The complete account of intergenerational transfers: European National Time Transfer Accounts

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National Time Transfer Accounts

- Estimates of economic flows in the household economy:

    1. **Who are the providers of unpaid household labour?** → household production (eg. cooking, cleaning, shopping, care) by age and gender
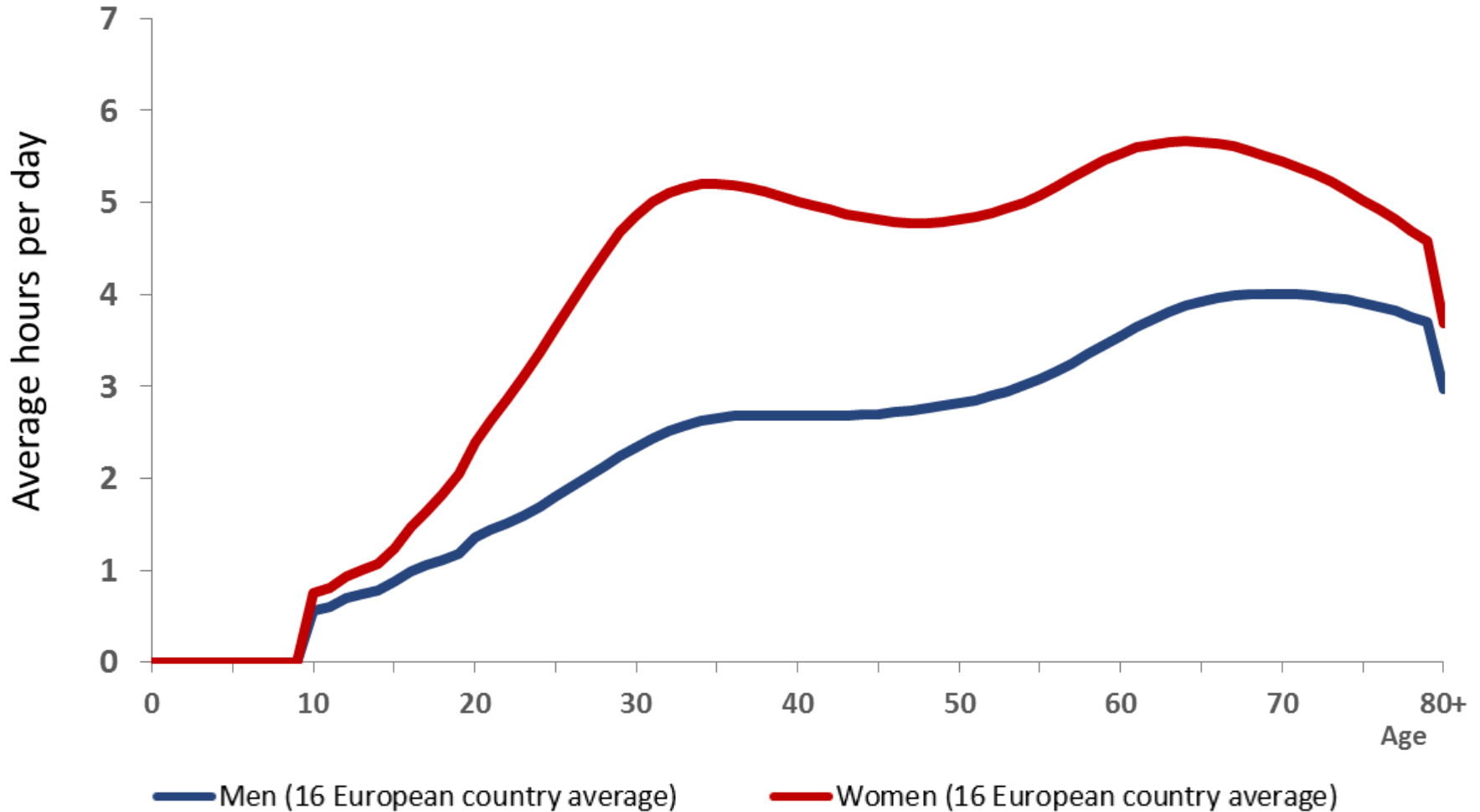
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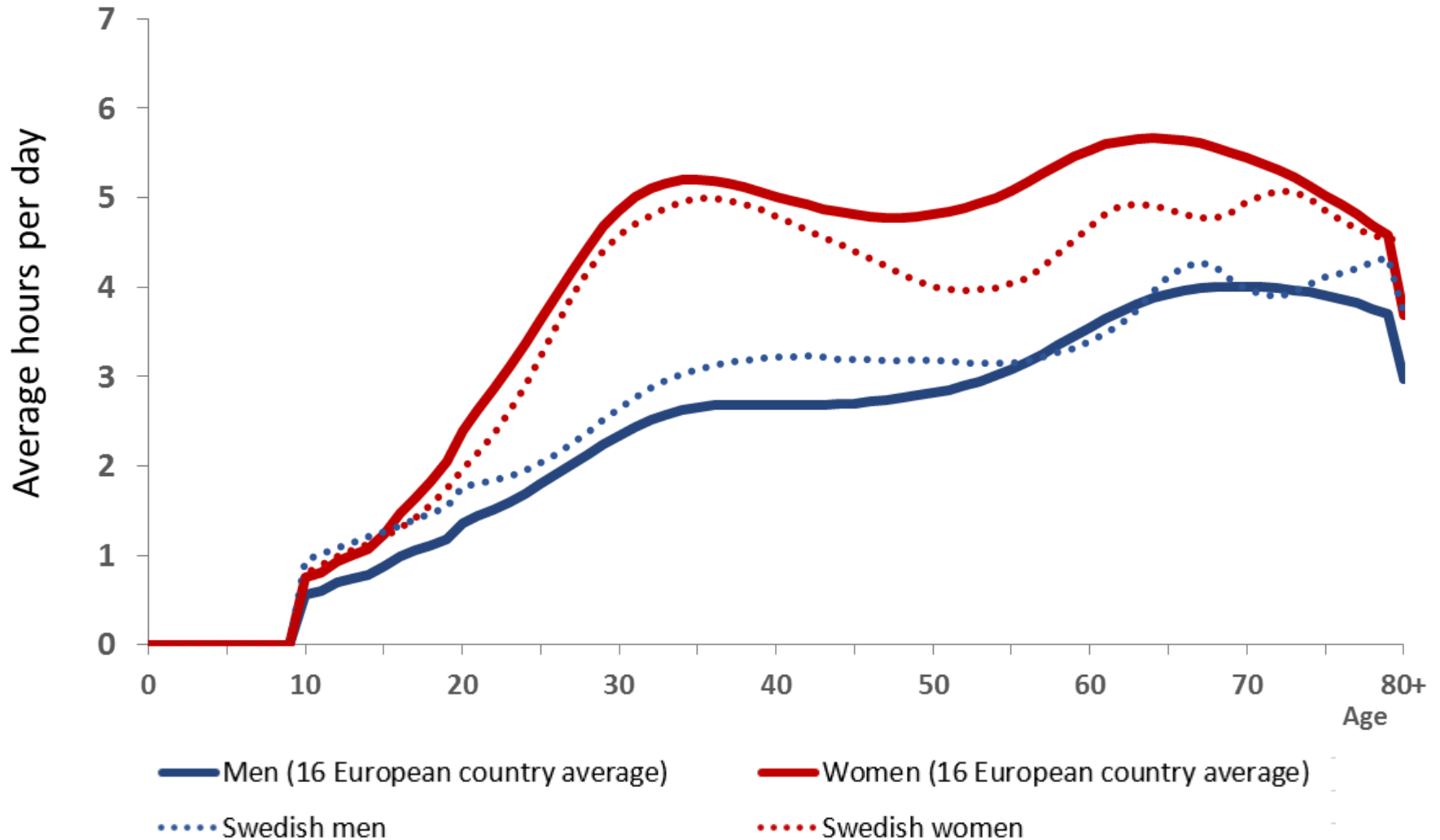
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   3. **Who gives the services to whom?** → time transfers by age and gender, net beneficiaries and providers

