

SILC

SOCIAL INEQUALITY AND THE LIFE COURSE

A research programme of the Faculty of Social Sciences, Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam

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Appendix [TO BE UPDATED]

Table 1: International conferences and workshops periodically attended by current SILC researchers

Table 2: Standing collaborations [i.e. co-authorships of publications and conference papers] of current SILC researchers at the national and international level.

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SILC: SOCIAL INEQUALITY AND THE LIFE COURSE

This document reports background, aims and organization of SILC [Social Inequality and the Life Course], a research program situated in the Department of Social Research Methodology of the Faculty of Social Sciences at the VU University Amsterdam. It replaces and continues the strategic research program “Comparative Stratification Research” [CSR] that has guided the activities of the same group of researchers during 2003-2008.

1. An outline of the research program

Background

Social inequality constitutes one of the core problems of the social sciences in general and of sociology proper. Unequal outcomes of social processes arise with respect to material status (income, wealth and material consumption as mostly studied by economists), but also with respect to immaterial status, such as legal rights (citizenship), social standing (occupational prestige), knowledge (education) and cultural consumption and leisure time activities, which are dimensions more often examined by sociologists. The quantity of different statuses that individuals enjoy (or are excluded from) is not static, but varies across the life course. It is on the interactions and contingencies between the socio-economic and family life cycles (Figure 1) that SILC research is focused.

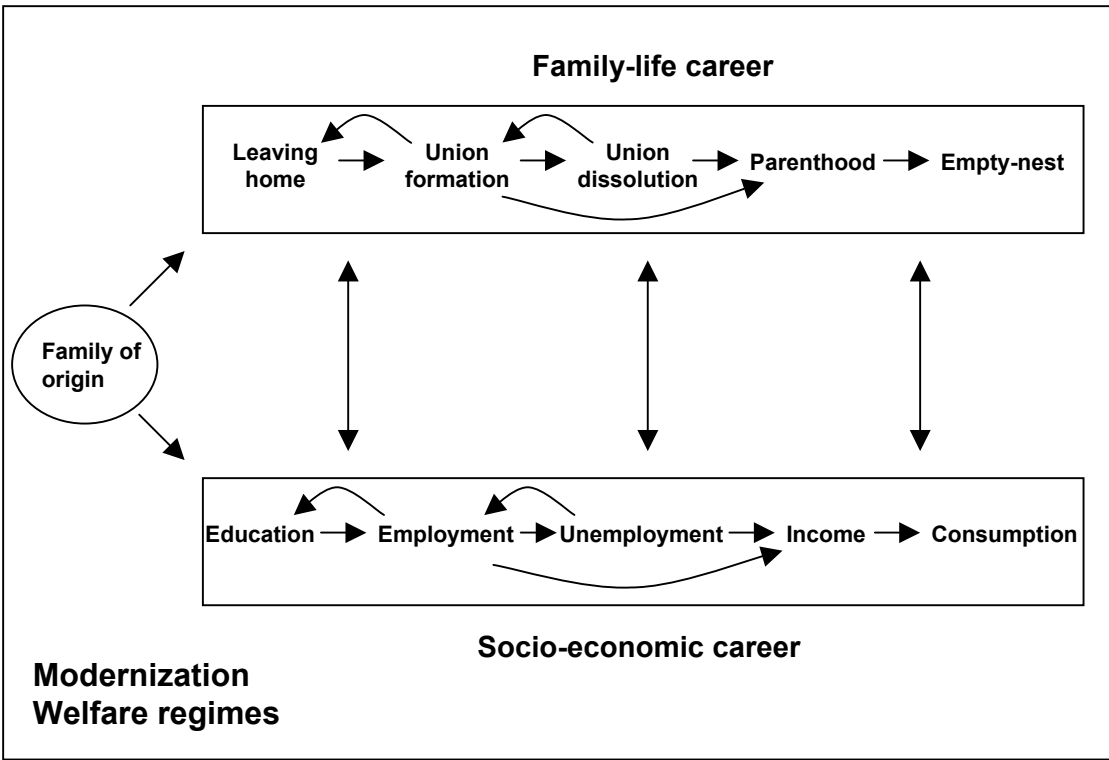


Figure 1 A stylized representation of the interplay between social inequality and the life course

The SILC research programme studies the relationships between development in the socio-economic life course and family life. Figure 1 emphasizes the dynamic interplay between social inequality with regard to socio-economic achievements and major demographic events

in the life course. The main consecutive stages in the socio-economic life-course are education, labour market participation and occupational attainment, and finally the income, wealth and consumption status that derives from these events. At the same time, individuals experience demographic events, of which several major ones are listed: leaving the parental family, union formation and dissolution, parenthood and entry into the empty-nest phase. The scheme lists only the major events in both life courses and abstracts from many details, and mainly serves to suggest that social inequality emerges during the life course in a dynamic way. I.e., we do not only study to what extent status differences arise, but also at which point during the life course they arise and how their development is contingent upon earlier positions in the life course. There is also a clear *intragenerational* aspect to social inequality, as the availability of different statuses is bound to change in response to events that occur in the life course, but there is also an *intergenerational* aspect to social inequality, as the status of individuals depends on the transfer of status from parents to children. Most of these transfers occur early in life, but a considerable net flow of status continues until the parents die. With regard to many of these events, it is not just the timing of their occurrence that matters, but also other characteristics of these events. For instance, it is important whether a job change leads to a higher, lower or equivalent occupational status, and it is not just important whether a person enters into a union, but also with whom.

Patterns of social inequality and the life course are embedded in contexts of time and space. Contextual analysis is a central element of the SILC research programme and its focus when doing research at the macro-level. To emphasize this, the scheme is enclosed by a rectangle that signifies its rootedness in space (countries) and time (history). With regard to its embeddedness in historical time, social inequality is mainly studied from a modernization perspective, whereas with regard to its embeddedness in space, social inequality is mainly studied from the perspective of the dominant welfare state regime in a country. Both of these perspectives will be elaborated upon below.

Research problems and research strategies

The SILC programme encompasses both descriptive and explanatory research questions:

- **Micro-level variation:** How does the timing and sequencing of life events in the family and socio-economic life course look like? How strong are processes of inter- and intra-generational transmission of social inequality?
- **Macro-level variation:** What kind of historical and spatial variation can be observed in the socio-economic and family life courses and in the inter- and intra-generational transmission of social inequality?
- **Micro-level explanation:** Which microscopic mechanisms explain the sequencing of life courses and processes of inter- and intragenerational transmission of social inequality?
- **Macro-level explanation:** Which macroscopic mechanisms explain variation in socio-economic and demographic life courses and in the strength of inter- and intra-generational transmission of social inequality across time and space?

SILC address these problems with a problem driven, theory oriented and large-scale quantitative research strategy, of which the defining elements are:

1. Our **research problems** are primarily generated by their scientific relevance.
2. Our **theoretical strategy** can be distinguished in a macro-scopic and micro-scopic approach.
3. Our **empirical strategy** is characterized by the use of large-scale quantitative data that are comparative by design.

Ad 1. Our **research problems** are primarily generated by their scientific relevance. We formulate problems relative to the state of knowledge in the specific field of research and aim at continuing and expanding existing research traditions, at the national and international level. Also with respect to issues of core societal relevance, our aim is to formulate and answer scientifically relevant questions.

Ad 2. Our **theoretical strategy** can be characterized as a combination of a macro-scope and a micro-scope approach. Macroscopic notions of particular interest to us are *modernization*, *individualization* and *welfare state regimes*. Broadly speaking, modernization theory holds that the modern era, since the rise of industrial society, has seen a drift from traditional, ascriptive inequality regimes to achievement oriented inequality regimes. Whilst traditionally family background was a strong determinant of any socio-economic outcome in the next generation, its influence has attenuated and partly been replaced by a growing importance of early achievement – in particular in education – on later achievements in the socio-economic career. In more recent stages of economic development, beyond the industrial era, this trend towards achievement has led to the rise of an educated elite and to knowledge becoming the primary tool of status reproduction.

Macroscopic processes that form the backdrop of these developments were initially the evolution of agricultural production into the dominance of industrial production, which later yielded to a dominance of the service economy. These transitions have been initiated by enormous technological developments. Important concomitant developments have been economic growth, educational expansion, and unprecedented levels of urban development, transport and communication.

The rise of modern society has reduced the influence of ascriptive statuses such as family background, gender and ethnicity, but at the same time fostered other dimensions of inequality. In particular educational stratification has become the dominant dimension of social inequality, which not only divides the population in the socio-economic realm (occupational differentiation, income), but remains an extremely strong division on the marriage market and other forms of social exchange. In Dutch society, educational divisions have replaced religion as the dominant mode of social organization. However, this does not imply that other forms of inequality have disappeared. In fact, much empirical work is concerned with documenting trends in effects of family background, gender, age and ethnicity on socio-economic outcomes. In addition, this trend from ascription to achievement has not necessarily been linear, as implied in the original versions of modernization theory (Parsons, 1951, Kerr, 1962).

The non-linearity of the modernization process is clearly illustrated by the process of individualization that has been an important by-effect of economic growth and technological development. In the early stages of industrial development, modernization led to a stronger emphasis on the nuclear family and related ideals of the bourgeois family with a clear gender based division of labour, resulting in a rather strong uniformity of family life. However, during the last fifty years, unprecedented levels of economic growth and educational expansion unleashed individuals from these ‘traditional’ scripts of life. The “silent revolution” of the 1960’s has led to the rise of post-materialist values and behaviours and a decreasing uniformity of the life course. Not only have the effects of ascriptive statuses (family origin, gender, age, religion at birth) waned, but the life course itself became object of individualized

concerns and negotiations between spouses and between parents and children, resulting in increased variation and decreased standardization.

