Attitudes towards emigration.
A quantitative approach

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Objectives:

ജ   To explore the utility or necessity of studying ATE

ജ   To propose a measure of ATE

ജ   To validate the proposed measure of ATE

    ➢   internally

    ➢   externally (by exploring the determinants of ATE)

Outline:

- Objectives

- What are the attitudes towards emigration (ATE)?

- Why are ATE understudied?

- Drivers of ATE

- Data

- Romania a proper space for studying ATE?

- Measuring ATE and ATE determinants

- Discussion

Conceptualization

What are ATE?

Brubaker's strategy (2005): usage of the collocation on the Internet:

	Attitudes towards emigration	**Attitudes towards immigration**
Hits on Google	948	25,300
Hits on Google Scholar	168	2600

(18 th of February 2015)

What are ATE? *(ctd)*

Reading the literature:

1. ATE = intentions to migrate

2. ATE = stance (positive/negative) of a group (e.g. elites, political actors, NGO-s, authorities) towards migration

3. ATE = attitudes of citizens of one country towards those ones living abroad and/or towards the phenomenon of emigration

OR

ways in which people position themselves
with respect to emigration

ATE = attitudes of citizens of one country towards
(similar to the way attitudes towards immigration are conceptualized)
those ones living abroad and/or towards the
phenomenon of emigration

Are ***attitudes towards* emigration** different
than *attitudes towards* emigrants?

Why are ATE(E) understudied?

Why the attitudes towards immigration (immigrants) are (so) studied?

Numbers; Consequences; Policy

Mix of reasons:

- intrinsic characteristics associated with emigration prone to generate considerable *less visibility* of the phenomenon and *less worries* associated with it

- migration studies are *overcentred on destination* country perspective

- Newer phenomena?

Which themes are addressed by ATE?

Literature:

- the impact on families,

- the freeriding behaviour towards the country of origin,

- the deserting of the nation,
- the betrayal.

- hopes of remittances, both of material, financial, and social kind.

ATE as attitudes

 Evaluations of a certain object (Ajzen & Fishbein, 2005)

 Dependent of personal situation

 Manifestations of values (Jagodzinsky, 2004)

 Determined by ideology

Determinants/Covariates of ATE

- Controlling for resources/different type of publics: gender, **age,** education, income, employment sta... controls

- Individual propensity to migrate: discontent with the present environment — Assessment

- Experience with (e)migration — Migration-related

- Values/ideologies:
  - Proud of being part of a nation — Nationalism
  - Traditionalism as option to preserve existing order
  - Risk aversion Outmigration. as a risky act — Values
  - Valuing the money
    Neoclassical economy's explanation of migration

Methodology

Data

- WVS Romania 2012. (national probabilistic sample; 1503 respondents)
- Special battery on ATE, designed by our team:

Here there are two statements about migrating abroad. How justified is in your opinion to …

		Very little	Little	Much	Very much	DK	NA
x210	To migrate for a while in another country	1	2	3	4	98	99
X211	To migrate for good in another country	1	2	3	4	98	99

To which extent do you agree with the following statements regarding migration abroad?

		Very little	Little	Much	Very much	DK	NA
X3	People in Romania should stay in their country	1	2	3	4	98	99
X4.	Everyone is due to contribute to the wealth of the country they were born in	1	2	3	4	98	99
X5.	Romania loses through the migration of its citizens to other countries	1	2	3	4	98	99
X7.	The families of the ones that left are suffering	1	2	3	4	98	99

Methods

- CFA for internal validation of the measurement

- OLS for relationships with various confounders

Romania a proper space for studying ATE?