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  4. **What is the value of the services provided?** → household production in time and in monetary terms (input method, specialist replacement wage approach)

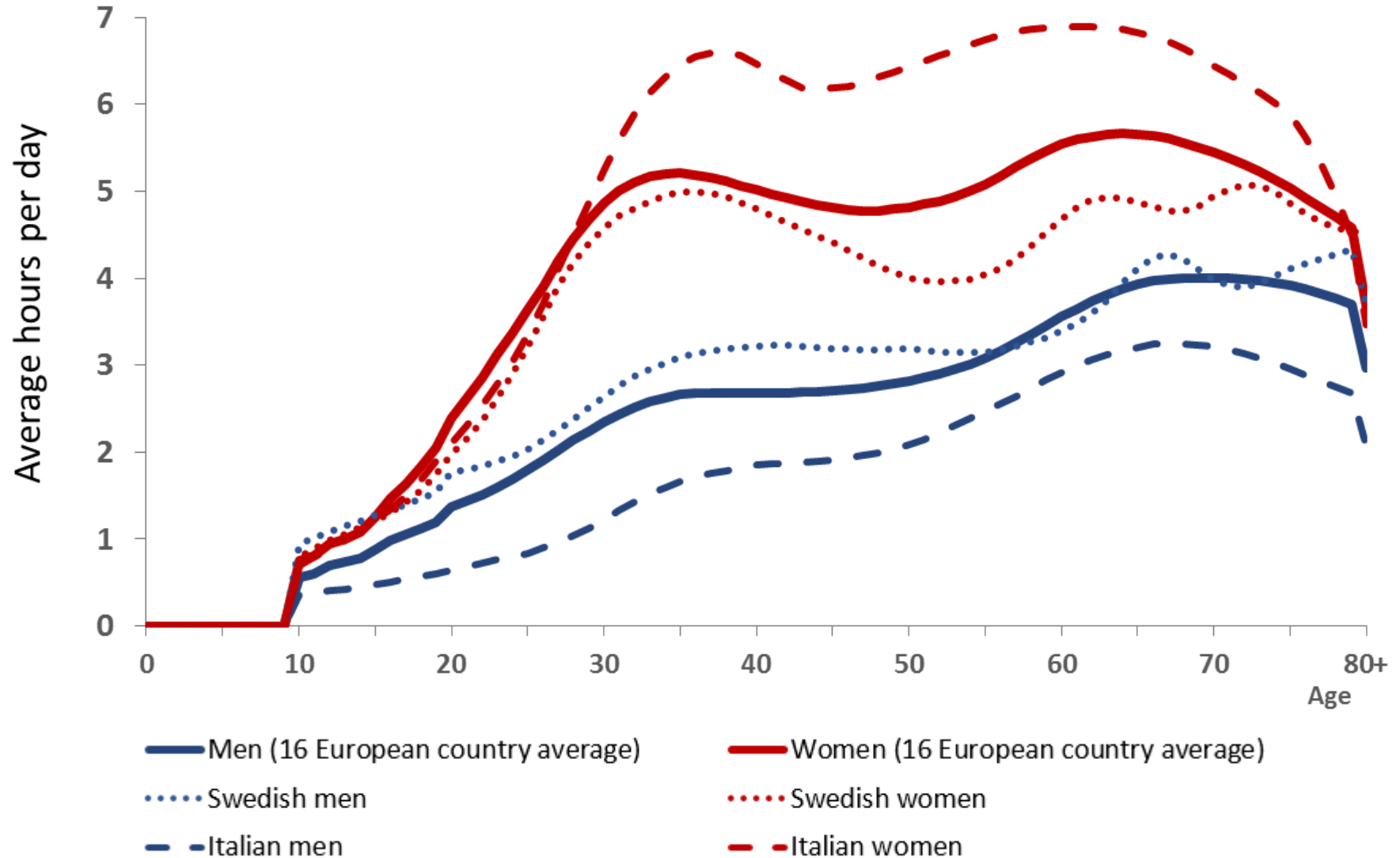# Household production by gender and age around 2005