In our perspective, modernization, as fuelled by technological development and economic growth, constitutes the major autonomous background context of all major societal developments. However, the societal consequences of these developments vary across countries, because they are to a large extent shaped and conditioned by processes of political decision making and intervention. Policies are targeted at the distribution of social rewards itself (such as income policies, redistribution by taxation, pension schemes and social security regimes), but are also directed at access to education, regulation of the labour market and migration regimes. There is a bewildering diversity of policies relevant to social inequality, and a fairly limited number of comparative degrees of freedom to sort out their impact. Basically, two strategies to study the impact of policies on social inequality and the life course can be distinguished. One strategy is to construct encompassing welfare state typologies (Esping-Andersen, 1993) and to link these to general socio-economic and family-life outcomes in countries with different types of welfare state regimes. Esping-Andersen, for instance, contrasts liberal, social-democratic and conservative welfare state regimes. More recent extensions of such theories focus on the welfare regimes in Mediterranean and in former Communist states. A second strategy is to focus on specific types of policies and to study in-depth (across a range of consequences or using natural experiments) how such policies influence specific aspects of social inequality across modern states. In our view, both types of strategies have strengths and weaknesses and the choice of strategy basically depends on the specific research question at hand.

Our **micro-level explanations** are mostly inspired on cost-benefit approaches to explanation, that form the backbone of much common-sense and learned social thinking (Homans, Boudon). Simple, but powerful cost-benefit models only take economic stimuli into account, but in our field it is important to extend these models with considerations of information costs and imperfect knowledge, time costs versus monetary costs, peer-group sanctions and other psychological costs. This leads to frequently used explanatory models such as search theory (labour market, marriage market), human capital theory, etc. Another useful extension of cost-benefit explanation is to conceive of social statuses as resources (or “capital”) that can be used to generate new rewards in later episodes. Bourdieu has introduced the important distinction between economic resources (income and wealth), cultural resources (knowledge) and social resources (social contacts one can call upon if needed).

A mode of theoretical analysis that is of particular appeal to SILC researchers is that of theoretical competition, or theoretical comparison (Popper, 1963). I.e. we do not think that research questions can best be answered from a single theoretical perspective. Progress is best made by comparing different theoretical accounts, each of which should be formulated at the level of competing and testable empirical predictions.

Ad 3. Our **empirical strategy** is characterized by the use of large-scale quantitative data that are comparative by design: the comparison can be between different national settings (cross-section), but also longitudinal, either by retrospective, panel or repeated cross-sectional designs. Of course, the most attractive option is when data offer opportunities for both cross-national and historical comparisons, as this offers a partial solution to the traditional degrees of freedom problem in comparative research (Ganzeboom, 2002). We value data that are available in the public realm – true science refers to data that are also available to somebody else, as this creates competition and monitoring at the same time (Ganzeboom, 1993). Much

of the data we use are secondary in nature, and we like to address research problems with existing data, because this leads to natural accumulation of findings and expertise, and again to a healthy competition among researchers.

Next to the use of existing data, we make a considerable contribution in the collection of new data, in particular via the International Social Survey Programme, the European Social Survey and the Panel Study of Youth and Culture.

In analyzing these data we strive to meet the highest possible standards with respect to measurement and causal modelling. As regards to measurement, we want to make contributions in particular to the field of comparative measurements. Our particular interest in microscopic causal modelling is in longitudinal research designs that are suited to bring out dynamic processes. In macroscopic causal models we specialize in multi-level models with historical components that address simultaneously variations among cross-sections and among historical units.

2. History

The SILC program continues and expands research in the Comparative Stratification Research [CSR] program that was maintained in 2003-2008 at the SRM department at VUA-FSW. The CSR program was evaluated twice, in 2007 by an international review committee that reviewed all research programs of the Faculty of Social Sciences of the VUA and in 2008 by an international review committee that reviewed (almost) all sociology programs in the Netherlands. The evaluations obtained were:

| | Quality | Productivity | Relevance | Viability |
|------------------------------------|---------|--------------|-----------|-----------|
| 2007 Faculty-wide assessment | 5 | 4.5 | 5 | 4 |
| 2008 National sociology assessment | 5 | 3 | 4 | 4 |

Both reviews concurred in evaluating the CSR program as “good” on average, but made remarks and suggestions for improvement, aimed at increasing the quality of the program to the “excellent” level. Important issues that are addressed in the transformation of CSR into SILC as a consequence of the two reviews and the self-evaluation that guided these, are:

- CSR research themes and organizational structure were praised, but its publication record in first-rate journals was judged to be too low and unevenly spread among participants.
- The CSR program was regarded as too small in scale and too narrowly centred on activities of Ganzeboom on comparative social mobility and comparative measurement.
- The CSR staff-formation was unbalanced in terms of rank and expertise, in particular by lacking members at the associate level.

While continuing the overall research strategy and many specific research projects that were brought together in CSR, the major expansions and innovations aimed at in the SILC program can be listed as follows:

- SILC’s leadership will be shared between Ganzeboom and Liefbroer.
- SILC will encompass a larger group of participants, because new members of the SRM department are recruited with SILC participation in mind.
- The definition of research themes of SILC is considerably broader than in CSR. The major direction of broadening the research is by addressing the consequences of modernization for the family-life career, and the interplay between the family-life career and the socio-economic career. The broadening also entails expanding the analysis of

social inequality beyond education, employment and occupation: inequality will now include income and wealth, consumption and perceptions of social inequality.

- The SILC research program will be closely associated with a minor program that offers (international) student opportunities to study SILC themes at the advanced BA level.

3. Relationship to the Department of Social Research Methodology

All participants in SILC are members of the Department of Social Research Methodology at VUA University and teach introductory and advanced quantitative methods to students of its various educational programs. At the same time the SRM department hosts the minor program Life Course and Social Inequality that is taught by members of the SILC research program. Members of SRM are also involved in teaching students in the faculty-wide Research Master program.

Unlike other VUA-FSW departments, the SRM department does not teach its own students at the undergraduate [BA] or MA level and there exists no specific advanced methodology curriculum at VUA-FSW. All members of the SRM department, whether participating in SILC or other research programs, conduct their research in substantive areas, but SILC constitutes the only area that is exclusively situated in the SRM department. Although SILC is not specifically focused on methodological issues, the connection between methods teaching and SILC research is quite helpful and works synergetically in both directions. Expertise with respect to advanced methods of data collection and data analysis (such as latent structure modelling, panel and life history analysis) is an important asset to SILC researchers. At the same time, SILC participants aim at producing research with strong methodological impact.

The synergy between SILC research and SRM teaching is all the more true for the Life Course and Social Inequality minor program, in which we aim to introduce social science students from other VUA-FSW educational program and elsewhere into the SILC research themes and its ramifications for social policy. The minor program (30 etc credit points in 6 courses) is taught in English by SILC staff and encompasses most of the research topics covered by SILC.

4. Relationship to the Faculty of Social Sciences and the VU University Amsterdam

The SILC program is one of ten research programs in the Faculty of Social Science at VUA. One distinctive feature of the programme is its relatively small size. We regard this small size as an important asset of the program, since it allows us to meet in SILC seminar with all the members of the program. There is no single disciplinary background to SILC researchers (these backgrounds include sociology, psychology, economics, history and mathematics), but the bulk of the research is oriented towards sociology as a discipline. The primary outlets for our publications are sociology journals and journals that are strongly related to sociological research in methodology, statistics, demography and social history. Despite its sociological orientation, there is no special connection with two other sociological research programs (The Social Context of Aging (SOCA) and Social Change and Conflict (SCC) in the VU-FSW or the Department of Sociology proper. However, there exist administrative connections with these programs and in the past all three programs have been assessed by the same (national) evaluation procedures.

At the VUA, there is an emerging policy to bring research program together in university-wide interdisciplinary research institutes. The ultimate aim of this process is to create rather

large units of research (100+ fte) that are located in various faculties around the campus. Until now, the formation of these institutes does not involve relocation of researchers, but rather the merging of expertise and resources for large scale projects. Together with members of the Faculty of Psychology and Education and the Faculty of Economics and Business Administration, SILC researchers are participating in the creation of RISE, a research institute on the explanation of social and economic behaviour. In addition, one of the members of SILC (Liefbroer) participates in the newly created research institute Phoolan Devi, that focuses on security issues in a societal context.

At the Amsterdam level, we are seeking closer collaboration with the related research programme INSTINE headed by prof. dr. Herman van de Werfhorst at the Department of Sociology at the University of Amsterdam. At present, the collaboration mainly consists of visiting and contributing to each other's seminars. Future collaboration may include joint projects and data collections, and exchange of master and minor students.

