	-0.015	-0.153	-0.153	< 0.001
Education	0.576	0.693	0.849	< 0.001

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A focus on both heterogeneity and temporal dynamics

- ▶ Intergenerational and intragenerational mobility: a nuanced understanding
- ▶ Mixture or latent class growth model is flexible to capture them and more (attributes)
- ▶ Further works on 'individualisation' or 'risk society' and temporality