

DEMIG Conference "Determinants of International Migration"

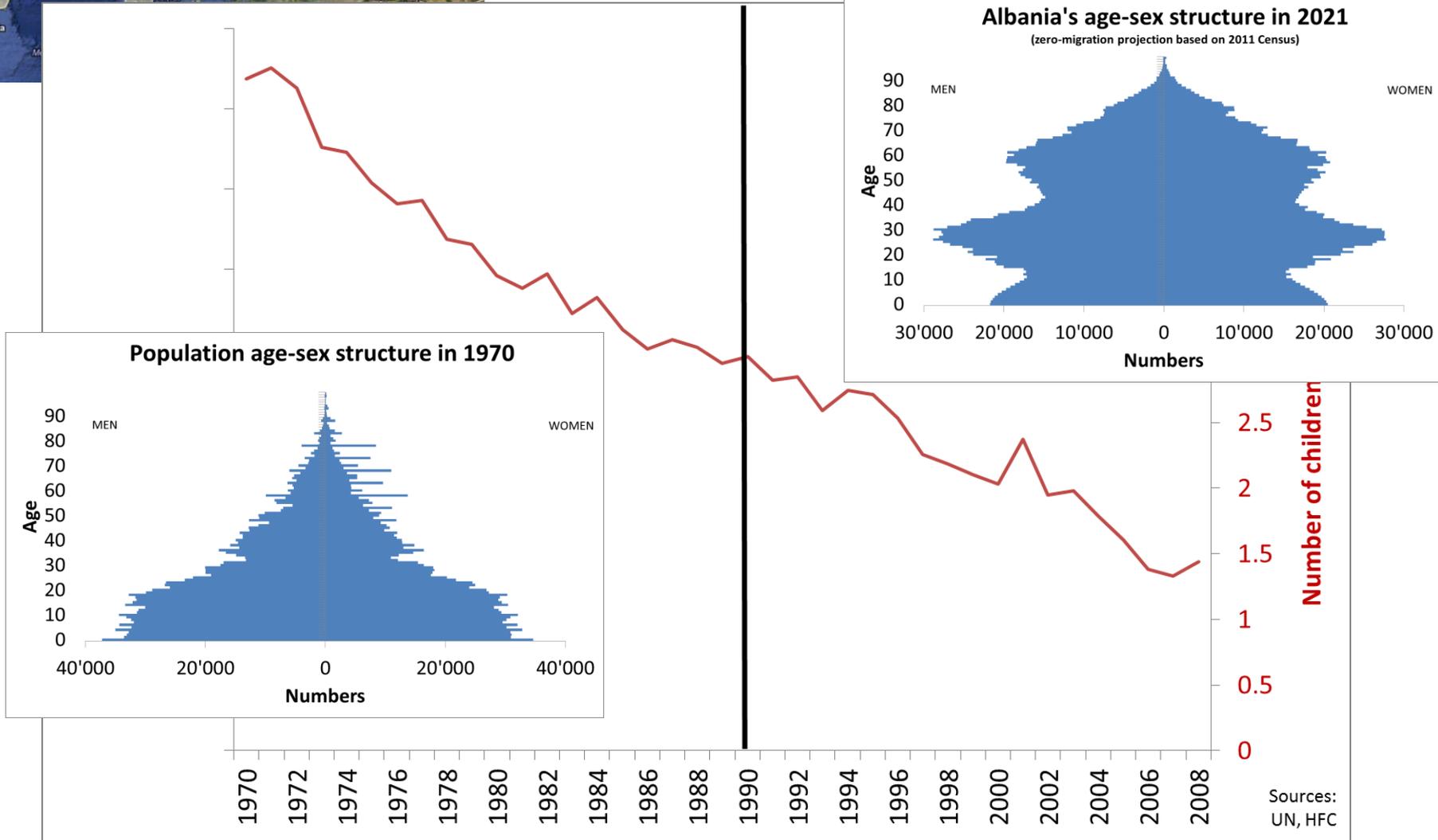
Albanian emigration in the
context of crises,
economic development and
rising inequalities

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23–25 September 2014, Wolfson College University of Oxford

