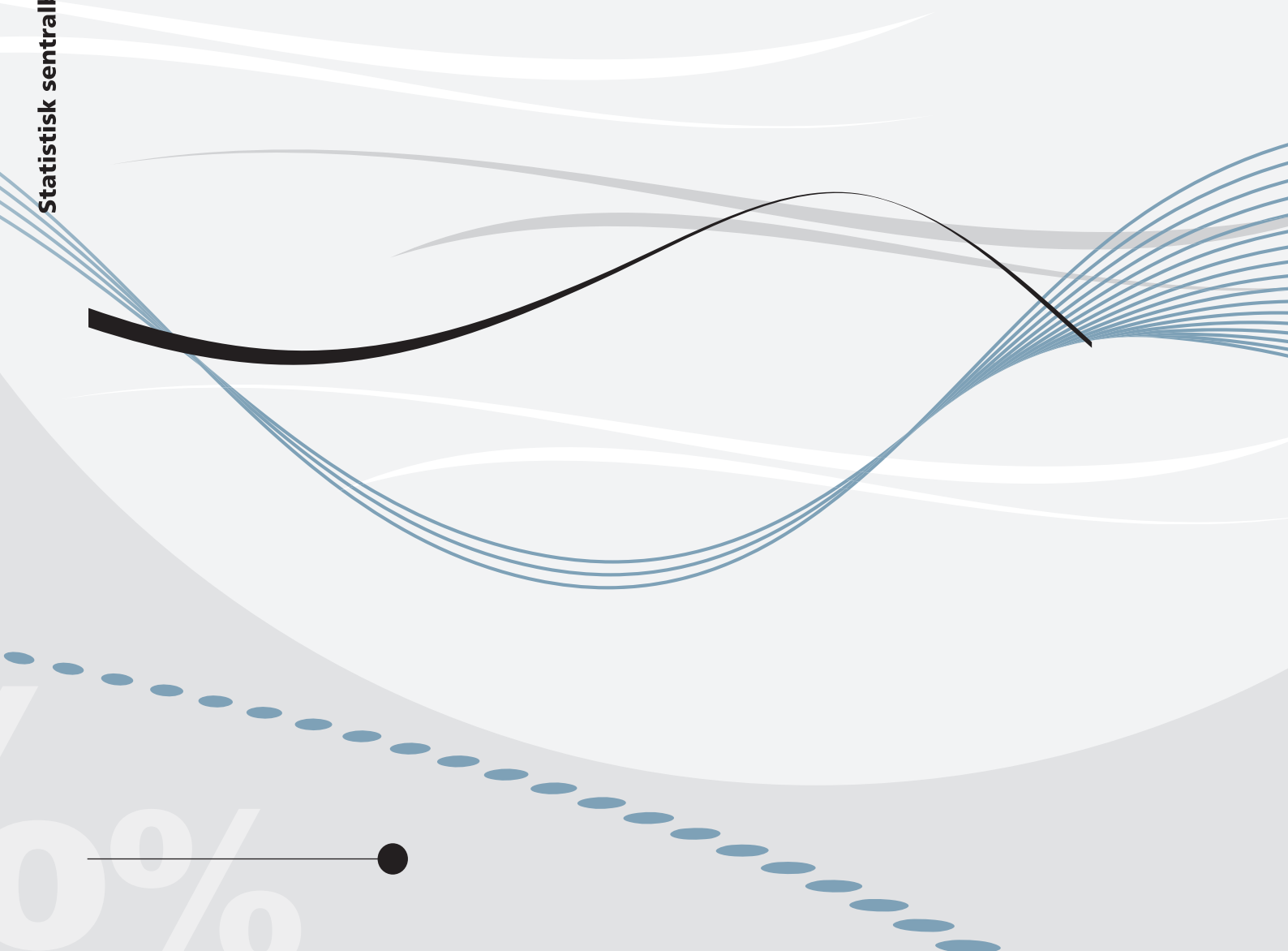




Jørgen Modalsli

Multigenerational persistence: Evidence from 146 years of administrative data



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Abstract:

There is increasing evidence that intergenerational transmission of economic characteristics goes beyond what can be measured by parent-child associations. However, existing studies are based on samples from small geographic areas or particular time periods, making it hard to know to what extent these multigenerational processes can be generalized across space and time, and how they depend on the measurement of economic outcomes.

This paper uses Norwegian census data on occupational associations among grandfathers, fathers and sons from 1865 to 2011 and finds significant grandparental influence throughout the period. In particular, the additional grandparental influence is strong for white-collar occupations. The findings are robust to alternative ways of measuring the characteristics of the parent generation, and to the use of income rather than occupation as a measure of economic status. Multigenerational persistence is found to have been stronger early in the period, before the establishment of a modern welfare state, suggesting that institutions play a part in how economic characteristics are transmitted across generations.

Persistence is strong also in subpopulations where generations grew up in different parts of the country. This shows that the grandparental effect is not exclusively driven by direct interpersonal interaction between individuals across generations.

Keywords: Multigenerational mobility; human capital transmission; occupational mobility; income mobility; grandfathers

JEL classification: J62, D31, N33, N34

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Sammendrag

Denne artikkelen dokumenterer persistens i økonomiske kjennetegn over generasjoner. Ettersom barns utfall som voksne samvarierer med økonomiske kjennetegn flere generasjoner tilbake, vil utjevning på tvers av familier over tid gå langsommere enn dersom det bare var foreldre-barn-samvariasjonen som betød noe. Artikkelen bruker data fra ulike tidsperioder (1865 til 2011) og fra hele Norge, og skiller seg dermed fra tidligere forskning som har sett på begrensede geografiske områder og/eller tidsperioder.

Det dokumenteres også persistens over generasjoner for familier der generasjonene vokser opp på ulike steder i landet, noe som viser at effekten ikke bare skyldes direkte personlig kontakt.

1 Introduction

The study of multigenerational persistence — associations in economic outcomes across more than two generations — investigates the extent to which the outcomes of children are affected by characteristics of ancestors other than the parents, such as grandparents or great-grandparents. An understanding of such persistence or, conversely, mobility, is important in order to assess the extent to which outcomes are equalized across families over time, and can provide information about the relative roles of direct parental involvement and more abstract family human capital in shaping individuals’ economic opportunities.

Measuring persistence across more than two generations is difficult. If one does not want to rely on retrospective surveys with associated possible recall errors and limited sample sizes, one faces the double challenge of observing dynasties at substantial intervals and measuring comparable economic conditions at all the times considered. While some recent research (Lindahl *et al.*, 2015; Braun & Stuhler, 2015) suggests that grandparents’ economic characteristics influence children in addition to parents’ characteristics, there are also diverging views (Warren & Hauser, 1997) and little is known about the channels of this influence and how it interacts with changing economic conditions such as the decline of farming and the increase of non-manual occupations. There are only a few studies that cover entire countries, recruiting the initial generation from a geographically comprehensive area, and even fewer that are able to compare multigenerational persistence across different time periods. Moreover, in many cases, sample sizes are small, resulting in imprecise parameter estimates.

This paper robustly documents substantial multigenerational persistence in all time periods studied. Using comprehensive, nationwide Norwegian census data covering the period between 1865 and 2011, it is possible to observe a total of 167,411 lineages with occupational data on grandfathers, fathers and sons. In a framework based on logistic regression with occupational categories, statistically significant associations between grandfather and grandson are found in all time periods. The associations are strongest for white-collar occupations and for farmers, while they are weaker (and in some of the samples not statistically significant) for manual occupations. The associations between grandfathers and grandsons remain when more detailed information on the parent generation is included. In time periods for which income data is available, there is also multigenerational persistence in income ranks, which is consistent with the results found using occupational data.

The results demonstrate that the existence of multigenerational persistence does not depend on any specific set of economic institutions, as Norwegian society changed dramatically over the time period studied. In 1865, a majority of the population made their living from farming-related activity, and GDP per capita is estimated to have been only around half that of leading European countries (Bolt & van Zanden, 2013). There was no state income tax, and for most of the population only basic elementary education was available. At the end of the period, by contrast, there is a comprehensive welfare system, education at all levels is free and less than one percent of the population are engaged in farming. Correspondingly, the changes in grandfather

coefficients over time do suggest a move towards lower persistence for white-collar occupations over time.

There are four previous or ongoing studies on historical multigenerational persistence using administrative data. Lindahl *et al.* (2015) recruit the initial population from one specific Swedish city (Malmö) in the 1930s, and find evidence of persistence in education and income across generations; Dribe & Helgertz (2016) use data from five rural parishes in southern Sweden and observe persistence in occupational status, but not income. Ferrie *et al.* (2016) find some evidence of multigenerational educational persistence using U.S. census data from 1910 onward, but suggest that this could be spurious due to challenges in measuring completed education precisely. Knigge (2016) uses marriage registers from five Dutch provinces and finds evidence of a moderate influence of grandfathers on occupational status. When the data is drawn from a limited geographical region, results could be biased, as those who migrate into (in the first and third case above) and out of the region (second and third case) are not covered. Moreover, in general, we would expect regional data to be more “particular” than entire countries, raising the question of how general the results from regional studies are.¹ This is less of a problem in the U.S. study, which is presumably representative of the nation as a whole (but has low match rates). In any case, the present paper is the first to use data drawn from an entire country and covering three centuries (a measurement span of 100 years for each generation). In this way, mobility in several time periods can be compared without concern for potential bias arising from inter-regional migration.

There are some countrywide studies that cover one particular time period. Long & Ferrie (2015) use nationwide data from US and UK censuses (1850-1910) and find persistence in occupation and imputed income across three generations in both countries. There are also some studies that rely exclusively on modern registry data: Boserup *et al.* (2014) find that grandparental wealth has strong predictive power when parental wealth is controlled for in Denmark, while Adermon *et al.* (2015) do not find a similar association in Swedish data.² The substantial changes experienced in most Western countries in the twentieth century means that we should be careful in extrapolating observed patterns from a single time period into general rules. For example, Nybom & Stuhler (2014) show that structural change, such as increased access to education in the mid-twentieth century, may be partly responsible for observed decreases in intergenerational mobility (increases in persistence) in later periods.

¹It should be noted that the study by Knigge (2016) covers a proportionally larger part of the host country (the Netherlands) than the two Swedish studies. However, the early development of industry and services in the Low Countries means that much of the Western “modernization” process has already taken place in the period covered by that study (1854-1922). This could explain why only a moderate change over time is observed. It should also be noted that the Dutch data only observe subjects who marry (this limitation applies mainly to the final generation).

² Like the present study, the papers cited here make use of direct linkages between individuals at different points in time. There is also some work on persistence across several generations without direct linkage between individuals, using data on the joint distribution of names and economic outcomes (Clark & Cummins, 2015; Clark, 2014; Olivetti *et al.*, 2014; Guell *et al.*, 2015). However, interpretation of these results is sensitive to the distributions of surnames or estimation of specific parameters, and making comparisons with conventional measures of intergenerational mobility/persistence is challenging.

With the exception of the studies referred to above, research on society-wide, long-run multigenerational persistence is based on survey data. In most cases, the middle generation is interviewed and asked about the characteristics of their parent when they were growing up. Then data on the child are either reported by the parent directly (when only one interview is conducted at a time when the child is old enough to have entered the labor market) or collected directly in follow-up rounds.³ While surveys often collect information that is not available in administrative data and may incorporate retrospective information about events prior to the interviews, there are challenges implicit in how individuals remember past events and how recall error and non-response are distributed across social groups. Blau & Duncan (1967, Appendix D-F) discuss in detail the extent to which retrospective responses in the 1962 OCG survey study (which only covers two generations) are consistent with administrative data available from the U.S. Census. They conclude that there is likely to be some response bias in survey data.⁴ Mayer (2007) reviews the literature on retrospective questions and concludes that while the quality of the survey process does affect the degree of recall error, this error can probably not be completely eliminated. For this reason, administrative data should be used to verify any results that are obtained using survey methodology. Moreover, few surveys exist before the 1950s and even today, sample sizes are often small.

There is currently no consensus as to the mechanisms underlying the observed persistence in outcomes across generations. While Clark (2014) uses surname studies for a range of countries to argue for a strong and invariant underlying family effect that persists across generations, few studies are able to compare multigenerational processes across centuries to see whether the effect is indeed invariant to economic and institutional conditions. Another potential mechanism is proposed by Zeng & Xie (2014), who find in a sample of Chinese households that grandparental co-residence (and by extension, direct personal interaction between grandparents and grandchildren) can explain a substantial part of observed multigenerational persistence. The large geographical span of the samples used in the present paper makes it possible to examine the extent to which multigenerational persistence is lower when individuals move long distances, away from their family's origin. A substantial effect remains for long-distance movers, suggesting that not only interpersonal influence is responsible for multigenerational persistence.

The remainder of this paper is structured as follows. Section 2 presents the data and in-

³Examples of such studies are Chan & Boliver (2013) and Hertel & Groh-Samberg (2014), who find some grandparental effects on social class; Warren & Hauser (1997), who find no evidence using several composite outcomes; and Zeng & Xie (2014), Braun & Stuhler (2015) and Kroeger & Thompson (2015) who find some evidence of persistence in education. Only the latter two have some coverage of the time dimension in that more than one survey from the same country is utilized. Lindahl *et al.* (2015) is also partly based on survey data, augmented with administrative registers.

⁴In the OCG's Chicago Pretest Matching Study, of a subsample of 570 individuals, 485 completed the questionnaire, and 342 reported the place they lived in childhood. Of the 137 of these latter the research team was able to find in the census records, there was a discrepancy with respect to father's occupation of 30% (with detailed occupational groupings) and 8% (with four groups). Some discrepancy is also found when 1920-1940 male occupational distributions estimated from fathers' occupations reported in the OCG are compared with the actual census distribution. While some of these results may be due to short-term occupational mobility for fathers, Blau and Duncan conclude (p. 469) that "although some of the difference is a result of upward mobility of fathers, some of it probably does reflect response bias".

stitutional context, including how algorithmic linkage is used to link individuals prior to the introduction of national ID numbers in the 1960s. Based on the temporal spacing of data, four distinct samples from four different time periods are constructed. Section 3 introduces the methodology used to calculate multigenerational persistence, using occupational groups as opposed to (ranked) social status or educational categories. This is important, as most countries have experienced major changes in both the distribution and the income rank of occupations over time. In particular, the number of farmers, a heterogeneous group that cannot always be ranked reliably relative to non-farming occupations, was very high in the initial period. Section 4 verifies that multigenerational persistence is also found using more detailed measures of occupational status, as well as on income data from tax records. Section 5 uses information on geographical moves and time of death of grandfather to establish that a large component of multigenerational persistence is attributable to family characteristics rather than to direct influence from the grandfather. Finally, Section 6 provides a conclusion.

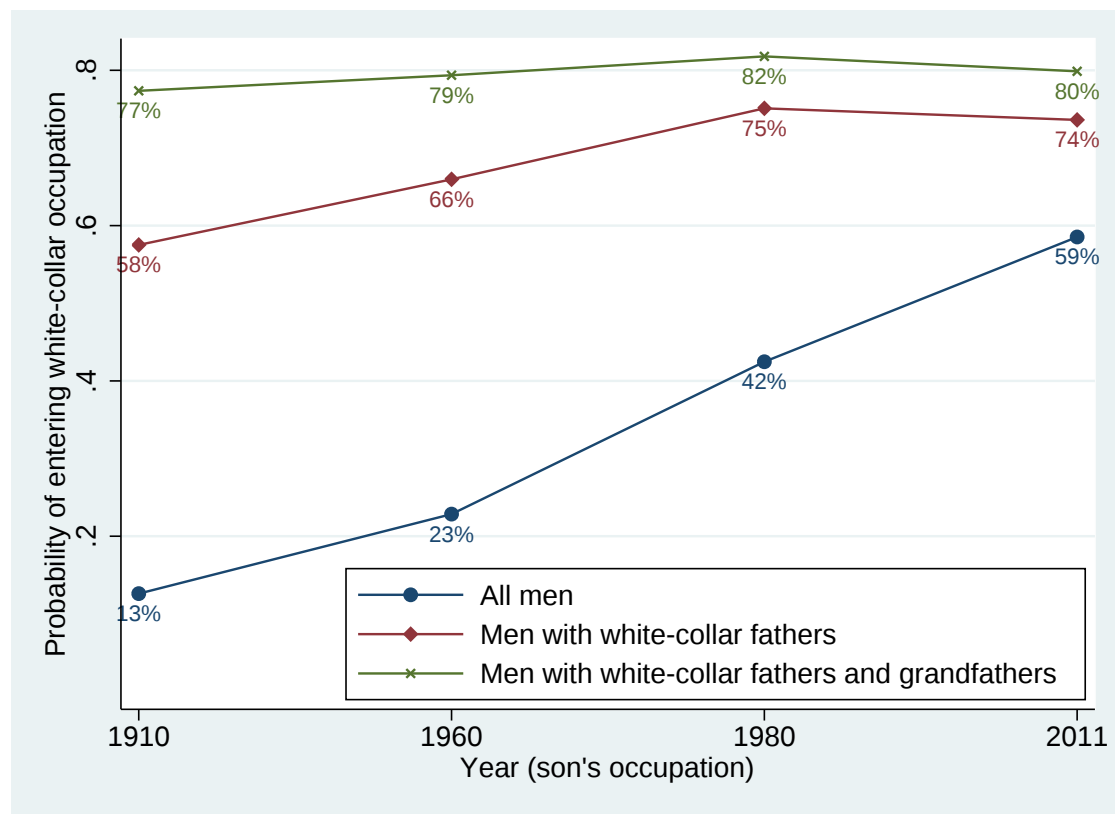


Figure 1: Probability of entering a white-collar occupation, by family background. Men in Norway, selected cohorts.

