

# Measuring the Distribution of Housework among Men and Women in Ghana: The NNTA Approach

Eugenia Amporfu, Daniel Sakyi, Prince B. Frimpong,  
Eric Arthur & Jacob Novignon

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# Introduction

- Inequality (economic and noneconomic) forms possess:
  - Some inherent gender dimensions in the form of gender-differentiated time use (Abdourahman 2010)
- In most developing countries, gender division of labour has traditionally selected women to specialize in household production activities such as:
  - Cooking and cleaning
  - Caring for children and the elderly

# Introduction

- Share of women in paid employment in 2000 and 2010 in Ghana:

2000                  2010

– Urban : 30.6%    to    33.7%

– Rural    : 29%            to    28.5%    (GSS 2013)

- → A greater proportion of women in Ghana are engaged in unpaid work

# Motivation

- Traditional measurements of economies only consider:
  - The market economy and remunerated work
- NTA 2005 results for Ghana indicate:
  - Lifecycle surplus for working-age adults and deficits for dependent age groups (children and elderly)
  - However, NTA suffers the same problems:
    - Non-market services
    - Unclear as to whether the surplus was generated solely by men
- Significant difference between men and women in terms of:
  - Access to education
  - Access to health
  - Familial and other supports
  - Experiences in the labour market

# Objectives

- Estimate NTA by sex
- Estimate the amount of time Ghanaian men and women spend on housework
- Compare time spent on market production for men and women
- Identify the differences in the time spent by both genders

# Data

- Time use survey 2009:
  - 4,800 households randomly selected from a list of Enumeration Areas
  - Individuals age 10 years and above interviewed
  - 24-hour diary, divided into one-hour slots used as the core instrument to record activities
  - Households interviewed: **4,193**; Males interviewed: **4,286**; Females interviewed: **5,011**
- No income and expenditure survey was conducted in 2009:
  - Used minimum daily wage as a proxy for wages for household activities as well as care

# Methodology

- **Production**

- Calculate **time** spent by each individual across activities:
  - Paid work, Learning, Household Activities, Non-household activities (Volunteering), Care
- Calculate **mean time per day** for each sex at each age in each activity
- Smooth profiles

- **Consumption**

- Allocate **production** of the non-market services to **consumers** within and outside the household (per capita, regression, rule-based)

