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Mental Retirement: Evidence from Global Aging Data *

Yoshinori Nishimura[†] Masato Oikawa[‡]

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Abstract

This study analyzes the effect of retirement on cognitive function; specifically, the hypothesis from human capital theory that because cognitive investment increases a worker's wage, workers may invest in their cognitive ability more than retirees, contributing to a post-retirement decline in cognitive function. While this topic is of great interest to health economics, we show that the method of analysis of some previous studies is not valid for examining this effect, and we propose an alternative method that addresses this concern. Further, our estimates indicate that retirement has only a weak effect on cognitive ability in a wide range of analyzed countries and heterogeneous groups. Therefore, according to our analysis, policies that have been widely adopted in developed countries to delay retirement, such as increasing the pensionable age, appear to have little detrimental affect on post-retirement cognitive ability.

JEL Classification Numbers: I10, I12, J24, J26

Keywords: global health, global aging data, mental retirement, cognitive function, social security, pension eligibility age, cross-country instruments

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1 Introduction

Due to rising life expectancies and declining birthrates associated with economic development, many industrialized countries are now facing the problem of an aging population. In 2015, there were 900 million people over 60 years of age worldwide, and this number is expected to continue to grow rapidly. As a country's population ages, the cost of social security and welfare increases, eroding the country's budget, and so numerous developed countries have introduced retirement-related policies such as pension system reform in order to reduce the cost of social security and social welfare to a sustainable level. Pension reforms in developed countries are mostly targeted at delaying retirement, and the United States, United Kingdom and Korea, for example, have decided to increase the age of pension eligibility, while Japan has already done so. The relationship between social security and retirement in developed countries has attracted a fair amount of attention in economics (Gruber and Wise (1998)), and one of the key factors for policymakers in evaluating the effects of these reforms is the health of retirees. An active and extended work life can be seen as beneficial to the health of the elderly because it might lead to a reduction in the often rapid growth in medical expenses throughout retirement.

However, longer life expectancies are associated with increased prevalence of chronic diseases such as dementia. According to the 2015 World Alzheimer Report ¹, the global cost of dementia has increased from USD 604 billion in 2010 to USD 818 billion in 2015, an increase of 35.4 percent. In the US, the total monetary cost of dementia in 2010 was estimated to be between 157 and 215 billion dollars, with about 11 billion dollars of this cost paid by Medicare (Hurd et al. (2013)). Although the rising cost of dementia and other chronic diseases associated with the elderly make the relationship between retirement and health of great research and policy interest, to date, there is no consensus among the studies of the past two decades either on the mechanism by which retirement affects health or even on the direction of its impact. While some studies conclude that retirement has a positive impact on either mental or physical health, others conclude that retirement has either a negative effect or none at all. ²

Just as with the effect of retirement on health, the discussion in the literature of the effects of retirement on cognitive function is also ambiguous. While Adam et al. (2006) find a positive effect of occupational activities on the cognitive function of the elderly in

¹See <https://www.alz.co.uk/research/world-report-2015> for further details.

² Kerkhofs and Lindeboom (1997), among the first to suggest an endogeneity in decisionmaking regarding retirement and health, find in their study of the Netherlands using the fixed effect (FE) method that the Hopkins Symptom Checklist health index can be improved by taking early retirement. But when Lindeboom et al. (2002), also applying an FE method to Dutch data, extend the Kerkhofs and Lindeboom (1997) study to other indices such as the Mini Mental State Examination test on cognitive ability and the CES-D test of depressing feelings, they find different results. In another early study, Charles (2004) examines the causal effect of retirement on health by focusing on the subjective wellbeing of retirees using an instrumental variables (IV) approach. Since then, numerous studies have analyzed the effect of retirement on various health indices, including Bound and Waidmann (2007), Coe and Lindeboom (2008), Dave et al. (2008), Neuman (2008), Johnston and Lee (2009), Latif (2011), Coe and Zamarro (2011), Kajitani (2011), Behncke (2012), Bonsang et al. (2012), Mazzonna and Peracchi (2012), Hernaes et al. (2013), Bingley and Martinello (2013), Hashimoto (2013), Insler (2014), Kajitani et al. (2014), Hashimoto (2015), and Kajitani et al. (2016a).

Europe and Coe et al. (2012) find a positive relationship between retirement duration and cognitive functioning but only for blue-collar workers, other studies of Europe find either no clear relation at all (Coe and Zamarro (2011)) or a negative effect (Mazzonna and Peracchi (2012)) between retirement and cognitive function. Exploring the theoretical foundations for their empirical study, Rohwedder and Willis (2010) discuss two hypotheses explaining why retirement might cause cognitive function to decline. The first, the “unengaged lifestyle hypothesis”, is a mental retirement effect in which cognitive decline may result from a worker lacking cognitive stimulation after retirement. The second hypothesis, an “on-the-job” retirement effect, is based on the human capital production function (Ben-Porath (1967)), which relates inputs such as one’s current stock of human capital and investments in schooling or on-the-job training to one’s skill output. This hypothesis posits that a worker’s incentive to continue investing in human capital before retirement will depend on one’s expected age of retirement, with a worker expecting to retire later having a much greater incentive to invest human capital before retirement because of the potential economic returns (in increased wages) accruing from this additional capital. When a worker retires, this incentive is removed, and so the “on-the-job” retirement effect presumes that workers engage in more cognitive investment behavior than retirees, leading to cognitive decline in retirement.

In their empirical analysis, Rohwedder and Willis (2010) show a negative relationship between retirement and cognitive function, but their simple regression analysis does not control for such important factors as age and education. In their re-examination of the Rohwedder model, Bingley and Martinello (2013) include years of education and gender variables and find a weaker but still negative estimated effect, implying that the results of this model are sensitive to the specific controlled characteristics that are included. Similarly, Kajitani et al. (2014) argue that there exists a heterogeneity in cognitive deterioration related to the characteristics of the occupation and, further, Kajitani et al. (2016a) and Kajitani et al. (2016b) suggest that cognitive function is negatively affected by retirement duration and working hours.

In light of the above discussion, the goal of this study is to examine the “mental retirement effect” to determine whether or not there exists a causal effect of retirement on cognitive function. We do this in two steps. First, we examine the validity of the cross-sectional estimation procedure adopted in the literature and also the influence of the set of analyzed countries on the measured effects of retirement on cognitive function. Second, using a simple econometric model, we re-examine the mental retirement effect and the “on-the-job” retirement effect (Rohwedder and Willis (2010)) in the U.S. and other countries. To our knowledge, this is the first analysis that treats retirement endogenously in interpreting its effect on cognitive ability. Additionally, we investigate several potential sources of heterogeneity, including individual characteristics and time spent on leisure activities, that are either not covered in the literature or that are suggested as areas for future research. Finally, drawing upon the medical literature, we also examine the effect of body mass index (BMI) and fat intake on the heterogeneity of the effect of retirement on cognitive function.

Our estimates indicate that retirement has a weak effect on post-retirement cognitive scores in a wide range of analyzed countries and heterogeneous groups. Additionally, in our checks of the movement of cognitive scores around retirement age, we found no evidence that

cognitive scores decline sharply around retirement age, or that retirement age influences how fast one’s cognitive score declines. Therefore, our findings suggest that retirement policies in developed countries aimed at increasing the pensionable age do not substantially influence the cognitive abilities of the elderly.

The remainder of this paper is organized as follows: section 2 describes the dataset, section 3 discusses the wide-ranging effects of retirement on cognitive function, and section 4 examines the validity of a cross-sectional cross-country analysis. Section 5 discusses the main results from our dynamic analysis method, and section 6 concludes the paper and discusses the scope for future research.

2 Data

In order to conduct our analysis of the effect of retirement on cognitive ability, this study utilizes data on health and retirement from numerous countries, including the US Health and Retirement Study (HRS), China Health and Retirement Longitudinal Study (CHARLS), English Longitudinal Study of Ageing (ELSA), Korean Longitudinal Study of Aging (KLoSA), Survey of Health, Ageing, and Retirement in Europe (SHARE), and Japanese Study of Ageing and Retirement (JSTAR). These datasets are all panel surveys of individuals aged around 50 or over, and HRS family datasets are constructed so that the questions in the HRS family studies are as similar as possible to the original questions in the HRS. All of the datasets include a rich variety of variables to capture dimensions of life in terms of family background and economic, health, social and work status.

For data on cognitive ability, we used the cognitive function scores in the HRS and other related datasets, which included immediate and delayed word recall, a word recall summary score, serial 7s and backwards counting. The word recall test occurs in two rounds, with the respondent asked to recall as many words as possible from a 10 word list first immediately and then again after a given period of time. The score of the immediate and delayed word recall test is the number of words that were recalled correctly and a word recall summary score of between 0 and 20 is obtained from the sum of the two rounds. The serial 7s test asks the respondent to subtract 7 from the prior number beginning with 100 for 5 trials and from this, a score between 0 and 5 is obtained. The backwards counting test asks the respondent to count backwards for 10 continuous numbers from 20, and the original score obtained from this test is 2 if successful on the first try, 1 if successful on the second, and 0 if not successful on either try. However, because of the difficulty in interpreting the estimated coefficient of the original score, we adjusted this test score to indicate one when the respondent is successful on the first try and 0 otherwise. For our analysis in section 3, we used only the word recall summary score, while in sections 4 and 5, we used all types of scores.

Cognitive function scores are summarized in Tables 1 and 2, which show the descriptive statistics of the age group from 60 to 69 in all countries and the United States, respectively. From Table 1, we can see that cognition scores are not the same level in all countries, with scores in China and European countries comparatively lower than those of the U.S., U.K.,

Korea, ³ and Japan. In Table 2, we can see that females have a higher score than males in the word recall summary score, while males have higher score than females in serial 7. Additionally, those who are highly educated (i.e. university graduates) have a higher score than those with lower levels of education in all cognitive scores.

Table 1: Summary Statistics of Cognition Scores (Age 60 -69) around 2010

	Obs.	Mean	S.D.	Min	Max
HRS					
Word Recall Summary Score	5057	10.33	3.23	0	20
Immediate Word Recall	5057	5.64	1.56	0	10
Delayed Word Recall	5057	4.68	1.89	0	10
Serial 7s	5057	3.53	1.65	0	5
ELSA¹					
Word Recall Summary Score	3593	11.17	3.32	0	20
Immediate Word Recall	3592	6.17	1.67	0	10
Delayed Word Recall	3593	5.01	1.93	0	10
SHARE²					
Word Recall Summary Score	18998	9.31	3.40	0	20
Immediate Word Recall	19025	5.33	1.68	0	10
Delayed Word Recall	19019	3.97	2.03	0	10
Serial 7s	18576	3.76	1.74	0	5
JSTAR					
Word Recall Summary Score	1463	10.10	3.00	0	20
Immediate Word Recall	1501	5.27	1.49	0	10
Delayed Word Recall	1471	4.80	1.85	0	10
Serial 7s	1508	4.10	1.20	0	5
CHARLS					
Word Recall Summary Score	3838	6.89	3.16	0	18
Immediate Word Recall	3890	3.91	1.60	0	10
Delayed Word Recall	3856	2.95	1.87	0	10
Serial 7s	3880	3.11	1.88	0	5
KLoSA					
Word Recall Summary Score ³	2253	4.74	1.31	0	6
Immediate Word Recall ³	2253	2.68	0.67	0	3
Delayed Word Recall ³	2253	2.06	0.96	0	3
Serial 7s	2253	3.83	1.57	0	5

¹ ELSA does not include Serial 7s scores.

² Calculated using weight.

³ KLoSA's Word Recall Scores are not comparable with other datasets.

As explained in detail in sections 4 and 5, in this study, we analyzed the effect of retirement on cognitive function in two ways. First, we performed a cross-sectional, cross-country analysis using two cohorts (2004 and 2010) of the cross sectional datasets of the HRS, ELSA, and SHARE datasets as well as CHARLS 2011 and JSTAR 2009. We used JSTAR 2009

³For each test, the maximum test score in KLoSA is different from that of the other studies.

Table 2: Summary Statistics: The US (Age:60-69) at 2010

	Obs.	Mean	S.D.	Min	Max	Obs.	Mean	S.D.	Min	Max
	Male					Female				
Word Recall Summary Score	2038	9.70	3.14	0	20	3019	10.76	3.21	0	20
Immediate Word Recall	2038	5.37	1.56	0	10	3019	5.82	1.54	0	10
Delayed Word Recall	2038	4.32	1.82	0	10	3019	4.92	1.90	0	10
Serial 7s	2038	3.76	1.55	0	5	3019	3.38	1.69	0	5
	Not University Graduate					University Graduate				
Word Recall Summary Score	3819	9.86	3.14	0	20	1236	11.81	3.05	0	20
Immediate Word Recall	3819	5.42	1.53	0	10	1236	6.33	1.45	0	10
Delayed Word Recall	3819	4.43	1.84	0	10	1236	5.45	1.82	0	10
Serial 7s	3819	3.27	1.70	0	5	1236	4.33	1.12	0	5
	White Collar					Blue Collar				
Word Recall Summary Score	2889	11.04	3.13	0	20	1027	9.36	3.05	1	19
Immediate Word Recall	2889	5.95	1.50	0	10	1027	5.17	1.50	1	10
Delayed Word Recall	2889	5.08	1.85	0	10	1027	4.17	1.76	0	10
Serial 7s	2889	3.80	1.51	0	5	1027	3.25	1.69	0	5

because no survey was conducted in 2010 and the word recall questions in 2011 were asked only to people older than 65. Unfortunately, we were not able to use the Korean Longitudinal Study of Ageing (KLoSA) for this initial analysis because the test score questions were not comparable with other datasets.

Next, we performed a dynamic analysis of the long-term variation of retirement behavior for certain countries for which detailed information on the age of pension eligibility was available. When available, we used harmonized datasets,⁴ but when the variables were not available in the harmonized datasets, we used the variables of the original datasets. Table 3 describes the datasets used for the analyses reported in each section of this paper.

Also note that in this paper, following Rohwedder and Willis (2010) and Bingley and Martinello (2013), we used pensionable age as an instrumental variable, and section 4 reports the results of our analysis when performing the cross-sectional cross-country analysis using the pensionable age for all countries. However, the pensionable age variable used by Rohwedder and Willis (2010) and Bingley and Martinello (2013) were based on data from the OECD *Pensions at a Glance* and the US *Social Security Programs throughout the World: Europe, 2004*, and these data for some countries are partly incorrect (see Appendix (A.1) for an explanation and description of how we corrected for this). In section 5, we report the results of our analysis using only the pensionable ages confirmed to be correct.

⁴ The Gateway to Global Aging Data (<http://gateway.usc.edu>) provides harmonized versions of data from international aging and retirement studies (e.g., HRS, ELSA, SHARE, KLoSA, and CHARLS), with all the variables of each dataset aiming to have the same items and follow the same naming conventions in order to enable researchers to conduct cross-national comparative studies. The program code to generate the harmonized datasets from the original datasets is provided by the Center for Global Ageing Research, USC Davis School of Gerontology and the Center for Economic and Social Research (CESR). Some variables, such as measures of assets and income, are imputed by this code.

Table 3: Datasets Used in this Study

	Wave	Year
Cross Sectional Analysis (Section 4)		
HRS	7,10	2004,2010
SHARE	1,4	2004,2010
ELSA	2,5	2004,2010
JSTAR	2	2009
CHARLS	1	2011
Dynamic Analysis (Section 5)		
HRS	3-10	1996-2010
SHARE ¹	1-5	2004-2012
ELSA	1-6	2002-2014
JSTAR	1-4	2007-2013
KLoSA	1-4	2006-2012

¹: Only Denmark, France and Germany are analyzed.

3 Retirement and Decline in Cognitive Function

3.1 Discussion

One of the goals of this study is to analyze heterogeneity in the effect of retirement on cognitive function. In this section, we discuss which characteristics correlate with the difference in cognitive scores between retirees and non-retirees, and establish that there are factors other than basic individual characteristics such as gender and job characteristics that correlate with this difference.

Figures 1 and 2 report the differences in the relationship of the scores for the Serial 7s and Word Recall Summary tests of cognitive functioning between retired and non-retired individuals in Japan, the U.S., South Korea, China, Germany and France using two definitions of retirement: “not working for pay” and “self-reported retiree”.⁵ First, as the results are similar for both definitions of retirement, the influence of the retirement definition is weak. Next, we see that the difference in cognitive scores between retired and non-retired individuals is generally extremely small in all of the analyzed countries, and while the relationship is similar across countries, heterogeneity does exist. For example, while the serial 7s score in the U.S. is lower for those who are retired than those not retired, the results for China are

⁵ “Not working for pay” indicates that a respondent is not working for wages or other type of payment, while “self-reported retiree” means that a respondent reported his status to be retired. We constructed these two variables from the “r@lbrf” variable reported in the RAND HRS dataset. In the HRS, “r@lbrf” takes seven values, and in this paper, we define a respondent as a *self-reported retiree* if r@lbrf’ is “partly retired,” “retired,” “disabled” or “not in labor force”. In other words, the difference between *not working for pay* and *self-reported retiree* is whether unemployed respondents are included or excluded. Page 1033 of the Rand HRS data codebook (<http://hrsonline.isr.umich.edu/modules/meta/rand/randhrsm/randhrsM.pdf>) explains in detail the variable “r@lbrf” used in all the harmonized datasets in this study (e.g., Harmonized SHARE, Harmonized ELSA), which follows numerous studies in the literature (e.g. Rohwedder and Willis (2010), Coe and Zamarro (2011), Bonsang et al. (2012), Bingley and Martinello (2013)) that use these two similar definitions of retirement. For example, Rohwedder and Willis (2010) consider the respondent retired if “not working for pay”, and in Bonsang et al. (2012), a respondent is considered retired if s/he self-reports “not working”.

the opposite. We can thus conclude that the cognitive function scores between retired and non-retired people have a heterogeneous relationship which depends on the specific countries analyzed. Further, this relationship does not seem to change according to the specific cognitive test used as, for example, the results for retirees and non-retirees in the U.S. and China for the word recall summary score are the same as those for the Serial 7s test described above: the score of retired individuals is lower than that of the non-retired in the U.S. but higher in China. Japan is similar to China in the serial 7s score. In sum, since the demographic profile of each country is different, it is possible that this is the source of the differences across countries in the relationship of overall average cognitive scores between retirees and non-retirees.

Figure 1: Serial 7s Score by Country (All Waves)

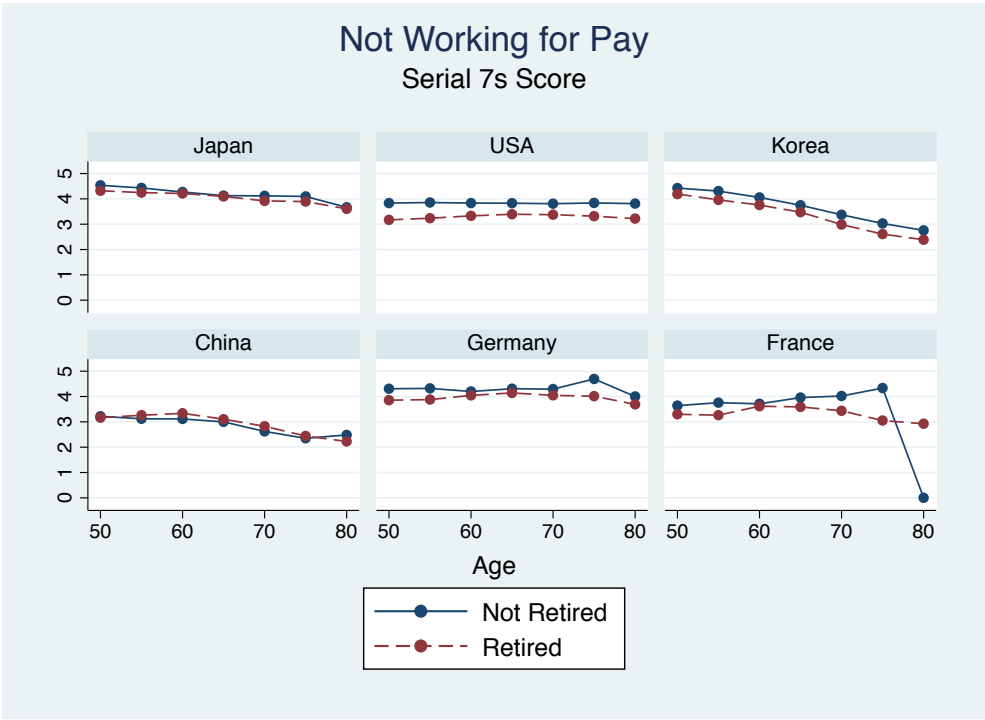


Figure 2: Word Recall Summary Score by Country (All Waves)



Next, we explore the apparent differences in the characteristics of the U.S. and China further by comparing the cognitive levels of retirees in both countries, using the two definitions of retired person described above and the Serial 7s and Word Recall Summary scores measuring cognitive functioning (Figures 3, 4, 5 and 6). We look at gender, education, job type and wealth. ⁶ While we can observe in Figures 3 through 6 that there seems to be some heterogeneity in individual characteristics between the U.S. and China, it is important to note that any difference in cognitive scores between retirees and non-retirees in these figures is not the effect of retirement on cognitive function since the former is endogenous. However, we can say that unobserved heterogeneity influences the difference in cognitive score between retirees and non-retirees among different countries. In summary:

- In each country, differences in characteristics such as gender, education and wealth explain the difference in cognitive function between retirees and non-retirees and, moreover, the differences between the scores are heterogeneous with respect to the specific characteristic analyzed. We also note that the influence of retirement definition on the difference in the cognitive scores between retirees and non-retirees is weak.
- It is possible that there exist characteristics other than gender, education, and wealth that might contribute to observed differences in the scores between retirees and non-retirees as, indeed, does the endogeneity of retirement. However, it is possible that these factors strongly correlate with the country of residence for, as we have seen, in China, the cognitive function scores (either serial 7s or word recall) of retirees are larger than those of non-retirees for all characteristics while the relationship is the opposite in the U.S. Nonetheless, any unobserved factors other than gender and education are important, as they could potentially be causing an observed inverse relationship between the scores of retirees and non-retirees.

As we have discussed in this section, factors other than individual characteristics such as gender, education, and wealth are important for explaining the difference in cognitive function scores between retirees and non-retirees. This means that when we consider the effect of retirement on cognitive function, we have to also consider the potential influence of any unobserved heterogeneity on the difference in cognitive function scores. We consider this point further in the next section through a critical review of the literature.

⁶ In the literature, heterogeneity such as gender or job type is important for explaining the effect of retirement on cognitive functioning. Coe et al. (2012), for example, estimates the effect of retirement on cognitive function for two job types (white-collar and blue-collar). In Figures 3, 4, 5 and 6, we also separated respondents into two job categories for the U.S. using the occupation code for the job with longest reported tenure. However, for China, we were not able to separate the job category into white-collar and blue-collar in the same way because the information on the job category of retirees was not available. As a result, we did not use the cognitive scores based on job types in China.