- Consistent outmigration: 2.5 – 3 millions of Romanians living abroad (over 10% of the total population)

- Liberal democracy/developed country

- Consistent migration policy (emigration and diaspora component) (Şerban, 2014)

- Migration for work – an issue for the permanent agenda of the media, especially after 2007 – "institutionalization" of migration in Romanian media. (Beciu, 2012)

Findings

Descriptives

	Very little	Little	Much	Very much	DK	NA	Total
Justified: to migrate for a while in another country	20%	23%	28%	21%	5%	1%	100%
Justified: to migrate for good in another country	36%	28%	16%	13%	6%	2%	100%
Agreement: People in Romania should stay in their country	11%	23%	29%	32%	4%	1%	100%
Agreement: Everyone is due to contribute to the wealth of the country they were born in	8%	15%	38%	35%	4%	1%	100%
Agreement: Romania loses through the migration of its citizens to other countries	6%	11%	34%	45%	3%	1%	100%
Agreement: The families of the ones that left the country are suffering	6%	13%	33%	44%	3%	1%	100%

Measuring ATE – internal validation
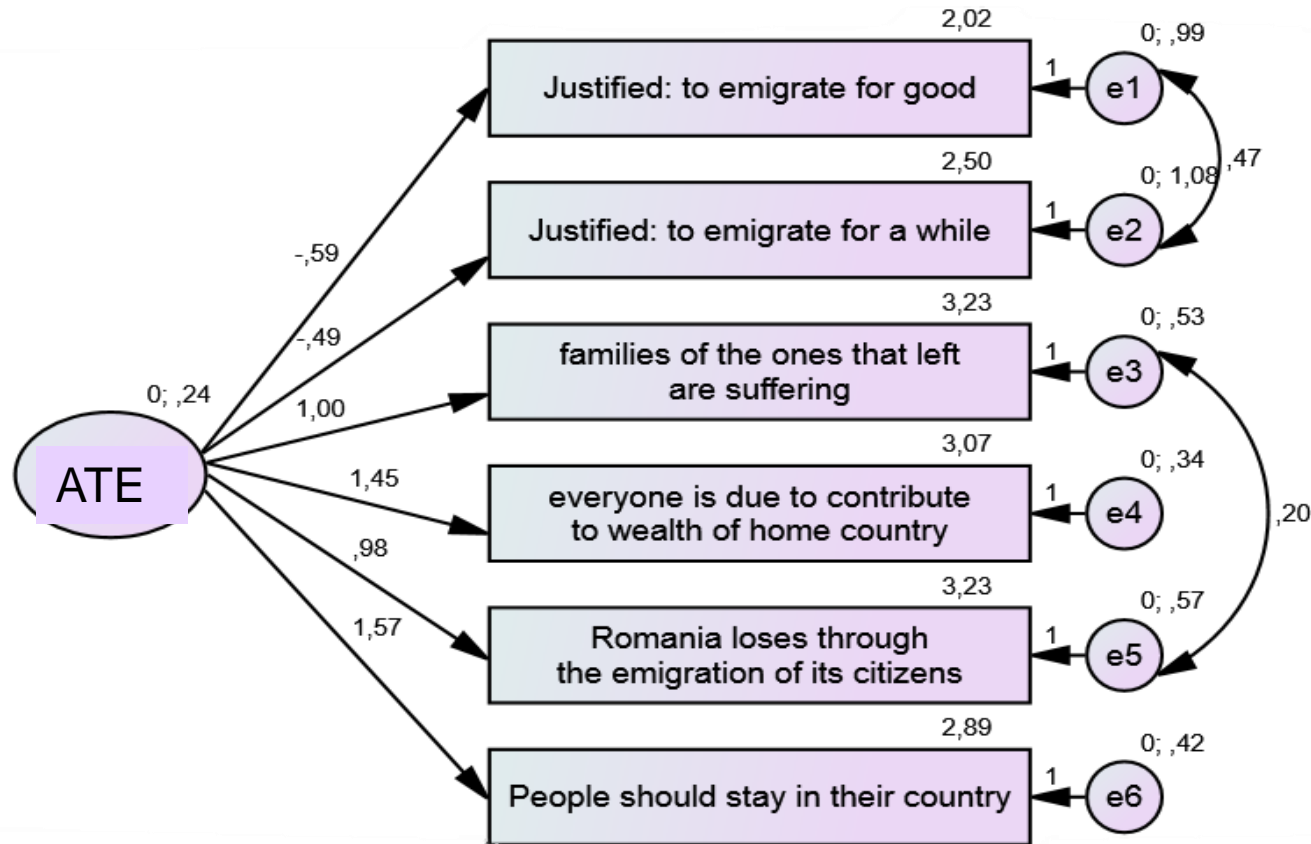
The goodness of fit indicators have acceptable values (Chen, 2002):
RMSEA=0.077, CFI=0.972. All the relations are significant at p<.005.