A preview of the shape of persistence for white-collar occupations is given in Figure 1. The lowermost line shows the overall probability of entering a white-collar occupation for men, mea-

sured as the share of individuals (subject to some sample restrictions described below) with such occupations at each of four censuses. In 1910, 13% of the men in the sample held a white-collar occupation while the share in 2011 is 59%. The middle line shows similar probabilities for men whose fathers also held white-collar occupations. Despite the low rates in the overall population in 1910, a majority of sons of white-collar men are able to enter white-collar occupations, reflecting limited intergenerational mobility. The uppermost line, however, shows that the importance of family background extends beyond father-son associations. If the grandfather also held a white-collar occupation, the probability in 1910 jumps from 58% to 77% and in 2011 from 74% to 80%.

2 Data and economic context

2.1 Sample construction

All the data used in this paper were obtained from official statistical sources. Full-count census data with information on all individuals in Norway, including occupation and location of residence, are available for the years 1865, 1900, 1910, 1960, 1970, 1980 and 2011. From 1960, all information on individuals can be linked using the Norwegian national ID number. Individual records from before 1960 are linked using name, birth time and birth place. The linkage procedure is documented in further detail in Appendix A.1. As linking women whose last names change at marriage presents major challenges, and there is little occupational information on women prior to 1960, this study will focus mainly on men and paternal lineages.

We construct samples by selecting a set of birth cohorts for the “son” population to achieve links that are as comprehensive as possible. For this to be achieved, three conditions must be fulfilled. First, there must be good father-son links within each source to connect generations together. Second, for the time periods before 1960, individuals must be linked between two different sources (census records). Third, the children, fathers and grandfathers must be of working age in the years when economic characteristics can be observed.

A single observation consists of data on three generations and is constructed in the following way, based on observation of the “son” generation as adults. Each son is identified when young, using either the population registry links (1960 and onward) or name and place and date/year of birth (before 1960). Then the father of that young individual is located, and his occupation used as the “father” observation. Finally, this father is again observed as a child in a third source, and his father’s occupation used as the “grandfather” observation.

The spacing of the censuses is used to group the observations into four distinct samples from four periods. Table 1 provides an overview of the size and data coverage of these samples. The earliest sample (“A”) observes grandfathers in 1865, fathers in 1900 and sons in 1910, while the final sample (“D”) observes grandfathers in 1960, fathers in 1980 and sons in 2011. For the two final samples it is also possible to add more ancestors; we return to this in Section 3.3 below.

Occupation is the only variable that is recorded throughout the period. Occupations are

	Sample A	Sample B	Sample C	Sample D
Sample size (number of lineages)	2,086	6,040	28,091	131,194
Son (index generation)				
Occupation observed in year	1910	1960	1980	2011
Birth year range	1870-1880	1900-1910	1920-1950	1960-1981
Median birth year	1878	1904	1943	1973
Number of distinct individuals	2,086	6,040	28,091	131,194
Known labor income (age 28-32)			23,775	131,094
Known labor income (age 35-39)			27,456	114,735
Known total income (age 59-63)		2,892	26,748	
Known total income (age 63-67)		5,293	25,999	
Father				
Occupation observed in year	1900	1910	1960	1980
Birth year range	1840-1865	1850-1880	1900-1910	1921-1950
Median birth year	1847	1861	1905	1945
Number of distinct individuals	1,933	4,660	21,838	95,652
Known labor income (age 28-32)				124,391
Known labor income (age 35-39)				130,644
Known total income (age 59-63)			18,177	125,567
Known total income (age 63-67)			25,587	122,639
Grandfather				
Occupation observed in year	1865	1865	1910	1960
Birth year range	1805-1835	1805-1835	1850-1880	1900-1930
Median birth year	1815	1824	1870	1912
Number of distinct individuals	1,893	4,529	19,702	84,292
Known total income (age 59-63)				107,764
Known total income (age 63-67)				115,628
Great-grandfather				
Occupation observed in year			1865	1910
Birth year range			1805-1835	1850-1880
Median birth year			1825	1870
Sample size (number of lineages)			2,422	19,700
Number of distinct individuals			1,668	11,468
Great-great-grandfather				
Occupation observed in year				1865
Birth year range				1805-1835
Median birth year				1824
Sample size (number of lineages)				1,676
Number of distinct individuals				967

Table 1: Data overview: Number of observations in each of four samples. Men in Norway, occupations observed in census year

grouped into four major categories that are frequently used in the analysis of intergenerational mobility (Long & Ferrie, 2013a; Boberg-Fazlic & Sharp, 2013; Azam, 2015): White-collar, Farmer, Manual skilled and Manual unskilled. To avoid life-cycle bias, only occupational information on individuals between age 30 and 60 is used. Because of the long time period covered with associated changes in the relative status of occupations, no imputation of status or income level by occupation is used. Censuses before 1960 do not list education, and income data is available electronically only from 1967 onward. We return to the income data in Section 4.3.

2.2 Representativity of the sample

The linkage of individuals on name, time of birth and place of birth means that the selection into the sample used in this paper is not completely random. While great care has been taken to link individuals by means of time-invariant characteristics only — name, birth time and birth place — the structure of the censuses used as base data means that only observations on families with parent-child age differences that match the observation periods can be used for linkage. Moreover, individuals whose characteristics are less unique (common names, born in large municipalities) can be linked to a lower extent than those with less common names from small places. When links are made across three periods (grandfather-father and father-son) the match rates compound. In sample B, for example, in the population for which we know the son’s occupation in 1960, in 36.1% of cases we have a 1910 father’s observation that satisfies all the criteria: that the son is identified in 1910; that there is a link between son and father in 1910; that the father is in the correct age interval (30 to 60) and that the father has a recorded occupation. Among these father-son pairs we can identify 8.5% of the grandfathers in 1865 according to the same criteria, giving a final sample size of 3.5% of men born between 1900 and 1910. The corresponding gross match rate — the share of individuals whose occupations are observed at t for whom both fathers and grandfathers are known, with an observed occupation, and between 30 and 60 years old at $t - 1$ and $t - 2$ respectively — for sample A is 1.4%, for sample C 4.4% and for sample D 24.9%.

To assess whether the results obtained in this paper can be regarded as valid for the entire population, we can compare father-son intergenerational mobility for the subsample whose grandfather’s identity is unknown with those for whom a father-grandfather link is successfully obtained. The difference in odds ratios when the same controls for age are imposed on both samples is given in Table A1. While there is some evidence of a correlation between economic characteristics and selection into the sample, the magnitude of the effect is in general small. The exceptions are farmers and unskilled workers in the first sample as well as unskilled workers in the final sample. The results for these groups in these time periods should therefore be interpreted with some caution.

Because the selection process may change over time, we should as a general rule be careful in interpreting small differences between periods as time trends. However, as the main purpose of this paper is to document the robustness of the economic impact of grandfathers over and above that of fathers in different periods and for different economic variables, biases that vary

in magnitude over time do not necessarily weaken the analysis if the effects of these biases occur in all of the samples.

Any biases in the samples are handled in the analysis in three ways. First, the estimates of persistence are based on odds ratios, which are invariant to changes in the marginal distribution. This means that over-representation of a given occupational group does not directly drive the estimation results. Second, age controls for all generations are added to all occupational regressions. Third, individuals (in the final generation) born in 1881-1899, 1911-1919 and 1951-1959 are excluded from the analysis (as shown in Table 1) because their ancestors' year of birth fits poorly with the years in which occupations and family links can be observed.

2.3 Economic development and intergenerational mobility in Norway

In 1865, Norway was a predominantly rural society; 40 per cent of the adult male population were farmers (owners, tenants or managers), while an additional twenty per cent were cottagers with limited property rights. The oldest grandfathers in this study were born in 1815, immediately after the end of the Napoleonic wars and contemporaneous hunger and economic crisis in Norway. From 1860 to 1913 there was substantial emigration to the United States, with more than 800 000 individuals emigrating (Norway's total population in 1865 was 1.7 million).

Norway industrialized relatively late compared with core European countries, but around the turn of the century many industrial ventures were started, often in locations dictated by the availability of hydroelectric power. In 1910, 32 per cent of the working-age male population were farmers and 31 per cent list a manual skilled occupation. During this period, Norway was heavily dependent in terms of large-scale emigration, food imports and raw material exports on the world economy, even though many people still lived on small farms in remote areas, and had to travel substantial distances to even the closest urban center.

After 1910, in which the final generation in sample A is observed, the economic development of Norway shared several characteristics with the rest of western Europe. While Norway was neutral during World War I, the economy was still affected, with increasing prices causing hardship for the poor and high shipping rates profiting a small group of shipowners. The first decades of the twentieth century represented a period of increasing power for the labor unions, with the first stable Labor Party government being formed in 1935. The country was under German occupation from 1940 to 1945, though material destruction was limited except in the far North. The 1950s and 1960s saw rapid economic growth, and the number of workers in manufacturing peaked in this period. This is widely regarded as an era of equalization of opportunities, with the quality of elementary education improving. Aaberge *et al.* (2016) find that income inequality in Norway was relatively high until the late 1930s, but fell to lower levels by the early 1950s.

Semmingen (1954) ties the emergence of the Norwegian industrial and middle classes from the 1860s onwards to the large population movements in the second half of the eighteenth century. The grandfathers in samples A and B are hence observed as adults in 1865 in a predominantly agricultural society with relatively low social fluidity. While the father generation had more

economic opportunities in term of industrial employment, Modalsli (2016) documents that father-son occupational mobility in Norway in 1865-1900 period was low compared to contemporary United States and twentieth century Norway.

Pekkarinen *et al.* (2015) find that intergenerational mobility (measured by brother as well as father-son income rank correlations) increased from the 1950s onwards, with lower correlations for children born after the Second World War. This is a period of increased spending on primary education, as well as several expansions of social insurance and other social programs.

Since the start of North Sea oil production of oil in the 1970s, economic growth in Norway has continued at a fast pace, with Norwegian GDP per capita ranked as one of the highest in the world. The labor force is increasingly concentrated in white-collar occupations. While Modalsli (2016) finds an increase in father-son occupational mobility until the 1980-2011 period, estimates based on intergenerational income elasticities (for example Bratberg *et al.*, 2005; Nilsen *et al.*, 2012) find some evidence of decreasing parent-child income mobility around the turn of the twenty-first century.

3 Multigenerational occupational persistence

For each of the four samples described in Table 1, we group individuals in three generations into four occupational categories, giving a $4 \times 4 \times 4$ matrix of occupational attainment. The number of individuals in each of the 64 cells is shown in Table A2; we now turn to how estimates of multigenerational persistence can be obtained from these tables. In line with the common terminology of changes in economic characteristics across generations, persistence and mobility will be taken as opposites; high mobility equals low persistence and vice versa.

The methodology here is similar to that used in the existing studies on multigenerational persistence that use administrative data (e.g. Lindahl *et al.*, 2015; Ferrie *et al.*, 2016), but differs in that the occupational data here are treated as discrete and unordered rather than continuous and/or ordered.⁵ Ordered rankings of occupations become harder to interpret when comparisons are made across a long period, as it is difficult to take into account changes in relative status and/or payoff over time. For this reason, the present paper uses measures of multigenerational occupational persistence that do not depend on any particular ordering.

3.1 Using odds ratios to calculate occupational mobility

In the simple case of two generations with two occupational groups for each generation, we can measure intergenerational mobility using the canonical two-way odds ratio (Agresti, 2002, p. 44). If we denote the probability of the son of a father with occupation i entering an occupation j as p_{ij} , the odds ratio for father-son mobility is

⁵Long & Ferrie (2015) impute incomes by five occupational groups and use OLS regressions (some categorical matrix comparison is done, but no interpretation of the magnitudes is provided), while Dribe & Helgertz (2016) use an ordered logit model based on status rankings. Knigge (2016) uses a different approach based on occupational status in multilevel models.

$$\Theta = \frac{p_{ii}/p_{ij}}{p_{ji}/p_{jj}} \quad (1)$$

A high Θ value corresponds to low intergenerational mobility, while a value of 1 can be interpreted as no association between father's and son's occupations (very high intergenerational mobility). One advantage of using odds ratios rather than simple transition probabilities is that we abstract from changes in the marginal distribution of occupations; for example, we compare the probability of entering white-collar occupations for sons of white-collar fathers and non-white-collar fathers. This is important when comparing mobility across different time periods, as the number of individuals in each occupational category changes over time.

For each occupational category, we can create 2×2 tables indicating whether fathers and sons hold the relevant occupation, and calculate odds ratios. For white-collar occupations, we obtain very high odds ratios Θ in the early period, of 15.5 for sample A and 9.7 for sample B. An odds ratio of 9.7 means that the probability of the son of a white-collar father entering a white-collar occupation, compared to the probability of not entering such an occupation, is 9.7 times higher than the corresponding ratio for the son of a non-white-collar father. For sample C (1910-1980) the odds ratio is 6.3 and for sample D (1960-2011) it is 3.1, reflecting increased mobility. For farmers there is no such trend towards mobility; for samples A to D we have $\Theta = 4.4, 9.3, 24.4$ and 20.3 , respectively. Skilled workers have initially higher mobility but follow a similar trend to that of white-collar workers ($\Theta = 6.4, 3.4, 2.3$ and 2.2), while the trend for unskilled workers is less clear ($1.6, 2.5, 6.3, 2.6$).

One could also calculate odds ratios for grandfather-grandson tables in a similar manner. These odds ratios are slightly lower than the father-son ratios.⁶ However, such associations do not incorporate the information from the father generation. For this reason, we now move to a framework where we can utilize information from all three generations.

The simplest way to construct a three-generation analogy of two-generation odds ratios is to use a canonical logit model. We choose an occupational category and set the outcome variable to 1 if this occupation is entered by the final generation and 0 if it is not entered. We then regress this outcome against father's characteristics $\mathbf{X}^g$ and grandfathers' characteristics $\mathbf{X}^f$ as background variables (ι indexes the dynasty):

$$\log \left(\frac{\Pr(\text{Son's occ} = Z)_\iota}{\Pr(\text{Son's occ} \neq Z)_\iota} \right) = \alpha + \beta \mathbf{X}_\iota^f + \gamma \mathbf{X}_\iota^g + \sum_{q \in \{s, f, g\}} (\delta \cdot \text{age}_\iota^q + \zeta \cdot (\text{age}_\iota^q)^2) + \epsilon_\iota \quad (2)$$

In the case where there is no grandparental information ($\mathbf{X}^g$ is empty), fathers' characteristics are represented by a simple 0-1 dummy for occupational category and there are no age controls

⁶For the four time periods A-D, they are: for white collar 11.2, 6.6, 3.8, 2.4; for farmers 2.8, 2.9, 6.4, 10.2; for manual skilled 3.6, 1.9, 1.2, 1.2 and for manual unskilled 1.1, 1.5, 2.4, 1.9. Associations with standard errors and controls for age are given in Columns (1) (fathers) and (6) (grandfathers) in Tables 5 and A4-A6.

for the son generation, the estimates of β from Equation (2) are equivalent to the log of the odds ratios from the 2×2 table.

In some cases, interpreting logit coefficients across samples can be misleading (Mood, 2010). However, because the marginal distributions of occupations change over time, some normalization of marginal distributions is necessary (for a discussion, see Xie & Killewald, 2013; Hout & Guest, 2013; Long & Ferrie, 2013b). Moreover, as argued by Buis (2016), there are some applications (such as the importance of social backgrounds) where direct interpretation is appropriate. For this reason, the logit model will be used as a baseline specification.⁷ We now move to the first application of this model to three generations using one binary indicator variable for each generation.

