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Session 25: *Data collection and measurement of international migration*

Relations Between Measurements of International Migration Statistics

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OUTLINE

- Measurements and data sources
- Comparison of different measures
- Estimates of net migration
- Final remarks

MEASUREMENTS AND DATA SOURCES

- migration (=event)
 - movement approach - events are recorded when they happen (continuous time)
 - population register*
 - passenger sample survey*
- migrant (=person)
 - transition approach - attributes are recorded at particular points in time (discrete time)
 - census*

POPULATION REGISTER *migration*

(Theoretically) all the migratory moves undertaken by an individual are recorded

different rules for reporting changes of place of residence

and/or

different selection rules applied to the raw data when preparing statistics



different duration of stay criteria
(various events are counted:
short-term, long-term, permanent migration)

CENSUS *migrant*

Question

What is measured?

Place of usual residence at a specified date in the past (usually one year prior to the census)

Migrants: an individual whose place of residence differs at the beginning and the end of the period (surviving non-return movers)

Previous place of usual residence

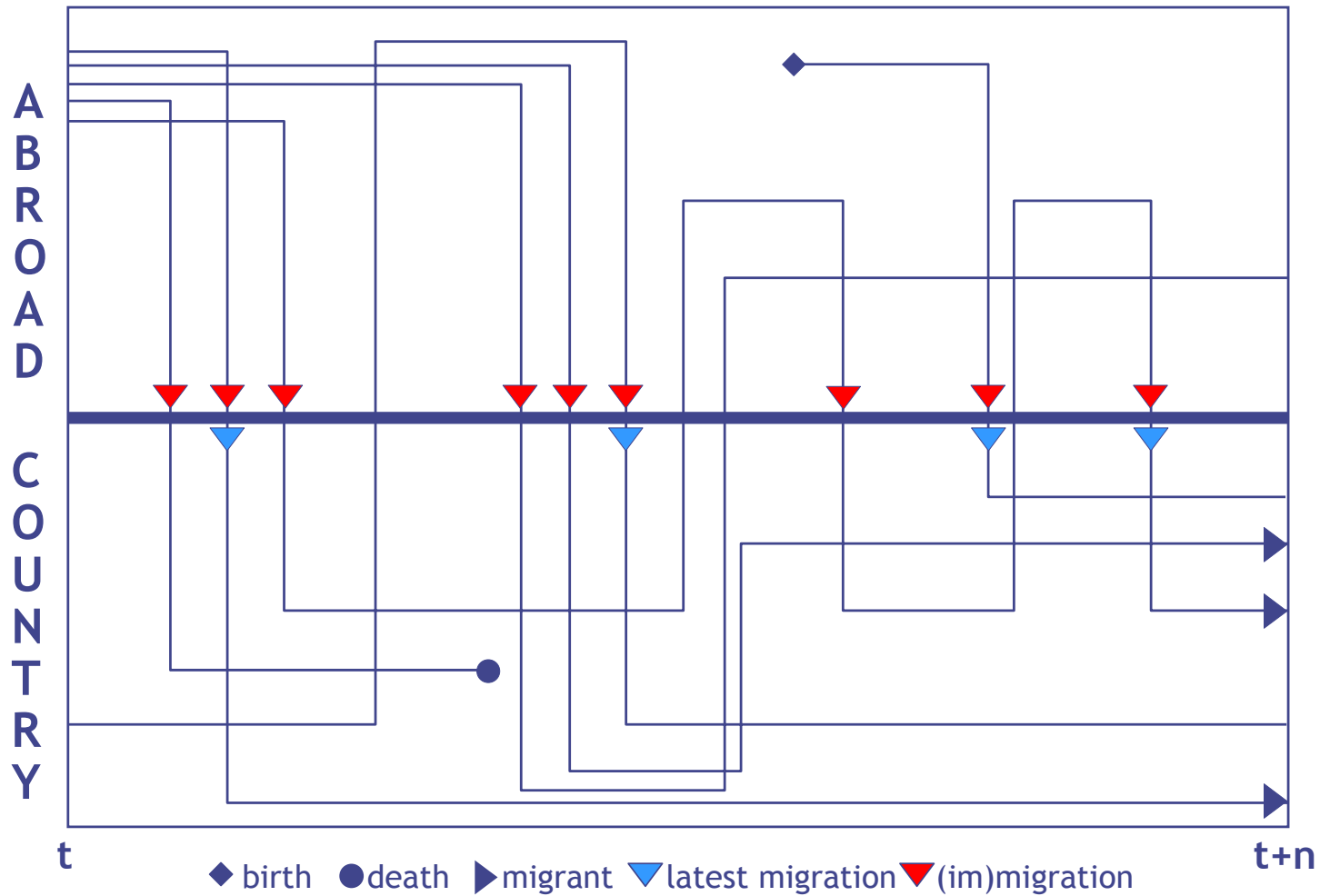
Latest migration=number of migrants by latest migration: period=variable from an individual to another