Determinants of ATE – external validation

ဢ We predict ATE to see if it makes sense

ဢ Three models
- o Pooled sample
- o Non-migrants,
- o Returnees, in order to control for the migration experience

external validation
DETERMINANTS

controls
- Woman
- Highest educational level attained
- Ethic Minority
- Employment status
- Income
- *Age*

ATE varies from rejecting emigration to positive representations.

Migration-related
- No. of former destination countries
- Family members abroad
- Time spent abroad

4 outliers were removed.

Assessment
- Life Satisfaction
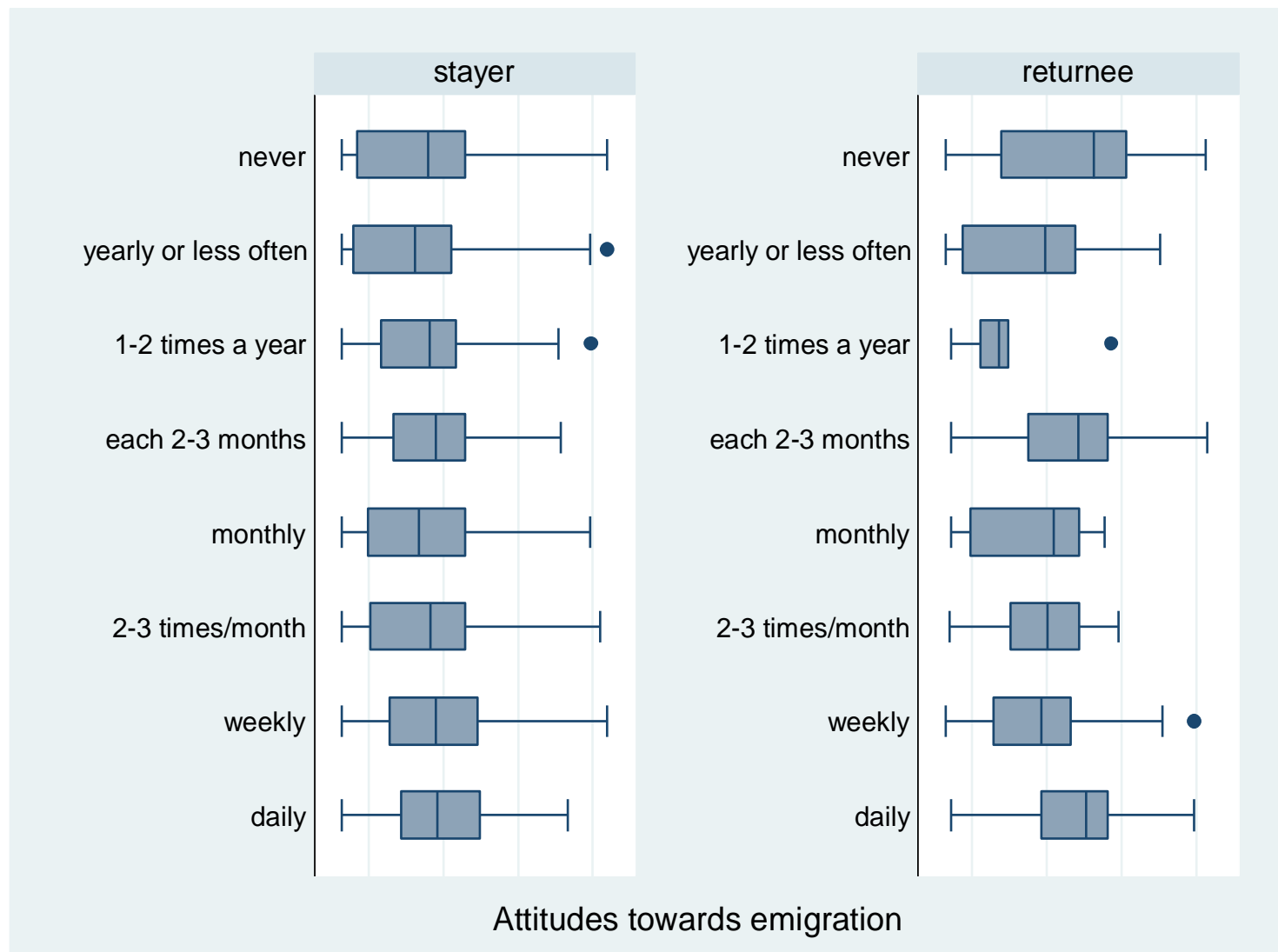- Country goes in the right direction