3.2 Binary outcomes across three generations

The simplest joint model of fathers and grandfathers uses a dummy variable D for each generation that is equal to 1 if that generation holds the occupation in question. Age controls will also be used throughout. This gives the following expression for the covariate vector for generation $q \in (f, g)$ in Equation (2):

$$\mathbf{X}_t^q = D_t^q \quad (3)$$

For each time period, the model is estimated four times: with the indicator variable as White collar, Farmer, Manual skilled and Manual unskilled, respectively. The resulting parameter estimates are shown in Table 2.

We start with the outcome of the son entering a white-collar occupation, as opposed to entering an occupation in one of the other three categories. The corresponding right-hand-side variables are a dummy variable for whether the father had a white-collar occupation, a dummy for whether the grandfather had a white-collar occupation, and second-degree polynomials controlling for the age (at the time of observation) of each of the three generations. The top panel of Table 2 shows the exponentiated coefficients for father’s and grandfather’s occupations and can be interpreted as odds ratios. The coefficient of father’s occupation is comparable for all periods and all occupations, with that in the two-generation case reported in the previous section. We now focus on the coefficient on grandfather’s occupation.

For an individual observed in 1910 (sample A) with a given father’s occupation, having a grandfather with a white-collar occupation increases the odds of entering a white-collar occupation by 2.8. In other words, the grandfather effect in 1865-1910 is comparable in size to the father effect in the 1960-2011 sample. The grandparental effect in sample B (sons observed in 1960) is also large, while the grandparental coefficients in samples C and D (sons observed 1980 and 2011) are lower, in accordance with the generally higher mobility into and out of white-collar occupations. However, all coefficients are significant and substantial.

⁷Results using linear probability models are available on request.

Sample	A	B	C	D
Occupation: White collar				
Father	11.79*** (13.58)	8.071*** (23.28)	5.151*** (48.16)	2.730*** (79.46)
Grandfather	2.838*** (3.51)	2.504*** (6.19)	1.802*** (13.93)	1.631*** (30.26)
Occupation: Farmer				
Father	3.686*** (8.31)	8.179*** (24.49)	18.71*** (44.78)	8.636*** (43.94)
Grandfather	1.595*** (2.96)	1.471*** (5.10)	1.929*** (10.84)	3.916*** (25.13)
Occupation: Manual, skilled				
Father	5.458*** (12.26)	3.312*** (17.07)	2.351*** (31.97)	2.171*** (62.26)
Grandfather	2.039*** (3.55)	1.316*** (2.84)	0.959 (-1.38)	1.021* (1.68)
Occupation: Manual, unskilled				
Father	1.688*** (3.80)	2.327*** (8.32)	5.581*** (30.68)	2.210*** (23.37)
Grandfather	0.935 (-0.57)	1.223** (2.25)	1.554*** (7.06)	1.652*** (18.73)
<i>N</i>	2086	6040	28091	131194
Son observed:	1910	1960	1980	2011
Father observed:	1900	1910	1960	1980
Grandfather observed:	1865	1865	1910	1960

Exponentiated coefficients; *t* statistics in parentheses

* $p < 0.1$, ** $p < 0.05$, *** $p < 0.01$

Table 2: Odds ratio coefficients for binary occupational regressions on father and grandfather's occupations. Dependent variable: son's occupation. Separate logit regressions for each sample and occupational category. Constant terms and coefficients on quadratic controls for age for all three generations were also included in the regressions.

The second panel of Table 2 reports father and grandfather coefficients for farmers, where again the variables of interest are dummies for whether the father and grandfather belonged to the same occupational category. Once again there are large and highly significant coefficients. For both white-collar occupations and farmers, the grandparental coefficient in all four samples is significant at the 1% level.

The results for white-collar workers and farmers are consistent across time periods: knowing that an individual had a father in the given occupation group substantially increases the probability that the individual himself holds the occupation. Controlling for father’s occupation, knowing that the individual had a grandfather in this category also increases the probability substantially, but less than for the father. The evidence for the two remaining groups, manual skilled and manual unskilled occupations, is not as clear. For manual skilled occupations, the picture is similar to that of white-collar occupations in samples A and B. In sample C, the grandparental coefficient is negative; this means that when we compare two individuals with the same father’s occupation, the one whose grandfather did not have a manual, skilled occupation would have a higher probability of entering such an occupation (though this difference is not statistically significant). Examining the full set of occupations shows that this negative coefficient is a result of the relative probabilities for grandsons of manual unskilled individuals, who are more likely to enter manual skilled occupations than any other group.

For manual unskilled occupations, the coefficient on grandfathers becomes higher with time. It is close to zero and insignificant in the initial period.⁸

The significance of grandfather’s occupation does not depend on the grouping of occupations used here. Table A3 shows coefficients from estimations on smaller occupational groups. In the case of specific occupations with a limited number of individuals, some of the cells in a $2 \times 2 \times 2$ transition matrix will frequently not be fully occupied — in these cases, coefficients cannot be estimated. However, where there are sufficient observations, the pattern for the detailed sample occupations is similar to that in Table 2, though slightly higher on average (as would be expected from more precise categories).

3.3 What about the great-grandfathers?

In the previous paragraphs, we examined the influence of two generations of ancestors on the outcome of the final generation. The data allow examination of the influence of an even larger set of generations. Two caveats must be kept in mind when conducting such an analysis. First, as match rates are imperfect, the reduction of the sample size is compounded when more generations are considered and the observation years are irregularly spaced. Second, the number of ancestors increases geometrically with the number of generations, and we only consider paternal ancestors here.

⁸One could also add an interaction term between grandfather’s and father’s occupation. The coefficient on such an interaction term is in most cases close to 1 (no effect) and insignificant, and does not substantially alter the coefficient reported for grandfather’s occupation here.

Table 3 shows the results of logit regression with son’s occupation as outcome for further ancestor generations for each of the four occupational groups. In sample C, information on the great-grandfather is available; in sample D, we have information on both great-grandfathers and great-great-grandfathers. Information about the samples is given in Table 1.

The first column of Table 3 shows the results of the four-generation models, with the paternal lineage observed in 1865, 1910, 1960 and 1980, respectively. The only significant great-grandfather coefficient is observed for white-collar occupations; it is substantial at 1.53, corresponding to 53% higher odds of entering a white-collar occupation for the great-grandson of a white-collar worker, for given father’s and grandfather’s occupations. Similarly, there are substantial coefficient values also for farmers and unskilled manual workers, though these are not statistically significant. Table A7 compares three-generation regressions for the baseline sample and for the subsample where the fourth generation is available; when the number of observations is reduced from 28,091 (with three generations) to 2,422 (with four generations) several of the grandparental coefficients lose significance.

The second and third columns of Table 3 show results for the final sample, with the five generations observed in 1865, 1910, 1960, 1980 and 2011. There are 131,194 observations for the final three generations, 19,700 for four generations and 1,676 for five generations. In the second column, we observe a statistically significant coefficient for great-grandfather for white-collar occupations and farmers. The significance of this coefficient does, however, disappear when we reduce the sample size to also examine the fifth generation; in this case, while the size of the great-great grandfather coefficient is substantial, it is in no case significantly different from zero.

For manual skilled occupations, we observe negative coefficients for great-grandparents. For given father’s and grandfather’s occupations, an individual would have a *lower* probability of entering a manual skilled occupation if his grandfather was a manual skilled worker. This is again driven by the higher probability of descendants of manual unskilled workers of entering manual skilled occupations.

3.4 Multigenerational persistence and long-run dynamics

To show how the coefficient estimates presented in Tables 2 and 3 translate into long-run persistence of social groups, we can simulate the speed of movement of dynasties across occupational borders. We consider white-collar occupations, and a hypothetical steady state where the share of the population in white-collar occupations is always 10%. We then denote as q_t the share of white-collar workers whose ancestors held a white-collar occupation t generations back. If there was no persistence (perfect mobility, $\beta = \gamma = 1$), q would always be 10%, and this is also the figure we obtain if we let t go to infinity. For ease of interpretation, we assume generation lengths of 30 years and that the initial year — the year in which we observe the ancestor — is 1850. Figure 2 shows the result of simulations using three different mobility regimes.

The uppermost line in the first panel shows q , the simulated share of white-collar workers with a white-collar ancestor, for the high-persistence parameters ($\beta = 11.79, \gamma = 2.84$) obtained from

Sample	C	D	D
Occupation: White collar			
Father	5.566*** (14.04)	2.894*** (31.51)	3.087*** (9.64)
Grandfather	1.622*** (2.83)	1.559*** (10.05)	1.751*** (3.40)
Great-grandfather	1.532* (1.79)	1.185*** (3.23)	0.916 (-0.40)
Great-great-grandfather			1.414 (1.03)
Occupation: Farmer			
Father	23.15*** (13.05)	8.049*** (20.07)	6.677*** (6.33)
Grandfather	1.426 (1.62)	3.873*** (9.69)	2.655** (2.54)
Great-grandfather	1.337 (1.62)	1.525*** (3.36)	1.213 (0.47)
Great-great-grandfather			1.812 (1.64)
Occupation: Manual, skilled			
Father	2.756*** (10.71)	2.222*** (24.60)	2.159*** (6.97)
Grandfather	0.813 (-1.59)	1.078** (2.13)	1.198 (1.47)
Great-grandfather	0.897 (-0.61)	0.810*** (-5.13)	0.898 (-0.58)
Great-great-grandfather			0.810 (-0.86)
Occupation: Manual, unskilled			
Father	4.776*** (7.80)	2.138*** (8.53)	0.944 (-0.14)
Grandfather	1.291 (1.06)	1.487*** (5.21)	1.151 (0.47)
Great-grandfather	1.371 (1.63)	1.113 (1.45)	1.584* (1.72)
Great-great-grandfather			1.320 (1.32)
Age controls	Yes	Yes	Yes
<i>N</i>	2422	19700	1676
Son observed	1980	2011	2011
Father observed:	1960	1980	1980
Grandfather observed:	1910	1960	1960
Great-grandfather observed:	1865	1910	1910
Great-great-grandfather observed:			1865

Exponentiated coefficients; *t* statistics in parentheses

* $p < 0.1$, ** $p < 0.05$, *** $p < 0.01$

Table 3: Odds ratio coefficients for binary occupational regressions on four and five generations, samples C and D. Dependent variable: son's occupation. Separate logit regressions for each sample and occupational category. Constant terms and coefficients on quadratic controls for age for all generations were also included in the regressions.

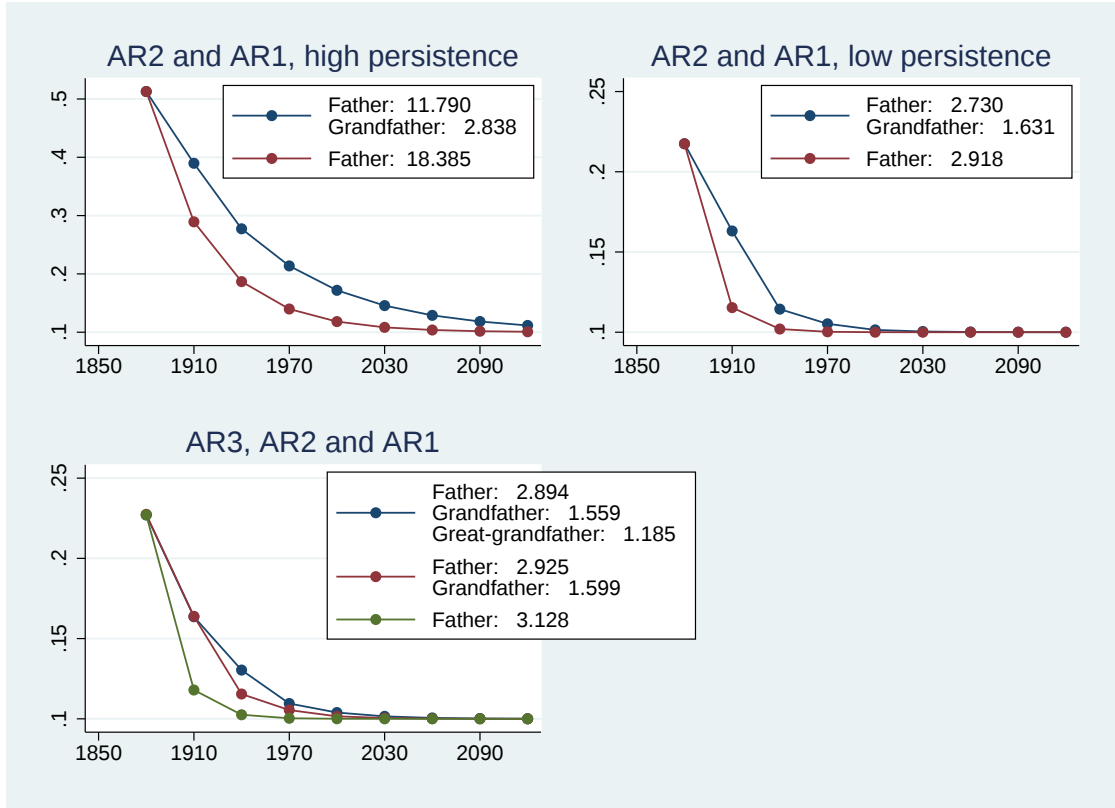


Figure 2: Simulation. Figures show the share of white-collar workers in year t whose ancestors in 1850 held a white-collar occupation, for time-invariant parameters, a constant share of white-collar workers of 10% and generation lengths of 30 years. Within a given panel, all processes have the same two-generation transition patterns.

sample A, the 1865-1910 sample. After one generation, more than half of the white-collar workers are sons of white-collar workers, compared to 10% (by definition) in the general population ($q_1 = 0.51$). After two generations, in 1910, 39% of white-collar workers had grandfathers with a white-collar occupation in 1850 ($q_2 = 0.39$). These high rates are maintained for a long time. In 2030, after six generations, there are still 15% of white-collar workers with white-collar ancestors (though many of these dynasties will have held non-white-collar occupations in intervening generations).

The second line in the first panel, by contrast, shows the simulated share of individuals with white-collar ancestors for an AR1 process that is observationally equivalent to the AR2 process in which only two generations are observed (i.e. $\beta = 18.39, \gamma = 1$). By definition, these parameters give the same share of white-collar ancestors after one generation, but as there is no multigenerational persistence, q decreases much faster with time. After four generations the share of white-collar workers with white-collar ancestors is down to 14%, compared to the 21% obtained if we take into account grandfathers.

The second panel shows a similar comparison for lower rates of multigenerational persistence, namely those observed for white collar occupations in sample D (1960-2011). In this case, convergence is much faster, with ancestor rates lower than 15% obtained after 6 generations (AR2) and 4 generations (AR1).

The third panel similarly compares AR3, AR2 and AR1 processes using parameters from the second column of Table 3. Here the AR2 process is observationally equivalent to the AR3 process in which grandfathers, fathers and sons are observed. It is evident that the great-grandfather term contributes substantially to persistence; even for these relatively moderate parameter values, the difference between AR3 and AR2 after three or four generations is even larger than the difference between the AR2 and AR1 parameters.

3.5 Grandfathers and father-son mobility

Persistence across generations also means that estimates of two-generation mobility differ depending on the selectivity into the population under study. To compare father-son mobility across grandfather occupational groups, we turn to the Altham statistic (Altham, 1970), used by Long & Ferrie (2013a) to take into account “off-diagonal” probabilities. This statistic (denoted d below) is effectively a constant multiplied by the geometric average of all possible log odds ratios in the mobility matrix. Extending the approach used in Equation (2) to a multinomial logit model with three equations, we can use the parameters for father’s occupation to construct an Altham statistic and a corresponding confidence interval. Let β_j^i denote the coefficient on the dummy variable for father’s occupation i in the equation for son’s occupation j . We can then express the Altham statistic d for the father-son associations as (see Modalsli, 2015):

$$d = \left(\sum_{i=1}^N \sum_{j=1}^N \sum_{l=1}^N \sum_{m=1}^N [(\beta_j^i - \beta_m^i) - (\beta_j^l - \beta_m^l)]^2 \right)^{1/2} \quad (4)$$

Sample	A	B	C	D
All grandfathers	22.9*** (21.0 – 25.6)	19.9*** (18.8 – 21.2)	22.9*** (22.2 – 23.6)	18.6*** (18.1 – 19.1)
Grandfather white collar	(–)	(–)	22.1*** (19.8 – 25.1)	21.7*** (19.7 – 24.2)
Grandfather farmer	20.9*** (18.0 – 25.2)	18.6*** (17.1 – 20.6)	20.4*** (19.5 – 21.4)	13.0*** (12.4 – 13.7)
Grandfather manual skilled	(–)	22.8*** (19.8 – 28.6)	24.6*** (22.0 – 29.5)	18.9*** (17.1 – 21.0)
Grandfather manual unskilled	19.8*** (15.7 – 27.7)	18.7*** (16.3 – 22.2)	22.4*** (20.5 – 25.3)	18.9*** (16.8 – 21.3)

Table 4: Father-son Altham statistics, contingent on grandfather’s occupation. Calculated using multinomial logit with age controls. *** indicates 99% significant difference from hypothetical “full mobility” using χ^2 -tests; numbers in parentheses indicate 95% bootstrapped confidence intervals

A high value of d corresponds to high odds ratios; that is, low intergenerational mobility. The subgroup statistics are shown in Table 4, where father-son Altham statistics are calculated for the full samples (top row) and for subsamples depending on grandfather’s occupation (rows 2-5). There are substantial differences between the estimates in all periods except the first one, where the number of occupation combinations is insufficient to calculate subpopulation Altham statistics for all grandfather’s occupations. In samples B and C, descendants of manual skilled grandfathers experience lower father-son mobility; in sample D, descendants of white-collar workers have the lowest mobility. The most diverging estimate is that for farmers in the final period. While estimated father-son intergenerational mobility between 1980 and 2011 is $d = 18.6$, the corresponding statistic for those who had farmer grandfathers in 1960 is $d = 13.0$. As the number of farmers declined rapidly throughout the period, a large proportion of the sons of the 1960 farmers entered different occupations from those of their fathers. This in turn means that their sons faced a shorter familial occupational tradition, which is likely to have led to their being less dependent on their father’s occupation when choosing their own. This shows one pattern through which multigenerational occupational processes work.