- **Transfer inflows and outflows**

- Based on production and consumption

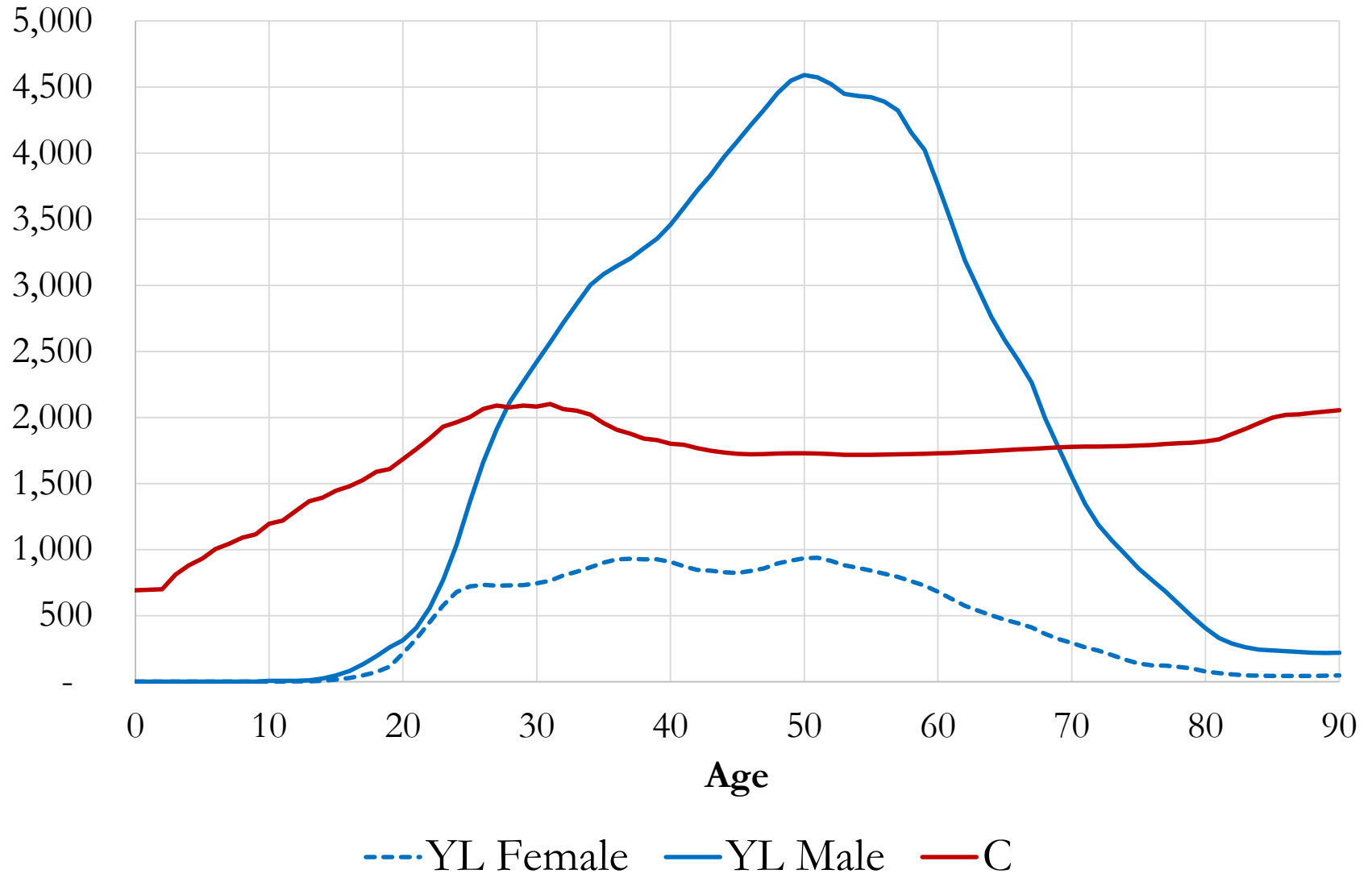
# NTA Results



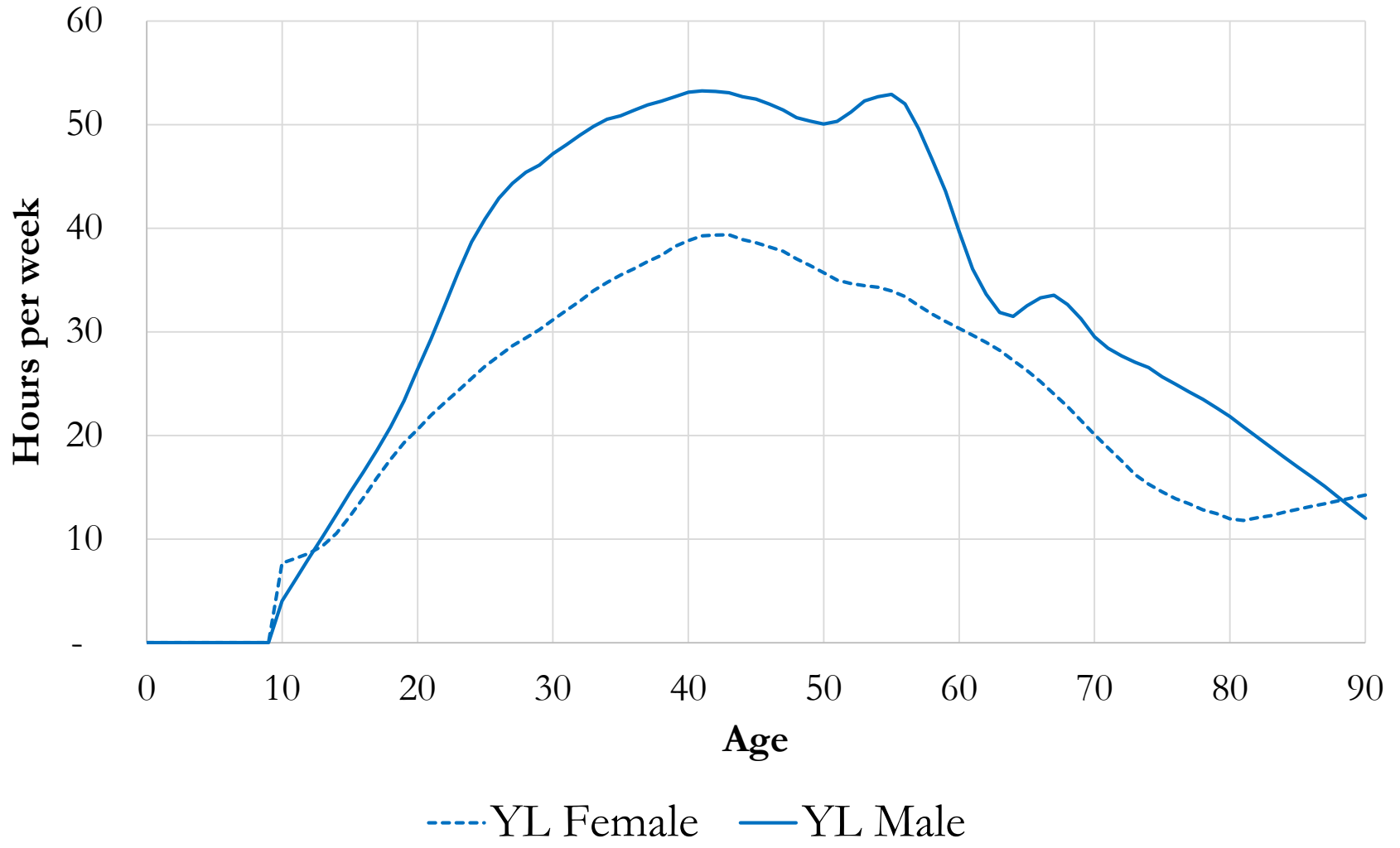
# Combining NTA and NTTA data

- We combined our 2005 NTA estimates with 2009 NTTA estimates by:
  - Inflating all 2005 estimates by growth in per capita GDP
    - This is done not to capture only inflation, but also per capita income