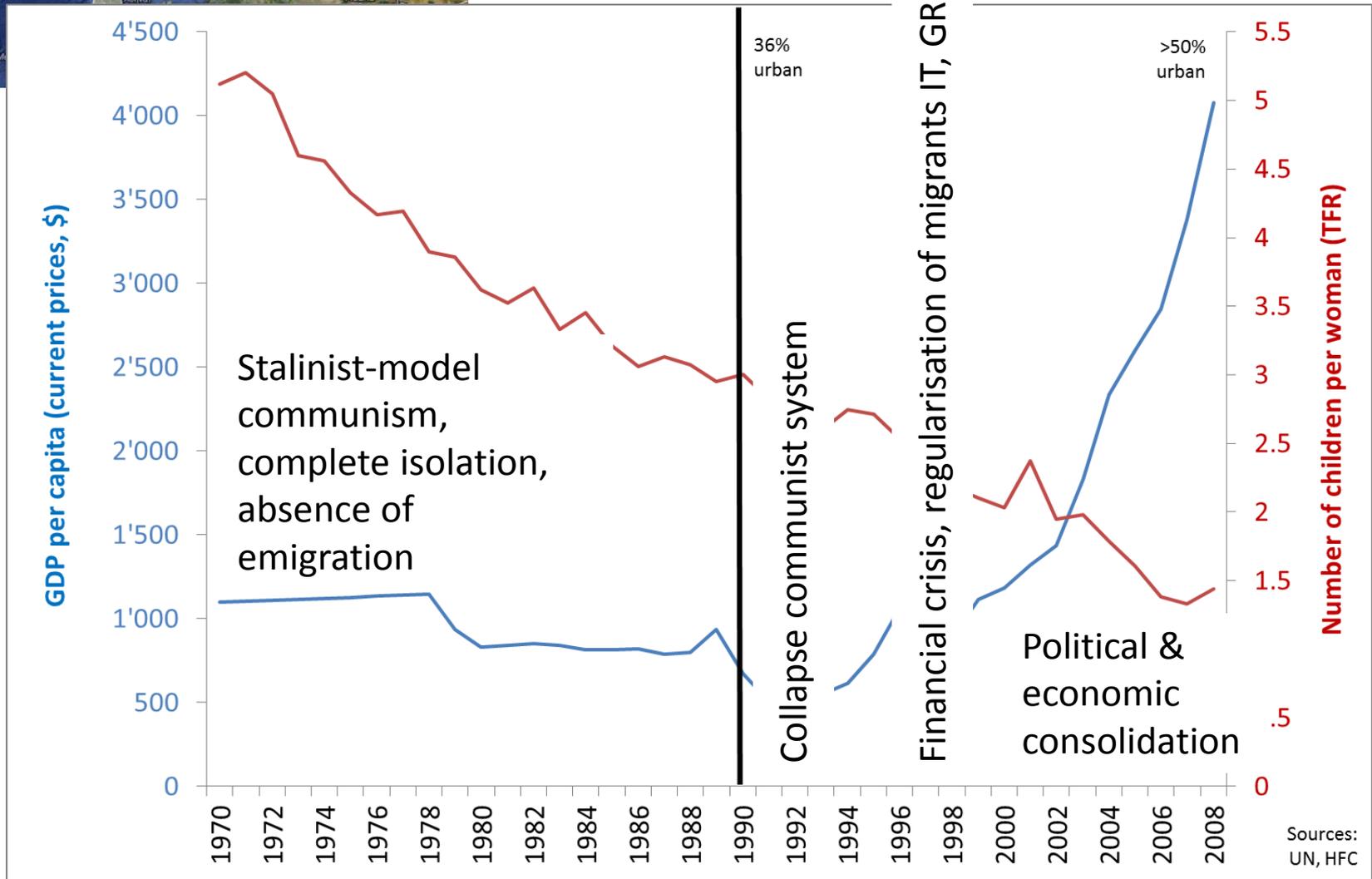


Albania as a case study





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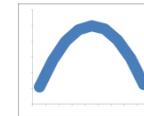
Hypothetical drivers of emigration

- 15y-lagged regional young age **population pressure**



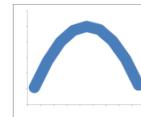
- Economic **development**

- Position in regional economic geography (GDP)



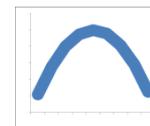
- Dummy for UE border area

- Household wealth (asset index)

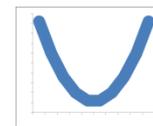


- Crises periods, followed by consolidation (period-dummies)

- Changing **motives**, proxied by education: from

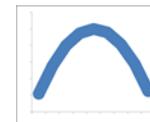


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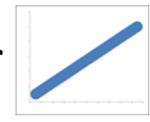