5. Organization of the SILC program

Participants and leadership

The SILC programme consists of researchers from the Department of Social Research Methodology, who hold a joint interest in studying issues of social inequality and the life course. In addition, PhD students and post-docs affiliated with these researchers can participate in the SILC programme. Currently, the following researchers participate in the programme (and the fte each contributes):

| | discipline | rank | 2009 | 2010 | 2011 | 2012 | 2013 |
|-----------------------------|-------------------------|------|------|------|------|------|------|
| Ganzeboom, prof. dr. H.B.G. | Sociology | HL | 0.50 | | | | |
| Liefbroer, prof. dr. A.C. | Psychology, sociology | BHL | 0.20 | | | | |
| Bakker, prof. dr. B.F.M. | Sociology | BHL | 0.20 | | | | |
| Elzinga, dr. C.E. | Psychology, mathematics | UD | 0.40 | | | | |
| Nagel, dr. F.A. | Sociology, Psychology | UD | 0.60 | | | | |
| Mooi-Reci, dr. I. | Economics, sociology | UD | 0.60 | | | | |
| Pavlopoulos, dr. D. | Economics, sociology | UD | 0.20 | | | | |
| Bras, dr. H. | History, Sociology | UD | 0.65 | | | | |
| Schroeder, drs. H. | Sociology | PROM | 0.80 | | | | |
| Total | | | 4.15 | | | | |

SILC brings together researchers of various backgrounds, but with a common interest in social inequality and the life course. Our most intense mode of collaboration is the structure of seminars, lectures and conferences in which we frequently meet each other and learn about each other's work and progress. SILC researchers also collaborate in joint projects. However

dense these modes of collaboration may be, each SILC researcher values collaboration with researchers elsewhere in the Netherlands and abroad. In fact, we regard external collaboration as at least equally valuable and productive as collaboration at home. SILC researchers maintain stable national and international contacts in research and collaborate with researchers elsewhere. International conferences have an importance effect on productivity by creating deadlines and providing high-quality discussion and comments on contributions. Some of these conferences are venues for multiple SILC researchers and/or constitute important periodical outlets for SILC research. Table 1 gives an overview of existing collaborations and conference venues for all SILC researchers.

Although interconnected by a dense web of collaborations, data collection projects, joint activities and intellectual affinities, the programme's policy explicitly stimulates the co-existence of independent and autonomous research lines and external collaborations. Senior members of the programme, as well as Ph.D. students, are to maintain their own research lines and external collaborations. This reflects our philosophy that ultimately the success of the SILC programme depends on the efforts and accomplishments of all its members. In that respect, the SILC programme is envisaged as a truly collaborative effort. At the same time, the programme coordinators (Ganzeboom and Liefbroer) bear a specific responsibility with regard to external accountability and internal stimulation and monitoring. Externally, the coordinators can be held accountable for the quality of the research programme. Internally, their role is to stimulate intellectual creativity, research output and the acquisition of external research funding. At a yearly basis, the programme as a whole and the contribution of the separate participants will be evaluated. The general evaluation will be undertaken and discussed with the research group as a whole, whereas evaluation of the contributions of individual participants will be done on a bilateral basis, in coordination with the Management Team of the SRM department.

Targets

The target of the SILC is to reach standards of excellence in terms of research performance. Given the earlier appraisal of CSR (see section 2), and given our own evaluation, improvement in our performance to reach that standard are both possible and necessary. In order to improve our performance, we would like to formulate targets that relate to scientific output and external research funding of the SILC programme.

With regard to scientific output, SILC researchers primarily aim at publishing their research in high quality international refereed journals and book volumes. If relevant, publications are also targeted at a Dutch readership in refereed Dutch journals. SILC researchers have to meet faculty-wide norms on productivity (on average one international refereed publication per annum), but try to aim for more: three publications (in English or in Dutch), of which at least one in peer-reviewed ISI-included journals, per year for a 0.4 research appointment. This target is somewhat above the long term average of all FSW-VUA research (6.6 per 1.0 fte research).

With regard to external research funding, we aim of securing at least 1.5 PhD-positions within the SILC programme per year. Within due time, this should lead to a minimum number of six PhD-students participating in the SILC programme. In order to reach acquire this number of PhD-students, at least three proposals for acquiring external research funds per year will be submitted to national and international funding organisations, such as NWO, ESF and ERC. The programme coordinators have the primary responsibility for formulating these proposals.

Activities and products

To increase internal cohesion and external visibility a number of activities are organised and a number of reports will be produced.

SILC Workprogramme. The SILC programme is formulated in an annually updated document, that states goals and financial means of the programme in terms of a large number (currently: 10) of projects, each of which has its independent intellectual history (primarily data collections and earlier publications) and many of which have a track record before the CSR programme started at VUA-FSW. The projects are not only defined in terms of research aims and design, but state one-year and medium-term targets that are annually updated. This procedure commits the programme members to specific and testable research goals, while leaving freedom for new initiatives and adaptations.

SILC Annual Report. Each year the SILC program will produce an annual report with information on the activities and publications of the program.

SILC Seminars: The SILC seminar meets every two weeks (or more frequently) and is primarily the place where the participants present initial versions of their research publications. All members participate and the seminars are organized at a time and day of the week that expedites the participation of members that have part-time appointments. The SILC seminars are open to outsiders, who can either sit in or present their own work, provided that they are willing to participate at a regular basis.

SILC Lectures: These meetings are held every month and offer the opportunity to SILC researchers and others to present mature work to SILC participants and a broader audience at VUA-FSW. Unlike the SILC seminar, the SILC Lectures are disseminated to broader audience.

SILC Website. A SILC website will be developed on which information on the SILC program, its activities, and publications of SILC members will be made available. It will also contain information on the main datasets that are collected or harmonized by SILC participants.

SILC National and international conferences. SILC participants will regularly organize or co-organize conferences that are related to the program and that will enhance the visibility of the program. If feasible, edited volumes with papers presented at these conferences will be published.

6. Projects

The general research questions of the SILC programme are implemented through a series of more specific research projects. Below, these projects are presented. For each project, a description of the main aims, past accomplishments, main results, one-year work plan and medium-term ambitions are given.

- | | |
|-----------|--|
| Project 1 | Comparative Stratification Data (Ganzeboom) |
| Project 2 | Social Mobility And Status Attainment In Comparative Perspective (Ganzeboom) |

- Project 3 Long Term Trends In Social Mobility And Status Attainment: National Studies For The Netherlands And Other Countries (Ganzeboom)
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Project 1. COMPARATIVE SOCIAL STRATIFICATION DATA (Ganzeboom et al.)

Aims and background

The backbone of comparative stratification research is the availability of appropriate data. Stratification data can be comparative with respect to two dimensions, cross-sections (countries) and time (either survey year, cohorts, or retrospective time), and they need to contain comparable measures of core stratification variables, such as education, occupation and incomes. Ganzeboom is involved in large-scale harmonization of existing social mobility data, as well as in collecting and harmonization of new pertinent data, to use these in our own research and to make these available to other researchers. Issues of post-harmonization arise both with respect to existing and newly collected data. Our general ambitions here are providing expertise, tools and analyses about the comparative measurement of occupation and education. The project can be divided into five packages.

a: The International Stratification and Mobility File [ISMF]

The ISMF is an continually updated collection of harmonized extract files on social mobility (at a minimum containing father's and respondent's education). At present, the ISMF contains some 350 extract files from almost 50 countries. The long term aim of the ISMF project is to keep expanding the database and make it available to other researchers.

b: The European Social Survey [ESS]: Dutch National Representation

Ganzeboom was the Dutch National Coordinator for ESS in 2006 and 2008 (Rounds 3 and 4). The ESS can be an important source of comparative stratification data, and includes many demographic measures that are of importance to SILC research. The long-term aim here is to contribute to the use and improvement of ESS data, in the Netherlands and Europe, in particular by improving the measurement of stratification indicators.

c: The International Social Survey Programme [ISSP]: Dutch National Representation

On behalf of VUA, Ganzeboom is the national coordinator in this world-wide social attitude survey and participates in its annual data collection using a postal design. While ISSP is primarily a social attitudes survey, it also collects important stratification data. The 2009 module will be Social Inequality IV (Ganzeboom was the head of the drafting committee) and hold great promise for comparative stratification research.

d: The Comparative Measurement of Occupational Status

In the past, and as a byproduct of the ISMF construction, Ganzeboom has produced a number of tools for the comparative measurement of occupational status, including conversions of national occupation codes into the International Standard Classification of Occupations [ISCO-68, ISCO-88] and derived measures for occupational status [ISEI, SIOPS, EGP]. That are heavily used by the research community. The long term aim of this project is to maintain and disseminate these instruments and produce a new generation of it, for ISCO-08/

e: The Comparative Measurement of Education (Schroeder)

The comparative measurement of education is a subject of great relevance to the research community, as education invariably arises as a background or control variable in almost any

empirical analysis. In the ISMF, the comparative measure used is currently ‘virtual years’ of education. The long term aim is to replace this with a fully comparative classification (based on the International Standard Classification of Education) and developed derived measures and models that allow research to draw truly comparable conclusions on the structure of educational attainment and its consequences. The topic is the subject of the dissertation research by Heike Schroeder.

Earlier results

- [Http://home.fsw.vu.nl/HBG.Ganzeboom/ismf](http://home.fsw.vu.nl/HBG.Ganzeboom/ismf)
- Ganzeboom, Harry B.G. (2005). “On the Cost of Being Crude: A Comparison of Detailed and Coarse Occupational Coding.” Pp. 241-258 in: Jürgen H.P. Hoffmeyer-Zlotnik, *Methodological Aspects of Cross-National Research*, Mannheim: ZUMA-Nachrichten [Special Issue #11], 2005.
- Ganzeboom, Harry B.G.; Treiman, Donald J. (2003). "Three Internationally Standardised Measures for Comparative Research on Occupational Status." Pp. 159-193 in Jürgen H.P. Hoffmeyer-Zlotnik & Christof Wolf (Eds.), Advances in Cross-National Comparison. A European Working Book for Demographic and Socio-Economic Variables. New York: Kluwer Academic Press.