# Labour Income & Consumption - Money



# NTA Labour Income - Time

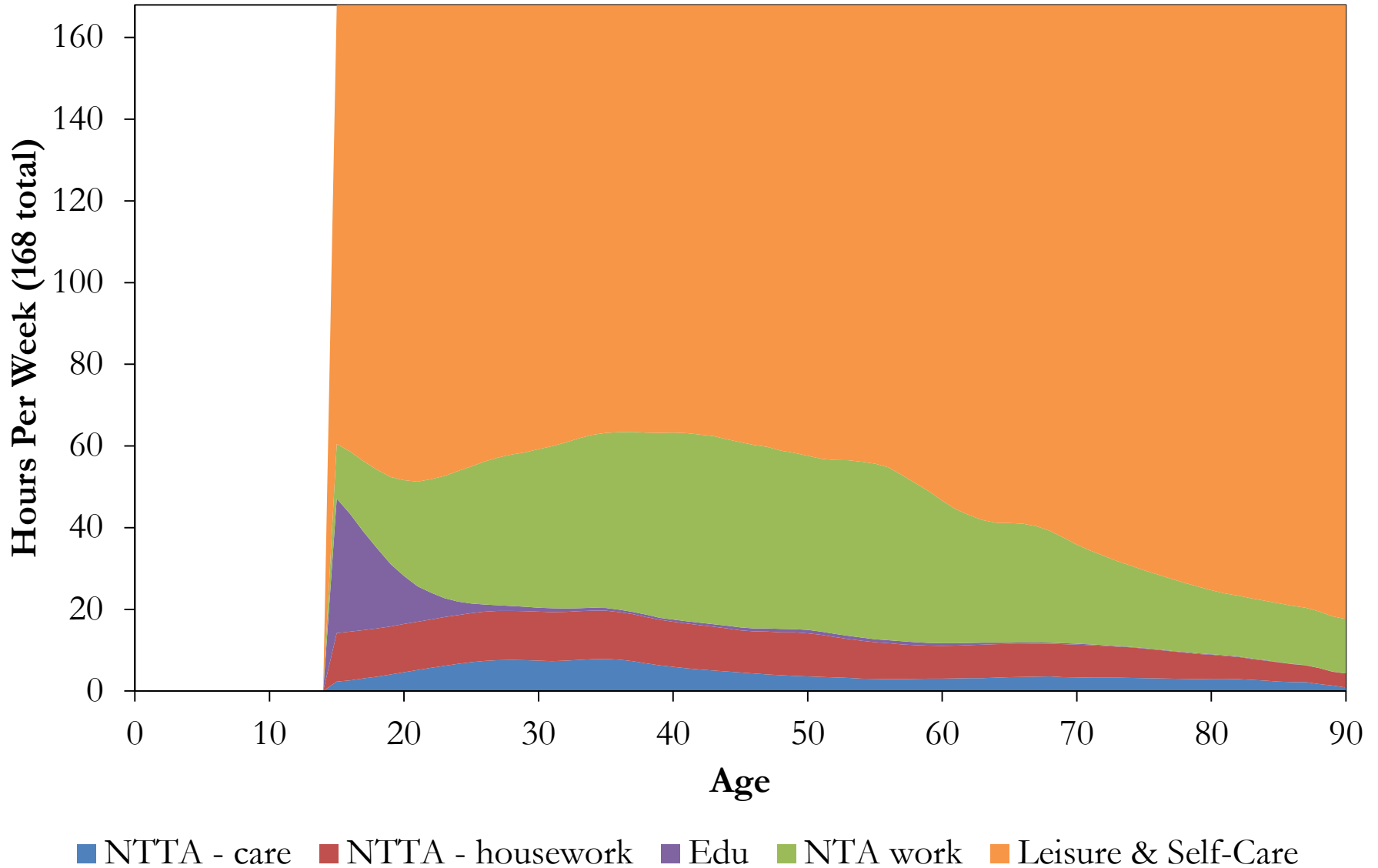


# NTA

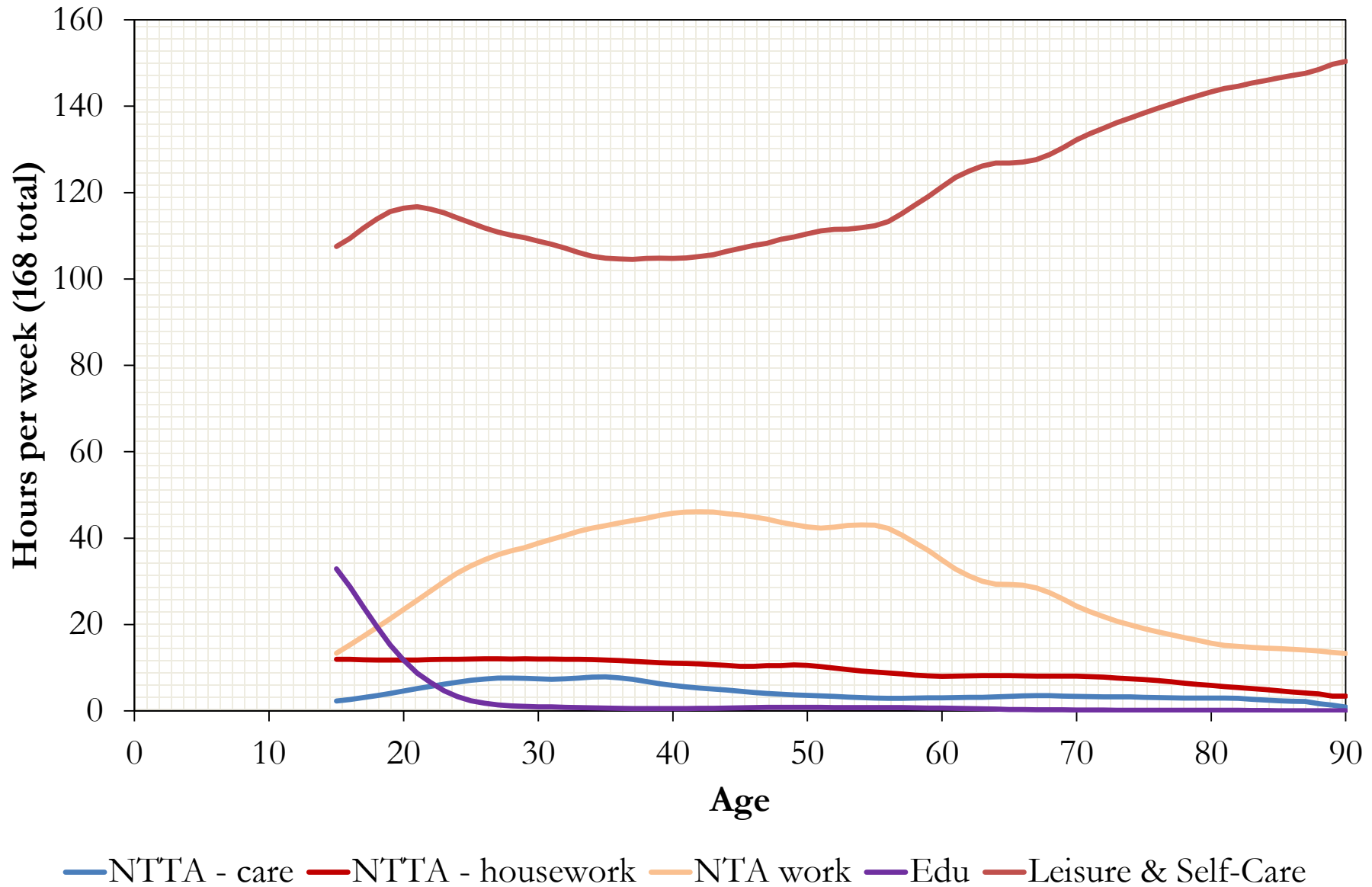
- Females never generate lifecycle surplus
- Males generate surplus between ages 27 and 68 years
- Considering the time version, the difference between males and females is reduced significantly