Figure 3: Serial 7 Scores in the U.S. and China (All Waves) by Gender, Education, Occupational Type and Wealth

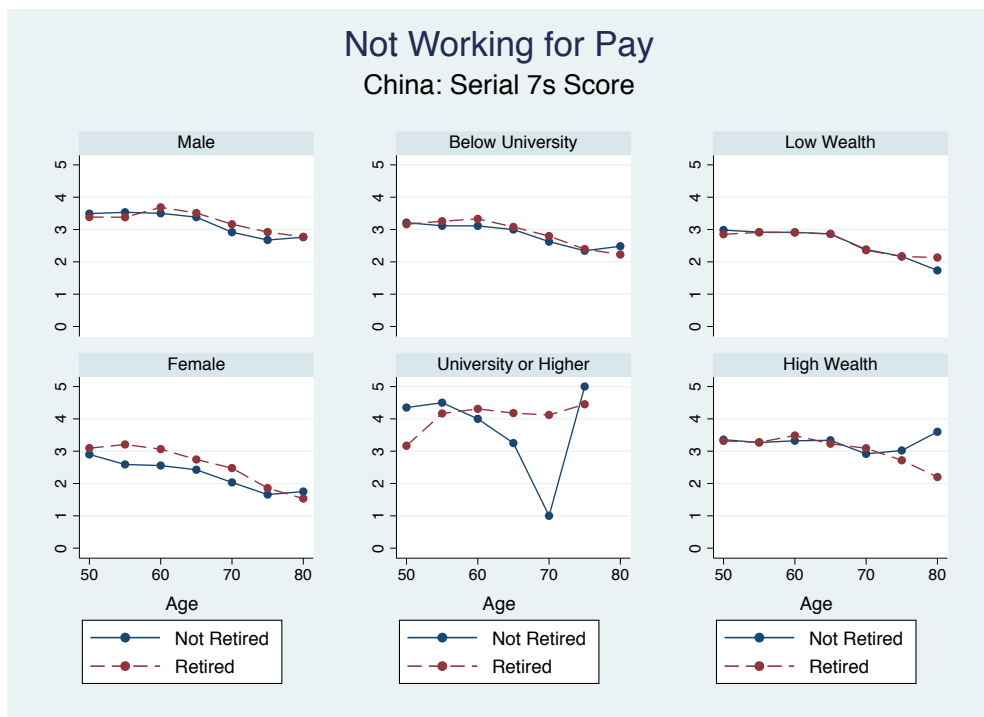
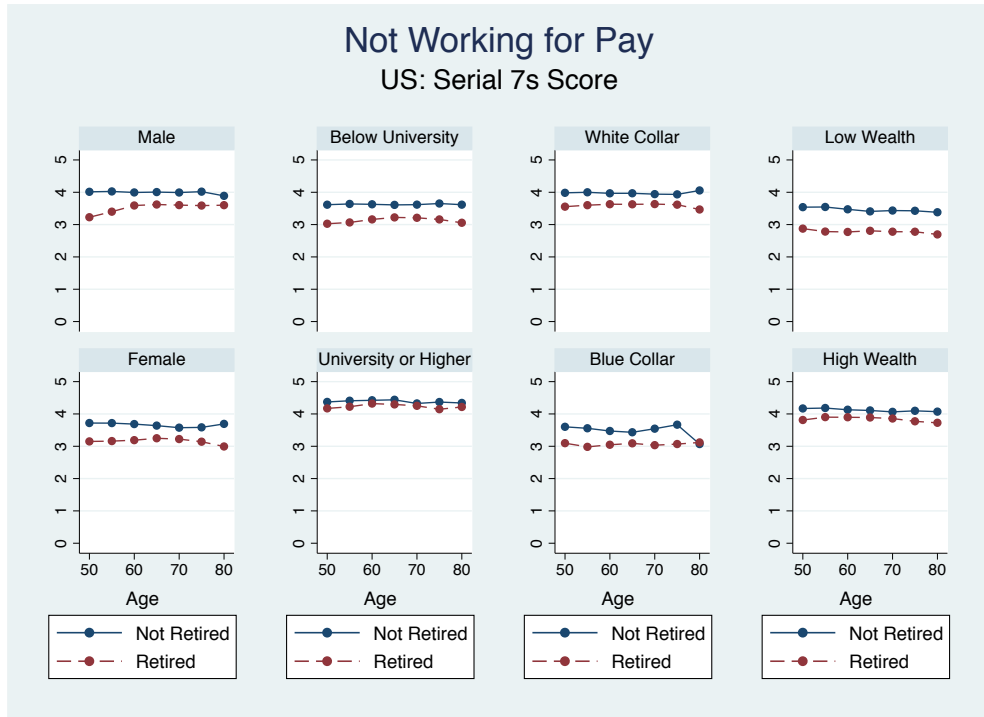


Figure 4: Serial 7 Scores in the U.S. and China (All Waves) by Gender, Education, Occupational Type and Wealth



Figure 5: Word Recall Summary Scores in the U.S. and China (All Waves) by Gender, Education, Occupational Type and Wealth

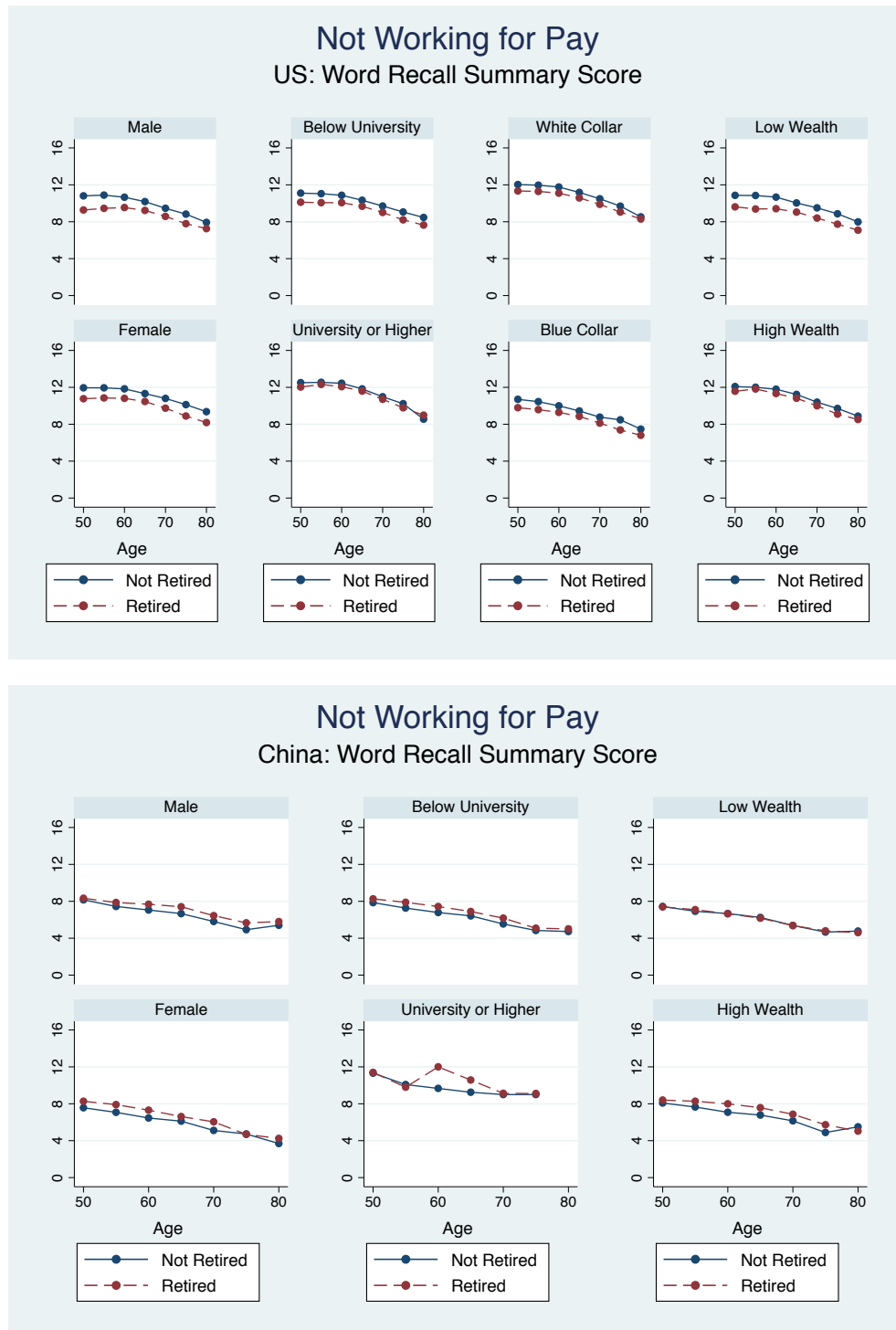
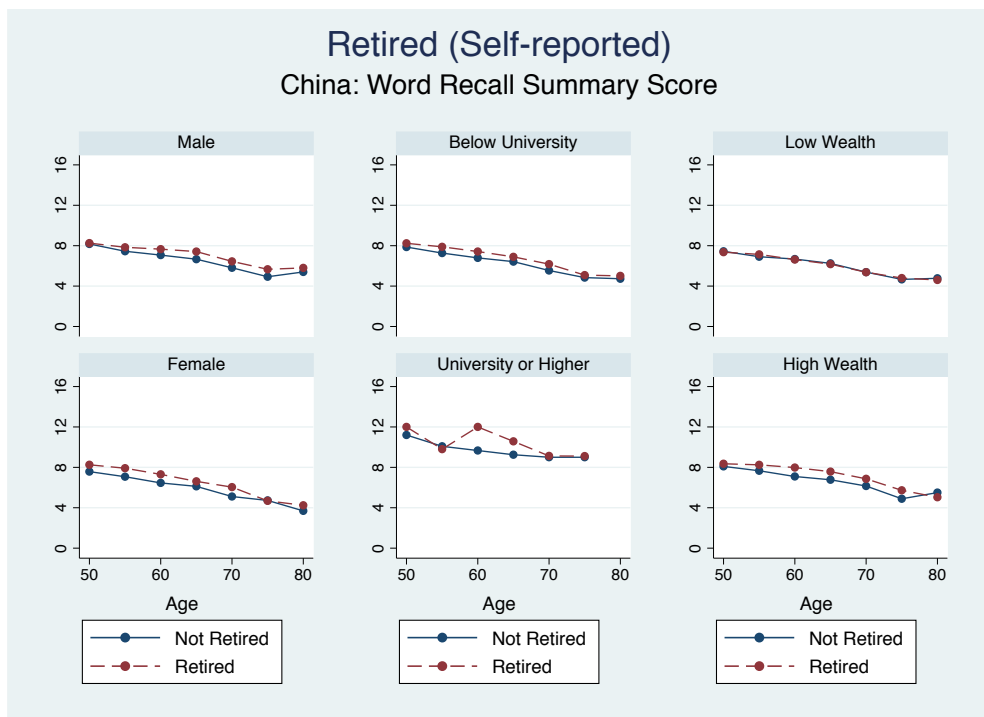
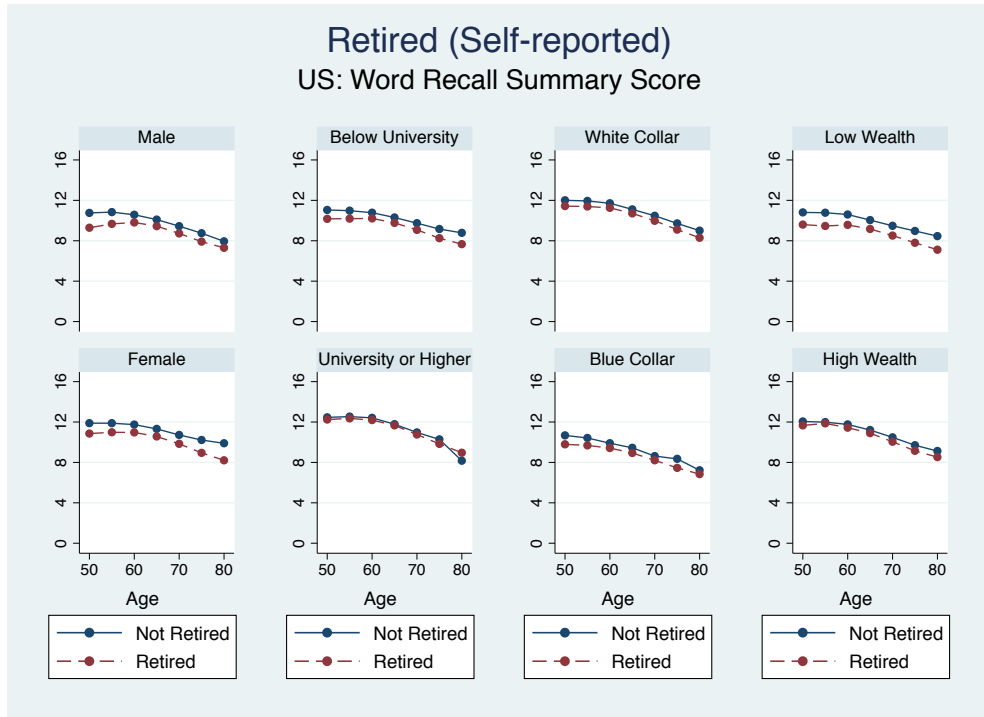


Figure 6: Word Recall Summary Scores in the U.S. and China (All Waves) by Gender, Education, Occupational Type and Wealth



4 Preliminary Analysis: Validation Test of Cross-Sectional Cross-Country Analysis

In the previous section, we discussed the heterogeneity of the difference in cognitive scores between retirees and non-retirees among different countries. In this section, we further consider this point by determining the validity of the cross-sectional analysis in previous studies through a critical review of the literature. We find that an estimation strategy based on cross-sectional analysis lacks robustness in that the estimated results are sensitive to the chosen set of countries analyzed. In other words, the specific countries chosen can unduly influence the final results.

4.1 Identification Strategy of Cross-Sectional Cross-Country Analysis

In this section, we investigate the robustness of the estimation strategy using cross-country variations in the age of pension eligibility. Since the goal of this research is to estimate the effect of retirement on cognitive function, the target of our identification strategy is to exclude any endogeneity bias that may be present in the retirement variable. Our analysis is carried out in two stages: first, we perform a cross-sectional cross-country analysis; and, second, a dynamic analysis of individual countries using panel data. In the first stage, the identification strategy is to use the variation in the age of pension eligibility among different countries in a specific year, which varies by country. We can use this exogenous variation to control for retirement endogeneity by simultaneously analyzing different countries with different pension eligibility ages.

Now, turning to the related literature, Rohwedder and Willis (2010), Coe and Zamarro (2011), and Bingley and Martinello (2013) are the studies analyzing the effect of retirement on cognitive function that are most relevant to this paper. Focusing on Rohwedder and Willis (2010), the age of pension eligibility used in the study is based on external data sources: the OECD *Pensions at a Glance* and US Social Security Administration *Social Security Programs throughout the World: Europe, 2004*. However, in our review of pension age data using primary data sources, we find that the data reported in the secondary sources used by Rohwedder and Willis (2010) are partly incorrect. Accordingly, in our analysis, we use a corrected version of the pension eligibility ages in Rohwedder and Willis (2010), as described in detail in Appendix (A.1).

According to our analysis, the estimated effect of retirement on cognitive function is heterogeneous among different sets of analyzed countries. Therefore, it is important to analyze this effect for each country rather than for groups of countries because it is possible that any unobserved heterogeneity might not be fully controlled for by using a cross-sectional cross-country analytic methodology. Consequently, in order to omit any potential individual unobserved heterogeneity, in the second stage of our analysis, we estimate the effect of retirement on cognitive function by using the dynamic variation in individual retirement behavior. Before moving to a description of our second-stage dynamic analysis, in the next section we

describe the first-stage framework by which we came to our critical conclusion about the validity of the cross-sectional cross-country methodology used in most other studies.

4.2 Analysis Framework

For the first stage of our analysis, we update Rohwedder and Willis (2010) and Bingley and Martinello (2013) using a corrected dataset and adding a robust set of control variables. To begin, note that Rohwedder and Willis (2010) estimate the model below, using HRS, SHARE, and ELSA data for 2004 and restricting the analyzed sample to ages 60-64:

$$\begin{aligned} cognition_score_i &= \beta_0 + \beta_1 notwork_i + \epsilon_{1i} \\ notwork_i &= \alpha_0 + \alpha_1 1\{age_i \geq A_i^{eb}\} + \alpha_2 1\{age_i \geq A_i^{fb}\} + \epsilon_{2i} \\ A_i^{eb} &: \text{age of eligibility for early retirement benefit} \\ A_i^{fb} &: \text{age of eligibility for full retirement benefit} \end{aligned} \tag{1}$$

where $notwork_i$ is an indicator equal to one when a respondent is not working for pay in the survey year, $cognition_score_i$ is the word recall summary score (range: 0-20) and age_i is the respondent's age. Note that the model does not include any control variables.

Bingley and Martinello (2013), following Rohwedder and Willis (2010), also estimate Equation (1), but include an education (years of schooling) control variable. In our specification, we also include other control variables in addition to educational level, including gender, education and wealth. We also check the sensitivity of our results according to the control variables included. Our estimation specification, considering observed respondent heterogeneity, is shown in Equation 2:

$$\begin{aligned} cognition_score_i &= \beta_0 + \beta_1 notwork_i + \gamma'x_i + \epsilon_{1i} \\ notwork_i &= \alpha_0 + \alpha_1 1\{age_i \geq A_i^{eb}\} + \alpha_2 1\{age_i \geq A_i^{fb}\} + \eta'x_i + \epsilon_{2i} \\ A_i^{eb} &: \text{age of eligibility for early retirement benefit} \\ A_i^{fb} &: \text{age of eligibility for full retirement benefit} \end{aligned} \tag{2}$$

where x_i is a set of individual characteristics that we incorporate as control variables. These characteristics are unobserved in Equation (1) and so potentially could have produced the estimated differences in cognitive function among retirees. These characteristics could also have been correlated with the retirement variable, thus introducing bias into the estimated effect of retirement on health. Further, Rohwedder and Willis (2010) and Bingley and Martinello (2013) do not use any estimation weights for cross-country analysis in their estimations and also do not adjust the estimation according to population size. In our analysis, we incorporate an estimation weight based on UN data.⁷

⁷See the website <http://data.un.org/Default.aspx> for more detail on the UN *A World of Information* data. Our methodology for calculating the estimation weights are described in Appendix A.4.

With respect to control variables, it is rather difficult to assess which variables should be included in the estimation model, as the literature is wide-ranging and ambiguous. The public health literature discusses the relationship between behavioral factors (physical activity, lifestyle habits and leisure time activity) and cognitive function (Dik et al. (2003), Scarmeas and Stern (2003), Wilson et al. (2003), Nyberg et al. (2012), Raji et al. (2016), Satizabal et al. (2016)), and McEwen and Sapolsky (1995) and Sindi et al. (2016) indicate a relationship between stress and cognitive function. Additionally, Nyberg et al. (2000) suggest that gender differences influence cognitive function, and Satizabal et al. (2016) find that the incidence of dementia has declined over the last three decades, but cannot find a factor that explains this phenomenon. There are also numerous studies that discuss the relationship between social factors and cognitive function. After considering all of the possible control variables discussed in the literature, in our study, we included demographic factors such as gender, family structure, economic variables, and country of residence in the estimation model to control for fundamental social determinants of human behavior. In section 5, we also use a simple economic model to discuss how social factors influence cognitive function.

To summarize the analysis of this section, we find the following conclusions:

- We find a significant effect of changing the sample set of countries analyzed, which suggests that the effects of retirement on cognitive function are also heterogeneous among different groups even if the analyzed groups have similar ages.
- We have shown that the effect of control variables for individual heterogeneity cannot be ignored. However, in our cross-country cross-sectional analysis specification, we found that the magnitude of the effect of retirement on cognitive function was similar to the magnitude estimated in some of related literature (Rohwedder and Willis (2010), Bingley and Martinello (2013)) even though we included control variables for individual heterogeneity while the other studies did not.
- Including a corrected instrumental variable influences the final results substantially when we compare our results to the instrumental variable estimates of Rohwedder and Willis (2010) and Bingley and Martinello (2013), showing that the effect of correcting the IV is not weak.

Finally, before we turn to our results, we note that the claims in Rohwedder and Willis (2010) of a negative relationship between average cognitive score and percent eligible for early public pension benefits may be overextended. In our Figure 7 below, we have used 2010 data to replicate and update Figure 6 in Rohwedder and Willis (2010) (pp. 134-135), which is based on a 2004 dataset. Like Rohwedder and Willis (2010), we also find an apparent negative relationship between average cognitive score and percent eligible for early public pension benefits, but this relationship may not be robust and, in any case, it may be only a correlation rather than a causal relationship.

The next section reports the main results of our stage 1 cross-sectional cross-country analysis. Secondary results are reported in Appendix A.2.

Figure 7: Replication of Rohwedder & Willis 2010 (Early Retirement)

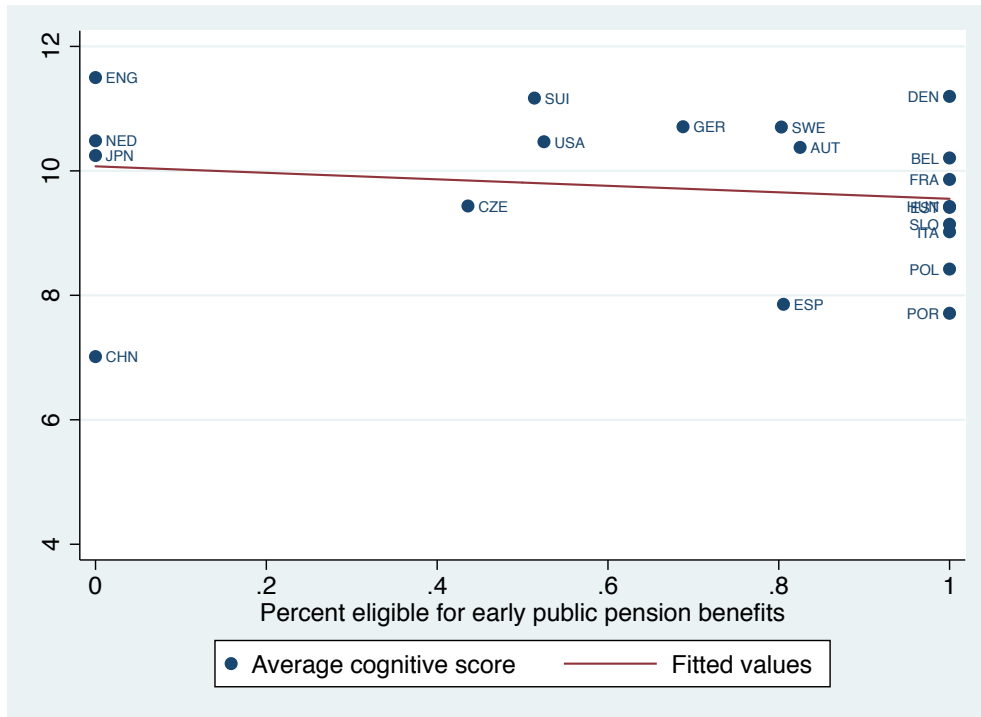
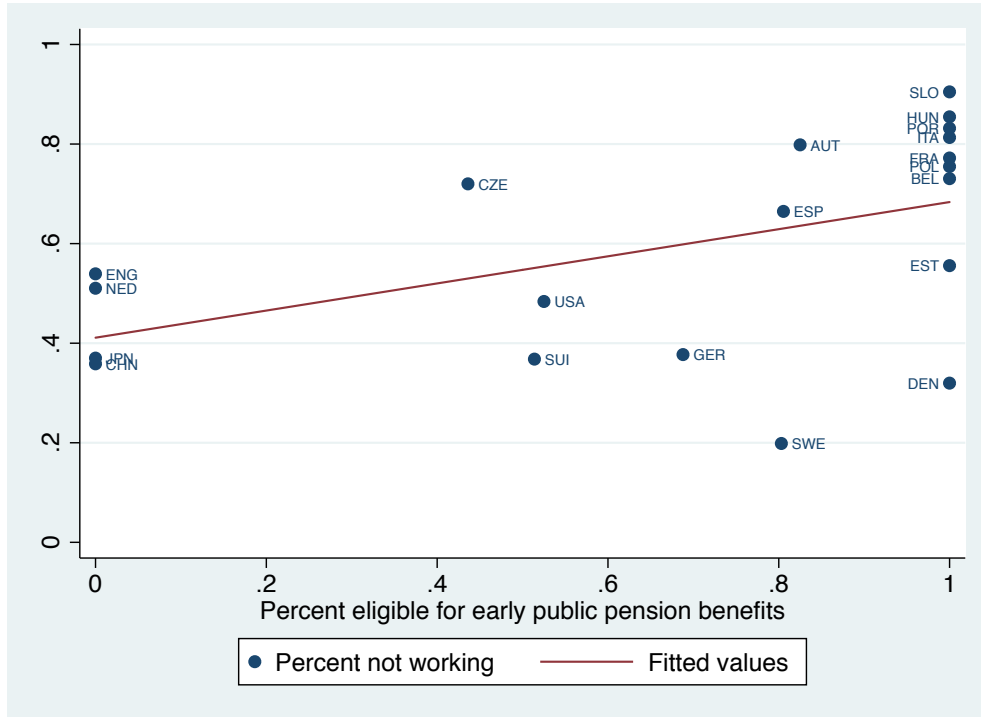
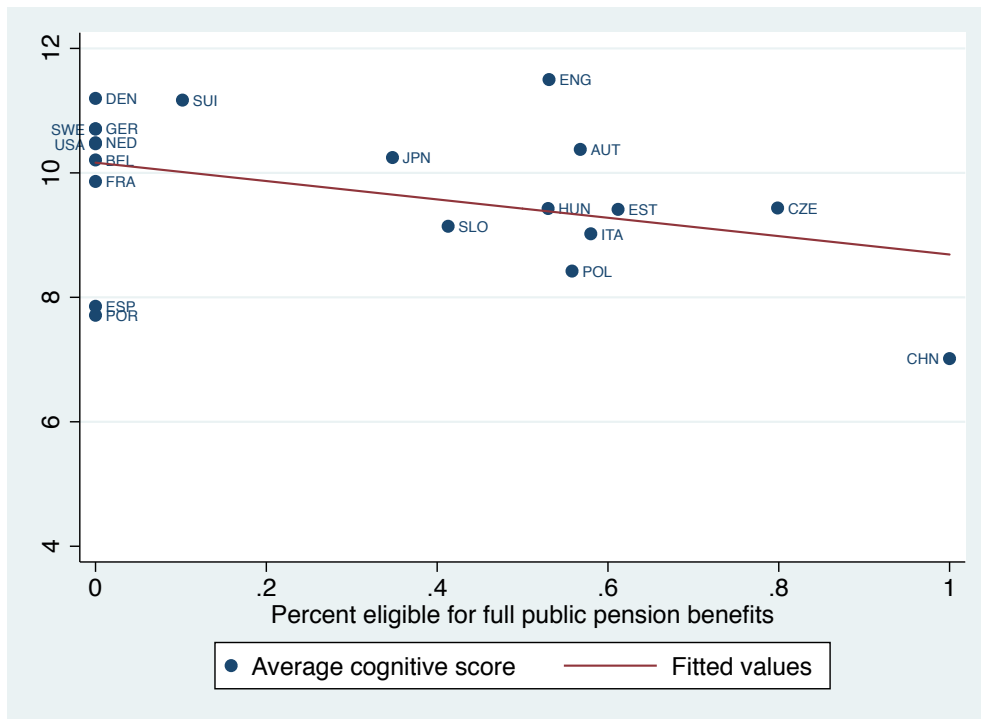
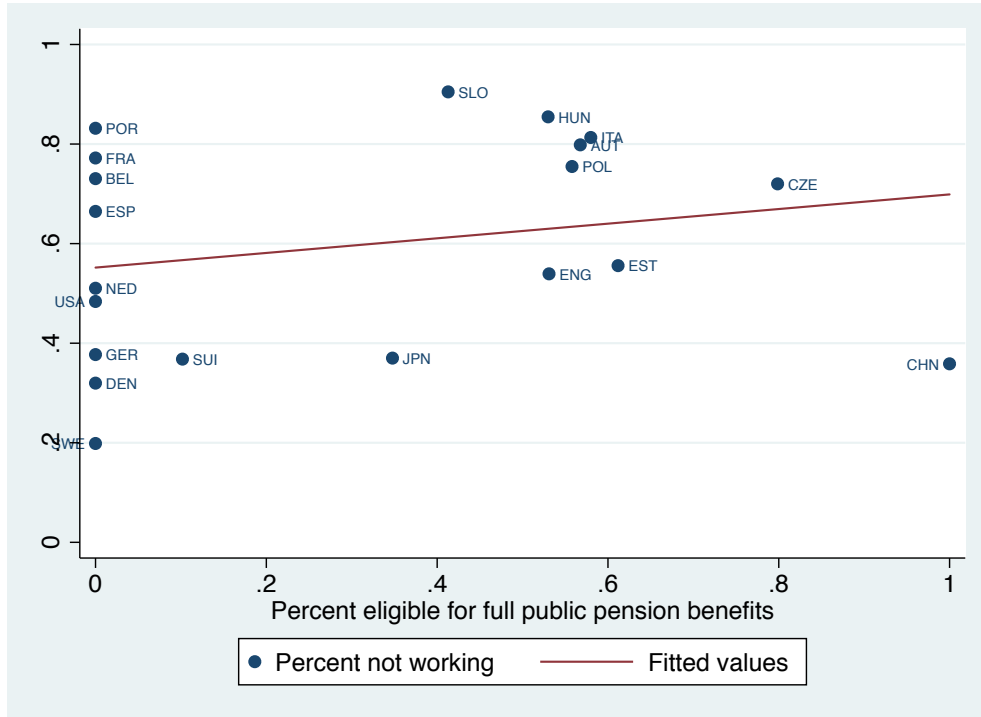


Figure 8: Replication of Rohwedder & Willis 2010 (Full Retirement)



4.3 Results: Importance of the Set of Countries Analyzed

In this section, we focus on the importance of the choice of countries analyzed. Table 4 reports the results of our estimates of equations (1) and (2) for four groups of countries based on linguistic regions: *Latin* (France, Spain Portugal, and Italy), *Slavic* (Estonia, Slovenia, Poland, Hungary, and Czech Republic), *Germanic* (U.K., Netherlands, Germany, Denmark, Belgium, Sweden, Austria, and Switzerland), and *New SHARE and East Asia* (Japan, China, Czech Republic, Poland, Hungary, Portugal, Slovenia, and Estonia). We also include *Original without Greece*, which is the original set of countries analyzed by Rohwedder and Willis (2010), minus Greece, as it was not included in the 2010 survey. Since many countries have been included in the HRS sister surveys since 2002, for this analysis, we used the 2010 dataset.⁸ Further, in order to accomodate the variation in the age of pension eligibility in as many countries as possible, for this analysis, we chose an age range of 60-69. Table 4 presents only the main results, omitting the coefficients of the country dummies and other control variables. For details of our specification of pensionable ages and estimation weights, see sections A.1) and A.4 of the Appendix.