Source: Vargha et al. (2016)

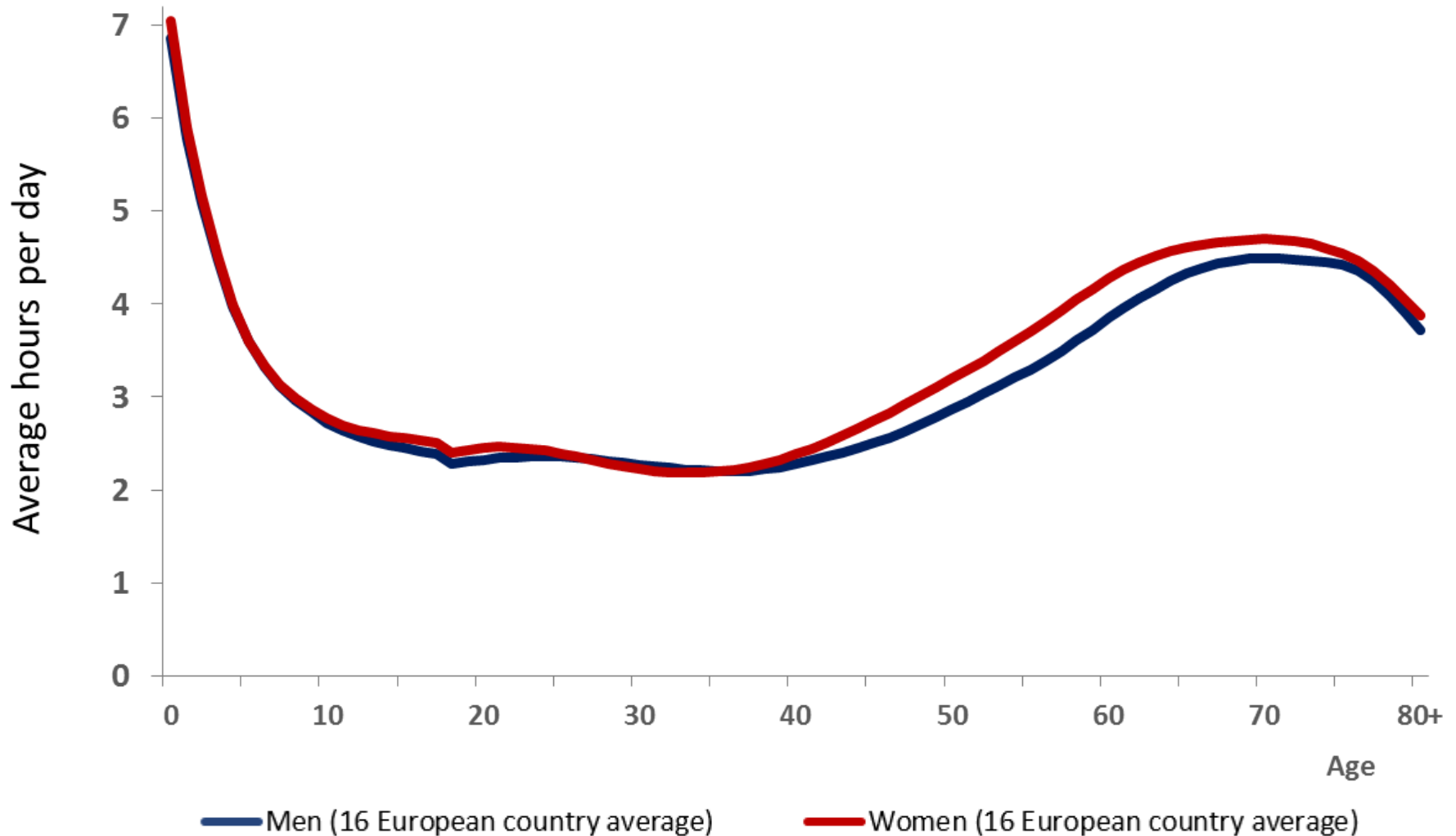# Household production by gender and age around 2005