# NTTA RESULTS

# Time use, Average Person



# Time use, Average person - Separated

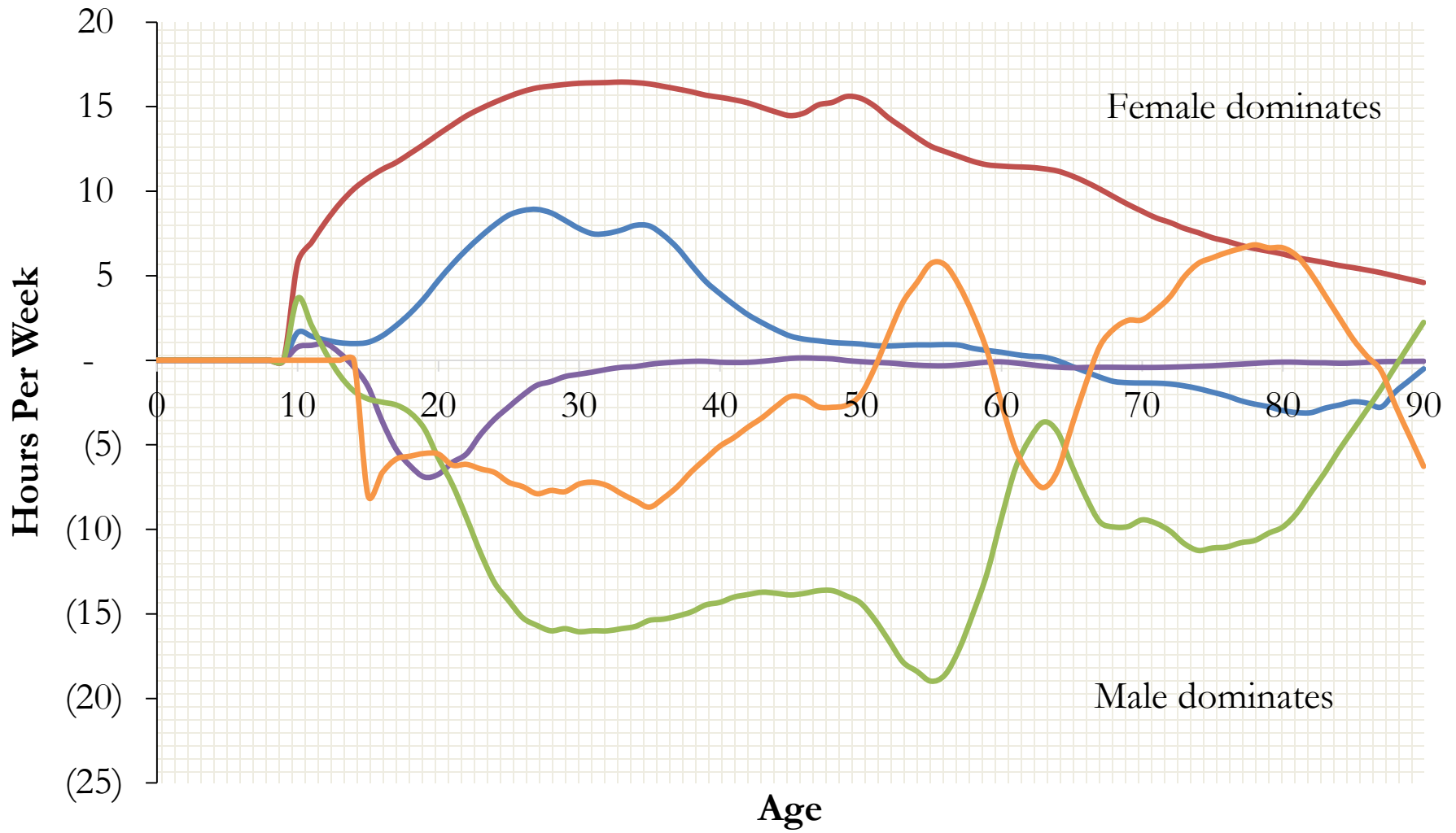


# Time use over the lifecycle

- Hours spent on paid work (market production) peaks at age 42 at about 46 hours per week on average
- Time spent on education decreases progressively from 33 hours per week at age 15 to about 1 hour per week at age 27 and beyond
- Time spent on household production peaks at age 27 at about 12 hours per week and declines progressively thereafter
- Hours spent on care increases steeply from age 15 and reaches a peak at age 34 at about 8 hours per week
- All other activities consume a large proportion of the remaining time:
  - Leisure and personal care