From Table 4, we can see a large degree of heterogeneity in the estimated results. The coefficients for some country groups are negative and significant (*Original without Greece*: -0.608 (OLS); -3.940 (IV2) although the DWH test is not rejected; *Germanic*: -0.333 (OLS), and *Latin*: -0.362 (OLS)) while the *New SHARE and East Asia* coefficients are significant and positive (0.413 (OLS)) and those of *Slavic* are not significant (-0.138 (OLS)).

To summarize the results of our preliminary analysis:

- The choice of countries analyzed largely influences the estimated result. Therefore, we need to pay attention to country heterogeneity when we analyze the effect of retirement on cognitive function (Table 4);
- When important control variables are omitted, unobserved heterogeneity has a large influence on the estimated result (Tables 22 and 24);
- The definition of retirement does not have a large influence on the estimated results⁹, even though the specific definition chosen does occasionally drive different conclusions (Table 27);
- Other factors such as differences in age or cohort do not seem to be important (Tables 26 and 27).

The implications of this finding that country heterogeneity largely influences the estimated results poses two problems for an identification strategy in a cross-sectional cross-country analysis:

- If the country heterogeneity of a given variable is large, even when endogeneity bias is small, the policy implications for an individual country may not be transparent;

⁸JSTAR data is 2009, and CHARLS is 2011.

⁹Kajitani et al. (2013) also report that the sensitivity of the definition of retirement definition is weak.

- If the bias created by unobserved variables that are correlated with the retirement dependent variable differs among countries, then this cannot be eliminated through a common set of control variables in a cross-sectional cross-country analysis. If this is the case, it is difficult to estimate the effect of retirement on cognitive function because we cannot isolate how the estimated parameter is influenced by bias for each country.

Based on this deficiency of cross-sectional cross-country analysis, we have chosen to analyze the effect of retirement on cognitive function in a single country through a dynamic model that also controls for unobserved individual heterogeneity. In the next section, we describe our dynamic strategy for estimating the effect of retirement on cognitive function in several countries individually, choosing only countries for which the age of pension eligibility is confirmed to be correct (see Appendix A.1 for a full discussion). We also analyze the influence of heterogeneity of transition behavior (leisure activity) before and after retirement and the influence of individual heterogeneity. We end with a discussion of the validity of cross-country cross-sectional analysis based on a comparison of our findings using that approach versus dynamic analysis.

Table 4: Effect of Choice of Countries Analyzed (Sample Aged 60-69)

	Latin		Slavic		Germanic		New SHARE /East Asia		Original /without Greece		All countries	
	(1) OLS	(2) IV2	(3) OLS	(4) IV2	(5) OLS	(6) IV2	(7) OLS	(8) IV2	(9) OLS	(10) IV2	(11) OLS	(12) IV2
Panel A: without controls												
1st stage												
$1\{age \geq PAE\}$		0.235*** (0.062)		0.051*** (0.014)		0.060*** (0.018)		0.474*** (0.012)		0.136*** (0.010)		0.328*** (0.008)
$1\{age \geq PAN\}$		0.167*** (0.014)		0.243*** (0.028)		0.328*** (0.020)		0.123*** (0.021)		0.221*** (0.010)		0.120*** (0.008)
2nd stage												
Not working for pay	-0.823*** (0.159)	-2.396*** (0.621)	-0.449** (0.220)	0.119 (0.839)	-0.661*** (0.137)	-1.116*** (0.412)	0.833*** (0.104)	1.247*** (0.225)	-1.153*** (0.069)	-2.463*** (0.245)	0.531*** (0.071)	3.728*** (0.210)
Observations	3620	3620	6086	6086	8802	8802	10315	10315	16746	16746	27061	27061
DWH p-value		0.006		0.251		0.409		0.000		0.000		0.000
Panel B: with controls												
1st stage												
$1\{age \geq PAE\}$		0.079 (0.063)		-0.020 (0.026)		0.013 (0.048)		0.091*** (0.024)		0.002 (0.020)		0.052*** (0.017)
$1\{age \geq PAN\}$		0.037* (0.020)		0.108*** (0.031)		0.091*** (0.028)		0.118*** (0.027)		0.052*** (0.015)		0.091*** (0.014)
2nd stage												
Not working for pay	-0.362** (0.159)	-1.613 (3.594)	-0.138 (0.231)	2.917 (2.513)	-0.333** (0.151)	-0.867 (2.147)	0.411*** (0.110)	2.793* (1.585)	-0.608*** (0.072)	-3.940* (2.336)	-0.030 (0.072)	-0.081 (0.958)
Observations	3620	3620	6086	6086	8802	8802	10315	10315	16746	16746	27061	27061
DWH p-value		0.752		0.204		0.801		0.558		0.146		0.960

¹ Standard errors in parentheses, * ($p < .1$), ** ($p < .05$), *** ($p < .01$).

² "Latin" shows the estimated results including countries such as France, Spain Portugal, and Italy. "Slavic" includes only European countries: Estonia, Slovenia, Poland, Hungary, and Czech Republic. "Germanic" includes European countries as well: the U.K., the Netherlands, Germany, Denmark, Belgium, Sweden, Austria, and Switzerland. "New SHARE/East Asia" includes Japan, China, Czech Republic, Poland, Hungary, Portugal, Slovenia, and Estonia. "Original without Greece" includes the countries in the "original" set (the set of analyzed countries used by Rohwedder and Willis (2010)) without Greece.

³ All specifications are estimated with the sampling weight to adjust the population size of each country.

⁴ In Panel B, we also include the demographic variables (age, age squared, female dummy, the dummy which takes one if university graduate or more, marriage dummy, number of children), economic variables (household income, house ownership, total wealth), the country dummy variables, and the interaction term of the economic variables and the country dummy variables (e.g., $wealth \times country(j)$).

5 Dynamic Analysis

Our analysis in the previous section identified two potential problems with the cross-country cross-sectional estimation strategy used in the previous literature (Rohwedder and Willis (2010), Coe and Zamarro (2011), and Bingley and Martinello (2013)) in estimating the effect of retirement on cognitive function. As such, in this section we describe another identification strategy to omit any potential unobserved heterogeneity of individual characteristics. Before we proceed to the estimation, we discuss the source of heterogeneity in the effect of retirement on cognitive function. In the related literature, Rohwedder and Willis (2010) suggests that it is possible that a difference in activity during leisure time influences cognitive function after retirement, raising this as a topic for future work. Bonsang et al. (2012) also suggest that increased social interaction may be an important factor enhancing cognitive reserve. In the next section, we introduce a simple framework to consider these points.

5.1 The Source of Heterogeneity in the Effect of Retirement on Cognitive Function: A Simple Theoretical Analysis

In this section, we investigate the hypothetical mechanism causing differences in cognitive function scores between retirees and non-retirees, using a simple economic model based on Grossman (1972). Rohwedder and Willis (2010) present a similar idea about the mechanism by which cognitive function decreases after retirement, and our interpretations of the *mental retirement effect* and the *on-the-job* retirement effect are drawn from this model. Mazzonna and Peracchi (2012) model the effect of retirement on cognitive function as well, but in their specification, retirement is exogenous and there is no asset accumulation. Further, the utility function is formulated from cognitive investment. However, in our specification, we formalize the utility function with cognitive ability because it is a health asset that is increased through cognitive investment. To our knowledge, ours is the first analysis of this model to treat retirement as an endogenous variable.

Equation (3) is a simple dynamic model with two cognitive abilities, and represents the maximization problem of an elderly person:

$$\begin{aligned}
 & \max_{\{c_t, l_t, i_{Wt}^f, i_{Wt}^j, i_{Lt}^f, i_{Lt}^j\}_{t=50}^T} \sum_{t=50}^T \beta^{t-50} u(c_t, \tilde{l}_t, a_t^f, a_t^j) \\
 & \hspace{15em} (50 \leq t \leq T) \\
 \text{s.t. } & A_{t+1} = (1+r)A_t + P(l_t, R, Pension_t) + y_t - c_t - G(i_{Wt}^f, i_{Wt}^j, i_{Lt}^f, i_{Lt}^j) \\
 & a_t^f = A_f(t, i_{Wt}^f, i_{Lt}^f, X_{ft}) \\
 & a_t^j = A_j(t, i_{Wt}^j, i_{Lt}^j, X_{jt}) \\
 & \tilde{l}_t = l_t - L(i_{Lt}^f, i_{Lt}^j) \\
 & y_t = y(a_t^f, a_t^j, t, l_t) \tag{3}
 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
& l_t \in \{0, 0.5, 1\} \\
& (1 - l_t) \cdot i_{Wt}^{mMax} \geq i_{Wt}^m \geq 0 \quad (m = f, j) \\
& c_t \geq 0, \tilde{l}_t \geq 0, i_{nt}^m \geq 0 (m = f, j) (n = W, L), A_{t+1} \geq 0
\end{aligned} \tag{4}$$

where c_t is consumption, \tilde{l}_t is final consumption of leisure time, a_t^f is fundamental cognitive ability, a_t^j is job specific cognitive ability, l_t is leisure time, A_t is assets, R is pensionable age and $Pension_t$ is pension payment. Cognitive investment at work and leisure are included through four variables: fundamental cognitive investment at workplace (i_{Wt}^f), fundamental cognitive investment during leisure time (i_{Lt}^f), job specific cognitive investment at workplace (i_{Wt}^j), and job specific cognitive investment during leisure time (i_{Lt}^j). X_{ft} and X_{jt} represent technological factors of fundamental and job specific cognitive ability, and $A_f(\cdot)$ and $A_j(\cdot)$ are the production functions of fundamental and job specific cognitive ability. Finally, $P(\cdot)$, $G(\cdot)$, $L(\cdot)$ and $y(\cdot)$ are functions for pension payment, cost of cognitive investment, reduced time by cognitive investment, and income, and i_{Wt}^{mMax} ($m = f, j$) are the maximum values of cognitive investment during work time.

We assume that “fundamental cognitive ability”, which is the target of our analysis, is a basic cognitive ability such as calculation, reading, or memorization while “job specific cognitive ability” is the cognitive ability required for a specific job, such as a computing skill. The following are the important structures of model (3):

- The elderly can undertake cognitive investment at the workplace only when they work, and the maximum amount of this investment depends on leisure ($(1 - l_t) \cdot i_{Wt}^{mMax} \geq i_{Wt}^m \geq 0 (m = f, j)$). When the elderly enjoy their leisure time, they can invest in their cognitive ability, but these investments reduce ($\tilde{l}_t = l_t - L(i_{Lt}^f, i_{Lt}^j)$) the final amount of leisure consumed, \tilde{l}_t .
- We assume that, for the elderly, $y(a_{t+1}^f = \alpha_1, a_{t+1}^j = \alpha_2, t + 1, l_{t+1} = \alpha_3) - y(a_t^f = \alpha_1, a_t^j = \alpha_2, t, l_t = \alpha_3) < 0$, or that aging lowers income. Although the elderly may continue to input the same level of leisure time and have the same level of cognitive ability, income continues to decrease during aging. This is an effect of health on income in that aging reduces the incentive to work.
- We assume that the elderly do not receive a pension if they are younger than pensionable age (i.e. $P(l_t, R, Pension_t) = 0$ if $t \leq R$). Also, because of the liquidity constraint ($A_t \geq 0$), the incentive to work increases when the age of pension eligibility, R , increases.
- We also assume that it is possible that the elderly have a preference for either fundamental or job-specific cognitive ability, so that it is possible that $\frac{\partial u(c_t, \tilde{l}_t, a_t^f, a_t^j)}{\partial a_t^m} > 0 (m = f, j)$. This structure creates an incentive to invest in the cognitive ability which is an important property. Additionally, it creates two potential benefits for workers (income and the opportunity to invest in one’s cognitive abilities at the workplace) because, in our model, the elderly can perform cognitive investment at the workplace only when they

work. Finally, elderly who have a preference for cognitive ability have the incentive to invest in their cognitive abilities during leisure time, which also provides an incentive for these elderly to invest in their cognitive abilities even after retirement.

- The marginal utility of investing in one’s cognitive ability is $\frac{\partial u(c_t, \tilde{l}_t, a_t^f, a_t^j)}{\partial a_t^m} \frac{\partial a_t^m}{\partial i_{nt}^m} (m = f, j) (n = W, L)$. In other words, the factors of the cognitive ability production functions $A_f(\cdot)$ and $A_j(\cdot)$ are important for deciding the amount of investment when they influence the marginal productivity of the production function $(\frac{\partial a_t^m}{\partial i_{nt}^m} (m = f, j))$.

In order to discuss the theoretical mechanism more concretely, we parameterize model (3), with the specification presented here one example among many possibilities. The details of the parameterization are explained in Appendix (A.3). In what follows, we discuss only the hypothesis of why the effect of retirement on cognitive ability differs. Our parameterization of the utility, pension payment, and cognitive ability functions are as follows:

- $u(c_t, \tilde{l}_t, a_{ft}, a_{jt}) = c_t^{\gamma_1} \tilde{l}_t^{\gamma_2} a_{ft}^{\gamma_3} a_{jt}^{1-\gamma_1-\gamma_2-\gamma_3}$
- $P(l_t, R, Pension_t) = 1\{l_t \geq 0.5\}1\{t \geq R\}Pension_t$
- $A_m(t, i_{Wt}^m, i_{Lt}^m, X_{mt}) = \alpha_1 i_{Wt}^m + \alpha_2 i_{Lt}^m + \alpha_3 Hetro_1 + \alpha_4 Hetro_2 + A_{m0} \exp(-\alpha_5 t) (m = f, j)$

In our benchmark model, we set the parameters to $\gamma_3 = 0.0, 1 - \gamma_1 - \gamma_2 - \gamma_3 = 0, R = 70, \alpha_5 = 0.05$ and simulated the economic behavior of 5,000 agents after solving the dynamic programming. Subsequently, initial assets A_0 and initial cognitive abilities $A_{m0} (m = f, j)$ were drawn from a distribution, and the influence of the average value of A_{m0} of the initial distribution is presented in Figures 9-12 below. In all figures, the vertical axis indicates the average value of each variable for all agents, and the horizontal axis represents age, beginning at age 50. Our main findings of this analysis are summarized below:

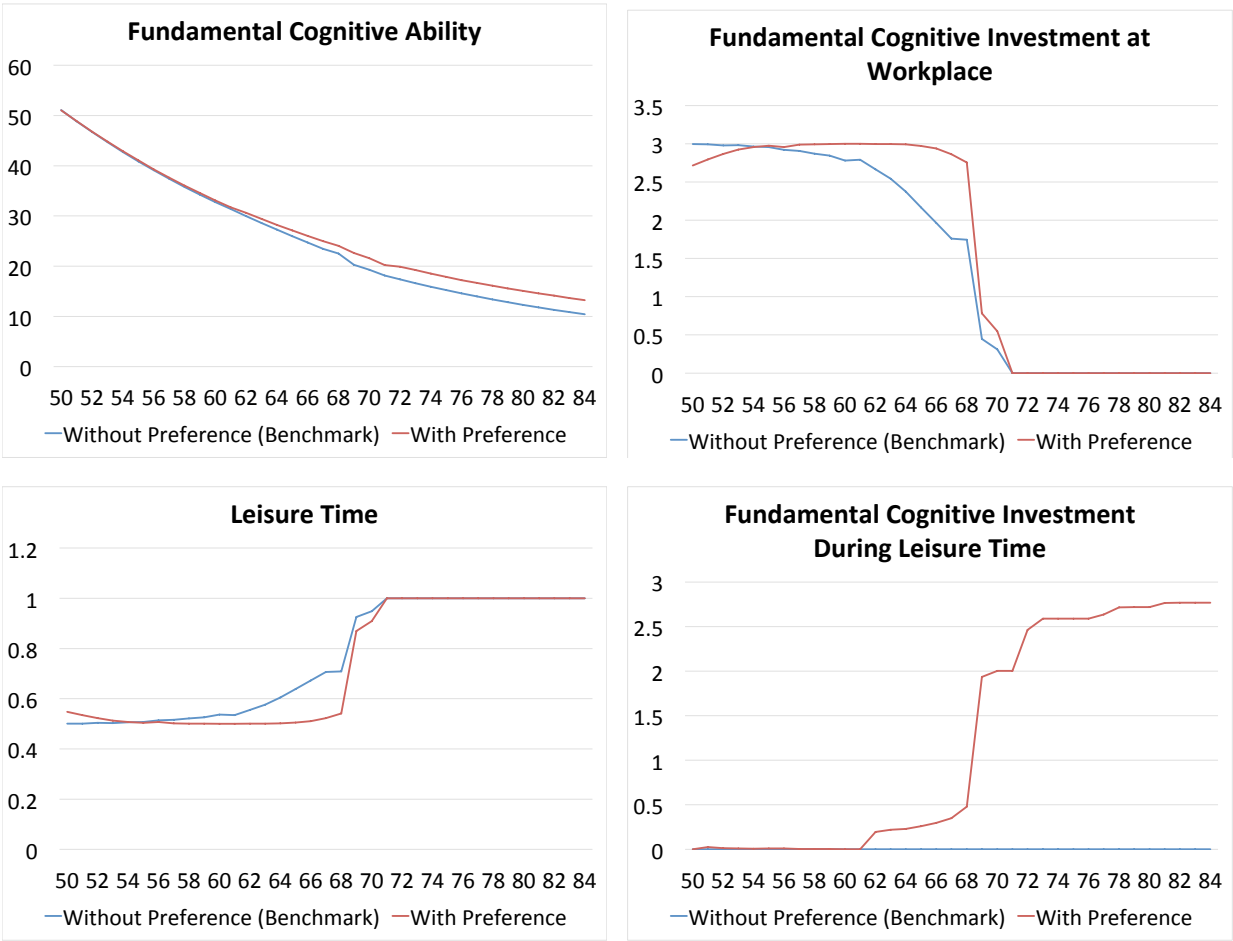
- Influence of different preferences for fundamental cognitive ability: Figure 9 shows the effect of a change in the parameter for fundamental cognitive ability in the retiree’s utility function. $\gamma_3 = 0.0$ in our benchmark model is changed to $\gamma_3 = 0.2$ in the “with preference” case. In the “with preference” case, when elderly start to retire around age 70, this is accompanied by a steep increase in fundamental cognitive investment during leisure time, but this does not occur in the “without preference” case. This difference in cognitive investment behavior occurs because in the “without preference” case, the incentive to increase leisure is large, and so this group of elderly retires earlier, decreases its investment in fundamental cognitive ability at the workplace, and also does not increase it during leisure after retirement. We can see, then, that the effect of retirement on cognitive function is due to different cognitive investment behaviors during leisure time and at the workplace both before and after retirement. The change in cognitive function after retirement that is caused by a change in cognitive investment behaviour, or lifestyle, is known as the “mental retirement effect” (Rohwedder and Willis (2010)). From the lower right panel of Figure 9, we see a great divergence in fundamental

cognitive investment after retirement (age 72) due to heterogeneity in preferences for cognitive ability. This heterogeneity in preferences, in turn, causes heterogeneity in the mental retirement effect.

- Influence of different initial cognitive ability level: Figure 10 shows the effect of a change in the average value of \bar{A}_{m0} in the initial distribution to a lower average value in the “high initial ability” case as compared to the benchmark. We see that this change produces no difference in cognitive investment behavior either before or after retirement. This indicates that it is not heterogeneity in initial cognitive ability but differences in cognitive investment behavior based on differences in preferences that creates heterogeneous effects of retirement on cognitive function.
- Influence of different technology in cognitive ability production function: Figure 11 shows the effect of changing the α_5 parameter from 0.05 in the benchmark case to 0.025 in the high tech case. The decrease in cognitive function by the increase in age becomes lower when $\alpha_5 = 0.025$ compared to $\alpha_5 = 0.05$. We find that higher technology raises fundamental cognitive ability and fundamental cognitive investment in the workplace, but lowers leisure time and has no effect on leisure time fundamental cognitive investment. Overall, the source of heterogeneity in the effect of retirement on cognitive function is clear because the difference in cognitive investment behavior is large.
- Influence of the age of pension eligibility on investment activity: In Figure 12, we see that a lowering of the age of pension eligibility from 70 to 65 causes the steep jump in average leisure time to occur 5 years earlier, at the age of retirement, as expected, but cognitive investment behavior at the workplace also sharply decreases at the pensionable age. Thus, retirement behavior is strongly influenced by whether an elderly person has arrived at their pensionable age or not. We can therefore use pensionable age as an instrumental variable to control for the endogeneity of cognitive investment behaviors, and we do incorporate this into our empirical estimation strategy described in the next section. Additionally, in the upper right panel of Figure 12, we see that a change in the age of pension eligibility causes heterogeneity in the age of retirement and, further, that the change in the age of pension eligibility also causes heterogeneity in fundamental cognitive investment at the workplace (upper left panel). This is Rohwedder and Willis (2010)’s “on-the-job” retirement effect.

Thus far in this section, we have discussed our simulation of various sources of heterogeneity on the effect of retirement on cognitive investment behavior before and after retirement both at the workplace and during leisure time. We close this section by relating this analysis to the public health literature. Numerous public health studies have focused on various determinants of cognitive function such as lifestyle habits or on the relationship between cognitive ability and human behaviors including physical activity or lifestyle habits such as leisure time activity (Dik et al. (2003), Scarmeas and Stern (2003), Wilson et al. (2003), Nyberg et al. (2012), Raji et al. (2016), Satizabal et al. (2016)) and find a heterogeneous effect on cognitive function due to varied cognitive investment behaviors during leisure time.

Figure 9: Influence of Different Preferences for Fundamental Cognitive Ability (With or Without)



Drawing on this public health literature, we consider the effect of this heterogeneity in leisure time activities in the empirical section below.