Work in progress

- Ganzeboom, Harry B.G. “Within-household Substitution in the ISSP and the ESS in the Netherlands.” Presentation at the Annual Meeting of the International Social Survey Programme, Vienna, April 26 2009.
- Ganzeboom, Harry B.G. “ESS en ISSP in Nederland: een vergelijking”. Voordracht Dag van de Sociologie, Universiteit van Tilburg, 8 juni 2006.
- Meraviglia, Cinzia; Ganzeboom, Harry B.G., “Validating Occupational Status Scales” Presentation at RC28, Florence, May 2008.
- Ganzeboom, Harry B.G. “Do’s and Don’ts of Occupation Coding”. Paper first presented ISSP Annual Meeting, Chicago, April 2008. Revised March 2009.
- Ganzeboom, Harry B.G. “On the Cost of Being Crude. Detailed versus Crude Occupational Codes.” Presentation at European Survey Research Association, Prague, June 27 2007.
- Ganzeboom, Harry B.G. “Standardizing Occupation and Education Codes for International Comparative Survey Research.” Paper first presented to Workshop on Comparative Measurement, Zuma, Mannheim, October 1996

Mid-term plan

- Deposit the ISMF database and its documentation in a data-archive.
- Create a companion guide to ISCED that documents and standardizes educational classifications, as they frequently occur in social mobility (and other) surveys (with Schroeder).
- Write an authoritative piece on measuring and scaling educations (with Schroeder).
- Fully document the ISMF data with respect to educational classifications used and how they are currently harmonized. Review and revise these conversions (with Schroeder).
- Add migration data (where available) to ISMF data (Carolina).

One-year plan

- Expand the ISMF with available new and old data. We should be able to add at least 20 studies each year to the database.

- Revise and document all the harmonized extracts in the ISMF and adapt all the associated files to up to the 2009 standard.
- Maintain the website that documents the ISMF and its harmonizing procedures and makes the harmonization tools available to other users.
- Review and revise the conversions of Dutch national classifications into international standards and derived status variables.
- Revise the semi-automated occupational coding source for Dutch occupations to boost its precision.
- Produce an accurate Dutch translation of ISCO-88, annotated with examples from the occupational title data source.
- Start working on conversion and tools and occupational status measures for ISCO-08
- Deposit fully documented and coded data for 2003-2008 ISSP modules at DANS.
- Finish harmonization of earlier ISSP Social Inequality modules.
- Collect data for 2009 ISSP module and apply for funds for collecting the 2010 and 2011 modules.
- Complete ESS2008 fieldwork and deposit documented and fully coded data.
- Assess data quality ESS2006 and ESS2008 in a methodological report.
- Write paper on ESS as a source for comparative stratification research.
- Publish proceedings of ESS Workshop 2008 and contribute to organization of Workshop 2009 (together with DANS and new national coordinator).
- Acquire funding to conduct two developmental ESS projects from ESFRI funds.

Project 2. SOCIAL MOBILITY AND STATUS ATTAINMENT IN COMPARATIVE PERSPECTIVE (Ganzeboom et al.)

Aims and background

In order to account for patterns of social mobility, a wide-ranging comparative perspective is required. While small-scale cross-section comparisons or long-term trend studies may provide valuable insights, a major breakthrough can only be expected from more powerful comparative research designs, that allow researchers to examine social mobility patterns in a large variety of conditions with respect to the major factors that are thought to change mobility regimes: socio-economic development and other form of modernizations, and a variety of political and welfare regimes, with corresponding arrangement of market regulation, educational institution and income policies. Given the limited number of national contexts for which stratification data exists, it is mandatory to combine cross-sectional comparisons with historical comparisons, and it is meet this requirement that the ISMF has been built up.

Under this general research theme, three subproject can be identified:

a: Ascription and Achievement in Comparative Perspective (Ganzeboom with Donald J. Treiman, UCLA, et al.)

The long-term ambitions of the project is to to write a monograph (together with Donald Treiman) on “Ascription and Achievement in Comparative Perspective”, that puts the Blau-Duncan model in a large scale comparative perspective, taking into account the different methodological developments since. The book will have 8 chapters :

- (1) Generations of the Social Mobility Research
- (2) A Theory of Social Mobility
- (3) The International Stratification and Mobility File
- (4) Comparative Measures of Social Stratification
- (5) A World-wide Regime of Social Mobility
- (6) Educational Mobility
- (7) Social Mobility at Career Beginnings
- (8) Social Mobility during the Life Course.

Each chapter will be developed in one or more research articles.

b: International Migration and Social Mobility (Ganzeboom with Güveli et al.)

Ganzeboom (in collaboration with Güveli) has begun to analyze the ESS data on international migration and social mobility. Güveli (together with Ganzeboom and British and German counterparts) have proposed a research project “500 Turkish Families” for NORFACE funding. If funded, the project will lead to PhD project at VUA that will be part of an international research project that follows 500 Turkish migrant families from their 1930’s ancestors tot their children and (great)grandchildren in Western Europe. The social mobility of Turkish migrants of various generations will be the study object of the Dutch part of the study. The project on international migration and social mobility is still in its infant stage. Its long-term aim will be to bring together social mobility and migration research.

c: Comparative Stratification Research Methods: Methodological Footnotes (Ganzeboom)

Stratification research often has been the breeding ground of methodological innovation in the social sciences, in particular in sociology. Measurement and scaling procedures (for occupational prestige and SEI), path modeling of indirect effects, loglinear and log-multiplicative models, longitudinal life-course models were all introduced into sociology via stratification research. The general aim of the present research program is to conduct comparative stratification research to the best available standards, and its primary goal is to make substantive contributions, not purely methodological ones. Nevertheless, methodology can flourish at the margins of substantive research, and be useful footnotes to others, inside and outside the field of stratification analysis.

Earlier results

- Korupp, Sylvia E.; Sanders, Karin; Ganzeboom, Harry B.G. (2002). "The Intergenerational Transmission of Occupational Status and Sex Typing at Children's Labor Market Entry". The European Journal of Women's Studies (9,1), pp. 7-29.
- Korupp, Sylvia E.; Sanders, Karin; Ganzeboom, Harry B.G. (2002). "Wie die Mutter, so die Tochter? Dynamiken und Trends im Statusvererbungsprozess zwischen Müttern und Töchtern in Westdeutschland und den Niederlanden". In: Kölner Zeitschrift für Soziologie und Sozialpsychologie (54,1), pp. 1-26.
- Korupp, Sylvia E.; Ganzeboom, Harry B.G.; Van der Lippe, Tanja (2002). "Do Mother Matter? A Comparison of Models of the Influence of Mother's and Father's Educational and Occupational Status on Children's Educational Attainment." Quality & Quantity (36,1), pp. 17-42.
- Rijken, Susanne & Harry B.G. Ganzeboom (2001). "Women and Men in State-Socialist and Market-Regulated Societies. Gender Differences in Ascription and Achievement in the First Job." Pp. 245-263 in Tanja van der Lippe & Liset van Dijk (Eds.), Women's Employment in a Comparative Perspective. New York: Aldine de Gruyter.
- Treiman, Donald J. & Harry B.G. Ganzeboom (2000) "The Fourth Generation of Comparative Stratification Research". Pp. 123-150 in: Stella Quah & Arnaud Sales (Eds.) The International Handbook of Sociology. Sage.

Work in progress

- Tam, Tony; Ganzeboom, Harry B.G. "Is Persistent Inequality a Mirage? Educational Opportunity over the Long Haul in 13 Societies." Presentation at the Spring meeting of ISA-RC28, Beijing, May 15 2009.
- Zucotti, Carolina; Ganzeboom, Harry B.G. "Status Attainment of Turkish Immigrants compared to Status Attainment of Native West-Europeans and Turks in Turkey." In preparation (to be presented 2009).
- Güveli, Ayse; Ganzeboom, Harry B.G. "International Migration and Social Mobility in Europe. Effects of Parental Occupational Status and Education on Occupational Attainment of the Immigrants and Natives". Last revised December 2007.
- Meraviglia, Cinzia & Harry B.G. Ganzeboom. "Mother's and Father's Influence on Occupational Attainment of Men and Women in Comparative Perspective." Presentation at ISA-RC28 Summer Conference, Stanford, August 6-9 2008.
- Ganzeboom, Harry B.G.; Treiman, Donald J. "Ascription and Achievement in Occupational Attainment in Comparative Perspective". Paper last presented at Russell-Sage University Working Group on Social Inequality, University of California-Los Angeles, January 26 2007
- Johnston, Aaron D.; Ganzeboom, Harry B.G.; Treiman, Donald J. "Mother's and Father's Influences on Educational Status Attainment". Paper last presented May 7, 2005 at the Spring Conference ISA-RC28, Oslo, Norway, May 6-8 2005.

- Martin Kreidl, Harry B.G. Ganzeboom & Donald J. Treiman, “Trends in Occupational Returns to Education: a Comparative Perspective”. Paper first presented at the Spring Meeting of the ISA RC28, Neuchâtel, Switzerland, May 2004.
- Ganzeboom, Harry B.G. “XT modellen voor vergelijkend onderzoek”. Amsterdam: NOSMO Methodologendag 2003, 21 november 2003.

One-year plan:

- Finish and submit the paper (Rijken, Ganzeboom & Treiman) on educational transitions in comparative perspective.
- Finish and submit one of the papers on education → occupation (most likely: Kreidl et al.).
- Finish the comparative papers on mother’s influence on educational and occupational attainment.

**Project 3. LONG TERM TRENDS IN SOCIAL MOBILITY AND STATUS
ATTAINMENT: NATIONAL STUDIES FOR THE NETHERLANDS AND
OTHER COUNTRIES (Ganzeboom et al.)**

Aims and background

Historical (trend) comparisons of social mobility and status attainment pattern can be used to test commonly held hypotheses, such as the modernization or political intervention theses, in particular when they adopt a long-term perspective. The value of trend designs within a single national context for examining more explicit and detailed explanatory models of variations in mobility regimes is limited. However, trend studies may overcome comparability problems that naturally arise in cross-national comparisons and in this sense allow for more in-depth macro-level studies. Of course, the national context in which we are most interested is the home country, the Netherlands, for which now a wealth of detailed and high quality social mobility data are available. In the past, Ganzeboom (with collaborators) has monitored trends in educational and occupational attainment in the Netherlands quite frequently using an ever expanding database. However, in principle national trend studies can be done for many countries that are represented in the cross-national database, but such studies require expertise from researchers with special expertise from these countries. At present, an intense collaboration on Italy has been established with Meraviglia. In the future, similar work may develop on Taiwan, the US, Belgium and Argentina.

