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Income inequality of Swiss primary school teachers in the late 19th century

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Abstract: We examine the distribution of income across Swiss primary school teachers at the end of the 19th century. To assess the income differences we use a detailed data set on income of 14000 Swiss primary school teachers in 1881 and 1894/95. In addition, we have annually aggregated test scores from pedagogical examinations at recruitment, to test for the impact of inequality on conscripts' performance. Our results show that between-group inequality amounts to about 30 per cent of total income inequality, and that teachers' income inequality does not play a role in explaining differences in the performance of conscripts in the pedagogical examinations.

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Journal Article

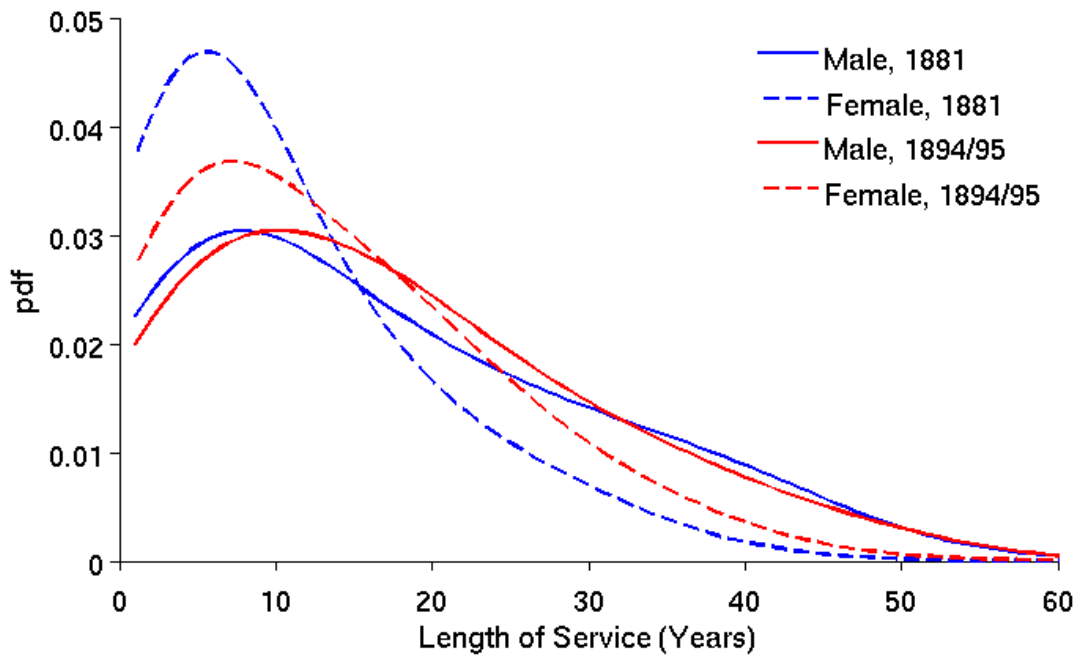
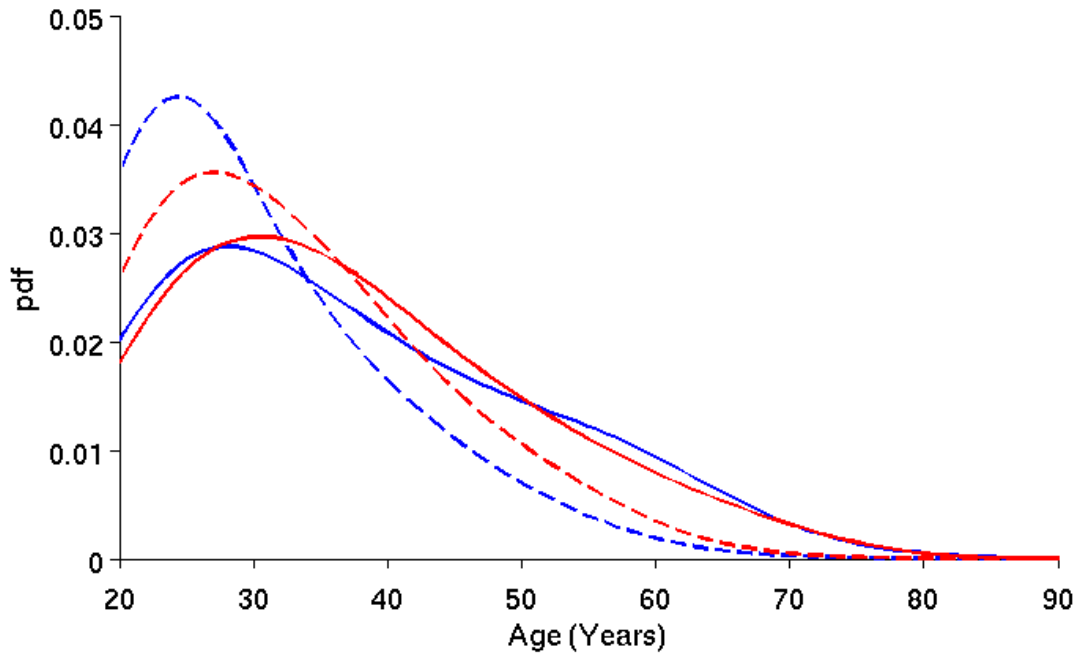
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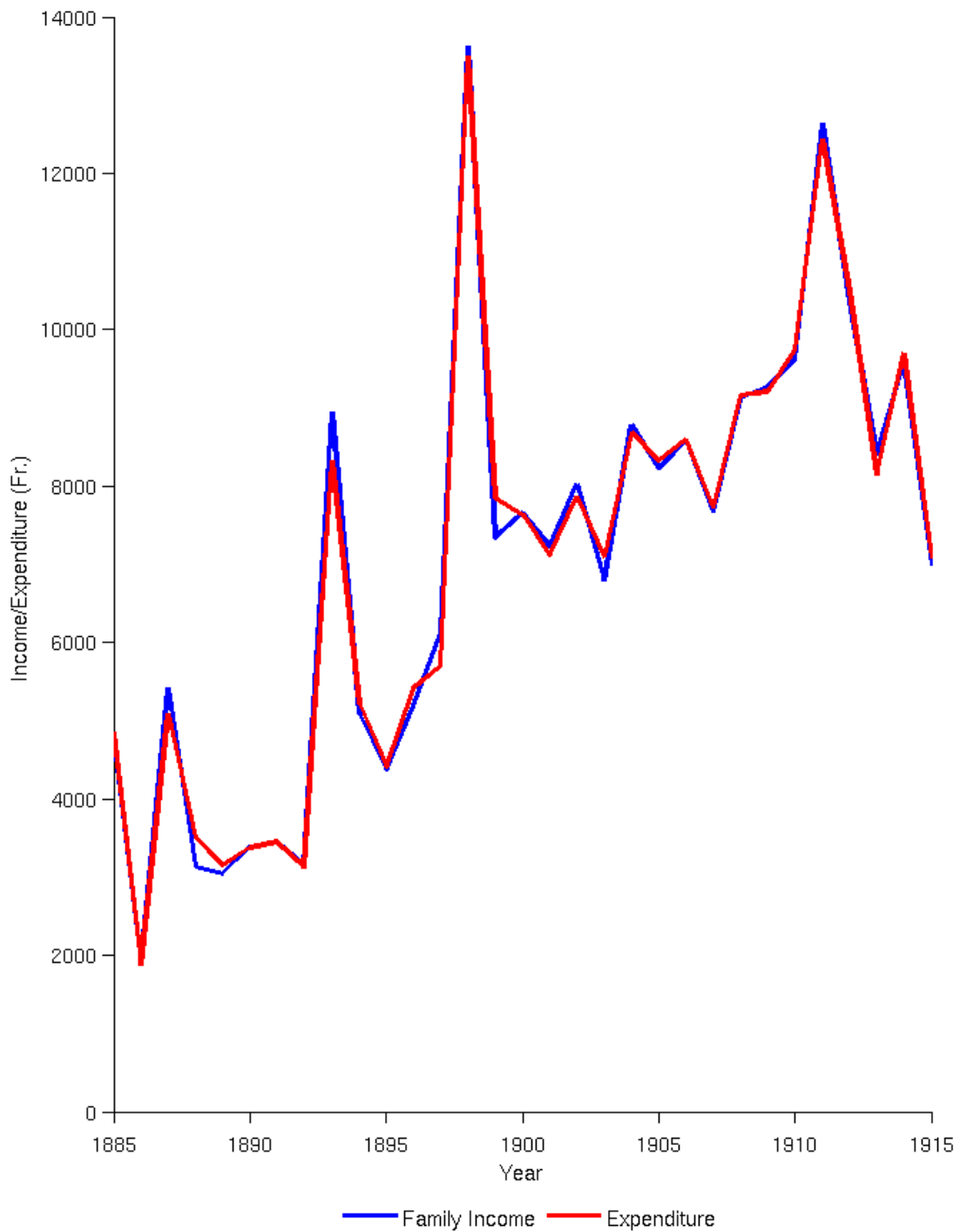
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Figure 1: Age and Length of Service Distributions, 1881 and 1894/95