Figure 10: Influence of Different Initial Cognitive Ability Level (High or Low)

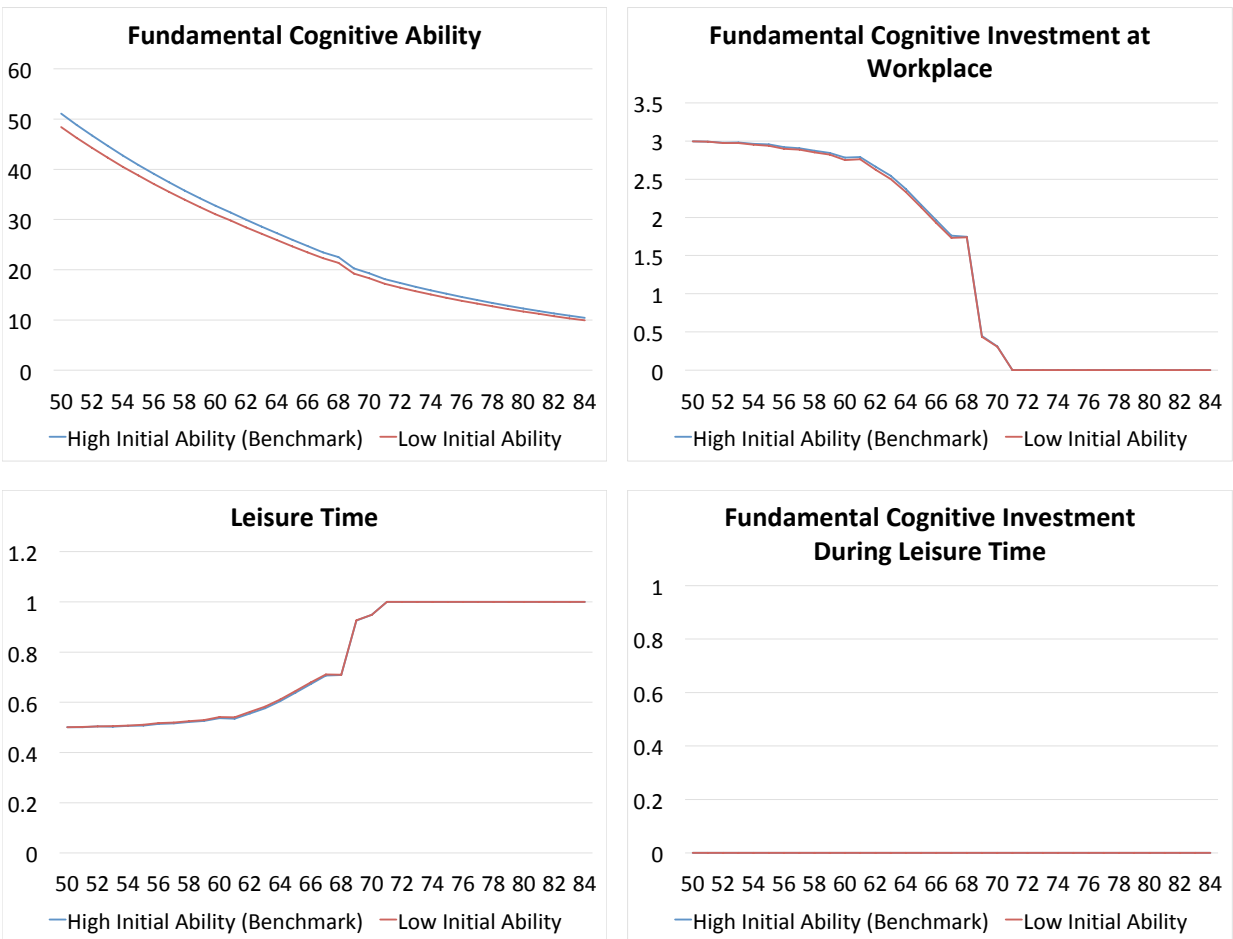


Figure 11: Influence of Different Technology in Cognitive Ability Production Function (High or Low)

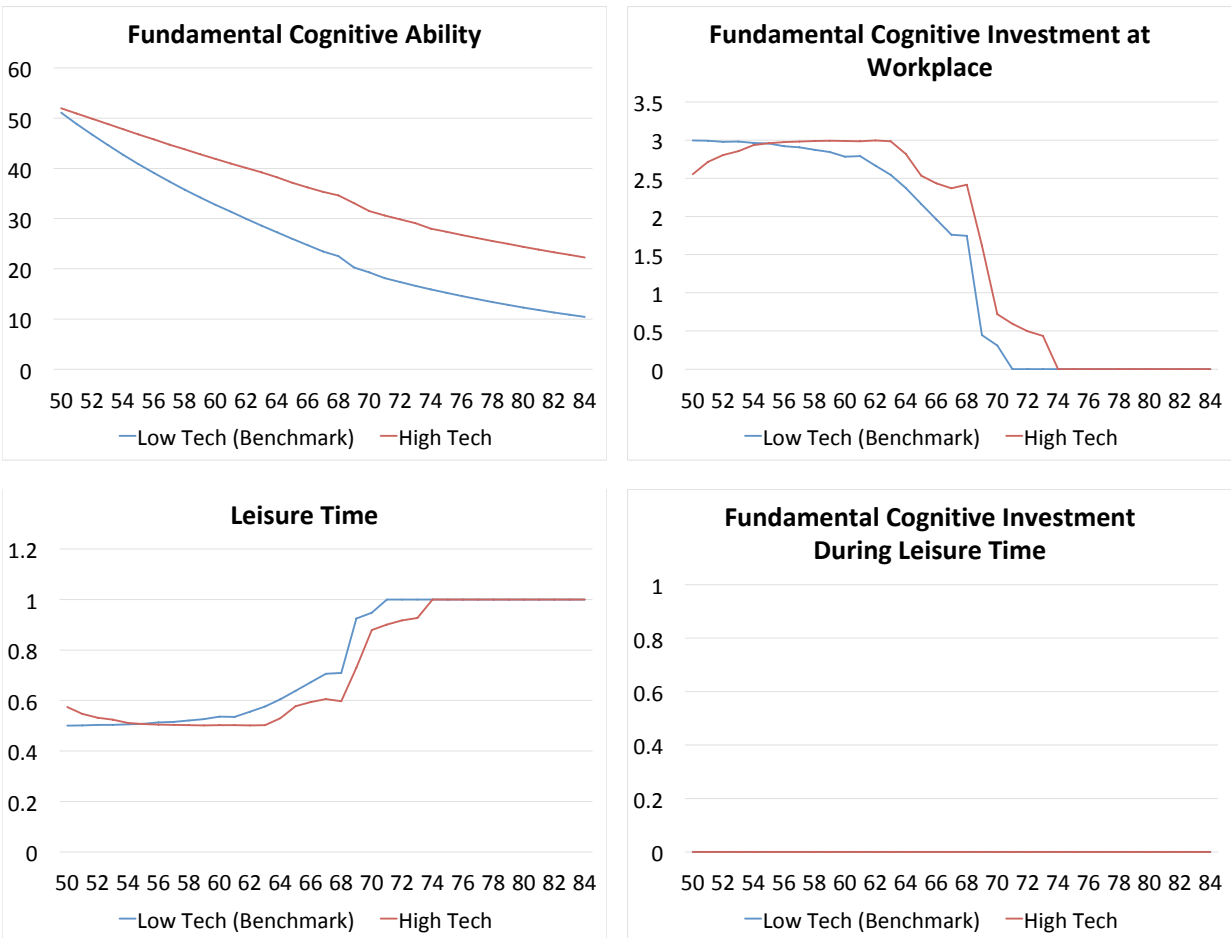
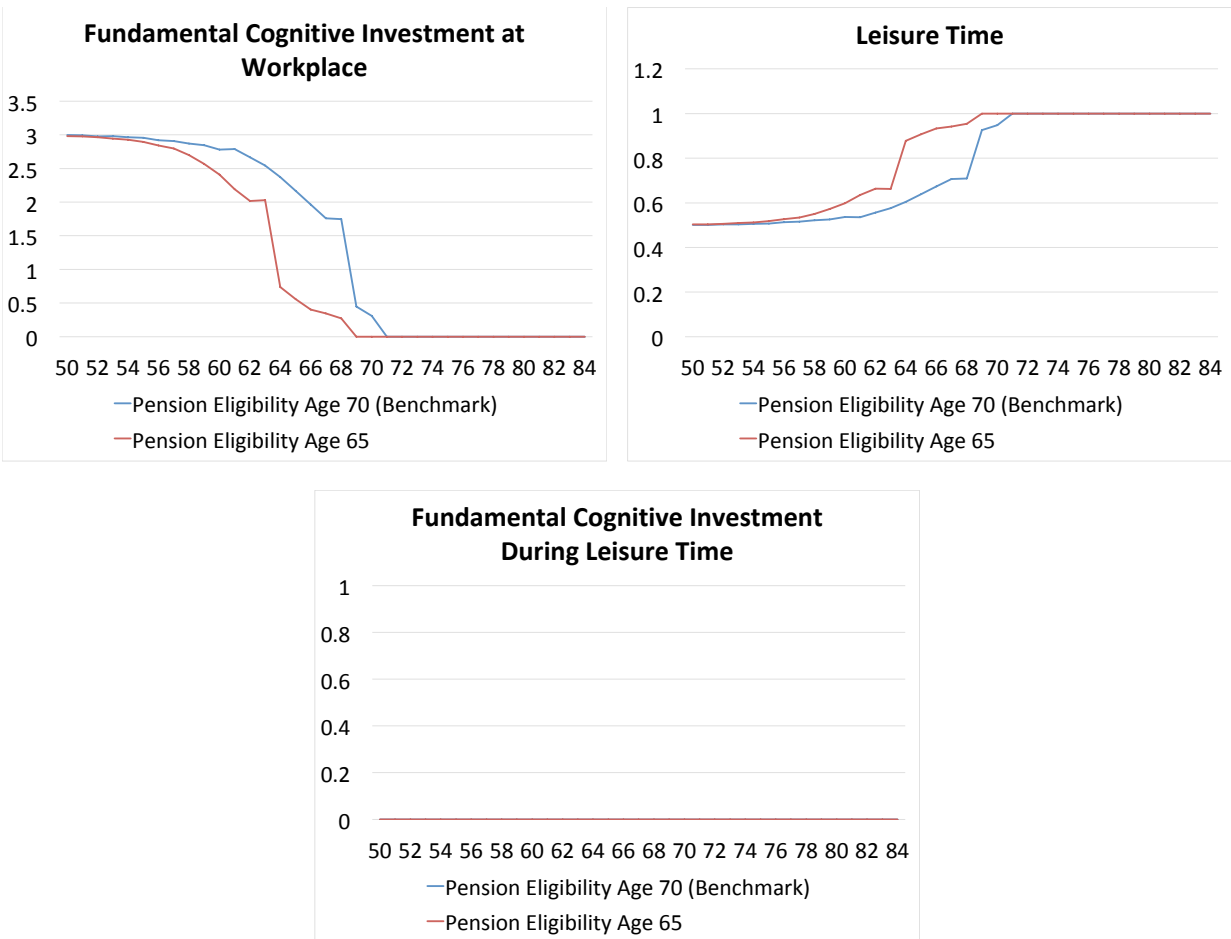


Figure 12: Influence of the Pension Eligibility Age (70 or 65)

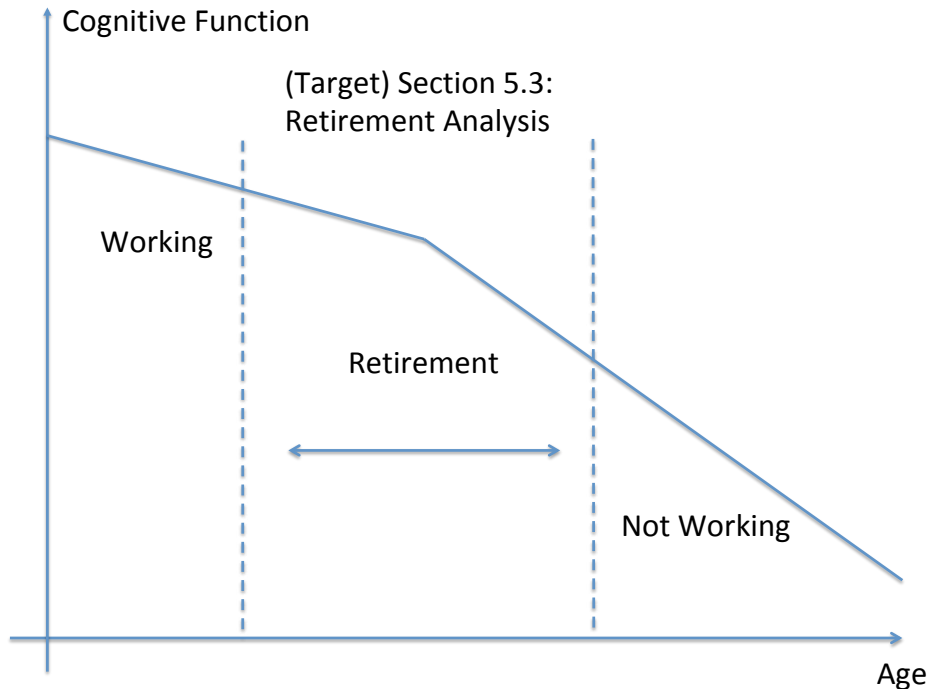


5.2 Estimation Strategy

In section 5.3, we use the dynamic variation of retirement behavior on cognitive function. Then, we analyze the effect of **whether or not a respondent retires** on cognitive functioning. Figure 13 shows the target of our analysis, and we perform this analysis for the U.S., England, France, Germany, Denmark, Korea and Japan – countries for which data on the age of pension eligibility is available and has been confirmed to be correct.

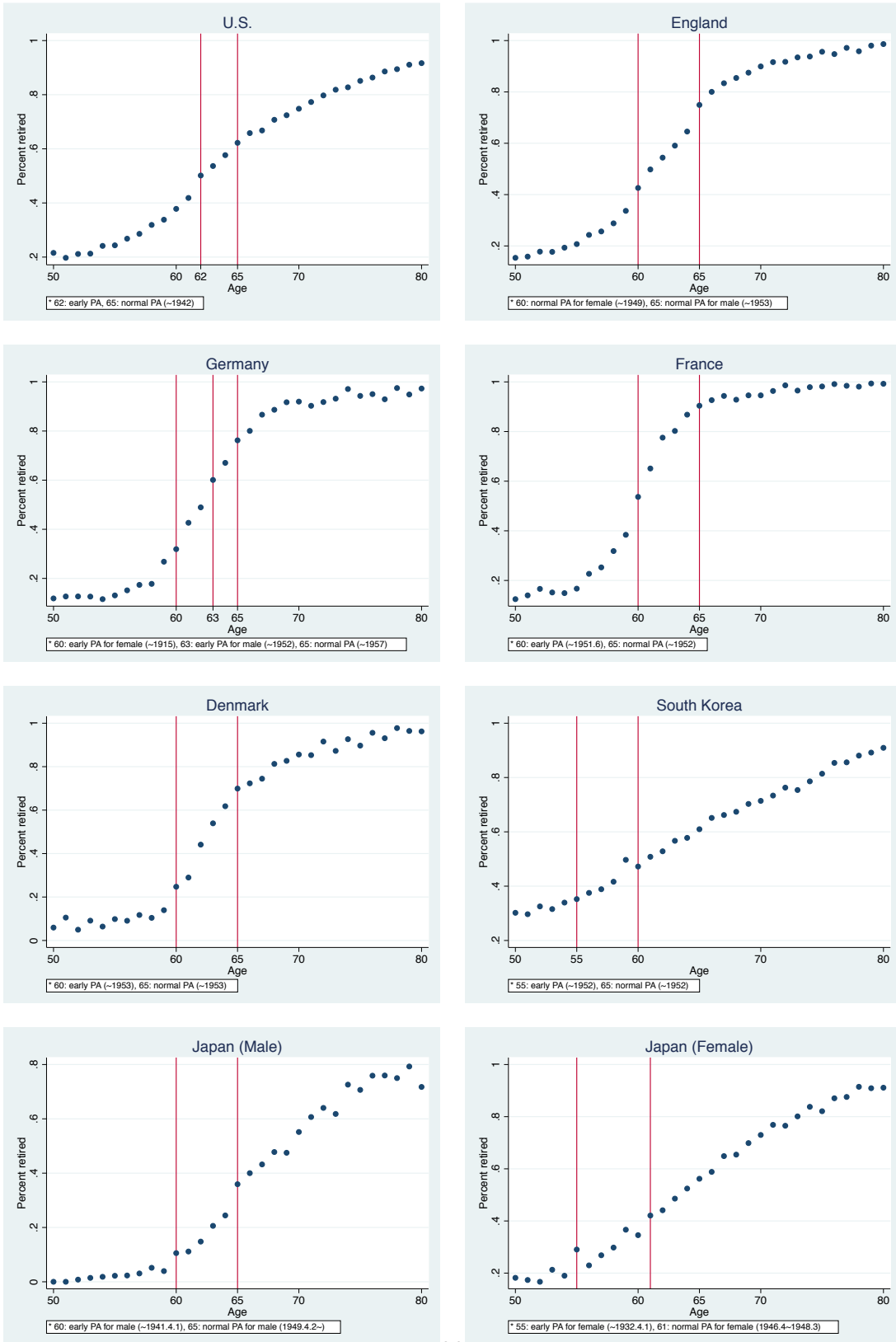
In Figure 14 we can see that there are two retirement stages in all of the countries studied. Between the ages of 50 to 70, many people begin retiring within a relatively short period of time, as seen by the steep slope of the retirement curves during this period in all countries. By age 70 to 80, however, almost all elderly have retired, and the slope of the retirement curve is quite flat. Most of the elderly in this latter group have been retired for some time. For our investigation, though, we analyze the effect on retirees who have recently retired, or those retirees characterized by the steep slope of the retirement curve as demarcated by the vertical lines in Figure (14).

Figure 13: The Target of our Analysis



Our empirical analysis is based on investigating the three sources of heterogeneity discussed in section 5.1 above that can produce differences in leisure time cognitive investment behaviors: cognitive ability preferences, initial cognitive ability, and technological factors in the cognitive ability production function. For our empirical analysis, we considered heterogeneity in the initial cognitive score (initial cognitive ability), activities during leisure time,

Figure 14: Proportion of Retired Elderly By Age and Country



and individual characteristics (e.g. gender, which is a technological factor of the cognitive ability production function). Our data on the time consumed in leisure activities both before and after retirement are from the Consumption and Activities Mail Survey (CAMS) administered by HRS, which describes activity patterns and “how specific types of activities are affected by health, family, and economic transitions in later life and, in turn, how activities affect health and well-being.”¹⁰ Our analysis did not uncover heterogeneity in preferences for cognitive ability but we did observe differences in initial cognitive ability and some technological factors during the transition in leisure time activity before and after retirement. Next, we separated the sample depending on the heterogeneity of observable characteristics, which allowed us to control for the direct effect by controlling the heterogeneity of cognitive investment behaviors. However, some characteristics we used to separate the sample (e.g., BMI) are difficult to interpret, as we could not determine which factor (preference, initial cognitive ability, technology) BMI describes. This is a limitation of the analysis.

5.3 Retirement Analysis

5.3.1 Analysis Framework

As discussed in section 4, the effect of retirement on cognition differs substantially among countries, and so our strategy is to analyze the effect on each country individually instead of in a cross-sectional, cross-country analysis. The countries analyzed include the U.S., England, France, Germany, Denmark, Korea, and Japan because correct information on the age of pension eligibility and a sufficient number of dataset waves for dynamic analysis are available. The identification strategy in this section is to use the variation of whether a respondent arrives at the pension eligibility age to analyze the effect of **whether a respondent retires** on cognitive function. We derive the following equation from the fundamental cognitive ability equation in model (3):

$$a_t^f = A_f(t, i_{Wt}^f, i_{Lt}^f, X_{ft}) = \alpha_0 + \alpha_1 i_{Wt}^f + \alpha_2 i_{Lt}^f + \gamma' X_{ft} + \epsilon_{ft} \quad (5)$$

Now, let $a_t^f = cognition_score_{it} + \tilde{\epsilon}_{1t}$, $\alpha_1 i_{Wt}^f + \alpha_2 i_{Lt}^f = \beta retire_{it} + \tilde{\epsilon}_{2t}$, $cognition_score_{it}$ is cognitive test scores, and $retire_{it}$ is an indicator of whether a respondent i retires in period t . In other words, in this specification, cognitive score is a proxy of cognitive ability and retirement status is a proxy of investment activity in enhancing cognitive ability. Substituting the above into equation (5), we obtain the following:

$$cognition_score_{it} = \alpha_0 + \beta retire_{it} + \gamma' X_{ft} + \epsilon_{ft} - \tilde{\epsilon}_{1t} + \tilde{\epsilon}_{2t}.$$

Our estimation equations are the following:

¹⁰For further details, see <https://ssl.isr.umich.edu/hrs/filedownload2.php?d=522>.

$$cognition_score_{it} = \beta_0 + \beta_1 retire_{it} + \gamma' x_{it} + a_{1i} + \lambda_{1t} + \epsilon_{1it} \quad (6)$$

$$retire_{it} = \alpha_0 + \alpha_1 1\{age_{it} \geq A_i^{eb}\} + \alpha_2 1\{age_{it} \geq A_i^{fb}\} \\ + \alpha_1 1\{age_{it} \geq A_i^{eb}\} age_{it} + \alpha_2 1\{age_{it} \geq A_i^{fb}\} age_{it} + \eta' x_{it} + a_{2i} + \lambda_{2t} + \epsilon_{2i} \quad (7)$$

$$(8)$$

where A_i^{eb} and A_i^{fb} are the ages of eligibility for early and full retirement benefits, $retire_{it}$ is an indicator equal to one when a respondent retires at period t , λ_{1t} and λ_{2t} are time fixed effects, a_{1i} and a_{2i} are individual fixed effects, and x_{it} are control variables at period t . As discussed in section 4.2., it is difficult to determine which specific control variables should be included in the estimation model. We included demographic factors such as gender, family structure, and economic variables in the estimation model to control for the fundamental social factors that influence human behavior.

There are two common ways of defining whether a respondent is retired. The first definition of retirement is based on the person’s self-reported retirement status, with a respondent being *retired* when the “self-reported retiree” variable is equal to one. This is the definition of “self-reported retiree” based on the “r@lbrf” variable described in footnote 5 of section 3.1, and is used in several studies (e.g. Coe et al. (2012) and Mazzonna and Peracchi (2012)). The second definition of retirement, which is most commonly used in the literature¹¹ is that a respondent is retired when he or she no longer works for pay.

Our definition of retirement, which we call “complete retirement”, is the intersection of both of these common definitions; that is, a person is completely retired when he or she is both a self-reported retiree and is no longer working for pay. This takes care of some problems with both of the former definitions. Specifically, if a person self reports as retired, it is still possible that the person might be doing incidental work for pay and so might be continuing to invest in his cognitive abilities, while those who are not working for pay may be unemployed rather than retired and so may also be investing more than a retiree would.

In order to capture the heterogeneous transition pattern of cognitive investment during leisure both before and after retirement, we chose an age range for this analysis of 50-79 for respondents in all countries except Japan, where we chose 50+ because it is not unusual for people to still work even at age 80 (Figure 14). Finally, we chose for our analysis sample only those who were not “completely retired” at least once in this analysis, because we wanted to omit the respondents who both had not worked for pay and who had retired at an early age for this analysis of retirement transition.

All analyzed countries survey social activities, which we used to obtain information about each respondent’s transition before and after retirement. However, in the U.S., the Consumption and Activities Mail Survey (CAMS) provides detailed information on the amount of time spent doing specific activities (Table 5). Although most activities show a clear difference before and after retirement, hours of watching TV shows the largest change. Computer use is

¹¹For example, Rohwedder and Willis (2010), Coe and Zamarro (2011), Bonsang et al. (2012), Bingley and Martinello (2013), Hashimoto (2013) and Hashimoto (2015).

another activity distinctly affected by retirement, as the elderly who still work use computers in their office. As such, we focus on the heterogeneity of time spent watching TV and engaged in other social activities before and after retirement in the U.S.

Additionally, some studies (Eskelinen et al. (2008) and Devore et al. (2009)) report that there is a relationship between fat intake and cognitive function, and so we also considered variations in the Body Mass Index (BMI) and the amount of fat intake. For this, we obtained data from the 2013 dataset of the Health Care and Nutrition Study. Since that survey year is different from our analysis year, the amount of fat intake in 2013 is a proxy for the amount of fat intake in other years. In addition to the relationship between fat intake and cognitive function, it is also possible that the amount of fat intake during the lifetime of the respondent forms a technological factor of cognitive decline, while BMI is also a proxy for a potential technological factor of cognitive decline. These two heterogeneities considered in this study are not analyzed in extant studies and so are a contribution of this paper.