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- **Migration capital**, from the family to the community:



or

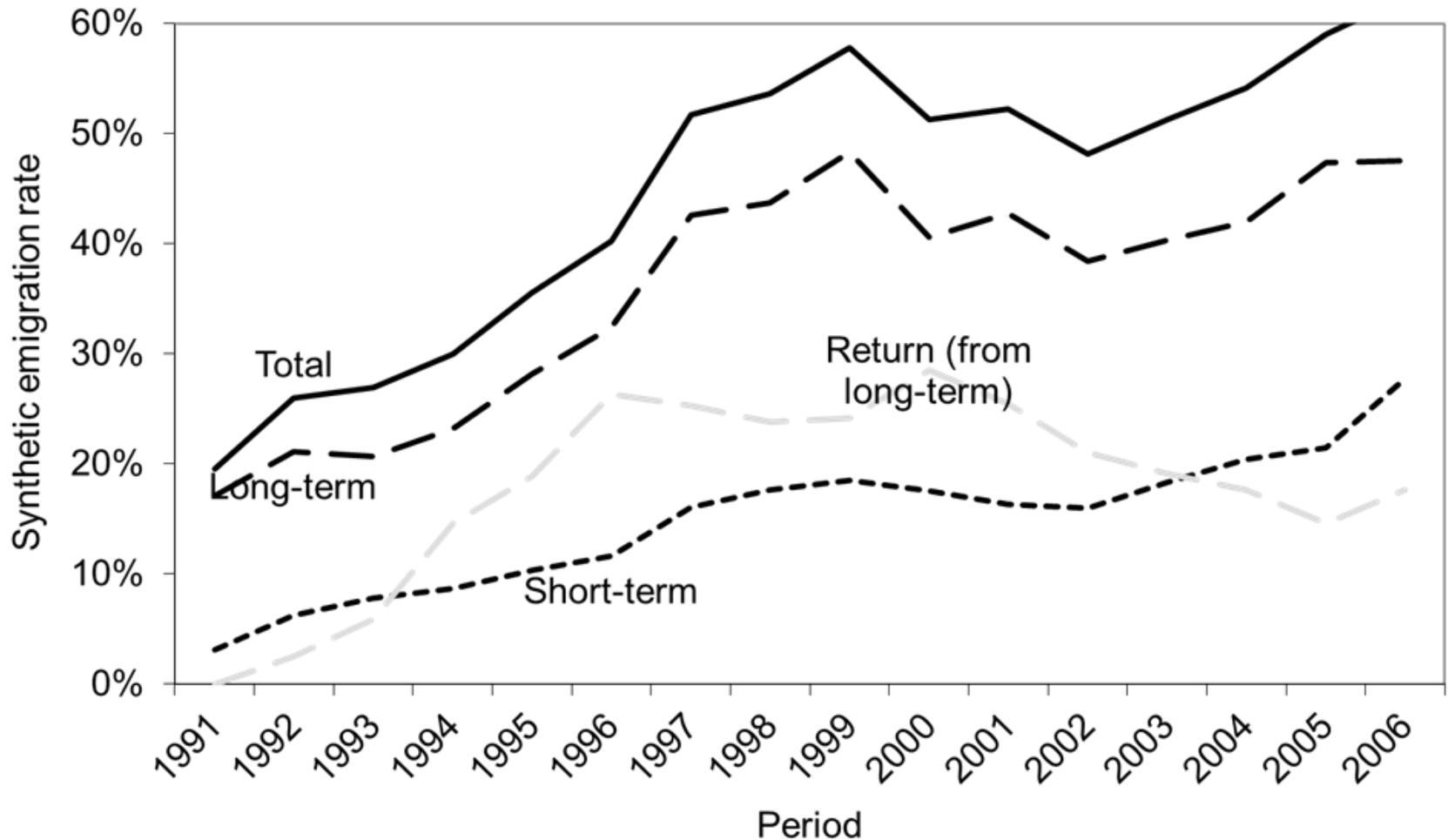


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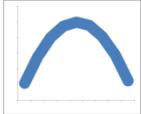
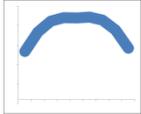
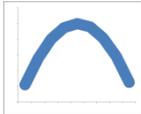
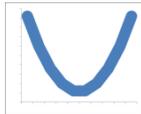
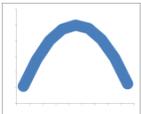
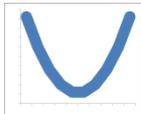
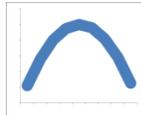
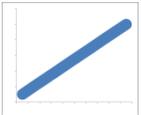
Data and methods

- Retrospective data from the Living Standards Measurement Survey 2008
- **Trend estimation** of the propensity of short- and long-term emigration (3-10 months vs 11+ months; standardized according to age)
- **Longitudinal & multivariate models of**
 - *Selection of 1st emigrants* (discrete-time logistic regression);
 - *Selection of short-term movers, among 1st emigrants* (logistic regression)
 - *Changing selection over time* (using interaction effects of selection criteria and period-dummies)