Nationalism
- Proud of being a Romanian citizen

Schwartz values
- Tradition
- Valuing Money
- Adventure and taking risks

Boxplots of ATE depending on frequency of interaction with migrant peers

stayer / returnee boxplots with categories: never, yearly or less often, 1-2 times a year, each 2-3 months, monthly, 2-3 times/month, weekly, daily

Attitudes towards emigration

woman	−0.04	0.07	0.12	0.12	0.15
educ	0.11*	0.04	0.05	0.06	0.06
Unemployed	−0.19	−0.02	0.02	0.03	0.16
Retired	−0.87*	−0.73†	−0.78†	−0.77†	−0.85†
Housewife	−0.71†	−0.44	−0.44	−0.44	−0.47
Students	−0.55	−0.24	−0.09	−0.10	−0.05
income	0.03	0.04	0.04	0.04	0.02
rural	0.40	0.53*	0.46†	0.45†	0.40
LifeSat	−0.14*	−0.09	−0.10†	−0.10†	−0.09
EthMinor	0.54	0.07	0.12	0.11	−0.13
age	−0.19***	−0.16**	−0.16**	−0.16**	−0.19***
agesq	0.00**	0.00**	0.00**	0.00**	0.00**
children	−0.03	0.03	0.02	0.02	0.05
couple	−0.31	−0.21	−0.13	−0.14	−0.01
divorced	−0.15	−0.36	−0.13	−0.16	−0.02
widowed	−0.89	−0.97	−0.91	−0.92	−0.81
proud		−0.83***	−0.81***	−0.86***	−0.79***
Aventura		0.12	0.13	0.13	0.10
Traditia		−0.46***	−0.48***	−0.48***	−0.47***
returnee			0.68†	−0.27	0.61
frecINT=1.0			−0.85†	−0.85†	−0.83†
frecINT=2.0			−0.65	−0.65	−0.58
frecINT=3.0			0.63	0.63	0.61
frecINT=4.0			−0.89*	−0.87*	−0.84†
frecINT=5.0			−0.75	−0.73	−0.71
frecINT=6.0			−0.14	−0.12	−0.16
frecINT=7.0			−0.02	0.02	−0.06
FamMig			0.22	0.22	0.18
intProud				0.30	
directia					0.09
Constant	−10.50***	−7.13***	−7.34***	−7.14***	−6.89***
Observations	1252	1219	1208	1208	1109
Adjusted R-squared	0.08	0.12	0.12	0.12	0.13

† p<0.10, * p<0.05, ** p<0.01, *** p<0.001

The sign of the relations is the expected one.