Table 5: Time Spent on Various Activities Before and After Retirement (Hours)

Activities	(1) Not retired	(2) Retired	(3) (2)-(1)
Working for pay	3.9	0.1	-3.8
Using the computer	1.7	0.6	-1.1
Watching TV	2.5	3.4	0.9
Walking	1.1	0.8	-0.3
Attending social activities	2	2.2	0.2
Reading newspapers	0.6	0.8	0.2
Listening to music	1.1	0.9	-0.2
House cleaning	0.6	0.8	0.2
Preparing meals and cleaning-up afterwards	0.8	1	0.2
Sleeping and napping	6.7	6.6	-0.1
Visiting in-person with friends	1	1.1	0.1
Washing, ironing, or mending clothes	0.3	0.4	0.1
Yard work or gardening	0.3	0.4	0.1
Playing cards or games, or solving puzzles	0.1	0.2	0.1
Reading books	0.5	0.6	0.1
Praying or meditating	0.5	0.6	0.1
Shopping or running errands	0.5	0.6	0.1
Physically showing affection	0.5	0.4	-0.1
Treating or managing an existing medical condition	0.2	0.3	0.1
Participating in sports	0.3	0.3	0
Communicating by phone, letters, e-mail	0.8	0.8	0
Personal grooming	1	1	0
Caring for pets	0.4	0.4	0
Helping friends	0.2	0.2	0
Doing volunteer work	0.1	0.1	0
Attending religious services	0.1	0.1	0
Attending meetings of clubs or religious groups	0.1	0.1	0
Taking care of finances or investments	0.1	0.1	0
Attending concerts, movies	0	0	0
Singing or playing a musical instrument	0	0	0
Doing arts and crafts projects	0.1	0.1	0
Doing home improvements	0.1	0.1	0

5.3.2 Results: The US and Other Countries

In this section, we first discuss the results obtained for the U.S. and then compare these results with those from other countries. Table 6 shows the results for the U.S., and we can see that our instruments are valid, with all of the coefficients significantly different from zero. Tables 7, 8 and 9 show the results of the effect of retirement on cognitive function in various groups. In Table 7, we report individual characteristics representing heterogeneity in the technology of the cognitive ability production function: Gender (male/female), Education (low/high), and Occupation (blue collar/white collar). Table 8 relates cognition to the health measures of Body Mass Index (whether BMI > 25 in the 2013 survey or not) and fat intake (whether it is more than the median in the 2013 survey or not). As discussed in section 5.2, these characteristics were added to incorporate the relation between cognition and health found in the health economics literature, although it is not clear what these characteristics describe. Table 9 reports the influence of heterogeneity in initial cognitive ability (initial scores at 1st interview) and in differences in preference for cognitive ability as seen in changes in social activities (i.e. whether social activity decreases or increases after retirement), and having a spouse at 1st interview (which is also an indicator of leisure time activity).

In general, we found that the effect of retirement on cognitive scores was weak even though we did find evidence of variation in cognition scores among heterogeneous groups. These results from Tables 7, 8 and 9 can be summarized as follows:

- The effect of retirement on the Word Recall Summary score is negative for both males and females, but the magnitude is small (WR Summary scores in columns 1 and 2 of Table 7 show males = -0.137 and females = -0.164). The effect of retirement on Serial 7s score is negative only for females, and the magnitude is also small. Among occupations, the negative effect of retirement is stronger for white collar than blue collar workers (columns 5 and 6). We also see a negative effect of retirement on cognition for most groups in both the Immediate and Delayed Word Recall, though the magnitude is small and shows little variation.
- The negative effect of retirement on cognition is stronger for those with higher BMI and fat intake (columns 1-4, Table 8).
- While the related literature suggests that heterogeneity in post-retirement activities, particularly social activities, is important, our results (Table 9) show no evidence of that. For example, there is no evidence that the cognitive score is influenced by either differences in initial cognitive scores (columns 1 and 2) or a change in social activities after retirement (columns 3 and 4). We did find, however, a stronger negative effect of retirement on cognition for retirees with no spouse (columns 5 and 6).

Next, we compare the results from the U.S. to those of other countries, and discuss whether any systematic difference can be found due to the heterogeneity of activity after retirement and individual characteristics. We also analyze the effect of retirement on cognitive scores in countries other than the U.S. to see if similar effects can be found within a given group

in numerous countries. Here we report only the main results. For a detailed description, see Appendix A.5.

- As in the U.S., the effect of retirement on cognitive scores according to gender is weak in many countries (Figure 15);
- Like the U.S., there is no evidence in other countries that the cognitive score decline is heterogeneous according to changes in social activities after retirement (Table 37);
- There is also no systematic heterogeneity of the effect of retirement on cognitive scores in countries other than the U.S. among those having or not having a spouse at 1st interview, BMI above or below 25, and high or low fat intake (Tables 38, 39, 40 and 41).

To sum up, the effect of retirement on cognitive scores is weak in all countries, including the U.S., and the heterogeneity of individual characteristics and activity after retirement analyzed in this paper was found to be not important. In the next section, we discuss another characteristic which we found explains the heterogeneity of the effect of retirement on cognitive scores.

5.3.3 Retirement Timing

Although we did not find that the heterogeneity of individual characteristics was important, we did find evidence that retirement timing may cause the systematic heterogeneity of the effect of retirement on cognitive scores. For this analysis, we chose only elderly in the U.S. and divided the respondents aged 58-69 into two groups. Table 10 shows a negative effect of retirement on the cognitive scores only of the older female group aged 64-69, though the magnitude is small. Figure 16 shows the relationship between the coefficient of the fixed effect model and the average retirement age in each country. We estimated the fixed effect model by using the original sample of those aged 50-79 in each country, and according to Figure 16, there is an negative correlation between the magnitude of the estimated coefficients and the average retirement age in the sample.

Finally, Figure 17 shows the relationship between average cognitive scores and age among three groups of retirees in each country (early, mid, and late retirement), which is summarized as the following:

- Retirement does not have a strong effect on the cognitive score, as there is no large change around the retirement age in any of the three retirement groups. In addition, the timing of retirement does not seem to influence how fast cognitive scores decline.
- While in the U.S., cognitive scores decrease sharply as the respondents become older, the effect is less pronounced in other countries.
- In the U.S., the initial cognitive score of people who retire late is higher than for other groups. This is consistent with Rohwedder and Willis (2010)'s "on-the-job" retirement

effect, as it is possible that those who retire late try to increase their cognitive function before retirement in order to delay their retirement.

In summary, although our analysis found that the effect of retirement on cognitive scores (Rohwedder and Willis (2010)’s “mental retirement effect) was weak in many countries, in the U.S. at least, it is possible that the ”on-the-job” retirement effect (Rohwedder and Willis (2010)) might exist. If cognitive function sharply declines as one ages, this could provide a strong incentive to increase one’s cognitive ability before retirement for those who want to work at a relatively advanced age.

5.3.4 Discussion: Cross-Country Cross-Sectional Analysis and Dynamic Analysis

In this section, we discuss the validity of the cross-sectional analysis adopted in the literature versus the dynamic analysis of this paper. After controlling for individual characteristics, we found a negative effect of retirement on word recall score in all countries, although the magnitude of the effect was small, with the estimated effect of the US being -0.154 (Table 28). The estimated results without controls found, however, some problematic results, such as a coefficient of “**All countries**” of 3.728 (column 12 of Table 4). The results were not problematic for all country groups, however, for specifications for country groups with controls. For example, the coefficients of “**Latin**”, “**Slavic**” and “**Germanic**” were -0.362 (OLS), -0.138 (not significant)(OLS) and -0.333 (OLS); small in magnitude and negative. It thus seems that cross-country cross-sectional analysis may be unduly affected by strong relationships within individual countries. Such problems as those discussed in section 4.3 can be avoided through a dynamic analysis.

Table 6: Effect of Pension Eligibility Age on Full Retirement

	US		
	(1) Full	(2) Male	(3) Female
$1\{age \geq A^{eb}\}$	0.078*** (0.007)	0.094*** (0.010)	0.065*** (0.010)
$1\{age \geq A^{fb}\}$	1.103*** (0.216)	1.025*** (0.319)	1.188*** (0.293)
$1\{age \geq A^{fb}\} \times age$	-0.016*** (0.003)	-0.015*** (0.005)	-0.017*** (0.005)
Observations	86773	38848	47925

¹ Standard errors in parentheses and * ($p < .1$), ** ($p < .05$), *** ($p < .01$).

² All specifications include demographic variables (age, age , marriage dummy, number of children), economic variables (household income, house ownership, total wealth), region dummies, year dummies, 1st survey dummy, and 2nd-4th survey dummy (only HRS).

Table 7: Heterogeneity of Observable Characteristics 1

	Gender		Education		Occupation	
	(1) Male	(2) Female	(3) Low	(4) High	(5) Blue collar	(6) White collar
WR summary score						
Completely retired	-0.137*** (0.040)	-0.164*** (0.036)	-0.149*** (0.030)	-0.158*** (0.058)	-0.083 (0.055)	-0.169*** (0.034)
Observations	38848	47925	65323	21433	19404	53512
DWH p-val	0.179	0.134	0.397	0.425	0.340	0.301
Model	FE	FE	FE	FE	FE	FE
Immediate WR						
Completely retired	-0.058*** (0.020)	-0.064*** (0.018)	-0.053*** (0.015)	-0.088*** (0.030)	-0.054* (0.028)	-0.405** (0.203)
Observations	38848	47925	65323	21433	19404	53512
DWH p-val	0.306	0.948	0.852	0.131	0.530	0.097
Model	FE	FE	FE	FE	FE	FE-IV
Delayed WR						
Completely retired	-0.081*** (0.024)	0.451* (0.252)	-0.098*** (0.019)	-0.070** (0.035)	-0.029 (0.033)	-0.104*** (0.021)
Observations	38848	47925	65323	21433	19404	53512
DWH p-val	0.175	0.023	0.236	0.931	0.314	0.715
Model	FE	FE-IV	FE	FE	FE	FE
Serial 7s						
Completely retired	-0.008 (0.016)	-0.415** (0.183)	-0.321** (0.141)	-0.039* (0.022)	-0.048** (0.024)	-0.338** (0.168)
Observations	38848	47925	65323	21433	19404	53512
DWH p-val	0.937	0.040	0.035	0.761	0.674	0.058
Model	FE	FE-IV	FE-IV	FE	FE	FE-IV
Backward counting						
Completely retired	-0.002 (0.003)	-0.001 (0.003)	-0.001 (0.002)	0.121** (0.055)	-0.003 (0.005)	-0.000 (0.002)
Observations	38848	47925	65323	21433	19404	53512
DWH p-val	0.167	0.552	0.505	0.019	0.675	0.262
Model	FE	FE	FE	FE-IV	FE	FE

¹ Standard errors in parentheses and * ($p < .1$), ** ($p < .05$), *** ($p < .01$).

² All specifications include demographic variables (age, age², marriage dummy, number of children), economic variables (household income, house ownership, total wealth), region dummies, year dummies, 1st survey dummy, and 2nd-4th survey dummy (only HRS).

Table 8: Heterogeneity of Observable Characteristics 2

	Body Mass Index		Fat intake	
	(1) < 25	(2) ≥ 25	(3) < <i>Median</i>	(4) ≥ <i>Median</i>
WR summary score				
Completely retired	-0.066 (0.049)	-0.191*** (0.033)	-0.077 (0.064)	-0.119* (0.064)
Observations	26866	59286	15217	15187
DWH p-val	0.769	0.724	0.466	0.717
Model	FE	FE	FE	FE
Immediate WR				
Completely retired	-0.025 (0.024)	-0.076*** (0.016)	-0.026 (0.031)	-0.063** (0.032)
Observations	26866	59286	15217	15187
DWH p-val	0.283	0.975	0.886	0.946
Model	FE	FE	FE	FE
Delayed WR				
Completely retired	-0.044 (0.030)	-0.115*** (0.020)	-0.052 (0.040)	-0.062 (0.040)
Observations	26866	59286	15217	15187
DWH p-val	0.173	0.619	0.189	0.511
Model	FE	FE	FE	FE
Serial 7s				
Completely retired	-0.034 (0.021)	-0.026* (0.014)	-0.588* (0.303)	-0.823*** (0.274)
Observations	26866	59286	15217	15187
DWH p-val	0.156	0.304	0.065	0.002
Model	FE	FE	FE-IV	FE-IV
Backward counting				
Completely retired	-0.004 (0.004)	-0.000 (0.003)	0.007 (0.005)	0.010* (0.005)
Observations	26866	59286	15217	15187
DWH p-val	0.158	0.322	0.153	0.875
Model	FE	FE	FE	FE

¹ Standard errors in parentheses and * ($p < .1$), ** ($p < .05$), *** ($p < .01$).

² All specifications include demographic variables (age, age², marriage dummy, number of children), economic variables (household income, house ownership, total wealth), region dummies, year dummies, 1st survey dummy, and 2nd-4th survey dummy (only HRS).

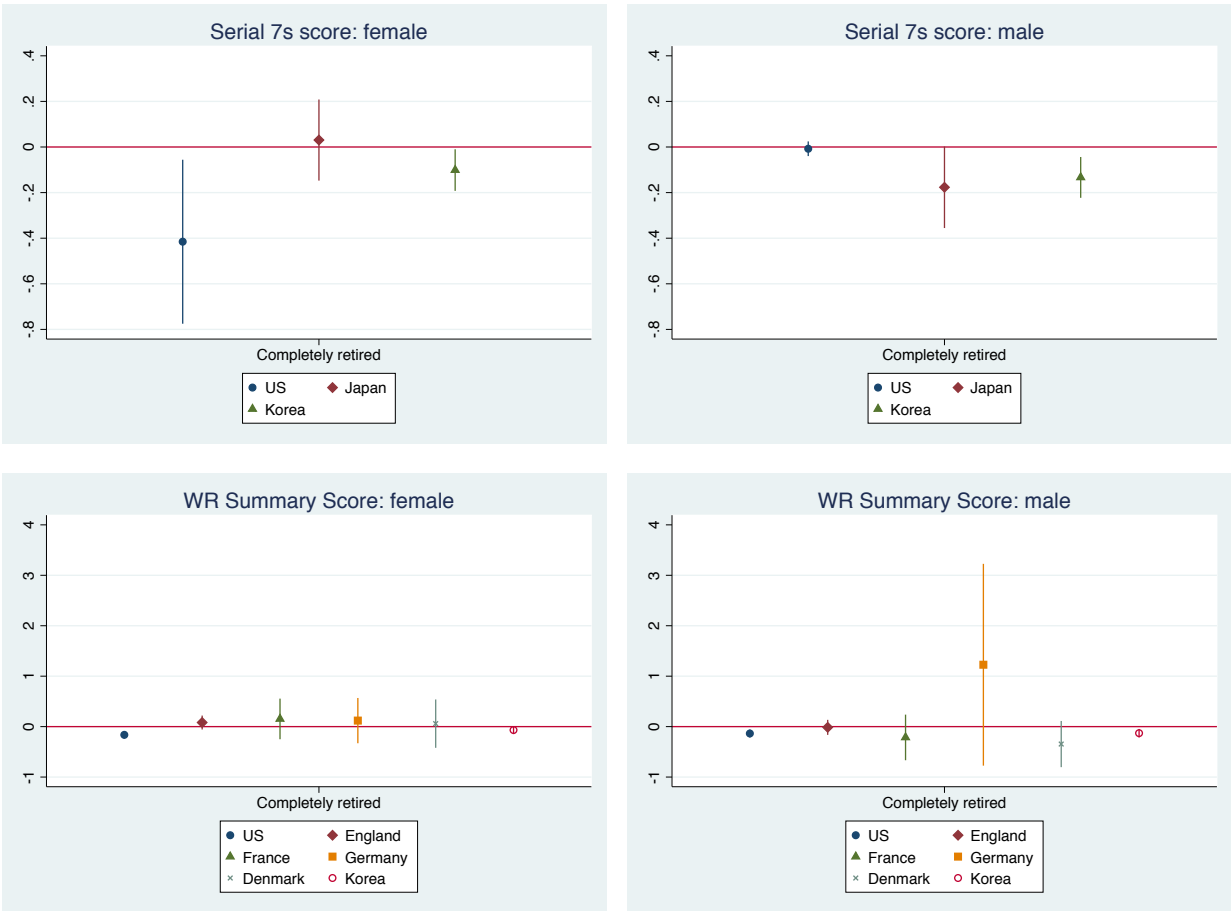
Table 9: Heterogeneity in Initial Score and Change in Leisure Activities

	Initial scores		Change in social attendance		Having spouse at 1st interview	
	(1) < <i>Median</i>	(2) ≥ <i>Median</i>	(3) Not increase	(4) Increase	(5) No	(6) Yes
WR summary score						
Completely retired	-0.238*** (0.053)	-0.179*** (0.043)	0.030 (0.120)	-0.165 (0.110)	-0.217*** (0.059)	-0.134*** (0.030)
Observations	21704	36127	4384	4523	20053	66720
DWH p-val	0.790	0.229	0.193	0.978	0.912	0.492
Model	FE	FE	FE	FE	FE	FE
Immediate WR						
Completely retired	-0.671* (0.349)	-0.090*** (0.020)	0.058 (0.061)	-0.046 (0.058)	-0.103*** (0.029)	-0.049*** (0.015)
Observations	17879	39952	4384	4523	20053	66720
DWH p-val	0.087	0.266	0.134	0.257	0.407	0.884
Model	FE-IV	FE	FE	FE	FE	FE
Delayed WR						
Completely retired	-0.137*** (0.035)	-0.097*** (0.025)	-0.013 (0.068)	-0.119* (0.066)	-0.113*** (0.036)	-0.087*** (0.018)
Observations	19011	38820	4384	4523	20053	66720
DWH p-val	0.989	0.388	0.453	0.362	0.630	0.240
Model	FE	FE	FE	FE	FE	FE
Serial 7s						
Completely retired	-0.080*** (0.028)	-0.410* (0.216)	-0.028 (0.053)	0.012 (0.047)	-0.050** (0.025)	-0.023* (0.013)
Observations	19034	38797	4384	4523	20053	66720
DWH p-val	0.603	0.052	0.520	0.901	0.115	0.155
Model	FE	FE-IV	FE	FE	FE	FE
Backward counting						
Completely retired			-0.003 (0.010)	-0.016* (0.008)	-0.002 (0.005)	0.050** (0.024)
Observations			4384	4523	20053	66720
DWH p-val			0.414	0.200	0.992	0.031
Model			FE	FE	FE	FE-IV

¹ Standard errors in parentheses and * ($p < .1$), ** ($p < .05$), *** ($p < .01$).

² All specifications include demographic variables (age, age , marriage dummy, number of children), economic variables (household income, house ownership, total wealth), region dummies, year dummies, 1st survey dummy, and 2nd-4th survey dummy (only HRS).

Figure 15: Effect of Retirement on Cognitive Score in Other Countries



¹ Plots indicate the estimated coefficient and bars for the 95% level confidence intervals.

Table 10: Effect of Retirement on Cognitive Function by Age Group

	Age 58-63		Age 64-69	
	(1) Male	(2) Female	(3) Male	(4) Female
WR summary score				
Completely retired	-0.106 (0.095)	0.055 (0.081)	-0.096 (0.092)	-0.268*** (0.093)
Observations	11263	16596	10892	14951
DWH p-val	0.479	0.382	0.444	0.537
Model	FE	FE	FE	FE
Immediate WR				
Completely retired	-0.039 (0.049)	0.032 (0.041)	-0.039 (0.049)	-0.117** (0.046)
Observations	11263	16596	10892	14951
DWH p-val	0.438	0.405	0.743	0.720
Model	FE	FE	FE	FE
Delayed WR				
Completely retired	-0.067 (0.058)	0.024 (0.050)	-0.057 (0.055)	-0.147*** (0.057)
Observations	11263	16596	10892	14951
DWH p-val	0.612	0.460	0.347	0.192
Model	FE	FE	FE	FE
Serial 7s				
Completely retired	0.070* (0.040)	-3.546 (2.749)	-3.213 (2.028)	-0.018 (0.041)
Observations	11263	16596	10892	14951
DWH p-val	0.194	0.078	0.024	0.460
Model	FE	FE-IV	FE-IV	FE
Backward counting				
Completely retired	-0.003 (0.008)	-0.007 (0.007)	-0.003 (0.007)	-0.743 (0.607)
Observations	11263	16596	10892	14951
DWH p-val	0.859	0.773	0.778	0.078
Model	FE	FE	FE	FE-IV

¹ Standard errors in parentheses and * ($p < .1$), ** ($p < .05$), *** ($p < .01$).

² All specifications include age and age squared.

Figure 16: Coefficients of the Fixed Effects (FE) Model by Country

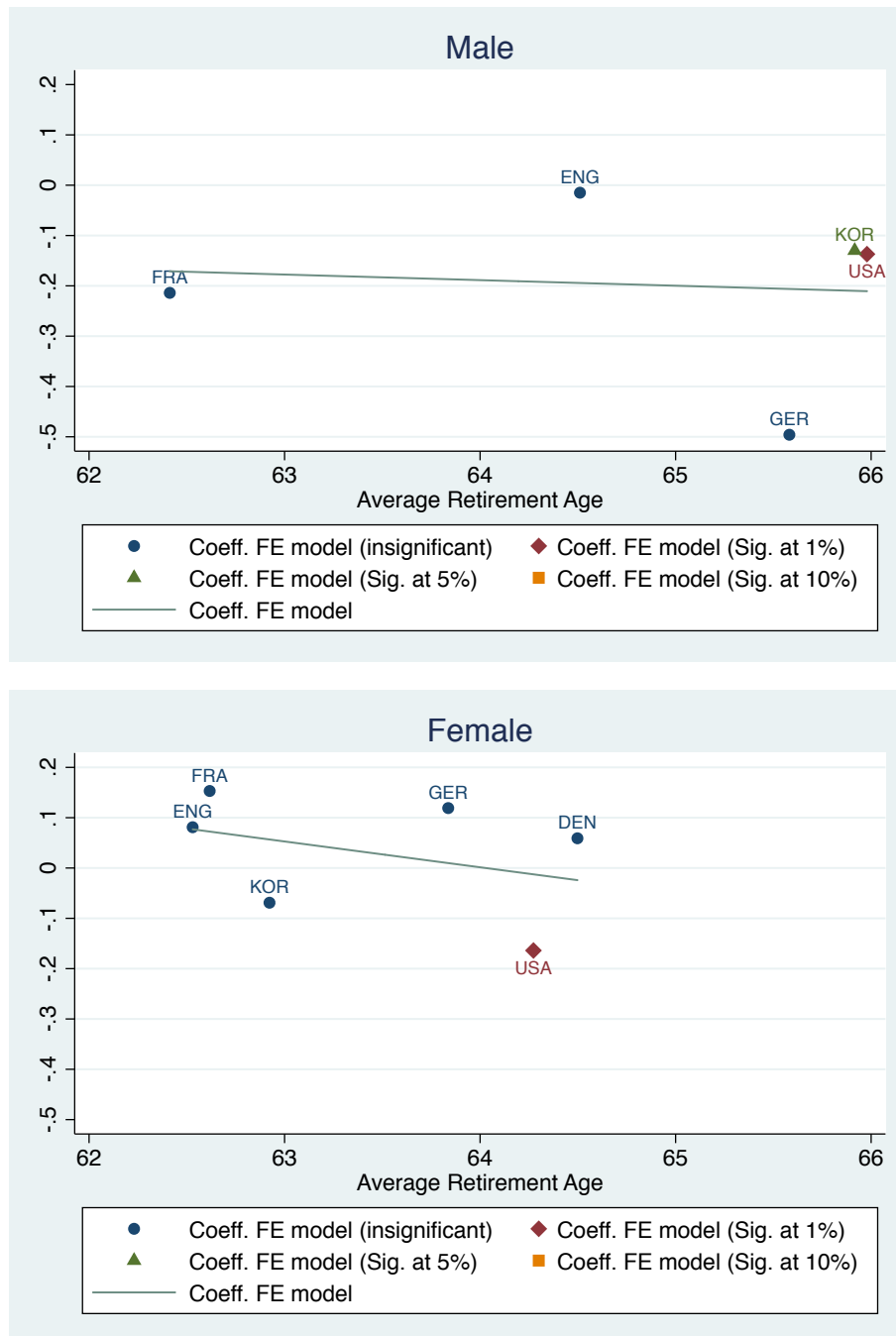
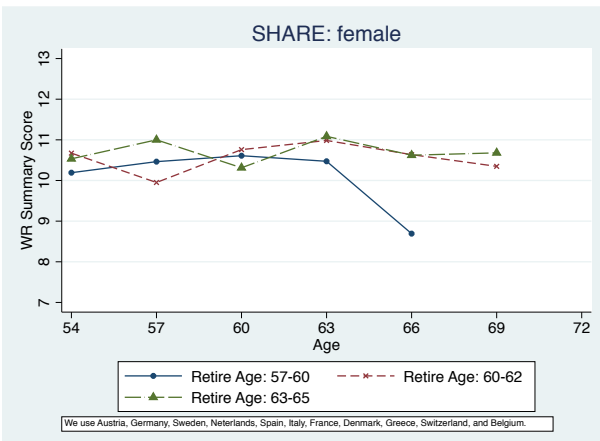
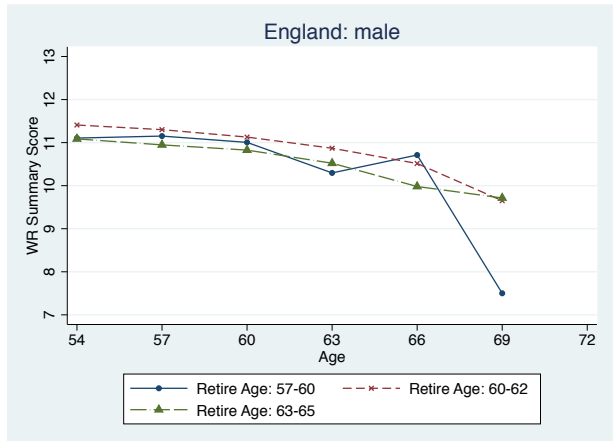
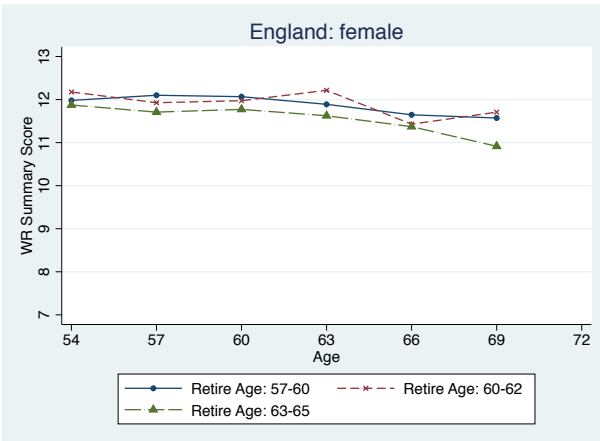
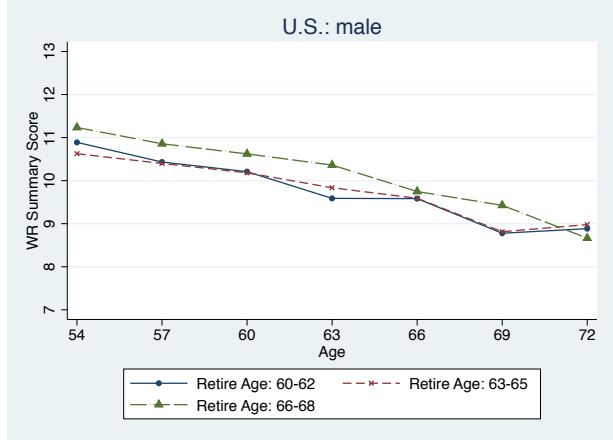
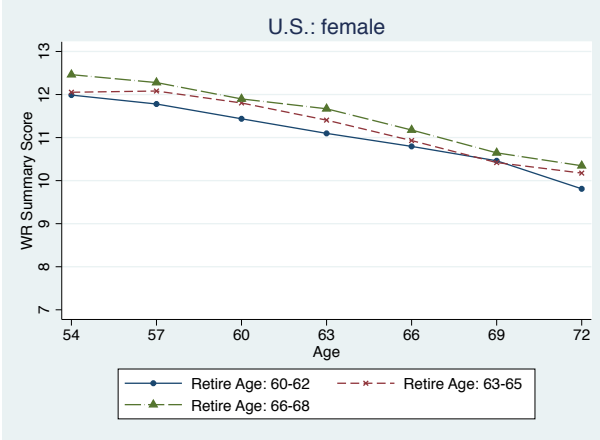


Figure 17: Cognitive Score and Age by Retirement Age



6 Conclusion

This study estimated the effect of retirement on cognition. The main findings of the paper are:

- In our analysis of the validity of cross-sectional cross-country analysis, we found that the robustness of the results is weak because the estimated results are sensitive to the heterogeneity of the set of analyzed countries. In particular, the effect of retirement on cognitive function within a subset of the analyzed countries can unduly influence the final conclusion.
- In our analysis of the relationship between retirement and cognition, we found that:
 - the “mental retirement effect” (Rohwedder and Willis (2010)) is weak in many countries;
 - individual characteristics such as job category, educational level and social activity after retirement are not important in producing the heterogeneity of the effect of retirement on cognitive scores;
 - there is evidence to suggest that this effect may be produced instead by the timing of retirement.