# Time Use, Female-Male Differences

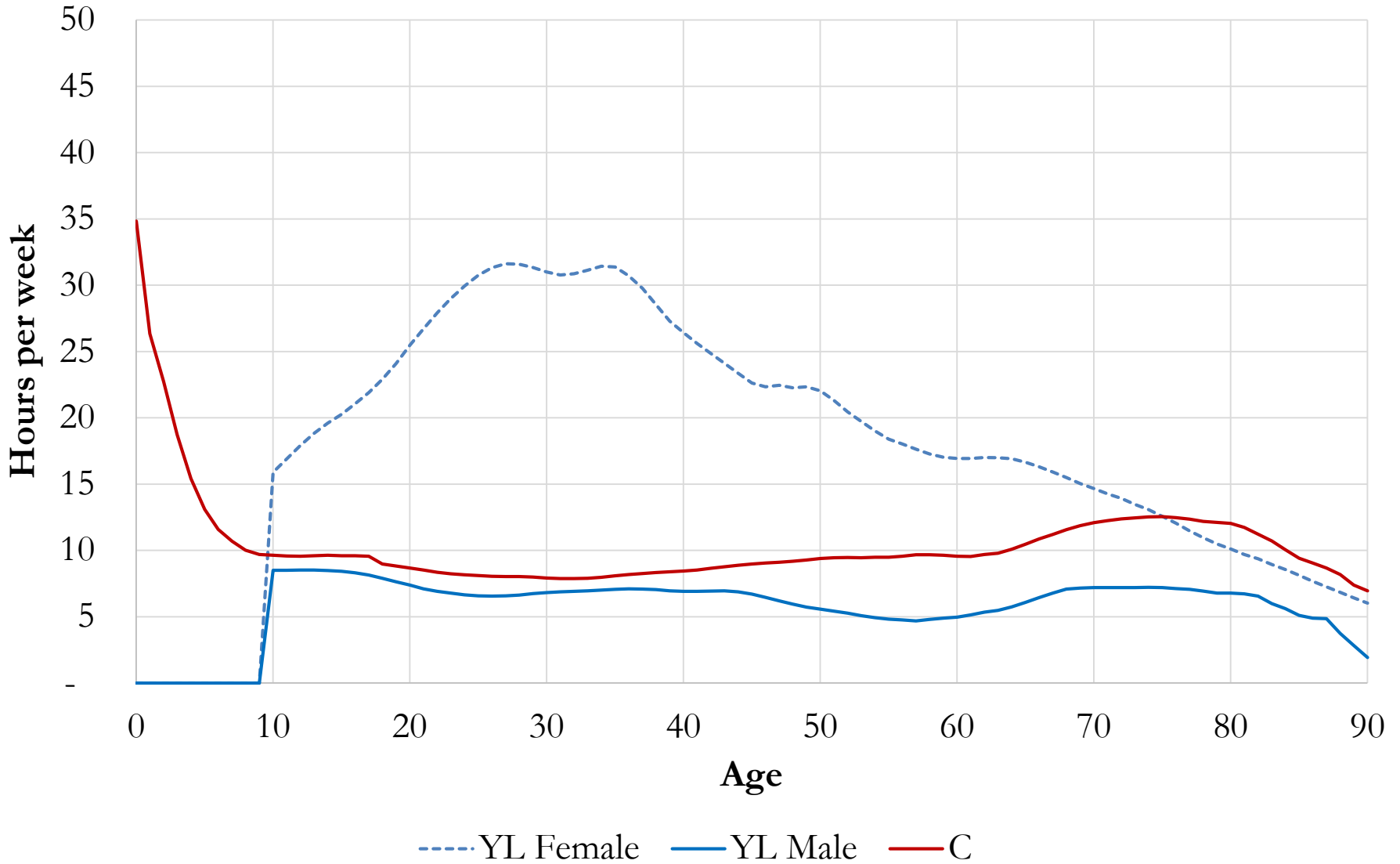


— NTTA - care — NTTA - housework — Edu — NTA work — Leisure & Self-Care

# Time Use, Female-Male Differences

- Females dominate in housework over their entire lifecycle
- Males dominate in NTA work over their entire lifecycle
- Males spend more time in education than females from ages 15 to 37
  - Males and females are about the same after age 37
- Regarding personal care and leisure, males and females alternate in their dominance:
  - Males dominate in the early ages till age 50
  - Females generally dominate after age 50