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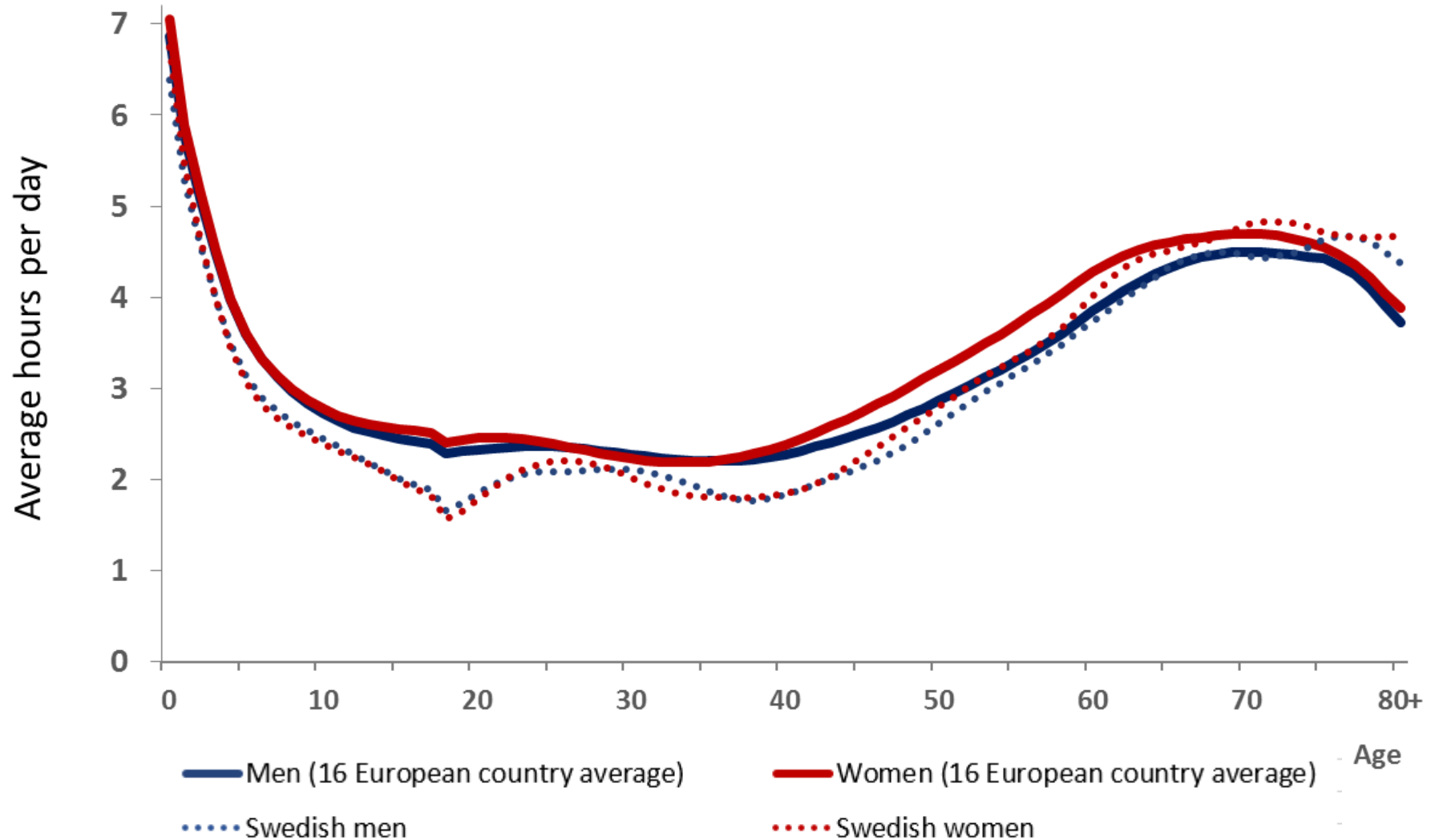
Household production by gender and age around 2005

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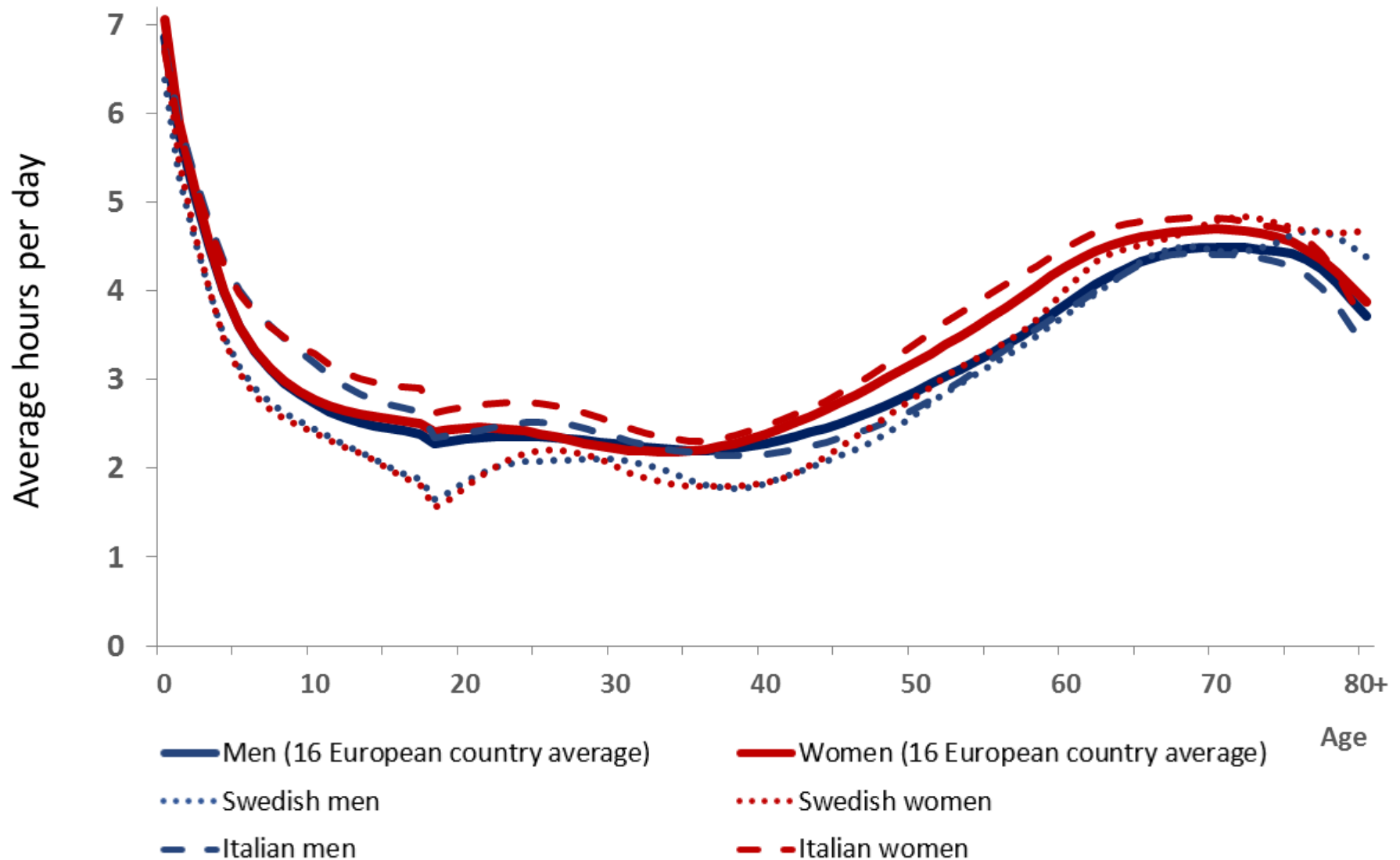# Consumption of household goods and services by gender and age around 2005