Comparing our results to those of related studies (Table 11), we found the effect of retirement on cognitive ability to be weak in all countries. When we observed the scores of cognitive ability tests before and after retirement around retirement age in the U.S., the U.K. and SHARE countries, there was no clear decline in scores on tests of cognition before and after retirement. This suggests that government policies within these countries to delay retirement through such measures as increasing the age of pension eligibility might not greatly influence the cognitive ability of the elderly after retirement. We did find, however, that BMI and fat intake were important determinants of the effect of retirement on cognitive function heterogeneity in the US. Additionally, our results suggest that in the U.S. in particular, it is possible that there is an “on-the-job” retirement effect (Rohwedder and Willis (2010)) whereby those who retire at an advanced age might try to increase their cognitive function before retirement in order to delay their retirement. Further analysis of this point remains important future work.

We also found that engaging in social activities may not be an adequate proxy for cognitive investment behaviors, and that elderly do not substantially change their leisure activities before and after retirement. This leaves us with the important question as to what kind of activity might constitute a cognitive investment behavior. Additionally, in this study, we were only able to analyze groups and countries where we could find correct and available data on the age of pension eligibility in order to use it as an instrumental variable. Another instrumental variable would potentially allow us to expand our analysis.

Table 11: Summary of Estimation Results in the Related Literature

	Lindeboom et al.	Rohwedder and Willis	Coe and Zamarro	Behncke	Bonsang et al.	Mazzonna and Peracchi	Coe, Gaudecker, Lindeboom and Maurer	Bingley and Martinello	Motegi, Nishimura and Oikawa
	2002, Health Economics	2010, J Econ Perspectives	2011, J Health Economics	2012, Health Economics	2012, J Health Economics	2012, European Economic Review	2012, Health Economics	2013, European Economic Review	2016
cognitive functioning	negative(MMSE (tests cognitive abilities))	negative	no	negative	negative	negative	positive (blue color) no (white color)	negative	negative (Word Recall, US), no (Word Recall, England, Germany, France, Denmark), positive (Word Recall, Korea), negative (Serial 7, US, Korea)
Method	FE method	IV method	IV method	Nonparametric matching	FE-IV method	IV method	Generalization of 2SLS	IV method	FE-IV method
Method (details)		IVs: pension eligibility age for early and full	IVs: eligibility age for early and full retirement	Using state pension eligibility age as IV	IVs: pension eligibility age	IVs: pension eligibility age for early and full	IVs: pension eligibility age (nonparametric regression of first stage regression)	IVs: pension eligibility age for early and full	IVs: pension eligibility age for early and full
Def. of Retirement		not having worked for pay in the last 4 weeks	someone who is not in the paid labor force	retired describes her current situation best and not in paid work was her activity in the last month	not having worked for pay in the last 1 year	max {0, current age-age as retirement} including unemployment elderly as retirement	interview year-retirement year (calculating by units of month and convert to the unit of year)	not having worked for pay in the last 4 weeks	not working for pay and self-reported retire
Controls(Demog.)	age, residential area, marital status, children' health		education, marital status, children	children, birth place, residential area	age	age and education	education, race, religion and age	age, sex, and education	age, sex, family strcture and education
Controls(Economic)			income	income					income, asset
Controls(Working.)	employment status		self employment	working hours, employment status					
Controls(Health)	health								
Data	Longitudinal Aging Study Amsterdam panel 92, 95, 98	HRS ELSA SHARE at 2004	SHARE 1st-2nd wave	ELSA 1st-3rd wave	HRS 1998~2008 6 waves	SHARE 2004, 06	HRS, only male elderly born after 1931	HRS ELSA SHARE 2004	HRS 1996-2010, SHARE 2004-2012, ELSA 2002-2014, JSTAR 2007-2013, KLoSA 2006-2012
Country	Netherlands	The U.S.The U.K.EU	EU	The U.K.	The U.S.	EU	The U.S.	The U.S.The U.K.EU	The US, The UK, France, Germany, Denmark, Korea, Japan

A Appendix

A.1 Age of Pension Eligibility

This section explains our construction of the data for the age of pension eligibility. In our replication of Rohwedder and Willis (2010), we expanded the number of countries, updated the data from 2004 in the original to 2010 (the most recent available), and attempted to obtain data directly from each source. Rohwedder and Willis (2010) obtain their data on the age of pension eligibility from two sources¹²: the OECD *Pensions at a Glance* and the US Social Security Administration's *Social Security Programs throughout the World: Europe, 2004*. For our analysis, we obtained information from the Bureau of Labor Statistics in each country, either through their official website or through direct contact with the country's Bureau of Labor Statistics or Bureau of Statistics. If data were not available through these methods, we obtained the most recent information for each country from the OECD *Pensions at a Glance*, International Social Security Association's *Social Security Programs Throughout The World (Europe, Asia and the Pacific, and the Americas)* and the EU *Mutual Information System in Social Protection*. Despite our efforts to obtain data for as many countries as possible, detailed information about the age of pension eligibility was not available for many countries, and so these are excluded from our analysis. Correct and detailed pension eligibility age data was obtained for the U.S., England, Germany, France, Denmark, Switzerland, Czech Republic, Estonia, Japan, China, and Korea, and this data is summarized in the tables below, indicating the section of the paper in which it is used.

¹²See the online Appendix by Rohwedder and Willis (2010) for details.

Table 12: Pensionable Age in Section 4

	2004								2010			
	R & W (2010)				MNO(2015)				MNO(2015)			
	Early		Full		Early		Full		Early		Full	
	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female
R & W original countries												
US	62	62	65	65	62	62	65	65	62	62	66	66
UK	65	60	65	60	*1	*1	65	60	*1	*1	65	60
Austria	61	56	65	60	61+6m	56+6m	65	60	62	57+6m	65	60
Germany	60	60	65	65	60	60	65	65	63	60	65	65
Sweden	61	61	65	65	61	61	65	65	61	61	65	65
Netherlands	60	60	65	65	*1	*1	65	65	*1	*1	65	65
Spain	60	60	65	65	61	61	65	65	61	61	65	65
Italy	57	57	65	60	57	57	65	60	59	57	65	60
France	60	60	60	60	60	60	65	65	60	60	65	65
Denmark	60	60	65	65	60	60	65	65	60	60	65+6m	65+6m
Greece	60	55	62	57	55	55	65	60	60	60	65	65
Switzerland	63	62	65	63	63	61	65	63	63	62	65	64
Belgium	60	60	65	63	60	60	65	63	60	60	65	65
Other Western countries												
Czechia									60	*1	62+2m	*2
Poland									60	55	65	60
Ireland									*1	*1	65	65
Hungary									60	60	62	62
Portugal									55	55	65	65
Slovenia									58	58	61	63
Estonia									60	58	63	61
Luxemberg									60	60	65	65
East Asian countries												
Japan									60	60	64	62
China									*3	*3	60 *3	55 *3

*1: No early retirement.

*2: Different among the number of children. 61(No child), 59y8m(1 child) 58+4m(2 children) , 57(3 or 4 children) , 55+8m(more than 5 children)

Table 13: Pension eligibility age in Section 5

Table 14: PEA: US

Birth cohort	PEA
Early PEA	
	62y0m
Normal PEA	
~ 1937.12	65y0m
1938.1 ~ 1938.12	65y2m
1939.1 ~ 1939.12	65y4m
1940.1 ~ 1940.12	65y6m
1941.1 ~ 1941.12	65y8m
1942.1 ~ 1942.12	65y10m
1943.1 ~ 1943.12	66y0m
1944.1 ~ 1944.12	66y0m
1945.1 ~ 1945.12	66y0m
1946.1 ~ 1946.12	66y0m
1947.1 ~ 1947.12	66y0m
1948.1 ~ 1948.12	66y0m
1949.1 ~ 1949.12	66y0m
1950.1 ~ 1950.12	66y0m
1951.1 ~ 1951.12	66y0m
1952.1 ~ 1952.12	66y0m
1953.1 ~ 1953.12	66y0m
1954.1 ~ 1954.12	66y0m
1955.1 ~ 1955.12	66y2m
1956.1 ~ 1956.12	66y4m
1957.1 ~ 1957.12	66y6m
1958.1 ~ 1958.12	66y8m
1959.1 ~ 1959.12	66y10m
1960.1 ~ 1960.12	67y0m

Table 15: PEA: UK

Birth cohort	PEA
Normal PEA: Male	
~ 1953.12	65y0m
1954.1 ~ 1954.12	66y0m
1955.1 ~ 1959.12	66y0m
1960.1 ~ 1960.12	67y0m
1961.1 ~	67y0m
Normal PEA: Female	
~ 1949.12	60y0m
1950.1 ~ 1950.12	61y0m
1951.1 ~ 1951.12	62y0m
1952.1 ~ 1952.12	63y0m
1953.1 ~	65y0m

Table 16: PEA: Germany

Birth cohort	PEA
Early PEA: Male	
~ 1952.12	63y0m
1953.1 ~ 1953.12	63y2m
1954.1 ~ 1954.12	63y4m
1955.1 ~ 1955.12	63y6m
1956.1 ~ 1956.12	63y8m
1957.1 ~ 1957.12	63y10m
1958.1 ~ 1958.12	64y0m
1959.1 ~ 1959.12	64y2m
1960.1 ~ 1960.12	64y4m
1961.1 ~ 1961.12	64y6m
1962.1 ~ 1962.12	64y8m
1963.1 ~ 1963.12	64y10m
1964.1 ~ 1964.12	65y0m
Early PEA: Female	
~ 1951.12	60y0m
Normal PEA	
~ 1946.12	65y0m
1947.1 ~ 1947.12	65y1m
1948.1 ~ 1948.12	65y2m
1949.1 ~ 1949.12	65y3m
1950.1 ~ 1950.12	65y4m
1951.1 ~ 1951.12	65y5m
1952.1 ~ 1952.12	65y6m
1953.1 ~ 1953.12	65y7m
1954.1 ~ 1954.12	65y8m
1955.1 ~ 1955.12	65y9m
1956.1 ~ 1956.12	65y10m
1957.1 ~ 1957.12	65y11m
1958.1 ~ 1958.12	66y0m
1959.1 ~ 1959.12	66y2m
1960.1 ~ 1960.12	66y4m
1961.1 ~ 1961.12	66y6m
1962.1 ~ 1962.12	66y8m
1963.1 ~ 1963.12	66y10m
1964.1 ~ 1964.12	67y0m

Table 17: PEA: France

Birth cohort	PEA
Early PEA	
~ 1951.6	60y0m
1951.7 ~ 1951.12	60y4m
1952.1 ~ 1952.12	60y9m
1953.1 ~ 1953.12	61y2m
1954.1 ~ 1954.12	61y7m
1955.1 ~ 1955.12	62y0m
1956.1 ~	62y0m
Normal PEA	
~ 1951.6	65y0m
1951.7 ~ 1951.12	65y4m
1952.1 ~ 1952.12	65y9m
1953.1 ~ 1953.12	66y2m
1954.1 ~ 1954.12	66y7m
1955.1 ~ 1955.12	67y0m
1956.1 ~	67y0m

Table 18: Pension eligibility age in Section 5

Table 19: PEA: Denmark		Table 20: PEA: Japan		Table 21: PEA: Korea	
Birth cohort	PEA	Birth cohort	PEA	Birth cohort	PEA
Early PEA		Normal PEA: Male		Early PEA	
~ 1953.12	60y0m	~ 1941.4.1	60y0m	~ 1952.12	55y0m
1954.1 ~ 1954.6	60y6m	1941.4.2 ~ 1943.4.1	61y0m	1953.1 ~ 1956.12	56y0m
1954.7 ~ 1954.12	61y0m	1943.4.2 ~ 1945.4.1	62y0m	1957.1 ~ 1960.12	57y0m
1955.1 ~ 1955.6	61y6m	1945.4.2 ~ 1947.4.1	63y0m	1961.1 ~ 1964.12	58y0m
1955.7 ~ 1955.12	62y0m	1947.4.2 ~ 1949.4.1	64y0m	1965.1 ~ 1968.12	59y0m
1956.1 ~ 1956.6	62y6m	1949.4.2 ~ 1953.4.1	65y0m	1969.1 ~ .	60y0m
1956.7 ~ 1958.12	63y0m	1953.4.2 ~ 1955.4.1	65y0m	Normal PEA	
1959.1 ~ 1959.6	63y6m	1955.4.2 ~ 1957.4.1	65y0m	~ 1952.12	60y0m
1959.7 ~ 1964.6	64y0m	1957.4.2 ~ 1959.4.1	65y0m	1953.1 ~ 1956.12	61y0m
1964.7 ~	64y0m	1959.4.2 ~ 1961.4.1	65y0m	1957.1 ~ 1960.12	62y0m
Normal PEA		1961.4.2 ~	65y0m	1961.1 ~ 1964.12	63y0m
~ 1953.12	65y0m	Normal PEA: Female		1965.1 ~ 1968.12	64y0m
1954.1 ~ 1954.6	65y6m	~ 1932.4.1	55y0m	1969.1 ~ .	65y0m
1954.7 ~ 1954.12	66y0m	1932.4.2 ~ 1934.4.1	56y0m		
1955.1 ~ 1955.6	66y6m	1934.4.2 ~ 1936.4.1	57y0m		
1955.7 ~ 1955.12	67y0m	1936.4.2 ~ 1937.4.1	58y0m		
1956.1 ~ 1956.6	67y0m	1937.4.2 ~ 1938.4.1	58y0m		
1956.7 ~ 1958.12	67y0m	1938.4.2 ~ 1940.4.1	59y0m		
1959.1 ~ 1959.6	67y0m	1940.4.2 ~ 1946.4.1	60y0m		
1959.7 ~ 1964.6	67y0m	1946.4.2 ~ 1948.4.1	61y0m		
1964.7 ~	67y0m	1948.4.2 ~ 1950.4.1	62y0m		
		1950.4.2 ~ 1952.4.1	63y0m		
		1952.4.2 ~ 1954.4.1	64y0m		
		1954.4.2 ~ 1958.4.1	65y0m		
		1958.4.2 ~ 1960.4.1	65y0m		
		1960.4.2 ~ 1962.4.1	65y0m		
		1962.4.2 ~ 1964.4.1	65y0m		
		1964.4.2 ~ 1965.4.1	65y0m		
		1965.4.2 ~	65y0m		

A.2 Results of the Preliminary Analysis: Cross-Sectional Cross-Country Analysis

In this section, we describe the results of sensitivity analyses of previous studies that are not discussed in section 4. Here, we check the sensitivity of the estimated results of previous studies on the following points:

- Correcting the instrumental variables used in previous studies;
- Including control variables into the analysis of the previous studies;
- Using estimation weights which the previous studies did not use.

First, we restricted the sample to those aged 60-64, following Rohwedder and Willis (2010) and Bingley and Martinello (2013) and then we examined the effect of including other control variables and changing the instrumental variable (Table 22). We estimated the results using ordinary least squares (OLS) when the Durbin-Wu-Hausman (DWH) test was not rejected in the specification using IV, and when the DWH test was rejected, we supported the result of the specification using IV. The IV1 columns represent the results of our analysis when we used the same IV as Rohwedder and Willis (2010) and Bingley and Martinello (2013). The IV2 columns show the results when we substituted our IV, which we have confirmed to be correct.

Columns 1 and 3 in Table 22 present the results of the Rohwedder and Willis (2010) and Bingley and Martinello (2013) specifications¹³, and column 2 shows the results of the Bingley and Martinello (2013) specification when only the variable indicating university enrolment was changed. In the results reported in columns 2 and 3, we also verified the effect of the different definition of education level on the estimated coefficients.

Columns 4-7 report our estimates when we added basic individual characteristics variables not included in Rohwedder and Willis (2010) and Bingley and Martinello (2013). Column 4 controls for age effect, column 5 adds country dummies into column 2, and columns 6 and 7 add the other individual characteristics control variables into column 5. The results of our three sensitivity analyses listed above and shown in Table 22 can be summarized as follows:

- **Correcting the IV:** Changing the instrumental variable has an increasingly large effect when control variables for individual characteristics are also added. While there is only a small difference in the estimated effect of retirement on cognitive function between IV1 (Rohwedder and Willis (2010)) and IV2, which corrects the IV but does not include control variables, columns 6 and 7, which also include control variable for individual characteristics, show a large difference in the effect of retirement on cognitive function between specifications IV1 and IV2. This indicates that the estimated effect of retirement on cognitive function is influenced by the control variables included.
- **Including Other Control Variables:** The inclusion of country dummy variables causes a large change in the magnitude of coefficients, with the coefficients of column 2 significantly larger in magnitude than column 5. Additionally, the direction of the coefficients is negative in column 6, and the absolute value of the coefficient for the OLS result in column 7 is very small (-0.455) compared to the coefficient for IV2 in column 2 (IV2=-6.538). This shows that the omitted variable bias is significant in column 2. In sum, the results reported in Table 22 thus suggest that one's country is a significant contributor to the observed heterogeneity of the effect of retirement on cognitive function. For example, in column 7, the coefficients for Spain (OLS: -2.230) and Italy (OLS: -1.243) are negative, while the coefficient of the U.S. (OLS: 2.082) is positive.
- **Including Estimation Weight:** From Table 24, we can see that the effect of using estimation weights (see Appendix (A.4 for an explanation of our calculation methodology) is not insignificant. By including estimation weights, the influence of the U.S. and the U.K. increased because of their relatively large population size among the analyzed countries, and this increased the magnitude of the estimated negative effect of retirement on cognitive function.

Next, we discuss the weighted estimation results reported in Table 24 and comment on the difference in the definition of education level. Column 3 of Table 24 shows our estimated coefficients using the same specification as Bingley and Martinello (2013)¹⁴, and we can see

¹³ Bingley and Martinello (2013) impute the value of the years of schooling in the ELSA, but as we do not impute this value, the ELSA sample is omitted from our estimates reported in column 3.

¹⁴See the specification "All" in Table 3 of Bingley and Martinello (2013).

that the effect of omitting the ELSA and weighting estimation is significant, for we obtained coefficients of -5.011 (IV1) and -5.138 (IV2), compared to -3.014 reported in Bingley and Martinello (2013). Recall also that while we omitted ELSA data from our analysis because data on education was not available.¹⁵, Bingley and Martinello (2013) included ELSA by imputing years of schooling, and thus it seems that the difference in included countries may also be important.

Next, we report the results of our estimates using the most recent data available, and find that the estimated coefficients for 2010 and 2004 are almost the same, indicating that the effect of retirement on cognitive function remained strong in 2010, as it was in 2004. Table 26 shows the estimated results for the two different cohorts (people aged 60-69 in 2004 and again in 2010) using the same column 7 as reported in Table 24. Greece is omitted from the 2010 analysis because the country was not included in the 2010 SHARE data, but otherwise, the set of countries analyzed remained the same for the two cohorts. From Table 26, we can see that the effect of changing the year cohort is weak. The DWH tests in both columns “2004” and “2010” are rejected (IV2), but the OLS results are almost the same (2004: -0.468; 2010: -0.694) after controlling for the heterogeneity of the analyzed countries, and the coefficients of the other control variables for the 2004 and 2010 OLS estimates are also similar. We can thus conclude that the effect of retirement on cognitive function was strong both in 2004 and in 2010.

¹⁵In our harmonized data set of analyzed countries which in Tables 22 and 24 we call the “original” set, we included a dummy variable indicating people with education above college degree, using a code provided by the Gateway to Global Aging Data (<http://gateway.usc.edu>), a project of the USC Center for Economic and Social Research (CESR) and funded by the US National Institute on Aging.

Table 22: The effect of instrumental variables and other control variables (without the coefficients of country)

	(1)		(2)		(3)		(4)		(5)				(6)		(7)		
	IV1	IV2	IV1	IV2	IV1	IV2	IV1	IV2	OLS	IV1	IV2	OLS	IV1	IV2	OLS	IV1	IV2
1st Stage Result																	
IV-early	0.183*** (0.013)	0.122*** (0.010)	0.171*** (0.014)	0.109*** (0.011)	0.190*** (0.016)	0.070*** (0.013)	0.161*** (0.015)	0.098*** (0.011)		0.084*** (0.015)	0.088*** (0.016)		0.014 (0.017)	-0.003 (0.019)		0.019 (0.017)	0.001 (0.018)
IV-normal	0.160***	0.212***	0.136***	0.171***	0.161***	0.170***	0.166***	0.208***		0.041**	0.082***		0.055***	0.068***		0.056***	0.070***
2nd Stage Result																	
Not working for pay	-3.346*** (0.319)	-3.047*** (0.373)	-5.216*** (0.415)	-6.538*** (0.574)	-4.433*** (0.404)	-4.708*** (0.630)	-3.302*** (0.347)	-2.588*** (0.409)	-0.570*** (0.071)	-0.771 (0.940)	-2.483*** (0.931)	-0.527*** (0.072)	-0.717 (2.116)	-3.502* (2.114)	-0.455*** (0.073)	-0.581 (1.960)	-3.217 (2.060)
Univ			1.140*** (0.119)	0.948*** (0.141)					1.669*** (0.081)	1.640*** (0.156)	1.397*** (0.157)	1.618*** (0.082)	1.592*** (0.297)	1.217*** (0.299)	1.484*** (0.086)	1.472*** (0.205)	1.222*** (0.216)
Years of schooling					0.239*** (0.014)	0.232*** (0.018)											
Female			1.694*** (0.096)	1.857*** (0.117)	1.569*** (0.093)	1.598*** (0.109)			1.040*** (0.066)	1.067*** (0.141)	1.298*** (0.142)	1.120*** (0.067)	1.146*** (0.300)	1.534*** (0.303)	1.106*** (0.067)	1.123*** (0.272)	1.479*** (0.287)
Age							4.112 (2.729)	4.107 (2.660)				1.762 (2.401)	1.801 (2.442)	2.379 (2.661)	2.172 (2.406)	2.191 (2.421)	2.587 (2.611)
Age squared							-3.310 (2.201)	-3.325 (2.145)				-1.497 (1.936)	-1.523 (1.958)	-1.904 (2.136)	-1.827 (1.941)	-1.838 (1.946)	-2.079 (2.099)
Marriage												0.591*** (0.083)	0.593*** (0.086)	0.620*** (0.091)	0.356*** (0.089)	0.363*** (0.144)	0.510*** (0.151)
N of children												-0.099*** (0.021)	-0.099*** (0.021)	-0.095*** (0.022)	-0.085*** (0.021)	-0.085*** (0.021)	-0.086*** (0.022)
Income															0.129** (0.056)	-0.010 (0.016)	-0.021 (0.015)
Own house															0.581*** (0.093)	0.576*** (0.120)	0.475*** (0.126)
Total wealth															0.006 (0.006)	0.003* (0.002)	0.002 (0.002)
Observations	8838	8838	8509	8509	7352	7352	8838	8838	8509	8509	8509	8447	8447	8447	8355	8355	8355
R ²	-0.071	-0.046	-0.260	-0.521	-0.046	-0.085	-0.067	-0.014	0.189	0.189	0.122	0.199	0.198	0.038	0.210	0.209	0.076
DWHchi2	57.548	31.994	144.107	142.550	102.651	46.607	48.327	19.207		0.044	4.607		0.023	2.365		0.010	2.089
DWHpval	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000		0.834	0.032		0.879	0.124		0.919	0.148

Standard errors in parentheses

* $p < .1$, ** $p < .05$, *** $p < .01$

All economic variables (e.g. Total wealth, Income) are measured in dollars.