Country/place of birth

Lifetime migrants: period=the whole individual lifetime

Other questions: duration of residence, year (or period) of immigration into the country

COMPARISON OF DIFFERENT MEASURES



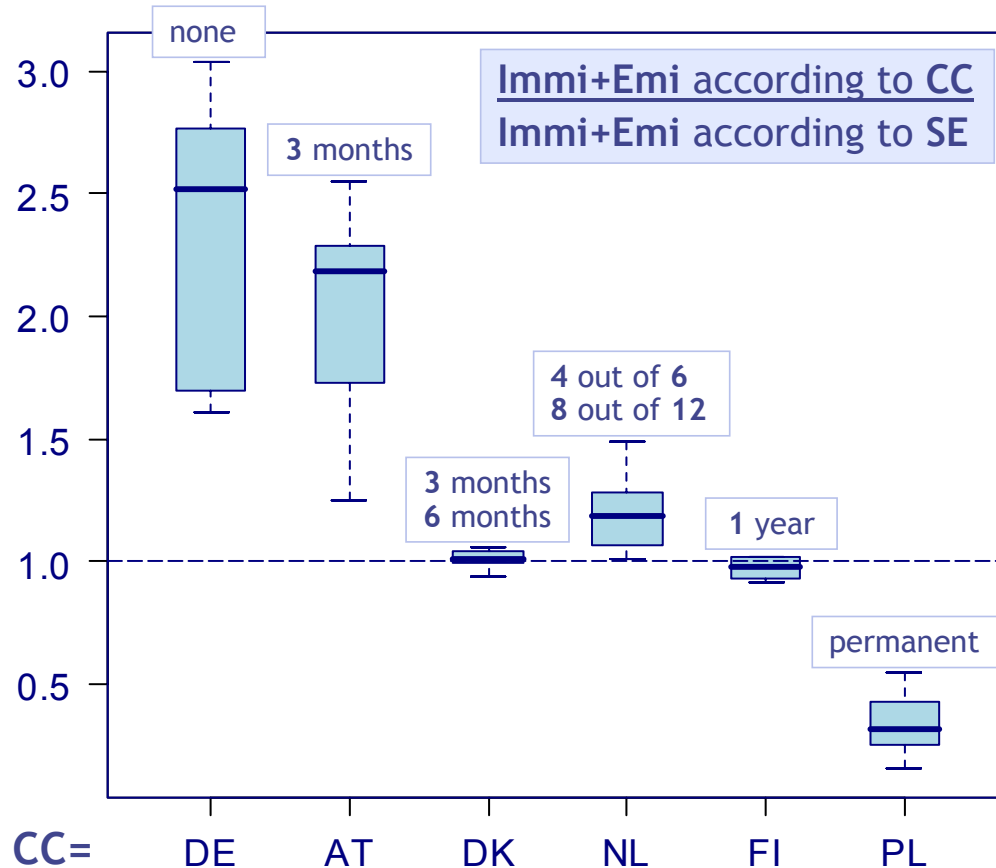
COMPARISON OF DIFFERENT MEASURES

| | migrants | latest migrants | migration |
|----------------------------|----------|-----------------|-----------|
| return moves | — | + | + |
| multiple moves | — | — | + |
| followed by internal moves | + | — | + |
| followed by death | — | — | + |
| immigration of newborns | — | + | + |

DIFFERENT DURATION OF STAY CRITERIA

Comparison of gross migration flows (Immi+Emi) between Sweden (SE) and a partner country (CC) reported by SE and CC, 1990-2003.