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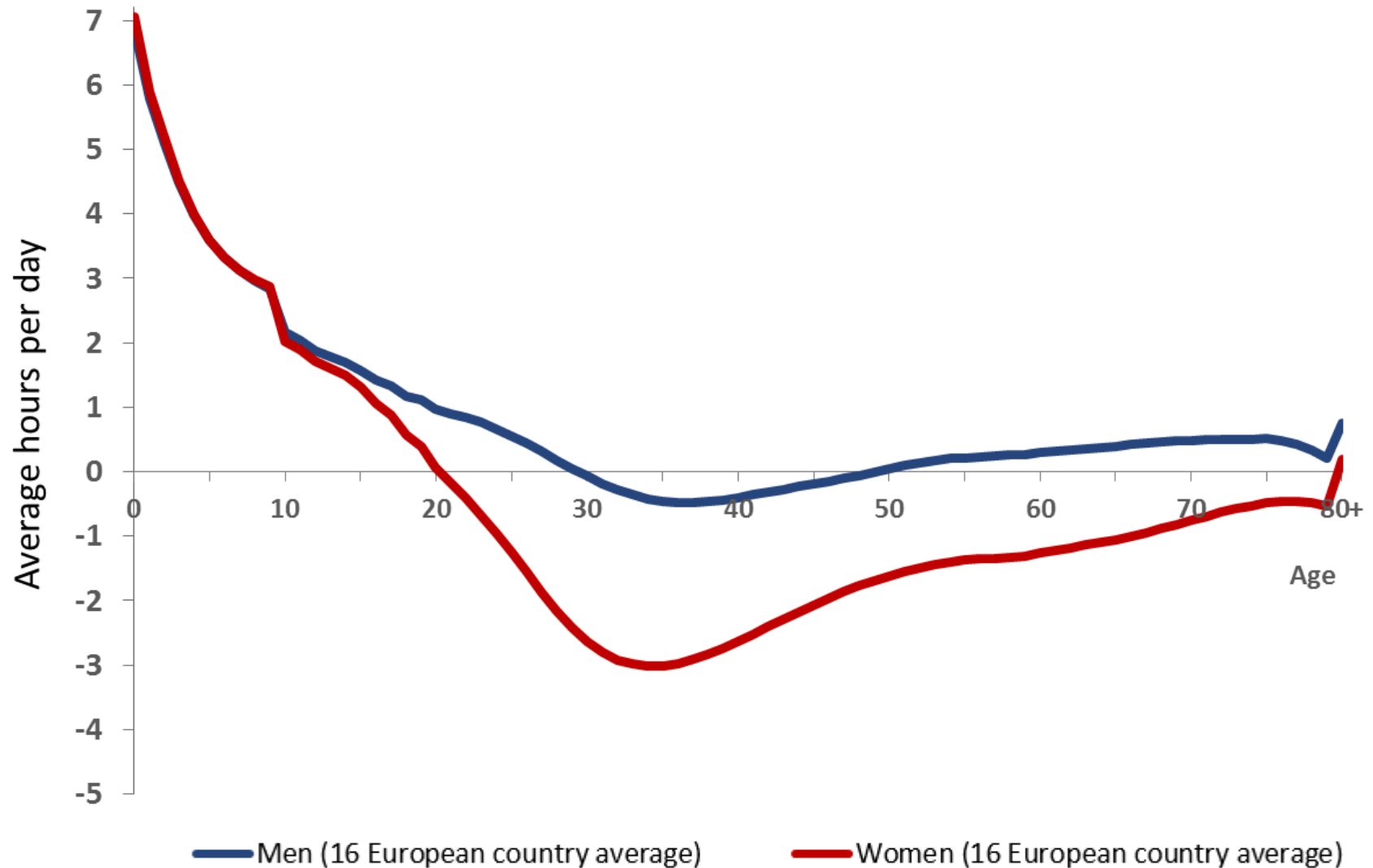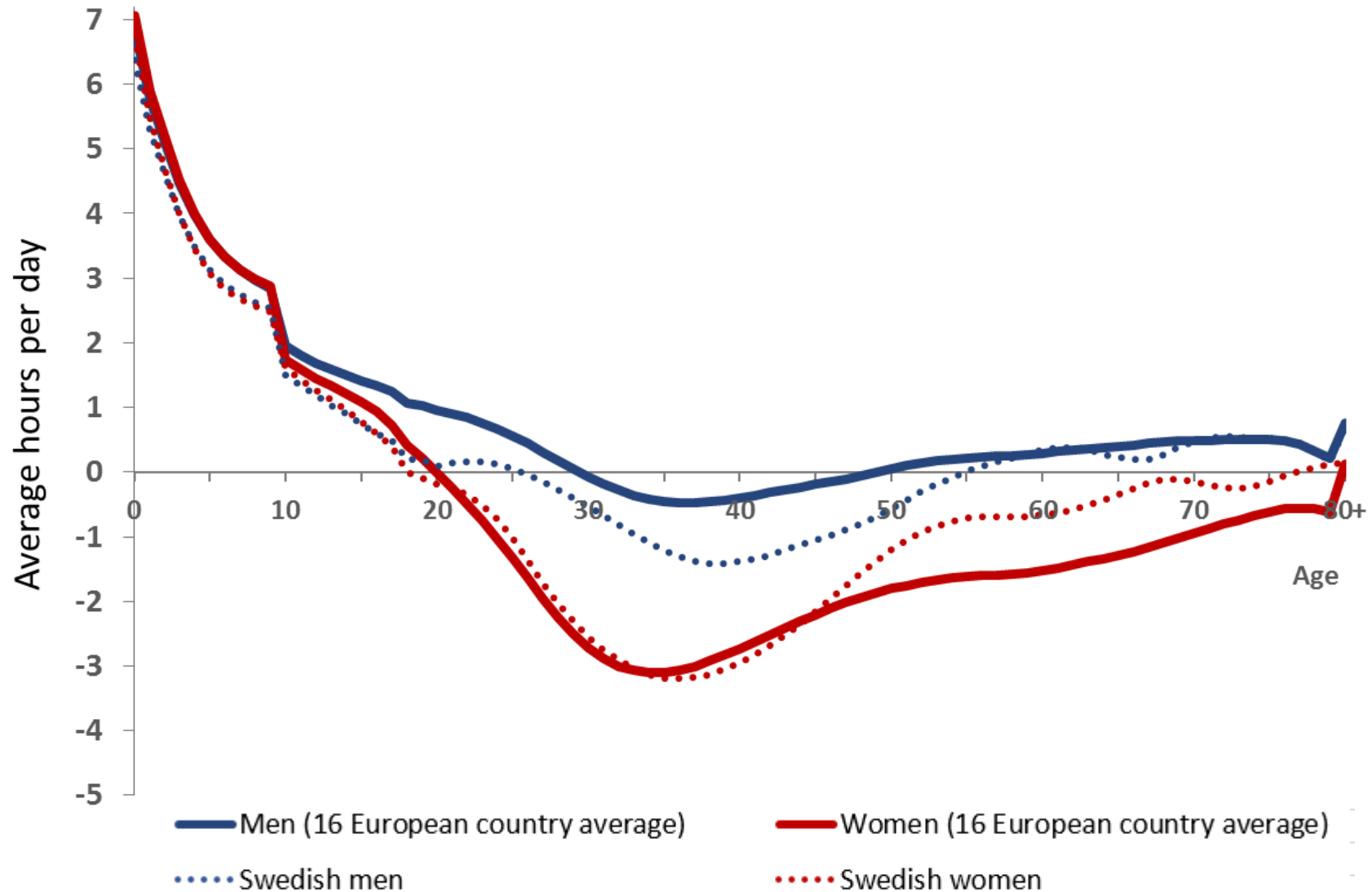