In the specification (7), (country dummy) \times (economic variable)

(e.g. (Total wealth) \times (the U.S. dummy)) variables are also included.

The estimated coefficients of these cross terms are not presented.

The Belgium dummy is omitted.

Table 23: The effect of instrumental variables and other control variables (only the coefficients of country)

	(1)		(2)		(3)		(4)		(5)		(6)		(7)				
	IV1	IV2	IV1	IV2	IV1	IV2	IV1	IV2	OLS	IV1	IV2	OLS	IV1	IV2	OLS	IV1	IV2
Country dummy																	
2.US									1.958***	1.886***	1.274***	2.138***	2.066**	1.011	2.082***	2.035***	1.053
									(0.145)	(0.365)	(0.366)	(0.148)	(0.817)	(0.822)	(0.183)	(0.754)	(0.794)
3.UK									2.015***	1.960***	1.486***	1.992***	1.939***	1.157*	1.658***	1.630***	1.055**
									(0.158)	(0.308)	(0.309)	(0.157)	(0.623)	(0.627)	(0.207)	(0.482)	(0.513)
11.Austria									0.776***	0.787***	0.881***	0.799***	0.808***	0.936***	1.004***	1.008***	1.107***
									(0.232)	(0.237)	(0.242)	(0.232)	(0.250)	(0.260)	(0.324)	(0.332)	(0.348)
12.Germany									0.672***	0.647***	0.433*	0.617***	0.591*	0.212	0.562**	0.548*	0.257
									(0.184)	(0.219)	(0.226)	(0.183)	(0.344)	(0.354)	(0.235)	(0.319)	(0.337)
13.Sweden									1.185***	1.092**	0.303	1.158***	1.070	-0.224	1.177***	1.134	0.228
									(0.184)	(0.469)	(0.470)	(0.184)	(1.002)	(1.007)	(0.306)	(0.740)	(0.772)
14.Netherlands									0.731***	0.718***	0.603***	0.685***	0.671***	0.470*	0.917***	0.908***	0.714**
									(0.195)	(0.205)	(0.210)	(0.194)	(0.249)	(0.261)	(0.290)	(0.323)	(0.334)
15.Spain									-1.694***	-1.728***	-2.018***	-1.692***	-1.726***	-2.225***	-2.230***	-2.250***	-2.669***
									(0.213)	(0.266)	(0.275)	(0.213)	(0.436)	(0.449)	(0.284)	(0.422)	(0.453)
16.Italy									-1.109***	-1.120***	-1.211***	-1.174***	-1.186***	-1.361***	-1.243***	-1.245***	-1.297***
									(0.186)	(0.193)	(0.199)	(0.186)	(0.229)	(0.241)	(0.228)	(0.230)	(0.242)
17.France									-0.122	-0.125	-0.146	-0.112	-0.115	-0.162	0.239	0.235	0.146
									(0.203)	(0.203)	(0.213)	(0.201)	(0.205)	(0.224)	(0.260)	(0.268)	(0.287)
18.Denmark									1.332***	1.284***	0.870***	1.352***	1.306**	0.629	1.296***	1.280***	0.936**
									(0.234)	(0.326)	(0.336)	(0.232)	(0.566)	(0.579)	(0.306)	(0.399)	(0.438)
19.Greece									0.081	0.048	-0.235	0.083	0.052	-0.404	-0.527*	-0.542	-0.851**
									(0.192)	(0.248)	(0.253)	(0.193)	(0.398)	(0.404)	(0.275)	(0.356)	(0.383)
20.Switzerland									1.169***	1.091**	0.427	1.150***	1.076	-0.009	1.621***	1.581**	0.761
									(0.284)	(0.458)	(0.467)	(0.285)	(0.871)	(0.885)	(0.427)	(0.736)	(0.773)
Observations	8838	8838	8509	8509	7352	7352	8838	8838	8509	8509	8509	8447	8447	8447	8355	8355	8355
R ²	-0.071	-0.046	-0.260	-0.521	-0.046	-0.085	-0.067	-0.014	0.189	0.189	0.122	0.199	0.198	0.038	0.210	0.209	0.076
DWHchi2	57.548	31.994	144.107	142.550	102.651	46.607	48.327	19.207	0.044	4.607	0.023	2.365	0.010	2.089			
DWHpval	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.834	0.032	0.879	0.124	0.919	0.148			

Standard errors in parentheses

* $p < .1$, ** $p < .05$, *** $p < .01$

All economic variables (e.g. Total wealth, Income) are measured in dollars.

In the specification (7), (country dummy) \times (economic variable)

(e.g. (Total wealth) \times (the U.S. dummy)) variables are also included.

The estimated coefficients of these cross terms are not presented.

The Belgium dummy is omitted.

Table 24: The effect of instrumental variables and other control variables using weight (without the coefficients of country)

	(1)		(2)		(3)		(4)		(5)		(6)		(7)				
	IV1	IV2	IV1	IV2	IV1	IV2	IV1	IV2	OLS	IV1	IV2	OLS	IV1	IV2	OLS	IV1	IV2
1st Stage Result																	
IV-early	0.210*** (0.016)	0.167*** (0.013)	0.197*** (0.016)	0.147*** (0.013)	0.203*** (0.018)	0.126*** (0.015)	0.185*** (0.017)	0.144*** (0.014)		0.085*** (0.017)	0.081*** (0.017)		0.010 (0.020)	-0.001 (0.022)		0.020 (0.020)	0.004 (0.021)
IV-normal	0.186***	0.218***	0.160***	0.173***	0.160***	0.135***	0.190***	0.215***		0.052**	0.090***		0.068***	0.075***		0.066***	0.076***
2nd Stage Result																	
Not working for pay	-5.397*** (0.357)	-5.338*** (0.433)	-6.192*** (0.432)	-7.612*** (0.634)	-5.011*** (0.451)	-5.138*** (0.674)	-5.623*** (0.391)	-5.602*** (0.482)	-0.571*** (0.083)	-0.979 (0.998)	-2.903*** (1.118)	-0.532*** (0.084)	-3.826 (2.422)	-5.318** (2.618)	-0.461*** (0.085)	-2.485 (2.136)	-5.056** (2.578)
Univ			1.149*** (0.156)	0.928*** (0.184)					1.724*** (0.101)	1.665*** (0.178)	1.386*** (0.194)	1.656*** (0.101)	1.205*** (0.354)	1.001*** (0.383)	1.538*** (0.106)	1.332*** (0.247)	1.069*** (0.295)
Years of schooling					0.256*** (0.016)	0.253*** (0.020)											
Female			1.675*** (0.120)	1.851*** (0.143)	1.573*** (0.111)	1.587*** (0.124)			0.909*** (0.080)	0.963*** (0.159)	1.219*** (0.168)	0.989*** (0.081)	1.438*** (0.354)	1.641*** (0.386)	0.985*** (0.081)	1.249*** (0.301)	1.583*** (0.363)
Age							5.954 (3.749)	5.956 (3.744)				6.526** (2.871)	6.936** (3.234)	7.122** (3.574)	7.086** (2.882)	7.260** (3.016)	7.481** (3.509)
Age squared							-4.746 (3.023)	-4.748 (3.019)				-5.330** (2.316)	-5.566** (2.602)	-5.673** (2.876)	-5.785** (2.324)	-5.868** (2.430)	-5.973** (2.826)
Marriage												0.551*** (0.097)	0.625*** (0.120)	0.659*** (0.131)	0.334*** (0.106)	0.461*** (0.172)	0.622*** (0.204)
N of children												-0.133*** (0.024)	-0.128*** (0.026)	-0.126*** (0.028)	-0.121*** (0.024)	-0.122*** (0.024)	-0.124*** (0.028)
Income															0.162* (0.084)	-0.018 (0.016)	-0.030* (0.018)
Own house															0.549*** (0.113)	0.509*** (0.125)	0.457*** (0.146)
Total wealth															0.006 (0.006)	0.002 (0.002)	0.001 (0.002)
Observations	8838	8838	8509	8509	7352	7352	8838	8838	8509	8509	8509	8447	8447	8447	8355	8355	8355
R ²	-0.281	-0.272	-0.394	-0.715	-0.074	-0.093	-0.316	-0.313	0.222	0.219	0.124	0.232	0.041	-0.171	0.242	0.172	-0.116
DWHchi2	171.812	96.053	207.155	177.266	115.794	56.994	168.328	88.990		0.366	5.966		1.294	4.719		0.504	4.356
DWHpval	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000		0.545	0.015		0.255	0.030		0.478	0.037

Standard errors in parentheses

* $p < .1$, ** $p < .05$, *** $p < .01$

All economic variables (e.g. Total wealth, Income) are measured in dollars.

In the specification (7), (country dummy) \times (economic variable)

(e.g. (Total wealth) \times (the U.S. dummy)) variables are also included.

The estimated coefficients of these cross terms are not presented.

The Belgium dummy is omitted.

Table 25: The effect of instrumental variables and other control variables using weight (only the coefficients of country)

	(1)		(2)		(3)		(4)		(5)		(6)		(7)				
	IV1	IV2	IV1	IV2	IV1	IV2	IV1	IV2	OLS	IV1	IV2	OLS	IV1	IV2	OLS	IV1	IV2
Country dummy																	
2.US									1.952*** (0.150)	1.798*** (0.395)	1.068** (0.442)	2.104*** (0.152)	0.858 (0.934)	0.294 (1.012)	2.064*** (0.188)	1.305 (0.821)	0.342 (0.991)
3.UK									1.977*** (0.160)	1.860*** (0.329)	1.307*** (0.362)	1.932*** (0.160)	0.994 (0.713)	0.569 (0.770)	1.614*** (0.209)	1.161** (0.527)	0.586 (0.634)
11.Austria									0.746*** (0.235)	0.767*** (0.241)	0.864*** (0.251)	0.751*** (0.236)	0.904*** (0.276)	0.974*** (0.292)	1.000*** (0.325)	1.093*** (0.348)	1.212*** (0.378)
12.Germany									0.642*** (0.186)	0.589*** (0.226)	0.340 (0.245)	0.566*** (0.186)	0.115 (0.389)	-0.090 (0.423)	0.527** (0.235)	0.310 (0.326)	0.034 (0.381)
13.Sweden									1.142*** (0.187)	0.951* (0.502)	0.051 (0.558)	1.114*** (0.187)	-0.424 (1.150)	-1.120 (1.244)	1.128*** (0.305)	0.432 (0.793)	-0.452 (0.946)
14.Netherlands									0.701*** (0.195)	0.671*** (0.209)	0.531** (0.219)	0.654*** (0.195)	0.412 (0.277)	0.302 (0.299)	0.915*** (0.291)	0.773** (0.329)	0.592 (0.364)
15.Spain									-1.671*** (0.215)	-1.746*** (0.284)	-2.102*** (0.309)	-1.686*** (0.215)	-2.288*** (0.506)	-2.561*** (0.551)	-2.253*** (0.286)	-2.605*** (0.479)	-3.052*** (0.570)
16.Italy									-1.096*** (0.188)	-1.122*** (0.198)	-1.243*** (0.207)	-1.182*** (0.188)	-1.404*** (0.253)	-1.505*** (0.271)	-1.257*** (0.225)	-1.313*** (0.233)	-1.386*** (0.256)
17.France									-0.139 (0.207)	-0.144 (0.208)	-0.168 (0.219)	-0.134 (0.206)	-0.171 (0.228)	-0.188 (0.246)	0.196 (0.267)	0.152 (0.276)	0.097 (0.308)
18.Denmark									1.303*** (0.240)	1.205*** (0.340)	0.743** (0.373)	1.320*** (0.238)	0.540 (0.635)	0.186 (0.689)	1.251*** (0.316)	1.003** (0.428)	0.688 (0.507)
19.Greece									0.026 (0.198)	-0.042 (0.260)	-0.364 (0.282)	0.012 (0.199)	-0.540 (0.466)	-0.789 (0.501)	-0.493* (0.286)	-0.751* (0.401)	-1.078** (0.471)
20.Switzerland									1.226*** (0.293)	1.066** (0.487)	0.310 (0.540)	1.172*** (0.294)	-0.107 (0.998)	-0.685 (1.084)	1.665*** (0.432)	1.033 (0.792)	0.229 (0.943)
Observations	8838	8838	8509	8509	7352	7352	8838	8838	8509	8509	8509	8447	8447	8447	8355	8355	8355
R ²	-0.281	-0.272	-0.394	-0.715	-0.074	-0.093	-0.316	-0.313	0.222	0.219	0.124	0.232	0.041	-0.171	0.242	0.172	-0.116
DWHchi2	171.812	96.053	207.155	177.266	115.794	56.994	168.328	88.990		0.366	5.966		1.294	4.719		0.504	4.356
DWHpval	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000		0.545	0.015		0.255	0.030		0.478	0.037

Standard errors in parentheses

* $p < .1$, ** $p < .05$, *** $p < .01$

All economic variables (e.g. Total wealth, Income) are measured in dollars.

In the specification (7), (country dummy) \times (economic variable)(e.g. (Total wealth) \times (the U.S. dummy)) variables are also included.

The estimated coefficients of these cross terms are not presented.

The Belgium dummy is omitted.

Table 26: The effect of the difference in the cohort groups using weight (Sample aged from 60 to 64)(Original without Greece)

	2004		2010		
	OLS	IV1	IV2	OLS	IV2
1st Stage Result					
IV-early		0.021 (0.020)	0.005 (0.022)		0.002 (0.023)
IV-normal		0.061** (0.026)	0.070*** (0.024)		0.088*** (0.025)
2nd Stage Result					
Not working for pay	-0.468*** (0.086)	-2.064 (2.222)	-5.131* (2.916)	-0.694*** (0.091)	-6.379** (2.574)
Univ	1.534*** (0.107)	1.369*** (0.258)	1.051*** (0.331)	1.360*** (0.107)	0.670* (0.342)
Female	0.996*** (0.082)	1.200*** (0.306)	1.590*** (0.397)	1.173*** (0.082)	1.800*** (0.325)
Age	7.714*** (2.929)	7.897*** (3.019)	8.247** (3.593)	-0.345 (2.954)	2.480 (4.189)
Age squared	-6.292*** (2.362)	-6.394*** (2.431)	-6.592** (2.890)	0.298 (2.384)	-1.759 (3.350)
Marriage	0.345*** (0.108)	0.443** (0.174)	0.631*** (0.219)	0.383*** (0.110)	0.647*** (0.187)
N of children	-0.123*** (0.024)	-0.125*** (0.024)	-0.127*** (0.028)	-0.071*** (0.026)	-0.080** (0.033)
Income	-0.006 (0.033)	-0.016 (0.017)	-0.030 (0.019)	0.055 (0.071)	-0.002 (0.018)
Own house	0.550*** (0.115)	0.517*** (0.126)	0.454*** (0.152)	0.489*** (0.112)	0.327** (0.160)
Total wealth	0.004* (0.002)	0.002 (0.002)	0.001 (0.002)	-0.001 (0.004)	-0.004 (0.004)
Observations	7987	7987	7987	9195	9195
R ²	0.243	0.200	-0.124	0.173	-0.438
DWHchi2		0.197	3.507		7.515
DWHpval		0.657	0.061		0.006

Standard errors in parentheses
* p < .1, ** p < .05, *** p < .01

	2004		2010		
	OLS	IV1	IV2	OLS	IV2
Country dummy					
2.US	2.062*** (0.188)	1.464* (0.851)	0.315 (1.115)	-0.080 (0.210)	-1.262** (0.600)
3.UK	1.612*** (0.209)	1.254** (0.544)	0.567 (0.706)	1.248*** (0.236)	0.690* (0.392)
11.Austria	1.002*** (0.325)	1.075*** (0.346)	1.214*** (0.383)	0.282 (0.293)	0.885* (0.453)
12.Germany	0.525** (0.235)	0.353 (0.331)	0.024 (0.409)	-0.323 (0.455)	-1.493* (0.775)
13.Sweden	1.124*** (0.305)	0.575 (0.821)	-0.481 (1.057)	0.322 (0.442)	-1.720 (1.087)
14.Netherlands	0.914*** (0.291)	0.802** (0.330)	0.586 (0.377)	0.083 (0.289)	-1.044 (0.637)
15.Spain	-2.256*** (0.286)	-2.534*** (0.487)	-3.067*** (0.618)	-2.654*** (0.292)	-2.752*** (0.389)
16.Italy	-1.260*** (0.225)	-1.305*** (0.232)	-1.391*** (0.259)	-1.515*** (0.310)	-1.301*** (0.400)
17.France	0.197 (0.267)	0.161 (0.274)	0.094 (0.311)	-0.583** (0.271)	0.028 (0.438)
18.Denmark	1.249*** (0.316)	1.054** (0.429)	0.677 (0.536)	0.826** (0.365)	-0.476 (0.801)
20.Switzerland	1.661*** (0.432)	1.161 (0.813)	0.202 (1.037)	0.884*** (0.287)	-1.399 (1.094)
Observations	7987	7987	7987	9195	9195
R ²	0.243	0.200	-0.124	0.173	-0.438
DWHchi2		0.197	3.507		7.515
DWHpval		0.657	0.061		0.006

Standard errors in parentheses
* p < .1, ** p < .05, *** p < .01

Finally, Table 27 shows the effect of changing the surveyed age-group and the definition of retirement. As the results are similar to those of column 7 reported in Table 24, we find that the effects of these changes are not significant. The estimates in the “not working” columns are for retirement defined as “not working for pay”, “SR retirement” columns for retirement defined as “respondent reports a retired status” (the same definition as “self-reported retiree” as described in footnote 5 of section 3), and “complete retirement” for retirement defined as both “not working for pay” and “respondent reports a retired status.”

Table 27: The effect of the difference in the definition of retirement and the surveyed age-group using weight

	Retired (Self-reported)				Not Working for Pay				Completely retired			
	2004		2010		2004		2010		2004		2010	
	OLS	IV2	OLS	IV2	OLS	IV2	OLS	IV2	OLS	IV2	OLS	IV2
Age group: 60-64												
1st Stage Result												
IV-Early-bi		0.037 (0.023)		0.062** (0.025)		0.003 (0.023)		0.022 (0.025)		0.010 (0.023)		0.032 (0.025)
IV-Normal-bi		0.107*** (0.021)		0.098*** (0.022)		0.044** (0.021)		-0.003 (0.023)		0.073*** (0.022)		0.033 (0.024)
2nd Stage Result												
retirement	-0.274*** (0.092)	-0.216 (1.401)	-0.393*** (0.107)	1.239 (1.547)	-0.439*** (0.088)	-1.415 (3.615)	-0.583*** (0.110)	14.847 (19.854)	-0.398*** (0.089)	-0.702 (2.147)	-0.530*** (0.108)	3.577 (4.303)
Observations	8078	8078	9239	9239	8095	8095	9299	9299	8076	8076	9213	9213
R ²	0.171	0.171	0.104	0.064	0.172	0.155	0.105	-3.669	0.172	0.171	0.106	-0.170
DWHchi2		0.008		1.051		0.077		2.926		0.018		1.106
DWHpval		0.930		0.305		0.781		0.087		0.892		0.293
Age group: 60-69												
1st Stage Result												
IV-Early-bi		0.070*** (0.021)		0.082*** (0.021)		0.029 (0.021)		0.022 (0.021)		0.027 (0.021)		0.028 (0.021)
IV-Normal-bi		0.123*** (0.012)		0.139*** (0.011)		0.069*** (0.012)		0.058*** (0.013)		0.089*** (0.013)		0.084*** (0.013)
2nd Stage Result												
retirement	-0.275*** (0.074)	0.777 (0.704)	-0.319*** (0.087)	0.411 (0.720)	-0.451*** (0.067)	1.527 (1.328)	-0.480*** (0.081)	1.241 (1.849)	-0.422*** (0.067)	1.167 (1.033)	-0.443*** (0.081)	0.490 (1.263)
Observations	15830	15830	16858	16858	15852	15852	16945	16945	15827	15827	16823	16823
R ²	0.168	0.155	0.111	0.105	0.170	0.113	0.112	0.070	0.170	0.132	0.113	0.100
DWHchi2		2.264		0.890		2.383		0.631		2.477		0.390
DWHpval		0.132		0.345		0.123		0.427		0.116		0.532

Standard errors in parentheses

* $p < .1$, ** $p < .05$, *** $p < .01$

A.3 Parameterization: Model of Retirement and Cognitive Function Decline

In this section, we provide a detailed explanation of our parameterization of model (3). We have explained the utility function, pension payments, and cognitive production functions in section 5. The cost function of cognitive investment, the function of reduced time by cognitive investment, and the function of income are parameterized as follows:

- $G(i_{Wt}^f, i_{Wt}^j, i_{Lt}^j, i_{Lt}^j) = \beta_{Wf} i_{Wt}^f + \beta_{Wj} i_{Wt}^j + \beta_{Lf} i_{Lt}^f + \beta_{Lj} i_{Lt}^j$
- $L(i_{Lt}^f, i_{Lt}^j) = \alpha_f i_{Lt}^f + \alpha_j i_{Lt}^j$
- $y(a_{ft}, a_{jt}, t, l_t) = Y \cdot (a_{ft}^{\eta_1} a_{jt}^{\eta_2}) (T - t)^{\eta_3} (1 - l_t)$

A.4 Weight

This section explains the procedure by which we calculated the estimation weights in section 4:

- First, we created the cells considering individual characteristics: age \times gender \times country of residence. The total number of cells was (The Number of Ages from 60 to 64, or 5) \times (The Number of Genders, Male or Female, or 2) \times (The Number of Countries of Residence).
- Next, in each cell, we calculated the population based on data from UN *World Information* data.¹⁶ Using this procedure, all respondents were able to be assigned to a cell number.
- Finally, we constructed the estimation weight for each respondent i with characteristic k as follows, where B is the set of characteristics and T_k is the number of respondents in the (merged) dataset (for cross-country analysis) assigned to characteristic k .

$$W_{ik} = \frac{1}{T_k} \frac{\Pr(\text{Cell Number} = k)}{\sum_{l \in B} \Pr(\text{Cell Number} = l)} \quad (9)$$

¹⁶<http://data.un.org/>.

A.5 Results from Other Countries

In this section, we show the results from our analysis of other countries, estimated in various groups: Social attendance+ (the respondent increases social activity after retirement) and Social attendance- (not Social attendance+), PNR:Yes (the respondent has a spouse at the first response) and PNR:No (not PNR:Yes), BMI ≥ 25 (the BMI of the respondents is more than 25 at the first response) and BMI < 25 (not BMI ≥ 25), Fat+ (the amount of fat intake is more than the median at the first response) and Fat- (not Fat+).

Table 28: Heterogeneity in Full Retirement (Word Recall)

	(1) US	(2) England	(3) France	(4) Germany	(5) Denmark	(6) Korea
WR summary score						
Completely retired	-0.154*** (0.027)	0.067 (0.056)	0.018 (0.167)	-0.144 (0.201)	-0.200 (0.195)	2.326 (1.421)
Observations	86773	23923	3998	2365	3497	13437
DWH p-val	0.642	0.305	0.549	0.693	0.224	0.019
Model	FE	FE	FE	FE	FE	FE-IV
Immediate WR						
Completely retired	-0.061*** (0.014)	0.033 (0.030)	-0.063 (0.090)	-0.090 (0.110)	-0.134 (0.105)	-0.033** (0.015)
Observations	86773	23930	4000	2365	3497	14127
DWH p-val	0.602	0.194	0.903	0.482	0.674	0.371
Model	FE	FE	FE	FE	FE	FE
Delayed WR						
Completely retired	-0.093*** (0.016)	0.034 (0.034)	0.074 (0.101)	-0.054 (0.116)	1.762 (1.266)	1.898* (1.132)
Observations	86773	23936	4004	2365	3498	13437
DWH p-val	0.256	0.634	0.436	0.996	0.097	0.014
Model	FE	FE	FE	FE	FE-IV	FE-IV

¹ Standard errors in parentheses and * ($p < .1$), ** ($p < .05$), *** ($p < .01$).

² All specifications include demographic variables (age, age , marriage dummy, number of children), economic variables (household income, house ownership, total wealth), region dummies, year dummies, 1st survey dummy, and 2nd-4th survey dummy (only HRS).

Table 29: Heterogeneity in Full Retirement (Word Recall)

	(1)	(2)	(3)
	US	Korea	Japan
Serial 7s			
Completely retired	-0.279** (0.127)	-0.122*** (0.032)	-0.072 (0.064)
Observations	86773	14129	3791
DWH p-val	0.049	0.518	0.561
Model	FE-IV	FE	FE
Backward counting			
Completely retired	-0.001 (0.002)		
Observations	86773		
DWH p-val	0.121		
Model	FE		

¹ Standard errors in parentheses and * ($p < .1$), ** ($p < .05$), *** ($p < .01$).