Age and values are the only ones to matter
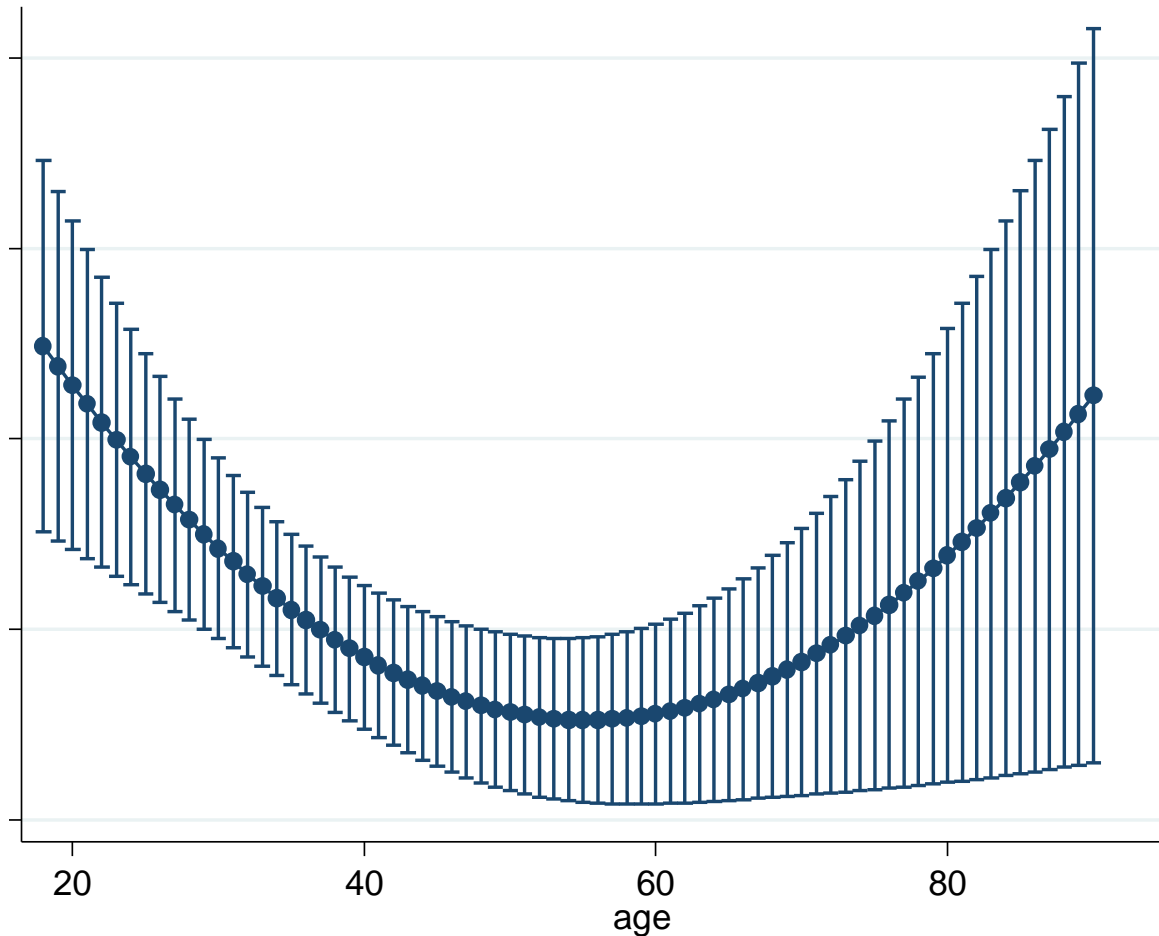
woman	−0.61	−0.46	−0.71	−0.60	−0.60	−0.94
educ	0.04	−0.10	−0.02	0.01	0.01	0.01
Unemployed	−1.16	−1.14	−1.43	−1.24	−1.24	−1.26
Retired	−0.30	−0.26	0.79	0.22	0.22	0.32
Housewife	−0.08	0.31	0.78	0.70	0.70	0.97
Students	−0.03	−0.12	−0.03	−0.06	−0.06	−0.20
income	−0.30	−0.23	−0.11	−0.12	−0.12	−0.09
rural	0.54	0.76	0.86	0.70	0.70	0.40
LifeSat	0.20	0.27	0.34†	0.33†	0.33†	0.37*
EthMinor	−0.47	−0.76	−1.20	−1.26	−1.26	−1.24
age	−0.24	−0.15	−0.10	−0.08	−0.08	−0.07
agesq	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
children	−0.13	−0.19	0.00	0.14	0.14	0.23
couple	−1.97†	−1.74	−1.85†	−1.74†	−1.74†	−1.58
divorced	0.63	−0.14	−0.09	0.08	0.08	0.76
widowed	−2.97	−2.55	−2.21	−2.73	−2.73	−2.40
proud		−0.90†	−0.69	−0.81	−0.81	−0.84
Aventura		0.11	−0.13	−0.13	−0.13	−0.15
Traditia		−0.67*	−0.83**	−0.78**	−0.78**	−0.67*
lnTimeH			−2.46*	−2.48*	−2.48*	−2.80*
time2			0.51*	0.52*	0.52*	0.55*
FamMig			−0.06	0.35	0.35	0.30
frecINT=1.0				−1.88	−1.88	−2.15
frecINT=2.0				−3.91†	−3.91†	−4.19†
frecINT=3.0				−0.12	−0.12	−0.38
frecINT=4.0				−2.58*	−2.58*	−2.67*
frecINT=5.0				−2.50*	−2.50*	−2.12†
frecINT=6.0				−2.33*	−2.33*	−2.45*
frecINT=7.0				−2.15†	−2.15†	−2.68*
intProud					0.00	0.00
directia						−0.00
Constant	−8.07†	−4.73	−4.12	−2.93	−2.93	−2.97
Observations	183	178	169	169	169	158
Adjusted R-squared	0.03	0.09	0.14	0.16	0.16	0.14