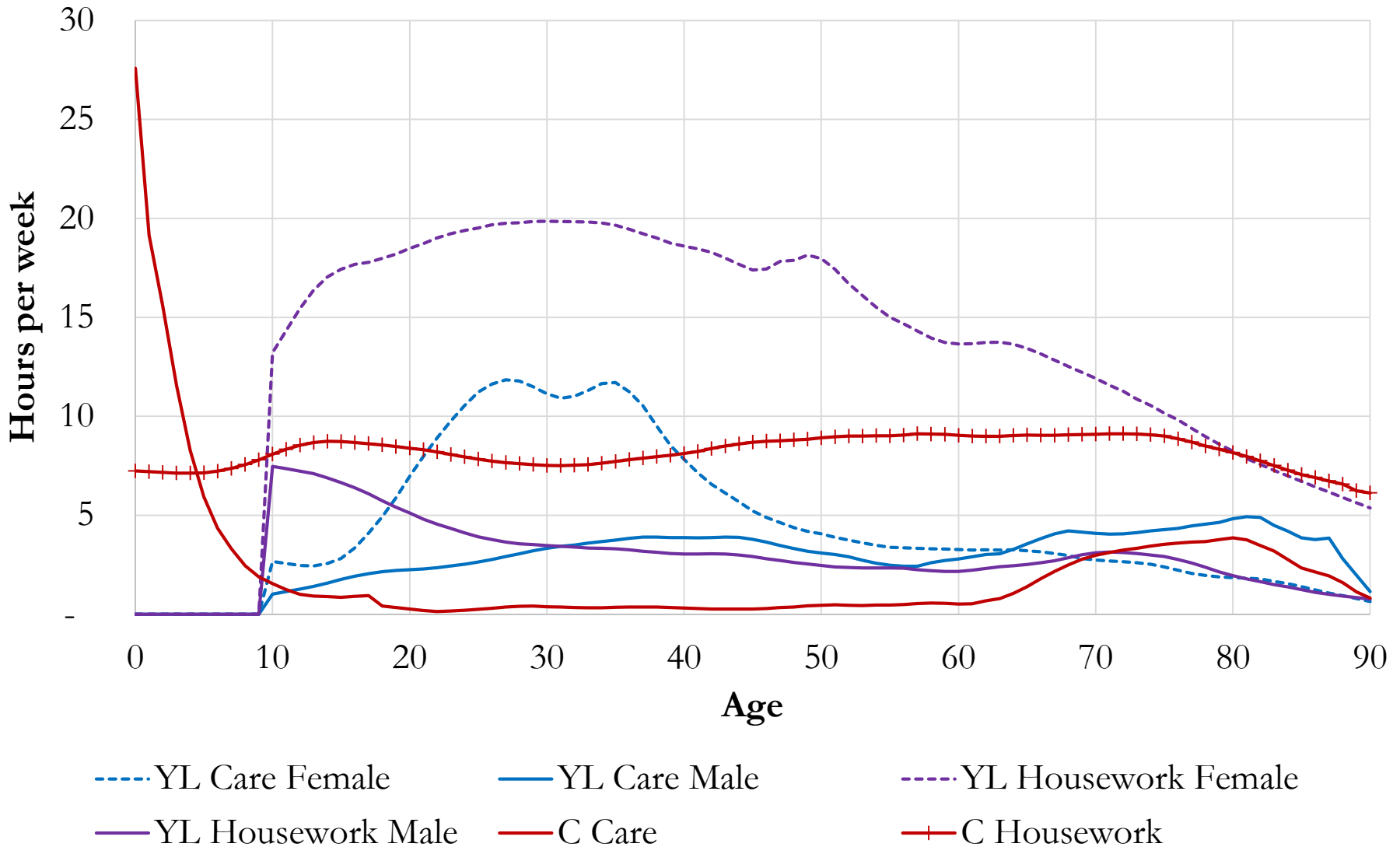
# NTTA – Time, Care + Housework



# Net Time Transfer

- Females generate a transfer surplus for a significant part of their lives:
  - Girls start generating surpluses at age 10 through to age 73
- Men do not generate a surplus at all over their entire age profile