² All specifications include demographic variables (age, age , marriage dummy, number of children), economic variables (household income, house ownership, total wealth), region dummies, year dummies, 1st survey dummy, and 2nd-4th survey dummy (only HRS).

Table 30: Heterogeneity in Retirement by Gender (Word Recall)

	(1) US	(2) England	(3) France	(4) Germany	(5) Denmark	(6) Korea
Panel A: Male						
WR summary score						
Completely retired	-0.137*** (0.040)	-0.015 (0.076)	-0.214 (0.230)	1.227 (1.021)	-0.346 (0.233)	-0.130*** (0.043)
Observations	38848	13032	1949	1205	1920	8149
DWH p-val	0.179	0.347	0.961	0.069	0.393	0.436
Model	FE	FE	FE	FE-IV	FE	FE
Immediate WR						
Completely retired	-0.058*** (0.020)	0.002 (0.041)	-0.231* (0.123)	0.550 (0.535)	-0.169 (0.131)	-0.052** (0.022)
Observations	38848	13035	1951	1205	1920	8149
DWH p-val	0.306	0.982	0.498	0.078	0.495	0.656
Model	FE	FE	FE	FE-IV	FE	FE
Delayed WR						
Completely retired	-0.081*** (0.024)	-0.017 (0.047)	0.023 (0.141)	-0.150 (0.159)	1.737 (1.111)	-0.079** (0.032)
Observations	38848	13041	1953	1205	1921	8149
DWH p-val	0.175	0.124	0.645	0.128	0.049	0.477
Model	FE	FE	FE	FE	FE-IV	FE
Panel B: Female						
WR summary score						
Completely retired	-0.164*** (0.036)	0.081 (0.070)	0.153 (0.205)	0.119 (0.228)	0.059 (0.244)	-0.069* (0.041)
Observations	47925	13283	2206	1365	1816	5978
DWH p-val	0.134	0.121	0.883	0.907	0.938	0.956
Model	FE	FE	FE	FE	FE	FE
Immediate WR						
Completely retired	-0.064*** (0.018)	0.018 (0.039)	-0.004 (0.108)	0.040 (0.124)	-0.024 (0.131)	-0.015 (0.021)
Observations	47925	13288	2206	1366	1816	5978
DWH p-val	0.948	0.113	0.640	0.706	0.759	0.125
Model	FE	FE	FE	FE	FE	FE
Delayed WR						
Completely retired	0.451* (0.252)	0.063 (0.042)	0.140 (0.125)	0.074 (0.135)	0.083 (0.138)	-0.054* (0.031)
Observations	47925	13288	2208	1365	1816	5978
DWH p-val	0.023	0.276	0.536	0.540	0.914	0.302
Model	FE-IV	FE	FE	FE	FE	FE

¹ Standard errors in parentheses and * ($p < .1$), ** ($p < .05$), *** ($p < .01$).

² All specifications include demographic variables (age, age², marriage dummy, number of children), economic variables (household income, house ownership, total wealth), region dummies, year dummies, 1st survey dummy, and 2nd-4th survey dummy (only HRS).

³ The green character indicates that the IVs do not work well in the 1st stage regression.

Table 31: Heterogeneity in Retirement by Gender (Numeracy)

	(1) US	(2) Korea	(3) Japan
Panel A: Male			
Serial 7s			
Completely retired	-0.008 (0.016)	-0.133*** (0.046)	-0.177* (0.091)
Observations	38848	8151	2149
DWH p-val	0.937	0.154	0.548
Model	FE	FE	FE
Backward counting			
Completely retired	-0.002 (0.003)		
Observations	38848		
DWH p-val	0.167		
Model	FE		
Panel B: Female			
Serial 7s			
Completely retired	-0.415** (0.183)	-0.101** (0.046)	<i>0.030</i> <i>(0.091)</i>
Observations	47925	5978	<i>1642</i>
DWH p-val	0.040	0.577	<i>0.778</i>
Model	FE-IV	FE	<i>FE</i>
Backward counting			
Completely retired	-0.001 (0.003)		
Observations	47925		
DWH p-val	0.552		
Model	FE		

¹ Standard errors in parentheses and * ($p < .1$), ** ($p < .05$), *** ($p < .01$).

² All specifications include demographic variables (age, age , marriage dummy, number of children), economic variables (household income, house ownership, total wealth), region dummies, year dummies, 1st survey dummy, and 2nd-4th survey dummy (only HRS).

³ The **green** character indicates that the IVs do not work well in the 1st stage regression.

Table 32: Heterogeneity in Retirement by Education (Word Recall)

	(1) US	(2) England	(3) France	(4) Germany	(5) Denmark	(6) Korea
Panel A: Low education						
WR summary score						
Completely retired	-0.149*** (0.030)	0.064 (0.062)	0.041 (0.195)	-0.068 (0.195)	0.061 (0.219)	2.792 (1.925)
Observations	65323	17761	2603	1682	1870	12120
DWH p-val	0.397	0.125	0.919	0.897	0.306	0.024
Model	FE	FE	FE	FE	FE	FE-IV
Immediate WR						
Completely retired	-0.053*** (0.015)	0.399** (0.169)	-0.071 (0.101)	-0.111 (0.106)	0.052 (0.120)	-0.035** (0.016)
Observations	65323	17765	2603	1683	1870	12683
DWH p-val	0.852	0.022	0.791	0.809	0.709	0.574
Model	FE	FE-IV	FE	FE	FE	FE
Delayed WR						
Completely retired	-0.098*** (0.019)	0.042 (0.037)	0.108 (0.120)	0.038 (0.117)	1.253* (0.694)	2.466 (1.609)
Observations	65323	17771	2606	1682	1871	12120
DWH p-val	0.236	0.684	0.919	0.943	0.058	0.010
Model	FE	FE	FE	FE	FE-IV	FE-IV
Panel B: High education						
WR summary score						
Completely retired	-0.158*** (0.058)	-0.003 (0.116)	-0.032 (0.284)	-0.216 (0.379)	-0.401 (0.253)	-0.061 (0.091)
Observations	21433	5443	1262	882	1858	1439
DWH p-val	0.425	0.167	0.861	0.166	0.693	0.964
Model	FE	FE	FE	FE	FE	FE
Immediate WR						
Completely retired	-0.088*** (0.030)	0.025 (0.064)	-0.174 (0.150)	-0.064 (0.197)	-0.300** (0.136)	-0.036 (0.042)
Observations	21433	5446	1264	882	1858	1439
DWH p-val	0.131	0.118	0.753	0.489	0.483	0.486
Model	FE	FE	FE	FE	FE	FE
Delayed WR						
Completely retired	-0.070** (0.035)	-0.025 (0.069)	0.138 (0.175)	1.064 (0.748)	-0.101 (0.155)	-0.025 (0.073)
Observations	21433	5446	1265	882	1858	1439
DWH p-val	0.931	0.400	0.998	0.091	0.892	0.702
Model	FE	FE	FE	FE-IV	FE	FE

¹ Standard errors in parentheses and * ($p < .1$), ** ($p < .05$), *** ($p < .01$).

² All specifications include demographic variables (age, age², marriage dummy, number of children), economic variables (household income, house ownership, total wealth), region dummies, year dummies, 1st survey dummy, and 2nd-4th survey dummy (only HRS).

³ The green character indicates that the IVs do not work well in the 1st stage regression.

Table 33: Heterogeneity in Retirement by Education (Numeracy)

	(1) US	(2) Korea	(3) Japan
Panel A: Low education			
Serial 7s			
Completely retired	-0.321** (0.141)	-0.134*** (0.035)	-0.082 (0.069)
Observations	65323	12685	3221
DWH p-val	0.035	0.549	0.597
Model	FE-IV	FE	FE
Backward counting			
Completely retired	-0.001 (0.002)		
Observations	65323		
DWH p-val	0.505		
Model	FE		
Panel B: High education			
Serial 7s			
Completely retired	-0.039* (0.022)	0.002 (0.076)	0.023 (0.188)
Observations	21433	1439	558
DWH p-val	0.761	0.507	0.487
Model	FE	FE	FE
Backward counting			
Completely retired	0.121** (0.055)		
Observations	21433		
DWH p-val	0.019		
Model	FE-IV		

¹ Standard errors in parentheses and * ($p < .1$), ** ($p < .05$), *** ($p < .01$).

² All specifications include demographic variables (age, age , marriage dummy, number of children), economic variables (household income, house ownership, total wealth), region dummies, year dummies, 1st survey dummy, and 2nd-4th survey dummy (only HRS).

³ The green character indicates that the IVs do not work well in the 1st stage regression.

Table 34: Heterogeneity in Retirement by Occupation (Word Recall)

	(1) US	(2) England	(3) France	(4) Germany	(5) Denmark	(6) Korea
Panel A: Blue collar						
WR summary score						
Completely retired	-0.083 (0.055)	0.814** (0.355)	-0.721* (0.404)	-1.046** (0.484)	-0.565 (0.373)	-0.134*** (0.038)
Observations	19404	12907	915	580	696	<i>8542</i>
DWH p-val	0.340	0.037	0.861	0.523	0.572	<i>0.176</i>
Model	FE	FE-IV	FE	FE	FE	<i>FE</i>
Immediate WR						
Completely retired	-0.054* (0.028)	0.584*** (0.197)	-0.595*** (0.229)	-0.622** (0.248)	-0.288 (0.209)	-0.046** (0.020)
Observations	19404	12910	915	581	696	<i>8542</i>
DWH p-val	0.530	0.003	0.652	0.782	0.618	<i>0.510</i>
Model	FE	FE-IV	FE	FE	FE	<i>FE</i>
Delayed WR						
Completely retired	-0.029 (0.033)	0.064 (0.044)	-0.088 (0.230)	-0.438 (0.290)	-0.275 (0.211)	-0.088*** (0.029)
Observations	19404	12914	916	580	697	<i>8542</i>
DWH p-val	0.314	0.455	0.447	0.468	0.185	<i>0.194</i>
Model	FE	FE	FE	FE	FE	<i>FE</i>
Panel B: White collar						
WR summary score						
Completely retired	-0.169*** (0.034)	0.007 (0.074)	0.181 (0.240)	-0.177 (0.262)	0.059 (0.246)	-0.049 (0.050)
Observations	53512	13316	2570	1520	2785	4794
DWH p-val	0.301	0.614	0.404	0.745	0.566	0.917
Model	FE	FE	FE	FE	FE	FE
Immediate WR						
Completely retired	-0.405** (0.203)	0.012 (0.041)	0.055 (0.124)	-0.094 (0.135)	-0.024 (0.130)	-0.013 (0.023)
Observations	53512	13321	2572	1520	2785	4794
DWH p-val	0.097	0.550	0.379	0.772	0.225	0.300
Model	FE-IV	FE	FE	FE	FE	FE
Delayed WR						
Completely retired	-0.104*** (0.021)	-0.003 (0.044)	0.127 (0.150)	-0.083 (0.156)	0.083 (0.140)	-0.036 (0.041)
Observations	53512	13323	2572	1520	2785	4794
DWH p-val	0.715	0.763	0.565	0.793	0.965	0.443
Model	FE	FE	FE	FE	FE	FE

¹ Standard errors in parentheses and * ($p < .1$), ** ($p < .05$), *** ($p < .01$).

² All specifications include demographic variables (age, age², marriage dummy, number of children), economic variables (household income, house ownership, total wealth), region dummies, year dummies, 1st survey dummy, and 2nd-4th survey dummy (only HRS).

³ The **green** character indicates that the IVs do not work well in the 1st stage regression.

Table 35: Heterogeneity in Retirement by Occupation (Numaracy)

	(1) US	(2) Korea	(3) Japan
Panel A: Blue collar			
Serial 7s			
Completely retired	-0.048** (0.024)	-0.115*** (0.044)	-0.270** (0.106)
Observations	19404	8544	1383
DWH p-val	0.674	0.543	0.292
Model	FE	FE	FE
Backward counting			
Completely retired	-0.003 (0.005)		
Observations	19404		
DWH p-val	0.675		
Model	FE		
Panel B: White collar			
Serial 7s			
Completely retired	-0.338** (0.168)	-0.086* (0.049)	0.032 (0.086)
Observations	53512	4794	2177
DWH p-val	0.058	0.333	0.452
Model	FE-IV	FE	FE
Backward counting			
Completely retired	-0.000 (0.002)		
Observations	53512		
DWH p-val	0.262		
Model	FE		

¹ Standard errors in parentheses and * ($p < .1$), ** ($p < .05$), *** ($p < .01$).

² All specifications include demographic variables (age, age , marriage dummy, number of children), economic variables (household income, house ownership, total wealth), region dummies, year dummies, 1st survey dummy, and 2nd-4th survey dummy (only HRS).

³ The green character indicates that the IVs do not work well in the 1st stage regression.

Table 36: Heterogeneity in Retirement by Leisure Activities 1

	(1) US	(2) England	(3) France	(4) Germany	(5) Denmark	(6) Korea
Panel A: Social activity increases						
WR summary score						
Completely retired	-0.165 (0.110)	-2.528** (1.185)	0.805 (0.721)	0.474 (0.523)	-0.073 (0.787)	0.372** (0.155)
Observations	4523	1833	261	192	166	384
DWH p-val	0.978	0.029	0.072	0.419	0.496	0.205
Model	FE	FE-IV	FE	FE	FE	FE
Immediate WR						
Completely retired	-0.046 (0.058)	-1.120* (0.645)	0.258 (0.389)	-0.544 (0.335)	-0.342 (0.362)	0.207*** (0.071)
Observations	4523	1833	261	192	166	384
DWH p-val	0.257	0.084	0.176	0.569	0.559	0.020
Model	FE	FE-IV	FE	FE	FE	FE
Delayed WR						
Completely retired	-0.119* (0.066)	-1.428** (0.713)	0.548 (0.395)	1.018*** (0.321)	0.269 (0.487)	0.165 (0.121)
Observations	4523	1834	261	192	166	384
DWH p-val	0.362	0.042	0.038	0.425	0.573	0.590
Model	FE	FE-IV	FE	FE	FE	FE
Panel B: Social activity decreases						
WR summary score						
Completely retired	0.030 (0.120)	0.011 (0.096)	-0.675** (0.261)	-0.336 (0.328)	-0.476* (0.282)	-0.015 (0.055)
Observations	4384	6488	918	670	879	3089
DWH p-val	0.193	0.443	0.538	0.666	0.598	0.187
Model	FE	FE	FE	FE	FE	FE
Immediate WR						
Completely retired	0.058 (0.061)	0.041 (0.055)	-0.424*** (0.149)	0.002 (0.177)	-0.243 (0.150)	-0.040 (0.030)
Observations	4384	6488	918	671	879	3089
DWH p-val	0.134	0.413	0.886	0.974	0.340	0.182
Model	FE	FE	FE	FE	FE	FE
Delayed WR						
Completely retired	-0.013 (0.068)	-0.032 (0.058)	-0.260 (0.163)	-0.339* (0.190)	-0.236 (0.170)	0.025 (0.040)
Observations	4384	6489	920	670	880	3089
DWH p-val	0.453	0.594	0.378	0.525	0.981	0.392
Model	FE	FE	FE	FE	FE	FE

¹ Standard errors in parentheses and * ($p < .1$), ** ($p < .05$), *** ($p < .01$).

² All specifications include demographic variables (age, age², marriage dummy, number of children), economic variables (household income, house ownership, total wealth), region dummies, year dummies, 1st survey dummy, and 2nd-4th survey dummy (only HRS).

³ The **green** character indicates that the IVs do not work well in the 1st stage regression.

Table 37: Heterogeneity in Retirement by Leisure Activities 2

	(1) US	(2) Korea	(3) Japan
Panel A: Social activity increases			
Serial 7s			
Completely retired	0.012 (0.047)	<i>0.327</i> <i>(0.214)</i>	<i>0.430</i> <i>(0.283)</i>
Observations	4523	<i>384</i>	<i>172</i>
DWH p-val	0.901	<i>0.302</i>	<i>0.782</i>
Model	FE	<i>FE</i>	<i>FE</i>
Backward counting			
Completely retired	<i>-0.016*</i> (0.008)		
Observations	4523		
DWH p-val	0.200		
Model	FE		
Panel B: Social activity decreases			
Serial 7s			
Completely retired	-0.028 (0.053)	<i>-0.134**</i> <i>(0.057)</i>	-0.150 (0.134)
Observations	4384	<i>3090</i>	774
DWH p-val	0.520	<i>0.833</i>	0.440
Model	FE	<i>FE</i>	FE
Backward counting			
Completely retired	-0.003 (0.010)		
Observations	4384		
DWH p-val	0.414		
Model	FE		

¹ Standard errors in parentheses and * ($p < .1$), ** ($p < .05$), *** ($p < .01$).

² All specifications include demographic variables (age, age², marriage dummy, number of children), economic variables (household income, house ownership, total wealth), region dummies, year dummies, 1st survey dummy, and 2nd-4th survey dummy (only HRS).

³ The *green* character indicates that the IVs do not work well in the 1st stage regression.

Table 38: Heterogeneity in Retirement by Having a Partner 1

	(1) US	(2) England	(3) France	(4) Germany	(5) Denmark	(6) Korea
Panel A: Not having spouse						
WR summary score						
Completely retired	-0.217*** (0.059)	-0.033 (0.118)	-0.022 (0.288)	-0.180 (0.520)	-0.207 (0.342)	-0.100 (0.081)
Observations	20053	5020	1064	390	730	1727
DWH p-val	0.912	0.577	0.354	0.562	0.070	0.688
Model	FE	FE	FE	FE	FE	FE
Immediate WR						
Completely retired	-0.103*** (0.029)	-0.028 (0.063)	-0.079 (0.154)	-0.088 (0.263)	-0.158 (0.187)	-0.062 (0.044)
Observations	20053	5023	1064	390	730	1727
DWH p-val	0.407	0.309	0.137	0.656	0.895	0.325
Model	FE	FE	FE	FE	FE	FE
Delayed WR						
Completely retired	-0.113*** (0.036)	-0.018 (0.074)	0.057 (0.189)	-0.092 (0.304)	-0.049 (0.202)	-0.038 (0.061)
Observations	20053	5024	1064	390	730	1727
DWH p-val	0.630	0.920	0.894	0.760	0.004	0.261
Model	FE	FE	FE	FE	FE	FE
Panel B: Having spouse						
WR summary score						
Completely retired	-0.134*** (0.030)	0.064 (0.057)	0.031 (0.180)	-0.083 (0.185)	-0.112 (0.197)	2.659* (1.582)
Observations	66720	21295	3091	2180	3006	11803
DWH p-val	0.492	0.344	0.423	0.291	0.389	0.011
Model	FE	FE	FE	FE	FE	FE-IV
Immediate WR						
Completely retired	-0.049*** (0.015)	0.024 (0.032)	-0.093 (0.095)	-0.099 (0.100)	-0.075 (0.108)	-0.030* (0.016)
Observations	66720	21300	3093	2181	3006	12400
DWH p-val	0.884	0.216	0.167	0.465	0.219	0.164
Model	FE	FE	FE	FE	FE	FE
Delayed WR						
Completely retired	-0.087*** (0.018)	0.040 (0.034)	0.116 (0.107)	0.012 (0.109)	-0.040 (0.113)	1.936 (1.191)
Observations	66720	21305	3097	2180	3007	11803
DWH p-val	0.240	0.666	0.928	0.242	0.755	0.016
Model	FE	FE	FE	FE	FE	FE-IV

¹ Standard errors in parentheses and * ($p < .1$), ** ($p < .05$), *** ($p < .01$).

² All specifications include demographic variables (age, age², marriage dummy, number of children), economic variables (household income, house ownership, total wealth), region dummies, year dummies, 1st survey dummy, and 2nd-4th survey dummy (only HRS).

³ The green character indicates that the IVs do not work well in the 1st stage regression.

Table 39: Heterogeneity in Retirement by Having a Partner 2

	(1) US	(2) Korea	(3) Japan
Panel A: Not having spouse			
Serial 7s			
Completely retired	-0.050** (0.025)	-0.166* (0.085)	-0.036 (0.140)
Observations	20053	1727	777
DWH p-val	0.115	0.126	0.935
Model	FE	FE	FE
Backward counting			
Completely retired	-0.002 (0.005)		
Observations	20053		
DWH p-val	0.992		
Model	FE		
Panel B: Having spouse			
Serial 7s			
Completely retired	-0.023* (0.013)	-0.113*** (0.035)	-0.074 (0.072)
Observations	66720	12402	3014
DWH p-val	0.155	0.260	0.715
Model	FE	FE	FE
Backward counting			
Completely retired	0.050** (0.024)		
Observations	66720		
DWH p-val	0.031		
Model	FE-IV		

¹ Standard errors in parentheses and * ($p < .1$), ** ($p < .05$), *** ($p < .01$).

² All specifications include demographic variables (age, age², marriage dummy, number of children), economic variables (household income, house ownership, total wealth), region dummies, year dummies, 1st survey dummy, and 2nd-4th survey dummy (only HRS).

³ The green character indicates that the IVs do not work well in the 1st stage regression.

Table 40: Heterogeneity in Retirement by BMI 1

	(1) US	(2) England	(3) France	(4) Germany	(5) Denmark	(6) Korea
Panel A: BMI < 25						
WR summary score						
Completely retired	-0.066 (0.049)	0.039 (0.119)	0.105 (0.250)	-0.063 (0.280)	<i>-0.243</i> <i>(0.253)</i>	2.620 (1.619)
Observations	26866	4901	2015	1024	<i>1672</i>	10121
DWH p-val	0.769	0.115	0.427	0.354	<i>0.348</i>	0.015
Model	FE	FE	FE	FE	<i>FE</i>	FE-IV
Immediate WR						
Completely retired	-0.025 (0.024)	0.058 (0.065)	-0.080 (0.129)	-0.023 (0.152)	<i>-0.127</i> <i>(0.129)</i>	1.171 (0.762)
Observations	26866	4902	2017	1024	<i>1672</i>	10121
DWH p-val	0.283	0.351	0.584	0.519	<i>0.952</i>	0.032
Model	FE	FE	FE	FE	<i>FE</i>	FE-IV
Delayed WR						
Completely retired	-0.044 (0.030)	<i>-0.724*</i> (0.430)	0.161 (0.149)	-0.041 (0.162)	<i>-0.117</i> <i>(0.154)</i>	1.449 (1.088)
Observations	26866	4903	2020	1024	<i>1672</i>	10121
DWH p-val	0.173	0.088	0.400	0.373	<i>0.134</i>	0.077
Model	FE	FE-IV	FE	FE	<i>FE</i>	FE-IV
Panel B: BMI ≥ 25						
WR summary score						
Completely retired	<i>-0.191***</i> (0.033)	-0.031 (0.075)	-0.095 (0.191)	-0.155 (0.229)	-0.057 (0.230)	<i>-0.157***</i> <i>(0.054)</i>
Observations	59286	12740	2118	1537	2042	<i>3392</i>
DWH p-val	0.724	0.134	0.675	0.530	0.563	<i>0.220</i>
Model	FE	FE	FE	FE	FE	<i>FE</i>
Immediate WR						
Completely retired	<i>-0.076***</i> (0.016)	-0.031 (0.041)	-0.126 (0.104)	-0.145 (0.122)	-0.073 (0.133)	<i>-0.074**</i> <i>(0.030)</i>
Observations	59286	12741	2118	1538	2042	<i>3392</i>
DWH p-val	0.975	0.143	0.869	0.571	0.117	<i>0.310</i>
Model	FE	FE	FE	FE	FE	<i>FE</i>
Delayed WR						
Completely retired	<i>-0.115***</i> (0.020)	0.000 (0.046)	0.031 (0.118)	-0.014 (0.136)	0.013 (0.127)	<i>-0.083**</i> <i>(0.041)</i>
Observations	59286	12746	2118	1537	2043	<i>3392</i>
DWH p-val	0.619	0.272	0.666	0.564	0.693	<i>0.028</i>
Model	FE	FE	FE	FE	FE	<i>FE</i>

¹ Standard errors in parentheses and * ($p < .1$), ** ($p < .05$), *** ($p < .01$).

² All specifications include demographic variables (age, age², marriage dummy, number of children), economic variables (household income, house ownership, total wealth), region dummies, year dummies, 1st survey dummy, and 2nd-4th survey dummy (only HRS).

³ The *green* character indicates that the IVs do not work well in the 1st stage regression.

Table 41: Heterogeneity in Retirement by BMI 2

	(1) US	(2) Korea	(3) Japan
Panel A: BMI < 25			
Serial 7s			
Completely retired	-0.034 (0.021)	-0.119*** (0.037)	-0.033 (0.078)
Observations	26866	10661	2796
DWH p-val	0.156	0.468	0.785
Model	FE	FE	FE
Backward counting			
Completely retired	-0.004 (0.004)		
Observations	26866		
DWH p-val	0.158		
Model	FE		
Panel B: BMI ≥ 25			
Serial 7s			
Completely retired	-0.026* (0.014)	-0.116* (0.068)	-0.181 (0.110)
Observations	59286	3393	975
DWH p-val	0.304	0.508	0.982
Model	FE	FE	FE
Backward counting			
Completely retired	-0.000 (0.003)		
Observations	59286		
DWH p-val	0.322		
Model	FE		

¹ Standard errors in parentheses and * ($p < .1$), ** ($p < .05$), *** ($p < .01$).

² All specifications include demographic variables (age, age , marriage dummy, number of children), economic variables (household income, house ownership, total wealth), region dummies, year dummies, 1st survey dummy, and 2nd-4th survey dummy (only HRS).

³ The **green** character indicates that the IVs do not work well in the 1st stage regression.

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