SE - one year (UN recommendations)



NET MIGRATION (NM)

- Registration:

$$NM_{I-E} = I_{(t,t+n)} - E_{(t,t+n)}$$

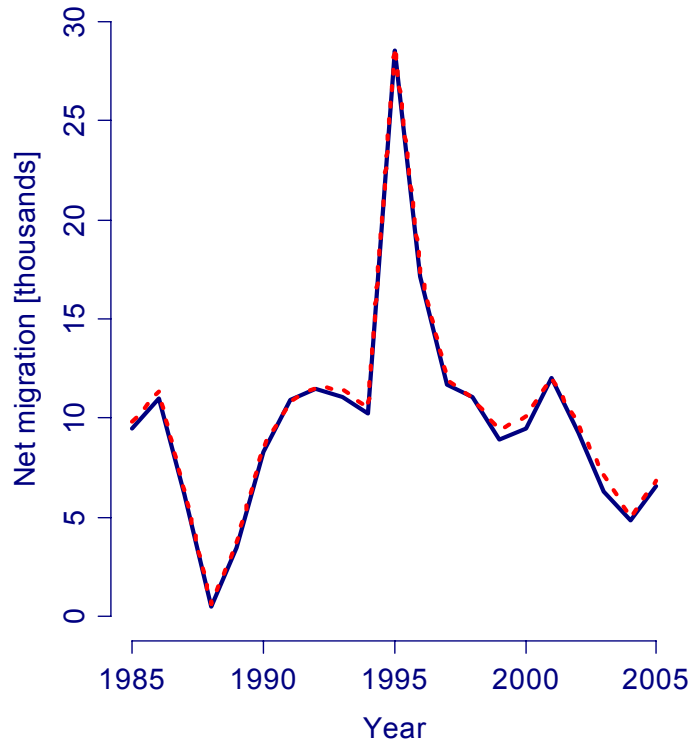
- The balancing equation of population change

$$NM_B = (P_{t+n} - P_t) - (B_{(t,t+n)} - D_{(t,t+n)})$$

$$NM_{I-E} \stackrel{?}{=} NM_B$$

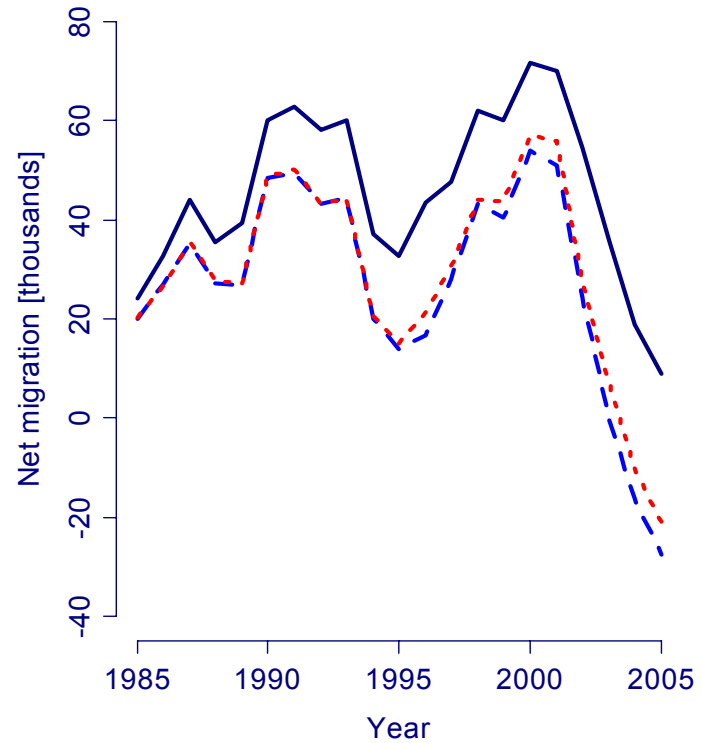
NET MIGRATION (NM)