Subprojects are:

a: Long-term Trends in Educational Mobility in the Netherlands (Ganzeboom et al., Buis)

Long term trends in educational mobility in the Netherlands are studied using cohort data from pooled cross-section surveys to study the relationship between educational outcomes and social background (primarily parental education and occupation). Using this retrospective information from birth cohorts, these studies go back to events in the early twentieth century and have documented a spectacular increase of educational mobility since. The project is the topic of dissertation research by Maarten Buis (to be defended in 2009).

b. Long-term Trends in Social Mobility and Occupational Status Attainment in the Netherlands (Ganzeboom et al.)

The ISMF-NL data allow one to estimate multivariate models of social mobility, but also to make further distinctions in occupational attainment (first / current jobs, full occupational careers). Questions about pattern, degree and trends in intergenerational occupational status reproduction are this elaborated into questions about mechanisms of transfers and questions about timing of transfers. The aim of this project is to refresh and extend these existing analyses, by taking into account newly collected or reconstructed data, and adding new analytical insights.

c. Non-Standard Work Schedules and the Life Course (Täht, Ganzeboom, Mills)

The goal of the project is to investigate the determinants of temporal labour market flexibility and its consequences for family cohesion in the Netherlands, with comparisons made with the United States. The project is the dissertation project conducted by Kadri Täht, to be defended in 2009. The project will lead to various research articles, one them examining the reciprocal

relationship between non-standard work participation of parents and the educational attainment of children.

d. Long-term Trends in Social Mobility and Status Attainment in the Italy (Ganzeboom with Meraviglia)

The ISMF data allow for national in-depth analysis of pattern and trends in social mobility and status attainment in individual countries, parallel to the analyses conducted for the Netherlands. However, it is helpful to conduct such analysis in close collaboration with researchers in the country. Collaboration between Ganzeboom and Meraviglia (University of Eastern Piedmont) has led to a considerable expansion of social mobility data on Italy that become gradually analyzes with respect to components of the status attainment model.

Earlier results

- Meraviglia, Cinzia; Ganzeboom, Harry B.G. (2008). "Mothers' and Fathers' Influence on Occupational Status Attainment in Italy. POLENA [Political and Electoral Navigations] (2), pp. 29-65.
- Rijken, Susanne; Maas, Ineke; Ganzeboom, Harry B.G. (2007). Access to Higher Education in the Netherlands. Institutional Arrangements and Inequality of Opportunity. Pp. 266-293 in: Shavit, Yossi Arum, Richard & Adam Gamoran (Eds.) Stratification in Higher Education. A Comparative Study. Stanford CA: Stanford University Press.
- Ganzeboom, Harry B.G.; Luijkx, R. (2004). "More Recent Trends in Intergenerational Occupational Class Reproduction in the Netherlands 1970-2004. Evidence from an Expanded Database." Netherlands Journal of Social Sciences (40,2) pp. 114-142.
- Ganzeboom, Harry B.G. & Ruud Luijkx (2004). "Recent Trends in Intergenerational Occupational Class Reproduction in the Netherlands 1970-1999. Pp. 345-381 in: Richard Breen (Ed.), Social Mobility in Europe, Oxford: Oxford University Press.
- Dessens, Jos A.G.; Jansen, Wim; Ganzeboom, Harry B.G.; Van der Heijden, Peter G.M. (2003). "Pattern and Trends in Occupational Attainment in First Jobs in the Netherlands, 1930-1995: OLS Regression *versus*. Conditional Multinomial Logistic Regression". In: Journal of the Royal Statistical Society, (168, Part 1), pp. 63-84.

Work in progress

- Buis, Maarten. Inequality of Educational Outcome and Inequality of Educational Opportunity in the Netherlands during the 20th Century. PhD dissertation, Free University Amsterdam, to be defended Fall 2009
- Güveli, Ayse; Luijkx, Ruud; Ganzeboom, Harry B.G. "Patterns of Intergenerational Mobility in the Old and New Middle Class in a Post-Industrial Society: Netherlands 1970-2006". Manuscript (under review), last revised May 28 2009.
- Ganzeboom, Harry B.G. "Mothers matter!" Presentation at the Spring meeting of ISA-RC28, Beijing, May 16 2009.
- Meraviglia, Cinzia; Ganzeboom, Harry B.G. "Full Origin Social Mobility in Italy for Men and Women 1985-2008". Presentation at the Spring meeting of ISA-RC28, Beijing, May 15 2009.
- Meraviglia, Cinzia; Ganzeboom, Harry B.G. "Long Term Trends in Inequality of Educational Opportunity in Italy, Birth Cohorts 1899-1980." Last presented Bologna: 40th Anniversary of Quality & Quantity, December 8 2007.
- Meraviglia, Cinzia; Ganzeboom, Harry B.G. "Long Term Trends in Intergenerational Occupational Mobility in Italy, Men and Women 1963-2005." Durban SA: International

Sociological Association, XVth World Congress of Sociology [RC28 on Social Stratification and Social Mobility], July 24 2006.

- Ganzeboom, Harry B.G. "Long Term Trends in Occupational Status Attainment in the Netherlands in the 19th and 20th Century: Evidence from Marriage Records and Sibling Data". Paper presented at the Summer Conference of the ISA Research Committee on Social Stratification, Laval University, Quebec City, August 14-15 1997. Last revised: February 2002.

One-year plan

1. Submit Guveli, Luijkx & Ganzeboom
2. Completion and defense of dissertation of Maarten Buis.
3. Completion and defense of dissertation of Kadri Täht
4. Finish and submit Meraviglia & Ganzeboom (on educational mobility in Italy)

Project 4 THE INTERGENERATIONAL EFFECTS OF UNEMPLOYMENT AND POLICY REFORMS AMONG DUTCH AND IMMIGRANT WORKERS (Mooi-Reci)

Aim and background

Over the past decades many industrialized countries have been confronted with soaring unemployment rates, long term unemployment and unsustainable benefit payments. As a response to the economic downturn, comprehensive reforms that tightened unemployment benefit payments were introduced in the Netherlands. These reforms were celebrated as being highly effective. In fact, the number of registered unemployed was reduced by more than three times from 11.7 percent in 1983 to 3.3 in 2000 (Van Oorschot 1998). However, beyond reducing the number of UI recipients, we know less about how these policies actually worked, and how they affected the subsequent careers of workers and their children's later outcomes. The policies increasingly linked the receipt of benefits to an individual's previous labor market history affecting most women and immigrant workers with interrupted careers. But, did the policy reforms create a division of workers along the lines of gender and ethnicity? Did they lead to an increase of labor market segmentation by leaving favorable occupations outside competition of affected workers (e.g., immigrants, women)? Surprisingly, these questions have received little attention in the stratification research and will be one major direction in my research.

The aim of this research is to explicate processes of social stratification from a dynamic and intergenerational perspective by asking: *To what extent do policy reforms in unemployment insurance (UI) benefits affect unemployed workers' subsequent careers and their children's later labor outcomes?* An additional focus is the examination of policy effects among women and immigrants, groups that have been largely overlooked in the literature. Most empirical analyses produce aggregated results for men and women thereby missing any systematic examination of gender or ethnic differences. Moreover, literature that has identified key gender differences in policy and the welfare state has largely focused on the actual making of policy and less on policy implementation and outcomes (Orloff 1996; MacKinnon 1989; Quadagno 1987). This study goes beyond existing research to examine the gender- and ethnic specific impact of UI reforms across generations.

Plan for the next year (2009/2010)

- Publish three individual articles from the dissertation, two of which are currently under a revise and resubmission process and one of which is now under review.
- Submit the paper on "unemployment scarring". A draft of this paper has been already presented in many conferences.
- Submit the paper with Melinda Mills winter 2009
- Continue collaboration with R. Dekker (Tilburg University) on temporary contracts and P. England (Stanford University) on wage inequality.
- Active participation in conferences (one paper presentation at the annual meeting of the society of labor economists (SOLE) in Boston; two paper presentations at the RC-28 in New Haven).

Medium-term plans

- Submit three papers two of which are joint papers with R.Dekker en P.England (see above) and one individual paper the distributional effects of UI benefits.
- Initiating a new project with M. Gangl from the University of Wisconsin on unemployment scarring using a counterfactual approach.

- Applying for a VENI-grant on intergeneration effects of unemployment and policy reforms

Results

Publications

- Evertsson Marie, Paula England, Irma Mooi-Reçi, Joan Hermsen, Jeanne de Bruijn and David Cotter. (accepted). “Is Gender Equality Greater at Lower or Higher Educational Levels? Common Patterns in the Netherlands, Sweden, and the U.S.” *Social Politics*.
- Mooi-Reçi. 2008. “Unemployed and Scarred for Life? Longitudinal Analyses of How Unemployment and Policy Changes Affect Re-employment Careers and Wages in the Netherlands, 1980-2000.” PhD Dissertation Series, Faculty of Social Sciences, VU University Amsterdam. Enschede: PrintPartners Ipskamp. ISBN: 978-90-9023654-4.