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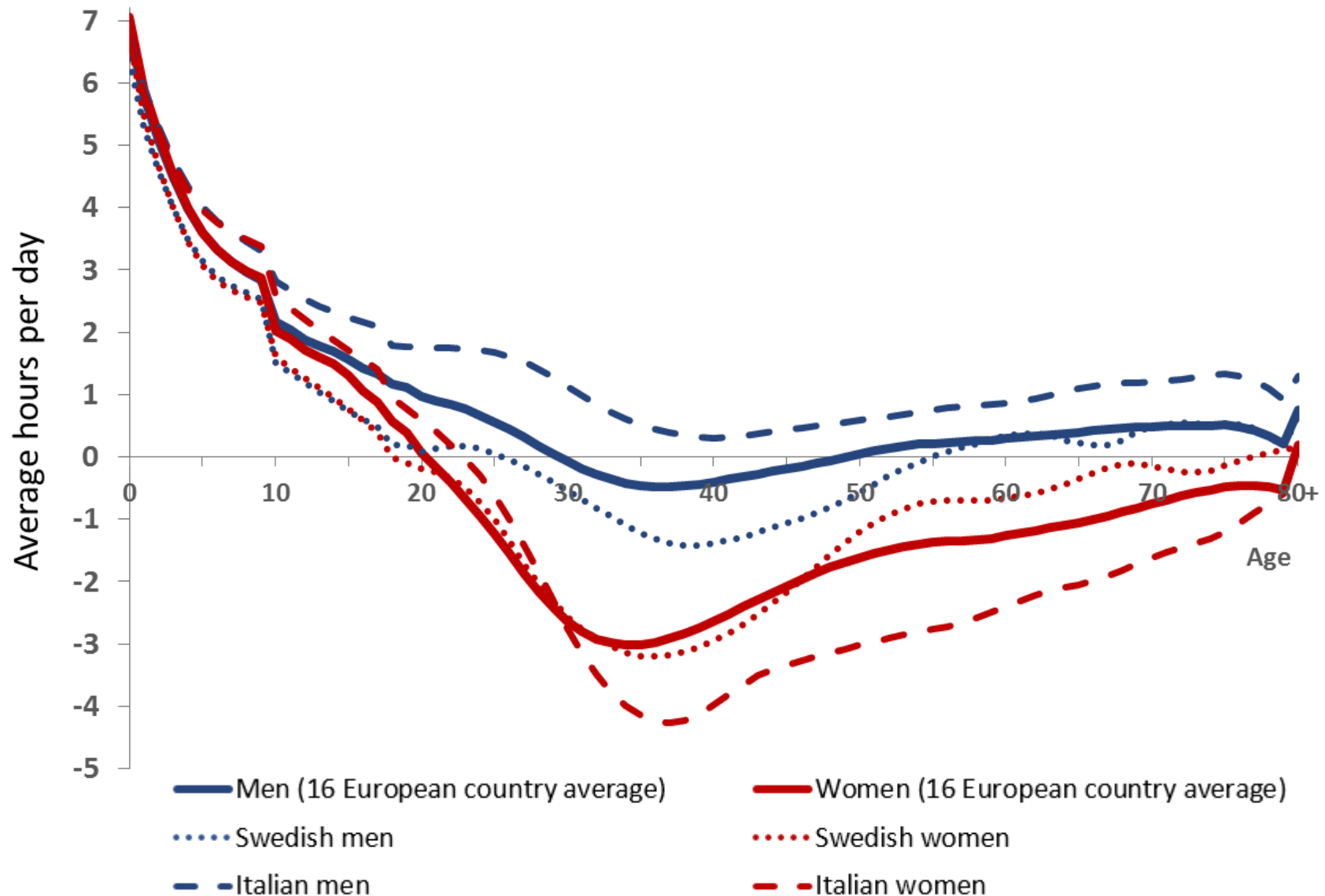