DENMARK



— Immi - Emi
 - - - Balance equation (incl. corrections)

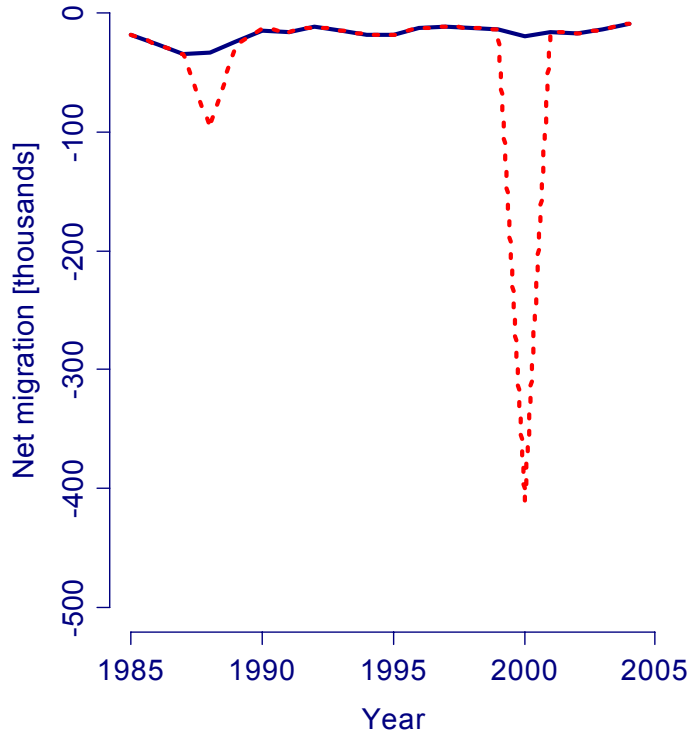
NETHERLANDS



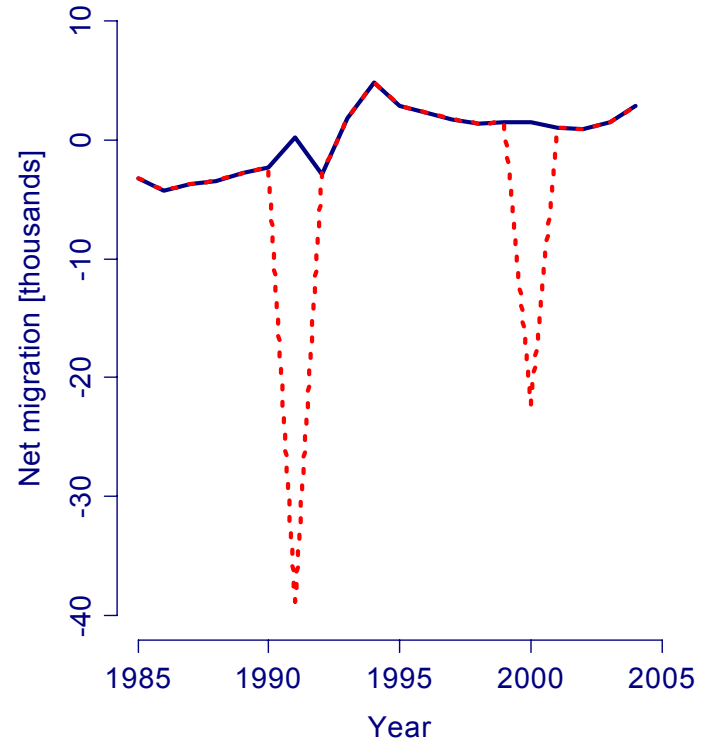
— Immi - Emi
 - - - Immi - Emi + administration corrections
 - - - Balance equation (incl. administration and other corrections)

NET MIGRATION (NM)

POLAND



SLOVAKIA



— Immigration - Emigration
- - - Balance equation

FINAL REMARKS

- Migration is a process continuous in time
- Conceptual problems are very often solved pragmatically by defining international migration based on available measures
- Different measures cover different aspects of migration phenomenon
- Some consequences: inconsistent population forecasts, alternative interpretation of mobility levels and migration pattern, different geographic pattern of migration flows