Revise and Resubmit

- Mooi-Reçi, Irma and Melinda Mills. “Gender Inequality and Unemployment Reforms: Lessons from twenty years of unemployment insurance benefit experiments.” *Social Forces*.
- Mooi-Reçi, Irma. “How Changes in Unemployment Insurance Benefits Influence Re-Employment Wages.” *Labour Economics*.

Under review

- Mooi-Reçi, Irma. “Wage Inequality and Unemployment Insurance Benefits: A Quasi-Experimental Study of Scarring in the Netherlands, 1980-2000.” *Work, Employment and Society*.

Work in progress

- Mooi-Reçi, Irma and Harry Ganzeboom. “The Wage Penalty for Unemployment: Persisting Scars or Diminishing Blemishes?”
- Mooi-Reçi, Irma and Harry Ganzeboom. “Does Unemployment Breed Unemployment? Longitudinal Evidence on Unemployment State Dependence from the Netherlands 1980-2000”
- Mooi-Reçi, Irma and Paula England. “Explaining Trends of Wage Inequality: Evidence from the Netherlands and the US 1980-2000”
- Mooi-Reçi, Irma and Ronald Dekker. “Temporary Employment Contracts: Short-term Blessings or Long-Term Traps?”
- Mooi-Reçi, Irma and Melinda Mills. “Unemployment Benefits, Employment Stability and Subsequent Job Quality: Longitudinal Evidence from the Netherlands 1985-2000”

Project 5 THE FLEXICURITY DIVIDE – THE INCOME AND EMPLOYMENT EFFECTS OF DIFFERENT FLEXIBILITY ARRANGEMENTS IN EUROPEAN LABOUR MARKETS (Pavlopoulos)

Aim and background

The issue of combining flexibility in the labour market with employment and income security for the workers (widely described by the term ‘*flexicurity*’) is in the heart of social, economic and political debate in Europe. In a period that Europe is struck by the most severe economic recession since the 1930’s, the significance of this debate will continue to grow. Employers seek ways to reduce their labour costs through numerical adjustments of their working force and the actual working hours as well as through the suppression of wages and fringe benefits. Previous research has found a wage penalty for temporary contracts (Bentolila & Dolado, 1994; Giesecke & Gross, 2003; Amuedo-Dorantes & Serrano-Padial, 2007) while provides contradictory evidence for the wage differences between part-timers and full-timers (see, for example Manning and Petronglo, 2005). Furthermore, flexible jobs have been shown to be effective ‘stepping stones’ to permanent and well-paid employment when they are associated with screening for the productivity of the worker (for example, when they are used during a probation period). If such jobs, however, are low-level jobs and are associated with low investments in human capital, they can have a long-term scarring effect on the career of the worker (Booth et al, 2002; Scherer, 2004). Temporary unemployment is suggested as an alternative to external flexibility as it secures the ‘recall’ of workers by their employer. Opponents of this flexible arrangement suggest that it may induce employers and workers to make implicit contracts that rely on unemployment benefits for the period of temporary unemployment (Feldstein, 1976; Mavromaras and Orme, 2004). At the micro level, this may lead to less intensity in job search and to human capital depreciation for the workers, while at the macro level it may lead to an inefficient use of the labour force and to an inefficient allocation of unemployment benefits.

This project aims at providing a systematic comparison of the income and employment effects of different flexibility arrangements at the level of the individual worker and in European countries with various flexicurity constellations. The flexibility arrangements that will be considered in this project are the various forms of temporary contracts (fixed-term contracts, temporary agency jobs, and seasonal jobs), part-time employment and temporary unemployment. Income and employment effects will be operationalized as absolute income and wage change as well as poverty and unemployment dynamics in a life-course perspective. The cross-country comparative dimension of the project will allow us to disentangle further the effect of labour market and social security institutions, such as employment protection, wage regulation, the power of trade unions and unemployment benefits on the income and employment careers of individuals. The data sources for the project will be the national and cross-national household surveys (ECHP, EU-SILC, BHPS, GSOEP, SEP) as well as several administrative datasets that provide information on flexible employment, e.g. the Belgian Datawarehouse. The methodology will include the application of advanced panel regression and survival analysis models.

Plan for the next year (2009/2010)

- Present a paper on the wage effects of entering the labour market with a flexible contract in the conference of the European Society of Population Economics (11-13/6, Seville – Spain).
- Get access to all the necessary datasets for the projects (for example the Datawarehouse of Belgium).

- Submit a paper titled ‘Starting your career with a temporary job: stepping-stone or 'dead end' to an Economic or Sociological journal.
- Submit a paper titled ‘The impact of institutions on the unemployment gap between immigrants and natives in 11 European countries’ (joint with A. C. Meyer) to *Work, Employment and Society*.
- Submit a paper titled on low-wage mobility in the UK, the Netherlands and Germany (joint with R. Muffels and J.K. Vermunt) to the *Oxford Bulletin of Economics and Statistics* or another relevant Economic journal.
- Submit a paper on the relationship of job mobility and wage mobility (joint with D. Fouarge, R. Muffels and J.K. Vermunt) to an Economic or Sociological journal.
- Begin working on a paper on the effects of temporary unemployment.

Medium-term plans

- Complete the paper on the effects of temporary unemployment.
- Write a paper on the long-term income effects of individuals with different career paths with respect to flexible employment.
- Write a paper on the effect of different flexible-work arrangements on poverty dynamics.
- Write a paper on the employment effects of the different flexible-work arrangements.
- Submit a VENI proposal (with aim derived from the content of this research topic). This VENI proposal will be incorporated in the framework of the Speerpunt INSTINE.
- Act as scientific advisor of the PhD project of Anna Christensen Meyer. This is a joint project between Aalborg University in Denmark and CEPS/INSTEAD in Luxembourg, supervised by prof. J. G. Andersen and funded by the FNR of Luxembourg (conditional on acceptance) and the University of Aalborg. This project will include a joint paper on the effect of activation policies on unemployment.
- Act as an external partner to a project on the income and employment effects of flexibility in Belgium, the Netherlands and the UK that is run by the University of Leuven in Belgium (conditional on acceptance by the Flemish FWO).
- Submit one project proposal in the framework of the research topic to FP7 or other relevant European fund. This project will be incorporated in the Speerpunt INSTINE.
- Present at various international conferences and submit the aforementioned papers for publication.

Results

- Pavlopoulos, D. and Fouarge D. (2009). Escaping the low pay trap: do labour market entrants stand a chance? *International Journal of Manpower*, forthcoming.
- Pavlopoulos, D., Muffels, R., Vermunt, J. (2009). Training and low-pay mobility: the case of the UK and the Netherlands. *Labour: review of labour economics and industrial relations*, 23(1), 37-59.
- Pavlopoulos, D. Muffels R. and Vermunt J. K. (2008) Wage Mobility in Europe. A Comparative Analysis Using restricted Multinomial Logit Regression. *Quality and Quantity* .
- Pavlopoulos, D. Fouarge D. Muffels R. and Vermunt J. K. (2007) Job Mobility and Wage Mobility of High- and Low-Paid Workers. *Journal of Applied Social Science Studies (Smollers Jahrbuch)*, 127(1).

Project 6 CULTURAL PARTICIPATION IN ADOLESCENCE AND EARLY ADULTHOOD (Nagel)

Aim and background

Culture consumption is one of the most unequally distributed distinction markers among social groups (Bourdieu). Access to formal culture is an important resource in status attainment, in particular in the attainment of (further) education, occupational status and the choice of the marriage partner. This project studies both the differential access of individuals to culture consumption, and the effects of cultural resources on social position within society. Like in status attainment research in general, One important research topic, is to what extent the acquisition of cultural resources and the status attainment process can be described by cultural reproduction (Bourdieu) or by cultural mobility (Dimaggio) (Dimaggio, 1982). The first part of the project aims to unravel the effects of family and education on cultural participation and to separate causal effects of education from selection effects. We do so by studying the Youth & Culture panel data on adolescents between the ages of 14 -16 who were followed during 3 to 6 years, in the period in which they move from secondary education to tertiary education. A second aim is to study peer group effects on culture consumption. Next to the family of origin, the social network seems to be another important determinant of cultural consumption, but most analyses thus far are based on proxy reports on the best friends' cultural participation. The Youth and Culture data contain data on students' networks within school classes, which makes it possible to examine the role of the peer group on the cultural career.

Another focus is on the effects of cultural resources on the social position within society. This part of the project studies the effects of socio-economic background and cultural resources in the parental family and the acquisition of cultural resources among offspring and its effects in their early life course (educational attainment, first jobs, marriage partner selection). The Youth & Culture student panel data make it possible to study the effects of cultural resources dynamically. Furthermore, the aim is to study the effectiveness of different cultural resources, following the recent debate on whether it is reading behavior or highbrow art consumption that matter in the status attainment process.