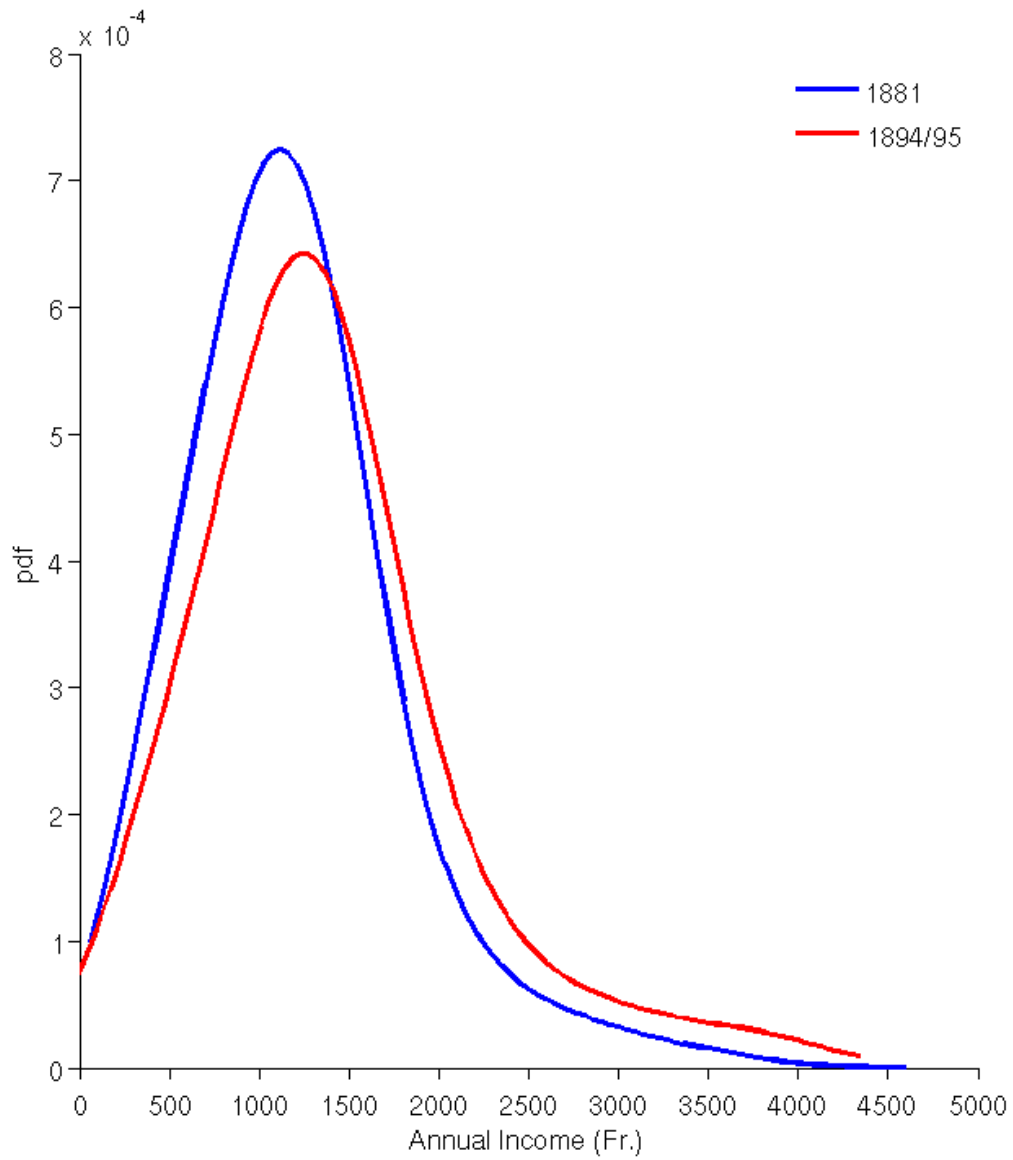
Notes: Gaussian kernel density estimator, bandwidth: *Pagan/Ullah*, Nonparametric Econometrics, Cambridge 1999, equation 2.50