The sign of the relations is the expected one.

Not so much variation.

Only values matter?
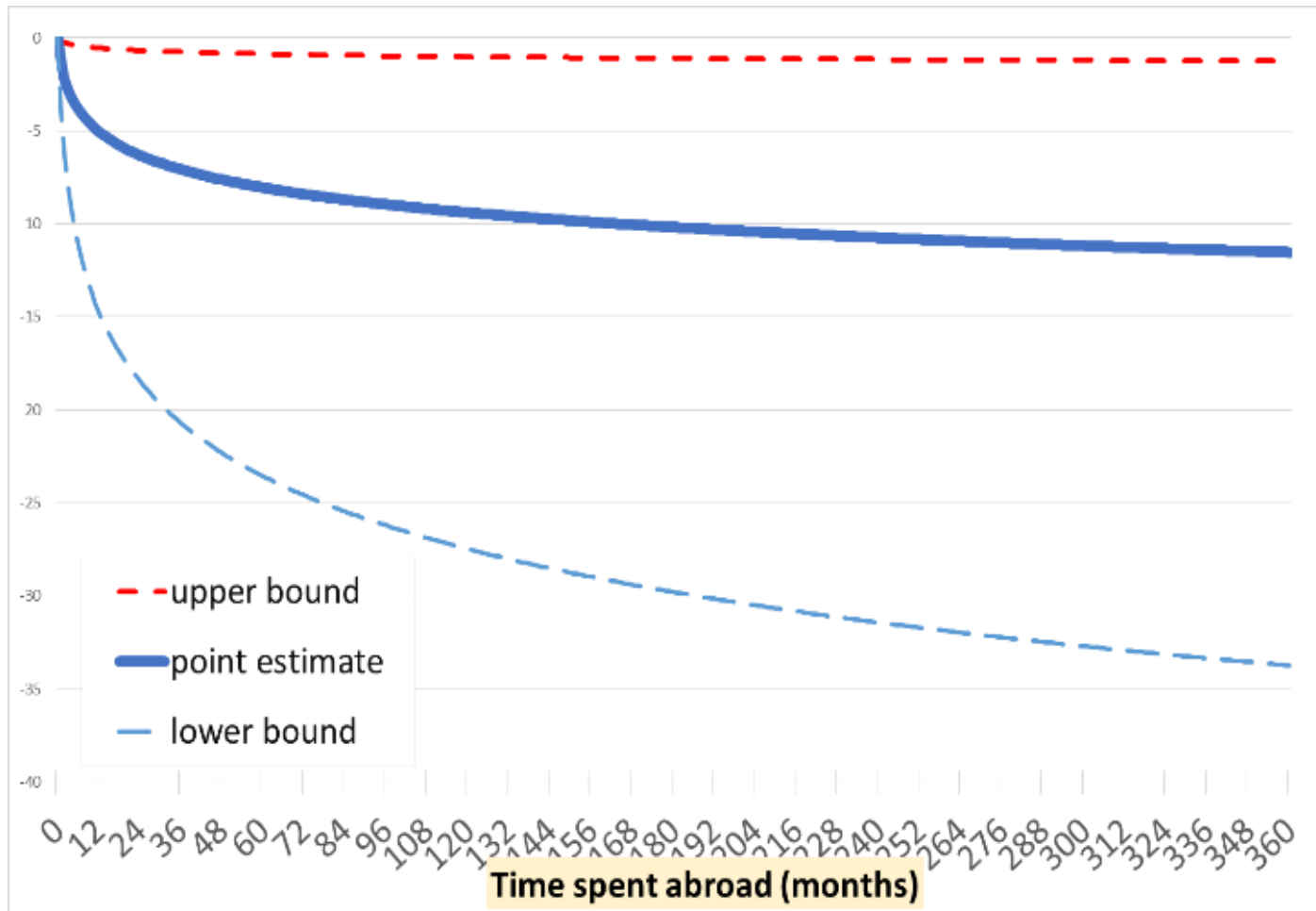
	all3	retu3	stay3
woman	0.12	-0.71	0.11
educ	0.05	-0.02	0.06
Unemployed	0.02	-1.43	0.46
Retired	-0.78†	0.79	-0.74†
Housewife	-0.44	0.78	-0.45
Students	-0.09	-0.03	0.02
income	0.04	-0.11	0.07
rural	0.46†	0.86	0.36
LifeSat	-0.10†	0.34†	-0.15*
EthMinor	0.12	-1.20	0.30
age	-0.16**	-0.10	-0.17**
agesq	0.00**	0.00	0.00**
children	0.02	0.00	0.01
couple	-0.13	-1.85†	0.37
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proud	-0.81***	-0.69	-0.85***
Aventura	0.13	-0.13	0.14
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frecINT=2.0	-0.65		-0.23
frecINT=3.0	0.63		0.60
frecINT=4.0	-0.89*		-0.51
frecINT=5.0	-0.75		-0.33
frecINT=6.0	-0.14		0.37
frecINT=7.0	-0.02		0.19
FamMig	0.22	-0.06	0.12
lnTimeH		-2.46*	
time2		0.51*	
Constant	-7.34***	-4.12	-7.43***
Observations	1208	169	1030
Adjusted R-squared	0.12	0.14	0.12