Plan for the next year (2009/2010)

- Life style differentiation in the Netherlands (with Yannick Lemel (CREST, Paris)) Aim: presentation at ESA-conference Lissabon, September 2009
- Developments in reading behavior in and after secondary school (with Marc Verboord (EUR)) Aim: presentation at 'Dag van de Sociologie', June 2009, submission to an international journal
- Cultural reproduction in the life course – a comparison of migrant and non-migrant adolescents in the Netherlands. Paper presented at the RC28 Conference in Florence, May 2008 (with Harry Ganzeboom) Aim: presentation at ISOL
- Effecten van culturele en materiële leefstijl van de ouders op het bereikte opleidingsniveau van hun kinderen: een toets van de culturele reproductietheorie in Nederland. (with Marjolein Blaauboer (UvA)) Aim: submission to Mens en Maatschappij
- Bourdieu in the network: The influence of high and popular culture on networks in secondary school (with Matthijs Kalmijn (Tilburg University), Harry Ganzeboom) Aim: submission to the Special issue of Köllner Zeitschrift für Soziologie und Sozialpsychologie 2010 (deadline December 2009)
- Nagel, I. (2009) Cultural participation between the ages of 14 and 24: intergenerational transmission of cultural mobility? [accepted after minor revisions]

- Damen, M.; Nagel, I.; Haanstra, F. (2009) ' Culture and the Arts' in Secondary Education and Cultural Participation in the Netherlands. [revise and resubmit]
- Nagel, I.; Damen, M.; Haanstra, F. (2009) Does the art course CKV1 in Dutch Secondary Education Persistently Affects the Cultural Participation and the Attitude Towards Art? [under review]

Medium-term plans

- Life style differentiation in the Netherlands (with Yannick Lemel (CREST, Paris)) Aim: submission to international journal
- How much is my idol worth? Artist-related determinants of price for popular music concerts with Alain De Crop (Louvain School of Management, FUNDP), Maud Derbaix (IESEG)) Aim: submission to international journal
- Cultural reproduction in the life course – a comparison of migrant and non-migrant adolescents in the Netherlands. Paper presented at the RC28 Conference in Florence, May 2008 (with Harry Ganzeboom) Aim: submission to international journal
- Apply for grants for extending the Youth and Culture data with an extra wave
- Extend the research to other data than the Youth & Culture data:
 - a trend paper on cohort changes in intergenerational transmission culture consumption
 - a cross-national comparison on intergenerational transmission in cultural consumption
 - a cross-national comparison on the effects of cultural resources on status attainment

Results

- Nagel, I.; Ganzeboom, H. (2008) Effecten van ouders en school op cultuurparticipatie in de periode van adolescentie tot jongvolwassenheid: resultaten van een longitudinaal dubbel contextueel model. Kalmijn, Matthijs en Wittenberg, Marion (Red.) Multi-actor data in survey onderzoek. Bijdragen aan het DANS symposium van 17 januari 2007. DANS Symposium publicaties 3. Amsterdam: Aksant, pp. 69-89
- Nagel, I. (2007) Cultuurparticipatie tussen 14 en 24 jaar: intergenerationele overdracht versus culturele mobiliteit. In: Liefbroer, A.C; Dykstra, P.A. (Red.) Van generatie op generatie. Gelijkenis tussen ouders en kinderen. Mens en Maatschappij, Boeknummer 2007, Amsterdam: Amsterdam University Press 39-64
- Nagel, Ineke (2004) Cultuurdeelname in de levensloop. Dissertatie ICS/ Universiteit Utrecht.

Project 7 RELATED REVOLUTIONS? UNDERSTANDING THE DEMOGRAPHIC TRANSITION FROM CHANGES IN KINSHIP TIES (Bras)

Aim and background

The long 19th century has been described as a ‘kinship-hot society’ (Sabean et al. 2007). Whereas kinship was characterized by vertical relations connecting relative ‘strangers’ via patron-client relations in the 17th and much of the 18th centuries, since the 19th century a process of ‘horizontalization’ of kin ties took place, uniting families related by blood and affinity. Lateral ties were increasingly instrumental under the changed conditions of a capitalized market economy where credit instead of property became of utmost importance. Kin enabled families to piece plots of land together, consolidate property, gain access to credit, coordinate management skills and secure succession to office. During the same period the demographic transition took place, which was characterized by declining (infant) mortality, increasing migration, and decreasing birth rates. In this research project we investigate whether the demographic and kinship revolutions were related and how they influenced each other. We address the question of whether changing kin relations might offer an explanation for standardization of demographic behavior by inquiring into how different types of kin relations – co-resident as well as non co-resident, and varying from parents, siblings, grandparents, cousins, aunts, uncles, family in-law and spiritual kin – played a role in diffusing modern demographic behavior, such as early marriage, restricted fertility, urban migration, and divorce.

Plans for the next year (2009/2010)

- Submitting NWO Medium Investment Proposal ‘Linking Historical Lives (LinkedLives): A Database With 150 Years of Life Courses of Kin (deadline: 4 September 2009)
- Submitting ERC Starting Grant (deadline: November 2009) and VIDI proposal (deadline: March 2010) on the aforementioned theme
- Submitting paper ‘Sibling Structure and Status Attainment: Evidence from a Historical Population’, *Demographic Research* or chapter in book Springer Verlag (outlet chosen by IUSSP).
- Submitting paper ‘Developments in Kinship Networks Using Data of Witnesses at Marriage: The Netherlands 1812-1922’, chapter in book volume (?) of conference ‘Analysis of Networks and History: Approaches, Tools and Problems’, Lausanne: 25-28 February 2010.
- Submitting paper ‘Kin Ties and Old-Age Mortality in Nineteenth-Century Sweden’, *Journal not yet known*
- Submitting paper F. Thomése and H. Bras, ‘A Bad Time to Marry? Effects of the Depression and World War II on Marriage Timing in The Netherlands’, *Population Studies*
- Organization of session ‘Family Demography Beyond the Household’ at the ESSHC in Ghent, April 2010.

Medium-term plans

Leading a research program on this theme with 2 PhD students and a Post-Doc, focusing on the effects of changing kin networks on standardization of (1) youth migration, (2) partner choice, divorce, widowhood, and (3) fertility. (4/PI) The interdependence between (changes in) parallel trajectories to (post-reproductive) adulthood and (changes in) kinship ties.

Results

Over the past few years progress has been made in laying a basis for researching the described problematic. This has resulted in the following publications:

- Bras, H., A.C. Liefbroer, and C.H. Elzinga. 2010 forthcoming. 'Standardization of Pathways to Adulthood? An Analysis of Dutch Cohorts Born Between 1850 and 1900', *Demography*
- Bras, H. and J. Kok. 2009 forthcoming. 'Uitzwermen of samenklitten? Geografische spreiding van broers en zussen op het Noord-Hollandse platteland, 1860-1940', *Tijdschrift voor Sociale en Economische Geschiedenis*
- Bras, H., F. van Poppel, and K. Mandemakers. 2009 forthcoming. 'Relatives as Spouses: Preferences and Opportunities for Kin Marriage in a Western Society', *American Journal of Human Biology*.
- Kok, J. and H. Bras. 2008. 'Clustering and dispersal of siblings in the North-Holland countryside', *Historical Social Research* 33(3), 278-300.
- Bras, H. and M. Neven. 2007. 'The effects of siblings on the migration of women in two rural areas of Belgium and the Netherlands, 1829-1940', *Population Studies* 61(3), 53-71.
- Bras, H. and T. van Tilburg. 2007. 'Kinship and Social Networks: A Regional Analysis of Sibling Relations in Twentieth-Century Netherlands', *Journal of Family History* 32(3), 296-322.

Project 8 INTERGENERATIONAL REPRODUCTION OF DEMOGRAPHIC BEHAVIOUR (Liefbroer)

Aim and Background

The process through which young adults gain independence from their parental family and constitute a family of their own has changed considerably over the last decades. As a result of these changes, the family-life course of current young adults differs substantially from that of their parents. Therefore, it is questionable whether children will use the behaviors of their parents as guidelines in deciding on their own trajectories through young adulthood. The aim of this project is to study the extent to which demographic choices of young adults are influenced by their parental background. More specifically, two general research questions are studied:

1. To what extent do children resemble their parents regarding their demographic choices and related attitudes, and how can the level of resemblance be explained?
2. To what extent and in what ways does parental background influence the demographic choices and related attitudes of young adults?

The first research question focuses on the intergenerational reproduction of demographic behaviors and behavioral patterns. Aim is to establish whether demographic choices are reproduced, to what extent, and what mechanisms account for this level of reproduction. In particular, attention is paid to the mechanisms of value socialization, observational learning / role modeling, and status inheritance. The second research question focuses on the role played by young adults' parental background in explaining social differentials in the transition to adulthood. It studies the ways in which the socio-economic and socio-cultural situation in the parental home leads to different pathways through young adulthood.

To answer these research questions, use is made of a variety of data sources, such as (a) the Jongeren en Cultuur dataset, and (b) the Netherlands Kinship Panel Survey. Liefbroer cooperates both with other members of the research programme (Nagel, Ganzeboom, Elzinga) and with scientists outside the research programme (Kalmijn, Bijleveld). Recently, two PhD proposals have been submitted.

Plan for the next year (2009/2010)

- Submit a paper with Huijnk (UU) on family influences on ethnic attitudes.
- Submit a paper with Nagel on family influences on family formation choices.
- Supervise a PhD with Catrien Bijleveld (NSCR / VU) on family influences on the relationship between union formation behaviour and criminal behaviour.

Medium-term plans

- Development of a PhD proposal on family influences on demographic behaviour.

Results (selected)

Rijken, A.J., & Liefbroer, A.C. (2009). Influences of the family of origin on the timing and quantum of fertility in the Netherlands. *Population Studies*, 63(1), 71-85.

De Vries, J., Kalmijn, M., & Liefbroer, A.C. (2009). Intergenerational transmission of kinship norms? Evidence from siblings in a multi-actor survey. *Social Science Research*, 38(1), 188-200.

Steenhof, L., & Liefbroer, A.C. (2008). Intergenerational transmission of age at first birth: Evidence from Dutch register data. *Population Studies*, 62(1), 69-84.

- De Valk, H.A.G., & Liefbroer, A.C. (2007). Timing preferences for women's family life transitions: intergenerational transmission among migrants and Dutch. *Journal of Marriage and Family*, 69(1), 190-206.
- De Valk, H.A.G., & Liefbroer, A.C. (2007). Parental influences on union formation preferences among Turkish, Moroccan and native Dutch adolescents in the Netherlands. *Journal of Cross-Cultural Psychology*, 38(4), 487-506.
- Kalmijn, M., Liefbroer, A.C., Van Poppel, F., & Van Solinge, H. (2006). The family factor in Jewish-gentile intermarriage: A sibling analysis of the Netherlands. *Social Forces*, 84 (3), 1347-1358.