4 Persistence and the measurement of economic characteristics

While the analysis above shows positive and significant coefficients for grandfathers in all time periods and for most occupational categories, one might fear that this effect was driven by insufficiently exact measurement of the father characteristics. To alleviate this concern, we repeat the regressions using more detailed information about the father generation. If more exact information on the father does not substantially change the observed grandfather effect, one can have a higher degree of confidence that the observed coefficients do in fact reflect effects that are latent in the family.

We begin by considering more detailed occupational information, and then move to measuring income persistence.

4.1 Changing occupational categories

In the previous section, the analysis was based in its entirety on four occupational categories. This has the advantage of making the analysis fully comparable over time. However, the occupational data allow more detailed information to be incorporated.

Here, we replace the single dummy in (2) with a more detailed specification of father’s occupation (2-digit HISCO for 1900-1910; 2-digit NYK for 1960-1980). That is, while we maintain the grandfather specification $\mathbf{X}_t^g = D_t^g$ from Equation (3), we replace that of the father with

$$\mathbf{X}_t^f = \underbrace{\{X_t^{f(1)}, X_t^{f(2)}, \dots, X_t^{f(N-1)}\}}_{\text{Dummy variables for } N \text{ occupational categories}} \quad (5)$$

Table 5 reports coefficient estimates using a range of models that incorporate different amounts of information on the parent generation. All columns report exponentiated coefficients from a logit regression where the outcome is whether the son has a white-collar occupation. Model 1 includes only a dummy for whether the father has a white-collar occupation, while Model 2 is the same as the one reported in the top panel of Table 2, where there is also a dummy for whether the grandparent has a white-collar occupation. We observe that while the coefficient of father’s occupation is somewhat mediated (from 14.96 to 11.79 in the first period; less in later periods) the magnitude remains similar, giving a first indication that grandfather’s effects do not only work through father’s observable characteristics.

In the third column, the characterization of father’s occupation is extended to the full set of occupational categories used in the census data (covariates from Equation (5)). This additional information increases the predictive power of the model as described by the χ^2 likelihood ratio tests and the pseudo- R^2 (substantially in absolute terms; in relative terms, the increase is only moderate, as some of the explanatory power in all models (1)-(6) is attributable to the

	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)
Sample A (1865 - 1900 - 1910)						
Father's occ.	14.96*** (15.96)	11.79*** (13.58)	41 cat.	11.55*** (10.75)	41 cat.	
Mother's occ.				0.441 (-0.84)	11 cat.	
Grandfather's occ.		2.838*** (3.51)	2.328*** (2.65)	5.460*** (4.61)	2.805** (2.42)	10.57*** (9.70)
N	2086	2086	2041	1271	1181	2086
χ^2 LR	268.4	280.7	356.8	204.8	229.9	107.4
Pseudo- R^2	0.170	0.178	0.232	0.212	0.261	0.0679
Sample B (1865 - 1910 - 1960)						
Father's occ.	9.647*** (26.46)	8.071*** (23.28)	63 cat.	7.604*** (21.45)	63 cat.	
Mother's occ.				1.672 (1.46)	22 cat.	
Grandfather's occ.		2.504*** (6.19)	2.320*** (5.53)	2.583*** (6.08)	2.365*** (5.32)	6.668*** (14.91)
N	6040	6040	6008	5574	5515	6040
χ^2 LR	785.8	824.3	933.3	719.7	843.4	266.7
Pseudo- R^2	0.121	0.127	0.146	0.120	0.143	0.0411
Sample C (1910 - 1960 - 1980)						
Father's occ.	6.100*** (56.22)	5.151*** (48.16)	67 cat.	4.933*** (43.48)	67 cat.	
Mother's occ.				2.456*** (8.79)	47 cat.	
Grandfather's occ.		1.802*** (13.93)	1.529*** (9.75)	1.728*** (12.02)	1.468*** (8.14)	3.610*** (34.20)
N	28091	28091	28074	24485	24412	28091
χ^2 LR	4161.4	4356.9	5214.9	3842.0	4559.2	1812.3
Pseudo- R^2	0.109	0.114	0.136	0.115	0.137	0.0473
Sample D (1960 - 1980 - 2011)						
Father's occ.	3.049*** (91.63)	2.730*** (79.46)	84 cat.	2.494*** (60.86)	84 cat.	
Mother's occ.				1.561*** (29.35)	80 cat.	
Grandfather's occ.		1.631*** (30.26)	1.502*** (24.73)	1.560*** (23.36)	1.437*** (18.65)	2.312*** (54.86)
N	131194	131194	131193	98155	98140	131194
χ^2 LR	9462.6	10404.2	12172.7	9130.4	10498.8	3830.2
Pseudo- R^2	0.0532	0.0584	0.0684	0.0687	0.0791	0.0215
Age controls	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes

Exponentiated coefficients; t statistics in parentheses

* $p < 0.1$, ** $p < 0.05$, *** $p < 0.01$

Table 5: Son-parent-grandfather logit regressions with more detailed information on the parent generation. Outcome is whether son has white-collar occupation, ancestor's occupation is whether or not white collar, except father and mother in columns (3) and (5) where a larger set of occupation dummies are used.

age controls). Moreover, there is only a moderate change in the coefficient for grandfather’s occupation, which in all models remains a binary variable indicating whether the grandfather has a white-collar occupation.

In Model 4, we return to the binary occupational variable (Equation 3) but include a dummy variable for mother’s occupation. Model 5 reports estimates using the full set of dummies (Equation 5) for both mother and father.⁹ The final column reports, for reasons of comparison, on the model with no controls for the parent generation at all.

In all four time periods, the grandparent coefficient remains significant and robust to the improved measurement of parent characteristics. While there is a slight decrease in magnitude, it is small compared to the overall effect. For this reason, we conclude that the grandfather effect is indeed a reflection of latent family characteristics rather than mismeasurement of the parent’s occupation.

A similar exercise can be performed for the other three occupation categories. The results of this exercise are reported in Appendix A.2. In general, any significant coefficients in Table 2 remain significant when these more complex specifications are used.¹⁰

4.2 Incorporating information from outside the matrix diagonal

In addition to the influence on son’s occupation due to fathers and grandfathers having the same occupation, there may be cross-occupational effects; for example, the probability of a son entering a white-collar occupation may differ, depending on whether the father had a manual skilled or manual unskilled occupation. With four occupational categories, there are six relevant comparisons of occupations; we restrict the analysis to similar comparisons for father and grandfather, giving a total of 36 combinations. These can be thought of as odds ratios obtained from cross-tabulations including only two relevant son occupations and two relevant ancestor occupations. In practice, the coefficients are estimated jointly using a multinomial logit model with age controls.

A graphical overview of the coefficient on father’s and grandfather’s occupation — analogous to odds ratios in 2×2 tables — is given in Figure 3, where the bars denote 95% confidence intervals. Comparisons involving farmers are not shown in the figure, reducing the number of subpanels from 36 to 9. The diagonal shows comparisons of similar occupational pairs for sons and ancestors. In these cases, the parameters are of high magnitude; the largest coefficients are found in the middle panel, where the right bars denote the excess odds of a son entering a white

⁹The number of observations is lower for models 3-5 for two reasons. First, some of the detailed occupational categories has very few members in the parent generation, and observations whose dummy variables that perfectly predict outcomes are dropped from the regression. Second, when including data on the mothers we impose the same age requirements (30-60); there are also some individuals where the mother’s identity is unknown. A majority of mothers in the early samples do not have a stated occupation; these are kept in the sample and assigned to an additional “homemaker” occupational category. Models with mothers also incorporate second-degree polynomial in mother’s age at time of observation.

¹⁰If a linear probability model is used, differences in coefficient magnitudes between the reference model and the models with more details on parents’ occupations is larger. However, statistically significant grandparent estimates remain so with additional controls also in the linear probability case. Results are available on request.

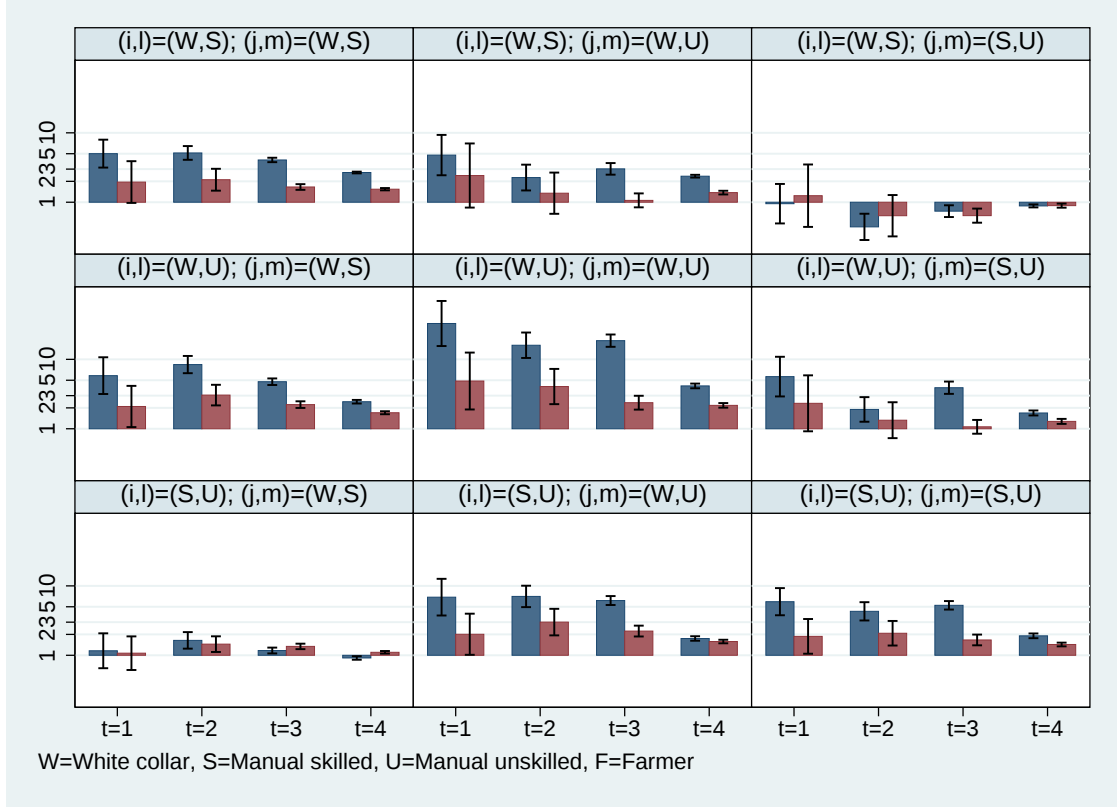


Figure 3: Odds ratios (parameters in logit regression) from $2 \times 2 \times 2$ subtables where (i, l) , shown in rows, refers to father's and grandfather's occupation and (j, m) , shown in columns, refers to son's occupation. Left (blue) bars denote coefficient on father while right (red) bars denote coefficient on grandfather.

collar occupation rather than an unskilled occupation given that his grandfather held a white-collar occupation rather than an unskilled occupation, for given father's occupation. These are above 2 in all time periods.

The cross-terms comparing white-collar occupations to something else for both sons and ancestors are generally similar to those on the diagonal. For example, having ancestors with white-collar occupations over manual skilled occupations increases the likelihood of entering white-collar occupations over unskilled occupations. However, other terms are very small; the cross terms comparing white collar to manual skilled for sons for manual skilled and manual skilled ancestors are below 1. In sample C, for a father with a given manual occupation, for the final generation it is more likely to enter a white-collar occupation if the grandfather held a manual *unskilled* occupation than if he held a manual *skilled* occupation. This reflects persistence within the manual skilled occupational group. For odds ratios comparing farmers to non-farmers, either on the son or ancestor side, the magnitudes of the odds ratios are generally larger.¹¹

One could further compare the probabilities of outcomes for sons contingent on different pairs of occupations for fathers and grandfathers. For the $4 \times 4 \times 4$ tables used here, there are a total of $(4 \cdot 3/2)^3 = 216$ unique such odds ratios, some of which will be sensitive to very low observation counts. A manual investigation of these do not give any substantial insight beyond what is described above. For this reason, we now move to summary measures incorporating odds ratios for similar fathers' and grandfathers' occupations.

The Altham statistic used in Section 3.5 can be extended to joint models of father's and grandfather's occupation by including grandfather coefficients in the regression. Table 6 reports Altham statistics for three separate models. First, we model son's occupation by either father or grandfather's occupation separately, with controls only for the ages of each generation in the model. Second, we use a joint model with dummy variables for both father's and grandfather's occupation. In both cases, the statistic reported for grandfathers is obtained by replacing β with γ in Equation (4).

The first line in Table 6 shows the Altham statistic on father-son mobility, exhibiting a slight decrease (corresponding to increasing mobility) between the first and the final sample. The second line shows the similar statistic for grandfather and grandson. In this case, there is a larger difference between the first and final sample. However, we are primarily interested in the Altham statistics constructed from regressions where both father and grandfather is included at the same time. These are shown in the third and fourth line of Table 6.

We see that the Altham statistic on grandparental occupations is statistically significant even when estimated jointly with father's occupation. Moreover, while the separate models show unambiguous increase in mobility between samples C (1910-1960-1980) and D (1960-1980-2011), this can now be interpreted as a substantial increase in father-son intergenerational mobility — a decrease in the influence of fathers — together with a slight *increase* in the influence of grandfathers. However, in the final sample the odds ratios for farmers are high and substantially

¹¹These estimates are shown in the Appendix, Figures A1-A3.

Sample	A	B	C	D
<i>Separate models</i>				
Father and son	23.3*** (22.5 – 24.3)	20.1*** (19.7 – 20.4)	22.6*** (22.2 – 23.0)	19.0*** (18.7 – 19.2)
Grandfather and grandson	21.9*** (18.9 – 26.2)	15.4*** (14.0 – 17.2)	14.6*** (14.1 – 15.1)	14.1*** (13.6 – 14.6)
<i>Joint model</i>				
Father	20.5*** (18.4 – 23.3)	18.3*** (17.1 – 19.7)	21.0*** (20.3 – 21.7)	14.2*** (13.6 – 14.8)
Grandfather	11.6*** (8.2 – 17.7)	7.5*** (6.3 – 9.8)	6.4*** (5.7 – 7.4)	8.6*** (8.1 – 9.3)

Table 6: Father-son and grandfather-grandson Altham statistic calculated using multinomial logit. Higher number reflects higher persistence. Age controls added in all cases. *** indicates 99% significance using χ^2 -tests; numbers in parentheses indicate 95% bootstrapped confidence intervals

influence the aggregate Altham statistic even though the farm population is very small.

4.3 Multigenerational income persistence

So far we have concerned ourselves with the association between father’s and grandfather’s occupation and the occupation of the son. However, for recent generations, we also have comprehensive income information from the tax registries. By shifting the focus from occupation to income, one can get us more information about whether to think of the grandparental influence as horizontal movements across fields, or as vertical movements between different levels of economic status.