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The providers and beneficiaries of unpaid household labour by gender and age around 2005

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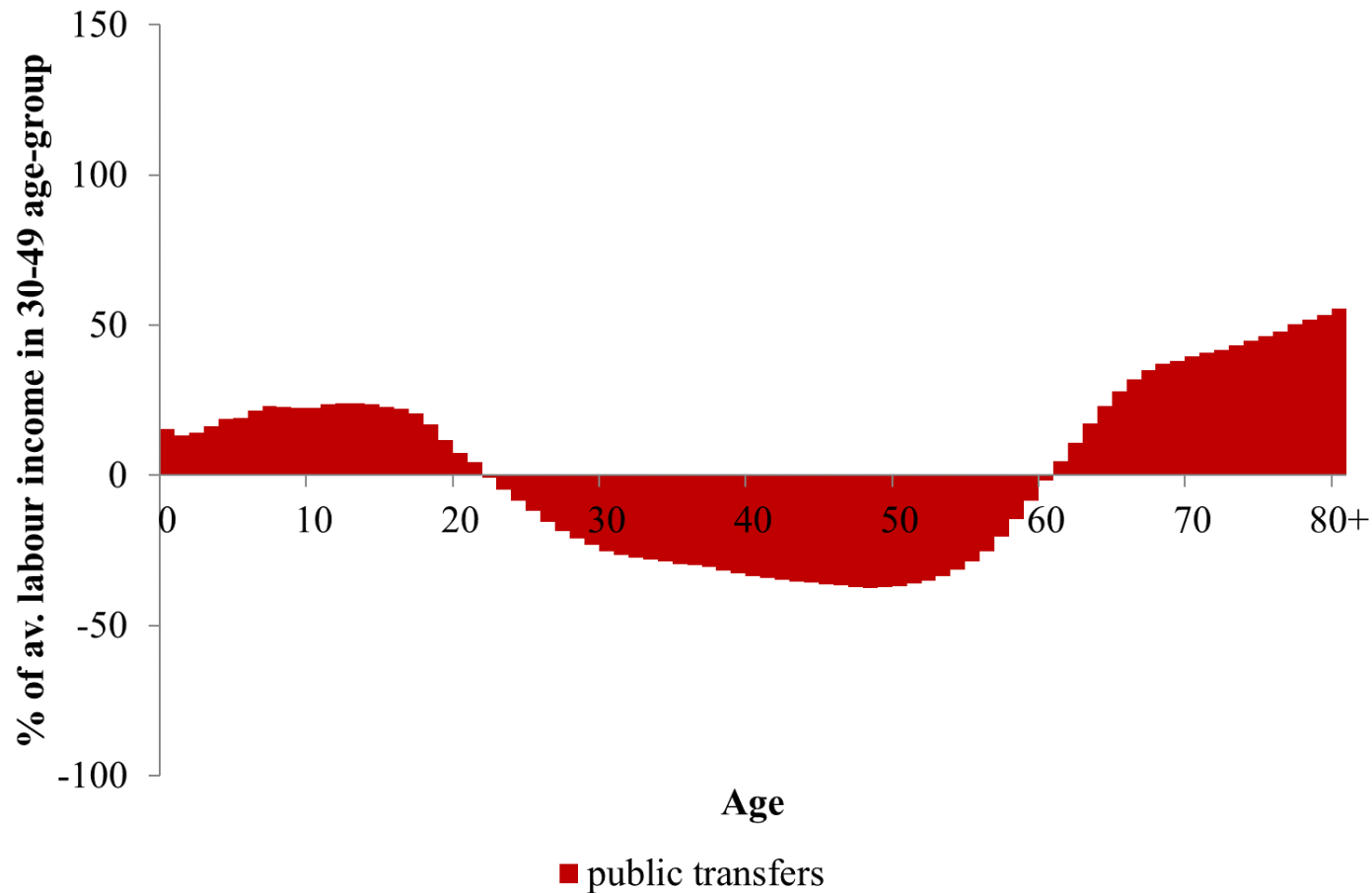
Application of NTTA

Two asymmetries:
- division of labour by gender
- asymmetry in the two inactive-aged groups: pro-elderly bias