Discussion

Discussion

෪   The proposed measure for ATE seems valid.

෪   The results show a consistent covariance between ATE, on one hand, and ideology and values, on the other suggesting, as in the case of ATI, the "highly symbolic nature of the construct" (Meulemann et al, 2012);

Discussion

ભ ATE forms as joint effect of:

- o Representations upon personal wellbeing

- o National ideology

- o Traditionalist values

- o (Period of) early socialization

Discussion

   The experience of migration (direct/indirect) seems to have at most a weak influence on the way ATE are structured;

Consequences // future pathways?

    The increase in the level of (e)migration has an effect on bringing the issue on the public agenda and probably on pressing for action

But

    ATE are not directly affected by the development of the phenomenon

(to further check this with regional-level indicators)

Further challenges (I)

- Generalization?

- Local/Regional variations?

- Further testing of other mechanisms in ATE formation
  - Intention to migrate
  - Reasons for returning

- To refine the ATE scale (by including more items on the positive consequences of emigration)

- To refine the items measuring the individual experience of migration (last migration, subjective evaluation of the migration experience)

Further challendes (II)

    To assess the impact of regional-level variables

Implications for policy formation

- Attitudes as drivers for policy formation (Druckman, 2014; Page & Shapiro, 1982)

- If public opinions about emigration are influencing migration policies at origin, then these policies are prone to be created by reference to the value orientation of the stayers (and returnees).

- They heavily depend on Nationalism and Traditionalism

- Economic/'Rational' motivations (direction, life satisfaction) are to a lesser extent part of the mix

The Romanian presidential elections 2014

- conservative government (as compared to the other parties)

- The Prime Minster run for a Presidential Mandate
  (the president has little, but symbolic power)

- No incumbent

- Few voting booths were set up abroad

- Long queues were shown in social media all over the globe
- Strong emotional reaction at home
- Higher turnout than expected
- Surprisingly defeat of the Prime Minister

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