From 1967 onwards the individual records can be linked to tax return registries, where two types of income are recorded. Labor income (*pensjonsgivende inntekt*) is the preferred measure for working-age men, as it most exactly reflects the return to occupations. However, for earlier cohorts we must rely on incomes of older men, where a large proportion will have retired. For those 59 years or older we hence use total income (*alminnelig inntekt*), which includes pensions but also capital income. Observations are averaged over five years to remove short-term variations in income, and income is measured at the same age range for all individuals in a given analysis. To abstract from variations in the income distribution over time, we follow Chetty et al (2013) and use the income *rank* rather than the level of income. Ranks are measured compared to other individuals in the same cohort. Denoting income rank by R and sons, fathers and grandfathers by s , f and g , respectively, the baseline two-generation relationship is

$$R_{\iota}^s = \alpha + \beta R_{\iota}^f + \gamma R_{\iota}^g + \epsilon_{\iota} \quad (6)$$

For the 1960-1980-2011 sample we can estimate relation (6) directly. For the 1910-1960-1980

sample we do not observe grandfather's income, and instead rely on the grandfather occupation variable to examine the multigenerational process. In that case, the relation becomes

$$R_t^s = \alpha + \beta R_t^f + \psi \mathbf{X}_t^g + \epsilon_t \quad (7)$$

	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)
	Sample C		Sample D			
	Sons born 1920-1950		Sons born 1960-1981			
Dependent variable:	Income rank (age 63-67)		Income rank (age 28-32)			
Father income rank (age 63-67)	0.263*** (42.43)	0.243*** (36.77)				
Father's income rank (age 28-32)			0.137*** (46.04)	0.135*** (44.46)	0.126*** (40.94)	0.127*** (41.05)
Grandfather's income rank (age 59-63)					0.0399*** (13.20)	0.0434*** (13.11)
Grandfather's occ: Farmer		-4.899*** (-8.57)		-0.801*** (-3.14)		0.521* (1.90)
Grandfather's occ: Manual skilled		-5.752*** (-9.44)		-1.129*** (-5.22)		-0.258 (-1.14)
Grandfather's occ: Manual unskilled		-8.748*** (-12.29)		-0.458 (-1.50)		0.988*** (3.05)
Constant	38.48*** (102.83)	44.49*** (65.12)	48.31*** (272.53)	49.14*** (189.22)	46.83*** (223.52)	46.48*** (141.18)
<i>N</i>	23700	23700	104555	104555	104555	104555

t statistics in parentheses

* $p < 0.1$, ** $p < 0.05$, *** $p < 0.01$

Table 7: OLS regression on income ranks, samples C (sons born 1920-1950) and D (sons born 1960-1981).

The relationship (6) is estimated using ordinary least squares, and the results from these rank-rank regressions are given in Table 7. The first column gives the father-son rank correlations for sample C, where sons are born between 1920 and 1950 and incomes are measured at rather advanced ages. The constant term is 38 and the slope term 0.26, meaning that an individual whose father had income at the 25th percentile can be expected to have an income at the $38 + 0.26 \cdot 25 = 44.5$ th percentile.

The second column adds controls for grandfather's occupational group, with white-collar as reference group. The slope coefficient is comparable to that in column 1, but there is a substantial difference between those with white-collar grandfathers and other groups. A son whose father had income at the 25th percentile and a white-collar grandfather has an expected income rank of $44 + 0.24 \cdot 25 = 50$, while a son with a father at the same income percentile but a grandfather with a manual skilled occupation has an expected income rank 5.7 percentage points lower. Table A8 shows that the results are robust to measurement of son's income at earlier ages.

Interpreting the results from this mid-twentieth century sample is challenging as we do not have the same type of information for all generations. However, this is less of a problem in sample D, where the final generation is born between 1960 and 1981. As a baseline specification, we measure both sons' and father's incomes early in their careers. Columns 3 and 4 correspond to the two analyses of sample C above. The rank-rank coefficient is substantially smaller than in sample C, showing that the relationship between father's and son's income is weaker. The coefficients on grandparental occupations are also smaller in magnitude. However, we cannot say whether this truly reflects lower income persistence as incomes are measured at different ages in the two samples.

Column 5 gives the basic rank-rank specification for three generations, with grandparental income measured as an average for ages 59-63. There is a small but significant coefficient on grandparental income rank. An individual whose father and grandfather were both at the 10th percentile would have an expected income rank of $47 + 0.13 \cdot 10 + 0.04 \cdot 10 = 48.7$, while an individual with a father at the 10th percentile but a grandfather at the 90th percentile would have an expected income rank $0.04 \cdot (90 - 10) = 3.2$ percentage points higher. Column 6 indicates that the effect of grandfather's occupation is not only reflected in income, as some of the dummy variables still have significant coefficient values. Table A9 shows that the results are robust to measurement of father's income at different ages.

Bratberg *et al.* (2015) find that rank-rank curves slope upward at the top in Norway and Sweden. This suggests a separate "top income" effect. A simple way to control for this is to add dummy variables indicating whether father's and grandfather's income is in the top 10 percent. The results of this exercise are reported in Table A10. While the upward slope of the father-son rank correlation is replicated, with an excess rank from top 10 of 8.4 for sample C and 1 for sample D, the coefficient on grandfathers is small and not significant. While we cannot rule out such a top income effect, the evidence here is not strong.

As was the case for the occupational models (see Section 4.1 above) the results are robust to more elaborate ways of measuring economic outcomes in the parent generation. Adding a squared term for father's income rank does not change the parameter for grandfather's income rank. Adding control for mother's income rank in addition to that for father reduces the grandparental coefficient from 0.040 to 0.036.

These results for multigenerational income persistence are consistent with what was found for occupational categories. As income is one-dimensional and income data is not available for all time periods, it is not possible to look for changes over time similar to those in the occupational data, such as lower persistence in white-collar occupations or changes in manual occupational groups. However, the absence of a "top income" effect for grandfathers suggests that white-collar persistence is not merely an elite phenomenon, but also reflects dynamics further down in the income distribution.

We now turn to a further distinction between possible mechanisms driving the influence of grandfathers.

5 Mechanisms: What is the role of personal contact?

The analysis so far has established that there is an association between grandfathers' and grandsons' social status, as measured by both occupation and income, when controlling for father's status. However, the jury is still out on whether this reflects underlying family characteristics, which even with perfect measurement would only be partly reflected in the observed status of the father, or the direct influence of the grandfather's presence during the grandson's childhood.

Zeng & Xie (2014) argue that the relationship between grandparents and grandchildren's economic outcomes reflects direct interaction between generations. In their study, the effects of grandparental characteristics on grandchildren's education are strong for co-resident grandparents but nearly non-existent for non-co-resident grandparents. However, it is not clear how the results of this study, performed on Chinese survey data, can be applied to other parts of the world. A supplementary approach to using geographical moves to infer the direct influence of grandparents on their grandchildren is to use information on the grandparents' time of death. Both Dribe & Helgertz (2016) and Braun & Stuhler (2015) compare estimates of multigenerational persistence depending on when grandfathers died. Because of small sample sizes (a Swedish historical sample and German survey data, respectively), they are not able to either confirm or reject such an influence. As a general rule, we would expect the true effect to be a combination of factors: both direct influence from grandparents due to interactions between individuals, and realization of underlying family characteristics.

The following sections expore the mechanisms behind the grandparental association by comparing multigenerational persistence between lineages with varying geographical distance between grandparents and grandchildren, and between lineages with different times of death of the grandfather. These factors are not completely orthogonal to the process of multigenerational transmission of occupations or income. Geographical mobility is correlated with occupational mobility, and mortality is higher in groups that are less economically advantageous. We therefore have to keep potential confounding factors in mind while performing this analysis. However, using two separate indicators of grandparental presence provides a richer picture of how multigenerational persistence mechanisms operate.

5.1 Persistence and geographical distance from grandfather

We start by comparing the grandparental persistence parameters previously reported in Table 2 in cases where individuals grew up in the same municipality as their grandparents with cases where they did not.¹² The relevant variables are the residential location of the grandfather when he was observed as an adult (time t) and the residential location of the grandson when he was observed as a child (time $t + 1$). The assumption is that a geographical move sometime between these two observations will reduce the direct interaction between grandfather and grandson. For

¹²We do not use the Zeng & Xie (2014) co-residence approach directly, as grandparental co-residence is very rare in Norway throughout the period studied here. In 1865, only seven per cent of households with children also had a resident grandparent; in 1910, this was down to three per cent.

example, for a son in sample C who resided in Oslo municipality in 1980, we have a *non-mover dynasty* if the grandfather resided in Oslo or Aker municipalities in 1910 (the two municipalities were merged in the intervening period) and a *mover dynasty* otherwise. We then re-run the regressions from Section 3.1 on the two subsamples and compare the grandparental coefficients.

We expect less influence between generations for mover dynasties, as there is less scope for interpersonal contact. However, this loss of contact is much more likely to take place between grandfather and grandson than between father and son, as movements of young sons would likely have taken place together with the father, but not necessarily the grandfather. Hence, the coefficient on grandfathers's occupation is expected to be higher (stronger persistence) for the nonmover sample than for the mover sample.

These coefficients on grandfather's occupation for the mover and nonmover subsamples are reported in Table 8, which has one column for each time period. The coefficients are obtained by interacting a dummy variable with the full set of controls in Equation (2). The first panel reports coefficients using white-collar occupation for son as outcome variable. We observe that grandparent's occupation is statistically significant for both subgroups in all time periods except for the first. The coefficient is lower for movers than for non-movers, but the difference is small in the early periods. In samples C and D, the difference between the subgroups is statistically significant and of some magnitude. For non-movers in sample C (grandfathers in 1910, fathers in 1960, sons in 1980) we have a grandfather odds ratio (holding father's occupation constant) of 1.87. For movers, the odds ratio is 1.49; the ratio of these numbers is 1.26. The difference has a t -value of 2.6 and is statistically significant, but of moderate size.

We observe a slightly different picture for the other occupation groups. In all time periods, farmers show higher persistence when they do not move over time - not surprisingly, as the farmer occupation is in many cases connected to a specific farm location. For manual occupations, the difference between movers and non-movers is not statistically significant. All results are qualitatively similar if we instead use the model with a full set of controls in the parent generation (see Table A11) or if a linear probability model is used (available on request).

The extent to which grandfathers participate in the upbringing of their grandchildren may also depend on how far apart they live during the grandchild's formative years, even if they do not reside in the exact same municipality. To examine the association between geographic distance and grandparental influence, we introduce a variable Δ denoting the distance between grandfather's residential municipality (at the time his occupation is observed) and grandson's residential municipality in his childhood (at the time father's occupation is observed). This variable is then interacted with the dummy for grandfather's occupation:

$$\log \left(\frac{\Pr(\text{Son's occ} = Z)_t}{\Pr(\text{Son's occ} \neq Z)_t} \right) = \alpha + \beta D_t^f + \gamma_0 \Delta_t^g + \gamma_1 D_t^g + \gamma_2 \Delta_t^g D_t^g + \sum_{q \in \{s, f, g\}} (\delta \cdot age_t^q + \zeta \cdot (age_t^q)^2) + \epsilon_t \quad (8)$$

Sample	A	B	C	D
Occupation: White collar				
Non-movers	2.928*** (2.768)	2.342*** (4.401)	1.875*** (11.961)	1.642*** (25.429)
Movers	2.143 (1.575)	2.669*** (4.206)	1.487*** (5.523)	1.520*** (14.308)
Difference	1.366 (0.503)	0.877 (-0.432)	1.261*** (2.600)	1.080** (2.195)
Occupation: Farmer				
Non-movers	1.778*** (3.209)	1.531*** (4.839)	2.192*** (11.111)	4.185*** (24.272)
Movers	0.897 (-0.293)	1.385** (2.027)	1.289* (1.947)	2.199*** (5.182)
Difference	1.981* (1.663)	1.105 (0.548)	1.701*** (3.584)	1.903*** (3.947)
Occupation: Manual, skilled				
Non-movers	2.229*** (3.413)	1.406*** (2.814)	0.929 (-2.062)	0.992 (-0.527)
Movers	1.729 (1.379)	1.133 (0.762)	1.116* (1.802)	1.120*** (4.350)
Difference	1.289 (0.551)	1.241 (1.061)	0.833 (-2.596)	0.886 (-4.063)
Occupation: Manual, unskilled				
Non-movers	1.103 (0.712)	1.213* (1.842)	1.487*** (5.756)	1.663*** (16.594)
Movers	0.735 (-1.223)	1.381* (1.800)	1.931*** (4.453)	1.622*** (8.634)
Difference	1.501 (1.415)	0.878 (-0.626)	0.770 (-1.602)	1.026 (0.398)
Son observed:	1910	1960	1980	2011
Father observed:	1900	1910	1960	1980
Grandfather observed:	1865	1865	1910	1960

t statistics in parentheses

* $p < 0.1$, ** $p < 0.05$, *** $p < 0.01$

Table 8: Odds ratio coefficients on grandfather's occupation, separate regressions for movers (between grandfather's and grandson's observation) and non-movers. "Difference" is linear difference between parameters (log odds ratios), i.e. the ratio of the two displayed coefficients.

The distance Δ is measured in units of 100 km. Around one in four dynasties changes location between the two observations; the longest distance moved is 1600 km. The coefficient on the interaction term (γ_2) is presented in the first panel of Table 9.

Sample	A	B	C	D
	Distance moved (in 100 km)			
White collar	0.989 (-0.05)	0.908 (-1.26)	0.977 (-1.01)	0.986 (-1.64)
Farmer	0.533** (-2.11)	0.933 (-0.86)	0.874** (-2.01)	0.790*** (-3.00)
Manual skilled	0.691 (-1.08)	0.857 (-1.32)	1.000 (0.01)	1.020** (2.57)
Manual unskilled	0.792 (-1.19)	1.067 (0.74)	1.019 (0.38)	0.985 (-1.04)
	Years (in youth) in which grandfather was alive			
White collar				1.002 (0.75)
Farmer				0.995 (-0.58)
Manual skilled				1.001 (0.24)
Manual unskilled				1.002 (0.41)
Son observed:	1910	1960	1980	2011
Father observed:	1900	1910	1960	1980
Grandfather observed:	1865	1865	1910	1960

Table 9: Distance moved / mortality and grandparental influence. The outcome is grandson's occupation. The coefficient shown (from (8)) is the interaction between grandparental occupation and one of two other characteristics of the dynasty: geographical distance (Panel 1) and years during grandson's childhood when grandfather was alive (Panel 2). Separate logit regressions for each occupational category and sample.

For white-collar workers, the relationship with distance has the expected sign: the point estimate in the first period of 0.989 indicates a 1.1 percentage point lower association with grandfather's occupation if the grandfather lived 100 kilometres farther away. However, the relationship is weak and not statistically significant. Again, farmers are different with strong and significant coefficients, indicating the special role of this occupational group and the strong relationship between a farmer and a specific farm. The coefficient on manual skilled and manual unskilled is slightly stronger in the first period, but small and insignificant in later periods.

The full set of regression coefficients, as well as regressions on a sample restricted to only those who move, is presented in the Appendix (Tables A15-A16). On balance, there is no strong evidence that direct interactions drive the association between outcomes across generations beyond father and child; however, some direct effect cannot be ruled out. The results are consistent with those found (for shorter geographical distances) by Knigge (2016) for 19th-century Netherlands.

The role of farmers is different from that of all other occupations. Not only does persistence for farmers increase over time, it is to a larger extent correlated with grandparental presence.

5.2 Time of grandfather's death

We now turn to an analysis of the time of grandfather's death and how it relates to occupational persistence across generations. Digitized death records are only available from 1960 onwards, limiting this analysis to sample D (1960-1980-2011). We start with a subsample analysis similar to the one in the previous subsection. The sample is split on whether the grandfather (whose occupation was recorded in 1960) is still alive in 1980, when the father's occupation is recorded. In no cases are the grandparent coefficients statistically significant. The standard errors for white-collar, manual skilled and manual unskilled occupations are low, while the zero for farmers is less exact. This result holds up if the sample is instead split according to whether the grandfather survived until 2011, or if the full set of dummies for mother's and father's occupations is used.¹³

Another approach is to consider the childhood years in which the grandfather and the grandson were both alive. This will vary from zero (when the grandfather dies before the grandson is born) to 16 years (chosen as a reasonable value for the end of the upbringing of the child). This setup is equivalent to that shown in Equation (8), and the coefficient γ_2 is reported in the second panel of Table 9.

The relationship between "exposure time" measured thus and multigenerational persistence is close to zero in all cases. The point estimate for white collar workers is 1.002: a 0.2 percentage point higher association with grandfather's occupation for each extra year the grandfather was alive. The 95% interval for this coefficient is (0.997, 1.007), or from 0.3 percentage point lower to 0.7 percentage point higher association.

Braun & Stuhler (2015) and Dribe & Helgertz (2016) have previously investigated the relationship between grandfathers' death dates and multigenerational persistence. In these cases, because of small sample sizes, the authors did not attach much weight to the absence of significant effects. However, the relatively exact zeros observed in the present case can be seen as weakening the hypothesis that social interaction with grandfathers contributes substantially to their grandchildren's occupational choice.