Figure 2: Teacher Family Budget, 1884-1915



Source: E. Ackermann, Einnahme- und Ausgabebewegung einer westschweizerischen Lehrerfamilie (1885-1915), In F. Eulenburg (Ed.), Untersuchungen über die Lebenskosten in der Schweiz, Schriften des Vereins für Sozialpolitik, Volume 146, München, Leipzig 1917, Tables I, VIII.

Figure 3: Income Distributions 1881 and 1894/95



Notes: Gaussian kernel density estimator; bandwidth: *Pagan/Ullah*, Nonparametric Econometrics, equation 2.50

Figure 4: Lorenz Curves of Teachers' Income, 1881 and 1894/95

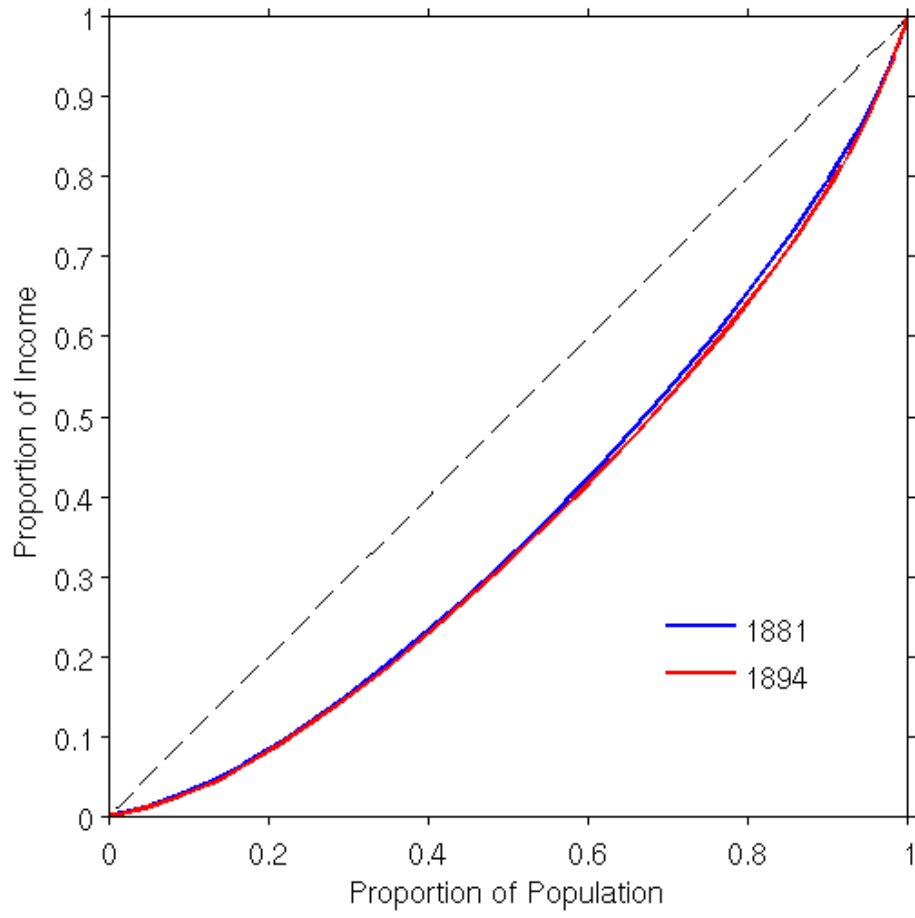


Figure 5: Relationship between Gini-Coefficient and Average Cantonal Marks, 1881

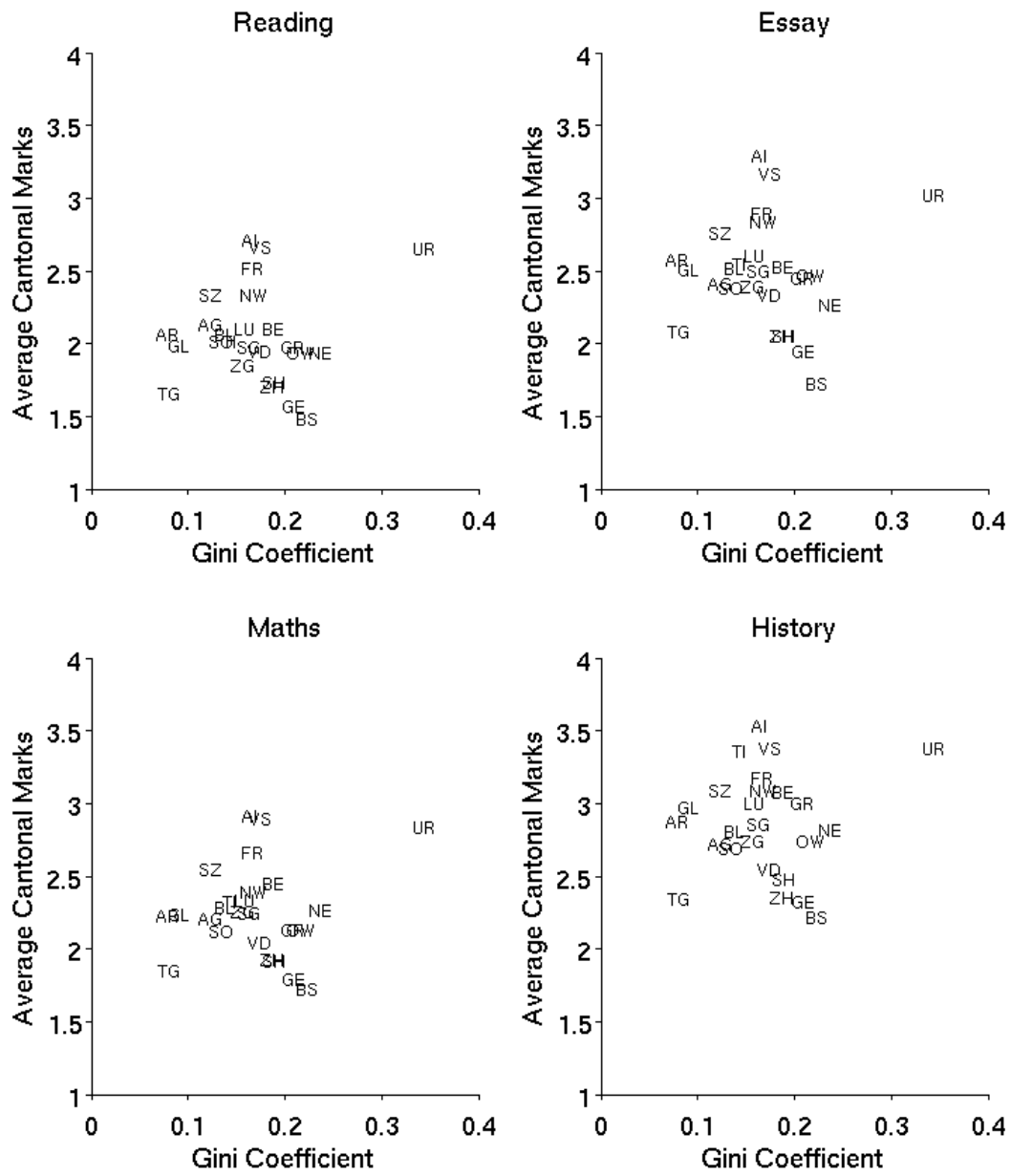


Figure 6: Relationship between Gini-Coefficient and Average Cantonal Marks, 1894/95