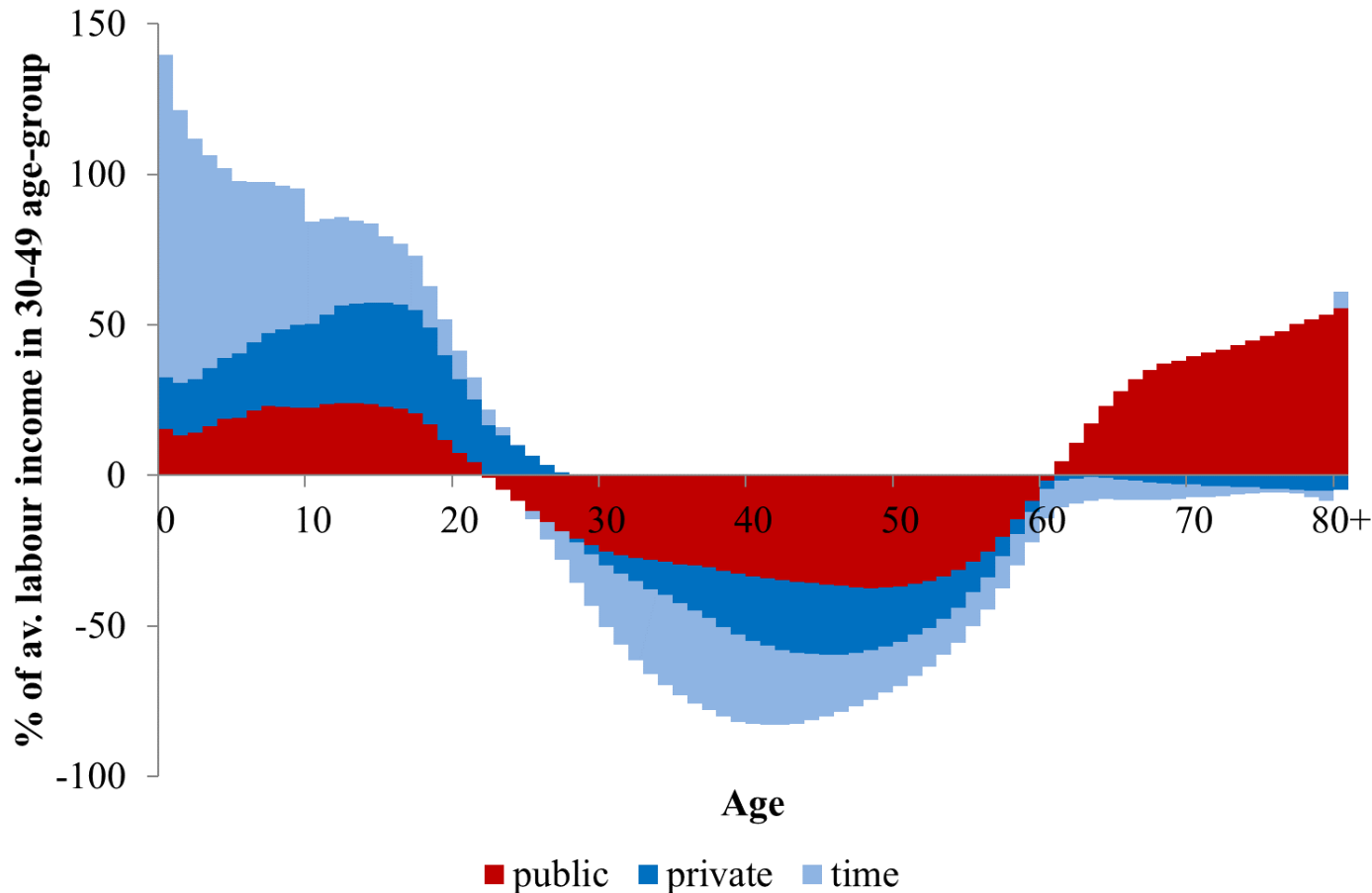We show that the latter asymmetry is an asymmetry of visibility.

Public transfers: pro-elderly bias confirmed

Children / elderly ratio = 0.39

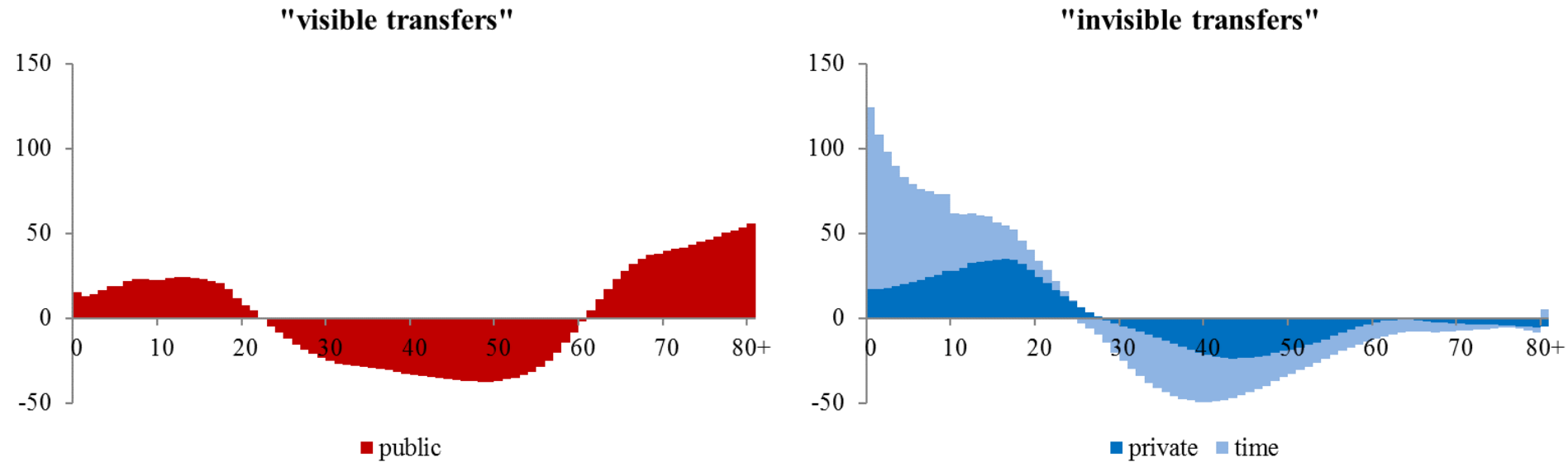Source here and in the following slides: Gal, Vanhuysse and Vargha (2016).

Total transfer package: children receive more

Children / elderly ratio = 2.35

Caveat: it does not mean children consume more.

Asymmetric socialization, asymmetric visibility

"visible transfers"

"invisible transfers"

Transfers to the elderly are easier to manage by institutions larger than the household (socialise).

Socialisation leaves traces: socialised transfers are more visible.

Summary:

Female household labour supports men – and even more importantly, children.

Contrary to widely held wisdom society gives more to children than to the elderly. In reality, pro-elderly bias is asymmetric visibility.

Institutional composition of downward vs. upward resource flows are significantly different. This effect proves to be even larger when unpaid household labour is taken into account.

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Thank you!

Vargha L, Seme A, Gál RI, Hammer B, Sambt J (2016): *European National Time Transfer Accounts*. Available at: http://witt.null2.net/shiny/agenta/

Gál RI, Vanhuysse P, Vargha L (2016): Pro-elderly welfare states within pro-child societies. *AGENTA Working Papers* 2016/5. Vienna: VID.

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