5.3 Presence and income persistence

For the final samples, the variation of multigenerational income persistence with geographical moves and grandfather mortality can be investigated. Again, income ranks yield estimates consistent with those obtained using occupational groups. We recall from Table 7 that the coefficient on grandfather's income in the full 1960-2011 sample is 0.040. Once again splitting the sample according to grandfather's location, the coefficient on grandfather's income is 0.048 for non-movers and 0.030 for movers. In other words, there is substantial grandparental persistence

¹³The regression coefficients are shown in the Appendix, Tables A12-A13.

both in cases where individuals move away from their origin and in cases where they stay in the same place, and there is a statistically significant but small difference between the subsamples.

Splitting the sample by mortality yields a coefficient of 0.054 in the subsample where the grandfather survived to the time of the grandson’s income measurement (age 32) and 0.038 when he did not. The difference of 0.016 is not statistically significant.¹⁴ Overall, the rank-rank income regressions confirm the results of the regressions using occupational categories; persistence is somewhat amplified by the physical presence of the grandfather, but not greatly so.

6 Concluding comments

The present paper has shown that grandparents matter across a wide range of historical and institutional settings. The association is robust to several different ways of measuring economic characteristics, remains significant when we measure the status of parents in a more detailed way, and is found across subsamples split by geographical movement or grandparental mortality.

Multigenerational occupational persistence is observed for all four major occupational groups. For white-collar occupations and farmers, persistence is found in all four samples, i.e. for grandfathers born between 1805 and 1930 and grandsons born between 1870 and 1981. For manual occupations (skilled and unskilled) there are some periods where a significant grandfather coefficient is not obtained. Skilled workers appear to show high persistence in the early period in particular, while results for unskilled workers are more pronounced in later samples.

The magnitude of the coefficient on grandfather’s occupation is up to one third of the coefficient on father’s occupation. This is high, given that only one grandfather is observed; data on the maternal grandfather is not available in this study. High persistence is confirmed by the use of income rank data in the two final samples.

There is some evidence of differences across occupation groups. Farmers always exhibit strong persistence. While this is not surprising, it should be kept in mind in any study of historical intergenerational mobility. In most countries outside the most industrialized part of Western Europe, a substantial proportion of the population were farmers well into the twentieth century, and studies of mobility that rely on imputed status or income for this period are likely to be strongly affected by trends in mobility into and out of farming.

The high association parameters observed for white-collar occupations relative to manual occupations hint at some sort of “elite persistence”. While this cannot be ruled out in the early period, income data from the second half of the twentieth century does not show higher persistence towards the top of the income distribution.

Families staying in the same place across generations show slightly higher multigenerational persistence. However, there is substantial persistence also in dynasties that move between observations. The difference allows for some effect due to direct personal interaction between grandfather and grandson, but may also reflect shared personal networks or region-specific com-

¹⁴The results of the subsample analyses on income ranks are given in the Appendix, Table A14.

petencies. The timing of grandfather's death does not influence the degree of multigenerational persistence, suggesting that the role of personal interaction is limited.

This leaves unobservable family characteristics as a likely channel of influence. Clark (2014) suggests that such latent characteristics are strong, reflect ability and are virtually unchanged over time, regardless of the institutional framework. However, this paper documents that there are substantial differences in the strength of persistence over time, from the nineteenth through to the twenty-first century. During this time period, Norway grew wealthier and education, health and social insurance policies were substantially expanded. Hence, there is reason to believe that institutions do play a prominent role in the transmission of social status across generations. Moreover, the differences across occupational groups suggest that both vertical (status) and horizontal (sector; notably agricultural/non-agricultural) must be taken into account.

Non-manifested genetic traits (inheritance) may explain some of the dynasty persistence. However, traits may well be manifested in the father and yet not be reflected in his choice of occupation. In most cases, one cannot find a job in which all their skills are useful, and the son of a carpenter may well find joy in carpentry (and pass this on to his son through social interaction) even though he ends up working in another occupation. The social network of the family may also reflect the ancestors' economic life and affect the occupational choice and success of the grandson. For some occupations, even outside farming, direct inheritance and family wealth may play a role as well. What we do learn is that there is reason to discard the idea that a complete picture of social reproduction can be obtained by observing only two generations, even in cases where grandparents cannot directly influence their children socially.

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A Appendix

A.1 Data overview

The data are explained in Sections 2.1-2.2.

Data linkage: Before 1960, records are linked using information on name, birth dates and birth times. Care is taken only to link on the basis of information that is time-invariant; i.e., information on residence, marital status etc. is not used.

As last names were not fixed by law in Norway until the 1920s, the last names given in the censuses of 1865, 1900 and 1910 are supplemented by constructed patronymics (based on the first name of the co-resident father) and place names when attempting to match names, as the reported names could change over time for the same individual. Similarities for first and last names are evaluated using the Levensthein algorithm, giving a score for name similarity. For the last name, the best alternative of the given last name, constructed patronymic and place name is used.

Municipality of birth is given in the 1865, 1900 and 1910 censuses. The highest score is given to candidate matches where the municipalities match; however, candidates reported as having been born in the same county are also considered. In 1960, only the county of birth combined with whether a person was born in an urban or rural locality is stated. Similar information is constructed from the 1910 census and used in the 1910-1960 linkage.

The censuses of 1865 and 1900 only state year of birth. The 1910 and 1960 censuses contain full birth dates and this information is used in the 1910-1960 link. In all cases, some discrepancy is allowed but gives candidate matches a lower score.

An aggregate score is constructed for all candidate matches (in principle, all pairs of observations for two censuses) and considered acceptable if the score is high (i.e. most information matches) and the match is unique (i.e. there are no other good matches for either candidate). The matching algorithm is explained in more detail in the appendix to Modalsli (2016).

Sample selection: Table A1 reports the regression results of a dummy variable for whether grandparent’s occupation is available, interacted with father’s occupation in a regression where the outcome variable is son’s occupation. This could be interpreted as the difference in odds ratios between the matched and unmatched sample. The size of the coefficients are small compared to the “Father” odds ratios reported in Table 2, with the exception of Farmers and Manual, unskilled in sample A.

Transition matrices: See Table A2 for the three-generation transition matrices.

Sample	A	B	C	D
Occupation: White collar				
Interaction term	0.00228 (0.01)	0.206** (2.33)	0.0423 (1.03)	0.0178 (1.20)
Occupation: Farmer				
Interaction term	-0.367** (-2.34)	-0.0429 (-0.50)	0.0758 (0.98)	-0.186*** (-3.58)
Occupation: Manual, skilled				
Interaction term	-0.0382 (-0.26)	0.0308 (0.44)	0.0766** (2.41)	0.00513 (0.34)
Occupation: Manual, unskilled				
Interaction term	-0.456*** (-3.20)	-0.212** (-2.09)	0.121* (1.81)	0.163*** (4.04)
<i>N</i>	10238	71156	76825	388502
Son observed:	1910	1960	1980	2011
Father observed:	1900	1910	1960	1980
Grandfather observed:	1865	1865	1910	1960

t statistics in parentheses

* $p < 0.1$, ** $p < 0.05$, *** $p < 0.01$

Table A1: Interaction effects between father's occupation and whether father-son pair can be linked to a grandfather. Outcome variable is dummy for son's occupation; other controls are age, father's occupation and linkage status separately.

Grandfather's occupation	Father's occupation	Son's occupation	Sample A	Sample B	Sample C	Sample D
White collar	White collar	White collar	41	150	2,125	15,682
		Farmer	1	5	28	56
		Manual, skilled	8	26	395	2,956
		Manual, unskilled	3	8	50	940
	Farmer	White collar	1	9	98	193
		Farmer	1	12	93	53
		Manual, skilled	3	10	90	93
		Manual, unskilled	3	2	20	22
	Manual, skilled	White collar	3	21	433	3,703
		Farmer	0	2	8	33
		Manual, skilled	9	25	380	2,044
		Manual, unskilled	1	0	41	588
	Manual, unskilled	White collar	0	3	73	301
		Farmer	1	0	7	5
		Manual, skilled	3	11	53	164
		Manual, unskilled	0	5	18	64
Farmer	White collar	White collar	38	202	1,195	5,531
		Farmer	8	25	61	160
		Manual, skilled	27	87	399	1,898
		Manual, unskilled	7	21	47	481
	Farmer	White collar	67	392	1,798	3,354
		Farmer	347	1,209	2,141	1,350
		Manual, skilled	157	736	2,676	2,718
		Manual, unskilled	575	368	385	639
	Manual, skilled	White collar	22	142	1,285	5,591
		Farmer	14	35	87	359
		Manual, skilled	58	248	1,889	5,538
		Manual, unskilled	16	22	145	1,309
	Manual, unskilled	White collar	9	43	411	607
		Farmer	17	34	53	102
		Manual, skilled	33	114	726	557
		Manual, unskilled	61	79	333	222
Manual, skilled	White collar	White collar	25	90	1,340	16,862
		Farmer	0	3	13	76
		Manual, skilled	12	34	468	5,232
		Manual, unskilled	2	5	34	1,510
	Farmer	White collar	2	10	140	313
		Farmer	4	36	110	68
		Manual, skilled	4	29	251	285
		Manual, unskilled	9	13	29	66
	Manual, skilled	White collar	10	70	1,665	16,076
		Farmer	1	6	23	173
		Manual, skilled	49	169	2,172	12,887
		Manual, unskilled	11	11	160	3,244
	Manual, unskilled	White collar	2	13	129	996
		Farmer	0	7	2	12
		Manual, skilled	6	45	177	759
		Manual, unskilled	4	3	34	283
Manual, unskilled	White collar	White collar	7	56	302	2,858
		Farmer	3	5	4	16
		Manual, skilled	9	31	127	984
		Manual, unskilled	2	7	19	364
	Farmer	White collar	7	70	148	171
		Farmer	38	209	130	55
		Manual, skilled	22	221	333	167
		Manual, unskilled	82	102	66	50
	Manual, skilled	White collar	18	76	571	3,432
		Farmer	10	18	13	88
		Manual, skilled	59	247	1,004	3,063
		Manual, unskilled	18	38	85	1,014
	Manual, unskilled	White collar	11	33	217	1,125
		Farmer	12	55	24	44
		Manual, skilled	37	195	480	874
		Manual, unskilled	76	87	278	734
Total			2,086	6,040	28,091	131,194

Table A2: Three-generation occupational transitions: Number of individuals tabulated by grandfather's, father's and son's occupation, four samples (see Table 1 for sample definitions)

A.2 Regression results, grandfather-father-son regressions

The baseline analysis is described in Sections 3.1-4.1. This Appendix section shows some additional tables referred to in the text.

Detailed occupational regressions: Table A3 shows results for more specific occupational categories. It is evident from the table that in most cases, using smaller occupational groups yields coefficients of comparable magnitude and with statistical significance. Some difference from the baseline specification is expected.

Models with controls: Tables A4-A6 report the same results as Table 5 for farmers, skilled manual occupations and unskilled manual occupations.

A.3 Great-grandfathers and sample selection

See Section 3.3. Table A7 shows how sample selection affects the results shown in Table 3.

Sample	A	B	C	D
Occupation: Doctors (subset of White collar)				
Father			30.43*** (19.27)	17.36*** (31.55)
Grandfather		23.01*** (2.83)	4.170*** (3.84)	2.350*** (5.14)
Occupation: Salespeople (subset of White collar)				
Father	89.64*** (3.30)		1.894 (1.40)	2.106*** (7.74)
Grandfather				1.631*** (3.34)
Occupation: Carpenters (subset of Manual, skilled)				
Father	7.406*** (4.16)	2.220** (2.46)	4.306*** (14.15)	3.563*** (26.02)
Grandfather		2.257** (2.01)	1.136 (0.71)	1.416*** (5.74)
Occupation: Caretakers (subset of Manual, unskilled)				
Father	747.1*** (3.38)		3.330** (2.35)	1.349 (1.10)
Grandfather				1.042 (0.12)
Occupation: Fishermen (subset of Manual, unskilled)				
Father	10.31*** (7.15)	14.33*** (12.91)	46.87*** (39.68)	12.66*** (27.45)
Grandfather	2.153 (1.48)	2.035** (2.23)	1.773*** (4.62)	7.291*** (21.87)
Age controls	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
<i>N</i>	2086	6040	28091	131194
Son observed:	1910	1960	1980	2011
Father observed:	1900	1910	1960	1980
Grandfather observed:	1865	1865	1910	1960

t statistics in parentheses

* $p < 0.1$, ** $p < 0.05$, *** $p < 0.01$

Table A3: Odds ratio coefficients for binary occupational regressions on Father's and grandfather's occupations. Separate regressions for each sample and occupational category. Constant terms and coefficients on quadratic controls for age for all three generations were also included in the regressions. Blank cells denote occupation-sample combinations where there were too few observations to estimate coefficients (i.e., not all 8 combinations in sufficient detail).

	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)
Sample A (1865 - 1900 - 1910)						
Father's occ.	4.482*** (10.39)	3.686*** (8.31)	41 cat.	3.993*** (7.16)	41 cat.	
Mother's occ.				(omitted) (.)	11 cat.	
Grandfather's occ.		1.595*** (2.96)	1.835*** (3.88)	1.464** (1.97)	1.668*** (2.65)	2.864*** (7.41)
<i>N</i>	2086	2086	1952	1270	1184	2086
chi2	218.9	228.0	207.1	157.2	157.2	147.9
r2_p	0.0998	0.104	0.0975	0.112	0.116	0.0675
Sample B (1865 - 1910 - 1960)						
Father's occ.	9.361*** (27.18)	8.179*** (24.49)	63 cat.	7.944*** (23.22)	63 cat.	
Mother's occ.				0.660 (-0.96)	22 cat.	
Grandfather's occ.		1.471*** (5.10)	1.609*** (6.36)	1.442*** (4.64)	1.581*** (5.86)	2.900*** (15.77)
<i>N</i>	6040	6040	5763	5574	5167	6040
chi2	1050.2	1076.6	1027.4	970.5	839.8	284.1
r2_p	0.148	0.152	0.148	0.148	0.133	0.0400
Sample C (1910 - 1960 - 1980)						
Father's occ.	24.63*** (52.12)	18.71*** (44.78)	67 cat.	20.47*** (41.47)	67 cat.	
Mother's occ.				5.391 (1.60)	47 cat.	
Grandfather's occ.		1.929*** (10.84)	1.868*** (10.23)	1.906*** (9.82)	1.850*** (9.26)	6.436*** (34.70)
<i>N</i>	28091	28091	27300	24485	23223	28091
chi2	4944.9	5069.3	5098.1	4500.3	4418.1	1977.6
r2_p	0.272	0.278	0.283	0.283	0.283	0.109
Sample D (1960 - 1980 - 2011)						
Father's occ.	18.30*** (68.23)	8.636*** (43.94)	84 cat.	8.059*** (36.82)	84 cat.	
Mother's occ.				1.452*** (5.52)	80 cat.	
Grandfather's occ.		3.916*** (25.13)	3.115*** (20.53)	3.930*** (22.45)	3.054*** (17.85)	9.412*** (48.73)
Age controls	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
<i>N</i>	131194	131194	129246	98155	95186	131194
chi2	4953.1	5595.8	6001.8	4787.2	5140.9	3517.5
r2_p	0.191	0.216	0.232	0.227	0.245	0.136

Exponentiated coefficients; *t* statistics in parentheses

* p<0.1, ** p<0.05, *** p<0.01

Table A4: Son-parent-grandfather logit regressions with more detailed information on the parent generation (cf. Table 5), Farmers