Project 9 THE TRANSITION TO ADULTHOOD: DYNAMIC AND COMPARATIVE APPROACHES (Liefbroer)

Aim and Background

Young adulthood is a life-phase during which people make decisions in the work and family domains that have far-reaching consequences for their future life. In a world that is characterized by rapid economic, cultural, technological and institutional change, it is important to understand how the decisions made by young adults are influenced by cultural, economic and institutional factors. To do so, one needs to apply a dynamic and comparative perspective. This project aims at studying these issues with an emphasis on the transition to adulthood in the family domain. Three general research questions are studied:

1. How large are cross-national and cross-cohort differences in the transition to adulthood?
2. How can these differences be explained? In particular, what are the effects of cultural, economic and institutional factors, and how do micro- and macro-factors interact?
3. What are the consequences of the choices of young adults for their future economic and social well being?

To answer these research questions, use is made of a variety of data sources, such as (a) the Panel Survey of Social Integration of Young Adults in the Netherlands (PSIN), (b) the Family and Fertility Survey (FFS) and its successor, the Gender and Generation Survey (GGS), and (c) the European Social Survey (ESS). In the 2006 wave of the ESS a module on the Organization of the Life Course is included prepared by a team including Liefbroer, Billari (Italy), Hagestad (Norway) and Speder (Hungary). To answer the research questions, Liefbroer cooperates with other members of the research programme (Cees Elzinga, Hilde Bras), researchers at NIDI and with scientists outside the research programme (e.g. Poortman, Kalmijn, Billari).

Plan for the next year (2009/2010)

- Revise and resubmit a paper to *Social Science Research* with Poortman (UU) on attitudes of singles on partner relationships.
- Revise and resubmit a paper to *Advances in Life Course Research* with Soons (NIDI) on well-being trajectories and relationship careers.
- Submit two papers with Rijken (NIDI) on cross-national differences in family-life attitudes.
- Submit a paper with Billari (Bocconi) on pan-European differences in the transition to adulthood in Europe.
- Organising a conference on the Second Demographic Transition in Europe, together with Billari.

Medium-term plans

- Development of a research proposal on European differences in the transition to adulthood (mostly NIDI, partly VU). This should result in at least one PhD located at the VU.

Results (selection)

Fokkema, T., & Liefbroer, A.C. (2008). Trends in living arrangements in Europe: Convergence or divergence? *Demographic Research*, 19, 1323-1390.

Soons, J., & Liefbroer, A.C. (2008). Together is better? Effects of relationship status and resources on young adults' well-being. *Journal of Social and Personal Relationships*, 25(4), 603-624.

- Billari, F.C., & Liefbroer, A.C. (2007). Should I stay or should I go? The impact of age norms on leaving home. *Demography*, 44(1), 181-198.
- Elzinga, C., & Liefbroer, A.C. (2007). De-standardization of family life trajectories of young adults: A cross-national comparison using sequence analysis. *European Journal of Population*, 23(4), 225-250.
- Liefbroer, A.C., & Dourleijn, E. (2006). Unmarried cohabitation and union stability: a test of the selection hypothesis using data on 16 European countries. *Demography*, 43(2), 203-221.
- Jansen, M., & Liefbroer, A.C. (2006). Couples' attitudes, childbirth and the division of labor. *Journal of Family Issues*, 27(11), 1487-1511.
- Fischer, T.F.C., & Liefbroer, A.C. (2006). For richer, for poorer. The impact of macro-economic conditions on union dissolution rates in the Netherlands 1972-1996. *European Sociological Review*, 22(5), 519-532..
- Liefbroer, A.C. (2005). The impact of perceived costs and rewards of childbearing on entry into parenthood: Evidence from a panel study. *European Journal of Population*, 21 (4), 367-391.

Project 10 CATEGORICAL TIME SERIES ANALYSIS (Elzinga)

Aim and background

Categorical Time Series are data that consist of encoded events, mostly associated with timer data or durations. In the social sciences, such data arise from (retrospectively) observing and encoding educational or job careers, family formation histories and other life course facets but they also arise as a result of encoding social interactions or as a result of judges' preferential choice rankings. Since 2002, Elzinga has been working on methods and models for such data. With Hoogendoorn and Dijkstra, he developed Linked Markov Sources to model social interaction and algorithms to estimate parameters and observable properties like distributions of waiting times and interaction lengths. Elzinga also developed new methods for the representation of such data in metric spaces. With Liefbroer and Bras, he worked on the application of such methods to life course data. The study of algorithms to construct such representation led to a joint project on combinatorial algorithms with Sven Rahmann, Chair of Algorithm Engineering in the Computer Science department of the TU Dortmund, and Hui Wang, Lecturer at the School of Computing and Mathematics of the University of Ulster. Currently, Elzinga works on the topics as listed below:

- **Association of Categorical Time Series**, together with Rafaella Piccarreta, Associate Professor in the Dept. of Decision Sciences of the Bocconi University in Milan. It is widely held that different facets of the life course, like for example the employment career and family formation, are related. With Piccarreta, Elzinga works on measures of association between such sequences and the statistical properties of such measures.
- **Mixture Models for Life Courses**. Elzinga & Liefbroer (2007) and Bras, Liefbroer & Elzinga (2008) showed that templates of typical life-courses can be used as models in constructing typologies of life-courses. However, such models are very simple and do not account for large fractions of data. Mixture models for repeatable events seem to be a promising alternative to model the variety of life-courses and the systematic differences that are supposedly due to different covariates like e.g. cohort, country, gender, social-economic status.
- **Measuring consensus on (partially) ordered sets**. This project is a spin-off of the combinatorial work on strings. Wang, Elzinga and Yash Kumar of the IIIT in Hyderabad (India) developed algorithms that determine the number of common subsequences in large sets of fuzzy strings and use these to quantify consensus on partially ordered sets. The problem is relevant in e.g. the study of consumer behavior and in numerical ecology where association between species is an important issue. The method developed can be regarded as an alternative to Kendall's W .
- **Optimal Negotiation on partial orderings**. When consensus is imperfect, consensus can be improved by changing some of the orderings. It is not immediate which ordering to change and how in order that improvement in consensus is maximal. Elzinga and Wang will study algorithms that will calculate optimal paths to full consensus. Such algorithms are important in e.g. the management of group decision making.
- **Metric Representations of Categorical Time Series**. The aim of this project is to make the results that Elzinga obtained in sequence analysis available for a larger community.

Plan for the next year (2009/2010)

- A joint manuscript with Raffaella on the association between categorical time series will be submitted, probably to Sociological Methods & Research by the end of 2009.
- With Bras and Liefbroer, Elzinga will propose a PhD-project to NOW-MagW. In the project, mixture models for competing risks will be used to model the diversity of life courses. This proposal will be submitted in September 2009.

- Elzinga, Vermunt and Bras will write a methodological paper on using competing-risks mixtures modeling. This will be submitted late 2009 or early spring 2010.
- With Hui Wang and Yash Kumar, Elzinga will submit a paper on measuring consensus in partially ordered sets in the late summer of 2009, probably to the *Journal of Approximate Reasoning*.
- A new, more reliable and stable version of the software-package CHESA that offers graphics for sequence representation. Due for Winter 2009.

Medium-term plans

- With Hui Wang, Elzinga will work on a paper on Optimal Negotiation on Partial Orderings that is to be submitted during Fall 2010
- A paper that describes the construction of subsequence-based metrics that were developed by Elzinga and relates these to other metrics. A draft already exists. To be submitted in 2010.
- A book, entitled “Theory and Practice of Sequence Analysis” and aimed at “nontechnical” users. Perhaps a co-author will be invited. The first version of the manuscript should be available in 2011.

Earlier results

Elzinga, C.H., “Sequence Similarity – A Non-Aligning Technique”, *Sociological Methods & Research*, 2003, **31**, 3-29.

Elzinga, C.H., “Combinatorial Representations of Token Sequences”, *Journal of Classification*, 2005, **21**(1), 87-118.

Elzinga, C.H., A.W. Hoogendoorn & W. Dijkstra, “Linked Markov Sources. Modeling Outcome-Dependent Social Processes”, *Sociological Methods & Research*, 2007, **36**(1), 26-47.

Elzinga, C.H. & A.C. Liefbroer, “De-Standardization of Family-Life Trajectories of Young Adults: A Cross-National Comparison Using Sequence Analysis”, *European Journal of Population*, 2007, **23**, 225-250.

Elzinga, C., Rahmann, S. & Wang, H. “Algorithms for Subsequence Combinatorics”, *Theoretical Computer Science*, 2008, **409**, 394-404.

Bras, H., Liefbroer, A. & Elzinga, C. “Standaardisering van Leefvormen? Trajecten naar volwassenheid van Nederlanders, 1850-1940.” in Maas, I., Van Leeuwen, M. & Mandemakers, K. (Eds.) “*Hondervijftig jaar levenslopen. De Historische Steekproef Nederlandse bevolking*”, pp. 15-50 (boekaflevering bij jaargang 83 van “Mens & Maatschappij”). Amsterdam University Press, 2008

Elzinga, C.H. “Complexity in Categorical Time Series”, *Sociological Methods & Research*, 2009 (forthcoming)

Liefbroer, A. & Elzinga, C.H. Intergenerational Transmission of Behavioural Patterns: Similarity of Parents’ and Children’s Family-Life Trajectories. Submitted to *Population Studies*.