Results: Trends in the propensity of emigration, 1990-2007



Results: Selection and diffusion of migration, 1990-2007

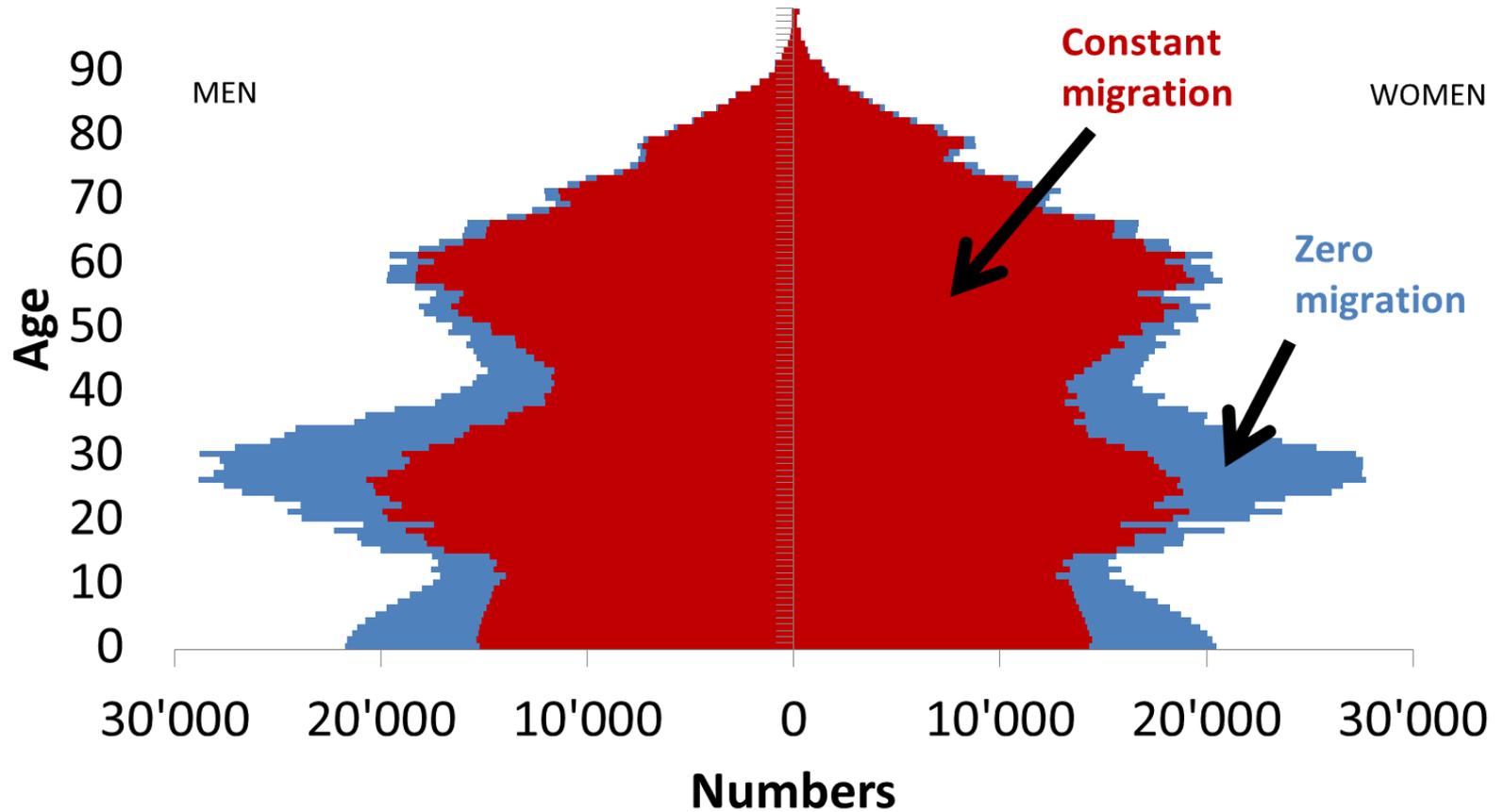
- **Population pressure:** 
- **Regional development, 1990s:**  , **2000s:** 
- **Wealth, long-term:**  vs **short-term:** 
- **Education, long-term:**  vs **short-term:** 
- **Family network, men:**  vs **women:** 
- Substitution of community for family networks among men

Discussion

- Demographic, economic and social drivers of emigration are confirmed, but do not account for the unabated trend !
- Other processes at work:
 - Regularisation & crisis-induced inflation of cumulative causation
 - cohort effects & extensive networks
 - Rising inequalities between regions and between households
 - Persistent income differentials with the UE, prestige of education and opportunities for career advancement abroad
 - Rising aspirations (and disappointment in Albania)
 - Gender inequalities in a patrilocal society

Albania's population in 2021

(projection based on 2011 Census)



Thank you for your attention !