	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)
Sample A (1865 - 1900 - 1910)						
Father's occ.	6.181*** (13.59)	5.458*** (12.26)	41 cat.	5.456*** (9.05)	41 cat.	
Mother's occ.				5.797** (2.12)	11 cat.	
Grandfather's occ.		2.039*** (3.55)	1.793*** (2.63)	2.484*** (3.49)	2.288*** (2.65)	3.644*** (7.18)
<i>N</i>	2086	2086	2065	1271	1232	2086
chi2	219.7	232.0	327.1	149.8	189.1	82.28
r2_p	0.0960	0.101	0.144	0.113	0.149	0.0360
Sample B (1865 - 1910 - 1960)						
Father's occ.	3.460*** (18.11)	3.312*** (17.07)	63 cat.	3.146*** (15.56)	63 cat.	
Mother's occ.				0.446* (-1.89)	22 cat.	
Grandfather's occ.		1.316*** (2.84)	1.289** (2.42)	1.331*** (2.81)	1.280** (2.20)	1.876*** (6.94)
<i>N</i>	6040	6040	6005	5574	5521	6040
chi2	346.6	354.6	580.5	315.2	523.7	55.27
r2_p	0.0436	0.0446	0.0733	0.0430	0.0721	0.00695
Sample C (1910 - 1960 - 1980)						
Father's occ.	2.327*** (32.93)	2.351*** (31.97)	67 cat.	2.332*** (29.35)	67 cat.	
Mother's occ.				1.074 (0.63)	47 cat.	
Grandfather's occ.		0.959 (-1.38)	1.136*** (3.90)	0.943* (-1.79)	1.111*** (2.95)	1.254*** (7.93)
<i>N</i>	28091	28091	28074	24485	24398	28091
chi2	1186.6	1188.5	2563.1	1016.6	2248.9	149.8
r2_p	0.0311	0.0312	0.0673	0.0307	0.0681	0.00393
Sample D (1960 - 1980 - 2011)						
Father's occ.	2.179*** (63.43)	2.171*** (62.26)	84 cat.	2.126*** (51.77)	84 cat.	
Mother's occ.				1.121*** (3.95)	80 cat.	
Grandfather's occ.		1.021* (1.68)	1.090*** (6.61)	1.021 (1.42)	1.093*** (5.78)	1.163*** (12.37)
Age controls	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
<i>N</i>	131194	131194	131182	98155	98130	131194
chi2	4348.9	4351.7	7028.8	3485.2	6159.1	409.1
r2_p	0.0269	0.0269	0.0435	0.0290	0.0513	0.00253

Exponentiated coefficients; *t* statistics in parentheses

* $p < 0.1$, ** $p < 0.05$, *** $p < 0.01$

Table A5: Son-parent-grandfather logit regressions with more detailed information on the parent generation (cf. Table 5), Manual, skilled

	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)
Sample A (1865 - 1900 - 1910)						
Father's occ.	1.649*** (3.80)	1.688*** (3.80)	41 cat.	1.976*** (3.81)	41 cat.	
Mother's occ.				1.052 (0.27)	11 cat.	
Grandfather's occ.		0.935 (-0.57)	1.326** (2.20)	0.889 (-0.76)	1.212 (1.15)	1.067 (0.58)
<i>N</i>	2086	2086	2016	1271	1209	2086
chi2	29.25	29.58	271.0	29.11	169.7	15.14
r2_p	0.0103	0.0104	0.0983	0.0169	0.103	0.00534
Sample B (1865 - 1910 - 1960)						
Father's occ.	2.475*** (9.29)	2.327*** (8.32)	63 cat.	2.233*** (7.52)	63 cat.	
Mother's occ.				1.213 (1.35)	22 cat.	
Grandfather's occ.		1.223** (2.25)	1.430*** (3.98)	1.260** (2.48)	1.454*** (3.97)	1.461*** (4.44)
<i>N</i>	6040	6040	5809	5574	5285	6040
chi2	100.1	105.0	215.1	101.3	193.7	41.47
r2_p	0.0217	0.0228	0.0473	0.0239	0.0465	0.00899
Sample C (1910 - 1960 - 1980)						
Father's occ.	6.156*** (33.60)	5.581*** (30.68)	67 cat.	5.623*** (28.67)	67 cat.	
Mother's occ.				1.125 (0.54)	47 cat.	
Grandfather's occ.		1.554*** (7.06)	1.518*** (6.48)	1.620*** (7.19)	1.576*** (6.54)	2.332*** (14.54)
<i>N</i>	28091	28091	27897	24485	24095	28091
chi2	1073.4	1120.6	1484.1	1035.0	1369.2	300.1
r2_p	0.0821	0.0857	0.114	0.0912	0.121	0.0230
Sample D (1960 - 1980 - 2011)						
Father's occ.	2.598*** (29.32)	2.210*** (23.37)	84 cat.	2.186*** (19.78)	84 cat.	
Mother's occ.				1.178*** (5.95)	80 cat.	
Grandfather's occ.		1.652*** (18.73)	1.332*** (9.97)	1.702*** (16.96)	1.355*** (8.97)	1.905*** (25.14)
Age controls	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
<i>N</i>	131194	131194	131187	98155	98072	131194
chi2	804.3	1129.3	2471.3	1019.5	2201.1	646.6
r2_p	0.0103	0.0145	0.0316	0.0178	0.0384	0.00828

Exponentiated coefficients; *t* statistics in parentheses

* $p < 0.1$, ** $p < 0.05$, *** $p < 0.01$

Table A6: Son-parent-grandfather logit regressions with more detailed information on the parent generation (cf. Table 5), Manual, unskilled

Sample	(1) C with data on 4 gen.	(2) C with data on 4 gen.	(3) D with data on 4 gen.	(4) D with data on 4 gen.	(5) D with data on 5 gen.	(6) D with data on 5 gen.
White collar						
Father	5.681*** (14.28)	5.566*** (14.04)	2.917*** (31.83)	2.894*** (31.51)	3.092*** (9.67)	3.087*** (9.64)
Grandfather	1.792*** (3.62)	1.622*** (2.83)	1.637*** (11.78)	1.559*** (10.05)	1.747*** (3.40)	1.751*** (3.40)
Great-grandfather		1.532* (1.79)		1.185*** (3.23)	0.994 (-0.03)	0.916 (-0.40)
Great-great-grandfather						1.414 (1.03)
Farmer						
Father	23.57*** (13.16)	23.15*** (13.05)	8.280*** (20.29)	8.049*** (20.07)	6.963*** (6.46)	6.677*** (6.33)
Grandfather	1.575** (2.17)	1.426 (1.62)	4.542*** (11.35)	3.873*** (9.69)	2.629** (2.51)	2.655** (2.54)
Great-grandfather		1.337 (1.62)		1.525*** (3.36)	1.512 (1.04)	1.213 (0.47)
Great-great-grandfather						1.812 (1.64)
Manual, skilled						
Father	2.753*** (10.72)	2.756*** (10.71)	2.224*** (24.65)	2.222*** (24.60)	2.166*** (7.01)	2.159*** (6.97)
Grandfather	0.800* (-1.75)	0.813 (-1.59)	1.025 (0.71)	1.078** (2.13)	1.194 (1.45)	1.198 (1.47)
Great-grandfather		0.897 (-0.61)		0.810*** (-5.13)	0.872 (-0.76)	0.898 (-0.58)
Great-great-grandfather						0.810 (-0.86)
Manual, unskilled						
Father	4.812*** (7.86)	4.776*** (7.80)	2.165*** (8.71)	2.138*** (8.53)	0.968 (-0.08)	0.944 (-0.14)
Grandfather	1.417 (1.48)	1.291 (1.06)	1.520*** (5.64)	1.487*** (5.21)	1.150 (0.47)	1.151 (0.47)
Great-grandfather		1.371 (1.63)		1.113 (1.45)	1.727** (2.10)	1.584* (1.72)
Great-great-grandfather						1.320 (1.32)
Age controls	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
<i>N</i>	2422	2422	19700	19700	1676	1676

Exponentiated coefficients; *t* statistics in parentheses

* $p < 0.1$, ** $p < 0.05$, *** $p < 0.01$

Table A7: Four and five generations, samples C and D. This table compares the results in Table 3 with one-generation-less estimates for the same restricted samples.

A.4 Detailed odds ratios

In Section 4.2, Figure 3, nine of the 36 two-way odds ratios from the grandfather-father-son table were presented. Figures A1-A3 show the remaining 27. Associations involving farmers are generally stronger. We observe some cross-occupational effects. For example, as shown in the top right panel of Figure A2; in the first time period, grandsons of skilled workers relative to unskilled workers had higher probability of entering white-collar occupations relative to farm occupations. Nonetheless, the results found here are consistent with those obtained using the simpler set of 2×2 tables in the rest of the paper.

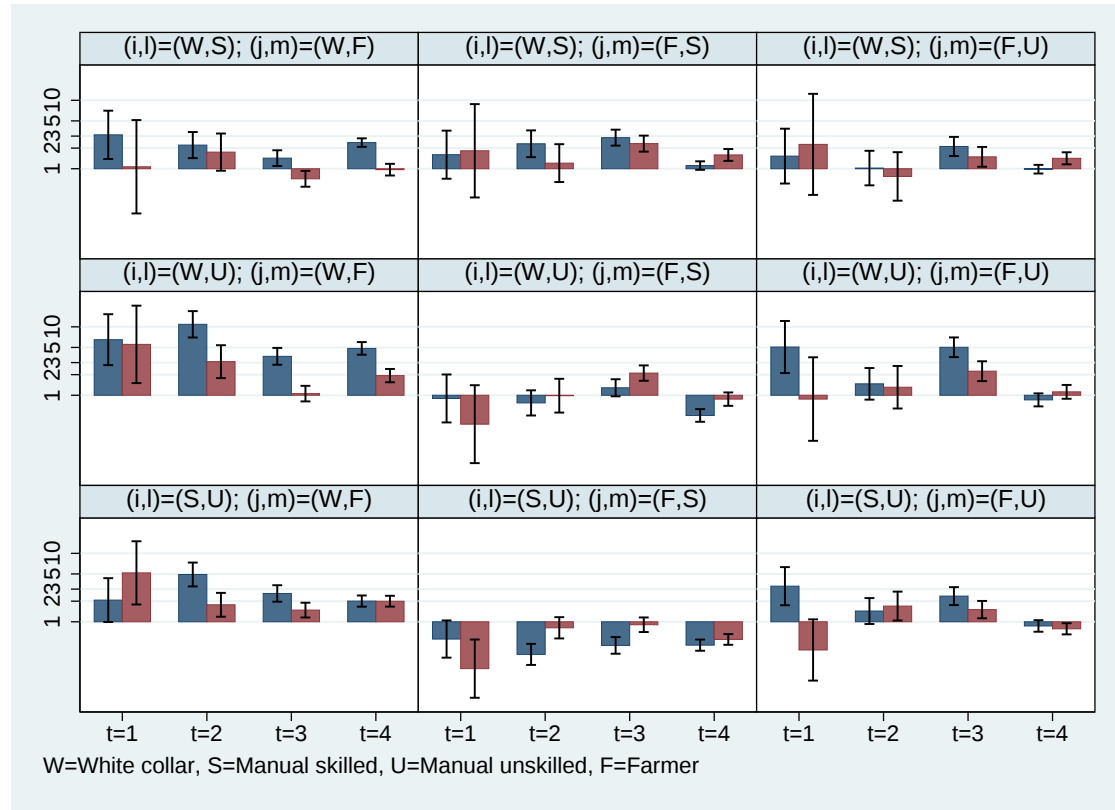


Figure A1: Odds ratios from 2×2 subtables (cf. Figure 3), nonfarm-farm

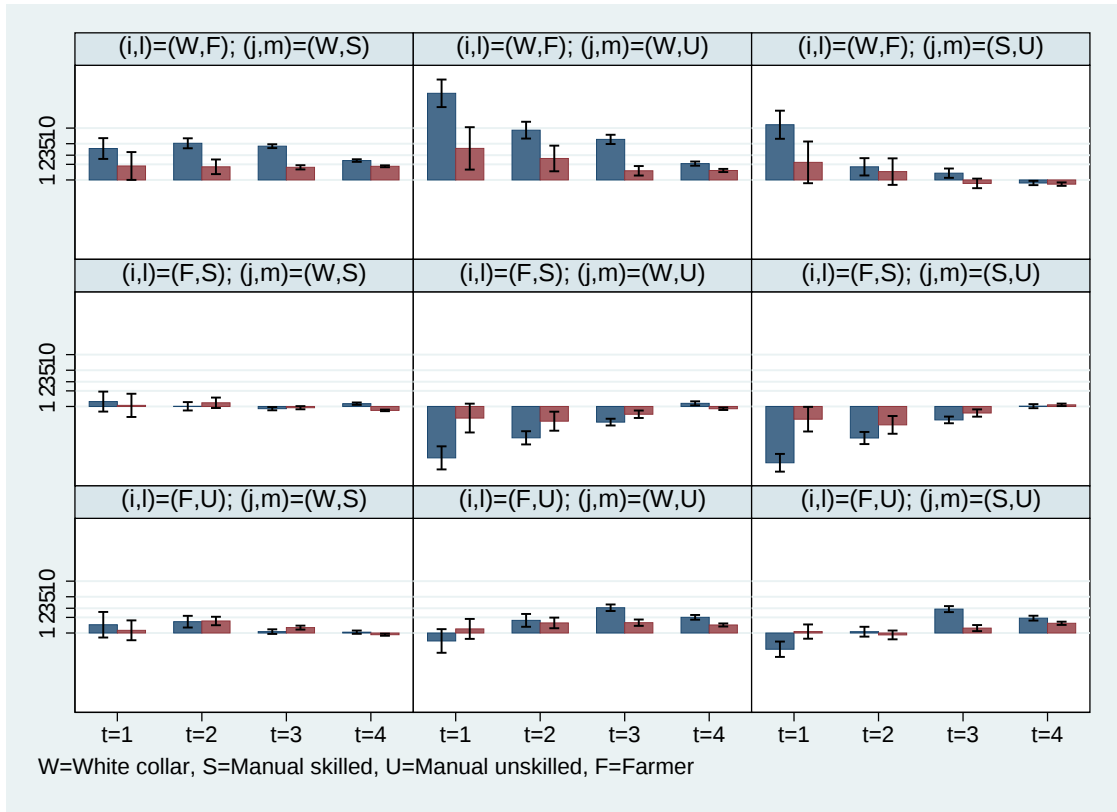


Figure A2: Odds ratios from 2×2 subtables (cf. Figure 3), farm-nonfarm

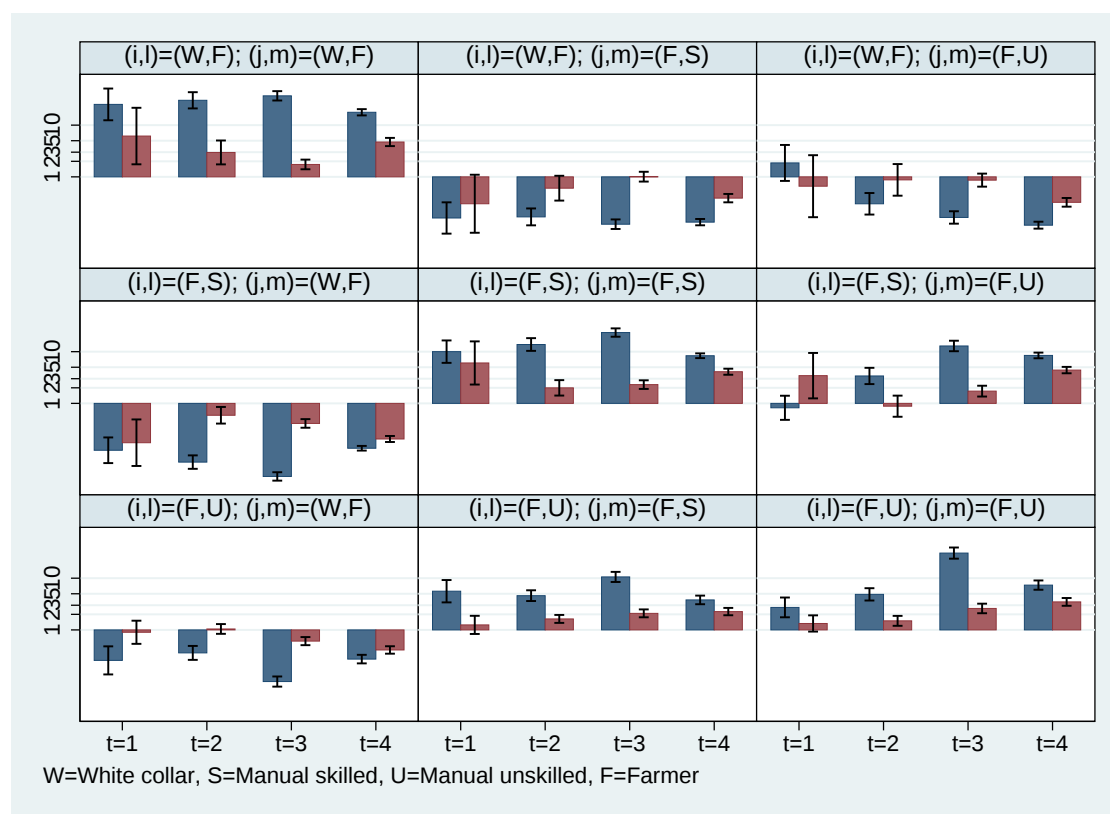


Figure A3: Odds ratios from 2×2 subtables (cf. Figure 3), farm-farm

A.5 Rank-rank regressions

Tables A8-A9 show that adjusting the age intervals or covariates does not change the conclusions in Section 4.3.