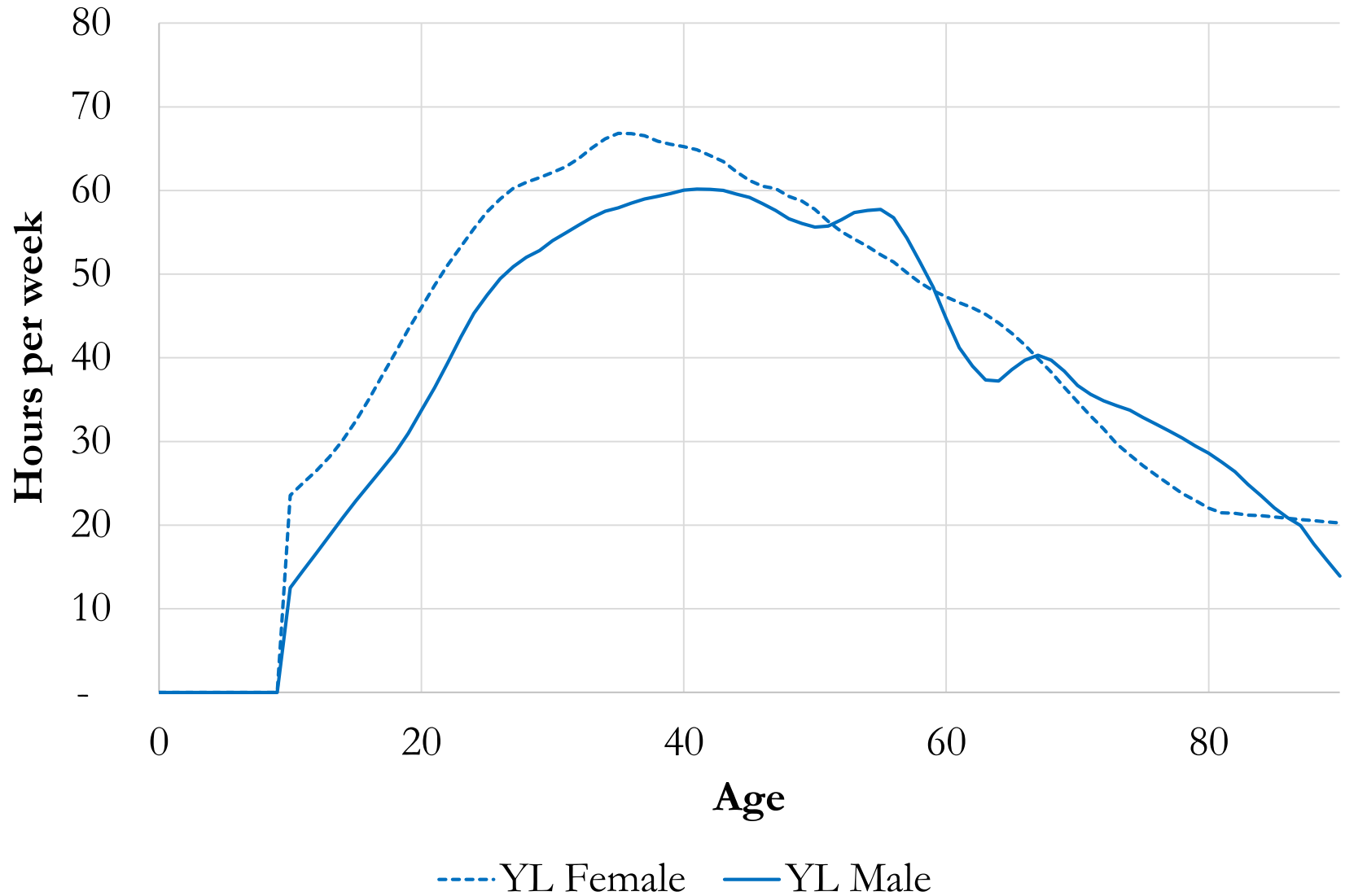
# NTTA – Time, Care vs. Housework



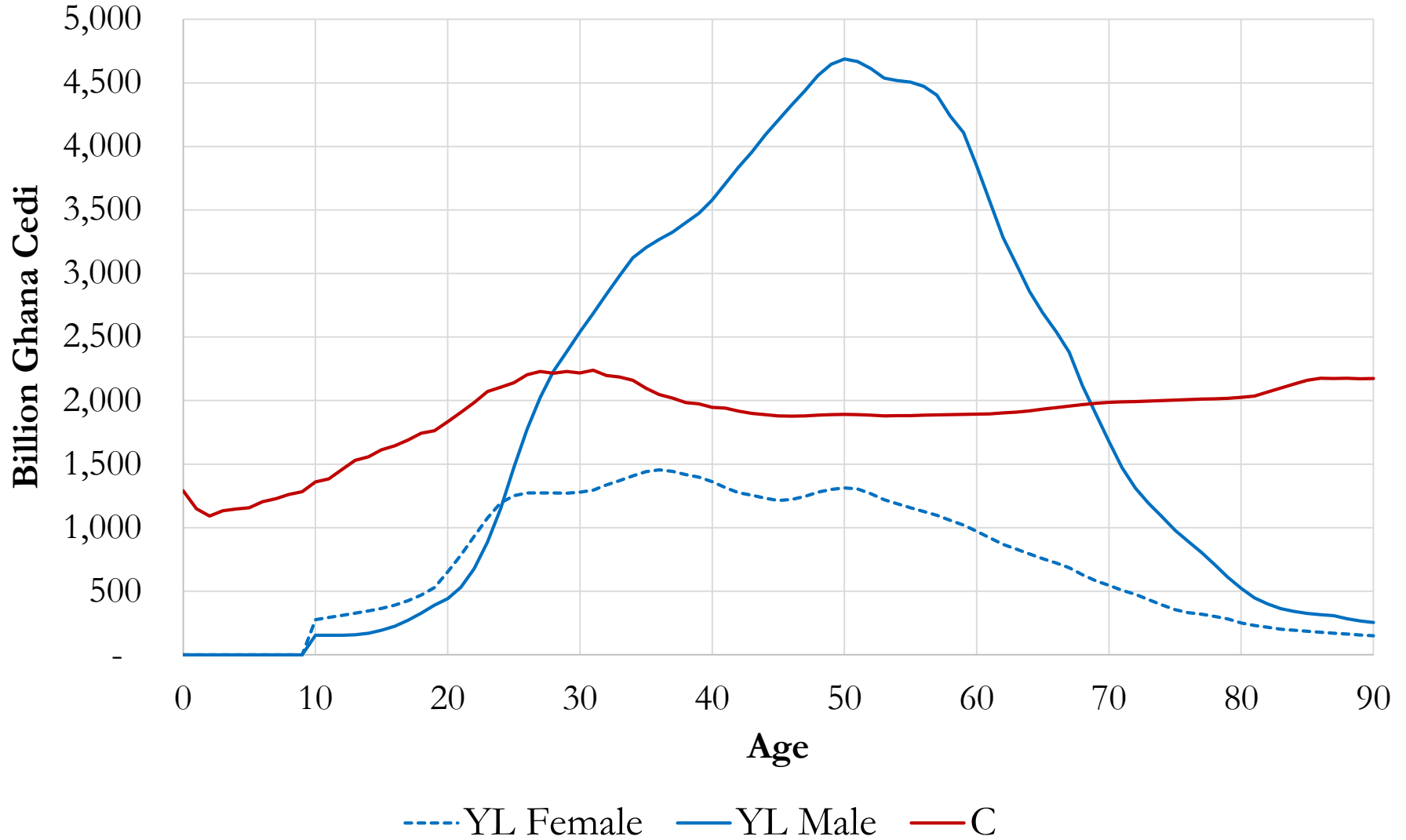
# Care vs. Housework

- Females generate care surplus from age 10 to age 68
  - Peaks twice at ages 27 and 35, producing 12 hours of care per week
- Males also generate care surplus from age 11 throughout
  - However, females generate a larger surplus
- No surplus generated by males for housework
- Significant surplus generated by females
  - Produce 20 hours of housework per week at age 30

# NTTA + NTA - Time



# NTTA + NTA - Money





# Household and market production

- In monetary terms, males generate a lifecycle surplus:
  - Males specialise in market production
  - At the peak age of 41, they spend 60 hours per week on productive activities
- Females spend more time on total productive activities:
  - Females specialise in household production
  - At the peak age of 35, they spend 67 hours per week on productive activities

# Concluding remarks

- Significant differences between gender regarding the time spent on different activities (i.e., household vs. market)
  - Women specialise in household production
  - Men specialise in market production
- Overall, women spend more time on productive activities than men:
  - Implication: Significant undervaluation of GDP
  - Implication for labour market

# Implications

- **Efficiency**
  - Women have inbuilt human capital for housework
  - Men have not tapped into what they have
- **Equity**
  - Power sharing
  - Women could be exposed to poverty

# Next steps

- Value household production
  - By relating it to GDP
  - Estimate urban-rural differences in the time spent on household activities
  - Consider exploring other possibilities such as estimating:
    - NTTA by number of children
    - NTTA by level of education

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