	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
Sample:	C (Sons born 1920-1950)				
Dependent variable:	Income rank (R), age 63-67		R, age 59-63		R, age 35-39
Father's income rank (age 63-67)	0.263*** (42.43)	0.243*** (36.77)	0.205*** (28.11)	0.206*** (28.84)	0.220*** (31.64)
Father's occ: Farmer			-6.996*** (-11.51)	-7.008*** (-11.77)	-12.14*** (-20.94)
Father's occ: Manual skilled			-6.442*** (-12.23)	-5.931*** (-11.49)	-6.416*** (-12.78)
Father's occ: Manual unskilled			-6.828*** (-9.11)	-7.086*** (-9.65)	-10.23*** (-14.33)
Grandfather's occ: Farmer		-4.899*** (-8.57)	-2.129*** (-3.47)	-2.425*** (-4.03)	-5.540*** (-9.50)
Grandfather's occ: Manual skilled		-5.752*** (-9.44)	-3.730*** (-5.89)	-3.455*** (-5.57)	-3.281*** (-5.45)
Grandfather's occ: Manual unskilled		-8.748*** (-12.29)	-6.122*** (-8.24)	-6.317*** (-8.69)	-7.785*** (-11.05)
Constant	38.48*** (102.83)	44.49*** (65.12)	49.42*** (63.32)	49.39*** (64.62)	50.03*** (67.55)
<i>N</i>	23700	23700	23700	24371	25016

t statistics in parentheses

* $p < 0.1$, ** $p < 0.05$, *** $p < 0.01$

Table A8: OLS regression on income ranks, various income definitions, sample C. Dependent variable: son's income rank

Rank-rank with top income dummies: We estimate the two- and three-generation equations

$$R_{2,\ell} = \alpha + \beta R_{1,\ell} + \phi 1(R_{1,\ell} > 0.9) + \epsilon_\ell \quad (9)$$

$$R_{2,\ell} = \alpha + \beta R_{1,\ell} + \phi 1(R_{1,\ell} > 0.9) + \gamma R_{0,\ell} + \psi 1(R_{0,\ell} > 0.9) + \epsilon_\ell \quad (10)$$

	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)
Sample:			D (Sons born 1960-1981)			
Dependent variable:			Income rank (R), age 28-32			
Father's income rank (age 28-32)	0.135*** (49.88)	0.134*** (48.11)	0.124*** (43.32)	0.126*** (40.94)	0.119*** (37.39)	
Father's income rank (age 59-63)						0.135*** (42.38)
Grandfather's income rank (age 59-63)				0.0399*** (13.20)	0.0401*** (12.03)	0.0425*** (12.75)
Father's occ: Farmer			-3.555*** (-10.32)		-3.653*** (-9.47)	-3.422*** (-9.00)
Father's occ: Manual skilled			-2.397*** (-14.22)		-2.089*** (-11.36)	-0.897*** (-4.73)
Father's occ: Manual unskilled			-1.849*** (-5.06)		-1.716*** (-4.26)	-1.086*** (-2.68)
Grandfather's occ: Farmer		-0.826*** (-3.55)	0.369 (1.48)		1.568*** (5.40)	1.167*** (4.01)
Grandfather's occ: Manual skilled		-1.214*** (-6.09)	-0.521** (-2.54)		0.269 (1.17)	0.566** (2.44)
Grandfather's occ: Manual unskilled		-0.386 (-1.39)	0.461 (1.60)		1.623*** (4.89)	1.458*** (4.38)
Constant	48.35*** (301.09)	49.20*** (207.40)	50.45*** (201.10)	46.83*** (223.52)	47.82*** (137.93)	46.28*** (129.84)
<i>N</i>	124302	124302	124302	104555	104555	103007

t statistics in parentheses

* $p < 0.1$, ** $p < 0.05$, *** $p < 0.01$

Table A9: OLS regression on income ranks, various income definitions, sample D. Dependent variable: son's income rank

	(1)	(2)	(3)
Sample:	C	D	D
Dependent variable:	R, avg. age 63-67	R, avg. age 28-32	R, avg. age 28-32
Father's income rank (age 63-67)	0.204*** (26.91)		
— in top 10	8.411*** (13.18)		
Father's income rank (age 28-32)		0.131*** (37.12)	0.121*** (33.70)
— in top 10		1.004*** (3.24)	0.812*** (2.61)
Grandfather's income rank (age 59-63)			0.0386*** (10.93)
— in top 10			0.164 (0.52)
Constant	40.43*** (100.76)	48.53*** (256.41)	47.06*** (204.50)
<i>N</i>	23700	104555	104555

t statistics in parentheses

* $p < 0.1$, ** $p < 0.05$, *** $p < 0.01$

Table A10: Rank-rank with top income dummies

A.6 Grandparental presence

See Section 5. Tables A11-A13 show the model with more detailed specification of the parent generation, separately for movers and mortality, while Table A14 shows the corresponding relationship for income ranks.

Sample	A	B	C	D
Occupation: White collar				
Non-movers	3.432** (2.081)	2.397*** (4.076)	1.508*** (6.976)	1.450*** (16.109)
Movers	1.896 (0.676)	2.529*** (3.298)	1.281*** (3.043)	1.375*** (8.737)
Difference	1.810 (0.532)	0.948 (-0.151)	1.177 (1.624)	1.055 (1.235)
Occupation: Farmer				
Non-movers	1.762*** (2.648)	1.638*** (5.472)	2.133*** (9.728)	3.199*** (17.076)
Movers	0.901 (-0.193)	1.576*** (2.674)	1.156 (1.012)	1.975*** (3.844)
Difference	1.956 (1.152)	1.039 (0.200)	1.845*** (3.757)	1.620** (2.542)
Occupation: Manual, skilled				
Non-movers	2.941*** (2.804)	1.283* (1.711)	1.083* (1.889)	1.081*** (4.422)
Movers	0.915 (-0.122)	1.214 (1.002)	1.128* (1.705)	1.101*** (2.947)
Difference	3.215 (1.410)	1.057 (0.228)	0.960 (-0.500)	0.982 (-0.486)
Occupation: Manual, unskilled				
Non-movers	1.209 (0.980)	1.461*** (3.495)	1.513*** (5.397)	1.349*** (7.772)
Movers	0.967 (-0.084)	1.335 (1.463)	1.959*** (3.969)	1.433*** (5.005)
Difference	1.251 (0.500)	1.094 (0.399)	0.772 (-1.391)	0.942 (-0.735)
Son observed:	1910	1960	1980	2011
Father observed:	1900	1910	1960	1980
Grandfather observed:	1865	1865	1910	1960

Table A11: Odds ratio coefficients on grandfather's occupation, separate regressions for movers (between observation of grandfather and grandson) and non-movers. "Difference" is the linear difference between parameters (log odds ratios), i.e. the ratio of the two displayed coefficients. In contrast to Table 8, the regressions here are run with a full set of dummies for mother and father from Table 5.

Grandfather's occ: 1960	Sample D	
	$\tau = 1980$	$\tau = 2011$
Occupation: White collar		
Grandfather not alive at τ	1.677*** (14.975)	1.630*** (29.472)
Grandfather alive at τ	1.618*** (26.290)	1.652*** (6.708)
Difference	1.037 (0.918)	0.986 (-0.179)
Occupation: Farmer		
Grandfather not alive at τ	3.319*** (10.038)	3.856*** (24.477)
Grandfather alive at τ	4.053*** (22.944)	6.518*** (5.986)
Difference	0.819 (-1.488)	0.592 (-1.651)
Occupation: Manual, skilled		
Grandfather not alive at τ	1.037 (1.333)	1.017 (1.346)
Grandfather alive at τ	1.018 (1.221)	1.105 (1.610)
Difference	1.019 (0.614)	0.921 (-1.301)
Occupation: Manual, unskilled		
Grandfather not alive at τ	1.713*** (9.749)	1.648*** (18.237)
Grandfather alive at τ	1.633*** (15.988)	1.758*** (4.292)
Difference	1.049 (0.754)	0.937 (-0.485)

Table A12: Mobility and grandparental mortality, sample D; two definitions of grandfather's survival.

Grandfather's occ: 1960	Sample D	
	$\tau = 1980$	$\tau = 2011$
Occupation: White collar		
Grandfather not alive at τ	1.455*** (9.323)	1.437*** (18.355)
Grandfather alive at τ	1.435*** (16.249)	1.569*** (4.117)
Difference	1.014 (0.305)	0.916 (-0.788)
Occupation: Farmer		
Grandfather not alive at τ	2.586*** (6.967)	3.026*** (17.485)
Grandfather alive at τ	3.175*** (16.355)	6.969*** (4.421)
Difference	0.815 (-1.335)	0.434 (-1.881)
Occupation: Manual, skilled		
Grandfather not alive at τ	1.132*** (3.828)	1.092*** (5.611)
Grandfather alive at τ	1.080*** (4.356)	1.107 (1.140)
Difference	1.049 (1.286)	0.987 (-0.147)
Occupation: Manual, unskilled		
Grandfather not alive at τ	1.378*** (4.676)	†
Grandfather alive at τ	1.355*** (7.787)	1.690*** (2.596)
Difference	1.017 (0.209)	†

Table A13: Mobility and grandparental mortality, sample D; two definitions of grandfather's survival. In contrast to Table A12, the regressions here are run with a full set of dummies for mother and father from Table 5. † denotes regressions in which the ML procedure did not converge.

Sample	Sample D
Non-movers	0.0476*** (11.34)
Movers	0.0303*** (7.01)
Difference	0.0172*** (2.86)
Grandfather alive at son's age 32	0.0538*** (6.38)
Grandfather not alive at son's age 32	0.0380*** (11.76)
Difference	0.0158 (1.74)

Table A14: Rank-rank table with movers and mortality. Dependent variable: son's income rank age 28-32. The coefficient shown is that for grandfather's income rank (age 59-63), controlling for father's income rank (age 28-32).

Table A15 shows the full results of Regression (8) on grandparental presence, with Δ =distance moved (in 100s of km) in the first four columns and the years (< 16) in which both grandfather and grandson were alive in the fifth column. Table A16 shows the same relationship for the intensive margin, that is, with zeroes excluded.

Grandfather-grandson treatment: Sample:	Geographical distance (in 100 km)				Years (< 16) both alive
	A	B	C	D	D
Occupation: White collar					
Father same occupation	11.61*** (13.40)	7.635*** (22.35)	5.019*** (47.12)	2.693*** (78.12)	2.729*** (79.41)
Grandfather same occupation	2.799*** (3.21)	2.643*** (5.99)	1.775*** (12.65)	1.636*** (28.71)	1.618*** (24.51)
Grandfather treatment level	1.066 (0.67)	1.112*** (3.71)	1.087*** (7.08)	1.051*** (12.86)	0.998 (-1.35)
Grandfather treatment interaction	0.989 (-0.05)	0.908 (-1.26)	0.977 (-1.01)	0.986 (-1.64)	1.002 (0.75)
Occupation: Farmer					
Father same occupation	3.491*** (7.82)	7.986*** (23.67)	18.26*** (44.02)	8.115*** (42.10)	8.635*** (43.93)
Grandfather same occupation	1.742*** (3.37)	1.493*** (5.07)	1.962*** (10.72)	4.023*** (24.76)	3.965*** (22.22)
Grandfather treatment level	1.104 (0.75)	0.994 (-0.10)	0.988 (-0.34)	0.894*** (-3.37)	0.996 (-0.59)
Grandfather treatment interaction	0.533** (-2.11)	0.933 (-0.86)	0.874** (-2.01)	0.790*** (-3.00)	0.995 (-0.58)
Occupation: Manual, skilled					
Father same occupation	5.387*** (12.14)	3.346*** (17.10)	2.365*** (32.05)	2.153*** (61.41)	2.171*** (62.24)
Grandfather same occupation	2.213*** (3.73)	1.389*** (3.13)	0.953 (-1.50)	1.007 (0.57)	1.019 (1.26)
Grandfather treatment level	1.100 (1.44)	0.957* (-1.69)	0.904*** (-8.86)	0.939*** (-12.24)	1.000 (0.00)
Grandfather treatment interaction	0.691 (-1.08)	0.857 (-1.32)	1.000 (0.01)	1.020** (2.57)	1.001 (0.24)
Occupation: Manual, unskilled					
Father same occupation	1.683*** (3.75)	2.345*** (8.39)	5.539*** (30.51)	2.193*** (23.07)	2.204*** (23.28)
Grandfather same occupation	0.997 (-0.03)	1.204** (1.97)	1.548*** (6.79)	1.677*** (18.40)	1.638*** (15.25)
Grandfather treatment level	0.884* (-1.67)	0.898* (-1.96)	0.938** (-2.31)	0.970*** (-4.51)	1.006*** (3.10)
Grandfather treatment interaction	0.792 (-1.19)	1.067 (0.74)	1.019 (0.38)	0.985 (-1.04)	1.002 (0.41)
<i>N</i>	2086	6039	28084	131076	131076
Son observed:	1910	1960	1980	2011	2011
Father observed:	1900	1910	1960	1980	1980
Grandfather observed:	1865	1865	1910	1960	1960

Exponentiated coefficients; *t* statistics in parentheses

* $p < 0.1$, ** $p < 0.05$, *** $p < 0.01$

Table A15: Coefficients from regression (8). “Level” is distance from grandfather (in 100 km) in columns (1)-(4); years grandfather is alive simultaneously with grandson in column (5). “Interaction” is interaction between level and grandfather’s occupation. Extensive margin (includes those with zero for the level variable)

Grandfather-grandson treatment:	Geographical distance (in 100 km)				Years (< 16) both alive
Sample:	A	B	C	D	D
Occupation: White collar					
Father same occupation	9.046*** (6.51)	7.669*** (14.18)	5.179*** (26.70)	2.811*** (41.45)	2.658*** (50.61)
Grandfather same occupation	1.766 (0.95)	3.526*** (4.20)	1.370*** (3.48)	1.551*** (12.19)	1.665*** (10.64)
Grandfather treatment level	0.924 (-0.62)	1.050 (1.49)	1.013 (0.97)	1.020*** (4.42)	0.999 (-0.40)
Grandfather treatment interaction	1.160 (0.59)	0.867 (-1.64)	1.034 (1.24)	0.991 (-0.97)	1.000 (0.10)
Occupation: Farmer					
Father same occupation	4.800*** (4.01)	13.46*** (15.12)	29.90*** (22.89)	17.51*** (17.12)	9.533*** (28.51)
Grandfather same occupation	1.207 (0.42)	1.539** (2.25)	1.341* (1.84)	2.324*** (4.58)	3.518*** (8.42)
Grandfather treatment level	1.256 (1.49)	1.078 (1.21)	0.951 (-1.06)	0.927** (-2.03)	0.993 (-0.61)
Grandfather treatment interaction	0.747 (-1.09)	0.918 (-0.95)	0.937 (-0.77)	0.949 (-0.69)	0.999 (-0.04)
Occupation: Manual, skilled					
Father same occupation	5.173*** (6.47)	3.136*** (10.18)	2.912*** (19.77)	2.404*** (33.58)	2.130*** (39.74)
Grandfather same occupation	2.302 (1.56)	1.326 (1.27)	1.174** (2.13)	1.121*** (3.57)	1.070* (1.78)
Grandfather treatment level	1.072 (0.87)	0.931** (-2.34)	0.974** (-2.05)	0.984*** (-2.73)	1.000 (-0.12)
Grandfather treatment interaction	0.716 (-0.76)	0.844 (-1.13)	0.960 (-1.37)	0.998 (-0.26)	0.998 (-0.70)
Occupation: Manual, unskilled					
Father same occupation	4.536*** (5.11)	2.533*** (4.67)	6.000*** (12.62)	1.971*** (7.96)	2.107*** (14.60)
Grandfather same occupation	0.811 (-0.63)	1.313 (1.26)	2.143*** (4.29)	1.711*** (7.64)	1.840*** (7.67)
Grandfather treatment level	0.909 (-1.04)	1.001 (0.02)	1.019 (0.62)	0.999 (-0.18)	1.008** (2.40)
Grandfather treatment interaction	0.881 (-0.52)	1.040 (0.43)	0.945 (-1.02)	0.980 (-1.18)	0.993 (-0.92)
<i>N</i>	393	1588	6762	34502	56484
Son observed:	1910	1960	1980	2011	2011
Father observed:	1900	1910	1960	1980	1980
Grandfather observed:	1865	1865	1910	1960	1960

Exponentiated coefficients; *t* statistics in parentheses

* $p < 0.1$, ** $p < 0.05$, *** $p < 0.01$

Table A16: Coefficients from regression (8). “Level” is distance from grandfather (in 100 km) in columns (1)-(4); years grandfather is alive simultaneously with grandson in column (5). “Interaction” is interaction between level and grandfather’s occupation. Intensive margin (excludes zeroes)

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